

**OPENING**

Time: 6:00  
 Pledge of Allegiance  
 Invocation: Judy Masserang

**GUESTS**

Mike Hollerbach and Sandy MacMechan,

**VISITING ROTARIANS**

None.

**BIRTHDAYS**

None.

**ANNIVERSARIES**

Chuck Gabel, 12 years.

**ROVING REPORTER**

Susan Mozena  
 -- Susan and our guest, Sandy MacMechan, share an interesting military connection, as their fathers were pilots in WWI.  
 -- Roger and Jean Hull returned from a trip to southern Africa, with one of their excursions being Nelson Mandela’s prison cell (now a museum).  
 -- Interesting local news item: ground has been broken on a \$14 million sports dome at Chandler Park, which will include a track, field, and racquet courts.

**OIL CAN**

Postponed.

**SUNSHINE NEWS**

Jackie Dale  
 Please keep all in your thoughts and prayers.  
 -- Beth Konrad-Wilberding’s recovery from knee surgery is going well, with a Covid battle mixed in.  
 -- Jackie checked in on Florence Seltzer, who is still battling breathing issues, but is doing well.  
 -- Eva Habib’s hand surgery has not

produced the desired outcome as she continues to experience pain.

**COMMUNITY SERVICE**

-- The GP South Interact Club is looking for Rotarians to join them at a volunteer opportunity with Motor City Mitten Mission on 2/3. Details will be in Judy’s Monday email.  
 -- Dave Colton has plenty of volunteers to help feed the homeless at GP United Methodist Church on 2/5.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

-- District 6400 is looking for volunteers to help with RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards) on 4/19 to 4/21.  
 -- Our District Conference will take place from 5/3 to 5/5 at the Amway Grand in Grand Rapids. To register, go to [www.rotary6400.org](http://www.rotary6400.org).  
 -- GP Sunrise Rotary will have a medicine disposal kiosk at the GP Woods Community Center, with a presentation at 1:00pm on 1/25.  
 -- The next fellowship event is on 12/21 at Antonio’s in GP Park. Mark your calendar.  
 -- Lunch Bunch: Noon on Friday at Alma’s Kitchen. Contact Mike Carmody to RSVP.  
 -- The 1/31 speaker is Cissie Cappola will give her new member presentation

**TODAY’S PROGRAM**

Adam Hollier, Director of the Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency  
 The Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency was created in 2013 and is the central coordinating agency, providing support, care, advocacy and service to veterans and their families. The agency works to identify and break down barriers that veterans face in employment,

education, health care and quality of life. It does this by helping to connect veterans and their families to the federal and state benefits they have earned.

Mr. Hollier believes that there are three important components as to how veterans should be treated: (1) recognize and thank them for their service; (2) encourage them to take advantage of all benefits available to them; and (3) actively pursue benefits on their behalf. Studies show that the very high suicide rate of veterans is cut by 50% when they utilize their benefits. He finds that many don’t seek them because their active duty was a bad experience, or they don’t consider themselves to be veterans because they served in a support capacity.

While director, Mr. Hollier has been able to double the connection his agency has with Michigan veterans but believes there are still 200,000 outside the system. To learn more, go to [www.michigan.gov/mvaa](http://www.michigan.gov/mvaa)

**FLOWER RAFFLE**

\$100 in the pot. Scott Matthews bought the winning ticket but was not able to pick the joker.

**CALENDAR**

Jan 31: Cissie Cappola: New Member Presentation

Feb 07: Steve Tengler: The SET Fund: Rebuilding Michigan – one scholarship at a time.

Feb 14: Nicole & Bob Deem: PTSD