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Local/State News

Multimedia Gallery

Home Builders Blitz

Local builders and volunteers put up a home in a week in Buhl for the Habitat for Humanity Home Builders Blitz.

Video

Home Builders Blitz

Discussing the Home Builders Blitz where a home is built in one week in Buhl is Linda Fleming with the Habitat for Humanity and homeowners-to-be, Marco and Angie Oviedo.

• [Click here to view this video](#) •

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BLAIR KOCH/For the Times-News Angela and Marco Oviedo, with their children from left, Mikayla, Marco and Monica celebrate their home's construction with Habitat for Humanity's Blitz Build. The 5 bed, 2 bath dwelling will be ready for occupancy Friday night.

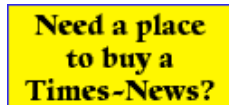
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Let the building begin

Habitat for Humanity marks 30th birthday with 'Blitz Build'

By Blair Koch

Times-News correspondent

BUHL — At the stroke of seven Monday morning, the first nail was hammered into what will become Marco and Angela Oviedo's family home.

By 7 p.m. Friday, construction will be complete and the home will be ready.

Building a home with Habitat for Humanity usually takes about six months, but with the help of more than 60 local sponsors donating time, labor, supplies and equipment, this house will be done in a week.

"About 92 percent of the home's construction is being donated," said Linda Fleming, administrative assistant for the Magic Valley Habitat for Humanity affiliate. "We wouldn't have been able to do this without the outpouring of support that we have received."

The effort is a nationwide one for Habitat for Humanity's 30th Birthday.

Buhl's "Blitz Build" home at 905 Fair Street is one of more than 400 being built in celebration of the organization that has been making the American Dream a reality for more than 5,000 families a year.

After being solicited for help by Fleming, Jay Markle of TKO Construction jumped at the opportunity to serve as contractor for the project.

"It is a great way to help give back to the community that has given us everything we have," Markle said. "The opportunity that Habitat gave us to showcase our many subcontractors, who really do most of the work, is fantastic."

On Monday alone work crews from Bob Lynch Roofing, I.B. Panels, Idaho Outsiders, Infinity Construction, MAC Donald Construction, TKO Construction, Nu Vu Glass and Quality Truss and Lumber were scheduled for the wall-raising, interior framing, truss-setting, window-setting, roof preparation and outside stucco work.

"You will be amazed at what will happen today," said Gordon Saffrey, president of the Magic Valley Habitat affiliate.

Angela Oviedo is excited to be part of the project.

"Some people have to wait three or four years before they get enough hours in and for their home to be built," she said.

The family now is cramped into a three-bedroom rental. Between the couple there are seven children and buying a larger home was out of the question.

"I don't know what we would have done without Habitat," she said. "This home will cost us less than the \$525 a month we pay in rent and add in the power and heat efficiency we will have, it is just amazing."

The Oviedo family will repay Habitat for the home, at cost with no interest. Money paid back to Habitat goes into the local fund to keep the program available to future families.

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As part of being chosen for a Habitat home the Oviedos must invest 500 sweat-equity hours into the program. So far, they have racked up more than 400 hours by helping to organize the Blitz Build and by chipping in with a Jerome home's construction.

"We will probably blow past 500 hours this week," Oviedo said. "It is definitely worth it."

Blair Koch lives in Buhl. She can be reached by e-mail at blair_20@hotmail.com or by calling 316-2607.

