UNHOUSED

Continued from Page 2

working towards independence and employment. Barnes has individual meetings with residents at the Haven every week to see if they're making progress.

"Beyond 30 days, we will extend your stay if you are making progress. But if you are not making progress, then I will send you on for 30 days. Because sometimes being uncomfortable for 30 days is what it takes to make a change," Barnes said.

The shelter's monthly operation cost is $5,500 per month. Barnes thanked the city of Richmond for helping Haven of Help with rent. She also said that around 11 churches in the community have also been big supporters, along with other organizations like Made New Mercantile and Jack Burford Chevrolet. Haven of Hope is 100% volunteer ran and 100% funded via donation.

To help prepare for winter, the folks at the shelter are having an outside garage on their property turned into space for an overflow of guests.



Michelle Taylor was the first guest booked at Haven of Hope. | BLAKE VICKERS

HAVEN OF HOPE GUESTS SPEAK OUT

Tom Barrett found himself staying at Haven of Hope earlier this year. Originally from Georgia, Barrett is among those folks who needed a hand after a set of harsh circumstances that were out of their control.

"It wasn't drug induced. It wasn't alcohol. I did nothing wrong. But unfortunately, I was put in that situation. Monica (Barnes) and everyone there, I've seen them make a difference in everyone's lives. They actually did give us hope," Barrett said. "I had a bed. I had a place to sleep. But more importantly, (Barnes) was our friend... That lady is an angel. She is a blessing from God."

Barrett is back on his feet now. He was one of two residents of Haven of Hope who came out to voice support for the organization during the public comment section of the meeting.

Michelle Taylor, the first guest ever booked at the Haven of Hope, also came out to praise the shelter. She had experienced homelessness once before around eight years ago thanks to addiction. While she has long since been recovered, Taylor said she once again found herself in need of a place to stay thanks to a series of illnesses.

"This time around, I'm really sick. I have lupus. I have another immune disorder, I have fibromyalgia. My family wouldn't help me and I was staying with a friend. They decided to kick me out for winter," Taylor said.

After finding herself with no place to go, Taylor went to the One-Stop Hub at Enrich and was directed to Haven of Hope from there. She thanked Barnes and the other folks at the shelter profusely for putting a roof over her head.

"Not only Monica (Barnes), but everyone who volunteers there. They treat you with respect. They don't look down on you," Taylor said.

ENRICH ON FURNITURE REHAB, DV8 RICHMOND, GATHERING DATA, AND MORE

Enrich covered a lot of ground in their presentation to the city. Co-founder and Richmond Police Officer Dan Kirstein was first up to bat, giving a broad overview of what the non-profit had been up to.

Along with ongoing work at the One-Stop Resource Hub (which works to set up individuals and families with the community resources best suited to their needs), the group's Furniture Ministry, Regenerate, is also set to make a return. Furniture Ministry's help people furnish their homes.

"We started a furniture ministry, it took off, and was very needed. To be honest with you, the need was greater than we were prepared to take on and do exactly what I just told you, to do it with excellence. So we paused it for a short amount of time. We gathered the troops together, we've refined it, we're getting ready to relaunch that ministry," Kirstein said. "That's a partnership with many community organizations where we furnish the residences of people who are re-entering society. Maybe from incarceration, or single parents that can't afford furniture, domestic violence victims that are kind of planting new roots."

Through a partnership with Lexington's DV8, Enrich will also be bringing the 'soulfull enterprise' restaurant to Richmond. DV8 focuses on employing folks who have a hard time finding work elsewhere, this includes people who have recently been released from incarceration and those in recovery. It will be split into two-branches — a non-profit program and a for-profit restaurant. It will be called the DV8 Richmond Ingredients for Success Program.

"We are going to run (the program) under the non-profit umbrella, not to be confused with the DV8 Richmond for-profit, the restaurant. But that should be good news if you can put one and two together. The restaurant is almost complete. I expect the restaurant's renovations in the 110, the old Woods Motor Company building, to be complete in the spring. That's not to say that it will launch the same time because there's strategy behind when you launch a restaurant," Kirstein said.

Kirstein joked that of the 50 or so hats he wears, restaurateur is not one of them. and that DV8 founder Rob Perez and his team will be handling the launch of the restaurant. Enrich and DV8 have both formally backed a candidate family to run the restaurant, but Kirstein noted their identities will not be made public yet.

Enrich also broke down an app they developed to help track the data on the greatest needs facing the community.

"We're changing how we're capturing data, organizing it, using it through the One-Stop... This app that we built in house is designed to capture all these insights at every level that we serve. Through this we're able to see who we serve, what brought them to the door, how they got there, how they heard about us, and we're also able to track how we're able to meet their need through community partnerships," said Joseph Johnson, Director of Network Stewardship for Enrich's One-Stop Network.

The team pulled up a graph similar to a subway transit map that tracked causes and solutions for everything from housing support to substance use issues. That data is then put to use at the One-Stop and also to help the other agencies they work with in the community.

"We're able to use this information to maker better partnerships, to leverage what we have available to us, and to continue to build out the resources we already have. We have a lot of resources, but we're identifying more and more gaps as we go along," Johnson said.

VETERANS

Continued from Page 1

the program," Townsend said.

Azha Cheatham served as master of ceremonies and gave the welcoming remarks. Samuel Guevara sang the national anthem. Vivian McKnight performed "Taps," Marina Margus sang "God Bless America," and Bray Snell delivered the invocation and closing remarks.

Limitless Dance, a team made up primarily of Madison County Special Olympics athletes, also gave a patriotic performance. The celebration included a buffet meal and a video recognizing the military services.

Guest speaker retired Army Col. Judy C. Green-Baker spent almost 28 years in the military, serving as a nurse and in military personnel. Green-Baker spent almost 28 years in the Army as a nurse and in military personnel. Asked what stayed with her from that time, she talked about speaking up for soldiers.

"My service has always been about helping others," she said, "and I would say probably any time I had the opportunity to give a voice to the voiceless, because my soldiers accept the orders that I give, and they have to do what I ask, and their voice is never heard."

She said she tried to make sure the command understood what mattered to the soldiers under her.

Her message to the teens was that they could serve their communities now.

"They don't have to wait to be adults," she

SEE **HOOD,** PAGE **11**

---Public Notice----

Notice is hereby given that Jarvis & Donna McKinney of 2874 Tates Creek Road, Richmond, Madison County, KY, has filed an application with the Energy and Environment Cabinet to elevate a building pad by means of placing fill materials within the floodplain. The property is located at 2874 Tates Creek Road, Richmond, Madison County, Kentucky, being 0.2 miles south along Tates Creek Road (Hwy 169) from the intersection of Tates Creek Road and Jack's Creek Road, along Tates Creek. Any comments or objections can be submitted via email to: DOWFloodplain@ky.gov Kentucky Division of Water, Floodplain, Management Section, 300 Sower Blvd. Frankfort, KY 40601. Call 502-564-3410 with questions.

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