Still reaching for the top

Vail Valley organization Sherpa Foundation leading Everest expedition, building houses in Nepal

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EDWARDS — A house in Nepal costs about the same as one section of a concrete driveway in the Vail Valley.

That’s one reason the Sherpa Foundation was able to finish its 187th house in three years in Nepal, and even came up with a clean way to heat them.

Yet there is still so much to do, says Vail Valley businessman Pemba Sherpa, owner of Sherpa Painting.

When a series of earthquakes devastated Nepal in 2015 — killing thousands and leaving tens of thousands homeless — like so many others Pemba wanted to speed to his home village. Instead, he stayed in the Vail Valley and joined with some others to found the Sherpa Foundation.

Since then, the organization has built or rebuilt 187 homes and repaired more than 1,000 others.

A collaboration with the Himalayan Stove Project helps provide a clean way to heat those homes during the brutally cold Nepal winters.

“ar developing country, the money goes a long way,” Pemba said. “A house is where everything starts. To repair their damaged homes and put a roof over their heads, that’s where it begins.”

EVEREST EXPEDITION

You don’t have to take our word for it. You can see for yourself. Pemba and others lead treks throughout Nepal. He has assembled a team of top Sherpa guides to lead an expedition to the world’s tallest mountain.

“The Mount Everest 2020

Sherpa Guides team simply knows Mount Everest better than anyone in this world,” Pemba said.

The team has led 355 major expeditions, summited Mount Everest 170 times, helped 1,180 people from around the globe reach to the top of the world and helped them get back down safely, Pemba said.

During the group’s 355 major expeditions, the team members have climbed 26,200-foot moun-

This is the 187th house the Sherpa Foundation has built in Nepal, following the massive earthquakes and floods that devastated the country in 2015. The Sherpa Foundation was founded in the Vail Valley by native Pemba Sherpa. Every dime raised goes to help people in Nepal.

Sherpa Foundation is not only building and rebuilding houses in Nepal, but has par-

tains more than 1,530 times. Each Sherpa guide reaches the 26,200-foot summit between seven and 13 times per expedition to drop supplies and clean up, Pemba said.

The trip is scheduled for 2020, so you have time to get in shape. And you have to qualify to make this trip, so get on the treadmill today.

If you’re lucky, you’ll pass through Sotang, a remote farming village. Villagers have no medi-

cal facility for giving birth. The nearest one is a two-day walk. It’s common for women to give birth along the path on the way. Sometimes mothers and babies live; sometimes they don’t.

The facility will help tip those odds in favor of life.

“It’s human nature that, until we see something, we don’t know

TO HELP

Sherpa Foundation’s mission is to provide humanitarian aid to Himalayan communities while preserving the dignity and integrity of Sherpa and Himalayan culture.

The Sherpa Foundation is a non-

profit organization and donations are tax deductible.

To donate, visit sherpafoundation.org, email support@sherpafoundation.org or mail a donation to P.O. Box 2737, Edwards, CO 81632.

For information about the 2020 Everest expedition, email info@sherpaguide.com.