

## Habitat for Humanity of Cape Cod

### Monthly Update for December

December 4, 2008

Visit our website: [www.habitatcapecod.org](http://www.habitatcapecod.org)

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#### **THIS AND THAT**

**300,000 families:** Our housing ministry marked a **major milestone**, Nov. 13 – 14, when construction began on Habitat's 300,000<sup>th</sup> house in Naples, Fla., U.S.A., and 300,001<sup>st</sup> house in Zacapa, Guatemala. Our local Cape Cod affiliate is among the more than 2,300 Habitat organizations worldwide that have made this milestone possible, having built 60 houses since its founding in 1988.

Zacapa is a region which suffers one of the lowest levels of community and social development in Guatemala, and therefore the most in need of adequate housing. Habitat has already built a total of 1,236 houses in the region, reaching some 7,500 people.

Habitat for Humanity is a worldwide movement with a presence in nearly 90 countries, including all 50 states in the United States, the District of Columbia, Guam and Puerto Rico. On average, Habitat for Humanity serves a low-income family somewhere around the world every 10 minutes through new house construction, major house rehabilitation projects and with house repairs. In 2007, Habitat served a record 49,000 families in need.

**Going green** – A perfect storm of good circumstances (some zealous “green”-thinking staff and volunteers + the initiative and support of Cape Light Compact

and the MA Technology Collaborative) has led us to make some careful revisions in our specifications and plans for Gomes Way towards the goal of a fully LEEDS-certified (a standard of energy efficiency) neighborhood. Aside from changes in materials and methods, we are being funded to add solar panels to the homes. We estimate a saving of about \$900 year in energy costs over our “usual homes.” We are excited about this for the benefit to the homeowners, as a community model, and as a real organizational turn towards a more conscientious and responsible green path as we set new standards for our future homes.

**Weatherization** – We have been invited into partnership with the Cape and Islands Renewable Energy Collaborative Initiative, a program that will assist local residents with their home weatherization needs with the help of trained volunteer teams. Hilary Greene is our contact person for this program, as we receive more information for opportunities to get involved. 508 775 3559 x16

## **CALENDAR OF SPECIAL EVENTS**

### **Join our Falmouth Parade contingent Sunday, December 7**

The theme this year is Christmas Wishes and our float’s theme is “A house, a home, a Christmas Wish come true.” Habitat volunteers and supporters meet at 11 a.m. at the mall parking lot. Jeannine Shapleigh, one of our Sam Turner Road families, has gotten us a truck and flatbed plus a shed and Christmas tree for our float, decorating of our float takes place Friday night at 5 PM. Please call **Dot Hannon 508-295-0582** to let her know you will be coming (to either the decorating or the parade or both!) so that she can give you any details and info. At the parade there will be hard hats and signs. Wear Habitat stuff t-shirts etc, tool belts, etc. This is a long time Upper Cape Chapter tradition, so please come on out and join in for a good and festive time- and dress warm!

### **Dedication of our 60<sup>th</sup> local Habitat for Humanity Home, Saturday December**

**13.** Please join us as we celebrate the coming home of another Habitat partner family and the beautiful work of our fabulous volunteers. The ceremony begins at 1 p.m. Come a bit early to park, and tour the home. Please be considerate of neighbors while parking – carpooling is always encouraged. This home was sponsored by Bank of America, and received major support through Town of Falmouth Community Preservation Funds.

**Home for the Holidays at Wynne-Falconer Gallery in Chatham: On Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup> from 6-8pm** The Wynne-Falconer Gallery has graciously offered to host a “Home for the Holidays” showing with a portion of the night’s sales to

benefit Habitat for Humanity of Cape Cod. The event's Honorary Hostess will be Mrs. Helene Wilson, lead sponsor of our last two Women Builds, and the evening will include a cocktail reception. The gallery is located on 492 Main Street in Chatham, MA (across from The Squire Restaurant). Please spread the word and join us. For a preview of the gallery's entire collection go to:

[www.wynne-falconergallery.com](http://www.wynne-falconergallery.com)

## **DISASTER RELIEF**

Those who wish to join the volunteer Disaster Relief group traveling to the U.S. Gulf Region March 1 – March 11, 2009 to build homes for Katrina displaced families are invited to contact [hilary@habitatcapecod.org](mailto:hilary@habitatcapecod.org) or 508-775-3559 x16. She will pass your info on to group leaders to make sure you are invited to future meetings, etc.

## **CHEERS and KUDOS**

Gomes Way, Harwich – Our thanks and cheers to the intrepid crews of polar bear volunteers who installed 300 feet of fencing – right during that little snap of frigid weather in November.

Calendar 2008 Volunteerism – over 750 community volunteers joined us in completing nine homes this year (all dedeed over between July and December).

