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### Habitat for Humanity breaks ground on energy-efficient house

Palm Desert project will use Green Builder standards

K KAUFMANN • SEPTEMBER 28, 2007

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Habitat for Humanity will mark World Habitat Day Monday by breaking ground on a new home in Palm Desert that will exceed state standards for energy efficiency by 15 percent.



The house, located at the corner of Portola Avenue and El Cortez Way, is a collaboration between Habitat and the Building Industries Association Desert Chapter, which is promoting energy efficient building in the Coachella Valley through its California Green Builder program.

Deborah Stone, Coachella Valley director for Habitat, and Fred Bell, executive director of the association, are expected at the ground breaking at 9 a.m. Monday. Ed Torres, president of the association's board, will also attend.

The California Green Builder program provides guidelines to improve buildings' energy efficiency, indoor air quality, waste recycling and wood and water conservation. Homes meeting the guidelines are about 15 percent more energy efficient than California state standards.

World Habitat Day was established by the United Nations to recognize Habitat for Humanity's

worldwide efforts to create housing for low-income families.

Information: 346-2476

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