



# HELPING HANDS

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY OF GREATER NEWBURGH'S NEWSLETTER

VOL VI, No. 1

Spring 2006

## 2006 BUILDERS BLITZ

with the Builders Association of the Hudson Valley

This June, Habitat for Humanity of Greater Newburgh and the Builders Association of the Hudson Valley will work with dozens of professional contractors and suppliers to build 2 new homes in a *single week*. On June 5<sup>th</sup>, our Blitz workers will begin framing the two new homes at 77 and 81 Monument Street to be finished by June 10<sup>th</sup>.



*77-81 Monument Street Site  
Cleared and ready for construction*

The three determined homebuilders that will lead the project - Rieger Homes, EBA, Inc., and Ferrante & Memmelaar Homes - will help us accomplish a remarkable feat that Habitat could not have done without them. Other companies, like JM Excavating, Romano Construction, Superior Walls, and PDJ

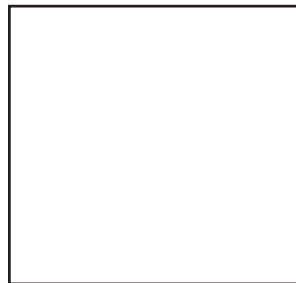
Components will also contribute their resources and expertise for this extraordinary event. With a grant from the Orange County Office of Community Development, demolition and sitework have already begun.

"I cannot explain how excited I am about this project. For months, the Blitz committee has worked with such dedication and enthusiasm. It is simply overwhelming and the response that we've received from local businesses and BAHV members has been more than we ever dreamed of. June is certainly going to be an exciting month," said Jessica Sun, HFHGN Director of Finance & Development.

Across the country, Habitat affiliates and homebuilders will be working together for this special event and will build over 500 homes during the week of June 5<sup>th</sup>. This unprecedented event will be the first nationwide Home Builders Blitz and will make a remarkable impact on substandard housing in the US. Moreover, 300 more Blitz homes are already planned in areas affected by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

*Join us on June 10<sup>th</sup> for the dedication of 77 Monument St. and 81 Monument St. and help us celebrate the completion of the 2006 Home Builders Blitz.*

## Habitat Dedicates its 20th House



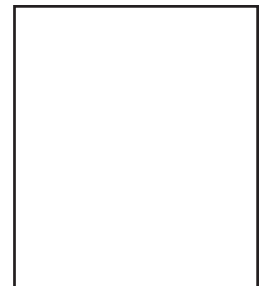
*Patricia thanks her Habitat family for her new home*

On Saturday, April 8<sup>th</sup>, we dedicated our 20<sup>th</sup> house - 81 Carson Avenue, the home of the Clegg Family. Even cold weather and snow could not stop volunteers, friends and Habitat supporters from gathering to celebrate this momentous occasion and bring their warm wishes to the family.

The house was a first for many. For Tamika Clegg and her 5 children - Lamara Williams, Patricia Williams, Lamont Williams, Josierre

Allison and Desmond Allison - it is the first home that they will be able to call their own. For Habitat Newburgh, it is the first completed house that was designed and built to be wheelchair-accessible and handicap-livable. Moreover, for Patricia, it is first time she will be able to experience a sense of independence. With a wheelchair lift next to the front porch and her own bedroom and bathroom customized to fit her needs, Patricia will have the chance to live comfortably in her new home.

At the ceremony, house captains Maureen Mushlit and Celeste Bloomer addressed the crowd, thanking all of the volunteers and people who made this home possible and "filled it with laughter" throughout its construction. Pastor Michael White and Elder Mary White blessed the home and thanked all the people who made the work of Habitat possible. With song and prayer, the dedication beautifully marked the beginning of a new life for the Clegg's in their new home.



*Rapael Williams sings "Amazing Grace" at the dedication*

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## President's Message

I'm Moss Calhelha, and I am privileged to serve as the third President of Habitat for Humanity of Greater Newburgh.

As many of you know, I am a commercial litigator by day. But few of you have seen the gifted carpenter inside me, yearning to be free. Six and a half years ago, when Bill Murphy mentioned to me that he and a couple of friends were planning to form a new Habitat for Humanity affiliate here in Newburgh, I offered to help out, thinking I might pound some nails on an occasional Saturday. Bill and the Building Committee tell me that they are still working on a special safety program for my first work-day outing, but they have found other ways to put me to work over the past six years.

Now, in our 7<sup>th</sup> year, with a growing core of trained volunteers, and with financial support from good people like you, we have just delivered our 20<sup>th</sup> house, all of which have been sold to hard working families who, without the helping hand up that Habitat provides, could not have achieved the American dream of homeownership.

But our mission is bigger than just building homes. By creating a critical mass of new homeowners in neighborhoods that have suffered from years of neglect, we can have a real impact on restoring those neighborhoods. And by providing the hand up, not hand out, to hard working families struggling to make ends meet, we can help to change lives and create new opportunities for future generations in Newburgh and Orange County.

To many of our most committed volunteers, Habitat is special because they have memories of growing up in this City, in safe and stable neighborhoods, and their personal dream is to see those neighborhoods and this historic City restored and rebuilt.

To many others, like me, Habitat is about keeping alive the American dream of a land of opportunity. I was fortunate to grow up in a safe and comfortable community on Long Island. My parents, who came to the US as immigrants from South America, worked hard to give me and my sister that kind of home life. I know, from my personal experience, that they could not have achieved their goals of building new lives here in America, and I could not have enjoyed the comfortable life they built for me, without help from others along the way.

