



WARRIOR VILLAGE PROJECT

The Bugle: Vol 2, Issue 1, January 2020

www.WarriorVillageProject.com

PROGRESS REPORT

It was another great month for our Project!

The business community continued to step forward to support our students and our veterans:

- [HD Supply White Cap](#) donated nails for our nail guns.
- [H.G. Fenton Company](#), sponsor of the [HG Fenton Green Build Tech Academy](#) at North County Trade Tech, gave us \$1,000.
- [Rick A. Hoehn](#) came off of the retirement bench to help us with our plumbing.
- [Harbor Freight Tools](#) gave us a Gift Card.

Gary Warth, award winning reporter for The San Diego Union-Tribune, visited our build site at San Marcos High School on January 10 to do research for an article on our project. He subsequently published a great article, '[Students learning building skills by creating homes for veterans](#)' in the January 14th online edition of the Union-Tribune. Gary's article was accompanied by great 'action' photos taken by Charlie Neuman. Did our students look sharp and work extra hard with Gary and Charlie around? They sure did!

We also had some very special visitors from [Wounded Warrior Homes](#) come to inspect our cottages: Co-founders Mia and Steve Roseberry, and Monica Hackett, who has a son in one of Mr. Geldert's classes. I am starting to appreciate how small North County is; everyone seems to know everyone else, which is one of the reason we love North County!

30 December 2019



[HD Supply](#) donated nails for nail guns.

[See more](#)

6 January 2020



TRUST, SERVICE AND INNOVATION SINCE 1906

[H.G. Fenton Company](#) gave us \$1,000.

[See more](#)

11 January 2020

R.A. Hoehn Plumbing, Inc.

Rick Hoehn donates his time and expertise.

[See more](#)

16 January 2020

HARBOR FREIGHT TOOLS

Quality Tools at Ridiculously Low Prices

[Harbor Freight](#) donates Gift Cards

[See more](#)

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FUTURE EVENTS

Visit our Website:

WarriorVillageProject.com

VIP PROFILE: Barry Zeait San Marcos High School Assistant Principal

In the inaugural edition of our newsletter, way, way back in September 2019, I described San Marcos High School (SMHS): *“From the moment you walk onto the SMHS campus, you can tell that there is something special about the place. It is physically imposing. My first impression was that it looked more like a college than a high school. And then I discovered the secret sauce that really makes SMHS special: the teachers, the administration, and The San Marcos Promise.”*

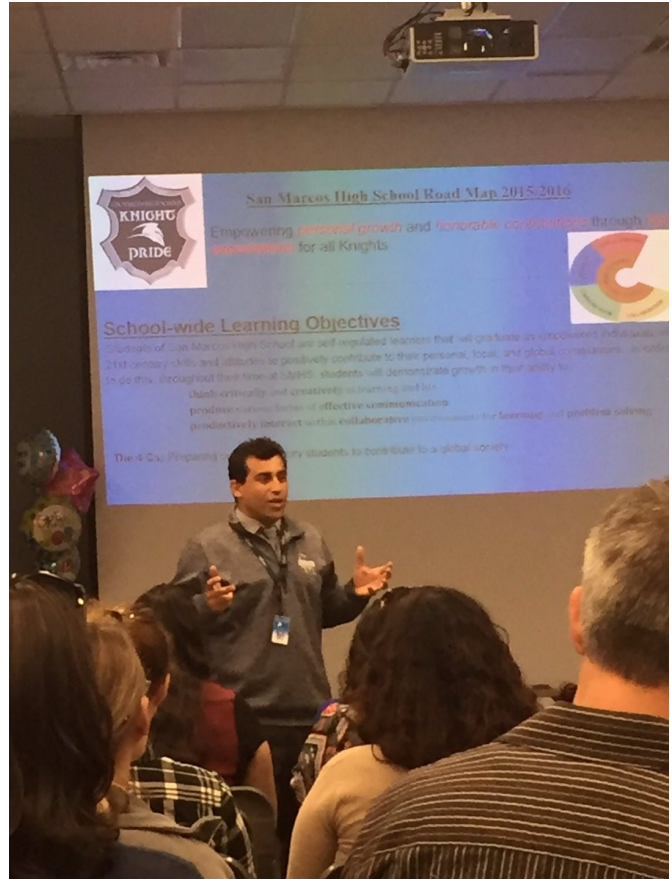
When I referred to “the administration”, in fact I was thinking of Assistant Principal, Barry Zeait. *“Barry, a spirited Australian, is the ideal school administrator – the kind that figures out how to get something done, rather than finding reasons why it can’t be.”*

I met many Australians during my professional career, and I am fortunate to call many of them ‘mates’. Australians are a special breed. To me, they are the Texans of the British Commonwealth. I am pretty sure that the definition of ‘stranger’ in the *Down Under Dictionary of the English Language* is “a friend one hasn’t met yet.” Although it is risky to generalize about a group of people, all of the Australians I know share a few common traits: there are generous, gregarious and boisterous (jn a good way!).

