

Habitat Happenings ~ June 2010

E-News Clips from Habitat for Humanity of Clallam County

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Greetings Habitat volunteers, donors and friends!

Happy Summer! We are excited to have completed and dedicated our 21st house in partnership with Richard Drake and his son, Nate (see picture below), and our work continues! When we are not building, we are raising funds for the next house, or we are advocating for affordable housing in Clallam County. As summer hits the Olympic Peninsula, look for Habitat for Humanity at the upcoming Lavender Festival in Sequim, the Clallam County Fair and the Dungeness Crab Festival in Port Angeles. Also, save the date of **October 16th** for our **2nd Annual "Soiree by the Sea"** fundraising event in Port Angeles.

Construction News –



On Sunday, May 23rd, over 75 friends and family members helped welcome Richard Drake and his son, Nate, in to their new Habitat home in [Peninsula Village](#). Nate cut the ribbon and welcomed visitors to take the grand tour.

[Maloney Heights](#): Phase-1 construction is 99% complete, with all undergrounds in and the Serenity House Apartment complex under construction. Our engineering firm, Zenovic and Associates, has just completed Phase-2 drawings for streets and sidewalks, storm water retention, building site preparation, and all the rest, for work that will go out for bid next month. We should have 14 home sites ready by Fall as scheduled, and will begin construction on our next two homes at that time, one for Janet Scott and her family, and the other for Delta and Jarrett Shore and their family.

[713 Maizie Court & 1209 Campbell Avenue](#): We're also in the process of refurbishing two homes we've bought back from Habitat homeowners who have moved on. We will begin the family selection process for these two homes later this month. Look for an announcement of public informational meetings very soon.

Introducing Frank Bruni - volunteer extraordinaire!



Frank came to the Pacific Northwest in 1984. After multiple "careers" with the US Army and the Boeing Corp., he found himself with time on his hands, energy to burn, and multiple skills to utilize. Having had a niece who worked on two Habitat builds following Hurricane Katrina, Frank had a connection, even a passion, for the work of HFH, and in Dec. 2008 he happened upon our ReStore just a week prior to its opening.

Frank's first contact was board member Hal Gilmour, a guy who knows a good thing when he sees it. Hal handed Frank a volunteer app. and a paint roller, pointed him toward an enormous bare cinder block wall, and said "paint it". He did, and that was the beginning. A year and a half later Frank is still volunteering 30 – 40 hours a week and doing whatever it takes. His inherited title is *Warehouse Manager*, and he supervises all staff working on the floor in the functions of receiving, loading, stocking, and warehouse layout and condition. Frank is the "go-to" person.

Warmly referred to as "the grunt", Frank repeatedly reminds us that he comes in each day just to see what surprises await him. This of course is over and above the satisfaction he gets from a job well done by all, and the knowledge that the effort contributes to the funding of a new Habitat home for a deserving family.

Frank is one SUPERSTAR volunteer.

Help Wanted: Summer is here and we have some unique volunteer opportunities in store. Can you help?

First, at a couple of upcoming festivals and fairs we are planning to build a "HabiTOT" playhouse. (It might not look "exactly" like the picture below!) Kids and families will help with construction, and we'll raffle it off for \$5.00 a ticket. We will pre-frame the structure, and at the Lavender Festival, County Fair, and Crab Festival we will have materials for the kids to build and paint window boxes and shutters, and to shingle the roof. The Lavender Festival is July 16-18, the County Fair is August 19 – 22, and the Crab Festival is October 9-10.



Volunteer shifts will be 4 hours and we will hope to work in teams of at least two, with one experienced construction volunteer to supervise the building and painting, and another volunteer to answer questions and sell raffle tickets. After it's

complete we will take the playhouse to various locations – churches, shopping centers, etc. – to sell additional raffle tickets, and to increase awareness of Habitat for Humanity in our communities. If ticket sales are brisk the drawing will take place at the end of the summer.

Second, Habitat for Humanity of Jefferson County has invited our construction volunteers to help them out while we are without a house to work on. They build on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays from about 9am to 4pm, and the greatest need is for Saturday volunteers. There are a couple weeks in July/August (July 25-August 8) when they will have Care-A-Vanners helping with the build, and during those weeks they will be working Monday thru Friday. Please let us know if you are interested in participating on a build in Port Townsend, and we will coordinate.

Finally, our ReStore Home Improvement Store is looking for dedicated part-time volunteers to help with picking up donations, stocking shelves, and helping customers. If you have a few hours each week to serve Habitat for Humanity in the ReStore, please call or stop by.

Did you know . . . that only 1/3rd of the building materials required for a local Habitat for Humanity house build are donated?

FACT: Clallam County Habitat for Humanity must raise approximately \$80,000 in cash, per house build, in order to pay for non-donated building materials. Really! Yes, we do receive donations of paint, insulation, appliances and other items, however, your tax-deductible cash donations are urgently needed to buy lumber, concrete, siding, roofing materials, and basic materials like nails and fasteners.

"It's easy to make a buck. It's a lot tougher to make a difference." Tom Brokaw

Be a part of the solution!

Every family deserves a simple, decent place to live. Here's how you can help!

- ◆ Donate – send your tax deductible gift to Habitat for Humanity of Clallam County, 728 E. Front St., Port Angeles, WA 98362.
- ◆ Donate – land, vehicles, building materials, or professional services.
- ◆ Shop at our ReStore, or donate gently used items.
- ◆ Volunteer! Serve one to two hours per month on a committee.
- ◆ Speak up! Serve at a Habitat for Humanity community booth advocating for affordable housing!
- ◆ Invite Habitat to speak about our program at your service club, church, or place of business.

Please let us know how you would like to serve with Habitat for Humanity.

Habitat for Humanity of Clallam County is a non-profit, ecumenical housing ministry that seeks to eliminate poverty housing by providing simple, decent and affordable housing for low-income families through volunteer labor and charitable donations.

In Partnership...
The Editors

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