



Habitat News

Did you Know...

- Sacramento Habitat just received Platinum LEED Certification on its most recent home, 17th Ave-bringing SHFH's LEED Certification total to 16 (8 Gold and 8 Platinum) homes.
- On September 22nd, 2012 Sacramento Habitat dedicated its 90th home here in Sacramento.
- SHFH has had ZERO foreclosures in 27 years.

...And we couldn't have done it without YOU!

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Home for the Holidays

This December 8th, 2012 Silvia, Matvei, Tatiana, Mariana, and Emily Caus will be receiving the keys to their new Habitat home just in time for the holidays.

"We are just so excited, especially my Mom!" says Tatiana, Silvia's oldest daughter.

Silvia and Matvei Caus are from Moldova. They moved to the United States in 2007 to escape religious persecution and search for a better quality of life. In Moldova, Silvia recalls, "There were no jobs and as Christians, we were persecuted."

Having some family who lived in Sacramento, Silvia and Matvei decided to take a chance. Silvia recalls, "It

was strange and hard- new people, new language. We were all crying constantly, and then, it got easier."

Silvia, who works at a Pizza Parlor, Matvei, a construction worker, and their three daughters live in an overcrowded 2-bedroom apartment. They have been working tirelessly on completing their required 500 hours of sweat equity to move into their new Habitat home.

"People at work ask me if I'm tired because I go straight from the construction site to work or vice versa, but I just say I



can sleep when our family has our home" (Silvia)

The Caus Family's Home Dedication will be held at 10:00 am on Saturday, December 8th at their new home: 7107 Florin Perkins Rd. Sacramento, CA 95828. Open to the public.

Lunch will be provided by the Caus family following the dedication ceremony.

ReStore Donation Drive Save your Green by Going Green

On December 8th from 8 am until noon, the local Sacramento Habitat for Humanity ReStore will be hosting a donation drive for new and gently-used appliances, furniture, and

construction supplies.

"Instead of filling the landfill," says ReStore Director Taud Bagwill, "folks can donate their old bathtub or household items to us. They'll get a

tax write-off and know it's going to a great cause".

The Sacramento Habitat ReStore is located at 819 North 10th Street Sacramento, CA 95811.

Former SHFH Board Member and Emerging Local Author Gives Back

Former Sacramento Habitat for Humanity Board Member turned author, E.G. Fabricant, is giving back this holiday season - one book at a time!

E.G. pledges for every copy sold of his new book, "Matters Familiar", he will donate \$1 to Sacramento Habitat for Humanity. His goal—to raise \$75,000 to sponsor a home for a family in 2013 in the name of "Fans of E.G. Fabricant."

When asked why Habitat, Fabricant admitted that he



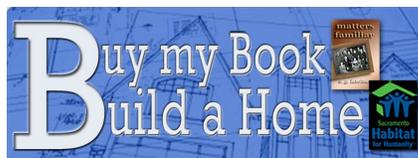
feels a deep correlation between his stories and the mission of Habitat, "My stories are about real people, with real hopes, needs and challenges... Sac-Habitat makes the American Dream real and attainable for folks most others have written off. If your charitable values center on stable families, hard work, and giving a hand up, Sacramento Habitat deserves your support".

Fabricant's "Matters Familiar" collection is available in paper-

back from Amazon.com and other online outlets, and in eBook form from the Barnes & Noble; the iBookstore; Kindle; Smashwords; and other digital publishers.

Purchases can also be made directly from www.books4homes.com or from Hart's literary website www.egfabricant.com

Buy my Book Build a Home



16 LEEDS and Counting—

Local Sacramento Habitat finishes in Top 3 Nationally for 2012 USGBC

Sacramento Habitat for Humanity joined the US Green Building Council (USGBC) in 2009 and has since built 16 LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certified homes.

With 8 Gold and 8 Platinum Habitat homes under his belt, Dan Wilson, the Director of Construction for Sacramento Habitat and the pio-

neer of SHFH's green building efforts says, "It's the first tie I have ever liked."

In 2010, SHFH led by Wilson was awarded "Achievement in Excellence" by the US Green Building Council

Did you know the average energy consumption for all of SHFH's LEED homes is \$10 per home?

for the LEED program. In 2011 and once again this year in 2012, SHFH finished as a top 3 finalist in the nation for the USGBC.

