

# The RIM Newsletter

# Rotary

# InMotion



Club 16 (2809) District 6290, Chartered May 1, 1916  
<http://www.muskegonrotary.org>



*Is it the truth?  
Is it fair to all concerned?  
Will it build goodwill and better friendships?  
Will it be beneficial to all concerned?*

Celebrating the people, events, and actions of the Muskegon Rotary Club

February 1, 2024

Next Meeting (February 8, 2024, 12-1:30pm) — Chicken Parmesan at the Delta (Convention Center)  
Program Topic – Call 2-1-1

## What's Coming

**February 8** Call 2-1-1

**February 15** Rwanda Restorative  
Pathways from Genocide

**February 22** Membership Program

## Upcoming Birthdays

**February 8** Marla Schneider

**February 10** Ethan Lohman

**February 13** Christine Robere

## Caring

### Connections Fund

[Click this link to donate](#)

[\\$10 on your birthday](#)



## Greeters this week

Tim Arter & Cindy Maynard

## Reflectors

Joanie Smith Feb 1

Karen Buie Feb 8

Emily Morgenstern Feb 15

Andrew Buelow Feb 22

Ken Rasp Feb 29

## RIM Reporting this edition

Photographer – Mark Alpher

RIM Reporter – Lori Weiler

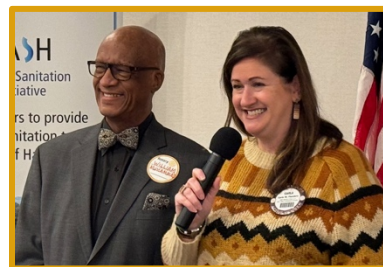
RIM Editor – Susan Besteman

2/1/2024 Muskegon Rotary  
YouTube Video Link: [Click Here](#)

## VISITORS & GUESTS



**Rachel Gorman** with guest Keria Shindelacker (Muskegon Lakeshore Chamber Director of Marketing & Membership)



**Carla Flanders** with guest William Muhammad (James Jackson Muskegon Museum)



**Kelly DeVos** with guest Renee Gavin (Muskegon County Energy Services)



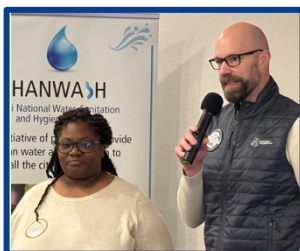
Oakridge Interact Student Addison Schmitz was introduced by **Dom Bunker**



**Eric Messing** with guests Paige Alkire & Heather Hansen (Frauenthal Marketing Admin & Associate Director)



**Marty Sytsema** introduced guests from Muskegon Catholic Central in a peaceful way (being from West Michigan Christian). Principal of MCC, Stephanie Callow, gave updates on their school as well as introducing us to two excellent seniors, Quinn McKenna and Christy Tran.



**Pete DeBoer** with guest Bonita Jackson (Community Foundation Development Officer)

## This Week's Program: Muskegon Art & Culture Coalition



Speaker: **Jason Bertoia & Eric Messing**

Introduced by: **Melissa Horton**

Reporter: **Lori Weiler**

Jason and Eric took us on a journey to explore a long tradition of the love of arts and culture in Muskegon County.



Six years ago, the Coalition started informally with a group of leaders who gathered over lunch to share ideas, dreams, and goals.

The coalition is comprised of local arts and culture leaders working together to promote and celebrate the county's dynamic arts and culture community.

Today the Arts & Culture Coalition of Muskegon includes the Arts Council of White Lake, USS Silversides Submarine Museum, Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp, the Frauenthal Center, Hackley Public Library, the James Jackson Museum of African American History, the Lakeshore Art Festival, The Lakeshore Museum Center, Muskegon Area District

Library, Muskegon Civic Theatre, Muskegon Community College, Muskegon Museum of Art, the Playhouse at White Lake, and the West Michigan Symphony.



Included among a vibrant list of facts and data from Jason and Eric, the arts and culture in Muskegon County attracts 808,000 visitors each year to our community and has an economic impact of over \$67 million.

The Coalition encourages businesses and individuals to share local arts and culture information with friends, family, coworkers, and new hires. Take action by contacting a local arts and culture entity to schedule a tour; book your next board retreat at a local museum or library; or volunteer for an arts and culture organization.

### HOW CAN MUSKEGON ARTS & CULTURE COALITION HELP YOU?

Experience the value of what arts & culture can do for YOU!