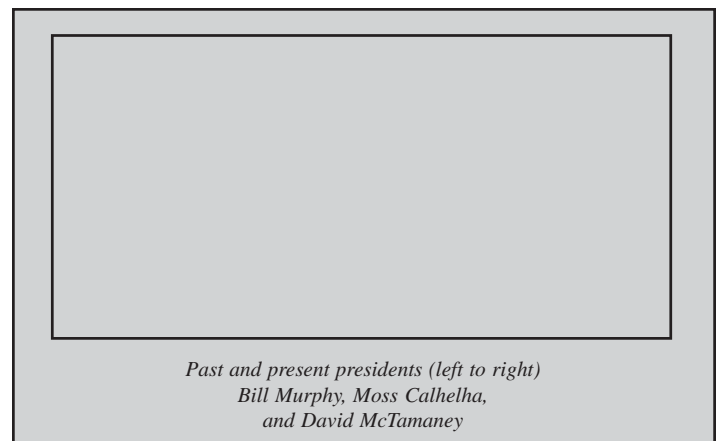
So it gives me a strong sense of personal satisfaction to participate in helping other hard-working families achieve their own dreams of economic security and a stable home life for their children - all of which is made possible by the firm foundation of homeownership.

## A Note From Deirdre...

In 1999, I moved back to the neighborhood where I grew up. Over the years our community had changed. Poverty and houses converted to multiple-family units, which led to overcrowding and neglect, had taken over. Numbers of houses were abandoned. Numbers of others were left to decay. The value of our property had taken a nose dive and the old neighborhood, quite frankly, was unstable, and at times threatening.

In 1999, our Habitat affiliate had just started. Each Saturday morning, numbers of people arrived in the neighborhood and set to work on a few houses and something tangible was happening. Numbers of people were working together because they cared about families and their community. Now, word of our program has spread, and the number of families applying for homes is growing. Last month, more than 80 families applied; our Family Selection Committee now has the gut-wrenching task of narrowing that number down to six or seven families. Meeting those applicants has been an eye opener for all of us. These are hard working, local people who want a safe place to raise their children. Despite working long hours at their jobs, many of these families must choose between paying rent... or paying for food... or clothes... or heat... or basic healthcare.

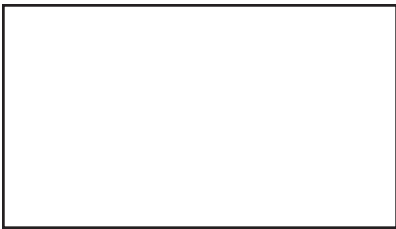
Habitat for Humanity is building more than houses. We are giving families hope - a tangible reason to believe that there is a way out of the deplorable conditions in which so many live. But not only do families need Habitat, whole neighborhoods do as well. Empty lots and boarded up buildings drain city tax accounts and value from surrounding properties, and invite socially unacceptable behavior. To attack the significant need in our community, we cannot simply add to our efforts - we must multiply our efforts. Our plans call for Habitat to double its efforts by building 20 more houses over the next 3 years. Habitat provides a tremendous opportunity for all of us to make a tangible and lasting difference, and by working together we can rebuild this community.



*Past and present presidents (left to right)  
Bill Murphy, Moss Calhelha,  
and David McTamane*

## Habitat's 7th WALK FOR HOUSING

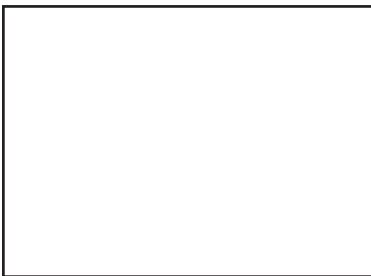
Mark your calendars and get ready for the **7th Annual Walk for Housing on Sunday, April 30th**. The theme for the 2006 Walk is "20/20 - A Perfect Vision." With the completion of our 20th house in our affiliate's six year history, our goal is to complete another 20 homes in half the time - three years.



*Walkers at the 2005 Walk*

Last year's walk had over 600 participants and raised over \$50,000 for Habitat. That's one more Habitat house in Newburgh! As always, the Walk is an event for the whole family, with fun, food, prizes, music and entertainment. Unlike past years, we've moved to a new location and have a new route. This year's Walk will start from historic Downing Park in Newburgh. The 5K Walk will pass 9 completed Habitat houses, including the newly completed Liberty Street Project and visit 2 current worksites. Returning to the park, walkers will enjoy an afternoon among friends to celebrate their work for affordable housing and better communities.

Come with your school group, service club, congregation, office or other organization. Bring your banner, wear your colors and get recognized for being part of the 2006 Walk for Housing. Remind your students that most schools will give community service credit for participating in the Walk for Housing. All walkers raising \$25 or more will receive a commemorative Walk t-shirt and FREE food.



