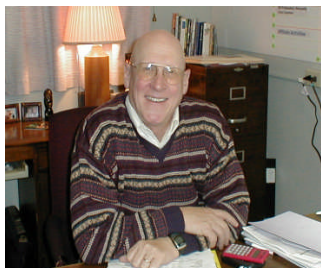


# HABITAT HIGHLIGHTS

## Executive Director, Mike Shimon to Retire in 2012



Lots of emotions are present as I prepare remarks for my last newsletter as your Executive Director. On January 10<sup>th</sup> the new Director, Linda Frey, will begin and I will retire.

MCHFH will celebrate its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2012 and when they dedicate the five houses scheduled for completion next summer they will have served 85 families in Marquette County. We could not have accomplished this without the assistance of the USDA Rural Development Self-Help Housing Program.

Over the past thirteen years, my greatest achievement was witnessing the joys and excitement 68 families had when they were allowed to move into their new home. Each of these families worked very hard to achieve the dream of homeownership and I am very proud of them.

At our recent affiliate Christmas party, many in attendance spoke kindly of my accomplishments and I appreciated everything that was said. But for 13 years my Board of Directors allowed me to do my job...thank you. Four of you were on the board before I started and deserve much of the credit for the success of this affiliate. Thanks Dick Graybill, Carol Hicks, Cliff Luft, and Scott Mathews for your great leadership.

Julie Frazier is another board member that deserves special recognition because she has helped stabilize the financial health of the affiliate. Without Julie's help we would not have been able to open our first ReStore in 2003. When we outgrew that store, she helped us procure our current building. The ReStore has generated well over a million dollars and I hope our affiliate never forgets that it was her ReStore vision and willingness to help that will enable MCHFH to finance at least one house per year forever and ever...Wow! Thanks Julie

I also would like to thank all of the staff members that have helped make the affiliate successful over the past 13 years – **Jennifer, Jane, Gerri, Bob**, and past employees Jim, Laurie, Lorraine, Norm, Jim T, Jon and Denise. Each of you has a unique talent that I am proud of and I want you to know that you have made us better. In addition there were several part time ReStore employees and volunteers that have contributed to the success of the store...thank you.

Next I want to thank the many volunteers, churches, businesses, and financial contributors that have developed a passion for what we do. By rough calculations, more than 15,000 lunches were prepared and over \$675,000 was raised by these groups during the past 13 years. "Thank You" doesn't seem to be enough to recognize this type of generosity but what else can be said? Thank You. *ED comments continued on page 5*

### OPEN HOUSE RETIREMENT PARTY

Come help us send Mike off to retirement!

**DATE:** Thursday, January 12, 2012 **TIME:** 4—7 p.m

**WHERE:** St. Michael Catholic Church –Kaye Avenue, Marquette

VOLUME 11, ISSUE 2

DECEMBER 2011

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### UPCOMING EVENTS

- RETIREMENT PARTY
- BUILDER'S SHOW
- WOMEN'S BUILD

We have a  
FACEBOOK page!

We're on the  
Web!  
[www.mqthabitat.org](http://www.mqthabitat.org)





## 2011 HOME DEDICATION

Nearly one hundred Habitat for Humanity supporters, volunteers, family and friends joined Ryan & Lana Tappy, Kara & Andy Des Parois, Diane Wood, and

Sara Dishno and their children as they celebrated the dedication of their new homes on Thursday, August 11, 2011 at Messiah Lutheran Church in Marquette.

Open house tours of the four homes followed the dedication ceremony. The newly completed homes are located at 716 and 728 Union St., Marquette; 630 Vine Street, Ishpeming; and 115 Co. Rd. PBP, National Mine..

If you were unable to join the celebration, please include the families in your prayers as they reach their goal of homeownership. Thank you also to the many, many people who volunteered, donated money, made lunches for work crews, and prayed for these families.

