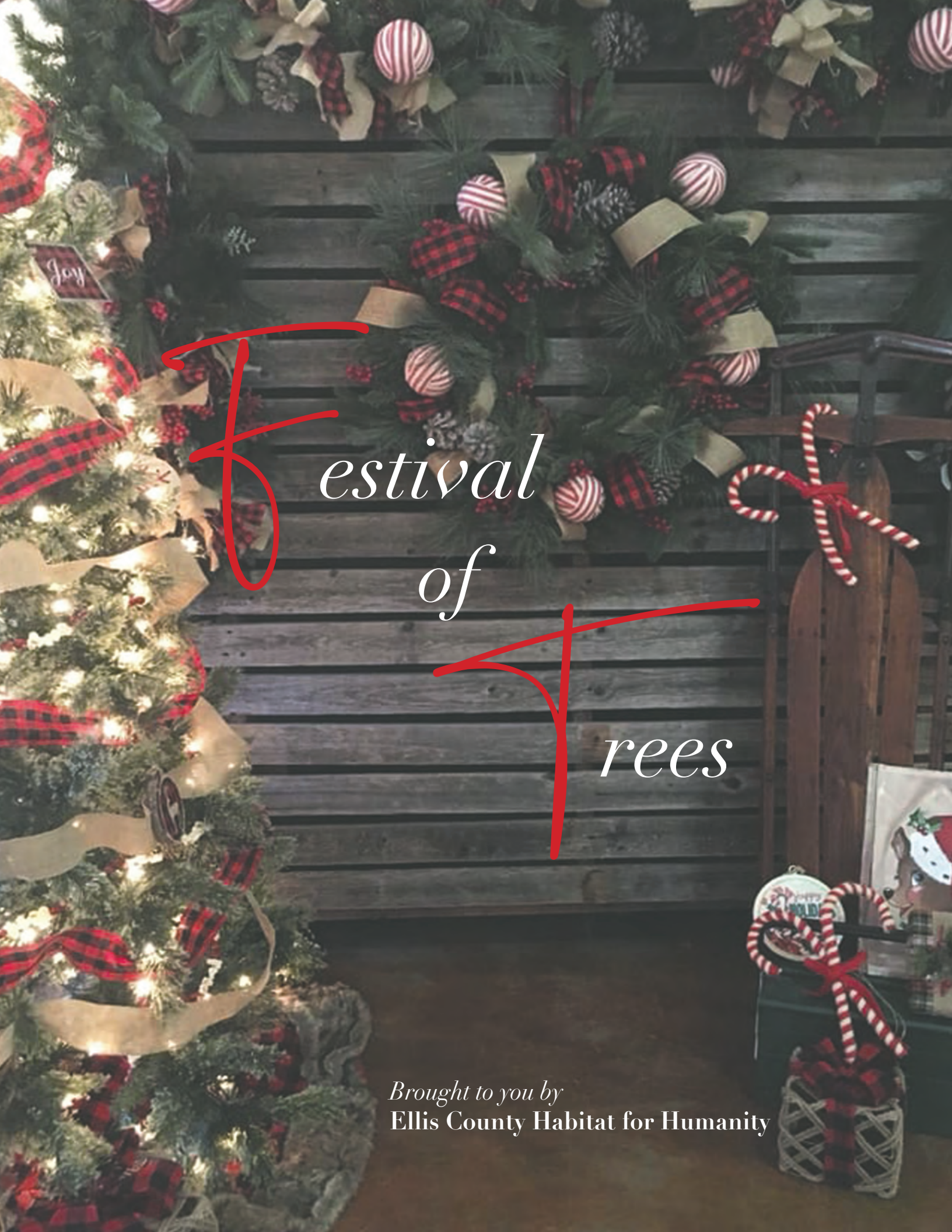

Festival of Trees

Brought to you by
Ellis County Habitat for Humanity

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Welcome!

and thank you for coming to Festival of Trees!

Please take a moment to read the following silent auction instructions. We don't want you to miss out on a winning bid because we don't have all of the information that we need.

There is a bid sheet with every item which lists the following:

- **Starting Bid – This is the lowest starting bid amount. You can bid higher than the starting bid amount, if you would like to.**
- **Buy It Now – You will pay the buy it now price and the item is yours immediately.**
- **Minimum Bid Increase – you MUST increase the current bid by that amount. Winning bids that are not for the minimum bid increase may not be honored.**

To bid on an item, CLEARLY complete all of the following information:

- **Print your name**
- **Bidder number**
- **Phone/Cell number**
- **Bid amount – be sure to increase by minimum bid amount at top of sheet.**

Please complete all of the above items legibly in order to ensure your purchase. Your phone number is needed to contact you of a winning bid for an item.
Silent auction ends at 3PM on Saturday November 23. Winning bidders will be contacted by text message.
Any winning bids that are not legible may be thrown out at the discretion of the Festival of Trees management and the next highest bidder awarded the item.

All items must be picked up on Saturday November 23 between 4-6pm.

Greetings!

Habitat for Humanity of Ellis County, Texas is excited to present our annual Festival of Trees fundraiser. Our volunteer elves have been busy all year creating beautiful items to ring in the joyous Christmas season celebrating the birth of our Savior.