*Beautiful, Historic Downing Park*

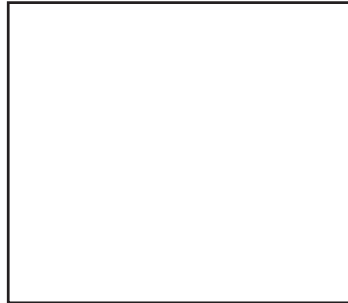
Registration begins at 12  
Walkers depart at 1 pm

### SUNDAY, APRIL 30

Registration begins at 12  
Walkers depart at 1 pm

For more information or a brochure, call the Habitat office. (845) 568-6035

## Completion of the Liberty St Project 6 New Houses for 6 More Families



*The Alicea family in their new home- 334 Liberty Street*

On December 10<sup>th</sup> another new home in the east end of the City of Newburgh was dedicated by to a hard working local family. Maribel Alicea and her family worked alongside hundreds of volunteers with Habitat for Humanity of Greater Newburgh for many months in order to complete their home. They, like several other partner families, have now achieved the goal of safe and affordable home

ownership - exemplifying the partner family model so integral to our mission.

But this wasn't just another house - Habitat Newburgh's 19<sup>th</sup> - this was the completion of a row of six new EnergyStar homes built on land donated by Joseph & Phyllis Weisblatt in the east end of Newburgh - on a block that has had its share of decay and neglect. This home was sponsored by the Orange County Association of REALTORS®, who not only raised the funding for two of the Liberty Street houses, but also contributed hundreds of volunteer hours on building homes for Habitat families.

Habitat has accomplished what no government or corporation could do, directing thousands of volunteer hours into the building of these six houses, making them affordable. Support from the community was astounding. Thanks to the Presbyterian churches organized as PresbyBuild, OCAR, Wells Fargo, Thrivent Financial for Lutherans and supporting Lutheran churches, First Horizon, the New York State Association of Realtors, RE/MAX Benchmark Realty Group, as well as to the Community Preservation Corporation, Orange County Office of Community



*BEFORE*



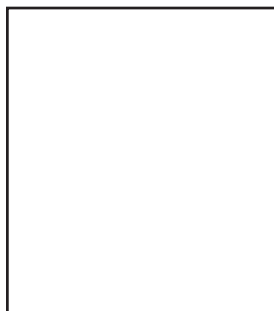
*AFTER*

Development, Senator William Larkin and Assemblyman Thomas Kirwan for member item support, the Plumbers & Steamfitters Union, the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, the Painters & Allied Trades Union, the Ironworkers, the Habitat International SHOP grant, and our hundreds of donors and volunteers who made this development possible.

# Putting Faith Into *ACTION*

## EpiscoBuild

### Rebuilding 156 Dubois Street



*156 Dubois St  
BEFORE*

Last year, Rev. Deborah Dresser of St. George's Church of Newburgh hosted a meeting of Episcopal churches in the Hudson Valley Ministry. From that meeting, the EpiscoBuild project began - a partnership of 16 Episcopalian churches to sponsor a Habitat house.

The participating churches have enthusiastically brought work groups to site to work with house captains Jim Taylor and Richard Anderson. In addition, they have

participated in and hosted several fundraising events for the build. Participants include:

- Church of the Good Shepard, Newburgh
- St. Mark's Episcopal, Chelsea
- St. Paul's Episcopal, Chester
- St. John's Episcopal, Cornwall
- Holy Innocents & St. Mark's Chapel, Highland Falls
- St John's Episcopal, Kingston
- Christ's Church, Marlboro
- St. Anne's Episcopal, Washingtonville
- St. George's Episcopal, Newburgh
- St. Thomas' Episcopal, New Windsor
- Christ Church, Warwick
- St. Mary's Episcopal, Tuxedo
- St. Andrew's Episcopal, Walden
- St. David's Episcopal, Highland Mills
- Christ the King, Stoneridge
- Trinity Church, New York



*The Hip Hop Mass in June*

## Presbyterians Sponsor

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Project in Newburgh



*Volunteers raise the  
PresbyBuild sign at 202 South St.*

Having successfully completed the new house construction on Liberty Street, a growing consortium of Presbyterian churches have joined together to sponsor the second house in the east end of Newburgh, just blocks from the historic Calvary Presbyterian Church on South Street.

With the support from a Challenge to Change grant from the Presbytery of Hudson River, the following churches will rebuild 202 South Street and strengthen the neighborhood:

- Bethlehem Presbyterian Church, New Windsor
- Calvary Presbyterian Church, Newburgh
- First Presbyterian, Chester
- First Presbyterian, Cold Spring
- Cornwall Presbyterian Church, Cornwall-on-Hudson
- First Highland Presbyterian Church, Highland
- First Marlboro Presbyterian Church, Marlboro
- First Presbyterian Church, Montgomery
- First Presbyterian Church, Monroe
- First Presbyterian Church of Washingtonville
- First Presbyterian Church in Goshen
- The Union Church, Newburgh

House captains Jim Ferguson and Lennox Brown will be overseeing construction. Jim stated, "A wonderful benefit of joint sponsorships is visiting the other houses of worship and Christian education facilities and seeing first-hand how they support their mission outreach. Every involved church group and Presbytery gives all the sense that we are truly doing God's work. I would urge any faith community to form a committee and explore the possibility of house sponsorship. 'Every gain will be divine.'"



