



HELPING HANDS

E-EDITION, APRIL 2017

"I am no longer accepting the things I cannot change.
I am changing the things I cannot accept."

Angela Davis

TINOAGONA It is Achievable

By Cathy Collins

Attending the Habitat for Humanity Global Conference was definitely inspiring! Several times throughout the week I found tears streaming down my cheeks having been moved by the power of the work that Habitat does. It was the homeowners that spoke that were the most touching and none more so than Terera Trent. Her story echoes in my soul.

Coming from a small rural village in Zimbabwe, she dreamed of earning her doctorate even though she did not have the opportunity to go to school and was a mother of 3 by the time she was 18. She shares, "I met a woman who made me believe in my dreams." As it happens, I know that woman. She was the CEO from Heifer International, an organization I am very familiar with (and admire) as it is headquartered in Little Rock, Arkansas where I spent most of my life. Her journey brought her to Stillwater, OK where she became a Habitat homeowner. She credits that opportunity as a launching pad for her success. "I had a purpose, a place to call home where my soul could reside." Terera went on to earn her undergraduate, masters, and doctorate degrees.

Her dream, however, did not stop there. As her mother wisely counseled her when she was setting her dreams, "Your dreams will have more power when they are connected to the betterment of your community." She went back to her village in Zimbabwe and rebuilt the school that she was not allowed to attend as a girl. She has built 11 other schools that have improved the access and quality of education for over 5,000 girls and boys. She is a leading voice internationally in the fight for quality education for all children and women's rights. She speaks of the word "tinoagona" from her native language, a word that means "it is achievable." Her life embodies that word.

The Friday before we left for Atlanta, I had the privilege of attending a school-wide assembly honoring Evelyn Reyes' achievement of winning the Grand Prize in the Youth Category for the Habitat for Humanity's national photography contest. Being part of that moment and realizing that Evelyn had wanted to be a photographer since she was 10 made me realize the depth to which our work can touch people's lives. A simple gesture—helping someone believe in their dreams—may impact not only them, but all the lives they may touch.

It is for this reason that I believe in advocacy. Advocacy that ensures that impact continues. Advocacy that fights to eliminate barriers to achieving that impact more widely, more effectively, or more efficiently. Advocacy that demonstrates the love that everyone brings to the mission of Habitat. Miraculous things are possible when we bring not only our hearts and hands to the work of Habitat, but our voice. Tinoagona.

National Women Build Week 2017

Tuesday, May 9 - Saturday, May 13



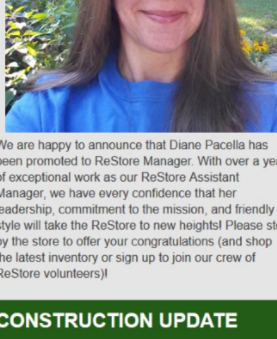
Across the country **women volunteers** will raise their hammers at Habitat for Humanity construction sites in recognition of National Women Build Week. Habitat Newburgh invites women (16 and older) to volunteer with us during this week. No prior experience is necessary - all are welcome!

Do you have a book club, women's church group, professional group, craft club, or a bunch of girl friends? Groups are welcome and encouraged to participate during National Women Build Week!

We will celebrate our week of women building with a **thank you lunch** for all of the women who volunteer with us at our office (125 Washington Street) on Wednesday, May 10th.

If you would like to volunteer with Women Build, contact Volunteer Coordinator Matt Arbolino at (845) 568-6035 x110 or marbolino@habitatnewburgh.org

Congratulations Diane! Our New ReStore Manager



We are happy to announce that Diane Pacella has been promoted to ReStore Manager. With over a year of exceptional work as our ReStore Assistant Manager, we have every confidence that her leadership, commitment to the mission, and friendly style will take the ReStore to new heights! Please stop by the store to offer your congratulations (and shop the latest inventory or sign up to join our crew of ReStore volunteers!)

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

With the Spring thaw (and rain) upon us, our four new builds at 150-156 Ann Street are receiving their due attention. These Faith Builds homes will need plenty of volunteer work over the next few months, just as soon as the framing and roofing is wrapped up. Keep an eye on Volunteer Hub following the Easter Weekend, as we will be recruiting volunteers to assist in installing windows, doors, and insulation. There has been a great deal of interest surrounding these four homes. Come see why!

Our renovation work on South Miller Street continues. 30 South Miller has had a great deal of hands helping to restore this beautiful structure. With the first and second floor framed, we have moved on to clearing out and preparing to finish the basement. Also, the windows will be installed shortly, giving a small face lift to this historic home from 1900.

Our renovation project is located at 131 Carson Avenue in the Washington Heights neighborhood of Newburgh. Last month, our volunteers worked diligently to plug insulation throughout the home and now the fresh sheet rock has been put up. Picking up after the Easter Weekend, 131 Carson will need plenty of exterior and interior work, including installation of flooring, siding, and doors. As always, keep an eye on Volunteer Hub for dates to come lend a hand!

Thank you to the volunteer groups that came out to build with us this month!

