



(above) During construction, the employees of Smith's Heating and Air Conditioning work to install and test the exterior unit and the interior duct work in the attic.

Heart Warming

Teaming with over 50 national and local companies, Smith's Heating and Air contributed to the creation of a totally mortgage-free home for one disabled soldier and his loving family.

Operation Finally Home is a non-profit organization that strives to provide completely free custom homes for wounded or disabled soldiers returning from war. Last year, the organization chose to honor Lowcountry soldier Robert Wright by constructing a home in Ladson for him and his family.

Local establishment Smith's Heating and Air felt honored to be chosen by builder Pulte Homes to install the HVAC unit at the Wrights' new residence. Ed Young, owner of Smith's, recounts, "Pulte con-

tacted us for the Operation Finally Home house because we do all of their work in this area. They asked us to donate the materials, the ductwork, and the unit, and we were happy to do it." The specific unit was chosen to meet the two most important needs of the consumer—year-round comfort and an affordable electric bill. Ed calculated the Manual J, which is a formula used to determine the appropriate HVAC unit size for a particular structure. The calculation accounts for the quality of insulation, window sizes, heat produced by kitchen appli-

ances and lighting, square footage of the home, and many other factors. To match the Manual J calculation, Ed installed a Lennox unit in the home with a 15 SEER (Seasonal Energy Efficiency Rating), which is a number that determines the efficiency of a HVAC unit. (Hint: A higher SEER number equals greater efficiency and lower operation costs. SEER ratings reach up to the mid-20s, and a basic HVAC unit is 13 SEER.) Ed chose this Lennox system for his positive opinion of the brand and the system's ability to keep the Wrights warm and cozy



(or nice and cool, depending upon the season) at an affordable cost.

Beyond the technical heating and air system, the Wright family's needs were of utmost importance in the entire design of the home. "They basically tailored the house to my medical needs and the desires of the kids and my wife, Bethany," explains Robert. The home was constructed not only to fulfill immediate wishes—including a room for each of the family's four children and an intercom system to allow for conversation between rooms—but also to provide function into the future. For example, if Robert's disability progresses and causes him to be wheelchair bound, the whole home is already designed to become handicap accessible. Of the fam-

ily's amazing experience with Operation Finally Home, Bethany gratefully remarks, "We are so incredibly thankful for our home. This is the first project that Operation Finally Home has done in the state of South Carolina, and we are humbled that our family was chosen for it."

Robert and Bethany, with the help of so many local contractors and Operation Finally Home, can rest comfortably knowing that many of their family's basic needs, such as shelter and warmth, have been met with excellence. ♦

For more information, call Smith's Heating and Air Conditioning at (843) 552-3772 or visit smithshvac.com.

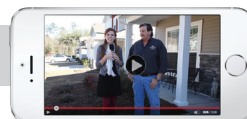


(top) The owner of Smith's Heating and Air Conditioning, Ed Young, chose a Lennox unit for the Operation Finally Home project. (above, from top left) Jennifer Knight, Cindy Young, and Ed Young of Smith's with the Wright Family

Constructing the Wrights' home was a community effort. The following local companies donated their time and supplies to make this Operation Finally Home project come to life.

84 Lumber
AC&A Concrete, Inc.
Access Portable Toilets
All American Roofing, Inc.
Atlantic Building Components
Atlas Signs, Inc.
Builders First Source
Builders Wholesale Carpet, Inc.
Carolina Custom Carpentry
Charleston Shelving & Mirror
City of North Charleston
Conklin Marketing 360
Construction Applicators Charleston
Dish & Design Catering
Dorchester County Water & Sewer
EventWorks
Ferguson Bath, Kitchen & Lighting Gallery
Fireside Hearth & Home
Hank Productions
Home Depot
Homestead Pest Defense
Integrated Site Management
Jenkins Plumbing
Jimmy Fitts Catering
L & M Electric
Lennox Industries
Low Country Renovations
Mainscapes
Manale Landscaping
Maner Fencing
MVP Granite & Flooring
Nature's Calling
Port City Concrete, Inc.
Power Plus Systems, LLC
Probuild
Pulte Group
Quality Marble, Inc.
RLA Associates, PA.
SCE&G
Seamon & Whiteside
Smith's Heating & Air Conditioning
Southeastern Garage Doors, Inc.
Stier Supply Company
TCI Contracting, LLC
Toughguard of South Carolina
W. Brook Styles Law

VIDEO EXCLUSIVE



Company: Smith's Heating and Air Conditioning
Project Type: New Construction
Location: Ladson