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## HABITAT

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Laura MacNeil, with the national chapter in Georgia.

"They felt there was a need to build houses for people in a way that those who had money could help those who did not," MacNeil said.

Habitat is supported by individuals, businesses and churches who provide volunteer labor, management expertise and donations of money and materials.

Since framing began on Smith's home in June, more than 75 volunteers have worked on her house. In addition to the donated labor, 15 area businesses each contributed more than \$250 in money and materials.

Habitat keeps the cost of housing low by using volunteer labor. And each selected family must put in "sweat equity" hours working on their own home, another home or some other chore, such as office work, for Habitat.

Gerald Keener, president of the board of directors of the Eugene-Springfield chapter said each family accepted into the program has to put in 500 hours of work.

Families are selected based on their financial need, willingness to become partners in the program, current housing situation and ability to make house payments, Keener said.

"We look at the seriousness of the need, if the physical condition of their house is bad or if there are too many people living in one place," Keener said. "We also want to make sure they have the means to keep up with payments."

When the house is completed, the family gets a nointerest mortgage that covers the actual cost of the house, insurance and taxes. The homeowner is responsible for such expenses as utilities and maintenance. The monthly house payments go into a revolving fund to help build additional Habitat homes.

## MEASURES

Continued from Page 1

Siemsen said she's had female patients tell her they were raped but they could not afford the STD tests or they didn't want their insurance companies to know about the tests. These women do want the tests, though, because the women fear their assailants gave them an STD.

"It's a lot of worry for somebody to carry around," she said.

The proposed measure for the multicultural center asks students if they will pay a one-time fee of \$2.45 per student per term for one

year. If the measure passes, it will generate \$109,025 to pay for remodeling and start-up costs for the center.

Creating a multicultural center has been discussed by students for several years, Collins Puente said. The center would serve as a central location for minority students to come together.

Students of Color Building Bridges, of which Collins Puente is a member, released a list of demands to the administration last month for improving the environment for minority students. A multicultural center was among the group's long-term

demands.

"With the changes in the demographics of the world, it's important to create an environment where students of color have a place where they feel comfortable," Collins Puente said.

"Students keep putting forth requests, and yet they are so rarely being responded to by administration," she said. "For a long time, people have been saying they want a multicultural center. The time is now."

The proposed site of the center would be next to Footnotes in the EMU basement, Collins Puente said.

**'It's like being pregnant. Once it's over with, it's great. You know it was worth it.'**

— Jan Smith,  
new homeowner

It takes roughly a year to 18 months from the application time to the actual day a family can move in, Keener said. The process includes finding vacant land to build on and organizing the funding process, labor and construction.

Smith said it was well worth the wait and the work she put into it.

"It's like being pregnant," she said. "Once it's over with, it's great. You know it was worth it."

Keener said there are many more applications turned in than Habitat can accommodate. Sixty people applied for the chance to get the first local house, he said.

"There's obviously a great need out there," Keener said.

Although the local chapter has just three houses under its belt, the 20,000th Habitat house will be built this week as part of a blitz by the national chapter in Georgia. MacNeil said more than 1,000 volunteers from the United States and as far away as Canada, New Zealand and Ireland made the journey to help.

Former President Jimmy Carter, a longtime supporter and volunteer for Habitat, is part of the weeklong building effort that will result in 20 new homes in Americus, Ga., by Sunday.

The local Habitat is completing work on its fourth house and plans to build three new ones in 1993. Habitat will begin taking applications in July, Keener said. For more information, call 741-1707.

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