



This month we highlight lunch provider Shari and record-winners Rick & Stephen. Also, Mother's Day is right around the corner, and we have gift ideas!

Sharon Update



Jesse Tatum and his North Country Union High School math students get a primer on painting from Construction Manager Jim Masland.

Volunteers have been powering away on the Cayer's house in Sharon and we're in the home stretch as we work to move the family in at the end of the month. Since the project began on July 21st, **146 individual volunteers** have contributed a total of **2,567 hours** over **97 build days**. Thank you to everyone who helped make this possible!

We can't help but recognize and thank some stand-outs:

Rick Biddle, who holds the highest number of hours on site, has logged **148 hours**.

Stephen Raymond's contribution of **33 days** is the highest number of days for this project so far.

Thank you to Rick and Stephen and all of our returning volunteers for your dedication to this project!

Our partner family, Zack and Mindy Cayer and their three children, plan to move in by the end of May and we are in the final push to get the house ready for habitation in the next three weeks.

Interior painting and the bamboo flooring will be done this week. Upcoming work that requires both skilled and not-so-skilled volunteers includes:

- Install interior doors
- Install trim & box in the deep windows
- Paint trim & doors
- Install cabinets & counters
- Install ceramic tile flooring in the bathroom
- Clean up the interior to get it ready for the family to move in
- Clean up the exterior for our excavator to grade the property

If we have time and volunteers, we will start on the exterior siding and trim this month.

If you would like to help finish the Cayer house, all you need is a willingness to learn, no experience necessary! [Please sign up to volunteer here:](#)



Volunteer Profile: Shari Sacks

Shari Sacks has been a life-long Habitat supporter: She has “always donated to Habitat”, and she’s volunteered on builds in San Diego, the Bay Area, and New York. Starting out in her career, she even volunteered her cold winter Saturdays and Sundays at a Habitat house in Yonkers that the company she worked for sponsored.

After a shoulder injury, Shari (a self-described "compulsive baker" who also bakes for David’s House twice a week), was no longer able to help with construction and began providing delicious home-cooked meals for our construction volunteers.

And she is *known* on the construction site – regular volunteers reminisce wistfully about her lasagna and pulled pork sandwiches. The day I was there, she drove 50 minutes one way through a sleet storm to deliver a spread of homemade cookies, apples, chips, iced tea, and beautifully made hot sandwiches with different colored peppers on the top of the bun indicating the variety!

If you ask Shari why she does it, she’ll simply say that she thinks “it’s a very important program and housing is really expensive and options are limited.” She saw this in the Bay Area, and now sees it in the Upper Valley.

She doesn’t make a big deal about her ongoing commitment to Habitat, but to us (and our volunteers and partner family) it’s huge. Her dedication means our construction volunteers get a great meal to keep them going, and it saves us money because we purchase lunch for the crew if we don’t have a food volunteer.

Shari, we are so grateful to be the beneficiaries of your ongoing and generous support with feeding our construction crews, and very impressed by your ability to effortlessly whip up an incredible meal without blinking an eye – thank you!

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Mother’s Day will be here before we know it on Sunday, May 12th! Looking for a gift to give?

You can easily [make a donation](#) to Upper Valley Habitat in her name!

And, did you also know UVHFH could receive a donation when you shop on Amazon?

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