

**HABITAT LOVE STORY**

Couple building on 20 good years together

» 4

**LUNCH WITH LEADER**

Marilyn Carlson Nelson  
keynotes Hearth & Hope

» 5

**REGULARS SINCE 1991**

Meet the volunteers of the  
Dakota Crew

» 6

# HABITAT HERALD

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**More than 170 families have purchased homes affordably from Twin Cities Habitat in North Minneapolis. The kids in these homes benefit from having a healthy and stable place to study, play, and grow. This year Habitat volunteers, homebuyers and staff will build 8 more Habitat homes in North Minneapolis.**

## Help Build Good News in North Minneapolis

Buying a Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity home with an affordable mortgage, or getting critical repairs made through *A Brush with Kindness* (ABWK), is a game changer for a family. Repeat it enough and hopefully it can be a game changer for a community too.

That's what Twin Cities Habitat is doing in partnership with the families that live in North Minneapolis. This year alone, we will complete eight homes for

families to buy there. The homes will be safe, decent and affordable thanks to the Habitat mortgage. Habitat volunteers have also helped 28 Northside families with critical home repairs through ABWK over the past three years.

We're clustering work in North Minneapolis because this amazing community of compassionate people has suffered, and continues to suffer, the brunt of the housing crisis. Statewide, 7 in

10 Minnesotans are homeowners, but in North Minneapolis it's 4 in 10. Currently, investors are snatching up depressed Northside properties and turning them into rentals. On top of that, you can still see the effects of the 2011 tornados that damaged thousands of Northside homes.

*Continues as* **NORTHSIDE on 5** »

# DEAR FRIENDS,



Photo by Andrea Cole Photography

**Richard Davis, CEO of US Bank, joined Sue Haigh at an open house event celebrating Twin Cities Habitat's New Home on University Avenue in St. Paul.**

## Success in school starts at home.

That's why I love knowing that thousands of kids living in affordable Twin Cities Habitat homes are returning to class this fall ready to learn and not worried about when their family will have to move again. They each benefit from having a healthy and safe place to study and grow. The odds are our Habitat kids will miss less school, get better grades and be more likely to graduate.

Often when families come to our building to apply to be Habitat homeowners they bring their children with them. Every time I see their smiling faces and boundless energy, I see the future unfolding before me. I wonder what are their hopes and dreams and what great things are in store for them.

You are the pebble in the pond for Habitat when you give your time and resources to our mission. The ripple of your collective efforts is endless and impacts children, classrooms, careers and neighborhoods for years and years to come. Your generosity sparks tangible and concrete community-wide impact.

Many people in our community talk a lot about the growing opportunity gap that lower income families face today. It is real. It is a threat to the long-term viability of the Twin Cities. The question is not what do we say about this opportunity gap, but

what do we do about it?

Habitat's approach, of helping families own the place where they raise their children, addresses the challenge head-on in three ways. First, the affordable mortgage payments our families make each month to Habitat act as an investment tool. Families build equity instead of simply throwing money away on rent. Second, Habitat families have more money in their pockets because Habitat homes are often more affordable than the skyrocketing rents in our region. And finally, families (and especially children) thrive with the newfound stability of their Habitat home. It can be the launching pad for great things.

Opportunity must return to the Twin Cities neighborhoods where hope is in short supply. By volunteering and financially supporting Twin Cities Habitat you are helping to make that happen. On behalf of all our families—thank you!

Warmly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sue Haigh". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Sue Haigh

*President & CEO, Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity*

# Take Action Through Advocacy

While Twin Cities Habitat has a profound impact when partnering with families, the need for affordable housing is much bigger than we can solve by our construction programs alone.

## ***Be a Housing Hero***

To achieve our mission and multiply our impact, we ask you—Housing Heroes—to advocate! Minnesota needs policies that will lead to more stable homeowners with affordable mortgages. We need an increased supply of affordable housing throughout the housing continuum—emergency shelter, supportive housing, rental, and homeownership.

This campaign season, when a candidate asks for your vote, we encourage you to ask them where they stand on housing. Be armed with these facts and help raise the public discourse on something that affects all of us.

- Minnesota has the nation's largest racial homeownership gap (77% for whites vs 41% for people of color) in the country.
- Since 2000, MN renters' average incomes fell by 17% while rents in the state rose by 6%.
- An estimated 14,000 Minnesotans experience homelessness on any given night. Nearly half of these people are age 21 or younger.
- There is a great lack of affordable, multi-bedroom rental housing for larger families and families with special needs.
- Low-income families that have had an eviction or foreclosure in the past, maybe because a family member got sick or lost a job, struggle to find affordable housing in our tight rental market.

