

# Corsicana Daily Sun, Corsicana, Texas

October 16, 2011

## Christmas in Action puts hammer to nails

By Janet Jacobs

Corsicana Daily Sun

Corsicana — Gifted with beautiful weather and determined volunteers, Navarro County Christmas in Action teams cleaned yards, painted houses, built wheelchair ramps, caulked windows and a multitude of other chores for the elderly and poor who couldn't otherwise do it themselves.

One of the youngest volunteers Saturday was Sean Klinge, 9, who worked with a man-sized hammer pulling wooden siding off a home on East 10th.

His reason for being was to help out his dad, who was another volunteer on the site, but also "to help," he said.

Dorothy Woodard could hear hammering all around her house Saturday morning, and it was music to her ears, she said.

"I like to hear that sound," she said, smiling. "I'm just so uplifted this morning. God and (Christmas in Action) answered my prayers. I'm just so thankful."

Dorena Massey's husband passed away this past year, and although she received a wheelchair ramp in the past from Christmas in Action, her daughter applied on her behalf this year. On Saturday, a team from Second Avenue Missionary Baptist Church was busy tearing the rotten roof out of the old carport, and working to replace it with new wood.

"I just appreciate it so much," Massey said.

Homeowner Debra Burdette had a variety of small jobs that she couldn't do because of an injured arm.

The team from First United Methodist Church was fixing the porch, finishing out windows, painting some of the interior rooms and installing smoke alarms at her house.

"I'm really excited," Burdette said. "It's going to be beautiful."

Volunteers from the Noon Rotary Club and Community National Bank worked on a home on East 14th, painting and making some carpentry repairs.

Students José and Luis Santoyo sang as they painted one side of the house, sharing a paint bucket.

Involved in everything from Honors Society to Leo Club and Rotaract, the young men were happy to be there.

"I'm a first-generation college student, and he's following me, so that's a good thing," José explained. "Plus, we love to help people."

Christmas in Action is a faith-based charity of neighbors helping neighbors get their houses safe and dry. Teams answering the call this year came from churches, such as First Baptist Church, Second Avenue Missionary Baptist, First United Methodist, Westminster Presbyterian and Mildred Baptist, as well as local businesses, including Kohl's, True Value, Corsicana Daily Sun, Community National Bank and Trust, and student groups, such as Navarro College, Rotaract, ROTC cadets from Corsicana High School, FCCLA and AVID.

Some of the teams will be working next Saturday, and some will be returning to finish jobs left incomplete this weekend.

---

Janet Jacobs may be reached via e-mail at [jacobs@corsicanadailysun.com](mailto:jacobs@corsicanadailysun.com). Want to "sound off" to this article? E-mail: [Soundoff@corsicanadailysun.com](mailto:Soundoff@corsicanadailysun.com)