## **GIVING**

### **Alternative Holiday Gifts**

Habitat for Humanity of Cape Cod has alternative gift giving ideas for those looking for a memorable and lasting gift this season. For that someone who has everything or is hard to buy for, give a donation in their name in honor of them. Habitat will also accept donations in memory of a loved one too. Your gift will keep giving long after the holiday season is over. A minimum donation of \$10 for each recipient is requested. This year we will also be offering two very special cards which also feature the work of local artists. To view the three cards and for more information on ordering our “**Window of Opportunity**” (\$250 gift) or “**Door of Hope**” (\$100 gift) or the generic holiday gift card, please visit our website at: [www.habitatcapecod.org/cards-memorials.html](http://www.habitatcapecod.org/cards-memorials.html). For additional questions, please contact Sue Daggett at: 508-775-3559 ext. 14 or [sue@habitatcapecod.org](mailto:sue@habitatcapecod.org).

## **DECORATING/NIBBLING**

Ginger Bread Houses While these houses are not entirely up to code, they have, indeed, been “built” by Director of Construction, Pat Taylor. They are beautiful,

smell terrific (they are scattered about our office) and, I am told, entirely edible + delicious except for the base (and, the bird – if your house comes with a bird house). 100% of the \$35 charge will benefit Habitat for Humanity. Orders accepted through December 15 by calling our office – 508 775 3559 x10. OR, to view and download an order form – just go to our website link at <http://habitatcapecod.org/Habitat-Happenings.html>

**WRAPPING FOR HABITAT:** Barnes and Noble, Hyannis, has again offered us the opportunity to raise money by supplying **volunteer gift wrappers**. **Dot Hannon (508 295 0582) needs a few more volunteers to fill shifts on December 14 (8 – 11; 2 – 5; 5 – 8) and also December 22 (3 – 6)**. Please give her a ring to lend your hands to this holiday fundraiser.

## **CONSTRUCTION UPDATE**

**Falmouth –Sippewissett Road** -- Thank you! General volunteer work has concluded for this build. Please come to the dedication.

**Next volunteer home building on Cape Cod:** Spring 2009 – Gomes Way Harwich. Watch for announcements in early spring for kick-off events and sign-up contact info.

## **ON THE DRAWING BOARD**

**We have recently:** been awarded **two separate parcels in the Town of Dennis** (suitable for a one bedroom and a two bedroom home).

### **We are:**

- in process on the various regulatory, funding, and permitting tasks for future houses in **Bourne** and **Mashpee**
- in detail discussion and review of sites in **Wellfleet**
- **submitting another proposal to the Town of Dennis** this month
- **in discussion with the Town of Falmouth** about the federal/state Neighborhood Stabilization Program – can it work to help Habitat purchase any foreclosed properties, suitable for re-hab and re-sale as Habitat homes.

## **CHAPTER MEETING INFORMATION**

### **Upper Cape**

Meets on the first Monday of each month. 7 p.m., Mashpee Senior Center.

Chapter Chair: **Bob Leary**

Volunteer Coordinator: **Dot Hannon 508-295-0582** [dotgerhan@verizon.net](mailto:dotgerhan@verizon.net)

### **Lower Cape**

Meets quarterly or as announced. Watch this updates, and “events” page on our website for next meeting.

Chapter Volunteer Coordinator: **Nancy Erskine 508-945-2163**

[Nancybillersk@comcast.net](mailto:Nancybillersk@comcast.net)

### **Mid-Cape**

Has suspended chapter meetings. Habitat friends in mid Cape towns are more than welcome at Upper or Lower Cape meetings.

Chapter Chair: **Marilyn Nouri 508-385-8568**

Volunteer Coordinator: **Marilyn George 508-362-3420.**

## **AFFILIATE OFFICE CONTACT INFO**

**Address:** 657 Route 28, W. Yarmouth 02673

**Office Hours:** Weekdays, 9 – 4:30.

**Email:** [office@habitatcapecod.org](mailto:office@habitatcapecod.org)

**Office phone:** 508-775-3559

Construction updates– x2, bad weather hotline - x3;

Anne Corrieri x10,

Vicki Goldsmith. Executive Director x15

Sue Daggett, Director of Resource Development and Communications x14

Hilary Greene, Coordinator of Volunteer Programs X16

Pat Taylor, Director of Construction X17

Linda Caldwell X12

Family Selection questions X 11

## **TO JOIN OR LEAVE THIS LIST**

If you are reading a print copy of this update and **would like to join**, please email [linda@habitatcapecod.org](mailto:linda@habitatcapecod.org), subject: monthly update, and in the text provide your name and email address.

**To be removed** from this list, please use the Google instruction (link) at the very bottom – your email will be removed automatically.

**To comment on content:** please call or email Vicki G. at [vg@habitatcapecod.org](mailto:vg@habitatcapecod.org)