## USDA GRANT:

Marquette County Habitat for Humanity is the recipient of a \$299,000 grant through the USDA Rural Development Self Help Housing Program, which supports the Habitat program through July, 2013. Pictured, from left, Jeremy Hosking, U.P. regional manager for U.S. Sen.

Debbie Stabenow, Mike Shimon, MCHFH executive director; Ken Czapski, MCHFH board president; Don Gerri, USDA regional director; Jim Yoder, USDA rural development specialist; Amy Berglund, regional director for U.S. Sen. Carl Levin; Darryle Stephenson, USDA rural development specialist; and Cliff Luft, MCHFH board member.



## An Evening With the Truckey's

Marquette County Habitat for Humanity's Annual Fund-

raiser, "An Evening with the Truckey's", was held on September 17th at Willow Farm in Harvey. Drew, Paul and Dan Truckey, below, entertained guests with a variety of music. The evening was very successful and over \$10,000 was raised to help build homes in Marquette County.

## RECENT LOCAL DONATIONS



Mike Shimon, left, executive director of Marquette County Habitat for Humanity, accepts a check from Zach Quinnell, manager of **Econo Foods** in Marquette. Habitat earned more than \$1,059 through the We Share program at Econo this year.



Employees of **Lasco** made a donation of \$354 to MCHFH. Pictured at the check presentation are, from left, Jason Barnes, Lasco support technician; Ken Czapski, president of the MCHFH board of directors; and Ryan Valiquette, Lasco support technician.



Employees from **Wells Fargo** not only spent a day volunteering with Marquette County Habitat for Humanity, but they also donated \$15,000. Kimberly Myers from Wells Fargo, left, presented the check to MCHFH executive director Mike Shimon during a lunch break. Since 2002, Wells Fargo has donated over \$137,000 to Marquette County Habitat for Humanity.

# 2011 Visiting Work Crews



**Care-A-Vanners 2011**  
May 31-June 10



**Congregational Church of Amery**  
Amery, Wisconsin  
June 13-17



**Markesan United Methodist Church**  
Markesan, Wisconsin  
June 13-17  
15 years of service to Marquette



**Lawrence Avenue United Methodist**  
Charlotte, MI  
June 20-24



**ACTION 2011**  
Iowa  
July 5-8  
11 years of service to Marquette County

A HUGE thank you to all the individuals, churches, businesses and civic groups that donated over 1,300 lunches this past year. Our program would not work without your continued support!



A special thanks to 1st Presbyterian Church, Marquette Bible Church, Messiah Lutheran Church, Grace United Church, First United Methodist Church and the Country Village RV Campground for housing our work crews.

# 2011 Visiting Work Crews



**Lakewood United Methodist  
Lake Odessa, Michigan  
June 27-30**



**Norway Grove Memorial Lutheran Church  
Deforest, Wisconsin  
July 11-14  
16 years of service to Marquette County**



**St. John Lutheran Church  
Oregon, Wisconsin  
July 25-29**



**Care-A-Vanners  
August 22—Sept 2**



**AmeriCorps NCCC  
Sept 15—Nov 8**

## NCCC members assist Habitat

A team of nine AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps members (left) spent 7 weeks assisting habitat for Humanity in building four houses. NCCC members work at painting, roofing, installing cabinets and other fixtures, as well as putting up siding. The team also helped at the Habitat ReStore, St. Vincent de Paul Store and the annual bog walk. In exchange for their service, members receive \$5,500 to help pay for college, or to pay back student loans.

**KOHL'S**  
expect great things

Kohl's of Marquette donated \$500 and sent volunteers to work at our annual fundraiser: "An Evening With the Truckey's". Thank you Kohl's



Our local Pepsi Company sent volunteers and a check for \$500. Thank you PEPSI!

# Michigan Legislators

In the summer of 2011, **State Senator Tom Casperson (R)** and **State Representative Steve Lindberg (D)** participated in a stateside wide initiative launched by The Living in Michigan Coalition. The campaign's ultimate goal is to raise legislators' awareness of the needs in their own communities and the efforts currently underway to address those needs.

