

# Blueprints Newsletter

## Homes. Community.. Hope



Marilyn Lofflin, Family Support Chair  
Pictured with the Bradley Family;  
Bentlie, Taria, Christopher and Jack

Habitat for Humanity's work in Yankton County and around the world centers on your support through volunteering, advocating and contributing. Every time our circle of friends swings into action, lives are changed, yours and the family you are helping. It's amazing what you discover when you connect the dots. Your support builds homes, lives and a better community for all.

On May 15, Jack and Taria Bradley along with their two children, Bentlie and Christopher celebrated the ground breaking on their new home to be located at 118 Rainbow Street in Riverside Acres.

Jack is employed full-time at Gehl Manufacturing as a welder and Taria works at Days Inn in housekeeping. The couple is very

excited about the opportunity to own a home of their own. Their children will each have a room of their own and a safe place to play outdoors.



Marilyn Lofflin, Julie Dykstra, Bentlie, Taria, Christopher, Jack, Wayne Anderson and Tami Ruzicka

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## Habitat Hoedown – Root Beer Float Throw Down

The bike team has hit the trails to train for their participation in the annual Habitat 500 Bike Ride. The team pedals across Minnesota to raise awareness for Habitat for Humanity and the need for affordable housing, but also to raise money for the Yankton County affiliate. This year, the affiliate will be represented by Tom and Jane Gilmore, Liza Larson, Barb Olson, Glen and Barb Mechtenberg, and Julie Dykstra.

The Habitat 500 is a pledged, fully supported 500 mile bicycle ride benefiting Habitat for Humanity, an internationally respected nonprofit organization dedicated to building homes and creating homeownership opportunities for low-income families.

Join the bike team for a night of fun at the Habitat Hoedown and Root beer Float Throw Down featuring Boyd Bristow on Thursday, June 27, at the Riverside Park Amphitheatre, Yankton South Dakota.

Bring a friend, enjoy some great music and support Habitat's Christian housing ministry. A free will offering will be asked with 100% of the proceeds to benefit Habitat for Humanity of Yankton County.



Tom and Jane Gilmore more than 13,000 miles and going strong!

### Advisory Council

- R.N. Jean Hunhoff**, State Senator  
Corporate Compliance Officer,  
Avera Sacred Heart Hospital
- Pauline Aklund**, City Commissioner  
Training Coordinator, Shur-Co LLC
- Wayne Kindle**, Superintendent,  
Yankton School District
- Joseph Benoit**, President,  
Mount Marty College
- Denis Fokken**, Chief Financial Officer  
First Dakota National Bank
- Dan Spect**, President,  
Vision Real Estate Services
- Dr. Tom Stanage**, Executive Director  
Lewis & Clark Behavioral Services
- Jim Schramm**, Architect,  
Jim Schramm Architect, LLC

**Date: June 27, 2013**

**Time: 7:30 p.m.**



# Habitat Hoedown

Free Will Offering

Live music featuring  
**Boyd Bristow**  
**Jan Schiferl**  
**Guy Larson**  
**Ron Gardner**  
**Ken Prussa**

brought to you by the  
Habitat 500 bike team

Riverside Park  
Amphitheater  
Yankton, South Dakota

—All proceeds stay with  
Habitat for Humanity  
of Yankton County—

—We will also be selling  
Root Beer Floats—



Location — Marian Auditorium, Mount Marty College Campus

500 Miles

Thrivent Financial  
for Lutherans®

Matching funds provided by Thrivent

500 Miles



## Message from the President – Michael McVay

Habitat for Humanity of Yankton County continues to be active on many fronts. Our 36<sup>th</sup> home is just about completed. The concrete driveway pads have been poured and we are lining up teams to help paint the exterior. We are planning a house dedication for the new owner, Emily Dryden, on June 30 @ 2 p.m.

On May 15<sup>th</sup>, Habitat celebrated a ground breaking ceremony for our 37<sup>th</sup> home to be located in Riverside Acres. Jack and Taria Bradley have been selected as the new partner family and we are so glad to have them on board to help us start building their new home. The Bradley's have 2 children, Christopher, 3-years old, and Bentlie, 4-months.

A Habitat Restore or ReSale store

continues to be a top priority for us. We have been exploring potential sites that would be suitable for such a venture. A store of this kind would accept building materials and appliances as donations and then sell them at a discounted price to the public. This Restore/ReSale concept would provide a recycling opportunity for local construction firms and would provide increased revenue for our organization so that we can continue to build and renovate homes for people in need.

