



KEIZERTIMES/Eric A. Howald
Ron Mohr of Thrivent Financial and Jordan Curry and Adiregk Eamsaard of Salem Health collaborate on the Habitat build.

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Health. It was the first time Salem Health assisted Habitat as a group.

In this case, the connection was Heidi Hayes, a Habitat for Humanity of the Mid-Willamette Valley board member and group manager at Salem Health.

"A lot of my work is in population health management, and I'm passionate about connecting social determinants of health and the health care delivery services that Salem Health provides," Hayes said. "It's about demonstrating Salem Health's commitment to the community and dedicating time and talent."

The home is being built for the Wuefling family: Greg and Olivia with son Josh, 10, and daughter Ravyn, 5. Greg served in the Army National Guard and was deployed to the Middle East in 2003. In 2005, he sustained injuries from grenade shrapnel that ultimately earned him a Purple Heart.

Much of the family activity revolves around Ravyn

who was born deaf and with three heart defects. While she now has cochlear implants and hearing aids, she needs consistent monitoring for congestive heart failure.

Habitat Build Manager Dave Connell said he's hoping to move the Wueflings into the home sometime this holiday season. A formal handing over of the keys is scheduled for December and Hayes said many of the Salem Health volunteers were already planning to come back for that, if not to volunteer again.

Connell said the biggest challenge at the moment is scheduling subcontractors for electric and heating during an already-busy season, but more help for other tasks is still needed.

"We need volunteers for roofing, and once we get into finish work – like painting – we need lots of hands on deck for that," Connell said.

Sign up for a volunteer shift in the upcoming weeks at salemhabitat.org. Information on how to apply for a Habitat home is also available on the site.

Thrivent Financial Services is sponsoring the home build.

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locking their door, but it is something we're tracking and we will notice it."

The problem with tracking car clouts – and apprehending offenders – is that by the time the crimes are reported and trends emerge, the thieves are long gone and the trends already over.

"We have had some areas hit more than once, but with car clouts it's very transitory. I can tell you that neighborhoods all over the city have been hit," Steele said.

Motive also factors into the ability for police to track down suspects.

"You have kids who are bored and go out and check car doors for the thrill. Then you have people who are looking to feed something like a drug habit. Finally, there are people who drive in from another city and just pick a spot that looks target-rich (residential with a bunch of cars)," Copeland said.

Another complicating factor is that some car owners intentionally leave doors to their cars unlocked after cleaning

them out so would-be thieves don't damage the vehicle trying to gain entry. That tactic is something of a double-edged sword for police. Since the victim doesn't experience a loss, it often goes unreported.

"For us to establish patterns and trends, I have to know what is happening even if nothing is taken," Steele said.

The most commonly-reported items being taken are cell phones, car chargers, tablet computers, expensive sunglasses, and even loose change.

KPD Deputy Chief Jeff Kuhns said one of the reasons the department is seeking to beef up night patrols is to be more proactive in incidents like car clouts.

"Our graveyard troops love a suspicious person call and we encourage you to call when you see someone who doesn't belong in a neighborhood or if you see someone checking doors," Kuhns said.

Neighbors can also help each other by forming Neighborhood Watches. If you don't have a watch already established in your area, KPD's community outreach specialist, Dorothy Diehl can help get one started. Diehl can be reached at 503-856-3472 or DiehlD@keizer.org.

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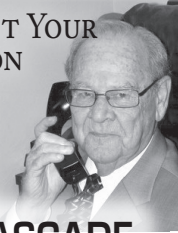
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