

---

---

# ❖Restoration Village❖

---

---

February 2011

---

---

**“God made sky and soil, sea and all the fish in it. He always does what he says-he defends the wronged, he feeds the hungry. God frees those held captive-he gives sight to those who cannot see, he lifts up the fallen, God loves good people, protects strangers, takes the side of orphans and widows, but makes short work of the wicked” (Psalms 146:5-9).**

## UNSAVORY PEOPLE

**F**ulfilling Solomon’s written warning, “...a bird of the air shall carry the voice, and that which has wings shall tell the matter” (Ecclesiastes 10:20). I once heard of a person who implied that the residents at Restoration Village were “unsavory”. I am not sure what was meant by the remark, but I do know that in God’s realm, there are no unsavory people; all are precious in His sight.

I have observed God’s grace work in an epiphany of a moment and at other times to take months until fruition. When facilitating 12 step groups there were those who put the bottle or pills away one night and never went back. There were others who relapsed multiple times and yet, they kept coming back to meetings and often completed the program. Each of these two groups was a hero because they began the journey to wholeness and stuck with it until victory over the besetting addiction was accomplished.

Karen (name is changed) sought help from Restoration Village because she was living in a dilapidated house. Karen had been in prison a few years prior and had a history of alcoholism. Karen has four grown children, three of them are struggling with substance abuse issues besides attempting to care for their own children. Karen was in her mid fifties, unemployed, had not had a legal driver’s license since 1980, and had no personal transportation and few resources or belongings. She has remained sober since her release from prison.

Besides the safe place to live, the first endeavor with Karen was to secure a driver’s license. When she had attempted to be reinstated on her own the obstacles seemed overwhelming and she never completed all that needed to be accomplished. She would borrow people’s automobiles in order to drive to work despite not having a driver’s license. Tickets began to mount up on top of other bills and fines that she owed. One of the first items of business after her arrival here, she said with commitment, “...things have got to be different and I will

---

...they began the journey to wholeness and stuck with it until victory over the besetting addiction was accomplished.

---

Restoration Ministries, Inc.  
2215 Little Flock Dr.  
Rogers, Arkansas 72756  
(479) 631-7345  
Fax: (479) 631-9011  
restore89@cox.net

Executive Directors  
David and Beverly Engle

Board of Directors  
Bill Gillingham, PhD (ret.)  
Licensed Professional Counselor  
Tulsa, Oklahoma

Tom Hatley, ThD  
Immanuel Baptist Church  
Rogers, Arkansas

Richard Knight, MD  
Southwestern Seminary  
Fort Worth, TX

David Layman  
Layman’s Incorporated  
Springdale, Arkansas

Robert Ryan  
Outreach Director  
Church at Pinnacle Hills  
Rogers, Arkansas

not drive until I get a driver's license." We had to get her a copy of her birth certificate; letters from the prison that she had graduated from a drug and alcohol treatment program, and retake a driver's exam and road test.

Karen went to work for the Village doing household duties above and beyond the normal chores, and we paid her to perform these extra tasks. She used the monies earned to pay fines, secure needed information, and pay reinstatement fees. As a result of the resident work program she also saved some money in order to have a down payment on a car if she could get a license. It took one year to get all of the paper work and tests accomplished. During that year she also attended our weekly support group, weekly individual counseling and learned and developed skills about setting boundaries and having healthy relationships. She bought her first car that she had owned in thirty years and sought employment outside of the Village. She found a great job opportunity, is active in the church, and lived in one of our transitional houses.

---

"When we speak the unspeakable, think the unthinkable, and permit the impermissible, we are not far from a final darkness."

---

It was eighteen months after she arrived at the Village when she shared about looking back at her journal and the incredible journey she had finished to that point. With tears in her eyes she stated that she could hardly recognize the person she was before. Her struggles seemed "so far away." She is now working at establishing relationships with her children, reads and prays with her grandchildren and is one example of "give them a chance."

Years ago, Jonathan Kozol wrote a book about "*Homeless Families In America*" that concludes: "So from pity we graduate to weariness to impatience; from impatience to annoyance; from annoyance to contempt... State terrorism as social welfare policy... has not yet achieved acceptance in our social order; but it may no longer be regarded as beyond imagination. When we speak the unspeakable, think the unthinkable, and permit the impermissible, we are not far from a final darkness."

