

Newport, Reed join Sisters Habitat for Humanity

Don Reed enjoys figuring out a puzzle, and when he was hired as the new store director for Sisters Habitat for Humanity last November the first piece of the puzzle he had to find was to purchase a new box truck for the ReStore. Shortly after Reed started, Sisters Habitat was awarded \$42,800 from the Department of Environmental Quality Materials Management Grant Program to purchase a truck and equipment for the ReStore. Reed got right to work consulting with ReStore staff to research and purchase the truck. The truck arrived in the spring and is making its way around town for pick-ups and deliveries.

Reed worked at a car dealership for 15 years, so he had some experience with vehicle purchases, but for the past 11 years, he has been in retail sales and most recently was a manager at Lowe's in Redmond. He and his family have lived in Redmond for 19 years, and he's glad he can continue working in Central Oregon. "I've always been a numbers person and like putting together charts and sales figures. This job, however, has also given me the chance to work with great staff and volunteers and see how all

the pieces come together as an end result of homes being built with families in Sisters. It's quite rewarding," he said.

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— Don Reed

As store director for the Sisters Habitat ReStore and Thrift Store, Reed oversees a staff of six and also acts as the Thrift Store manager. Most recently, he hired Sisters resident Josie Newport as the store volunteer coordinator. Newport loves the community and everyone who brings Sisters its vibrant spirit. Her first job in town was as an ice cream scooper at Sno Cap Drive In in the early 1970s. Many people may know her as the owner of Newport Kidsport or have seen her smiling face while she was working at Bedouin

and Navigator News. She volunteers with Sisters Folk Festival and the Ten Friends Project. Josie raised four children in Sisters. Her youngest child, Delaney, is a recent graduate and is in Nepal with the Ten Friends Project. "I'm so excited to be a new addition to the Sisters Habitat team," Newport said during her first week. "I look forward to meeting all the wonderful volunteers who make Habitat the amazing place it is, and I'm eager to introduce new volunteers to this great organization." Newport will be recruiting and scheduling those volunteers who want to work at either the ReStore or the Thrift Store. She will be working Monday through Friday, 20 hours a week. Anyone interested in volunteering with Sisters Habitat can email her at josie@sistershabitat.org or give her a call at one of the stores: Thrift Store, 541-549-1740 or ReStore, 541-549-1621. Sisters Habitat for Humanity was founded in 1991 and is driven by the vision that everyone needs a decent place to live. Families and individuals in need of a hand up partner with Sisters Habitat to build or improve a place they can call home.



PHOTO PROVIDED

Josie Newport and Don Reed are serving the community with new roles at Sisters Habitat for Humanity.

Future homeowners help build their own homes alongside volunteers and pay an affordable mortgage. Through financial support, volunteering or adding a voice to support affordable housing, everyone can help families achieve the strength, stability and self-reliance they need to build better lives for themselves.

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