This summer, we will sponsor a couple of interesting and enjoyable fundraisers. The first is called a Stud-a-Thon where a 2 x 4 stud will be sold for \$100. Each donor will be able to sign the stud

they purchase and it will be part of the new home. Our goal is to sell 300 such studs. The event will take place from 6am on July 11 to 6pm on July 12<sup>th</sup>.

The Habitat 500 bike team is also in training to take part in the Habitat 500 which will take place in northeastern Minnesota July 14<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup>. The team members will bike either 500 total miles or segments thereof. In support of this event, the bike team is planning to host a concert a called the Habitat Hoe Down at Riverside Park on June 27<sup>th</sup>. Further information will be forthcoming.

Again, I would like to acknowledge the wonderful work of Julie Dykstra our Executive Director, Tami Ruzicka our Volunteer Coordinator, Chris Frick, Construction Supervisor and all our Board members.

*"On May 15<sup>th</sup>, Habitat celebrated a ground breaking ceremony for our 37<sup>th</sup> home to be located in Riverside Acres. Jack and Taria Bradley have been selected as the new partner family and we are so glad to have them on board to help us start building their new home."*



## "Home"...Housing Makes a Difference – Julie Dykstra

Over the past 3 ½ years, I have been blessed to celebrate the accomplishments of 8 families as they move into their new homes. What a joy it is to see dreams coming true and prayers answered! Let me share a couple of examples of the letters received by our office from people with a dream.

**To Whom It May Concern,**

*"I am writing in desperation to have a home for my daughter. We are living in one room located in the basement. This is no place for my child. I want better for her because she deserves it."*

**To Habitat for Humanity,**

*"My life changed dramatically when my fiancé' passed away from a sudden heart attack. So, here I am a single mother of 3 girls and I am trying to get my life back on track. My life is my girls and I would do anything for them. Please help me with an opportunity to better our lives with a home that we can call our home"*.

A home is central to American life. It is where families make lifelong memories, and where children are nurtured so they can build a better tomorrow. Homeownership promotes social stability and it is critical in providing upward mobility and

financial security.

A house is to a family what soil is to a plant. A plant needs to be rooted and so does a family in order to flourish and grow. Once well rooted, all kinds of wonderful things can happen.

Habitat for Humanity is about building hope, removing barriers and creating opportunities. By being the hands and feet of Jesus in the world, we can bring hope to those who are seeking a way to improve their circumstances.

To get involved with Habitat's Christian housing ministry call 605.260.4224. "What Will You Build?"

*"Please help me with an opportunity to better our lives with a home that we can call our home."*



The Tramp Family  
One Family, One Reason  
"Why We Build"

## Telling the Story...Why We Build

Habitat for Humanity of Yankton County wants to tell our story! If you are involved with a church, business, or organization and have need for a presentation, Habitat can help! We are looking

for opportunities to share the Habitat story with our community. Recent speaking engagements include Bethany Mennonite Church in Freeman, GFWC, Yankton Sertoma Club, Interchange, jcp

employees and Kiwanis Club.

Please call the Habitat office at 260-4224 to schedule a date for a presentation.

## Building Committee – Habitat *ENERGY*STAR Rated

Since 2011, Habitat for Humanity of Yankton County has adopted Energy Star construction as a “Best Practice”. Our *ENERGY* STAR qualified homes include tight construction and duct systems, properly installed insulation, high performance windows, efficient heating and cooling equipment and ENERGY STAR appliances. In order to earn the ENERGY STAR qualification, field verification including an onsite inspection and a test by a Home Energy Rater is required. We are pleased to say that the Habitat homes have exceeded the standards required to qualify of a \$3000 grant for each home built!

The grant money received helps offset the additional expense incurred to construct Habitat homes to ENERGY STAR standards. A home designed with energy efficiency in mind helps ensure that our new homeowners will be more comfortable, have lower utility bills and promotes environmental stewardship.



## Benefit for Alexis Haggan – July 27th

Alexis, granddaughter of Anthony and Shawna Fiechuck, was born with a genetic mutation. She is missing the ‘q’ arm of her 22 chromosome containing 40 genes. 22. Q.11.2 Deletion Syndrome affects almost every major organ of the human body. This will never go away; it is life long and is associated with 180 possible complications that can range from mild to severe in nature.