The Australians I know are action oriented; they work hard and they play hard. Barry is no exception. So, when Barry had a concrete slab poured behind the wood shop for our build site when I was still concerned about not having our final construction plans, I was not surprised. He loved our program, and he wanted to get on with it!

When Barry arrives on the scene, the energy level rises. I witnessed this on Truss Building Saturday when he stopped by to show his support for our students. He is passionate about helping our students. The tagline on SMHS’ website is: *“Empowering Personal Growth and Honorable Contributions.”* Barry strives to achieve this for our students every day.

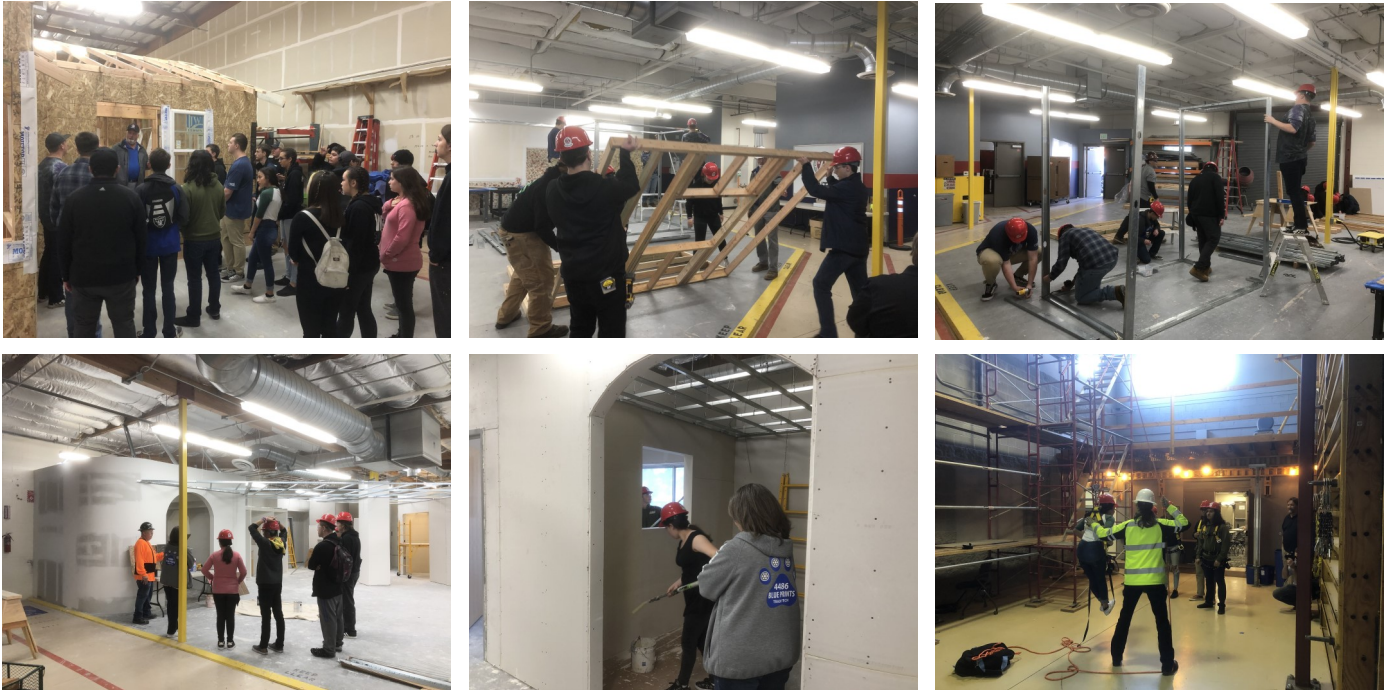
When Barry told me that he would “go into battle” with our students, there is no doubt that he meant it literally. Barry is a big, strong, rugby player - he is Australian, after all. He brings the intensity of the Rugby pitch to everything he does. If he and our students went into battle together, I wouldn’t bet on the other side! Barry, thanks for all that you are doing for our students and our veterans.



