

## Spring 2023

### **Habitat Update**

It's been a year of records and transition for Palouse Habitat. Dave Stradley lead the Codger Crew and community volunteers to one of our fastest dry-ins ever when our outdoor build season was cut short by a muddy, late spring and harsh, early winter. The Martinez home just passed inspections and should have the appraisal soon. We're tentatively planning a home dedication towards the end of April; watch our website and social media for updates, and join us to celebrate! The Martinez home will be Dave Stradley's last house with Palouse Habitat. Dave oversaw construction of seven Habitat homes with a unique combination of the skills of a builder and the heart of a teacher. We are thankful for his time with Habitat, and the difference he made for these families and for our volunteers. Dave leaves big shoes to fill, but he is looking forward to volunteering closer to home and spending time with his great-grandchildren.

Brent Bradberry and the Ramps and Rails team have been busy as well. Last year they served 38 households, for a total of 177 projects completed since we launched the program in 2013. This is a partnership with the Moscow Central Lions Club and Disability Action Center, and we offer low- and very low- income homeowners across Latah and Whitman Counties exterior safety repairs, or ramps on loan. Like a lending library, the ramps are in place as long as they're needed, then retrieved and installed for another homeowner.

The Surplus Sale also set a record last year. It raised \$230,000 to support Habitat programs. They also kept almost 300,000 pounds of material out of our local landfills. Eldon Hodges, our Store Manager, and his team of staff and volunteers have dramatically improved the layout and the quality of our inventory. It's always changing, so stop by regularly or follow us on Facebook for the latest sneak-peak at what is coming off the truck.

Volunteers are the reason we're able to build. We're lucky to have dedicated core groups of volunteers in the store and construction sites, the Codger Crew and the Store Crew. This year we've been glad to see them joined by more community members and local business volunteer teams returning in almost pre-pandemic numbers. In addition to a growing number of individuals, we welcomed teams from the WSU Athletic Department, UI's Serving Your New Community (SYNC) program, Wells Fargo, Plateau Archaeological Investigations, the Idaho Board of Realtors, Whitman County United Way, UI Track Athletes, the Moscow First Presbyterian Church, the Fire Fighter's Local 1773, Home Depot, Meter Group, and our own Board of Directors. In the store, we've welcomed several teams of LDS Missionaries, the First Baptist Church of Nacogdoches, and the UI Volleyball team. Many, many thanks to all of you—we couldn't do it without you.

This year is bringing more changes. Palouse Habitat is launching the final stages of renovation and repair that we've been fundraising and planning for since our former landlords, Jim and Dawn Fazio, announced their plans to retire in 2017. We purchased the building in 2019 and started the process to make the building a home for Habitat. Sprenger Construction is working on our final budget, but we have the majority of what we need for multi-stage project and, as Habitat usually does, we'll build on faith that we'll be able to raise the rest of the funds needed to finish later this year. I hope you can join us as we smash the first wall on Saturday, April 1st at 3:00 in the Annex. When it's complete, we'll have more than doubled our store's retail space and added a makerspace where we can teach classes in carpentry, DIY home repair and improvement, and up-cycling crafts. You can follow our progress on social media and our website.

Finally, I can share that we've been challenged by Habitat International to double our production and speak up about the need for affordable housing. Construction material prices have shot up and our country's home production has not recovered since the 2008 housing crisis. Average home prices in Latah and Whitman County are well above what someone making the average household income can afford. Habitat's Board of Directors, staff and volunteers are assessing our community's needs and what "doubling our output" might look like for Palouse Habitat. We've already started advocating for affordable housing policies and programs. In early February, Aimee Martinez and I traveled to Washington D.C. with 300 other Habitat team members where we visited with staff from the offices of Senator Crapo, Senator Risch and Representative Fulcher to encourage them to support funding programs that promote affordable home ownership.

In some ways we may be a different looking program in a few years and the potential is exciting. But we depend on YOU, our volunteers and supporters, to be part of that change and to help us meet the need for safe, affordable housing for our friends and neighbors around the Palouse. Now more than ever, I look forward to your participation in Beans 'n' Jeans April 8-15 as we work together to meet these important goals.

