



Beaches

Habitat for Humanity®

Build Hope.

June 2011 Newsletter

A Message from the Chairman of our Board

Beaches Habitat is making every effort to make the Jacksonville Beaches a stronger and more vibrant community in which to live. Part of this effort includes the Neighborhood Revitalization Initiative (NRI). The program addresses our mission by restoring homes owned by low- to moderate-income families to a safe condition. The NRI encompasses two home repair programs: A Brush with Kindness and Critical Home Repair.

A Brush with Kindness is an exterior home repair program for low-income homeowners. Repair work is limited to painting, caulking, minor siding and trim repairs, landscaping, yard clean up, board replacement in porches/stairs/ramps, minor roof repairs, soffit and fascia replacement, window repairs, door replacement, and retrofitting the exterior for handicap accessibility.

Critical Home Repair is an extensive interior and exterior home repair program for low-income homeowners. The work for both programs will be completed at a minimal cost determined by the amount of work needed. As with our regular new home process, an applicant must demonstrate need, be willing to partner, and be able to repay the loan in order to qualify for the program.

Ultimately, the NRI is part of an integrated approach that will equip us to deliver a wider array of housing solutions, including new house production, vacant house rehabilitation, home repair and weatherization. For more information, please call Beaches Habitat at 904.241.1222 or visit our website, beacheshabitat.org, for more details.

Archie O. Jenkins, III



A volunteer works on an A Brush With Kindness home repair project.

Cyclists Roll Through Atlantic Beach in May

For the 3rd year, Beaches Habitat hosted Bike & Build's Southern U.S. orientation from May 15th - 21st. Our affiliate was the cyclists' first stop before heading across the country to Monterey, Calif. to raise money and awareness for affordable housing causes. Over the summer, the group will stop in towns along the route to participate in construction efforts at various

housing sites. More than 30 cyclists volunteered at Huang Villas on May 20th. Before beginning their journey, the cyclists gathered in Neptune Beach to dip their rear wheels in the Atlantic Ocean. Once they have reached their destination, the cyclists will



Bike and Build cyclists prepare to begin their cross-country journey.

end their journey by dipping their front wheels in the Pacific Ocean.

Inside this issue

- Bike & Build
- National Women Build Week
- Builders Classic Golf Tournament
- Apostles Build VIII
- Hats, Hope & Habitat
- Salute to AmeriCorps!
- Homes Dedicated in Huang Villas

National Women Build Week

Homeowner Syreeta Jackson joined 17 local women who volunteered on Wednesday, May 4th at the Beaches Habitat construction site in Huang Villas. Several of our Women Build members joined employees from the Lowe's of East Jacksonville store to help build Syreeta's home in recognition of National Women Build Week. This annual event takes place at Habitat affiliates throughout the

country, challenging women to devote at least one day in the effort to help eliminate poverty housing.

To celebrate the Women Build program and the important partnership between Habitat for Humanity and Lowe's, the two organizations again declared the week before Mother's Day as "National Women Build Week." Volunteer Coordinator Sarah Rutkowski thanked everyone for their hard

work and presented each participant with a goody bag including a National Women Build Week t-shirt and water bottle.

Here at Beaches Habitat, the Women Build team will return in October to build their 13th and 14th homes. If you are interested in joining the Women Build, you can call Sarah Rutkowski at 241-1222 or email her at sarah@beacheshabitat.org.



Lowe's employees and Women Builders frame a wall during National Women Build Week.



Veteran Volunteer Martha Shafer and members of her foursome support a great cause and enjoy a day of golf at Selva Marina.

Builders Classic Golf Tournament 2011

Beaches Habitat and Oceanside Rotary hosted their annual charity golf tournament at Selva Marina Country Club on May 6th. Proceeds benefitted affordable housing and charitable giving at the Beaches. The best ball tournament

drew 25 foursomes and raised \$20,000 for Beaches Habitat. Following a fun-filled day of fellowship with good friends, great food and golf, participants enjoyed an awards ceremony and banquet in the clubhouse dining room.

Special thanks to our very generous sponsors for helping make this year

among our most successful tournaments to date. We appreciate everyone who donated including our top sponsors: LBA Certified Public Accountants, Greene-Hazel & Associates, Inc., Regency Electric, Beaches Habitat Board of Directors, Ted and Judy Spetnagel, and Wells Fargo Home Mortgage.

Thank you, Apostles Build VIII churches!

Beaches Habitat dedicated its eighth Apostles Build home on Saturday, May 7th. We thank all of the churches and organizations who supported this latest build in Huang Villas. Volunteers from the sponsors contributed more than 1,200 volunteer hours, helping homeowner Victoria Harmon construct

her new home. The sponsors were: Advantage Plumbing, Chapel at Sawgrass, Christ Episcopal Church, Gator Dry Wall, Hodges Boulevard Presbyterian Church, Holy Church of the Living God Revival Center, Isle of Faith United Methodist Church, New Community Baptist Church, Ponte

Vedra Presbyterian Church, Robert Mount Pisgah A.M.E. Church, Second Missionary Baptist Church of Jacksonville Beach, St. Paul's Catholic Church, St. Peter's Catholic Church & Triumph Apostolic Faith Church. The next Apostles Build home will start this September.





