

# Ground broken for New Harmony community

New Harmony – Sacramento|Yolo Mutual Housing’s 16th community in the region – celebrated its groundbreaking Friday morning on Albany Avenue adjacent to the Owendale Community.

The 69-apartment community will have one-, two- and three-bedroom flats for families of modest means. Each flat will feature a private patio, energy-efficient appliances and environmentally friendly building materials. The apartments will be wheelchair-accessible and have free Internet access.

New Harmony is an energy-efficient development with a solar-powered community building where financial education and ongoing workshops and classes will be held. Like most Mutual Housing communities, New

Harmony residents will have a computer lab.

Construction by Chico-based Sunseri Construction Inc. is expected to be complete by December 2012. The project was designed by Kuchman Architects of Sacramento.

“At New Harmony, Davis families will soon have the option of moving to a green, healthy home,” said Rachel Iskow, Mutual Housing’s executive director. “That families of modest means will be able to live comfortably within their budgets in Davis should be a source of pride for this great community.”

Since the community is next to Owendale – one of Mutual Housing’s four other communities in Davis – residents will be able to share open space, a children’s playground, a basketball court and community garden. Redwood and evergreen trees will be part of the landscaping. When completed, New Harmony will be connected to the city greenbelt/bike path.

Part of the green design was funded by a \$75,000 grant from the Home Depot Foundation, which included evaluating costs and benefits of various green building options.

Funding for the new community came from partners such as the city of Davis Redevelopment Agency, California Tax Credit Allocation Committee, Merritt Community Capital



*Manny Jesus, a current Owendale resident with his family, takes a turn with the shovel at the New Harmony groundbreaking Friday alongside Andrew Soto, left, an AmericorpsVistat volunteer and recent UC Davis graduate. Sue Cockrell/Enterprise photo*

Corporation, city of Davis HOME Program, Bank of America and the Federal Home Loan Bank of Atlanta.

Founded in 1988, Sacramento | Yolo Mutual Housing Association develops and operates rental housing for diverse households. The communities have 2,600 residents, half of whom are children.

Applications for New Harmony will be available later this fall. Eligibility will be based on income, and preference in the city’s lottery is given to members of the local workforce, senior citizens and people with disabilities.

For more information on housing, programs and services at Mutual Housing, go to <http://www.mutualhousing.com>.



**Sacramento | Yolo  
Mutual Housing  
Association**

*Transforming Lives...Building Community*

Sacramento Mutual Housing Association develops housing that is affordable to a diversity of households. Our housing builds strong and stable communities through resident participation and leadership development.

For more information, call (916) 453-8400 or visit our website at [mutualhousing.com](http://mutualhousing.com).