*Bill Daley, Jim Taylor and Al  
Favata work on the roof*

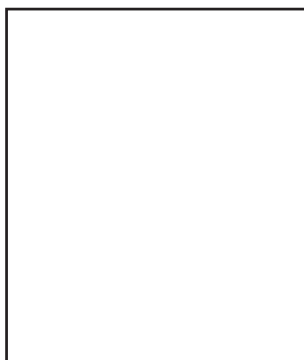
Congregations from Newburgh and surrounding areas have been our earliest and strongest supporters. Our 2<sup>nd</sup> house, the "Unity House," was sponsored by the Newburgh Ministerial Association. This was quickly followed by the Aid Association for Lutherans matching grant for the Building Hope, Building Houses campaign in 2001 and the Unity Kids House in 2002. Then in 2004, Presbyterians throughout the Hudson Valley joined for our first denominational build, to support the first house of the Liberty Street project. This group, now grown to 12 churches, made a commitment last year to sponsor a second Habitat home and has inspired other congregations to do the same. Welcoming all to participate in whatever way and to whatever the limit of their means might be, these groups' dedication has become an inspiration to us all.

## Methodists Take On 70 Benkard Ave

On February 25th, we officially kicked off the Methodist mission in partnership with Habitat for Humanity of Greater Newburgh. Methodist Build now has 11 churches participating:

- Cornwall United Methodist Church
- First Congregational Church Newburgh
- Gardnertown United Methodist Church
- Grace United Methodist Church
- Milton-Marlboro United Methodist Church
- Mountainville United Methodist Church
- Monroe United Methodist Church
- United Methodist Church of the Highlands
- Trinity United Methodist Parish
- Vails Gate United Methodist Church
- Warwick United Methodist Church

"If your church is not on this list there is still time for area congregations to join" said dedicated Habitat volunteer Vivian Yettru, member of the Cornwall United Methodist Church. "We welcome all the help we can get!"



*BLESS THIS MESS  
70 Benkard Ave - Before*

Methodist Build is an opportunity for Methodist churches in the Hudson Valley to sponsor a house in Newburgh and to partner with the family that will take ownership of it. Cynthia and Michael James are well on their way to completing their sweat equity hours, for the project at 70 Benkard Avenue, headed up by House Captains Marie Woods, Cornwall United Methodist Church, and Ken Mennerich, member of the Gardnertown United Methodist Church.

*Michael James hard at work in his future home*

## Thrivent Builds with Habitat for Humanity

This year, Thrivent Financial for Lutherans announced a new partnership with Habitat for Humanity - Thrivent Builds. Part of the mission of Thrivent Financial, as a faith-based membership organization, is caring for others. The initiative aims to build 500 homes in the U.S. annually by 2008 with an additional 500 homes around the world from the tithe funds from each U.S. build. Newburgh is one of ten sites in the Northeast to be awarded a project grant, in which Thrivent Financial contributes 70% of the funds. The remaining funds come from the combined efforts of local Thrivent chapters, Lutheran congregations and Habitat.

On Saturday April 1st, representatives from Lutheran congregations throughout the Hudson Valley attended a kick off meeting organized by Pastor Gregory Tennermann, King of Kings Lutheran Church and Pastor Charles Catteral, First Congregational Church. The group has taken on the challenge of rebuilding 58 Henry Avenue, a framed structure that has been derelict for over ten years. The unsalvageable structure will be demolished and reconstruction will begin in May.

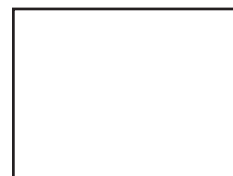


*Lutherans gather to hear about 58 Henry Ave*

The grant also expects half of the volunteers on the 58 Henry project to be Lutherans and at least half of those to be members of Thrivent. *Come join in Thrivent Builds, building hope and changing lives.*

### Big Red Comes to Newburgh

Big Red, The Thrivent Builds mobile, is 18 wheels and tons of stories that will reveal the innovative way in which Thrivent and Habitat help families in need of a hand up—not a handout. The Big Red is coming to Newburgh - **Thursday, May 4<sup>th</sup>** and will be open for tours from **2 pm until 6 pm** at the **Newburgh Activity Center, Delano Hitch Recreation Park**. For more information, call the Habitat office (845) 568-6035.



## MEET THE NEW FAMILIES

Habitat partner families are selected on three main criteria: ability to pay, willingness to partner and need. In the City of Newburgh, there are over 1,400 families who are in the very-low income range at 25-50% of the county median income. Though not all meet Habitat's criteria for partnering, a growing number of families apply each year. This year 89 families have completed the application process and Habitat Newburgh's Family Selection Committee is working through each application right now.

"The Family Selection Committee met with 89 excited applicants in February. Intake sessions were held at the Calvary Presbyterian Church and were so well attended (packed!) that numbers had to be issued for the next in line. The Committee continues to work on the selection process of analysis and verification of the paperwork and plans to conduct home visitations in May. This is a very exciting time for the applicants AND the Family Selection Committee. We can't wait to finally meet our next partner families", said Judy McLaughlin, co-chair of the Family Selection Committee.

Let's meet the seven families who are **presently** transitioning to homeownership, and completing their sweat equity and required classes in financial management and homeownership.

### Olga Adan

Olga Adan applied to Habitat for the second time last year because, as she described her living conditions "We're all in one little room, overcrowded and I wish my kids (son Edwin, 9 and daughter Jamileth, 8) could have a yard to play in and have their own room." The family also includes Olga's mother, Eloina, and together they currently pay \$600 for the one room apartment on William Street. Olga is a bilingual receptionist with the Mid-Hudson Family Health Institute in New Paltz, and her permanent residency status has been filed and pending for over 11 years.