Senator Casperson and Representative Lindberg each spent an afternoon on Union Street in Marquette to help with MCHFH's Home Sweet Home initiative, where they helped with the building of a new home and accompanying shed.



**ED comments continued from page 1**

You might ask why so many church groups and volunteers continue to return to Marquette year after year...they are so important to our success. But they return because they enjoyed their experience and at the risk of missing some, I want to recognize a few that go *above* and *beyond* to help...you know what you do: My staff, board members, Jim and Judy Quirk, Pete & Peggy Frazier, Carol & Fred Margrif, Kevin Kelly, St Michaels, St Christopher's, Messiah Lutheran, Country Village RV Campground, Sawyer Village, and Lawry's Pasties.

And finally I want to thank my family and friends for supporting me during my Executive Director tenure. Pat has been my biggest supporter who has helped me get through many situations during this time. She has also volunteered her time for fundraisers as well as many other activities. Our children and grand-children have learned about Habitat...they volunteer and support their local habitat affiliates. Many of our friends and other family members have also developed strong ties to Habitat and I hope everyone continues to support Habitat...Thanks.

Habitat has been a huge part of my life and I will miss the people that share such a passion for what we do. I'm looking forward to my retirement but I will always have a place for Habitat in my heart. God Bless You...

Mike

**ReStore**

**Shop At the ReStore!**  
**We sell new and donated building materials, furniture, appliances and much, much more!**  
**133 Carmen Drive, Harvey**  
**Mon-Fri 10—6**  
**Saturday 10—4**  
**(906) 249-4416**

I would like to volunteer. (Download volunteer forms ([www.mqthabitat.org](http://www.mqthabitat.org)), complete and mail.)

I would like to make a monetary donation of \$25, \$50, \$100 or \_\_\_\_\_, ( receipt provided.)

Please bill my Visa/MasterCard # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_/\_\_/\_\_\_\_  
 Name as it appears on card: \_\_\_\_\_ Security Code \_\_\_\_\_

Check enclosed.

Please send more information about \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail: PO Box 213, Marquette MI, 49855 or contact us: [info@mqthabitat.org](mailto:info@mqthabitat.org)



1027 N. Third Street  
PO Box 213  
Marquette, MI 49855

Phone: 906-228-3578  
Fax: 906-228-2314

E-mail: [info@mqthabitat.org](mailto:info@mqthabitat.org)

### Board of Directors

- Ken Czapski
- Julie Frazier
- Sally Shaver
- Stuart Bennett
- Richard Graybill
- Jack Frost
- Jim Gegare
- Dr. Carol Hicks
- Cliff Luft
- Dr. Scott Matthews
- Jennifer Mazzuchi
- Robert Bartkowiak
- Sandra Kivela
- Dan Carpenter
- Doug Morton

### Affiliate Office Staff

- Mike Shimon
- Jennifer Osborne
- Jane Iery
- Gerri Enniss

### Construction Staff

- Andy Engstrom
- Ken Koltvedt
- Brian Potter

### ReStore Staff

- Bob Howe
- Jan Gilbertson
- Karen Sutton
- Wayne Price
- Brian Anderson

Label here

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Marquette, MI

### Shopping List

- The next time you're out shopping, put a few of these items in your cart and then drop them off at the Habitat office. You'll feel great **and** get a tax deduction!
- Hand tools
- White and colored copy paper
- Large bottles of hand sanitizer
- **Paper plates**, towels and napkins
- Individual sized snacks and drinks
- Ink cartridges: (HP 45 & 78, Lexmark 26 & 16)
- (& don't forget Econo receipts!)

### Recycle!

Help us raise money and save the environment by donating your used cell phones and empty ink and laser print cartridges. Drop off your donation at the office or ReStore today. No damaged items, please!



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

United Way of Marquette County

Marquette County Habitat for Humanity

Building homes, building hope