



(801) 825-2845
benchmarkhomesutah.com

"Building the Best and Lovin it"

Click Here to See Home Designs



Once more unto the breach

Saturday, January 14, 2006

By Shad West

Standard-Examiner Davis Bureau

Ogden program serves vets who want help getting on track

OGDEN -- Vietnam veteran Roger Warenski is taking steps to rebuild his life.

While he readily admits those steps are small, he said he can see his life is heading in a positive direction. Warenski, 51, is one of 35 veterans getting help from the Homeless Veterans Fellowship, a nonprofit charitable organization that helps homeless veterans get off the street and on the road to self-sufficiency.

"When I got out of prison, I had nowhere to go," Warenski said. "I came to Ogden looking for work. I painted for a while and drove a truck for a while."

Warenski said when he went to get a commercial driver license, he couldn't pass a Department of Transportation physical. So he tried to go back to school -- that lasted nine months; he just couldn't concentrate.

"When you reach my age, most people are stable in life, have a bank account and are planning for retirement," he said.

On the fringes of homelessness, Warenski battled the demons of alcohol and drugs until he discovered the fellowship.

"It's been great for me here," he said. "I've been clean and sober for almost three years."

Warenski's story is similar to many of the veterans getting help from the fellowship, said spokesman Jeremy Taylor.

"There are a lot of outreach programs that will help the homeless, until they find out that a homeless person is a felon, someone who made a mistake," Taylor said. "We try to look beyond those mistakes and recognize that veteran's honorable service in the military."

Taylor says veterans in the program have to decide they want to move forward, and the fellowship can help them accomplish that task.

The fellowship has a staff of trained counselors who help veterans face the physical and psychological barriers of

Photography



Story Tools

-  Printer Friendly
-  E-mail This Article
-  Text bigger | smaller
- [Bookmark with del.icio.us](#)

FEATURED ADVERTISEMENT

SITE TOOLS

February 1st 2006

- » [REGISTRATION:](#)
- »» [DIGITAL EDITION](#)
- »» [FORUMS](#)

» [HELP DESK](#)

- » [SEARCH:](#)
- »» [LOCAL NEWS](#)
- »» [DIGITAL EDITION](#)
- »» [PAID ARCHIVE](#)
- »» [SEARCH F.A.Q.](#)

[Local Weather](#)



Light Rain
Temp: 38°F

PROMOTIONS



- Contact Us
- Home
- News
- Sports
- Opinion
- Obituaries
- Features
- Business
- Go
- Xplore
- Community
- TX.
- Forums
- Blogs
- Contests
- Publications
- Events
- Games
- News Archive
- Local Search
- Email News
- Photo Gallery
- Local Music
- Weather

Sign up for local savings & coupons!

E-mail Address:

SERVICES

[Subscribe](#)
[Advertise](#)
[About Us](#)
[Employment](#)
[Opportunities](#)
[Web Site Hosting](#)

substance abuse.

Because homelessness is primarily an economic issue, veterans can also seek help from an employment development specialist who reaches out into the community to find jobs for those in the program.

The cornerstone of the fellowship is the housing programs it offers. About 35 veterans are currently provided with transitional housing. They are welcome to stay for up to 18 months while receiving help in the other aspects of their lives.

"Our transitional housing is spartan living," said Jack Brady, board member for the fellowship. "Each resident is given their own private bedroom but share a living area, kitchen and restroom with another resident."

Much of the furniture is donated, but Brady says it covers the basic necessities.

Last month, the fellowship expanded the housing program to include permanent housing for veterans. The program currently has five veterans, but the fellowship is finding expansion difficult due to the challenge of locating affordable housing for those needing it.

"We realize that many of our veterans can't afford the market-rate rental rates with the types of jobs they are getting," Brady said. "Many of the employment opportunities don't afford our veterans a living wage."

The fellowship subsidizes rent for veterans in the permanent housing program and will need help before it can be expanded.

"If the veterans can't get permanent housing, they are going to end up back on the streets," Taylor said. "We need to get the citizens of Ogden to buy into our program and realize that the vets in our program can be good neighbors.

"It's a great feeling to be able to take somebody who has lost their way and give them a compass to get them back on their way."

NowCare
 Ogden
621-3466
 Roy
773-9380
www.nowcaremed.com

Feeling Blue?
 • Same day appointments
 • Walk-ins available

[VIEW COMPLETE AD](#)

TOP JOBS

Eagle Gate College
 Get More! More! Choices
 More! Opportunities
 Business / Healthcare
 Computer / Technology

Construction
 Footing Laborer
 self motivated
 need own transportation

Trades/Cabinetry
 Cabinet Finisher
 Exper. a plus
 wage negotiable

Medical Secretary
 F/T
 Excellent Benefits
 must have experience

Billing Clerk
 F/T
 Excellent Benefits
 must have experience

Trendwest
 P/T Nights
 Pay DOE
 Spanish Speaking a plus

TOP HOMES

Nilson Homes
 Why Nilson Homes?
 Experience? Quality?
 Location? We offer
 all three, and more.

NorthernUtah
RealEstate.com
 Your source for buying
 and selling in Utah!
 Re/Max Community
 (801) 745-1500

TOP AUTOS

New Deal Used Cars
 Buy Here Pay Here
 We Finance Everyone!

SHOPPING

Canyon Sports
 Telemark workshop
 20% OFF skis/boots

TOP TRAINING

Certified Careers
Institute
 Medical Training
 only 8-9 mos.
 Day/Night Classes
 1-800-377-3096

[Get listed here!](#)



ADVERTISING

[Classifieds](#)
[Place Your Ad](#)
[Today's Ads](#)
[Legal notices](#)
[Business Directory](#)
[HomeFinder](#)
[RentalFinder](#)
[AutoFinder](#)
[JobFinder](#)
[Money](#)
[Save Money!](#)
[Local Coupons](#)
[SNET Gear](#)
[Personals](#)

PUBLICATIONS

[Hilltop Times](#)
[Golf Guide](#)
[Home & Garden](#)
[Hers](#)
[Answer Book](#)
[Local Coupons](#)
[WestX](#)
[Dining Guide](#)
[Wedding Guide](#)
[Bridal Gathering](#)
[Garden Guide](#)
[Health & Fitness](#)
[Healthy Advice](#)
[Pro. Advice](#)
[Golf Guide](#)
[Seniors](#)
[Homefinder Mag](#)
[Back 2 Future](#)
[Family Guide](#)

S-E EVENTS

[Ski School](#)
[Bridal Gathering](#)

**YOUR
NEIGHBORHOOD**

**John W. Hansen
&
Associates**

- » **Huntsville**
- » **Ogden**
- » **North Ogden**
- » **Ogden**
- » **Eden**
- » **Pleasant View**
- » **Ogden**
- » **Hooper**
- » **Farr West**
- » **Farr West**
- » **Ogden**
- » **Morgan**
- » **Farr West**
- » **Washington Terrace**

- » **West Warren**
- » **South Ogden**
- » **Monte Cristo**
- » **Plain City**
- » **Harrisville**
- » **Pleasant View**
- » **Pleasant View**
- » **West Point**
- » **North Ogden**
- » **Willard**
- » **Ogden**