*Olga Adan and her family - Eloina, Edwin, Olga and Jamileth*

### Felix Aguilar & Priscilliano Ramirez

Felix and Priscilliano live in a small basement apartment with cracks in the plaster, a sagging ceiling, mold, termites and rats. Their children, daughters Rocio and Daisy and sons Vladimir and Kelvin, share a bedroom. Plastic on the rotted windows keep out the draft. The electrical outlets are old and corroded, the heater, which is in their kitchen, is unvented. Felix works as a lawn maintenance laborer and his employers describe him as "a top-notch guy, very hard working and a perfect homeowner type." Felix works at USA Illuminations as an assembler, and their eldest daughter works part time and attends OCCC.



*Priscilliano Ramirez and Felix Aguilar*

### Octavio & Basilisa Corrales

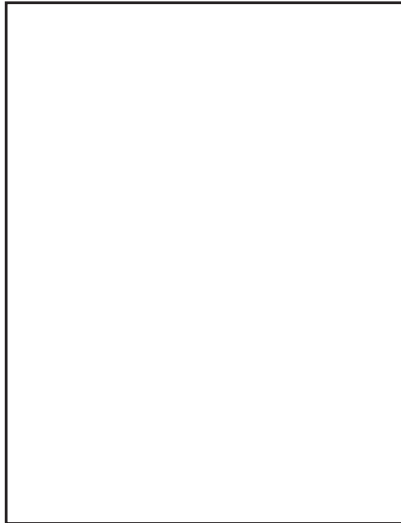
The Corrales family applied to Habitat two times before they were selected in 2005. Octavio explained on his application that he wanted to be a homeowner for "security for my children and wife and because I would not have to worry about paying rent instead of putting money into equity in my future home." Octavio is retired from a job in shipping and works part time at the Newburgh Auto Auction. The children, Luz, Genoveva, Javier and Eileen range in age from 8-2.



*The Corrales Family - Octavio, Luz, Eileen, Genoveva, Javier and Basilisa*

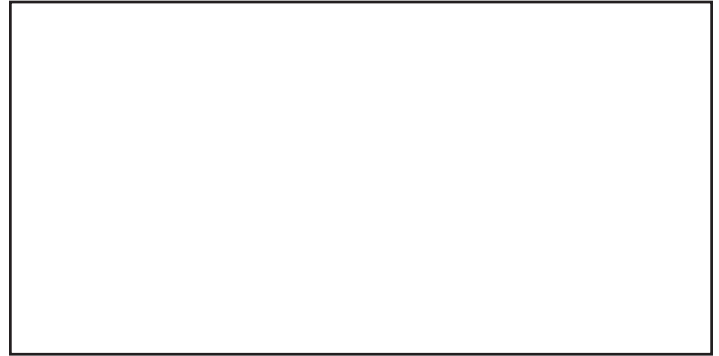
## Michael & Cynthia James

Cynthia came to the U.S. and to Newburgh with her infant daughter from war-torn Liberia after having witnessed the murder of family members. With the help of Catholic Charities Community Services she obtained her documentation as an Asylee in the US and quickly sought work. Cynthia worked two jobs to support herself and her child, Praise, and also began giving back hundreds of hours during her first three years to assist Catholic Charities with their programs and food pantry. She methodically planned to unite her family by bringing her husband Michael, a teacher and her other daughter Miracle to the US. All are together now, working and building their future in Newburgh. Cynthia and Michael are expecting a third child this summer.



*Cynthia and Michael stand outside their future home, 70 Benkard Ave*

## Shalanda Williams

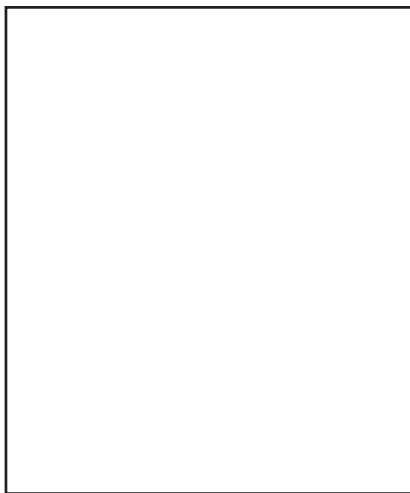


*Andreous, Shalanda and Helen*

A custodial worker at West Point, Shalanda Williams found Habitat through her aunt, Christine Owens, a Habitat homeowner. Shalanda's application for a Habitat home includes her 7-year-old son Andreous and her 16-year-old sister Helen. Temporarily disabled from an accident on Storm King Mountain, Shalanda has made up time in her sweat equity requirement by working in the office and helping with committee work. Why does Shalanda want a home? "The area where I live is bad, the heat in my apartment is bad. I want to give my son a better future and show him that if he believes, his dreams will come true," is her answer.