Our mission is to put God's love into action by bringing people together to build homes and communities, one home and one family at a time. This would not be possible without the generous support and donations from businesses and individuals like you. We are currently breaking ground on another home in Waxahachie for a local family. During the last 18 years, we have built 12 homes in Ennis, Midlothian and Waxahachie and are currently working on number 13.

Each Habitat house changes lives: those of the families who help build a home and pay an affordable mortgage and all those who offer them a hand up in a time of need. With our help, Habitat homeowners are empowered to overcome the barriers that so often stand between their families and better, healthier, more financially stable lives through home ownership.

Our organization is supported by the generous donations from businesses and individuals and sustained by volunteers. Every donation we receive goes to those we are seeking to help and the families we help are in our own communities.

Volunteers are always welcome and needed to help build our homes, or be one of our elves to create works of Christmas art for our Festival of Trees, or by just telling others in our community about the work that we are doing and how they can help. Contact us at info@ellishabitat.org to volunteer or donate to help build a home, or if you are interested in helping with our Festival of Trees event (please indicate your interest in the subject line).

Through this work we help build a place for families to call home and help build strong and stable communities in our area. Thank you for helping, and we hope you enjoy our Festival of Trees!

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Bravo

Elizabeth Bravo
President
Habitat for Humanity of Ellis County Texas

Habitat for Humanity of Ellis County Building Project

Agustin and Jessica Garcia

On Saturday, October 13, 2018, Agustin and Jessica Garcia and their family realized a dream come true when they were presented with the keys to their new home at 402 Avenue E in Ennis. Pastor Darrell Nelson opened with prayer and Ellis County Habitat President, John Reynolds, presented the Certificate of Occupancy to the Garcia family. Habitat Secretary, Suzie Timmerman, presented the family with an engraved

Continued Page 6

From Page 5

bible.

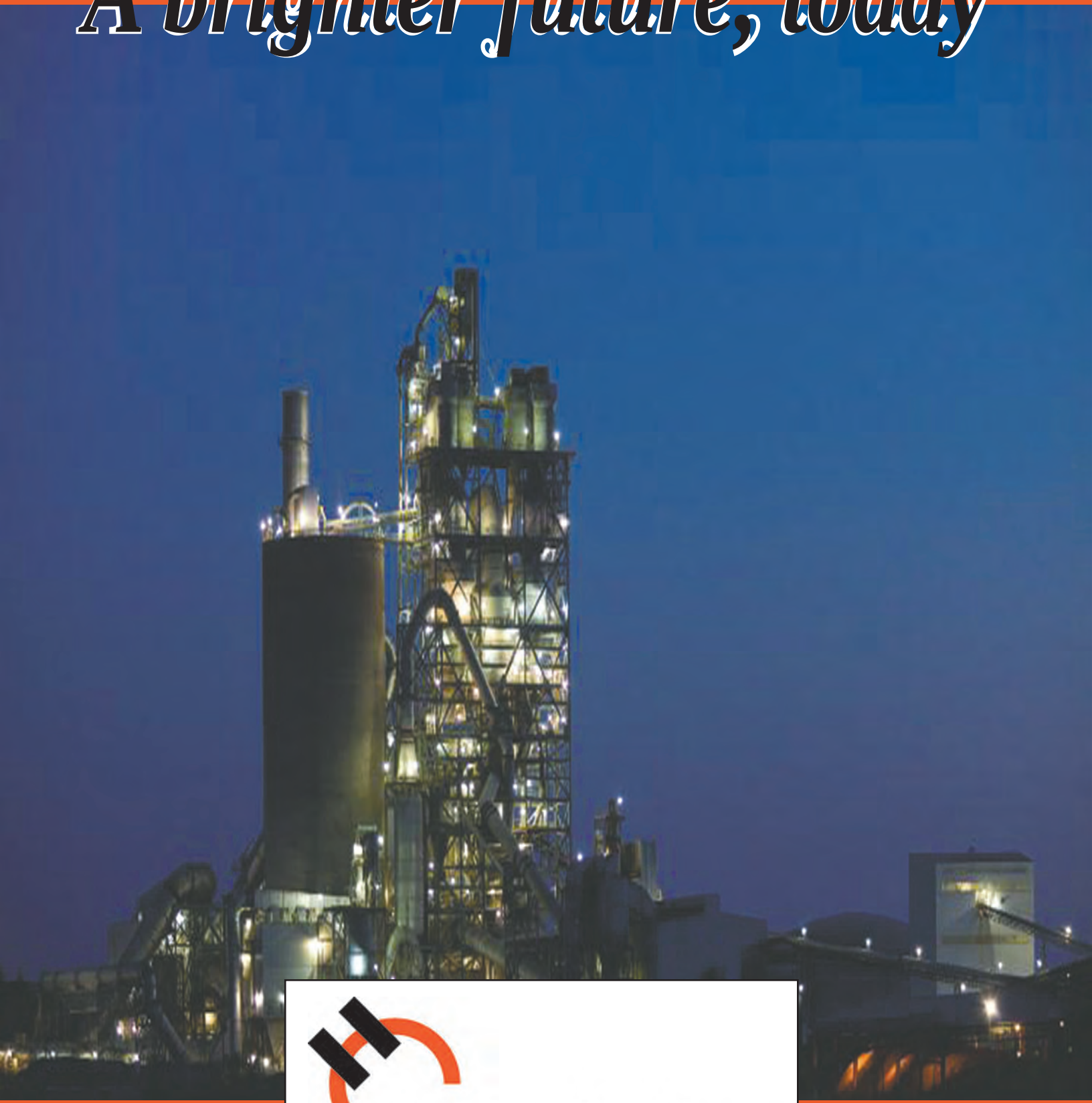
This project was made possible by Habitat for Humanity of Ellis County and the many donors and volunteers who have donated funds/services and countless hours volunteering alongside Jessica and Agustin building their new home.

