

Building communities where everyone has a decent place to live

**HABITAT FOR HUMANITY  
MENOMINEE RIVER**

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Kingsford, MI 49802

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**Habitat News**

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Sat. 9 AM - 3 PM  
  
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“You have not lived until you have done something for someone who can never repay you.” - John Bunyan

**HABITAT NEWS**



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Building Communities Where Everyone Has A Decent Place To Live

**The Director's Chair**

As I sit here and reflect on the past few months, I think of all of the families that have been helped through our Home Repair program. I find that I am very thankful for all of our partnerships. We are definitely in this together!

**Local Partnerships**

We are proud to be a United Way Agency. The money donated to us through United Way is used for the Home Repair program. Starting in 2018, United Way has doubled their donation to Habitat...the additional money will be used for improvements to the Stanton Street Tot Lot in Iron Mountain.

Our Home Repair program has brought us closer to DICSA and their Weatherization Program. I look forward to seeing our two programs grow together to more effectively serve our community.

Habitat has also begun to work more closely with the Veterans Affairs Office and the VA Hospital. Two of our most recent roof projects were for Veterans.

Many of our volunteers use the RSVP program, administered through DICSA, to receive mileage reimbursement for their travels to our different construction sites. This certainly helps to make it affordable for our volunteers to be able to get to our project sites throughout our service area.



**State Partnerships**

Through Habitat for Humanity Michigan we are able to partner with Michigan utility companies (Consumers Energy and DTE) and with the Michigan State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA) on repair projects.

Through Efficiency United we are able to facilitate electric hot water heater and refrigerator replacement for qualified home owners.

**National Partnerships**

Through Habitat for Humanity International we are able to partner with many National companies for building materials (Whirlpool, DOW, Hunter Douglas, Yale, Square D, Lowes) as well as foundations for monetary support (Thrivent Financial and Home Depot). Pictured below left is a ramp funded through Thrivent Builds Repairs program.

THANK YOU to all of our PARTNERS!!

*Darcy Pellegrini*

**Tool Box Needs**

We are looking a few good volunteers!!

Do you like to bake? Our core crew loves snacks at 10:00 AM on Monday and Wednesday mornings.

**Board Members**—Our board has a few openings, and we are looking for people with any of these backgrounds: lawyer, banker, business owner, retail experience or construction experience.

**Active Committees**—all of our active committees are accepting new members.

Please contact the Habitat office, (906) 779-5377 or [hfh@habitatmr.com](mailto:hfh@habitatmr.com), to discuss these openings.

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**Special Point of Interest:**

- **THANK YOU to all who VOLUNTEER!!!**
- **If you are interested in becoming a volunteer with us, please contact the Habitat Office.**

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed it's the only thing that ever has.” - Margaret Mead

### A Day With the Core Crew

Winter is coming! On this cold October morning, in a misty rain, Andy Vandembush and his crew of dedicated volunteers continue working to finish the Habitat house in Quinnesec. It's going to take at least another month.

A couple of his crew members are out of town or under the weather today and this reminds him that there's always a shortage of volunteers. We talk for a while about how to successfully encourage others to join in on projects like this. There's no easy answer. We know that some family will need this home and they'll need it this winter. It has to be ready.

Ginny Gibson is working on cleanup today. Normally, her husband Chuck is here too but he recently had knee replacement surgery so he'll be on the

"DL" for a few months. She and Chuck have been involved with Habitat for years. She too wishes that more people could experience the satisfaction of helping others in this kind of volunteer effort.

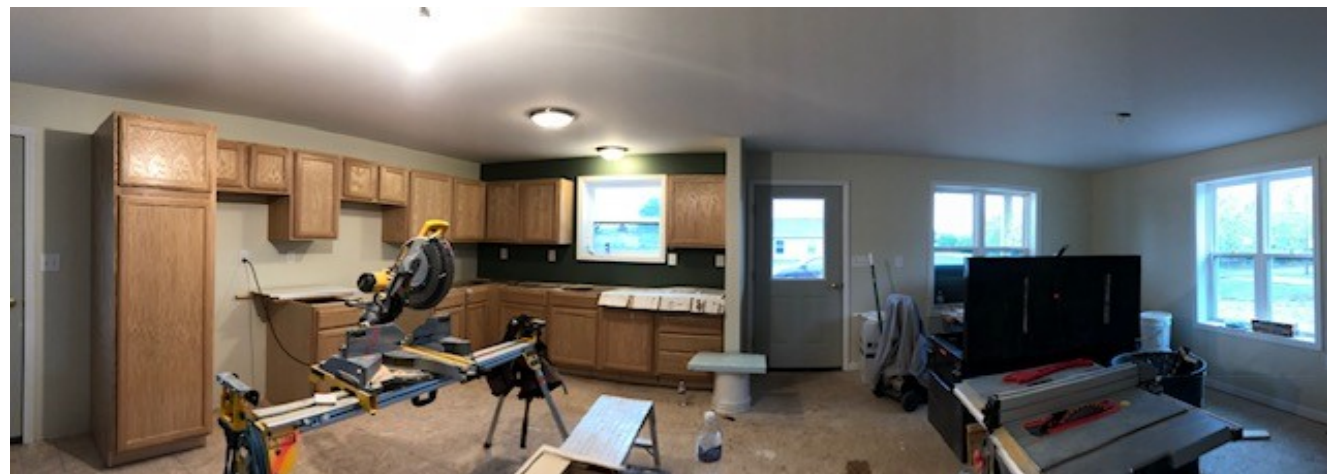
Al Goman is also on the job this morning. Like Ginny and Andy, Al has been volunteering at Habitat since retirement. Today he's installing hardware on doors and windows. This kind of volunteer work appeals to Al. He knows he's going to make someone's life a lot better by being here and pitching in this morning.

