

AFL and Sonny & Son Tree Services volunteer at Belknap House

LACONIA — Recently two local businesses, AFL Corporation and Sonny & Son Tree Services and Stump Grinding, made quite a difference in Belknap House, the cold weather homeless shelter for families in Belknap County. Their efforts kicked off renovation and renewal work on the building at 200 Court Street.

The facility must complete major renovations and meet ADA compliance before opening in October. It will serve as a hostel during the summer months.

On the last two Fridays in April, two teams of volunteers from Belmont AFL jump-started the renovations. The global AFL Corporation encourages its employees to engage with local nonprofit organizations by volunteering. The Belmont AFL Community Team spent many hours tearing down walls, removing carpets, ceiling tiles, and cabinets, and helping with yard work. Linda Heney, AFL Community Team coordinator, organized the 14 volunteers and spent a Friday afternoon working with the AFL crew.

Another Belmont company, Sonny & Son Tree Services and Stump Grinding, volunteered to handle the heavy landscape renovations. Sonny Lurvey, his son, Carl, and crew began work in mid-April, chopping down overgrown shrubbery, removing large tree limbs, raking, and disposing of landscape debris. Sonny's is a small, locally owned family business that has served the Lakes Region for over 40 years.

The Belknap House board of directors wishes to publicly thank Sonny & Son Tree Services and Stump Grinding and the AFL Corporation. Donations of time, supplies, capital, and expertise are ongoing needs. Belknap House encourages and welcomes volunteers. To help, email belknaphouse@gmail.com (<mailto:belknaphouse@gmail.com>) or visit www.belknaphouse.org (<http://www.belknaphouse.org>).



Sonny and Son Tree Services and Stump Grinding: Sonny Lurvey and son, Carl. (Courtesy photo)



AFL Community Team (L-R): Jon Norton, Kim Hook, Mike Scholten, Linda Heney, Cathy Johnson, Scott Prescott. Other team members, not pictured, were Robin Strese and Donna Fletcher. (Courtesy photo)

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