What's happening today

7 to 11 a.m. — Interior HVAC, plumbing, electrical, roof finishing and stucco

1 to 3 p.m. — Inspections

3 p.m. to 2 a.m. — Drywall

Comments

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IBPanels.com wrote on June 07, 2006 10:15 AM:

"Angela and Marco Oviedo & Family: We're proud to have been a part of the Habitat for Humanity "Blitz Build" to help build your home. We wish you many happy upcoming years in your extremely energy efficient home. Best Wishes, IB Panels"

Jerri Brown/Nampa wrote on June 06, 2006 6:44 PM:

"I just want to say that I am so happy for Angela and Marco. As Angela's sister, I have seen both of them endure some of life's toughest challenges and they always manage to keep on going! Of course I'm going to point out all positives, but I want to take this opportunity to say that this family is a prime example of how the rest of us should conduct ourselves in society. Rarely do we see a couple that works as hard to support seven children without ANY assistance from the welfare system that so many US citizens abuse. I truly believe that the Oviedo's have been blessed with this opportunity and that each and every person who took the time to participate in this project will be as well. Thank you to all involved for making the "American Dream" come true for this wonderful family."

jordan silva wrote on June 06, 2006 6:22 PM:

"It is amazing that a 13 year old like myself can see that people are so JUDGEMENTAL about others they dont even know. And i want to grongratulate the Ovidos for their achievement and say that I know personally that they are good people!!!!!!!!!"

Marie Garcia/ Virginia wrote on June 06, 2006 5:40 PM:

"It is really sad that people can be so judgemental about people's citizenship based on their last name. Just in case people are not aware, Habitat For Humanity is not a "government freebie". It is simply the community reaching out to help others. The people that are blessed enough to recieve this help do participate in the building of their home and other HFH relations. They are not jobless, or don't pay taxes, they are hard working citizens just like the rest of us. HFH is a great way for the community to come together and support eachother. Without the media and newspaper coverage, many people may not know about the program.Good luck, congrats, and God Bless to the Oviedo family and to the future HFH home owners! "

Kay Clysdale wrote on June 06, 2006 5:24 PM:

"As a Habitat volunteer I can proudly say the Oviedo's are truly hard working and deserving of this project! They will continue contributing to society via mortgage payments and property taxes as do millions of Americans across the country. It has been such a rewarding experience to see how our community has freely offered time, materials, food, monetary support, etc to this project (which by the way is not government!)and see the cooperation and hard work by so very many individuals and businesses. Thanks to the Times News for supporting the project with their story!"

mike wrote on June 06, 2006 5:16 PM:

"THAT SO WONDERFUL,I WISH AFTER PAYING THOUSAND OF DOLLARS EVERY YEAR IN TAXES,THAT FOR ONCE MIDDLE CLASS WOULD GET SOMETHING GIVING TO THEM FOR FREE WITH A NO INTEREST LOAN,BUT BECAUSE WE STRIVE TO GET A SKILL IN THIS COUNTRY,I'AM STARTING TO WONDER PAYING MY 38% TAX BRACKET IS WORTH IT,LETS DO SOMETHING DIFFERANT FOR ONCE AND BUILD A HOME FOR THE MIDDLE CLASS GUY,IT SEEMS THAT IF YOUR LOW INCOME YOU GET NICE BENEFITS IN LIFE,BEING LOW INCOME IS A CHOICE., "

John Robles wrote on June 06, 2006 12:13 PM:

"It is sad to see how some people just cant stand to see a community come together and afford two good hard working CITIZENS of this country the chance to pursue and obtain freedom and happiness,we should all hope that more programs like these appear across America. To critize these people is easy, picking up a shovel and helping,,,, well that would probably be the right thing! what a concept,,CONGRATULATIONS to the OVIEDO's and the 7 children God Bless you and all the wonderful PEOPLE that have come together to make this possible.."

coolbutoverexposed wrote on June 06, 2006 6:42 AM:

"How many times do we have to read about Habitat for Humanity on the front page, i've seen altered versions of this same story TOO many times now. It's a great program but the media exposure is bringing it down. Times News if you can hear me: Concentrate on stories, you know the kind it takes a journalist to report on, although your 1000's of advertisments look very professional."

usa wrote on June 06, 2006 6:35 AM:

"I hope they are legal citizens of the United States--Please tell me they are. I hope we're not giving them any other government freebies. "

Story published at magicvalley.com on Tuesday, June 06, 2006
Last modified on Monday, June 5, 2006 11:19 PM MDT

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