



# NEWSWATCH 12

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[Main](#): [General News](#): [Local News](#)

### ***Community Residents to Build Gym That's Truly Their Own***

Submitted: 04/19/2012

**White Lake** - The tiny Langede County village of White Lake broke ground on their new high school gym and community center today.

But the project is more than just a building - it gives a whole new meaning to "community."



White Lake residents will take pride once their gym floor is completed this fall. That's because community members chopped the wood for the floor from their own properties.

From just a few trees to truckloads, people cut down their own maples and sent them to be used for the facility.

The project many a sense of old-fashioned togetherness.

"It's gotten everybody together and made this like a barn raising, in a sense. You really get everybody enthused," says Doc Smith, the project's construction manager.

One donor even gave a truckload and a half of trees.

"The question we had for him was, 'why do you want to donate so much?' He says, 'you know what, it's a great cause, my grandkids will be playing on that court'," says Dan Wickersheim, who spearheaded the effort to donate lumber.

The new structure will double as both the gym for the high school and an athletic center for the rest of the village.

But it's more than just a place to work out.

"That pride and that community, you really get a good sense of that. You know that when they're done, that's their building, and that's the neat thing about it," says Smith.

Construction should wrap up in October.

Written By: Ben Meyer

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