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**July**

- 11 1 PM Executive Committee Meeting Senior Center, San Andreas
- 20 6 PM Regular Board Meeting @ Senior Center, San Andreas
- 24 Chavez Home Dedication in West Point, CA

**August**

- 8 1 PM Executive Committee Meeting Senior Center, San Andreas
- 13 Habitat Hoedown Murphys Park, 5-9 PM
- 17 6 PM Regular Board Meeting @ Senior Center, San Andreas

**September**

- 12 1 PM Executive Committee Meeting Senior Center, San Andreas
- 21 6 PM Regular Board Meeting @ Senior Center, San Andreas

## Habitat Gets Ready to Swing at Hoedown

Get your dancing feet ready, your best jeans and cowboy hats on and come to the seventh annual Hoedown for Habitat at Murphys Park, Saturday, August 13 from 5-9 p.m. Hoedown for Habitat features dinner, a no-host bar, music for your listening and dancing enjoyment, a silent auction, and more.



This year we're delighted to have local favorite *Swing Gitane* as our featured band. The members of this accomplished group that plays "jazz, swing, gypsy music", are Ralph Ashmead, guitar, Rick Barlow, violin, Matt Nesper, bass, Dan Krynytzky, guitar, Susie Easley, vocals, and Jim Bannister, percussion. The Fiddle Gang, a popular youth band appearing annually at the Hoedown, will open the musical entertainment.

A no-host bar opens at 5 p.m. with a finger lickin' good dinner served from 6-7 p.m. Items on the menu include tri-tip, chicken, pasta followed by a large selection of delicious desserts. There will be a raffle and a silent auction featuring fabulous items including wine tasting/tours, handcrafted arts, and gift certificates to local businesses.

Hoedown is sponsored this year by Wells Fargo Bank, PG&E, Sonora Regional Medical Center (Advent Health), and Mark Twain Hospital. We truly appreciate the support that these organizations provide not only to Habitat but also to many other service agencies in the County.

Your participation helps Habitat raise money to give a hand up not a hand out to people in need of a decent home in Calaveras County. Presently Habitat is building two homes in West Point: one is completed with a home dedication ceremony on July 24 (see page 3), and the other is scheduled to begin construction soon. Come meet our partner families, have fun and help Habitat for Calaveras build homes.

Tickets are \$25 in advance or \$30 at the park for adults; \$7 for children ages 6-12 in advance or \$10 at the park; children five and under are free. This event often sells out in advance so buy your tickets now! For information and tickets call the Habitat office at 209-754-5331, or Marianne at 988-8895.

For the latest info on HfHC, please visit our website at [www.habitatcalaveras.org](http://www.habitatcalaveras.org)

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Volunteer Coordinator

**John Logg**  
ReStore Manager

**Your tax-deductible donation of a car, boat or RV will help to build simple, decent, and affordable homes for – and with – local families in need.**

Call (209) 754-5331 to arrange your tax deductible donation

On May 15<sup>th</sup>, after many years supporting Habitat's mission, Kathy Heffernan bid goodbye to her role as Volunteer Coordinator. As she put it, she simply wants to retire, again! Kathy began her career in 2005 with Habitat after retiring as Director of Development and Marketing for a variety of museums in the bay area. Moving to Calaveras County gave her an opportunity to retire in a quiet, peaceful environment away from the hustle and bustle of the bay area.

But Kathy wasn't ready to just sit and watch the world go by. She joined Habitat to help herd the multitude of volunteers it takes to staff fund raising events, find workers for the ReStore, and of course, the crowd of



volunteers it takes to build a decent home for a deserving family. Kathy retired in May, but as was her style, stayed to help orientate her replacement, Jayne Henning Childress. Jayne is very thankful for the support and advice Kathy imparted before she retired from a long, wonderful and helpful career supporting Habitat. Kathy, we will miss you, but have fun in retirement!

### **Meet Jayne Henning-Childress, New Habitat Volunteer Coordinator**



Habitat recently hired Jayne Henning Childress to fill the big shoes left upon the retirement of Kathy Heffernan, our first Volunteer Coordinator. Jayne brings more than 10 years of experience to the job, including recent stints at Calaveras Big Trees State Park and with the Stewardship Through Education Program.

At the Park, Jayne coordinated and presented guided tours for guests/visitors and school groups, trained docents and interns for several programs, and helped with management and scheduling at the Visitor Center. She was also the coordinator of the Calaveras Big Trees Association's volunteer-driven "Family Day" when over 2500 visitors come to the Park for a

day of interpretive programs and educational activities.