Best decorations (top), Best Hat winner Ralph Marcello (b).

Hats, Hope & Habitat Brims with Creativity

The creative juices were flowing at this year's 2nd annual Hats, Hope & Habitat when guests showed off some festive, fancy and outlandish hats! The event was held at North Beach Bistro and keynote speaker, former TV news anchor Deborah Gianoulis, captivated the audience with her address on education. Special guests also included Jacksonville University Chancellor Emeritus

Frances Bartlett Kinne, PhD. who served as Honorary Chair of the event, and former NBA player Artis Gilmore.

Each table was decorated with a theme and prizes were awarded for outstanding creativity. The winners were: Best Hat/Female - Pam Ervanian; Best Hat/Male-Ralph Marcello; and Best Decorated Table-Nancy Huang for its Read To Succeed theme.

Hats, Hope & Habitat attracted education supporters who took part in raising awareness and funds for our education programs. This year's event also focused on health and fitness for youth with special emphasis on *Quick Start Tennis* lessons, and cooking classes that teach the value of fresh produce in conjunction with a community garden project that is currently underway.

Kudos to our AmeriCorps Team

Beaches Habitat deeply thanks our 2010-2011 AmeriCorps members for their selfless commitment and service. Our dedicated members are Jade Carlin, Leslie Katz, Becky Murray, Cat Rominger and Kate Webb. AmeriCorps is a national service program that pairs committed individuals with nonprofits across the country, addressing urgent needs ranging from health care to the environment. At Beaches Habitat, members commit to one year of service through either the National Direct or VISTA program working in family services, construction, education and resource development.

In addition to their roles within the affiliate, AmeriCorps members also support other service groups

in the community. For example, the team participated in a Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service at the Sulzbacher Homeless Center in downtown Jacksonville. The AmeriCorps members woke early on Monday, January 17th to be at the Sulzbacher Center by 5 am to serve breakfast. In the months prior, the group also partnered with area churches and businesses to collect more than 200 coats and jackets for the center.

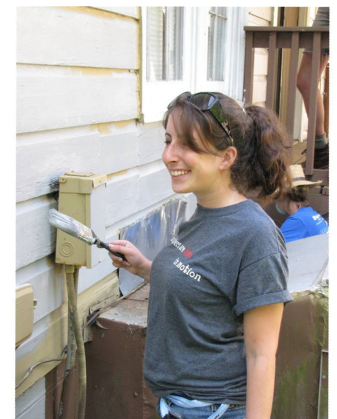
The giving continues with a community garden project. As part of a health and fitness regime they created for the students in our education programs, the community garden will provide the students with an opportunity to put what they learn into action. The



AmeriCorps members at the 2011 Build-a-Thon in Birmingham, Alabama: (from left) Jade Carlin, Kate Webb, Cat Rominger, Becky Murray and Leslie Katz (below).

AmeriCorps members will teach them about different plants and how to grow their own food so that they can work with their parents to harvest the produce.

The members have truly contributed to our mission of eliminating substandard housing at the beaches. We are very grateful for their commitment to our affiliate.





1671 Francis Avenue
Atlantic Beach, FL 32233
Telephone: (904) 241-1222
Fax: (904) 241-4310

www.beacheshabitat.org
www.facebook.com/beacheshabitat

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

NON-PROFIT
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Jacksonville, FL
Permit No. 1497

Four Homes Dedicated in Huang Villas this Spring!



Members of the Londono and Vargas Families celebrate their new homes on dedication day.

Beaches Habitat welcomed four new families to Huang Villas in April and May. The homeowners' hard work finally paid off when they moved into their new places. The first duplex, which was built entirely by the Women Build, was dedicated on Saturday, April 9th. Both Juan Londono and Kristine Vargas expressed their deep appreciation to the construction volunteers who helped them achieve the dream of homeownership. Londono and Vargas also thanked the corporate sponsors Al's Pizza and Aqua East for their commitment and support.

included the commitment from The Ware Group who sponsored her home.

Huang Villas will be home to ten families when it is completed later this year. The neighborhood is named after our benefactors, Nancy and Larry Huang. Nancy is also one of our most dedicated Women Builders.

One month later, a second duplex dedication ceremony was held for Ruth Summers and Victoria Harmon on Saturday, May 7th. On hand to celebrate the occasion were many Apostles Build volunteers who had spent the last six months helping Victoria at the worksite. Ruth's support



Ruth and Sonya Summers