Riverdale Presbyterian
West Point Cadets
EpiscoBuild
Presentation Sisters
Fitchburg College
Children Village Build
Washingtonville High School
Phillipstown Prebyterian
SUNY New Paltz
West Point Faculty

If you would like to schedule a Team Build day, please contact Volunteer Coordinator Matt Arbolino at (845) 568-6035 x110 or marbolino@habitatnewburgh.org

Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood Tour



Join us for a FREE coach bus tour and learn more about Habitat's work in Newburgh. Tour in-progress rehabs and new builds, and see a completed Habitat Newburgh house. **All are welcome to join!**

Tours begin at our office 125 Washington St., Newburgh, NY 10:45 AM Sign-in & refreshments 11:00 AM **Join In** to RSVP

Tour Dates: Saturday, May 6 Wednesday, June 7 Saturday, July 8

Keep up with the latest Habitat Happenings!

FIND US ON FACEBOOK



facebook.com/habitatnewburgh

AND ON TWITTER



twitter.com/habitatnewburgh

AND ON INSTAGRAM



instagram.com/habitatnewburgh

Habitat for Humanity of Greater Newburgh ReStore

Spring Cleaning?

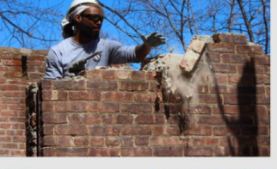
DONATE FURNITURE, DÉCOR, APPLIANCES & BUILDING MATERIALS TO THE RESTORE.

Exit 8 off I-84 • 38 S. Plank Road, Newburgh, NY 9:30-4:30

For a complete list of accepted donations, visit <http://newburghrestore.org/donate.html>

Follow the ReStore on Facebook and Twitter for the latest!

Welcome AmeriCorps NCCC Moose 7!



Welcome to Matt, Elaine, Johnnie Ray, Cycol, Matthew, Jorree, Austin, Jeison, Jane, and Maximilian! AmeriCorps NCCC Team Moose 7 will be here in Newburgh helping us build through April 20th.

It is amazing to have this team of young people helping us build their energy, work ethic, and sense of humor light up our sites.



LOOKING AHEAD

Upcoming events in 2017

Sunday, April 23 18th Annual Walk for Housing

Monday, May 8 18th Annual Golf Fore Housing

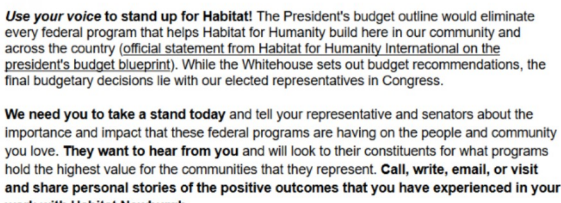
May 6-14 National Women Build Week

Saturday, May 13 Chris O'Leary Band Concert for Builders Blitz

Saturday, May 20 PresbyBuild Talent Show

Use Your Voice!

Whitehouse Budget Outline Eliminates AmeriCorps, All HUD Funding Habitat for Humanity Uses to Build Homes



Use your voice to stand up for Habitat! The President's budget outline would eliminate every federal program that helps Habitat for Humanity build here in our community and across the country (official statement from Habitat for Humanity International on the president's budget blueprint). While the Whitehouse sets out budget recommendations, the final budgetary decisions lie with our elected representatives in Congress.

We need you to take a stand today and tell your representative and senators about the importance and impact that these federal programs are having on the people and community you love. **They want to hear from you** and will look to their constituents for what programs hold the highest value for the communities that they represent. **Call, write, email, or visit** and share personal stories of the positive outcomes that you have experienced in your work with Habitat Newburgh.

Take Action!

Save AmeriCorps!

In Newburgh and across the country, Habitat for Humanity partners with all three branch of AmeriCorps National Service. AmeriCorps direct members increase our capacity to build more houses and engage more volunteers as Construction Crew Leaders; AmeriCorps VISTA members help us expand existing programs and get new initiatives off the ground; and AmeriCorps NCCC teams join us for 6-8 weeks at a time and give us an invaluable boost of energy and labor to help us meet our goals.

AmeriCorps is a win-win, giving local organizations the power to address the needs in their neighborhoods, while providing members with skills and experiences that will inform their path long after their term of service is complete. There is a return on investment of \$3.95 for every \$1 the government invests in AmeriCorps programs. Our organization would be hurt significantly by the elimination of this program. [Learn more about the efficacy of AmeriCorps](#)

Fund Programs that Help Habitat Build: HOME, SHOP, CDBG
The president's budget eliminates HOME, SHOP, and CDBG—funds Habitat for Humanity uses to serve families in need of decent & affordable housing. The elimination of all three HUD funding streams would have a devastating impact on the number of families that will be able to partner with Habitat to build strength, security, and self-reliance through homeownership.

Make a Difference Today!

Contact your Representatives:

Representative Sean Patrick Maloney
123 Grand Street, 2nd Floor
Newburgh, NY 12550

Phone: (845) 561-1259 • ny16smma@mail.house.gov

Senator Kirsten Gillibrand
PO Box 893
Mahopac, NY 10541

Tel. (845) 875-4585 • Caseywork@gillibrand.senate.gov

Senator Chuck Schumer
One Park Place, Suite 100
Peekskill, NY 10566

Phone: (914) 734-1532 • senator@schumer.senate.gov



WALK for HOUSING 2017

Walk with us, form a team, or make a donation.