John Reynolds thanked the many Ellis County businesses and organizations who donated goods and services which include Plan Factory South, AGTM Engineering, James Hardie (siding), CA Wilson (donation of washer/dryer and dishwasher and installation), Harold Barnard at Ellis County Title, Ennis City Manager Scott Dixon, Ennis Mayor Angeline Jeunemann, the City of Ennis for building permit and Ennis water and sewer connection. Lot procurement was made possible by Ennis Independent

Continued Page 8

Habitat for Humanity®
of Ellis County, Texas

A brighter future, today



Holcim

From Page 6

School District, Ellis County, and the City of Ennis. Steve Jackson and Jim Grube were invaluable in the initial framing process, as were Kerry Gipson, Kevin Kluck, Brian Mackey, and Beverly Howard. Hundreds of hours were contributed by many volunteers from Ennis, Midlothian, Waxahachie, Maypearl, and

Continued Page 9

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Midlothian Office:
300A Silken Crossing, Midlothian
972-723-2900

Elm Mott Office:
298 S. Connally Dr., Elm Mott

From Page 8

Dallas.

We are extremely grateful for the roof decking labor provided by Dallas Habitat volunteers. Keller Williams Red Day group installed siding, volunteer painting by Leppitt Components, and Owens Corning provided a monetary donation and volunteers to put up siding. The Ennis Rotary Club helped with window/door installation, Burton Roofing provided labor, Koral donated shower/tub units and JPH Mechanical provided heating and air conditioning system. We thank Republic Landfill for accepting 3 trailer loads of construction debris and Rogers O'Brien for driveway/sidewalk installation. We thank Billy Ables for his sky track help for truss installation and unloading siding. We also want to thank Bob White, White Lightning Couriers Inc., for delivering siding from James Hardie's Cleburne location. We thank Masco for their monetary support and Scott and Deborah Green of The Greenery for their donation of sod grass.

Construction took approximately 10 months. The Garcia's is the 12th house built by us. The long process, beginning with application to Habitat, is complete after hard work and perseverance. They met Habitat's homeownership requirements by earning 350 hours of "sweat equity", meeting income requirements and having a need for housing.

For information about an application for a Habitat house, or to make monetary donations, volunteer or donate goods and services to Habitat for Humanity of Ellis County, please see our website: www.ellishabitat.org; email us at info@ellishabitat.org; or call our office and leave a message at (972) 937-9727. Our mailing address is P.O. Box 157, Waxahachie, TX 75168.

Thanks for your continued support of Habitat for Humanity of Ellis County, Texas!

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Stuart Stephenson

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CF0006 1/18 Woodmen of the World Life Insurance Society; Omaha, NE

Jessica Garcia and her family.

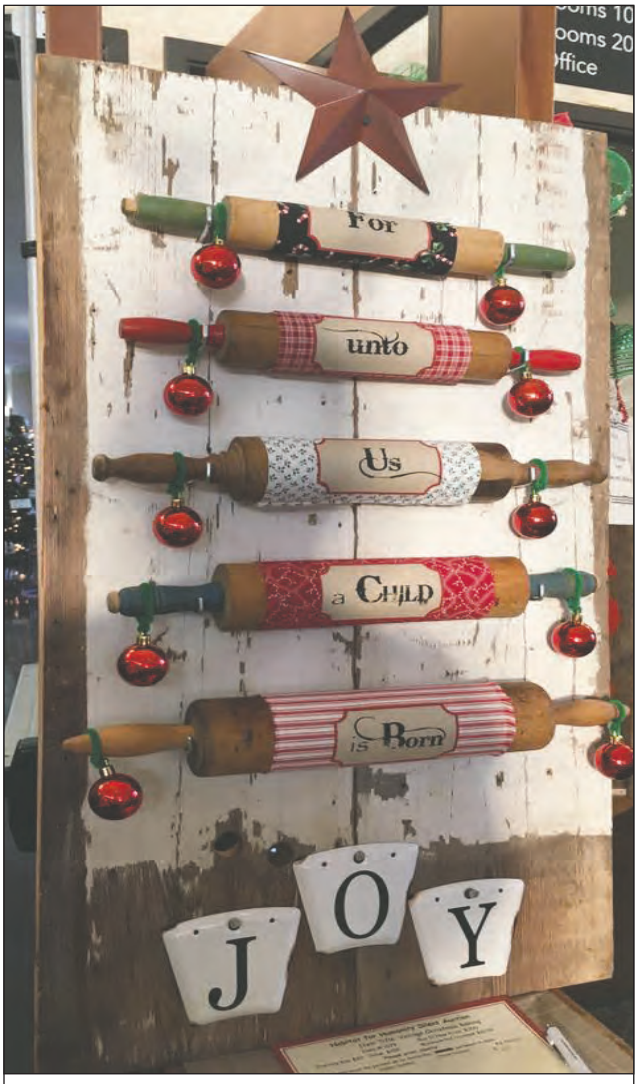
Jessica Garcia first learned of Habitat for Humanity from her cousin in Freeport, TX who had qualified for a Habitat home in 2007. She and her husband, Augustin decided to apply so that they could give their family a stable home. They have a blended family and feel their children deserve the best, loving home environment. After renting a home for awhile in Ennis they decided they wanted to make this area their permanent home.