At Jayne's other part-time job, with the Stewardship Through Education Program, she coordinates "Watershed Alive Days," where her responsibilities include organizing schools, presenters and volunteers to give students outdoor education on our local watersheds and rivers, including programs on biodiversity and fish release days.

As a seasonally busy sideline, she is a long-time small business owner, growing and providing vegetable and herb plants to local nurseries and Farmers Markets in Calaveras, Tuolumne, Amador Counties. Jayne is a very friendly person, ready to speak with you if you'd like to volunteer for one of the many tasks that need to get done at Habitat. Give her a call at 754-1149.

## **Habitat to Dedicate Its 11th House**

On Sunday July 24th, the Chavez Family will receive the keys to their new home, the 11th House built by Habitat for Humanity in Calaveras County. The dedication ceremony takes place at the West Point Community Covenant Church at 1:00 PM followed by an open house at the new home. The public is welcome to attend.

At this dedication, Habitat will also celebrate the naming of the newly constructed street, Toloma Court. In addition to the new home, the street will serve 2 future homes. "Toloma" is the Miwok word for Wildcat and was chosen to honor the Miwok in this area.

As the new Volunteer Coordinator, I enjoy meeting and working with the Board and Staff members of Habitat for Humanity Calaveras, and the numerous volunteers. I would like to thank with all my heart the many, hard working volunteers who have been helping on this project. It truly takes a village (or 2) to build a house. Whether you are a volunteer working at the ReStore, helping to build a home, providing lunches or acting as host/hostess at the build site, or helping with Hoedown or A Brush With Kindness, everyone has done an incredible job helping to create a new home.



Several volunteers contributed hundreds of hours alongside the Chavez family putting in hundreds of sweat equity hours. Congratulations to all! A new home to a deserving family is here. I would also like to give a big thanks to Kathy Heffernan, for giving me lots of support and advice when I started as Volunteer Coordinator.

And finally, if I haven't contacted you and you are ready to volunteer on a project, or if you would like to become a volunteer, please call me at 754-1149.

*Jayne Henning Childress*

**See pages 8 and 9 for a complete list of volunteers, businesses, and organizations who so generously gave their time and/or resources in constructing the Chavez home.**

### **President's Message**

I am writing this message to you on the evening of Independence Day, a time of celebration of the birthday of our pursuit of happiness and liberty. In 1776 at the end of the Declaration of Independence, our founding fathers pledged their lives, their fortunes and their honor in breaking with Great Britain and taking on the task of creating a new nation, under never before heard-of rules. This new nation would be based on the idea of a government truly dedicated to enabling all citizens: life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

Inspired by the idea of pursuing happiness, we at Habitat for Humanity Calaveras try to do our small part in helping deserving families to own a decent affordable home of their own, thus enabling them to better become an integral, rooted part of our community and pursue their goals of raising their family in a place that belongs only to them.

Our newest house has been built for the Chavez family in West Point and will be dedicated on Sunday, 24 July with a program starting at the West Point Community Church and ending with the key to their new home being presented at the house. The Chavez family has not been given this home; they have earned it. They have worked hundreds of hours alongside the many volunteers to build their home from the foundation started in the mud, continuing through the rains of spring and finally the finish in the heat of summer.

None of this would be possible without the many dedicated volunteers, staff, and supportive people and businesses who build, provide lunches, fundraise, attend meetings and write checks, all in sharing the mission of Habitat to make a difference in our community. I believe that we are doing God's work in helping our fellow men and have said many times that Jesus would have volunteered with us had he been living in our time...after all he was raised as a carpenter!

Home dedications are the best part of volunteering as all the time and effort is worth it when another family takes possession of their new home, and the cycle starts again. God Bless Us Everyone!!

*Noel Helmbrecht*

## **Women Build Day – a Day of Fun and Accomplishments**

At 8 a.m. with blue sky and a cool temperature, 15 women and three men arrived for Habitat's National Women Build Day on April 30. As the day progressed sweatshirts and jackets were replaced by bright red t-shirts as the temperatures climbed. The build took place in West Point on the Chavez house. Sponsored by Habitat for Humanity International and Lowe's, all participants received a t-shirt, water bottle, lip balm, visor and tool apron. Construction site supervisor, Ken Dever, and advisor Bruce Powell discussed the build plan for the day, listed safety issues and got the group started on interior and exterior tasks that included wrapping the house to protect from moisture, nailing the insulation boards to the outside, and putting in vents.