Every dollar raised builds a home for a deserving family.

Every donation gets us one step closer to changing lives.

Each one of us has the capacity to make a difference!

SUNDAY APRIL 23, 2017

1:00 PM Registration | 2:00 PM Walk begins

Washington's Headquarters, Newburgh, NY

Start Fundraising!

Thank you for your commitment to helping families build safety, stability, and self-reliance through homeownership!

Learn more:

[Walk for Housing Website](#)

Habitat for Humanity Global Conference

Every Hand Makes a Difference



Habitat Newburgh sent a 10 person team of staff and board members to the Habitat for Humanity Global Conference in Atlanta, Georgia. We heard inspiring speeches and learned lots of new ideas about all that we do (family services, construction, volunteers, finance, fundraising, ReStore leadership, advocacy, supporting the global mission, and faith relations). We made connections with each other and Habitats all over the country and world. We celebrated our achievements of being named an Affiliate of Distinction, having the Youth Grand Prize winner for the national photography contest and our Executive Director broke bread with Jonathan Reckford and 14 other affiliate Executive Directors. We look forward to sharing our experience with you.

18th Annual



SAVE THE DATE

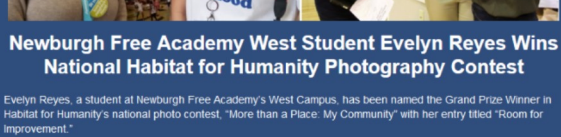
MONDAY, MAY 8, 2017

SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE

golfrehousing@gmail.com for more info

Neighborhood Revitalization SPOTLIGHT!

Evelyn Reyes



Newburgh Free Academy West Student Evelyn Reyes Wins National Habitat for Humanity Photography Contest

Evelyn Reyes, a student at Newburgh Free Academy's West Campus, has been named the Grand Prize Winner in Habitat for Humanity's national photo contest, "More than a Place: My Community" with her entry titled "Room for Improvement."

Newburgh Free Academy West held an assembly of all students to honor Ms. Reyes' accomplishment, attended by the district Superintendent and several school board members. NFA West congratulated Ms. Reyes on her achievement and named her the official school photographer, which came with the gift of a digital camera!

As the Grand Prize winner, Evelyn and her older sister won a trip to Atlanta to attend the photo exhibit and awards reception at the Habitat for Humanity Global Conference.

Evelyn says, "I have wanted to be an artist and a photographer ever since I was 10 years old... Many times when somebody mentions Newburgh it always seems to be negative. One of my hopes for my neighborhood is to stop focusing on the gang and gun violence, and start focusing on the artists who are trying to speak about these issues through their work. Another dream of mine for my community is to have more opportunities for young minority students. I myself am a Hispanic-American. By winning this photography collection I hope to pave the way for future Hispanic photographers in my community."

Habitat Newburgh was happy to have Evelyn join us as an incredible representative of Newburgh. We are so proud of Evelyn's achievements and cannot wait to see where her dreams will take her!

Become an Annual Sponsor!

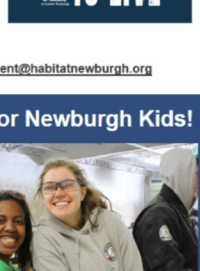
Why become an Annual Sponsor of Habitat Newburgh?

Get your target market's attention through various recognition opportunities:

- Recognition on volunteer T-shirt given to hundreds of Habitat volunteers
- Social Media recognition on our Facebook page and Twitter
- Recognition on our website
- E-news recognition (sent to over 5,000)

Your support not only helps grow your business, it also helps build strength, stability, and self-reliance through homeownership.

Learn More! Call us at (845) 568-6035 x105 or email development@habitatnewburgh.org



AmeriCorps make 'Giant Jenga' for Newburgh Kids!



Our creative and thoughtful Newburgh AmeriCorps team celebrated AmeriCorps week with a fun service project to bring joy to Newburgh kids. They setled wood scraps from our construction site and cut and sanded pieces to make 5 sets of 'Giant Jenga' which were then donated to the Newburgh Boys & Girls Clubs and other youth non-profits in the city.

We beta-tested the game at Safe Harbor's Day of Happiness and it was a hit with kids and grown ups alike!

The Chris O'Leary Band Concert at the Falcon Fundraiser for 2018 Home Builders Blitz



Join us for great music by the Chris O'Leary Band at the Falcon in Marlboro. Funds raised will benefit Habitat for Humanity of Greater Newburgh's next Builders Blitz, when we will build 2 homes in just 5 days.

Proceeds will help Habitat for Humanity of Greater Newburgh towards reach our goal of building 100 homes for hard working families.

Come enjoy the music and brunch - all while benefiting a terrific cause!

Saturday, May 13, 2017
10:00 am—2:00 pm
The Falcon, Marlboro, NY

RSVP online or call (845) 236-7970

<http://thechrisolearyband.net/>



Please visit our website at www.habitatnewburgh.org
Donate to our cause
Like us on Facebook