

Oakland nonprofit helps complete repairs on Milford sailor's home

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By STEPHANIE PREWEDA
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Home is where the heart is, and rebuilding a home for a Navy hero is a good way to say “thank you for your 17 years of service.”

Sears Heroes at Home and nonprofit Rebuilding Together Oakland County are teaming up to rebuild the Milford home of David Frederickson, who is still serving in the Navy, as part of Craftsman’s national “Make a Difference” tour.

After graduating from Pontiac Central High School in 1989, Frederickson promptly enlisted in the Navy and has since been deployed on three active duties overseas, including in Spain, Kuwait and, most recently, southern Afghanistan.

Frederickson has followed in his brother and father’s footsteps in the Navy and is still active as an equipment operator, first class. He is currently stationed at Selfridge Air National Guard Base.

“He’s given so much to this country and our community and he makes it safe for us here at home,” said executive director of Rebuilding Together Oakland County Al Kaczaowski. “While we are busy enjoying freedom, he is out fighting and being on watch for us.”

In about a month and a half, a group of volunteers has helped replace the grass, rebuild the bathroom in the basement, install energy-efficient windows throughout the house, replace storm doors and repaint the entire exterior of the house.

Today was the official day for all the final touches to be added to the house.

“It’s just been unbelievable — it’s hard to put into words my gratitude,” Frederickson said. “It’s unbelievable the work that they’ve done, and the quality of the work that they’ve done.”

It all started when his wife, Lisa, wrote a letter to the public opinions section to the Milford Times, publicly thanking him for his service and sacrifice for the family. A family friend who saw the letter contacted



Rebuilding Together Oakland County, which in turn contacted Frederickson about rebuilding his home.

“It was a whirlwind forward,” he said. “I said ‘yeah, sure’ and the next thing I know people are all over the house and it was just unbelievable.”

David and Lisa have two sons. The youngest, Brandon, will be attending his first year of college at Wayne State University in the fall.

Frederickson said he re-enlisted in the Navy in 2002 so his son could collect the college funds he has earned over his naval career

“He is using that for his future,” he said.