

# Habitat Happenings

## Let the Building Begin!



This is currently the vacant lot at 918 Howard Street, Port Huron, which is where the first of three projects will be built with Blue Water Habitat for Humanity and you!

Blue Water Habitat for Humanity is building in the southside of Port Huron. Three new homes will be constructed over the next year on the 900 Block of Howard Street. We have begun construction at the 918 address, and are thrilled to include the partnerships of: The Community Foundation of St. Clair County-The James C. Acheson Fund, Pollack Randall and Marysville Funeral Homes, and the Stebbins Family Fund at the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan.

The lots were donated by the City of Port Huron and will help to stabilize the neighborhood as well as create a balance of rental properties verses homeowner occupied. The first to become a future homeowner on Howard Street is The Jennifer Wagar Family (Please see their story in the Meet the Wagar Family article). Volunteers, donated lunches and additional funds are all welcomed. Please call 810-985-9080 ext. 203 for details.

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People in our community and all over the world partner with Habitat for Humanity to build or improve a place they can call home.

Habitat homeowners help build their own homes alongside volunteers and pay an affordable mortgage. With our help, Habitat homeowners achieve the strength, stability and independence they need to build a better life for themselves and their families.

While homeownership was the initial focus of Habitat for Humanity, over the years it has developed programs to help existing homeowners with repairs to maintain their homes. Families working in partnership with Habitat for Humanity live within the 25-60 percent median income range for St. Clair and Sanilac Counties.

The affordable mortgage, matched with the use of volunteer labor, makes owning a home achievable for those who are unable to qualify for traditional home financing.





## Little Sprout City

Several Months ago Nancy Winzer (City of Port Huron-Parks and Recreation), and myself (Ernest), were having a discussion about a project that was called Sprout City . This project included partners such as Disney, National Recreation and Parks Association, and the City of Port Huron. The new addition to Palmer Park would become a miniature town that would allow tots from the community to use tricycles and inactive materials to create an environment that would promote play and education. When I asked Nancy who the contractor was building the miniature town, her answer was..."that hasn't been decided yet." So I said..." why not Blue Water Habitat? And as they say ...the rest is history. A crew of our incredibly dedicated key volunteers spent the winter and spring months building the town, completely accessible buildings, (Bank/Post Office, House, Mechanics Workshop, Clinic, and a Market). They later assembled the buildings at their new home in Palmer Park, along with the help of city employees. The Sprout City Park was dedicated on June 7<sup>th</sup> and has become wildly popular. We are so appreciative to the volunteers, The Stebbins Family



Fund at South Eastern Michigan Community Foundation, the City Parks and recreation and everyone who helped to make this project possible. Please go visit the Sprout City Park and enjoy the summer.

## Community Partnerships

[Mid-City Nutrition:](#) BWHFH is the project manager for the renovation at the new Mid-City location on Griswold. This partnership is allowing Mid-City Nutrition to access various resources and knowledge from another non-profit organization. This partnership benefits both organizations.

[Blue Water Area Chamber of Commerce Not-for-Profit Committee:](#)

Not for Profit Educational Series- Ernest and Robin are members of this newly formed committee. June 28<sup>th</sup> was the introductory session, with the next training event scheduled for September 20, 2018. We look forward to collaborating and sharing best practices in a variety of topics with and for the not-for-profit chamber members.

## Successful Project in 2018

An update from the last newsletter, Edward Bland has moved into his new home the end of June 2018.

This was an exciting time for Edward, signing his paperwork and accepting the keys for his new home.

Congratulations to Edward on the purchase of his home in Port Huron!



## Meet the Wagar Family

We are thrilled to introduce to you the Jennifer Wagar Family; they will be the first of three Habitat Families to call one of our Howard Street houses “home”!

Jennifer is a hardworking metallurgic lab technician, who is raising three teenage daughters. With hard work,

volunteers and your help, Jennifer and her children will be living in their new home by early Fall.

Like many of us, Jennifer will be paying a mortgage, building a future for her family and making a sound investment in herself. Your partnership in this process is so very important! You literally will be giving this young woman and her daughters a hand up-- allowing them to further help themselves, to grow and live in a decent, safe, affordable home.

### Blue Water Habitat for Humanity

- BWHFH serves St. Clair and Sanilac Counties.
- Formed in 1990, BWHFH has helped 165 families build or improve a place to call home.
- Each housing project required roughly 2,000 volunteer hours from start to finish to complete.
- Families purchase their homes after contributing more than 300 (500 for two adult families) hours of sweat equity with BWHFH.
- Affordable mortgages and energy efficiency make homes affordable for our low-income neighbors.

## Answering A Call

Blue Water Habitat for Humanity is currently working on build plans and volunteer opportunities for 2018. How can you, your business or organization can get involved with projects? Contact us today at 810-985-9080.

July– September: 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)

# Working on a project?

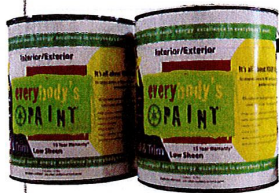
## Visit the ReStore®

### for materials.

- Painting supplies
- Hardware
- Windows
- Doors
- Lighting
- Plumbing
- Tools
- Flooring

### New recycled paint line

## Everybody's PAINT

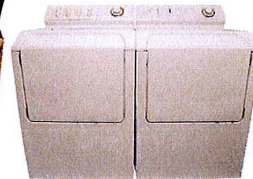
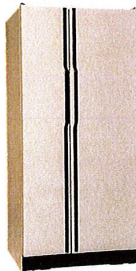


- everybody's PAINT is made from old and unwanted paint that would have ended up in the landfill. It has been lovingly remanufactured into high quality new paint.
- everybody's PAINT is made from recycled latex paint. It includes mold and fungus inhibitors and has a 15-year limited warranty.

[www.bwhabitat.org](http://www.bwhabitat.org)

# NEW! 2 lines of reclaimed wood

Tervol's Wood Products and Raven Farm Recycled Woodworks



Did you know we also have furniture, appliances & household items?

**WE ALWAYS ACCEPT DONATIONS!**  
**Call 810.364.6919 FOR PICKUP!**  
3524 Pine Grove Ave. Port Huron / Mon-Sat 9am-5pm



# Donate

# Shop

# Volunteer

Please accept the enclosed gift of: \_\_\_\_\_

Checks may be made payable to BWHFH

I wish to remain anonymous

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Please bill my credit card (circle one)

Visa    MasterCard    Discover    American Express

Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ CCV Code: \_\_\_\_\_



Gifts can be mailed to:  
BWHFH  
PO Box 610367  
Port Huron, MI 48061-0367