## Kiamesha Obie

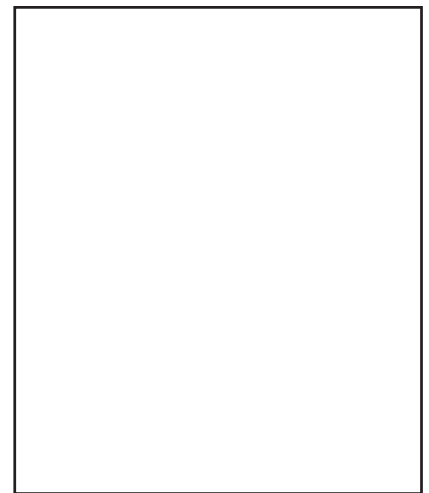
Kiamesha Obie works at Lowe's Home Improvement as a receiving clerk, but had to move her family back into her mother's apartment four years ago with her four sons, Marcus, Anthony, Jarvis, and Rashun, and daughter, Princess. She found that she could not find a job that would enable her to have a place of her own for the family. Kiamesha writes "thank you for the opportunity, for consideration of my application and for a home, and thank you for a chance."



*Anthony, Jarvis and Rashun surround Kiamesha at home*

## Veronica Pelaez

Veronica, 6-year-old son Jorge, and 7-year-old daughter Giselle live in a small, 2 bedroom apartment on South Street which costs \$700/month in rent. Veronica works as a nurse's aide at Mt. St. Mary's Dominican Sisters of Hope infirmary. The family had reapplied from the previous year; the family selection advocates were so very impressed by the conscientiousness, diligence and hard work of the mom, and the warmth and good manners of the children, that they convinced the Habitat Board to accept a 7<sup>th</sup> family and build 7 houses this year.



*Giselle, Veronica and Jorge*

## The NTA House

### Newburgh Teachers Association Builds Hope with Habitat

Teachers have always played an important role in the Habitat program. Many volunteer on site, help plan our events, advocate for our program, serve on our committees, and a number serve on our board of directors. Continuing to exhibit their passion for providing decent and safe homes for local families, the Newburgh Teachers Association has now committed to sponsor a Habitat house. Through regular payroll contributions as well as individual donations, current teachers and retired teacher who have worked diligently for years will make it ever more possible for us to build more houses.

With excitement, the Newburgh Teachers Association began this project last year. A stable home environment and safe physical surroundings are imperative in the development of children and participating teachers are hopeful that their involvement with Habitat will make it more possible for another child in Newburgh to have that chance. "The NTA has a long and proud history of working with our children. Anything our members can do to improve their living environments, we're happy to do," said Phil Cordella, President of the Newburgh Teachers Association.

A special thanks to all those who are participating in this wonderful campaign.

## HOME & HEALTH FAIR



**JUNE 3, 2006**

**12:00-4:00PM**



### CALVARY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Big Brothers & Big Sisters, Cornell Coop Extension, Greater Hudson Valley Family Health Center, Habitat for Humanity, Head Start of Eastern Orange County, Hudson Health Plan, Hudson River HealthCare, League of Women Voters, Maternal Info Services Network, Newburgh Fire Department, Newburgh Free Library, Newburgh Police Department, Orange County Office for the Aging, Orange County Department of Health, Planned Parenthood, Project L.I.F.E., Rural Migrant Ministry, T.A.S.A. Teen Parent Program, Young & Unique

**On June 3rd, these 19 organizations will showcase their different services programs to help educate and empower our community. If you're interested in helping us with this event, please call the Habitat office at (845) 568-6035.**

## A Gift for Our Sites

In January, Steven Nordahl and the Automotive Brake Company of Newburgh donated a van to Habitat for Humanity of Greater Newburgh. The van was immediately put to use on our sites, transporting materials and tools.  
*Thank you.*



### *Speaking of Cars...*



## HABITAT LAUNCHES CARS FOR HOMES



## Donate your car, truck, boat or RV to help end poverty housing.

Habitat for Humanity International's Car for Homes Program is an incredible way for you to donate to Habitat of Greater Newburgh. Here's how it works:

- Donate online at [www.habitat.org](http://www.habitat.org) or call 1-877-277-HFHI
- All types of vehicles are accepted, including automobiles, trucks, motor homes, boats, airplanes, farm and construction equipment. However, if the cost of processing and towing the car exceeds the auction value, the car cannot be accepted.
- Provide information and answer a few questions about your vehicle.
- HFHI will help you process the title and then make the arrangements to have your vehicle picked up by a fully licensed and insured member of ADESA Impact's network of service providers.
- Donated vehicles will be sold at auction and donors will receive an acknowledgment letter to tax deduction purposes.

For more information call the number above or email: [carsforhomes@habitat.org](mailto:carsforhomes@habitat.org).

## A First for Habitat

### The William & Elaine Kaplan Foundation to fund 4 Habitat houses in Newburgh

Receipt of a four-year grant, totaling \$284,000, from the William and Elaine Kaplan Family Foundation marks a first for our affiliate – the first private foundation grant, and the first 4-year commitment to our building campaign. Receipt of a “Kaplan grant” means much more to our staff and Board of Directors – it marks special recognition of the value of Habitat’s program in the community. The grant will fund an additional house each year, increasing our capacity to build year by year.

The first year, funding will support the building of a new home at 79 Monument Street in the Washington Heights neighborhood which is part of a three house development that will restore property to the tax rolls of the City of Newburgh, remove an industrial site from an R-1 zone, provide homes for hard-working local families and provide local amenities such as shade trees, green space, sidewalks, and curbs, in the block adjacent to one of the City’s largest schools—South Junior High.