You may know someone who is starting to wonder what they can do to stay active once they retire. Perhaps they are already retired and have begun to look for something meaningful to do to help the community.



Maybe it's **YOU** and maybe you think you'd enjoy working on a project team. You might have some special skills that can make a difference on these projects. If so, call Habitat today.

Or maybe you know someone who needs a home. Call us today to learn more about how Habitat for Humanity can help!



**Core Crew Construction Hours**  
**Monday 8:00 AM—noon**  
**Wednesday 8:00 AM—Noon**

Please contact the office to join this fun, energetic, and essential Habitat volunteer group!



### Habitat ReStore

The ReStore sells donated appliances. We are in need of working appliances to sell in our stores.

If you are contemplating upgrading your existing appliances... please consider donating your used appliances to the ReStore. Questions? Please call the ReStore to discuss donations.

All proceeds from the ReStore operations are used in our housing programs.

Do you like to organize items? Do you like to work with the public?

Do you want to help with Habitat's mission of eliminating substandard housing... but without swinging a hammer?

Do you have extra time on your hands?

If so... please consider volunteering at the ReStore. We have volunteer openings in both the Kingsford and the Iron River Stores.

#### October Sales—25% off on Donated Items in the designated areas

- Oct 3-6: Dining Room Furniture
- Oct 10-13: Tools and Seasonal
- Oct 17-20: Tile and Flooring
- Oct 24-27: Office Furniture
- Oct 31-Nov 3: Living Room Furniture

#### November Sales—25% off on Donated Items in the designated areas

- Nov 7-10: Bedroom Furniture
- Nov 14-17: Lamps & Lighting
- Nov 21: Appliances
- Nov 28-Dec 1: Windows & Doors

Closed Nov 22—Nov 24 Happy Thanksgiving!

### Family Selection...Special Thanks to Special Volunteers

Some may ask, "exactly how does Habitat select candidates to become homeowners through their home purchase program?" The answer is through our Family Selection Committee.

The Family Selection Committee is staffed by dedicated volunteers under the leadership of Dorothy Vayda. This team (Dorothy, Fred, Cindy,

Peggy and Jody) meets with applicants to evaluate and recommend approval. Their role is to identify the best qualified candidates after carefully examining financial and personal data about an applicant.

mBank Branch Manager Cindy Olsen has been on the Family Selection Committee for 9 years. During that time she has

worked with over 20 families to help them pursue their dream of home ownership.

Cindy doesn't use the tools that you might normally associate with a Habitat volunteer, but her role and the role of the Family Selection Committee is critical to Habitat's overall success!



Cindy Olsen

### Long Standing Community Partner is Leaving the UP

As many in the area already know, the Wells Fargo banks in the Upper Peninsula have been sold to Flagstar Bank effective the end of 2018.

Habitat for Humanity acknowledges the great contributions that Wells Fargo and its staff have made to the community over the years.

Wells Fargo senior staff and employees, including Peggy, Jessica, Jody,

Joseph, Sue, Chandell, Regina, Macrea and Heather have participated in many of Habitat's building, rehabilitation and special projects, all too numerous to mention.

The corporate support for their past involvement as well as the financial contributions that have been made by Wells Fargo over many years is a reflection of the strong sense of "community" encouraged by Wells

Fargo and its employees. For that, Habitat For Humanity is truly grateful.

Habitat wishes all of the employees a smooth and successful process as the bank transitions to its new identity under the Flagstar Bank banner. Best of luck to all!



**THANKS... and Good Luck!**