

monthly news & updates

December 2022 - Issue 37

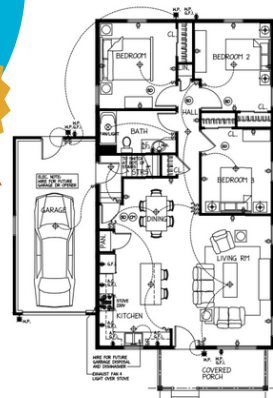


Congratulations Habitat for Humanity Ohio Volunteer of the Year: Steve Lux

We are absolutely honored to have loyal volunteer, Steve Lux awarded as Habitat Ohio Volunteer of the Year. We celebrated with him at the Habitat for Humanity Ohio State Conference in Columbus on November 10th. This award is well deserved as Steve has been such a hard working, dedicated volunteer for Habitat since 2009 after his retirement. He has completed over 8,660 hours of volunteer time at our affiliate since 2010. To honor his work, we named one of our new 2021 house plans after him calling it The Lux Model home.

We are so thankful for Steve and we hope you all will join us in congratulating him! He invites anyone and everyone to come out to the build site to volunteer. "I really enjoy the flexibility and freedom of volunteering with Habitat for Humanity." To learn more about volunteering opportunities or being a loyal volunteer, give us a call at (330)745-7734.

When asked what 'home' means to him, Steve says "To me, home is a place where you are always welcome and people are accepted for who they are." Every volunteer who partners with Habitat is playing an essential role in building that welcoming home. Thank you volunteers and we can't wait to see you on the build site!



LUX 1 MODEL HOME
MODIFIED FOR 2021 AKRON PROJECT

PLANS PREPARED FOR:
 Habitat for Humanity of Summit County
1301 Riving Rd., Akron, OH 44318

The Season of Giving

A common message I have heard from Habitat for Humanity donors over the last three years is that they support our organization because they are grateful to have a safe, stable home to raise their kids, spend time with their loved ones, and come home to every day. It is a message I find myself thinking about a lot as I prepare to welcome friends and family into my home to celebrate the holidays.

Of course, I am also reminded at this time of the year that far too many families in our community are experiencing the exact opposite feelings. There is an affordable housing gap of 11,000 units in Summit County right now. That is thousands of our fellow community members who want to achieve their dream of homeownership, but are currently priced out of that opportunity. Inflation, increasing housing costs, and the threat of economic turbulence has only complicated those challenges in our community.



This giving season, I would like to ask you to join me in reflecting on what your home means to you. What it provides us. I would also like to ask you to join me in making a year-end gift to support the critically important work that we are doing together. In partnership with our donors and volunteers, we have dedicated 200 new homes, and repair 175 more. Together, we can continue to meet the needs of so many families in our community. Your gift today, will help make sure families have a home of their own to enjoy next holiday season. Please visit www.hfhsummitcounty.org/give to make your gift!

On behalf of myself, and the entire Habitat for Humanity staff, I want to wish you and your family a very happy holidays season!

Drew Hall, CFRE
Vice President & Chief Development Officer



Give to the
community this
holiday season.



Donate \$50+ & receive
a copy of our Habitat
Family Cookbook!

homeowner corner



Home Warranty Documents

By: Kim Kerr, Family Services Manager and QLO

The season of Thanksgiving and Christmas bring us together to be with our families. It is such an exciting time of year. Last year around this time, we closed on three houses with two more closing in January. This year again, we closed on two homes in the fall and are getting prepared to close on another three soon. This is a very exciting event and all of us at Habitat join in the excitement... it feels like family here.

After you have moved into your home, you may get some information about a home warranty in the mail. This form will come in the mail and will list Habitat as the lender. Though this may seem like it comes from Habitat, this will actually be an outside source and it is asking you to purchase this warranty through this outside company. When you get your home, you have warranties on most products in your home. The warranty information will be in your homeownership notebook we provide at closing. You receive a one year warranty through Habitat for construction and those warranty forms are also in your notebook. So, is this outside home warranty necessary? According to [financebuzz.com](https://financebuzz.com/home-warranty-scams/), "if you buy a home with new appliances and home systems, (Such as a Habitat home) getting a home warranty might not be worth it. The likelihood of a new appliance or home system failing is low, so you could potentially be paying for coverage you don't need." You may wonder how they get the information about your home purchase? Property information is public record and can be accessed by anyone as long as they are willing to invest the time.

If at some point you feel you would like to get a home warranty, there are websites that will compare companies that offer home warranties. It is highly suggested that you do research and read reviews prior to purchasing a home warranty. Home warranties should be transparent and be very specific about what is covered. It is recommended to do thorough research before you purchase any of these services.