In her short little life, Alexis has

endured 30 surgeries and has overcome the obstacles that continue to stand in her way along her journey of life.

You are invited to attend a benefit to assist the family with medical expenses incurred to care for Alexis. The benefit will be held on July 27, 2013 at Rounding 3<sup>rd</sup> in Yankton. The day will consist of a bake sale, karaoke, a poker run and conclude with a band.

If you would like to support this family in need of a little help from our community, you can make a donation at First National Bank, South Dakota in “The fund for Alexis” account.

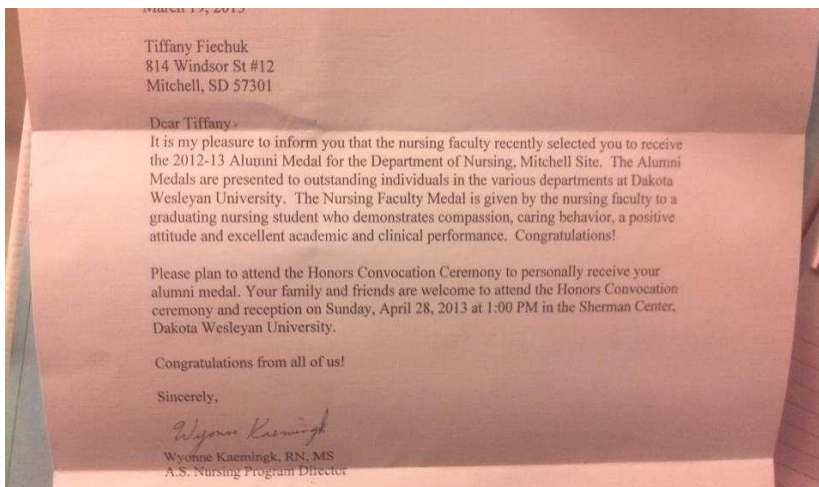
Below: Alexis with twin brother and big brother



Alexis Anne Marie Hagan  
Born 11-6-2012 with complications  
From 22,q.11.2 Deletion Syndrome

## Homeowner Spotlight – “Habi-tot” Graduates from Dakota Wesleyan University

On May 4, 2013, Tiffany Danielle Fiechuck, daughter of Anthony and Shawna Fiechuck, graduated from Dakota Wesleyan University. Tiffany received a degree of Associate of Science in Nursing. Congratulations Tiffany, we are proud of you!



Above: Tiffany Fiechuck's Graduation pictured with Tony

Below: Pinning Ceremony





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# STUD A THON

Habitat for Humanity of  
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 E-Mail:  
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 We're on the Facebook!



**Habitat for Humanity and KYNT** are joining forces to create a HIGH profile community service event...the STUD A THON! The Stud A Thon will raise money for the next Habitat for Humanity build by selling sponsorships of the studs that will be used to build the next home.

**Scott Kooistra, KYNT Radio will broadcast live for 36 hours from First National Bank, South Dakota on July 11 6am to July 12 6pm.** The cost per stud is \$100 with sponsorship levels available; please contact the office for more information.

Stud purchasers will sign their stud and it will forever be a part of the Habitat home. This is an opportunity for teams to get together to make a difference in the life of a family in need of a safe affordable place to call home. Reserve your stud today by sending a check to the Habitat office!

## About Our (

Habitat for Humanity of Yankton County serves our communities, nation : Our mission is to work in community in the Yankton area with people in need by building and renovating houses so that there are decent houses in which people can live and grow into all that God intended.

Since our beginning in 1996, the Yankton County affiliate has built and sold affordable homes to 35 families in need of a decent place to call home.

Our goal for the future is to expand the current services that we provide so that we can assist even more people in need of a "hand up" in Yankton County.

### Our Director's

- President  
Michael McVay, Retired M.D.
- Vice President  
Susan Kneiff, Yankton High School
- Secretary  
Bonita Gaenik, Sacred Heart Monastery
- Treasurer  
Gloria Bohn, Mortgage Lender, First Dakota National Bank
- Steve Huff, JMMW & H Prof.,
- Patricia Smith, Retired Teacher
- Wayne Anderson, Business Owner  
Anderson Superior Concrete, LLC
- John Sternquist, Retired M.D.