



Habitat happenings

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(707) 422-1948 / www.solanonapahabitat.org



L-R: Roddy Feldman, President SNHfH, Diane Agnone, SNHfH Executive Director, Kevin Finger, Anheuser-Busch Plant Manager, Sadonna Cody, Board Member and Ann Cousineau, Board Member.

Habitat Corner

The start of construction of two homes in Fairfield, came much closer with charitable donations from PG&E and Anheuser-Busch, LLC. In keeping with Habitat's goal of building green, sustainable homes, PG&E awarded Solano-Napa Habitat for Humanity (SNHfH) \$25,000 for solar panels for both homes. The build site, known as Habitat Corner, is located at the corner of Acacia and Clay streets.

Anheuser-Busch demonstrated its community spirit with a generous donation of \$40,000. During discussions with staff, local Habitat officials learned of the company's corporate commitment to Habitat and improving housing for low income families. "We're proud to partner with Habitat to help our neighbors in need," stated Plant Manager, Kevin Finger.

SNHfH President Roddy Feldman added, "Anheuser-Busch and PG&E are great partners on this project and we appreciate their philanthropic belief in giving back to the community for such a worthy cause. With these contributions, SNHfH has raised over half the amount needed for construction."

If you would like to be a part of this community effort, call (707) 422-1948 or visit our website at: www.solanonapahabitat.org and click on **Donate**. Help us build homes for two deserving families.

FALL 2012

Introducing a Habitat Family

In 2005 Nigel and Cassandra Mackenzie, originally from Saint Mary's parish in Jamaica took a leap of faith to start a new life, one of hope and promise for a better future for their children. Shortly after arriving in the United States they connected with extended family members in Fairfield and decided that this is where they would create a new home and become an active part of the community.

Late in 2008, on the advice of his manager and owner of J Ramirez Towing, Nigel applied to become a qualified SNHfH homeowner. For the past two years, Nigel has been attending financial classes, working full time, studying for his GED and putting in sweat equity hours working on other Habitat projects. Slowly but surely Nigel makes significant progress toward obtaining the American Dream.

The Mackenzies have three children: son Rockeish, daughter Chevelle and son Nixon. Each child is academically focused and dedicated to their hard working parents who have given up so much to make sure they have a solid foundation in life.

"Habitat's program has helped me show my kids that with determination, a good education and support of a community you can accomplish your goals," says Nigel. "Anything can be done when there is support and hope."

**Your Support
Makes a Difference**

707-422-1948

www.solanonapahabitat.org



5130 Fulton Dr., Suite R
Fairfield, CA 94534

Mission Statement: We bring people together to build decent, affordable homes and empower families through home ownership.

Historic Home Renovation in Napa



A leaky roof and a crumbling foundation were turning an historic Napa home into a deteriorating disaster for Jorge and Antoinette Molina. The Molina family has lived in the Laurel Street home for over 20 years and raised five children there. However, the family fell on hard times when Jorge lost his job and Antoinette became disabled. There was no money for repairs so the couple placed buckets throughout the house to catch the water.

Solano-Napa Habitat for Humanity heard about the family's plight, saw the structure and decided to take on the project using a \$65,000 grant from Bank of America. Fixing the roof and the foundation were the most pressing problems. Because the family had stored so much in their basement, volunteers organized a huge garage sale that netted over \$3,000 to help pay for a wheelchair lift for

Antoinette. In June, the home was raised to prepare for the new foundation. The old foundation was removed and a new one poured. The roof was replaced. Solano Napa Habitat plans to restore the front stairs and porch railing to their original style and location.

There are still more repairs to be made but in the end the home will be stable on a new foundation, water tight and appear as it did in 1910. For the Molina family, partnering with Habitat has provided them with a decent, livable home. 🏠

Car Donations

Do you have an old car, truck, van, trailer, RV or boat you want to unload? Why not donate it to Solano-Napa Habitat for Humanity? Your donated vehicle will help us finish the homes on Habitat Corner.

For more information, call (877) 277-4344 toll free or visit www.carsforhomes.org

Create more space in your driveway and support your community!

A Message From Our President Roddy Feldman

There were no dog days of summer this year for Habitat volunteers! They were busy on projects in Napa and Solano counties. As we move into the fall, our focus is on raising the remaining funding for Habitat Corner which is highlighted in this newsletter. Of the needed \$300,000 site and construction costs, we were blessed when Kevin Finger, Plant Manager at Anheuser-Busch stepped forward with a generous contribution that has brought us much closer to starting construction on these two homes. While we still haven't quite raised enough to begin

that construction, the company's support of Habitat and the community emphasizes what great work can happen with such partnerships. In Napa, the Gasser Foundation has provided a \$15,000 grant for a second year for our New Beginnings work that focuses on repairs to houses for low-income seniors and disabled so they can stay in their own homes.

If you would like to volunteer or donate to Habitat Corner or to our affiliate in general, please contact our office at 422-1948 or visit our website at www.solanonapahabitat.org.

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