A longtime Newburgh resident, owner of Regal Bag and founder of A.C. Moore, Bill Kaplan is a major benefactor in this community. Thank you, Bill Kaplan, for a grant to Habitat and for the all that you and your family have contributed over the years to make our community a better place.



*Future site of the first Kaplan House  
79 Monument St (Pre-Demolition)*

### 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Classic

**Monday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>  
The Powelton Golf Club  
Newburgh, NY**



*Golfers at the 2005 Golf Outing*

Recently renovated, the clubhouse and locker rooms at the Powelton Club have been modernized and expanded. Join us for a wonderful day of golf, filled with great contests, prizes, good people and a great cause. For more information, call the Habitat office at (845) 568-6035.

### It’s a Beautiful Day...

If you have friends who you think would be interested in what Habitat is doing, please invite them to one of our Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood introductions, which include a bus tour of the neighborhoods in which we’re working and a guided tour of one of our current work sites. We are looking to get the word out to as many people as possible - people like you, who care about making a permanent change for the better in Newburgh. Call the office (845)568-6035 to RSVP for one of the following dates:



- Saturday, May 6**
- Saturday, May 20**
- Saturday, June 17**
- Saturday, July 15**
- Saturday, July 29**
- Saturday, Aug 19**

## Our High School Youth - Our Future

On almost every Saturday, you will find a number of young faces working at the Habitat sites. Students from various high schools enthusiastically sign up for workdays at Habitat to help their community and to better understand Habitat's mission of eliminating poverty housing. All too often, the achievements of our youth are overlooked in the world. This page hopes to highlight all that they have done for Habitat and give them the proper recognition they all deserve.



*Students in the IBM Youth Program*

### Pine Bush High School's Annual Charity Drive

The students from Pine Bush High School began volunteering on our sites last year. Having to make the 45 minute drive to site, they wake up early and work hard all day. But working on site is not all they have done.

Last December, the students at Pine Bush presented Habitat Newburgh with a check for \$1,600 that the students raised in their Annual Charity Fund Drive. Each year, through various



*Student celebrate with their selected organizations in the Pine Bush HS Library*

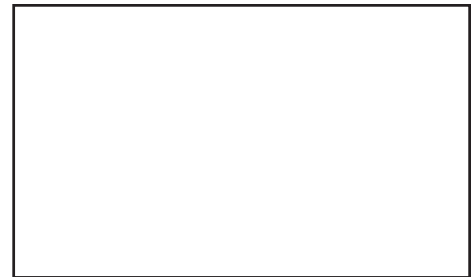
campaigns, the students challenge each other to raise money for several non-profits. The students raised over \$10,000 and were able to donate to six different organizations that their student body selected. "We were completely overwhelmed by their accomplishment, and at the

presentation of the check, we were simply moved. Rightfully so, the students were very proud of what they had done and elated knowing that they were helping their community," said Jessica Sun, Habitat for Humanity's of Greater Newburgh's Director of Finance & Development.



*Washingtonville High School Students dig in to help Habitat*

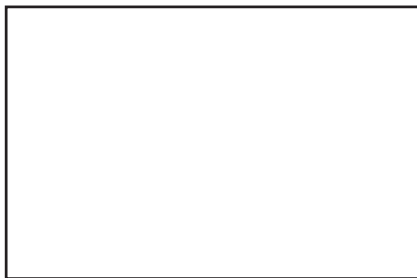
It is undeniable that these young adults are truly making a difference in the world and at Habitat of Greater Newburgh. Furthermore, seeing the impact of their actions with such tangibility, gives them the impetus to continue to do this type of service for the rest of their lives. Surely, they are the future of Habitat and the future is encouragingly bright.



*Central Catholic High School come to Newburgh for a Collegiate Challenge work week*

### NFA's Youth Construction Initiative Program

Since our inception in 1999, students in Newburgh Free Academy's Youth Construction Initiative Program have been working on our sites. Sponsored by the NYS Department of Transportation and the University of Buffalo, the program provides students with hands-on experiences in construction, helping them make informed career decisions for their future. Led by John Rivera and James Quimby, groups from the program have worked on various projects and have honed their construction skills. "Since the very first house, students from the YCIP has been involved with Habitat Newburgh. Our kids have put a dent in every house and we're still doing it today," said John Rivera, proudly.



*John Rivera and 2 NFA students in the YCIP work hard at a Habitat site*

*A very special thanks to all of our high school volunteer groups this year:*

Central Catholic High School  
 Storm King High School  
 Goshen High School  
 John Jay High School  
 Newburgh Free Academy  
 Pine Bush High School  
 Our Lady of Lourdes HS  
 Washingtonville High School

## SMILES FOR LIFE

From now until June 30, local Crown Council dentist, Dr. Lane McEwan in Newburgh, will once again be participating in the Smiles for Life Campaign. Participants can save 50% on a teeth whitening service and when they do, 100% of the cost is donated to help childrens' charities - 50% through the Teammates for Kids Foundation and 50% will go to Habitat for Humanity of GreaterNewburgh.

