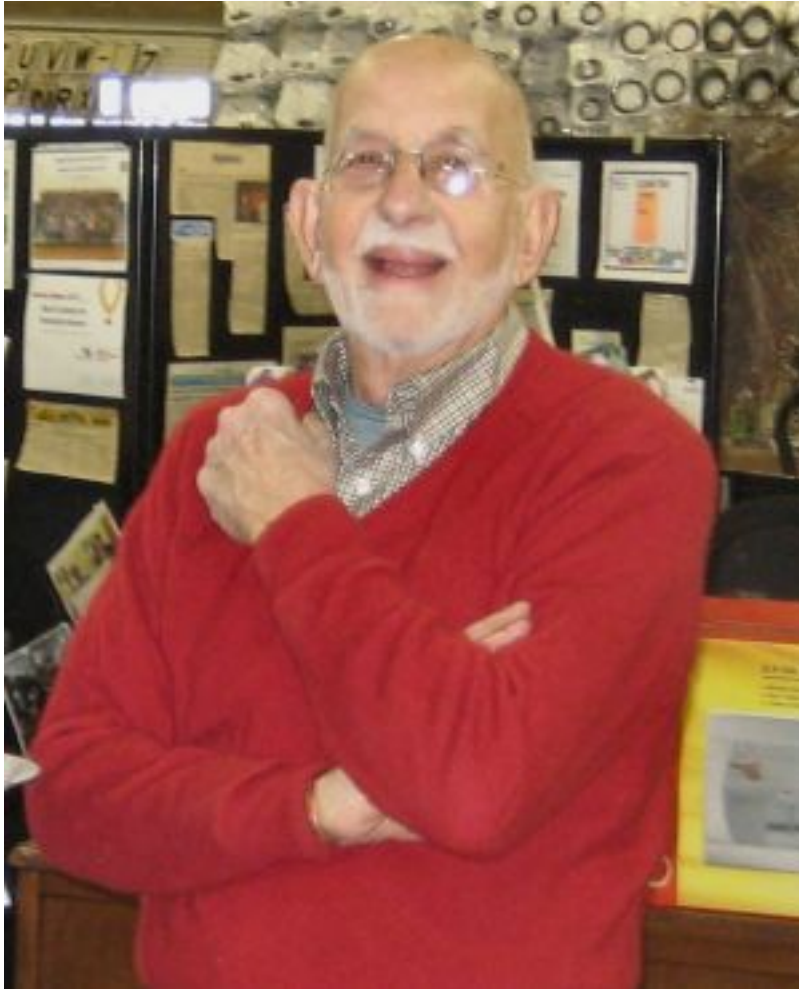


Morris Chamber of Commerce honors Habitat volunteer from Harding



Don Kuhn

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HARDING TWP. – Longtime Morris Habitat volunteer Don Kuhn from Harding was honored at the recent annual meeting of the Morris County Chamber of Commerce. He received the 2013 William P. Huber Award, given to an individual who has consistently shown outstanding community leadership.

William P. Huber was president of St. Claire's Health System and an integral member of the Morris County Chamber of Commerce. For almost 15 years, Kuhn, a retired AT&T executive, has been actively involved with Morris Habitat for Humanity and its mission to build safe, decent affordable housing for local families in need. Blair Schleicher Bravo describes Kuhn as "That rare volunteer; a renaissance man dabbling in many aspects of the organization and productive in every task he undertakes."

To date, he has been a board member, board chair, early supporter of the ReStore, which sells new and gently used building supplies, furniture, appliances, etc., with proceeds going to build affordable housing and a ReStore advisory team, advisory team chair and member, weekly volunteer at the ReStore, and helpful wherever needed.

His list of involvements is impressive, but what is even more awe inspiring is to learn that Kuhn is 83 years old.

"It's a lot of fun," Kuhn said Monday.

"I guess what I like the most about it is that I get to work with people who have shared values. We all have different skills and abilities, but we all believe in affordable housing," he said.

"It's something we have to address, and I think it's a wonderful organization," he said of Habitat.

"Everyone with any level of skills can find something to do, and it has been a truly rewarding experience. It's always a challenge, and we are all volunteers, but it's a great cause," he said.

Currently, Kuhn puts in between eight and 12 hours per week, pricing donated items at the ReStore in Randolph.

"It's fun to see if something you put a price on a week ago sold, or maybe you priced it too high and it's still there," he said.

"I started out helping them out with a few projects, swinging a hammer. Then, I joined the Habitat board in the last 90's," he recalled.

"When this all started in 1985, we were a very small organization. We probably built one house a year," he said.

When the ReStore first came along, Kuhn put together the business plan for what is now a tremendously successful endeavor.

“It has been wonderful successful for us. We needed to increase the number of housing units we could build, and with the ReStore, we are now seeing \$5 million in gross sales, and \$2 million in profits. That money builds homes,” he said.

While he is not the oldest volunteer Morris Habitat has, he is by far the most active.

He inspires all around him with his vigor and willingness to help, according to Bravo.

Whether it is getting his hands dirty at the ReStore, designing a poster, or writing business plans and procedures, Kuhn is enthusiastic about every task.

“He is both a leader and a doer,” read the press release.

He is very nurturing and encouraging, thus getting the best from everyone who works with him, according to Morris Habitat.

By virtue of all that he does, he shows all other volunteers and staff, that they are not locked into doing just one thing.

Morris Habitat needs help in many aspects to succeed and anyone can step outside of their comfort zone to help where needed most.

“Morris Habitat congratulates Kuhn on receiving this honor and are so glad that others recognize what they have known all along, that he is an outstanding community leader,” Morris Habitat said in a statement.

To learn more about Morris Habitat and how to help, visit www.morrishabitat.org or call 973-891-1934. [Discuss](#)