While building their home in Ennis, they were impressed with how many people from different backgrounds joined their family in constructing their future home. Throughout the project they learned different skills and even finished up the interior painting during the weekdays, so their family could move in earlier than originally planned.

When asked what she had enjoyed most about living in her new home Jessica said, "The best part is that it is our home. We are making memories with our kids, and it's like a fairytale I never imagined having."

They want prospective applicants to know it was hard work getting this home, but it was well worth it.

Habitat for Humanity®
of Ellis County, Texas



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2019

Habitat for Humanity of Ellis County Building Project

Jessica Piper and son

We are excited to announce that our 2019 Habitat for Humanity of Ellis County building project is underway. Jessica Piper and her son are looking forward to their new home being built at 500 Perry Avenue in Waxahachie.

This project is made possible by Habitat for Humanity of Ellis County and the many donors and volunteers who will donate funds/services and countless hours volunteering alongside Jessica and her son to build their new home. Building plans and permits are approved and site work, plumbing and foundation work are underway. We will begin framing and construction in the third quarter of 2019 and will continue into 2020 until the home is completed.

Continued Page 13

H-E-B
Helping Here®

From Page 12

For more information about this project or to make monetary donations, volunteer or donate goods and services to Habitat for Humanity of Ellis County, please see our website: www.ellishabitat.org; email us at info@ellishabitat.org; or call our office and leave a message at (972)937-9727. Our mailing address is P O Box 157, Waxahachie, TX 75168.

Habitat for Humanity had a chance to sit down with Jessica and ask a few questions about her experience and what excites her about her new home.

How did you first hear about Habitat for Humanity?

I have known about Habitat for Humanity for as long as I can remember and have seen many of the projects completed right here in Waxahachie! The work Habitat does to bless all of these families is amazing and truly makes me thankful for the people in my community.

What made you decide to apply?

My main reason for applying is my son, Jeremiah. I have always wanted to have a place that he could call HOME. Being a single parent, I knew it would be hard to ever afford purchasing a new home on my own. In the long run, paying a mortgage over paying rent would help us be more successful in the future. Habitat for Humanity is an organization that I was hoping could really help me with this dream, so after some

Continued Page 14

From Page 13

research, I decided to apply back in 2017. I knew that Habitat was the perfect fit for us. Providing my son with a positive environment to grow in, learn and be confident is extremely important to me. I was the first in my family to graduate from college, and my son will be the next.

How long have you lived in Waxahachie?

I was born and raised here in Waxahachie. This is where I have planted my roots and will raise Jeremiah, as well. We love Waxahachie! The community here is so supportive and giving and there is no other place I would rather raise my family.

What are you and your son looking forward to about building your new home and assisting with future builds?

It is definitely something we are looking forward to. My Jeremiah loves to build! He is already talking about how he wants to help and bless other upcoming families. We look forward to being able to give back and sharing in the same joy Habitat has given us.

What is your family looking forward to most about your new home?

There are a few things that I am most looking forward to. We are excited to get started and be able to help every step of the way in building our new home. I know we will have so much pride and love of our home and be able to say "we helped build that!". Once we are finished, I am looking forward to making this space our own. I want our home to be comfortable and surrounded by great memories, and the build is going to be the first great memory we make here. I am most excited for our first night in our new home. Because of Habitat, I am now the first home owner in my family. I can't thank you enough for helping Jeremiah and me start this journey.

Thanks for your continued support of Habitat for Humanity of Ellis County, Texas!

HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Habitat for Humanity® of Ellis County, Texas

Dear Friend,

Habitat for Humanity of Ellis County Texas began 18 years ago on a mission seeking to put God's love into action by bringing people together to build homes, communities and hope with the vision of a world where everyone has a decent place to live.

Our annual FESTIVAL OF TREES fundraiser will be held on November 22 and 23, 2019 at the Waxahachie Bible Church, 621 N. Grand Street, Waxahachie, Texas.

This program is our way of thanking our generous sponsors for their donations. The program will be given to all Festival attendees, the Waxahachie Civic Center and Tourism Office, the Ellis County Chamber offices and a few will be provided for your use as well.

When you donate to Habitat for Humanity of Ellis County, you help build a new home that a family can afford and take pride in within our own community! Our organization is sustained entirely by volunteers, so every donation we receive goes into a new home for the families we help.

Our two day event kicks off the joyous Christmas season celebrating the birth of our Savior! Our annual silent auction includes everything Christmas – trees,

Continued Page 16

MORGAN mm DENTISTRY

Mark Morgan, D.D.S.
Sarah Key, D.M.D.M.S.
and staff

Supporting Ellis County
Habitat for Humanity
and
Festival of Trees

Building houses and building relationships to ensure a better future for our community.

1618 West Highway 287 Business
Waxahachie, TX 75165
972-937-6654

David Smith sharing Christmas cowboy poems.

From Page 15

wreaths, tabletop décor, Santa's Bag gifts and more! There will be live entertainment, food and drink, special games and activities for children with a visit and photos with Santa, and to top it all off…a chance to win a BIG raffle of approximately $500 in gift certificates from our generous local merchants. Donations of gift certificates or any item of value that can be added to our silent auction, Santa's Bag or raffle are also needed and appreciated.

