

Maureen J. Taylor, Woman of the Year 2014



For the past twenty years, Maureen Taylor has been a driving force in Habitat for Humanity . Maureen and her husband, Richard Taylor, co-founded Habitat for Humanity of Southern Dutchess in 1994. In 1997 the organization merged with Poughkeepsie to become the Dutchess County Habitat for Humanity. Maureen was a member of the Board of Directors from 1994 to 2013 and served as assistant treasurer.

From 1996 to the present she has been chair of the Family Support Committee. Maureen's work for Habitat has included three Jimmy Carter Blitz Builds in South Dakota, Kentucky and Texas. Her other activities include Make-a-Difference Day projects, home repairs, and Community Days parades. She has worked tirelessly to raise funds for the organization by conducting annual Gingerbread House raffles, organizing barn sales, flea markets, and antique/collectables appraisals and participating in walk-a-thons.

Maureen's life has been one of volunteer service. In addition to her work on Habitat for Humanity, she and her husband have been deeply involved with the Hopewell Depot Restoration, where she has been on the board since 2012. Maureen is on the Fund Raising Committee and has organized the annual fundraising dinner. She is responsible for purchases and inventory of items sold at the Depot information center. Maureen volunteers at the Castle Point VA Hospital and has taught Sunday School at the New Hackensack Reformed Church. She has been on the board of the New Hackensack Nursery School and was a substitute teacher. Since 2013, she has been a member of The Independence Belle Society, a veterans' support organization.

Maureen graduated from Arlington High School and attended Vassar Hospital School of Nursing. She retired in 2003 after working in the Hudson Valley Heart Center, Healthshield, CHP, Kaiser and New Century Medical Association. She and her husband have two children.