

OPENING

Time: 6:00 PM

Pledge of Allegiance: President Judy

Invocation: Steve Brownell

GUESTS

None.

VISITING ROTARIANS

John Chambers, District Governor.

Dennis Hyduk, GP Sunrise.

BIRTHDAYS

Mark Weber (1/22) and Jim Fikany (1/23).

ANNIVERSARIES

None.

ROVING REPORTER

Tom Youngblood

-- It's hard to believe, but Neil Sroka's daughter, Frances, turns 3 years old this week.

-- Phil MacKethan and Scott

Matthews are putting together video interviews with members about their Rotary experience. If you would like to take part, please let them know.

-- In an informal survey, Tom learned that GP Rotarians are not big believers of New Year resolutions.

OIL CAN

-- Julie Baumer passed it to Diane Strickler for all of her hard work as co-chair of the community affairs committee -- a position she will hold "for life". (Despite Diane's protests, the membership was in agreement).

COMMUNITY SERVICE

-- The Michigan Humane Society Telethon takes place from 5:30 PM – 8:00 PM on 2/13. A sign-up sheet was passed around, looking to build

on the 8 volunteers currently registered. Any questions, please contact Bob Lucas.

SUNSHINE NEWS

-- No news.

NEW MEMBER INDUCTION

-- Mike Carmody inducted Ted Coutilish. Ted is the Executive Director of the Full Circle Foundation and he and his wife Marybeth live with their 19-year-old son in GP Shores. Please welcome him to the Club and help him become involved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

-- Jessica Keyser thanked the Club for partnering with the GP Library and the GP School District on a grant application for *American Creed*, a PBS program about fostering civic discourse. The presentation will take place in April.

TOT LOT REIMAGINED

-- "Thank you" were extended: To Judy Masserang and Lisa Gandelot for reaching out to the membership for donations so that we are close to 100% participation; Lisa Gandelot and Irena Politano for submitting a grant proposal to the Ralph Wilson Foundation; Bob Lucas and Peter Stroh for all that they have done. Mike Carmody says to keep your eyes open for upcoming e-mails asking for membership assistance.

TODAY'S PROGRAM

Ty Hinton, Economic and Community Development Director of Harper Woods. Since last talking to our Club four years ago, Mr. Hinton's department formed a community task force that meets at the Neighborhood Economic Development Center on Kelly Rd.

This group has put together a Neighborhood Improvement Plan that prioritized areas of concern and offered recommendations to both the City's administration and its citizens to help better the City.

Their biggest area of concern is Eastland Mall. It needs new ownership that is willing invest in the property. The location is 67 acres with the potential to be a health care campus or a tech park.

Mr. Hinton is optimistic about many areas of the City. Crime on Kelly Rd has been drastically reduced so the neighborhood is turning around. The old Circuit City building is now a state-of-the-art facility being used by the Harper Woods School District to teach printing, culinary arts, and the performing arts. The Poupard School location offers a great development opportunity for assisted living or single-family homes. The vitality of Harper Woods, especially Eastland, is integral to the entire area. Mr. Hinton is looking for more GP involvement, both personally and financially.

FLOWER RAFFLE

A pot of \$978 with \$489 going to the winner and an amazingly psychic Jim Fikany held the winning ticket. He didn't have the same luck with the joker but is able to enjoy the beautiful flower arrangement.

CALENDAR

Jan 29: Tim Killeen – Wayne County Commissioner

Feb 05: Karen & Nick Straffon – Gold Star Family Monument Committee Chairs