

MEET NEW HOMEOWNER LISA!

When we first met Lisa, she and daughter Sarah shared the only bedroom in a mother-in-law apartment in her parent's home. Son BJ, then 16, was in a bedroom in the main part of the house. With two children, the idea of owning her own home was not even on the radar . . . until she heard about Habitat. Voila! When asked what it was like to build her own home, Lisa's eyes just lit up:

"I think I worked on every bit of plumbing in my house! If something ever leaks, I'll know exactly where to look."

Though she had never done anything like building and felt she had poor coordination due to years of eye/vision problems, she took to the task and was energetic about it from the get-go. Having lived in military housing in a previous life, she was hyper-sensitive about the noise factor from room to room, and wound up putting extra insulation in several of the rooms in an effort to cut down on noise transfer; it is decidedly better than that old Army housing!

Shortly after she was accepted into the program in summer 2008, she met soon-to-be husband Chris. They spent a lot of time together, had many similar interests and he helped with the building of her home, which she moved into in July, 2009. On May 10th, 2010, they were married.

Have you thought about including SPS Habitat for Humanity in your will?

As you plan your legacy, we are honored that you would consider us as a partner.

For more information please contact Shannon Michlitsch, Development Manager.

Both Lisa and Chris have been involved in efforts to complete/improve their community at the Fairview Cottages. He spent a great deal of time on the landscaping of the big common area, using a tractor to move dirt, build mounds and distribute amendments. She is the treasurer for their Homeowners Association and is leading them to



This will be my new home!

become more self-governing, as Habitat gradually pulls out of the day-to-day operation of the community. On behalf of all those involved with South Puget Sound Habitat for Humanity, we thank Lisa and Chris for their work with our build program and their efforts supporting their Habitat neighborhood!

SAVE THE DATE!

The 5th annual Blueprints & Bowties Dinner and Auction will be **Friday, September 30th** at The Lacey Community Center. Join us for an evening of fun, food and festivities that celebrate the spirit of Habitat!

For more information call 360.956.3456 ext. 6

BUILDERS, BBQ & BLUEGRASS

We held a "hoedown" of a celebration on March 5, in honor of our Fairview site builders! Our volunteers give their time, commitment and dedication for the families we serve – and how fitting to thank them with a celebration party in their honor on the completion of our Fairview site build. Four years and 15 Habitat homes later, a community is born!

"It is all about community. When we work together to support and strengthen individual families, we are strengthening our community, giving hope, and truly making a difference - creating opportunities for home ownership for folks who would otherwise not be able to know that pride and stability."

- Curt Andino

Many of the volunteers who spoke shared that they got far more back from volunteering than they gave. "I had always wanted to do this. I love the people and the feeling I get knowing I am helping others in a very real



Volunteers, Stewart and Irena Souders

and meaningful way."

We are proud of our Fairview Cottages community where 15 low income, working families now own a home; we could not have done this without the community – you make it happen. Thank you volunteers!

Making home ownership a reality for low-income families through partnership, community support and hard work.

Volunteering With A Repurpose!

As a volunteer, Arnie is unique - as a person, he's a delight. And as a conversationalist . . . well, be prepared for some wonderful stories!

Arnold DeHeus describes his volunteer activities with Habitat as a means of keeping himself away from the TV set, but more importantly keeping his mind and body active. He spends many weekends checking out garage sales, and when he finds a piece of equipment or a tool that could use a bit of attention, he buys it. After repairing, cleaning, sanding, painting, varnishing, staining, he turns the now "like-new" items over to the ReStore to sell to the first lucky customers who happen upon them. Because the things he brings in often really do look to be in



One of our favorites, Arnie.

new condition, these treasures sell quickly and for a great price – thus adding to the building fund for yet another Habitat home!

About those stories . . . they begin with a life lived in Fairbanks, AK from birth until his move to California in the early 40s.

Traveling around the world as a merchant marine only added fodder for his wonderful tales. Today, with a memory that's sharp with all the details, he is quite the storyteller. Everyone at Habitat gets to enjoy hearing twists and turns of his adventures when he comes in with a repurposed tool. Thanks, Arnold – for ALL you do. And especially on behalf of all the partner families who benefit from your activities: you are appreciated!

DON'T DUMP IT, DONATE IT!

Before heading off to the landfill to dump your building materials think of us first. All proceeds go directly to support our mission of building decent, affordable homes in partnership with low-income families in need.

The ReStore is open Monday through Sunday 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Message From The Executive Director

Dear Friends,

We've got an awful lot happening around our affiliate lately with Groundbreakings, Dedications, Faith Breakfasts, whew – it seems like we never stop. But, I guess that's the way it should be. When you're as passionate about a mission as I am about Habitat's – eliminating substandard housing and working with very low income families in building and owning their own homes – I guess you'd never stop either.

On April 16th we broke ground for our new Shepherd's Grove site in Tumwater, on April 30th we held our 2nd annual Birdhouse and Barbecue community event and our



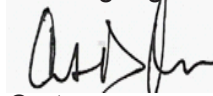
Executive Director, Curt D. Andino

1st annual Building on Faith Benefit Breakfast was May 14! When I heard new partner family member Aisheh Al Louzi speak at that Faith Breakfast, I was reminded again of why I'm so passionate about our mission. Aisheh said it best,

"The journey to become a homeowner is a road filled with many obstacles. Those families selected by Habitat for new homes generally have to take the long way around, walk those extra few miles and face hardships with a strong will and determination that something better in life is on the horizon."

It's because of Aisheh's family and all our partner families that everyone at Habitat works so hard to make their homeownership dreams come true. Thank you for helping us get the job done!

Working together,



Curt