



Building on Faith

Spring 2008

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Barb Tatarчук

Newsletter

Barb Tatarчук

Calendar

**Community Build
Begins May 24**

**Charity Golf Outing
June 28 at
McGuire's Resort**

Wexford Habitat Welcomes the Harsh Family!

The applications are in, and the interviews are over! Now is the time for Wexford Habitat to welcome a new family into a working partnership.

Michael and Sheri Harsh are the newest recipients of the unique 0% Habitat mortgage. Many people do not realize that Habitat homes are not given away; instead hard-working individuals agree to put in sweat equity in exchange for the no interest loans. Now Michael and Sheri are ready to join other Partner Families who have rolled up their sleeves to earn their homes.

The couple is excited about their new partnership with Habitat, but they are especially excited about their future home on Rogers Street. Although their selection by Wexford Habitat was

quite recent, their home is close to being finished. That means they will need to build their sweat equity a little more quickly. Sheri plans to work at the ReStore, and Michael will work on not only his own construction site, but on other Habitat homes as well. They also plan to help out with the Parade of Homes.

Both Michael and Sheri grew up in Cadillac. Michael presently works at Cadillac Casting and is also a volunteer with the Selma Township Fire Department. Sheri is a very busy mom taking care of four-year-old Carter and two-year-old Autume. The children are too young to understand the changes that are in store for them, but we hope the Harsh family will be happy in their new home. Habitat is very pleased to partner with them.

A Biblical Call to Action

From Scott Powell, Executive Director



No statement further supports why I began volunteering with Habitat for Humanity than that of theologian and author Henry Blackaby, who says in a daily devotional called "Experiencing God" that if you're not sure what

to do, look for where God is at work and join him there. Eleven years ago, I was experiencing what would be termed "Holy Discontent"; I was so discontented with the apathy of the world around me that I was challenged to look for a way to love others and serve God. I saw, and still see, God's hands at work so clearly in the Habitat movement and am privileged to participate in it.

Granted, I write from my perspective as a follower of Jesus and as a member of a local church, but actually, Wexford Habitat has no better partner than the local Church. Both the Church and Wexford Habitat are motivated by Christ's call to serve and love our neighbors. We both are called to be inclusive and nondiscriminatory. We both joyfully welcome people

of any faith or no faith. It is my priority to actively pursue and nurture partnerships with the local Church and its people to help us fulfill our mission of demonstrating the love and teachings of Jesus Christ. What better partners can we have than the local Church?

I pray you are asking this question: "So where do I go from here and how can I help fulfill the mission of Wexford Habitat?" Enclosed in this newsletter is a list of "101 Ways YOU Can Help". Whether you can swing a hammer, mentor a family, be an advocate in your own church, or help with fundraising and development, I would love for my email, voice-mail, or office to be filled with people of this community who want to further our mission of providing simple, decent, affordable homes for families.

Take the time to read this newsletter, to look over the list of how you can help and pray. Pray for God's hand and blessing to be upon Wexford Habitat, for our Partner Families, and for your own heart to be softened and hear how God can use you to help.



Habitat CLASSIFIED



Volunteers Needed Now

Church Relations Committee— Dedicated individuals needed to build relationships/partnerships between Wexford Habitat and the many churches in our county.
Call Scott 775-7561

Family Nurturing Committee— Caring individuals needed to partner with Wexford Habitat families during the home building process. Must be capable of mentoring, encouraging, and helping families work toward accountability.
Call Scott 775-756

Construction Committee—Persons needed to serve as liaisons between Habitat building projects and building community (especially subcontractors who are willing to donate or discount time and resources). Experience or knowledge of the building industry welcomed.

Volunteer Coordinator—Need individual willing to serve as liaison between volunteers, committees, and construction supervisor. Duties includes telephoning existing volunteers and recruiting new ones.
Call Scott 775-7561

Volunteer Construction Workers— Need energetic individuals for finish work, trim, flooring, and other building tasks on Habitat homes. No experience necessary. Work starts in mid-May. Choice of day and time. Call Scott 775-7561

Fund Raising Committee— Creative individuals needed to brainstorm new ideas for fund raising and financial growth or to work on Habitat's Annual Festival of Trees.
Call Scott 775-7561.

ReStore Clerk—Resourceful individual needed to help sort, display and clean donated merchandise for Habitat ReStore.
Call Lori at 775-8661

ReStore Specials Sales

Come see the ReStore's selection of **Mirrors, lamps and lighting fixtures** in a variety of shapes and sizes for any room.

Expand your cooking options with **Small appliances** including mixers, toasters, blenders, crock pots, microwave ovens, and bread machines

Celebrate the past or welcome the future with **Antique Cash Registers** and other business machines

ReStore Donations Needed

The ReStore is always looking for good, clean, usable building supplies, **furniture**, and large or small **appliances**. Call Lori at 775-8661 to arrange for pick up of very large items or bring your donations to the ReStore. The ReStore also accepts dishes, decorative items, and even sporting goods.