A delicious lunch of salad, two kinds of sandwiches and cookies was provided by The Foxes Inn in Sutter Creek. Owner of the Inn is Monique Graziadei. The 15 women who participated in the build day were: LaVonne Chavez, home owner in waiting, Janelle Anderson, Carol Darrow, Rhonda Hazelwood, Diana Inslee, Janet Thompson and Soroptomist Karen Varni, all of West Point, Donna Vial of Rail Road Flat, Lucy Thein and Adriane Reimer of San Andreas, Beth Paich of Valley Springs, Carin Reimer of Stockton, and Soroptomist Chryl Hillis of Angels Camp. Incoming volunteer coordinator Jayne Henning-Childress of Mokelumne Hill, and outgoing volunteer coordinator Kathy Heffernan of Camp Connell were also in attendance, as was Thomas Chavez, future homeowner of the house, working hard putting in his sweat equity.

Prior to the build day eight women participated in a How-to-Clinic sponsored by Lowe's of Martell on April 23. Not only did the women learn how to use the tools demonstrated by Kathy Cox, they learned about the newest tools available at Lowe's. The following participated in the clinic: LaVonne Chavez, Jayne Childress, Carol Darrow, Rhonda Hazelwood, Kathy Heffernan, Habitat Board member Chris Sellman from Angels Camp, and Janet Thompson and Barbara Vahle of Arnold.

Habitat for Humanity Calaveras is one of 250 affiliates selected to participate in the National Women Build Day. By filling all requirements, the affiliates will receive a \$5,000 gift card to be used at Lowe's, in our case Lowe's of Martell, for building supplies. Truly a worthwhile effort for all involved!

## **Another Habitat Success Story**

Teresa Renfro owns Habitat house #8 that she helped build in Rancho Calaveras. Since she and her daughter Kaitlynn moved into the home in February 2009, Teresa has been looking for a new job more in line with her interest and on-going education.

Recently she succeeded, landing a full-time position with Villa Toscana Wine Cellars near Plymouth as the person in charge of shipping. The plan was for Teresa to move up the ladder earning more money and more responsibility. Now after several months, she not only runs four wine clubs, but also coordinates the buffet, and serves occasionally as a pourer at wine tastings.

Teresa is also going to college via the internet, aiming for a B.A. in Communications with a focus on New Media. She is learning how internet applications such as blogs and social networking can be used successfully in business. She is currently carrying a GPA of 4.0, and hopes to graduate next June.

Asked how Habitat has made a difference in her life, Teresa says "there is no way I could have done my school work" without the stability and convenience that her home ownership can provide. "Kaitlynn has made many good friends in the neighborhood" says Teresa, and loves having a room of her own.

Teresa feels "being a part of the community" and has made solid connections with her neighbors. One neighbor helped her get the job at Toscana, while another occasionally provides child care for Kaitlynn when her regular child care is not available.

There is no doubt in Teresa's mind that Habitat has been big factor in improving her life. Her experience typifies what many studies have shown: compared to rental, the stability of home ownership provides families with an improved potential for personal and social growth. It certainly provides us Habitatters with a sense of gratitude for the opportunity to help deserving local families.

# 7th Annual HOEDOWN for Habitat

**Saturday, August 13<sup>th</sup> 5–9 PM**  
**Murphys Park**

**JOIN US FOR LIVE MUSIC AND DANCING**

*MUSIC PROVIDED BY:*

**SWING GITANE**  
**AND**  
**THE FIDDLE GANG**



**NO HOST BAR—OPENS AT 5PM**  
**FINGER LICKIN GOOD DINNER - SERVED FROM 6–7:00PM**  
RIBS, CHICKEN, PASTA, DESSERT AND MORE



**ALSO FEATURING A RAFFLE AND A SILENT AUCTION WITH FABULOUS ITEMS**

ADULTS \$25 IN ADVANCE (PREFERRED) \$30 AT THE PARK  
CHILDREN 6–12 \$7 IN ADVANCE \$10 AT THE PARK  
CHILDREN 5 AND UNDER FREE

**For information/tickets call Habitat  
for Humanity Calaveras  
(209) 754-5331**



Help Habitat raise money to  
give a hand up not a hand out



## Habitat Calaveras Attends Conference in Atlanta, GA

Board members Chris Sellman, Alice Williams, Myron Kelso, and Administrative Manager Frank Meyer took time from their personal lives to attend the Habitat for Humanity Annual Conference in Atlanta, Georgia. The conference was held March 22-25 at the beautiful Hyatt Hotel complex in the heart of downtown. Over 1200 Habitat attendees filled the hotel rooms and conference to overflow capacity. On a more modest budget, Calaveras attendees stayed a few blocks away in a more 'modest' hotel most noted for its down-home talking sponsor, Tom Bodett (Enough said).

