

# Habitat Happenings

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## Get Ready to Rock the Block

On June 8<sup>th</sup> Blue Water Habitat for Humanity and The Blue Water Chamber of Commerce are partnering for, the inaugural, first annual Rock the Block: A home repair and beautification event to promote positive change in our local communities. The event is sponsored in part by the City of Port Huron through CDBG dollars and Pollock Randall Funeral Home. We will be hosting about 100 volunteers on that day, including Team Sponsors. We are looking for Team Sponsors and Volunteers. The event will take place in the Howard Street, 9<sup>th</sup> Street and Pine Street area. Eleven homeowners/projects have already signed up; and the scope of work for each project is being assessed, now all we need is you, your spouse, coworker or friend to join us! You do not need to have any construction skills to participate, however, if you do have them that would be great. We will have Site Supervisors available on that day to assist and direct the work. To join us please contact Kara Geib at our Habitat office, for volunteer and sponsorship information (810-985-9080 ext. 200 or [kara@bwhabitat.org](mailto:kara@bwhabitat.org)). We look forward to Rocking the Block with you!





We are part of the current VHP Gives Back contest. Please go online and vote daily for BWHFH! The contest runs through April 30th. Simply go to the link below and cast your vote: <https://www.vhpinc.com/vhpgivesback>

### Myth vs Fact

**Myth** Habitat builds houses for poor people and gives them away for free.

**Fact** Habitat partners with hardworking families to build homes. The families make a down payment and pay low interest mortgage. As part of their willingness to partner, Habitat's homebuyers invest hundreds of hours of their own labor, called sweat equity, working alongside volunteers and other Habitat homeowners.

## Habitat Updates

We have been busy during this extreme winter weather; we have served a veteran in the Lakeport area with a critical home repair, (Lee Tallman). Lee's repair project though completed in the interior will be worked on through early spring. There are a few items left to finish on the exterior. We have also continued to build on Howard Street with future homeowners — the Galarza Family. The house is up and roughed in, including siding. The trades are being completed in March and the interior will be completed this spring with our incredible volunteers. This particular project utilized the Prison Build Pro-

gram: the walls were built, the labor and materials were donated, then transported from St. Louis, MI. This is the first opportunity we have had to receive a donation of this type. We also purchase our cabinets from this system and are thrilled to have such a quality product in our homes. This also helps us to partner with correction facilities to provide a training experience for inmates, so if or when they are released they have a skill set to help reintroduce them to the workforce. We are looking forward to a busy spring and summer, with help from volunteers and sponsors.





Penelope Peck  
Board of Directors President  
Volunteer since 2004



Roy Churchill  
Chairman of Building/  
Planning Committee  
Volunteer since 2005



Jane Shafer  
Key ReStore Volunteer  
Volunteer Since 2010



Susan Danneels, Chemical Bank  
Key Office/Committee Volunteer  
Volunteer since 2013

## Victorious as a Volunteer

"I strongly believe the majority of people can improve their circumstances with the correct amount of information, education and kindness from "strangers". That is why I have spent all these years volunteering with BWHFH.

My first experience with BWHFH was as part of the committee to organize the 10-house Jimmy Carter build (2004). I then actually worked on some of those builds doing everything from raising walls and installing siding to roofing. The roofing was the activity that showed me I was clearly too old to be doing that sort of strenuous work anymore. So, I volunteered my strategic and process abilities to the Family Services committee; was recruited to the Board, then became VP, then Board President for the past 6 years." P. Peck

"Home ownership was always out of reach for me. Volunteering at BW Habitat allows me to help others out of that predicament. Also, as a volunteer, I'm able to work with the best people I've ever known." R. Churchill

"After volunteering numerous years with Scouts and watching both my sons become Eagle Scouts, I still felt the need to serve others. My introduction to Habitat came from my dear friend Robin. She helped me to realize I could broaden my impact by serving many families. I now not only consider myself a volunteer at Habitat but a family member." S. Danneels

"My retirement after forty years of teaching was welcome, but I didn't want to sit idle. Jimmy Carter is one of my heroes, and I was aware of the work he did with Habitat for Humanity. That and the fact that the ReStore was close to my house made my choice of where to volunteer easy. It is one of the best decisions I have ever made. Along with the satisfaction of helping to build homes, I found another family. I feel like I have received far more than I have given. I plan to continue to volunteer as long as I am physically able." J. Shafer

"For the volunteer it is rewarding and fulfilling ....  
for the organization it is essential and priceless." E.C. Werth-Toward, CEO

### Answering A Call

Blue Water Habitat for Humanity is currently working on build plans and volunteer opportunities for 2019. How can you, your business or organization get involved with projects? Contact us today at 810-985-9080.

April-June: New Home Construction on Howard Street, Port Huron. In addition to working on construction projects, volunteers and volunteer groups are invited to participate in hospitality projects, fundraising events and on committees. The Habitat for Humanity ReStore in Port Huron utilizes volunteers in a number of ways. Call 810-364-6919 to volunteer at the ReStore!

To see a list of volunteer opportunities visit: [www.bwhabitat.org](http://www.bwhabitat.org)

**April  
means  
Spring  
Cleaning!**

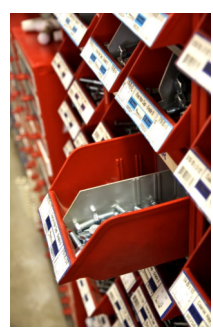


**Always Accepting Donations**  
**Call 810.364.6919 FOR PICKUP!**  
 3524 Pine Grove Ave. Port Huron/ Mon-Sat 9am-5pm



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 Port Huron, MI 48061-0367