**Sign our petition and voice your support for housing today. Go to [www.tchabitat.org/petition](http://www.tchabitat.org/petition) and have your voice count.**



Sign and be heard! **[tchabitat.org/petition](http://tchabitat.org/petition)**



# An Original Habitat Story of Love and Faith

**Roger and Vicki Henry are an energetic, loving couple and self-proclaimed “Habitaholics.”**

They have been involved with Twin Cities Habitat since the early years, and continue to be two of Habitat’s most dedicated and passionate supporters.

Roger’s connection began in 1989 after purchasing an old house on Lincoln Avenue in St. Paul. Habitat volunteers were restoring old homes in his neighborhood, and this piqued Henry’s interest.

“My dad instilled a passion in me for renovating old homes,” Henry shared. “I didn’t know much about Habitat at the time, but I sure learned!”

Roger also volunteered through his church, Fairmount Avenue United Methodist.

Vicki found Habitat while studying at the University of Minnesota. One course required she do a leadership project so Vicki helped her church, St. Andrew’s Lutheran in Mahtomedi, organize its Habitat fundraiser walk.

That walk, at Powderhorn Park in 1992, is where Roger and Vicki first met. St. Andrew’s Church sponsored its first volunteer week in 1993, and Roger and Vicki began regularly connecting on site. Their relationship grew, and they eventually married on July 2, 1994. The Habitat logo is even carved into their wedding rings!



**Roger and Vicki Henry have been married for 20 years. They first connected through Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity in 1992, they’ve volunteered together around the world and even have Habitat’s logo incorporated into their wedding rings.**

## HABITAT HERALD

**Contributors to this issue:** Becky Engen, with design by Erin Ahlstrom. Edited by Matt Haugen.

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Throughout their marriage, Vicki and Roger have volunteered as Neighborhood Family Partners and on site through St. Andrew’s Church and 3MGives. They’ve built with Habitat in Jamaica and Costa Rica. Roger serves on Habitat’s Faith Advisory Committee. The pair makes regular financial donations and they’ve even included Habitat for Humanity in their Will, ensuring they leave a legacy of helping families.

“I’ve learned that there’s a great need for affordable housing,” Vicki said. “I’ve also learned that you always receive more

blessings when you serve and give. I enjoy the sound of hammers pounding nails, love the idea of the Habitat homeowners putting in sweat equity as their down payment and knowing that I’m serving a much bigger purpose.”

After celebrating their 20th anniversary this summer, the Henrys are choosing which Global Village Trip will be their next big Habitat adventure.

“Maybe Ethiopia this time?!” says Vicki with a smile.



“Life is made up of a series of days and choices, and how we lead matters.”

**Marilyn Carlson Nelson**  
*Keynote Speaker*

Join us for our fundraising luncheon to discuss improving the lives of women and children in our community through affordable housing.

# Hearth & Hope

## SIGNATURE LUNCHEON

Wednesday, October 22, 2014  
11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Radisson Blu Downtown Minneapolis  
35 South Seventh Street, Minneapolis, MN 55402

### Ticket Information

Host a Table of 10: \$500

Individual Ticket: \$50

Visit [tchabitat.org/hearthandhope](http://tchabitat.org/hearthandhope) to register.

Questions? Contact Megan Buchholz at 612-305-7118.

Can't attend, but still want to make an impact?

Donate at [tchabitat.org/donate](http://tchabitat.org/donate).



Hosted by **Women of Habitat: Hearth & Hope**  
*Women empowering women for generations by providing stable homes and bright futures.*

## » **NORTHSIDE** *cont'd from 1*

**NRI work is also going on in the Frogtown neighborhood of St. Paul. Look for an update on progress there in the next Habitat Herald in December.**

### **Working in Partnership**

Stable homeownership is just one part of improving a neighborhood's quality of life. That's why the Neighborhood Revitalization Initiative (NRI) approach we're taking relies heavily on residents' input and community partnerships. In the Jordan neighborhood, we're working closely with groups like the Jordan Area Community Council, Project

for Pride in Living, PRG and the Northside Home Fund (plus many others).

North Minneapolis is rebuilding—but it's going to take time and plenty of investment in families. Please be a part of this important work and continue to volunteer, donate and advocate in support of Twin Cities Habitat and our families.