With over 200 different workshops over a period of three days, the crew was kept busy going from seminar to seminar taking notes on subjects ranging from A Brush With Kindness, fundraising, financial sustainability, ReStore operations, and even classes on social networking! All attendees gathered at three plenary sessions, where inspirational speeches fired us all up.

There were vendors and exhibitors in a large hall, representing small business partners and large corporations. Of particular note was a wonderful booth with Habitat Partners from all over the world. They presented their projects to help deserving families find affordable housing. It was amazing to see and hear the wonderful work that tithes from Calaveras and other affiliates accomplishes around the world. From memorable conference subjects, to new friends made, to very interesting hotel accommodations, the trip was an experience of a lifetime. Attendees returned with new found enthusiasm and helped establish new goals with the information they brought back from the conference.



## Retreat Generates New Goals

Habitat board members met recently with staff for a day long retreat to review Habitat Conference programs, assess the previous year accomplishments, and set goals for the next fiscal year. First task of the day was an overview of the annual Habitat Conference in Atlanta, attended by several Habitat members (see related story). Completing that, a lively discussion ensued on Habitat's current goals (housing for at least 1 new Habitat family a year, enhance revenue streams, increase exposure to community) and whether changes were in order.

The group divided into discussion groups and upon returning gave reports on their results and recommendations. Those recommendations were tabulated and from that, three goals for the new fiscal year were formulated. After subsequent discussion the Board adopted three goals for the 2011-12 Fiscal Year: Ensure Sustainability, Upgrade ReStore, and Develop Alternative Services to Families.

Ensure Sustainability will include; exploring feasibility of the federally funded USDA Direct Loan Program, shifting focus to projects with lower per unit cost of service (A Brush With Kindness, critical home repairs, finding business sponsors for same), monetizing assets and cultivating major sponsors. Upgrade ReStore: includes improving efficiency/effectiveness of current facility, rehabbing the existing ReStore, and exploring future expansion. Develop Alternative Services to Families: refers to the details of implementing a Critical Home Repairs component in addition to ABWK, including appropriation of the necessary funding .

Habitat Calaveras sees a lot of potential in the goals established for 2011-12. If you want to volunteer to help, call Jayne Henning Childress at 754-1149. Help is needed from contractors, business sponsors, material sponsors, financial experts, realtors, or anyone with knowledge or a skill they feel will assist Habitat Calaveras build and/or rehab decent homes for deserving families.

**Individuals**

Albert and Manuelita Arieta  
 Scott and Cheryl Brim  
 Robert J. Burger  
 Sandra Churchill  
 Kim Conley  
 Bonnie Danielson  
 Kimberly and Steven deArrillaga  
 John & Shirley Denison  
 Betty Dergan  
 Peggy Dodge  
 Julie Eggert  
 Beverly Fara  
 Sandra Feisler  
 Peter and Sally Hegg  
 Elmo and Reyna Hernandez  
 M.N. and T.K. Hill  
 Mark and Melanie Jones  
 JW Lawrence and Sons  
 Ed Kane  
 Myron & Cyndy Kelso  
 Michael & Diane Kriletich  
 Glenna Larson  
 Kathleen and Alan Luce  
 Rodney and Tammie Lundin  
 Judy McMurtry  
 Tom and Jane Meuser

Mary Miller  
 Rita & Daryl Millsaps  
 Barbara Nunnelley  
 Charles and Camilla Peterson  
 Russel and Garda Pohle  
 Bill and Sandy Reed  
 Leigh & Iona Robinson  
 Kathy Cleary Ryan  
 James and Tylene Smith  
 Esther Taber  
 Richard & Sally Tuttle  
 Barbara Verhalen  
 Kay and David Weisenberg  
 Christopher Williams

**Churches, Businesses and Organizations**

Faith Lutheran Church Women - Murphys  
 First Congregational Church Murphys  
 Mark Twain St. Joseph's Hospital  
 Outer Aisle Foods  
 Save Mart Supermarkets  
 United Methodist Women/Jackson  
 United Methodist Women/Valley Springs  
 United Way CA Capital Region  
 Wells Fargo Foundation Educational Match  
 West Point Community Covenant Church