With caring people like you, our mission to eliminate poverty housing, one home and family at a time will continue. Please consider donating today! COME and rejoice in the season on November 22 and 23, bring the family, and please share this invitation with your neighbors and church family.

With a warm and grateful heart,

Elizabeth Bravo

President, Habitat for Humanity of Ellis County, Texas

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BECOME A MEMBER TODAY!

debbielane62@gmail.com
for membership

*** * WE SERVE * ***

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Waxahachie Campus
Saturday - 5 p.m.
Sunday 9:30 a.m.
11:15 a.m.

Ennis Campus
Sunday 9:30 a.m.
11:15 a.m.

Habitat for Humanity of Ellis County is…

…a group of local volunteers dedicated to providing safe, decent housing for God's people in need.

…working to eliminate poverty housing in Ellis County - one home and one family at a time.

…committed to building houses and building relationships to ensure a better future for our community.

…reliant on donated funds, materials and labor to build safe, efficiently designed houses, which we sell to lower income families at reduced cost through interest-free loans.

How does it work?

1. Land is donated or purchased by Habitat for home sites.

2. Building materials, machinery, tools, labor and services are also donated or purchased.

3. Houses are built with volunteer labor and donations of money and materials.

4. Families are selected, who participate in home design and invest hundreds of hours of "sweat equity".

5. Revolving funds, from non-profit, interest free affiliate financed mortgage payments and local contributions/donors, ensure homes can be built for more families

Requirements for Homeownership

• ***Need for adequate shelter –*** Housing need, as we define it, must be evident because it is not possible for us to assist everyone. Families who qualify for other options should pursue them. Our affiliate seeks to assist families who have the goal of becoming independent homeowners. We select lower-income partner families whose present housing is inadequate, and who desire to become homeowners, but are unable to do so using conventional financing options. They are, nevertheless, willing to work to improve their housing situations.

• ***Ability to Pay –*** Using factors such as a minimum income guideline (30% - 60% of current HUD county median income), debtto-income ratio, monthly payment consistency along with other factors, we can determine whether our applicants have the resources necessary to purchase housing from Habitat. Loans are interest-free and usually for a term of 20 years.

• ***Willingness to Partner*** – Applicants must be willing to commit to the sweat-equity requirement (approximately 300-350 hours), a down payment, and attending Homeowner Education classes, as outlined in the Letter of Acceptance.

• ***More than just Housing…*** Habitat for Humanity believes home ownership is of the utmost importance to help families out of poverty. Experience tells us that creation of a livable habitat, with a decent house and home ownership increases community pride and involvement. Home ownership is a crucial first step in a family's economic development.

• ***Where are these homes?*** Habitat for Humanity of Ellis County, Texas is trying to branch into all the communities in Ellis County. The Construction/Site Selection Committee selects suitable building lots in the county. All homes are built in compliance with applicable building codes and zoning. Since our inception in 2000, Habitat for Humanity of Ellis County, Texas has completed 12 houses: Ennis (3), Midlothian (1), and Waxahachie (8).

• ***How can I get involved?*** People are needed who will give of themselves, who will become partners with those who are in need, and who will see this as a witness of God's love. We are looking for Board members, committee members and volunteers to assist with home building, financial contributions, donations of land located in Ellis County, Texas, and prayers.

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We Appreciate Your Generosity

Habitat for Humanity is dependent upon funds and volunteer work from individuals and businesses to meet its goal of ensuring that all people have decent, affordable shelter.