Homeowner insurance and home warranties are not the same thing. Your homeowner insurance covers damage to your home from wind, fire or hail, a home warranty is designed to cover necessary repairs or replacements on your home's appliances and systems. Homeowner's insurance is covered as part of your escrow payment monthly.

With the excitement of closing on your home and getting ready to celebrate your first Holiday in your new home, we want to make sure you are aware that you may receive documents that "look like" they are from Habitat. We are always willing to answer questions about whether a document you received came from us. We hope that all of our Habitat families have a wonderful holiday season!

<https://financebuzz.com/home-warranty-scams/>
<https://www.bobvila.com/articles/home-warranty-scams/>

Funding available for homeowners affected by COVID-19

The American Rescue Plan includes funds to help homeowners who were affected by COVID-19 keep their homes. The Homeowner Assistance Fund may be used for mortgage payments, homeowner's insurance, utility payments and other specified purposes.

Learn more at <https://savethedream.ohiohome.org/>

closing 12/16

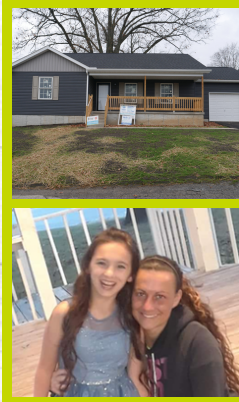


Goodyear Hts. Build
with **James**

closing 11/29



Lakemore Build
with **Dave**



Lakemore Build
with **Cheyenne**



Cuyahoga Falls
Build
with **Passang and
Sushmita**



Highland Square
Build
with **Danyale**



North Hill Build
with **Karma and
Tula**



You Are Building Homes in the Summit County community!

Your donations and volunteer time are helping build these four homes for local families in Summit County. Continue to support these builds and provide affordable housing for deserving families!

New ReStore Pricing Tags Coming in 2023

ReStore provides affordable items for the community while also raising important funds to support Habitat's mission in our community. We are excited to offer additional savings for customers through a new pricing tag system starting in 2023. Each quarter we will use a new colored price tag. The old price tag color will be discounted each quarter. Keep a look out for more details in the ReStore starting January 2023.

Fundraising Promotional Store: apparel, accessories, & safety

Shop our promotional fundraising store for great gifts that support a great mission, building affordable housing in our community! Available for online shopping all year at <https://hfhsc21.itemorder.com/>



HOLIDAY SALE

75% OFF ENTIRE STORE



Summit County ReStore has HUGE savings for you the month of December. Shop and save 75% on our ENTIRE STORE from December 1st through December 23rd. We are so thankful for all our customers who shop to support our mission in Summit County. Thank you and we wish you all a Merry Christmas from ReStore!

DIY Repurposed Chair Spindle Christmas Snowflakes

Antique chairs are something you will always find available in the ReStore. Here is a fun winter craft to repurpose those beautiful spindles. These snowflakes can be displayed outside or inside and definitely are a great opportunity for additional creativity in decorating. Step out of your comfort zone and make this simple project using a power tool!

Share your snowflakes with us on social media and tag us @SummitCountyReStore or email your photos to kaylac@hfhsummitcounty.org for your chance to win a ReStore gift card! We love to see your recycled DIY projects!

Source: <https://www.interiorfrugalista.com/2016/12/wooden-chair-spindle-snowflake.html>





Holiday Schedule

Office Closed December 24th reopening January 2nd

ReStore Closed December 24th reopening January 4th



SAVE 25%
December 2022

Expires: December 23rd, 2022

Excludes NEW items and ARHAUS furniture. Excludes all online items. Cannot be combined with any other promotions. ONE-TIME USE PER CUSTOMER. Must show coupon at checkout to receive discount. Some exclusions may apply. Only valid at the Summit County ReStore at 2301 Romig Rd. Akron, OH.



WOW! A great gift that supports our community!

\$250 NEW

hundreds available for sale!



little tikes

Cookbook and Calendars for Sale

Perfect stocking stuffer for the holidays

We have the perfect stocking stuffer for you this holiday season! You can purchase your copy of the Habitat Family Cookbook for \$10 and the Habitat 2023 Calendar for only \$5!

Sales from our fundraising cookbooks and calendars will support our programming of building and repairing houses for deserving families in Summit County. Purchase these items for a limited time only at Summit County ReStore!



Home for the Holidays

Dear God, we give thanks to you during this holiday season as we celebrate and gather with friends and family. Thank you for the joy the holidays bring us and the opportunity it gives us to gather together to share warm meals and exchange gifts.

We pray that you bless those who do not have a home this holiday season. We pray for those who are so burdened by the cost of rent that they cannot afford gifts and celebrations. We pray for those who don't even have a safe, warm home to sleep at night during these cold winter nights.

Thank you for all you bless us with and help us to always show gratitude for the things we have. Amen.