# Dakota Regular Crew: *Volunteering Together Since 1991*



**The 30 members of the Dakota Regular Crew have worked on 228 Twin Cities Habitat homes over the years. Pictured here are: Back row from L to R: Rolan Anderson, Charles Butler, Paul Grill, Roy Nachtigal. Front row from L to R: Kent Emerson, Dale Johnson, Bill Turner, Eugene Sommerfeld**

The people who missed picture day, but have volunteered with the Dakota Crew in the past year, include: Dick Beckman, LeRoy Bratland, Bill Breckon, David Delforge, Dave Devoy, William Flynn, Tom Gallagher, John Hackley, Harry Jumbe, Mark Knutson, Larry Koehler,

Patrick Leik, Thomas Loveday, Jim Madison, Leo Mielke, Jack Murphy, Bill Norquist, Robert Pink, Jeffrey Schmidt, Terry Sietmann, Pat Thielman, Bob Thielman.

Join a Regular Crew! There are opportunities all around the metro and

the volunteer commitment ranges from once a month to several times a week. Contact us at [volunteer@tchabitat.org](mailto:volunteer@tchabitat.org) to find out more about this unique kind of volunteering opportunity.



# Families Win with Record Fundraising at Golf Tournament

The 19th Annual Raise the Roof Golf Tournament at Minneapolis Golf Club brought in nearly \$150,000—the most ever for the event. This will help fund more Habitat homes and more *A Brush with Kindness* repair projects.

Thank you to General Mills and Two Harbors Investment Corp. for co-title sponsoring the tournament. Join us next year! Save the date August 3, 2015!

## Thank you, Sponsors!

General Mills  
Two Harbors Investment Corp.  
Audi Minneapolis  
Schwegman Lundberg and Woessner  
Alliance of Computer Professionals  
AVI-SPL  
Corporate Service Consortium  
Datatrend  
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Egan  
EMC2  
HCI Equity Partners  
HGA  
Hickey & Associates  
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McGough  
MMC  
Merchant & Gould  
Northmarq  
Opus  
Prime Therapeutics  
RBC Wealth Management  
Ryan Companies  
Surescripts  
Wheels  
Barry & Sharon Mason  
Mike and Jodi Mooney  
Todd & Lori Hall

# ReStore

## Success Keeps Rolling In

- \$86,000+ in sales in July—biggest month ever!
- Customer traffic tripled since last year
- Sales will help sponsor three Habitat homes this year

*Thank you shoppers! Thank you product donors!*

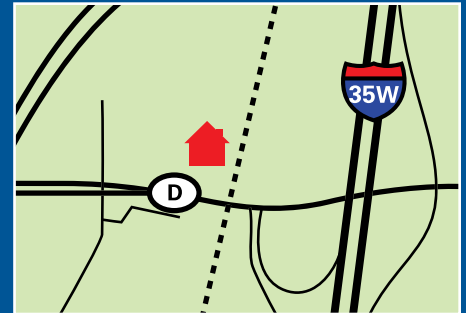
Sign up for the ReStore's *Hot Deals* email at [tchabitat.org/restore](http://tchabitat.org/restore) and be the first to see great offers!

### Store Location:

510 West County Rd. D,  
New Brighton, MN 55112

### Store Hours:

Tuesday–Friday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
Saturday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
Sunday–Monday *Closed*



# GLOBAL VILLAGE

Twin Cities Habitat is leading three Global Village Trips to our title partner countries in 2015. Contact us to join in the tradition of fantastic Costa Rica experiences, or be on first group to build in Ethiopia! Trips fill up fast!

**Costa Rica**

January 10–18

**Ethiopia**

February 13–23

**Costa Rica**

March 14–22

[globalvillage@tchabitat.org](mailto:globalvillage@tchabitat.org)



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# Start your next fall home improvement project at the ReStore and save BIG!



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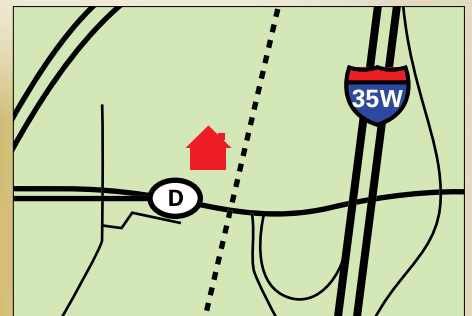
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Mon	Closed	
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Sat	10:00 to	4:00



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[www.tchabitat.org/restore](http://www.tchabitat.org/restore)