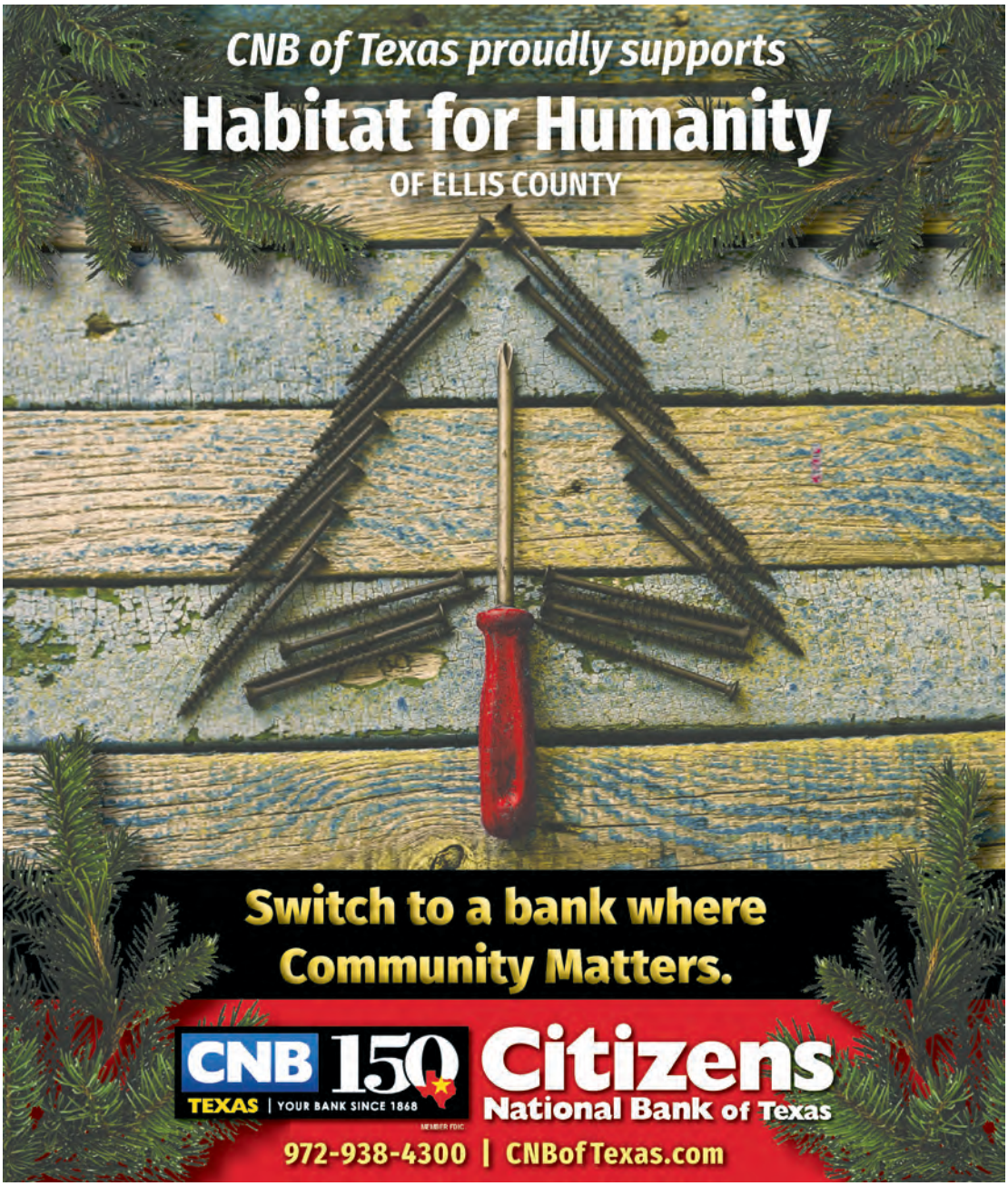
Donating New Items and Building Materials

Habitat for Humanity of Ellis County, Texas accepts donations of new items and/or building supplies. Please contact your nearest Habitat for Humanity Re-Store at https://www.habitat.org/restores/donate-goods for information about donating gently used items.

Please contact us at info@ellishabitat.org if you have new building materials you would like to donate.

Cars for Homes!

Your car donation can help a family in your community build a house and give them hope of a better life! Details for car donations contact Habitat's Cars for Homes™ program help your local Habitat for Humanity affiliate build houses in partnership with families in need of decent, affordable shelter within your community.



Donate Online

For your convenience, you may donate online securely with your credit card. To donate online, you will be taken to the Habitat for Humanity International web site. For Habitat for Humanity of Ellis County, Texas to be credited with your donation correctly, on the page that opens please click the "Habitat affiliate named below" choice and type "Ellis County, Texas" in the affiliate box.

Thank you!

You can help!

Donate your time, skills, new items, building materials, cars and more. We accept monetary donations as well.

Donations by mail:
Habitat for Humanity
of Ellis County, Texas
P.O. Box 157
Waxahachie, TX 75168

Donations online:
www.habitat.org/donate

Steffan Hacker/Habitat for Humanity Intl.

Baylor Baptist Church

Baylor is a friendly church that offers traditional-style worship and includes Sunday School for all ages. Services are both relaxed and informal. A loving and safe nursery is available for all services. The Youth and Children's ministries are dynamic and fun, while biblically grounded.

Our church is inviting, friendly and family oriented. We understand and appreciate the power of prayer and can honestly say that we are a praying church.

We regularly appeal to our Lord Jesus Christ for our family, friends and neighbors. We pray for them to seek Jesus Christ as their Savior. We further encourage them to develop an ongoing personal relationship with Him.

We reach outside the walls of our building to touch those who are hurting as well as minister to those within our own church family.

Weekly Schedule

Sunday
9:30am Sunday School
11:00am Morning Worship Service
6:00pm Evening Worship Service
6:00pm Youth Group, RA's, GA's

Tuesday
12:00pm Ladies Pink Bag Bible Study

Wednesday
6:30am Morning Prayer Meeting
10:00am Ladies Bible Study
5:30pm Wednesday Night Supper
6:15pm Discipleship Cell Groups, Children's Activities, Youth Group
7:15pm Choir Practice

Thursday
12:00pm Men's Brown Bag Bible Study
6:00pm Evangelism Training

"Remember not the former things, nor consider the things of old. Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? … For I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen people, the people whom I formed for myself that they might declare my praise." -Isaiah 43:18-19a, 20b-21 ESV

210 N. Preston, Ennis, TX 75119
972-875-2521 | www.baylorennis.org

Habitat for Humanity of Ellis County, Texas Affiliate Board, Officers & Committee Information

2019 Board Officers

President – Elizabeth Bravo

Vice President – John Keane

Secretary – Suzie Timmerman

Co-Treasurers – Carol Lee & Jo Ann Lane

Board Members

Sue Allelo • Elizabeth Bravo

John Keane • Suzy Keane

Tom Ker • Jo Ann Lane

Carol Lee • Teresa McNiel

John Reynolds • Nick Roeder

• Suzie Timmerman • Penny Williams

Committees

• ***Board Nominating Committee & Affiliate Organization*** - responsible for assessing board needs, recruiting, and nominating a board and/or officers that are effective and representative of the entire community. Develops and oversees educating and orienting new board members. Periodically monitor/review board member attendance and training needs. Review affiliate bylaws annually to ensure compliance and recommend suggestions for change, as needed. Ensure affiliate is compliant with Habitat for Humanity International 'Good Standing' requirements.