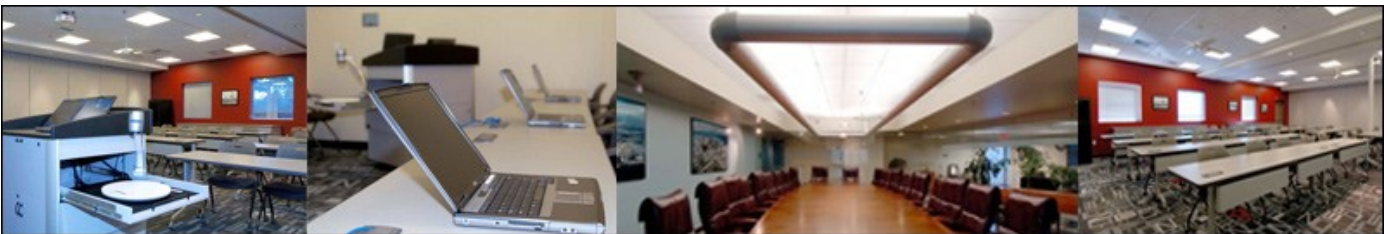
When you go all out on the Rugby Pitch, even the best end up in the dirt occasionally.

SCHOOL UPDATE

Shaun Geahigan teaches Introduction to Construction, Construction Technology, and Finish Carpentry at [North County Trade Tech High School](#) (NCTT) in Vista. Shaun and 20 of his students took a field trip to the [Associated General Contractors](#) (AGC) Training Center in San Diego on January 23. The students visited the facility to participate in hands-on construction activities led by AGC Instructors Jon Hill (wood stud framing), Rod Pimental (metal stud framing), Russ Gall (painting), and Melissa Bewley (safety). The students also learned about career opportunities in construction and the [apprenticeship program](#) offered by AGC.



The [Training Center](#) is the finest construction education and training facility in Southern California. The building features classrooms that are equipped with state-of-the-art audio and visual components that give instructors the ability to enhance the learning experience. The hands-on facility has five training rooms, including touch screens, overhead projection, DCD/VCRs, Smart Boards, Document Camera, Bose Sound System, and a computer lab with 24 laptop computers offering internet access and full software training capabilities.



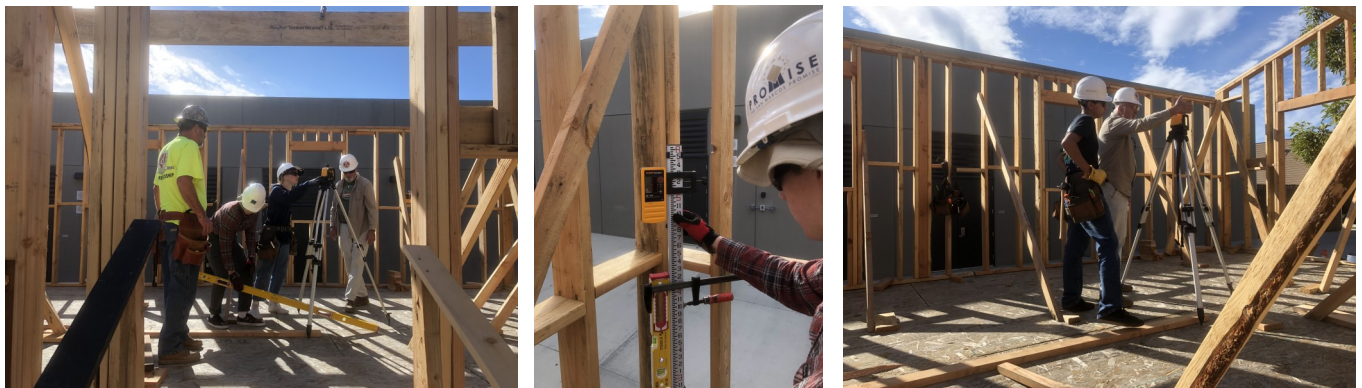
AGC's apprenticeship program has been approved by the State Division of Apprenticeship Standards and Federal Department of Labor for the following trade classifications: carpenter, cement mason, drywall lather, drywall finisher, heavy equipment operator, painter, and laborer. The program offers practical on-the-job training combined with classroom instruction. The duration of the program is between 2 - 4 years, depending upon the craft. Upon successful completion, apprentices graduate and are awarded certificates by the AGC and the state. These completion certificates are recognized by the industry as valid indicators that an apprentice has completed training that meets industry standards of occupational proficiency. If you are 18 years old, have a high school diploma or GED certificate, and have a California driver license, contact Marty Anderson, Apprenticeship Coordinator, at (858) 295-4556 to find out how to apply to the tuition-free apprenticeship program.