**In Memory of:**

Gary Goffe  
 Jim Hegg  
 Josie McReynolds  
 Richard P. Miller  
 Mary Mollett  
 Ernie Peck  
 Jeanette Rupp  
 Laura Arieta Savo  
 William R. Taber

**In Honor of:**

Emily Jane Lawrence



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The reproduction of this Newsletter has been made possible by generous support from **Mark Twain St. Joseph's Hospital, San Andreas**

Mark Twain St. Joseph's Hospital  
 768 Mountain Ranch Rd  
 San Andreas, CA 95249

***Habitat for Humanity is truly grateful to all of the volunteers who gave so generously of their time and resources in constructing the Chavez home***

### **Key Volunteers**

Construction Site Manager Ken Dever, Construction Committee Chair Roger Hadow, Construction Consultants Dave DeSchryver and Bruce Powell, and Construction Volunteers: Janet Thompson, Rhonda Hazelwood, Juan Villanueva, Don Mitchell, Gary Chambers, Diana Inslee, Gary Pilkington, Walter Chrisman, Randy Chrisman, August Millar, Bill Anderson, Jason Stein, all of whom volunteered 50 hours or more. And thanks to all the other build volunteers too numerous to name.

***Thanks to the many contractors, businesses and professionals for their donated services, materials, funds, and credits to construct the Chavez home***

Michelle Plotnik, AIA, Architect Services Murphys  
Selby Design and Energy (David Selby), Tuolumne  
WRF Engineering and Design (Kevin Fritson, Terry Weatherby), Jackson  
Tom Lowry, Licensed Forester, Pine Grove  
Ken Dever Construction, West Point  
Colter-DeSchryver Construction (Dave DeSchryver), Mokelumne Hill  
Houghten Construction (Hodie Houghten), Rail Road Flat  
Bedrock Construction (Doug Dubois), West Point  
All Sierra Roof (Tim Thornhill), Jackson  
K & M Plumbing (Kevin Welsh), West Point  
Evergreen Technologies (Bill Soeste), Angels Camp  
Spray Foam Energy Solutions (George Chittenden, Bill Clark), Sutter Creek  
Forrest Painting (Bruce Forrest), West Point  
Danielsen Construction & Energy Management (Tom Danielson), Angels Camp  
Volcano Telephone (Steven Stone), Pioneer  
Sol Sierra (Victor Guillot), Arnold  
C&T Appraisal Service (Sam Matyas), Murphys

***Thanks to the multitude of ReStore volunteers (under the guidance of ReStore Manager John Logg), who gave hundreds of hours selling merchandize to raise funds for non-donated items necessary to build a new home for the Chavez family.***

***Thanks so much to major financial supporters  
for making the Chavez house possible***



Board of Supervisors



**EL DORADO SAVINGS BANK**

*The following churches and individuals contributed meals for the Chavez home construction volunteers:*

### **Churches**

West Point Community Covenant Church, Sierra Baptist Pioneer,  
1st Baptist West Point, Jackson Methodist Church, St Patrick's Catholic Church

### **Site Hostesses**

Mervilyn Fox	Arlene Fischer
Kathi Dever	Jill Jenkins
Heather Myers	Lavonne Chavez
Donna Vial	

### **Individuals**

Venita Meyers	Kathy Heffernan
Huberta Peacock	Toni Dickerson
Marilyn Alarcon	Jordan Bramell
Peggy Carroll	Rita Scarborough
Katie Hood	Joan Jessup
Karen Bashore	Mavi Nelson
Carolyn Huntington	Kary Anne Stranger
Jennifer Minton	Diana Inslee
Monique / Foxes Inn of Sutter Creek	



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### YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

Please fill out this form, and make check payable to **Habitat for Humanity Calaveras**, and mail to P.O. Box 1834, San Andreas, CA 95249. Thank you!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

- I would like to volunteer. Please send me information.
- I would like a speaker to make a presentation to my church/club/business/organization.
- I am interested in donating or supplying property for building sites or a ReStore.

Enclosed is my contribution of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Charge my credit card:

This time only, for \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Once a month in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

VISA    Mastercard    Discover   **Exp. Date ↓**

Card # \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Habitat for Humanity is a non-profit organization dedicated to building modest affordable homes—volunteers hand in hand with families that need a better place to live. Please give generously so that your tax deductible donation to Habitat for Humanity Calaveras will help another local family achieve the dream of home ownership. Thank you so much!

I no longer wish to receive this newsletter. Please remove my name from your mailing list.