• ***Family Selection & Homeowner Support Committee –*** sets the criteria for selection, screens applications, visits applicants, makes recommendations for home ownership. One member must be a state-licensed Mortgage Loan Originator. The committee also runs a monthly homeowner education program, tracks sweat equity hours, plans dedication and ground-breaking ceremonies, and prepares the family for closing.

• ***Public Relations & Special Events Committee –*** manages the Festival of Trees annual fundraising event, submits annual grants, handles public relations and communications, including checking/forwarding or responding to info@ellishabitat.org email, creating and distributing media releases, marketing for events (vendor booths), updating Habitat website, Facebook page, and speaking at church and community events. Managing volunteer database using Facebook, volunteerelliscounty.org & volunteer@ellishabitat.org email to send volunteer opportunity notifications.

• ***Construction & Site Selection Committee –*** handles house design, permitting, inspections, oversees construction, materials, budget/costing, property acquisition.

Lord of Life Lutheran Church

700 East Ovilla Road

(Southwest Corner of Ovilla Road and Uhl Road)

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10:30 A.M. Worship and Holy Communion

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www.landmarkeq.com

THE HISTORY *of* Habitat for Humanity® of Ellis County, Texas

Habitat for Humanity in Ellis County began in 2001 after 76 volunteers compiled data and research necessary to complete the guidelines for Ellis County to be accepted into the national organization of Habitat for Humanity. Habitat for Humanity is a faith based organization with the mission of providing quality housing for communities around the world. "Habitat does not provide free homes, it is a hand up to residents – many of whom are below the national poverty level to become a homeowner and live in quality housing."

They started building in Ellis County in 2002 and have built 12 homes over the last 17 years. Behind the scenes, it takes time to find the lots, purchase the land to build on, find a family that qualifies for a home, submit building plans to the city and obtain permits, order the building materials or have them donated, have a project manager oversee the dirt work with an excavator company, then add soil to build up the lot. Then on to the next step, the heart of building a Habitat home! About 75% of the construction is done by volunteers. Habitat coordinates volunteers from churches, businesses, Habitat Board and committee members, individuals and the chosen family who was selected to receive this home. Along the way, the family, alongside volunteers, will put in the sweat equity to build for their future.

One of the events, that makes construction possible is the Festival of Trees fundraiser that is held each year at the end of November. The event showcases trees, wreaths, holiday décor in a variety of styles and auction items which can be bid on by people who attend the event. Sponsors including businesses, churches, individuals and other organizations donate to the event. All proceeds go toward building homes in Ellis County. This would not be possible without the countless hours that volunteers willingly give and the support of local businesses eager to help. The generous donations that Habitat for Humanity receives each year, are what keep this non-profit organization going and what gives families in our community hope for a brighter future and a place they can call home!

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Seventh annual Festival of Trees

Help provide housing for a deserving family by supporting the upcoming Festival of Trees. Sponsors and designers are being sought now for the annual event, which serves as the primary fundraiser for Habitat for Humanity of Ellis County and will be held Nov. 22-23 at Waxahachie Bible Church. The event, which is in its seventh year, involves people using their creative skills to decorate a tree, wreath or other Christmas items, with the tree then donated to the event to be auctioned.

Both event sponsors and decorated tree donations are sought for the event, which benefits Habitat for Humanity's goal to eliminate poverty housing in Ellis County – one home and one family at a time.

"We are committed to building houses and building relationships to ensure a better future for our community," said Sue Allelo, festival committee member. "Using volunteer labor as well as donated funds and materials, we build simple, decent houses and sell them to low income families at cost with no interest added. We are always required to raise our own funds in order to build a house."

Individuals, businesses, churches, corporations and others are all encouraged to be a part of the Festival of Trees. It's a way to benefit a good cause – and also a way to "kick off the holiday season with a fun and

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cheerful community event," Allelo said.

Support can be provided through monetary sponsorships at the platinum ($2,500), gold ($1,000), silver ($750) and bronze ($500) levels, each with amenities and recognition. Donations in other amounts are also, of course, welcomed.

Additional support also can be extended through decorating a tree, wreath or other Christmas décor for auction as a donation.

"This event involves people using their creative skills to decorate a tree, wreath or other Christmas item that they will donate to the event to be auctioned," Allelo said. "There are many ways that you can assist us in making this a successful fundraiser for Habitat for Humanity of Ellis County, Texas."

For sponsorship and or designer entry forms, contact Teresa McNiel at 214-244-0711, call the Habitat for Humanity office at 972-937-2797 or email elliscountyhfh@gmail.com.

Additional information also is available http://www.ellishabitat.org/festival.htm and at the Facebook page https://www.facebook.com/EllisCoHabitatFestivalofTrees/. (Be sure and "like" the Facebook page).

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A Prayer for Shelter

Following is the
Habitat for Humanity prayer

Leader: Loving God, you made us in your image and blessed us with wisdom, creativity, skill, compassion and love.