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Each of our 22 students in the SMHS BITA II class is required to work on at least one Saturday or holiday during the year. Ten SMHS students came to work on Saturday, December 21. They 'repositioned' our cottages to make them easier to load on truck trailers so that we can transport them to their permanent sites. Teacher Chris Geldert decided we needed to reposition our cottages before the students installed the exterior sheathing and the modules became much heavier and more difficult to move. His rolling stem walls came through with flying colors!



After repositioning the cottage modules, it was necessary to level them to make sure the walls were square before installing the exterior sheathing. Six students came to school on New Year's Eve to start the leveling process. Under the direction of AGC instructors, Jon Hill and Alan Jurgensen, and the BIA's Mike McSweeney, the students leveled one cottage. It was a slow process, with a little bit of trial and error, as 'shims' were placed between the rolling stem walls and the rim joists until the floor was leveled on all sides. Our students learned how to use a [LaserMark LM30 Wizard Rotary Laser Level](#).



Our students returned to school on Friday and Saturday, January 10 and 11, to work off the weight they gained over Winter Break before returning to classes on January 13. One crew started installing trusses, while another started installing exterior sheathing, and a third framed the last end wall. Rick Hoehn, owner of R.A. Hoehn Plumbing, came to assess our plumbing needs, and Gary Warth from The San Diego Union-Tribune stopped by to inspect our progress. It was a productive Winter Break!



PARTNERS

The Warrior Village Project is a community effort. It is a collaboration of building industry associations, nonprofits serving veterans, high schools and colleges, business and private donors, and private citizens working together to **provide affordable, permanent housing for homeless veterans while training the next generation of homebuilders**. Each of the organizations contributing to the Project is providing expertise and resources consistent with its unique capabilities and the mission of its organization.

Teaching our students skills that provide entrée to interesting, challenging and financially rewarding careers in the building and construction industry is a major component of our mission. Through the [Building Industry Technology Academy](#) (BITA) curriculum provided to our schools by the [California Homebuilding Foundation](#), we teach basic construction trades skills through courses rich in connections to construction projects that will increase our students' likelihood of success. The BITA curriculum covers basic construction math, measurement and scale, blueprint reading, safety, and procedural use of hand and power tools. Students acquire these skills through the use of technology and real-world problem solving.

Integrated throughout the BITA curriculum are foundation standards, including ethics, communication and interpersonal / team skills, critical thinking and other employment skills needed for the 21st century. The curriculum also provides a strong foundation for students who want to continue their formal education in architecture, engineering, project management or other fields at community colleges or four-year universities. BITA has A - G approved program status with the University of California, with BITA 1 – 3 qualified under the elective (g) subject requirement.

Local [Building Industry Association](#) chapters have been providing instructional support to our 32 participating BITA schools. But, when we added building cottages as a 'construction project' in our BITA classes, we raised the bar on the level of complexity our students encountered. To meet the challenge of teaching at this level, we needed help from industry professionals with the technical skills and teaching chops to work with our students.

The [San Diego Chapter of the Associated General Contractors of America](#) (AGC) answered our call for help. AGC operates the state's first and largest open-shop [apprenticeship program](#). AGC is firmly committed to increasing the number of skilled construction workers and producing our industry's future workforce by providing the highest level of training and education to registered apprentices.

Professional AGC instructors from AGC's apprenticeship program have been teaching our San Marcos High School and North County Trade Tech High School students at the AGC San Diego Chapter Training Facility and on their school campuses. Jon Hill and Alan Jurgensen have been working alongside our students every week at San Marcos High School to build our first two cottages. We are grateful to AGC for their support of our students and our veterans.



AGC Instructors Jon Hill and Alan Jurgensen at San Marcos High School



Associated General Contractors of America
San Diego Chapter, Inc.

The **VOICE** of Construction



SPONSORS

The Warrior Village Project is a community effort. To succeed, we need financial support. We have been receiving a tremendous response to our pleas for help from individuals and businesses.



