



Sheboygan Lutheran High Preparing Christian Leaders -One Student at a Time

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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A Neat Repeats Renovation

"It looks like a brand new store. I love the bright new look!" That's what customers and volunteers alike are saying about the newly renovated Neat Repeats Store located on Eastern Avenue in Plymouth. Neat Repeats is a thrift store that has supported Sheboygan Lutheran High School since it opened in June 2009. After exploring the possibility of moving into a portion of the vacant K-Mart store, the Neat Repeats Board of Directors decided to sign a new 10-year lease to remain in its present location.

Neat Repeats has established a significant footprint in the Plymouth community. Ever increasing support for the store comes from donors and shoppers across Sheboygan County and beyond. It just seemed like the timing was right to renovate the 19,000 square-foot store. With a new long-term outlook, a complete renovation project was then begun.

Led by the three co-chairs, Paul TenPas, a retired officer of the Kohler Co., Tom Rusch, retired Facilities Manager at Sheboygan Lutheran High School, and Laura Herrmann, longtime Store Manager, the project was begun. Paul stated, "The renovation of the store included new LED lighting, new ceiling tile, new flooring, painting of all walls coordinated by volunteer Jim Fasse, and remodeled customer bathrooms. It was an enormous challenge to move all store fixtures (clothing racks, shelving, etc.) as well as the store inventory in order to coordinate the various renovation activities, and to then put everything back together in a short period of time. It was fulfilling to see not only our regular volunteers but also many other supporters of Neat Repeats and Lutheran High unselfishly give of their time and talents to do whatever was necessary to complete the project on schedule and on budget, while only closing the store for two days!"

Led by some contracted professionals and a host of volunteers, the \$100,000+ renovation project took place in a time span of three weeks. Many 'after store hours' of work were required. The reassembling of the entire store proved to be almost as daunting a task as the remodeling. But the results are amazing!

When Laura Herrmann, Neat Repeats Store Manager, was asked how these improvements will benefit the shoppers, she replied, "At Neat Repeats we pride ourselves on having a store that is neat, clean and well organized. The customer bathrooms are especially appealing, with new fixtures donated by the Kohler Co., new sinks, comfort-height toilets, and non-slip flooring. The new LED lights and carpet make the store appear brighter and more open. The new carpet is much nicer to walk on. The project makes for a pleasant experience for volunteers and customers."

Laura further stated, "We took a leap of faith when we opened the store, and we have seen God's hand in guiding Neat Repeats every step of the way. Nobody anticipated the success we have experienced in the 14 years the store has been open. The future of our store certainly looks bright (no pun intended). We are thankful to everyone who helped with the





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renovation, and to our volunteers, donors and shoppers. Their support has helped to make our store successful and helped the ministry of Sheboygan Lutheran High School."

Neat Repeats is open Tuesday through Friday, 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Saturdays from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Donations are accepted any time the store is open. Call us at 920-892-9100 if you have questions, or visit us online at <u>www.neatrepeatsthriftshop.com</u>. Stop by and visit the new and improved Neat Repeats.