

Follow our [blog](#) on Our Town St. Helena's website!



September 2020

It Takes a Community to Build A Home

As we kick off a new season, we want to pause and thank our community. All of these generous, hardworking people have helped keep Brenkle Court, our Self-Help Home Ownership project, on track. Despite COVID, catastrophic weather and the long hours of harvest seasons, this just keeps moving forward. If all goes well, our eight families will move into their homes in May 2021.



Project Manager Larry Vermeulen. Amazing. He's turned a bunch of rookies into wannabe carpenters. Teaching, managing endless details and just plain getting stuff done.



An experienced Habitat for Humanity volunteer, Tom McBroom shows up every Saturday and works his tail off. He and Kevin Leininger have nearly reconstituted the Brenkle Court fence.



The Methodist Church. These generous parishioners bring lunch to the job site once/month and donate regularly through Sunday collections. They've become stakeholders in Brenkle Court.



Silicon Valley Bank. Bank VP Sara Chrisman Bjerkan is on our BOD, but we love that SVB is making another important investment--this time in affordable housing.



Vanessa von Hessert. Our extraordinary videographer who volunteers her time. Look for Vanessa's photos--they're the ones with interesting angles, details and expressions.



Father Brenkle, Mary Stephenson, John Sales

Father Brenkle, Mary Stephenson and John Sales. These longtime residents saw their town changing and decided to do something about it. Incredibly, they've volunteered endless hours for more than ten years.



Javier at The Paint Works is giving us a discount.



Our plumber, Chris Andrews, and electrician, Jeff Weinman at UpValley Electric, are allowing the Brenkle Court families to do some of the work and save money. They have both either reduced their billing rate or given us labor and materials outright.



Ken Taylor at T&O Masonry rents us scaffolding at a reduced rate.



How to thank Central Valley for the significant discount we've received on all of our lumber and other building supplies throughout the course of this project? Help them celebrate their 65th anniversary!

Support these local businesses!
This is what community is all about.

We're Raising the Roof at Brenkle Court!

Roofing takes center stage despite the grape harvest
and record-breaking temperatures



A September push to get the roof on before the fall rains. This will allow us to work all winter without weather delays. You're also going to see our subcontractors at the job site over the next few months.

Part-time Opportunity for OTSH Executive Director

OTSH is seeking a part-time Executive Director who shares our mission and values. Manage day-to-day operations, oversee paid staff, contractors, volunteers, OTSH rental properties and budget. **What we're looking for:**

- Nonprofit management experience

- Knowledge of affordable housing development & financing
- Ability to oversee multiple multiple projects
- Excellent presenter in large groups and one-on-one settings
- Ability to write and edit business documents, government reports and marketing materials
- Self-starter, requiring minimal direction
- Send resume and cover letter to John
Sales: john@ourtownsthelela.org

Support OTSH and Affordable Housing!

There's always a good time to donate to affordable housing. Help make 2020 our most productive year yet by [making a tax-deductible contribution](#) today.

Donate Now

We welcome volunteers!
Our [website](#) lists [community involvement opportunities](#).

Board of Directors

Father Brenkle* * Sara Chrisman Bjerkan * Steve Goldfarb* * John Sales*
Mary Stephenson* * Rick Swig* * Marisol Vargas

Advisory Council

Thomas Faherty * Jeff Feeney * Ted Hall * Rick Jones * Tom McBroom
Peter Palmisano* * Erica Roetman Sklar * Joel Teller

*Founding Members

Our Town St. Helena
1250 Church Street, St. Helena, CA 94574
707.302.8908 | info@ourtownsthelela.org

STAY CONNECTED
[Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#)