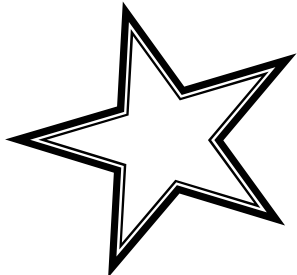
UBC (United Building Centers) has provided Wexford Habitat with a very generous \$5000 grant. This allows us to go on a shopping spree at UBC! We will be able to purchase essential supplies for upcoming building projects.



We are especially thankful for our regular customers at the ReStore. They know that new treasures show up all the time, so they keep coming back. Their purchases, both small and large, help us to provide affordable housing for deserving families in our area.

Trinity Lutheran in Manton continues to bless us with financial donations. We appreciate their support.

We are grateful to McBain Building Supply for its wonderful donation of Anderson windows, patio doors and siding.



Did you know that Basic Transportation is still selling good quality cars on the Wexford Habitat lot? With each car sale, customers receive a good deal and Habitat receives a substantial donation.

David Ferrett of Great White Drywall in Marion has earned one of our stars for the generous donation of his labor. He provided the drywall mudding and finishing for our two homes on Rogers Street. Amazing!



Frank Tilman, instructor at the Career Technical Center, supervises students as they complete electrical work on a new Habitat home on Rogers Street in Cadillac.



CTC students discuss their next step as they work on wiring. During the winter months, they have been able to focus on interior projects.



AmeriCorp Partners with Wexford Habitat

What is AmeriCorps? It is a federally funded program designed to encourage volunteering, social responsibility, and growth through service to local and national non-profit organizations. Each year, there are 75,000 opportunities for adults of all ages to get involved. One of those opportunities will be a three month experience with Wexford Habitat for Humanity.

Since our Executive Director Scott Powell was formerly an AmeriCorps member, he is very familiar with the program and feels enthusiastic about the potential benefits for our Habitat affiliate. He has also worked with Matt Metzger, the AmerCorps worker who will be coming to Wexford County.

Matt is presently a senior at Indiana's Bethel College with a major in Biblical Studies. During the last few years, he has demon-

strated his interest in volunteerism and has shown strong leadership skills. Matt served as president of Indiana's Future Farmers of America and has been involved in the establishment of churches in Hawaii.

This spring and summer, Matt will work alongside our Wexford Habitat volunteers and will be a liaison between our construction manager and those same volunteer workers. It will be a full time job for Matt since he will be involved in the construction of all three of the homes being completed in Wexford County this year.

The AmeriCorps program offers a living stipend as well as a tuition grant for its workers. Our local affiliate pays some administrative fees, but the federal government covers the rest of the costs. Obviously, this is a great opportunity for

Wexford Habitat, especially since we have some pretty large building goals this year. The Habitat Board is pleased to welcome Matt to our community and hopes his work with our volunteers will be both enjoyable and rewarding.



Matt Metzger, a senior at Bethel College will be our AmeriCorps participant. Please make him feel welcome!

Kiwanis Club of Cadillac Presents Charity Golf Outing

Saturday, June 28
10:00 a.m. start
McGuire's Resort
Cadillac, Michigan
\$55 per person
\$220 per team
\$150 Hole Sponsor



All golfers in the area are invited to play in the Kiwanis Charity Golf Outing. Since this is a "Best Ball" challenge, all skill levels are eligible and welcomed. The cost is \$55 per person or \$220 per team and includes not only 18 holes of golf but also a cart, a hot dog lunch "at the turn" and a New York strip steak dinner at the day's end. Businesses or individuals who are willing to donate \$150 or more can also sign up to be "Hole Sponsors" for the event.

A \$300 prize goes to the first place team, and there are some additional door prizes, but the golfers are not the only ones who

will benefit. Profits from the event help to fund the Kiwanian's worthy service projects! These include Wexford Habitat for Humanity as well as Kids Against Hunger, Cooley School iPods, and a new cabin at Camp Torenta. This is obviously a time when having fun can go a long way toward helping others. WHFH truly appreciates the generous support from the Kiwanians as well as from those who participate in the event.

For more information about the outing, please call John Jones at 775-9887 or 878-1623. or Mary Garcia at 775-7561.



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Habitat For Humanity by the Numbers

- 260,000+ — Number of Habitat homes built around the world through Dec 31, 2007
- 250 — Number of homes to be built in one week in the Gulf Coast area during the Jimmy Carter Work Project this May
- 243 — Number of Habitat homes built in Michigan in 2007
- 28 — Date in June for Kiwanis Golf Outing, which benefits Wexford Habitat
Contact Mary Garcia @ 775-7561 for more information

20% off
any item
in the
store

This coupon is good until June 14



Wexford Habitat for Humanity was established in 1989 by community leaders of Wexford County who wanted to make a difference and eliminate poverty housing. They saw a need for simple, decent, and affordable housing. With the completion of the 3 homes this year, 20 families from Wexford County will be living in safe, decent housing.

Habitat for Humanity eliminates poverty one house at a time.