Jennifer Wallace **Executive Director** 

Gifts in Memory Roger Willemsen Judy and Ed Chavez Trisha Verdal Robert Schwendiman Jerry Hartstein Janet Shumway John Mix Lynn DeMeerleer Ken Hall Carla Ferrari Kappler Dixie Vaught

### Gifts in Honor

Connie Hall Rebecca Nida Duane Benson Ellery Blood Matthew Lawson Jonathan Lloyd

### **Palouse Habitat Board of Directors**

Cathy Blood, Chair Jennifer Trout, Vice Chair Rebecca Nida, Secretary Matt Bayly, Treasurer Alan Espenschade

Kris Finch Steve Kadlec Rev. Lesli McGowen Jason Noble James Onstad

**Dave Ostrom Barb Sheffler** Nancy Tribble Lisa Uhlenkott **Craig Watt** 

## Safe access around the Palouse











#### Seen on the **Martinez Build Site**



























PO Box 3054 306 N. Main St. Moscow, ID 83843 208-883-8502 https://palousehabitat.org PRSRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
MOSCOW, ID
PERMIT # 428

# Palouse Habitat Surplus Sale

304 N. Main St., Moscow, ID 83843 10:00-6:00 Tuesday – Saturday 208-882-5246 Call for pick up and delivery!

Wonder what's new at the Surplus Sale? Follow our Buy and Sell group on

**Vision:** A world where everyone has a decent place to live.

Mission: Putting God's love into action, Palouse Habitat for Humanity builds homes, communities and hope.



The 2023 Habitat home will be built in Palouse Washington, and the budget is coming in at \$258,000. This is a daunting number, but we're already well underway, with \$111,000 in grants and in-kind donations committed.

That leaves \$147,000 to raise at Beans 'n' Jeans. We did it last year, we can do it again! The in-person event is sold out, but you can still support the next Habitat home build by shopping the online auction, or with your gift directly to home building through our website, palousehabitat.org.

Online auction items include:

\*Sterling silver pendant with pearl accents from Sam Dial Jewelers

\*Tickets to the University of Idaho Chamber Music Concert

\*Hand-made wooden items by several local craftsmen

\*Charcuterie basket from Pullman Regional Hospital Women's Leadership Guild

\*Generator donated by Moscow & Pullman Building Supply

\*Auto detail packages from University Collision and Chipman Taylor Chevrolet

\*Limited edition WSU logo Carhart jacket

\*UI Vandal Fan package

\*\$500 towards a new floor from Legacy Flooring

\*Three month membership to NIAC

\*Palouse Science Center Discovery basket

\*Toys from Hodgins Drug and Hobby

\*Certificates for summer camps at RTOP and the YMCA of Pullman
\*A variety of antiques, fine art and collectibles

And much more—visit our website to check out all the great auction items!

Many thanks to our Event Sponsors!





### **New Happenings at Habitat**



Even though we're waiting on the final numbers for the budget, thanks to many generous donors we have enough to start the final stages of the Surplus Sale renovation and repair project.

### **New Faces at Habitat**

New Habitat Board Member, Craig Watt has swung many a hammer, remodeling three homes, the oldest built in 1904. A former felony prosecutor for Asotin County, Craig is an attorney at the Pullman law firm of many names (Irwin, Myklebust, Savage & Brown P.S., aka IMSBLaw). He is also a member of the Pullman Police Advisory Committee and a volunteer mediator for Latah District Court. He has lived in Moscow since 2006, where he met and got hitched to his best friend Jill, who works at the University of Idaho.



Their favorite family activity is rafting in the Whitewater State, rowing the rapids and camping with friends along the beaches of Idaho's tremendous wilderness rivers.

**Pick up and Delivery Crew** Hi, my name is Isaias Munoz. I am originally from Mexico, but I grew up in the Twin Falls area. I am an Electrical Engineering major at the University of Idaho, and I am part of the Humanitarian Engineering Corps and the College of Engineering Ambassador's Club. I am into most outdoor events such as soccer, hiking and camping.