Our students have pounded a lot of nails (and bent quite a few!) with framing hammers in the last 4 months. But, they are also learning how to use labor-saving and time-saving power tools, like nail guns, to prepare them for careers in construction. While ordering supplies from [HD Supply White Cap](#), Jon Hill, one of our AGC instructors, asked HD Supply if they would donate a couple of boxes of collated nails to the Warrior Village Project for our nail guns. HD Supply was quick to say yes. HD Supply donated a box of 3.25 inch collated nails as well as a box of 2.5 inch collated nails. That's 8,000 nails, which should keep our guns fully loaded for a while. We are grateful to Tony Gentry, Branch Manager of [HD Supply's Escondido store](#), for HD Supply's generous donation.

[H.G. Fenton Company](#) creates Lifestyle Opportunities where Employees Flourish, Residents Live Well and Businesses Succeed. H.G Fenton also sponsors the [Green Build Tech Academy](#) at North County Trade Tech. The Academy was founded to fuse specific "Green" STEM education with college and career preparation programs, specifically in the construction and engineering design sectors. We are grateful to the H.G. Fenton Company for a \$1,000 donation to The San Marcos Promise for the Warrior Village Project.



H.G. FENTON COMPANY
GREEN BUILD TECH ACADEMY



Our students will soon be installing a Water Supply system and a Drain-Waste-Vent (DWV) system (aka plumbing) in each of our cottages. The word plumbing comes from the Latin word for lead, *plumbum*, because the Romans used lead pipes to distribute water (before we knew that lead was toxic!). King Minos of Crete had the first flushing toilet over 2,800 years ago, but we weren't aware of the importance of DWV systems until doctors made the connection between the filth of open sewers and the spread of plague. Ever since, plumbers have been making our lives more comfortable while saving lives. One of these plumbing heroes is Rick Hoehn. Rick was a plumbing contractor for 40 years. He came off of the retirement bench to scope out our plumbing job, identify the materials we need, and to instruct our students in the art and science of plumbing. Thanks Rick!

One of the core values of Harbor Freight is giving back to the great communities where they live, work and serve, with their philanthropy focused on K—12 Education, Veterans and Police & Fire. An associate at the [Harbor Freight Tools](#) store at 820 Civic Center Drive in Vista told us about Harbor Freight's [Giving Back](#) program. Through this program, Harbor Freight donates Gift Cards to schools that can be used to buy tools at Harbor Freight Tools stores. We are grateful to Harbor Freight for the donation of a \$100 Gift Card to SMHS. The Harbor Freight [Tools for Schools Prize for Teaching Excellence](#) awards \$1 million in prizes each year to public high school skilled trades teachers and programs. We have a teacher in mind for this honor.....

DONATE TO THE WARRIOR VILLAGE PROJECT

We can provide truly affordable, permanent housing. But, we can't do it for free. To succeed, we need financial support. The materials required to build our cottages cost about \$25,000 per cottage. The cost of installing a cottage as an Accessory Dwelling Unit will depend on the home site. But, it should cost about \$15,000 to \$25,000 per cottage. Hence, we can provide permanent housing for a veteran or a couple for \$40,000 to \$50,000. This is a bargain compared to the cost of other 'affordable' housing projects. "In 2016, it cost an average of \$425,000 to build one unit of affordable housing in California, according to the Terner Center" (*Los Angeles Times*, April 16, 2018).

Donors who wish to donate for the construction of our first two cottages can make a contribution through our fiscal sponsor, The San Marcos Promise (<https://thesanmarcospromise.org/donate/#ways-to-donate>), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit.

- **Online Donations:** When you donate online, please '*Leave A Comment*' indicating that your donation is for the Warrior Village Project.
- **Donations by Check:** Mail your check, made payable to The San Marcos Promise, to:

**The San Marcos Promise
255 Pico Avenue, Suite 103
San Marcos, CA 92069**

Please write on the Check's Memo Line that your donation is for the Warrior Village Project.

If you would like more information on the Warrior Village Project and our Partners, please visit our website, WarriorVillageProject.com, or send an email to Mark.L.Pilcher@gmail.com.

Please help us to provide affordable, permanent housing for homeless veterans while training the next generation of homebuilders.

PROJECT CONTACTS

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SMHS Assistant Principal..	Barry Zeait	760-290-2204 ..	Barry.Zeait@SMUSD.org
The San Marcos Promise ..	Lisa Stout.....	760-290-2373 ..	Lisa@TheSanMarcosPromise.org

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If you would like to receive future editions of our Newsletter via email, please send an email to Mark.L.Pilcher@gmail.com. Thank you for your interest and support.