Unsavory people, hardly! The person who thought that the poor are unsavory is just weary and has moved their emotions to contempt. I have come to realize over the years that those whom pass some type of judgment upon others when confronted by poverty or pathos, just might be forced to confront their own poverty or own heart. Do we project on them our own deficiencies? Or do we refuse to confront our own selfishness of not helping our neighbor? Do we have the patience, the grace and mercy to be the difference and to make a difference in the lives of little children, grandmothers who cannot care for themselves, the disenfranchised, the hungry, and all those who are the poor amongst us? At Restoration Village there are no people marginalized; they are not powerless, weak, or objects of contempt.

Karen is just one of those stories from the Village. She is worth the time involved that gave her a chance. Thank you for giving her that opportunity.

*David Engle*

---

---

## Village News



ANNOUNCING THE BIRTH OF SOPHIA ROSE TIBBS to Kevin and Natalie Tibbs on January 15, 2011. We are grateful to God for all these beautiful grandchildren who encompass our life and bring humor, joy and motivate Grandma Beverly to make chocolate chip cookies.



BY NOW ALL CONTRIBUTORS TO RESTORATION MINISTRIES, d.b.a. Restoration Village should have received your 2010 record of contributions. If not please phone us at (479) 631-7345 or email us at [restore89@cox.net](mailto:restore89@cox.net). We will respond quickly to get a statement back out to you. We are grateful to all who give unselfishly and compassionately to the Village.

THE MAIN NEWSLETTER IS ABOUT ONE OF THOSE WE HAVE SERVED, AND SOME OF THE OTHER STATISTICS OF HOW YOUR GIVING was used in 2010 are as follows:

- ◆ Our waiting list to become a resident is 38 larger than in 2009 which implies that the needs are enlarging due to the economic situation in America.
- ◆ There were 551 one-on-one advocacy hours given to residents; weekly support groups; sixty percent of our residents also attended weekly or bi-weekly counseling. Life Skill classes (cooking, health care, parenting, credit counseling, etc.) were conducted once per month.
- ◆ 2 attended college, 7 were accepted for SSI/disability, and 75% of the ladies now have gainful employment.

THIS YEAR STARTED WITH JUNIOR LEAGUE returning to lead life skill classes; Beverly is teaching the Beth Moore series on *BREAKING FREE*; The Walton Arts Center arranged for free tickets for some of our mummies and babies to attend a matinee of *FERNAND AND THE BULL*; and group sessions at the Village main lodge started. Despite the snow and cold weather, all programs started off this year without a problem. When the weather is bad ... we do have a captive audience!

EVERY YEAR ON CHRISTMAS EVE AS A WAY OF ENCOURAGING THE RESIDENTS TO BEGIN MEANINGFUL TRADITIONS have songs, skits, stunts, poetry, story –telling, etc., that each resident or family does prior to the presentation of any presents. One of the ladies this past year wrote her own words to the Christmas carol, *The Twelve Days of Christmas*:

On the first day the Village gave to her: One warm quilt.  
Second day, 2 Wal-Mart gift cards.  
Third day, a three-day pass.  
Fourth day, 4 days of no chores.  
Fifth day, 5 bags of biggie size fries from McDonalds.  
Sixth day, 6 Christmas cookies decorated by Ms. Beverly.  
Seventh day, 7 pretty candy canes.  
Eighth day, 8 songs of praise to God our Heavenly king.  
Ninth day, 9 pairs of socks multi-colored for me.  
Tenth day, 10 spiritual days taught to me.  
Eleventh day, 11 times the love than I ever deserved.  
Twelfth day, 12 ways to give without any money.

Some original and often funny works come from these parties and we can only hope that traditions become a part of their restored life.



JUST A HEADS UP: The 11th Annual Cherishing Children Challenge 1-mile walk/5k run will be April 16 this year. This annual event in Little Flock, Arkansas is a wonderful morning of inspiration, fellowship, good brunch food, and a tough 5k course that even the champion runners enjoy. Entry fees and sponsorships are one of the fundraisers throughout the year for the Children's Advocacy Center of Benton County. Online registration at [www.signmeup.com/74105](http://www.signmeup.com/74105).

OUR SERVER FOR THE WEB PAGE HAS FINISHED WITH THE SET UPS. WE ANTICIPATE THAT WE ONCE AGAIN WILL BE POSTING PICTURES, news letters, and update the first weeks of February for you to view. We apologize for the delays, but the new platform will allow us to do more and pretty up the site. Sometime in February the new updates will have occurred. [Restorationvillage.net](http://Restorationvillage.net) is the web site. Thank you for your patience during the past three months.