Wilson believes, "For a small time affiliate with a limited budget, this is something to be very proud of."

The Hope and Homes Society enters into its 5th Year

The "Hope and Homes Society", also known as the "Multiple Year Giving Society", is a giving society made up of members who contribute annual gifts of \$1,000 (\$85/month) or more to Sacramento Habitat for Humanity.

The Society, which began in the Fall of 2008, currently boasts 27

members and has raised nearly \$200,000 through donations and pledges to help build homes for Habitat families.

Hope and Homes Society Member, Richard Fathy, is proud to be a member of the society. "My wife Joan and I are in awe of the good

deeds accomplished by Habitat. It is our honor and pleasure to donate annually to Habitat's mission."

If you are interested in learning more information or joining the SHFH Hope and Homes Society, contact Cynthia Anderson at (916) 440-1215 ext. 1104.

The Alaya Family puts new meaning in the desire for a “Safe, Decent, Affordable Home”

When Abdul Alaya, the next Habitat homeowner in line to receive his house, was asked what brought him to the United States, his answer was anything but ordinary,



“The killings. I couldn’t raise a family with all the killings.”

Abdul Alaya is from Maydeen, Syria. He has 6 sons. In 1998, he left his country to escape the brutal massacres plaguing his country and find his family a safe place to live.

Abdul admits, “I really wanted to stay in Syria, but it was a very bad and dangerous situation.”

He, his 6 sons, his wife Wafa Hajiehweigh, and his mother Hadieh all currently live in a 2-bedroom apartment. They humbly admit, “It’s hard with so many people, but we try to make it work. You just don’t want to see the closet’s, everything’s full! But we are safe— we have a lot.”

A very positive outlook considering that with 9 people living in a two-bedroom apartment many of the children have to sleep on the floor.

Abdul is so excited about his family having a home that he has already put in well over the required 500 hours of sweat equity working on his home, “When you work on your own house, you have special feelings— I love the sweat equity and I feel very blessed”.

The Alaya family will be moving into a SHRA remodeled 5-bedroom home on Western Avenue in early January of 2013.

“Having a house...”, says Abdul, “it’s like a dream.”

For more information on the Alaya Home Dedication Date—check “Upcoming Events” on www.shfh.org

Family Selection — the proof is in the families

If you’ve ever been to a Habitat Home Dedication, you can attest to the caliber the Sacramento Habitat for Humanity Families.

A frequent question asked to Habitat staff is “Where do you find your families”. The answer is isn’t where, but how.

Sacramento Habitat for Humanity has had 0 foreclosures in 27 years—a statistic which CEO Ken Cross

believes is attributable to Sacramento Habitat’s secret weapon—The Family Selection Committee.

The Family Selection Committee (FSC), a group of dedicated volunteers, is responsible for reviewing all housing appli-

cations, performing home interviews, and determining who will be the next Sacramento Habitat homeowner.

“Volunteering for the Family Selection Committee has allowed me to watch doubtfulness and uncertainty change to motivation, dedication, and excitement at the Home Dedication Ceremonies”

-Thuan Bi

For more info on getting involved with the FSC-

Contact Family Services at (916) 440-1215 ext. 1111

Sacramento Habitat to Raise the Walls on Indian Lane

The long anticipated 14-Unit South Sacramento Indian Lane project, is set for the wall raising of the initial 5-home phase this coming Spring of 2013. The infrastructure is currently underway.

Indian Lane, which will feature 14 3-bedroom and 4-bedroom two-story LEED certified homes, is also a

Transit Oriented Development (TOD), located directly across from the Florin Road Regional Transit Light Rail Station.

SHFH Director of Construction, Dan Wilson, believes “This development brings our green building to a whole new level.”

This project is SHFH’s most ambi-

tious construction project to date, but CEO Ken Cross is most excited about the impact it will have on the community.

“This project will allow us to provide homeownership to even more families in need and that’s what it’s all really about.”

SACRAMENTO HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

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Sacramento Habitat for Humanity is a non-profit 501c(3), private, nongovernmental, ecumenical housing ministry based on Christian principles and a local affiliate of Habitat for Humanity International.

*What will **YOU** Build?*

Sacramento Habitat for Humanity is completely supported by the local Sacramento community and people like you



*Happy Holidays from
all of us at SHFH!*