People: Give us sight to see your children in need, ability to hear your call to serve and willingness to be your hands and feet.

Leader: How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord Almighty! Even the sparrow has found a home and the swallow a nest—a place near your altar, O Lord.

People: Heaven is your throne and the earth your footstool. Empower us with your strength and wisdom to build safe dwellings.

Leader: You have called us to share our food with the hungry and to provide the poor wanderer with shelter—when we see the naked, to clothe him.

People: Give us willing hearts, Lord, and inspire us to action.

Leader: When you call upon the Lord, spend yourselves on behalf of the hungry and satisfy the needs of the oppressed, the Lord will always guide you. He will satisfy your needs and strengthen you.

People: Grant us safety and protect us as we build your kingdom through building homes and communities.

Leader: He has showed you, O man, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you?

People: To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.

Leader: My people will live in peaceful dwelling places, in secure homes, in undisturbed places of rest.

People: May our obedience to serve you with our

wisdom, creativity, skill, compassion and love cause the weak to say I am strong, the poor to say I am rich because of what the Lord has done for us.

Leader: Transform our world and transform our hearts and minds.

People: Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.

ALL: Make us into one people, your people like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and purpose.

Festival of Trees

November 22nd 5 - 9 pm

November 23rd 9 am - 3 pm

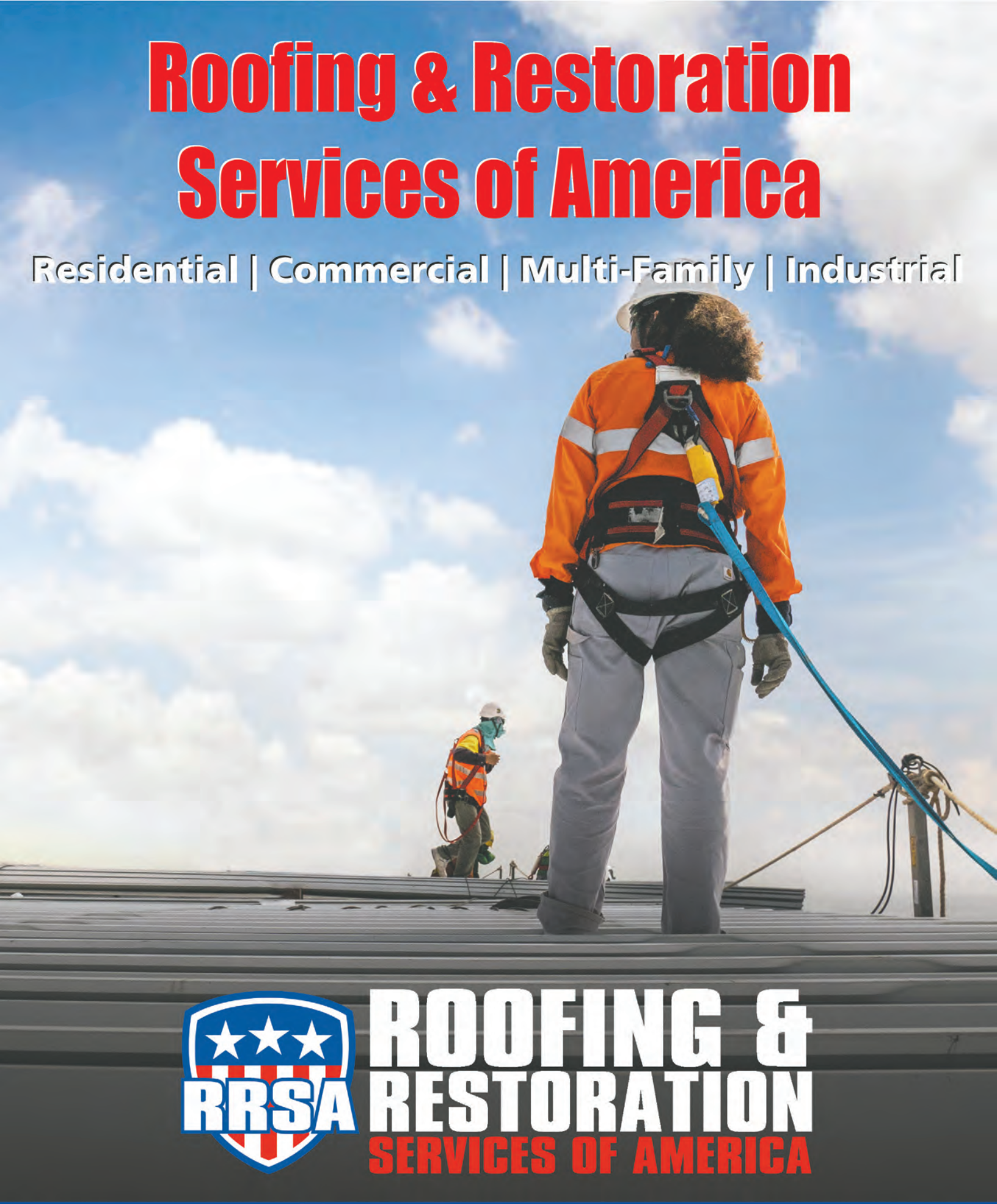
Benefitting Habitat for Humanity of Ellis County

Waxahachie Bible Church

621 North Grand Street

Roofing & Restoration Services of America

Residential | Commercial | Multi-Family | Industrial



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