Remember, you don't have to be a patient of Dr. McEwan to participate in this campaign. To whiten your smile and brighten the life of a child, contact Dr. Lane McEwan and schedule an appointment before the end of May. Learn more about this wonderful program at [www.smilesforlife.org](http://www.smilesforlife.org)



*Bonnie McCormick & Dr. Lane McEwan after the 2005 Smiles for Life Campaign*

**Dr. Lane McEwan**  
**5109 Route 9W**  
**Newburgh, NY 12550**  
**(845) 561-3689**

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Moacyr Calhelha**  
*President*

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*1st Vice President*

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*2nd Vice President*

**Anne Vollmer**  
*Secretary*

**Edward Weber**  
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**Maureen Crush**

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**Sandra Handler**

**Ann Garti**

**Art Groves**

**John Hutton**

**Ginger Inness**

**Christine McDuffie**

**James Moss**

**Pastor George Palmer**

**Ian Rieger**

**Peter Smith**

**Jim Taylor**

### COMMITTEE CHAIRS

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**Development Committee**  
 Maureen Crush

**Finance Committee**  
 Neil Drislane

**Building Committee**  
 Jim Ferguson & Bill Murphy

**Site Selection Committee**  
 Al Favata & Peter Smith

**Ministerial Relations Committee**  
 Pastor Palmer & Gayle Weyand

**Family Selection**  
 Judy Byrne, Sandra Handler &  
 Judy McLaughlin

**Family Support**  
 Suzanne Dawes & Karen VanDenBerg

### STAFF

**Deirdre Glenn**  
*Executive Director*

**David Hinsvark**  
*Site & Construction Manager*

**Jessica Sun**  
*Director of Finance & Development*

**Bonnie McCormick**  
*Business Manager*

**Genica Breitenbeck**  
*Resource Development VISTA*

**Christina Webster**  
*Data Entry Manager*

## Several New Faces Join Habitat Newburgh

### STAFF

#### **Genica Breitenbeck**

**Resource Development VISTA**  
 Genica graduated from Hobart & William Smith College last May with a degree in architectural studies. She joined Habitat Newburgh as an AmeriCorps VISTA last summer and has been an incredible addition to our team.

#### **Terry Flynn**

##### **AARP Volunteer**

Terry has been volunteering with Habitat since last July and can be found helping us coordinate our sites.

#### **David Hinsvark**

##### **Site & Construction Manager**

Dave began working with Habitat in 1999 and has lent his time and expertise to us for years as a volunteer. Formerly of Mount Ellis Development, Dave joined the staff in January and has truly transformed our sites.

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

#### **Judy Byrne**

**Retired teacher from the Newburgh Enlarged City School District**

Judy has worked on a numerous Habitat committees for years and now serves as the co-chairperson of the Family Selection Committee. "I just really love volunteering with Habitat. I hope to do it for a very long time."

#### **Ann Garti**

**President, OC Association of Realtors**

Ann began working with Habitat in 2004 and helped plan the first "House that OCAR Built" - 342 Liberty St. She has also been one of the inspiring forces behind the subsequent OCAR house sponsorships.

#### **Art Groves**

**Retired administrator from the Goshen Central School District**

Art has been volunteering with Habitat for years and is often seen on site swinging a hammer. Enthusiastically, Art joined the Board of Directors in January.

#### **Jim Moss**

**Publisher & President of The Times Herald Record**

Jim joined our Board of Directors in May 2005. Jim also serves on the boards of several other organizations, including the OC United Way and Mid-Hudson Pattern for Progress. He is unquestionably dedicated to helping and transforming this community.

#### **Jim Taylor**

**Retired teacher from the Cornwall Central School District**

Jim has been a dedicated on-site volunteer since the very beginning of our affiliate. As the past house captain of 85 Nicoll St and current co-captain of 156 Dubois St, his commitment to Habitat's work is resolute.



# HELPING HANDS

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- April 30: **2007 Walk for Housing**  
*Downing Park - Registration begins at noon*
- May 4: **The Big Red Truck Comes to Newburgh**  
*Delano Hitch Recreation Park*
- May 6: **It's a Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood Tour**
- May 20: **It's a Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood Tour**
- May 22: **7th Annual Golf Outing**  
*Powelton Club*
- June 1: **2006 Builders Blitz Kick Off**  
*77-81 Monument St - 4pm*
- June 3: **Home & Health Fair**  
*Calvary Presbyterian Church - 12pm*
- June 5-9: **2006 HOME BUILDERS BLITZ**  
77 & 81 MONUMENT STREET
- June 10: **Dedication for 77 \* 81 Monument Street**
- June 17: **It's a Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood Tour**
- July 15: **It's a Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood Tour**

## WISH LIST

### SUPPLIES & EQUIPMENT

- |                          |                           |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| Dump Trailer             | Drill Bits                |
| Power Washer             | Heavy Duty Ext. Cords     |
| Circular Saws            | Levels - 2, 4 and 6 Ft    |
| 18V Cordless Drills      | Filter Bags for Shop Vacs |
| 6'-8" Fiberglass Ladders | Saw Blades                |
| Palm Sander              | Caulk Guns                |
| Small Compressor         | Heavy Duty Putty Knives   |
| Wet/Dry Vacuums          | 6" Spackle Knives         |
| Folding Metal Saw Horses | Sandpaper                 |
| Storage Shelving         | Dust Masks                |
| Hammers                  | Work Gloves               |

### VOLUNTEERS WITH SPECIAL SKILLS

- Exterior Painters
- Roofers
- Masons
- Framers
- Drywall Installers
- Architects and Architectural Interns
- Data Entry Specialists



**Habitat**  
**for Humanity**<sup>®</sup>  
of Greater Newburgh

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