Let us host your next business, family, or friend gathering.

Let us provide a tour for a new neighbor or new employee!

Let us entertain, educate, and inspire you!

[muskegonartsandculture.org](http://muskegonartsandculture.org)

There is so much to do, see and learn in Muskegon County.

For more information check out [www.muskegonartsandculture.org](http://www.muskegonartsandculture.org) or email questions to [muskegonartsandculture@gmail.com](mailto:muskegonartsandculture@gmail.com)

To see the full presentation with our YouTube video, [click here](#).



## New Member Induction



Amy James is the Events Director at Adelaide Pointe.

Amy went to Reeth's-Puffer High School, then Muskegon Community College for two years, and then to Ferris State University where she received her bachelor's degree.

Before Adelaide Pointe, Amy worked at Muskegon Community College for 24 years. She wore many different hats there and started as a teacher's assistant for 2 graphics classes along with working in the copy center. From there, she was the supervisor of the graphics department. A few years later she was the Business Manager and Purchaser. And finally, the Director of Marketing. During this time, she helped with many MCC events, and found that her passion was planning events!

Five months ago, she decided she needed a change, and that's where Adelaide Pointe came in! She is now the Events Director at Adelaide Pointe, already booking weddings and parties for the highly anticipated event center to open this June.

Amy has been married to Chad for 26 years and has two grown children. Parker (25) is married to Tiffany and lives in North Muskegon, and Elaina (22) lives at home. Amy's hobbies are scrapbooking, going to the beach, and spending time with family and friends at her pool.

### RIM Reporting Team

Co-Editors: Susan Besteman & Lori Weiler

Reporters: Jackie Farrar, Kathy Moore, Roger Morgenstern, Meredith Smillie

Photographers: Mark Alpher, Carla Flanders, & Roger Morgenstern

Contributors: Bill Johanson, John Noling, & Mike Vogas



## Member Spotlight Doug Wood



Doug Wood is Involved in Rotary Membership, DEI Committee, the Peacebuilder Committee, and soon-to-be Sustainability Committee. He says Rotary's history is so strong, you can't avoid the idea that you're a peacebuilder. He reminds us that Rotary had "a seat at the table" when the United Nations was formed, and Rotary still sits as a consultant to the UN today. Doug encourages us all to look into the history of how significant Rotary has been in history of peacebuilding and projects all over the world.

Watch the video [here](#).

## Muskegon Rotary Board

Ginny Sprague, President  
 Tim Arter, President-Elect  
 Dave Alexander, President Nominee  
 Jane Clingman-Scott, Past President  
 Kristi Nagengast, Treasurer  
 Don Hutchins, Secretary  
 Kim Boersema, Club Coordinator

### Directors:

Aaron Maie                      Roger Morgenstern  
 David Ramos                    Asaline Scott  
 Marty Sytsema                Brandon Turnbull

**Please email Club Board Members through this [link](#):**

## ReWine

ReWine meetings are every first and third Thursday each month at 5:15pm at Walker's (in the Delta).

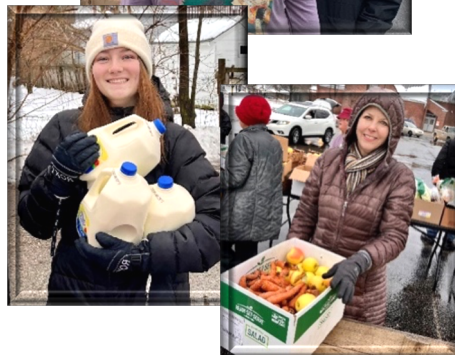


## ANNOUNCEMENTS

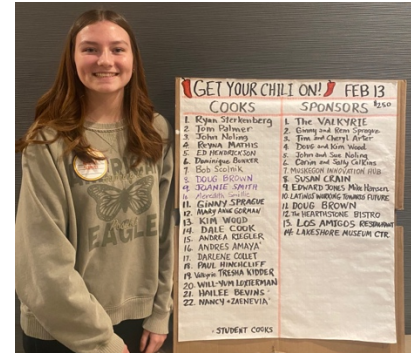


### Interactors & Rotarians at Work!

A big shout out to those El Salvador and Honduras service-trip participants, Rotarians and friends that came out to help with Citi Boi's Food Truck from Feeding America on Friday, January 26<sup>th</sup> in North Muskegon. It was cold and rainy, but a lot of good work was done packing boxes with healthy foods to deliver to the waiting cars. It was a great chance for the students and chaperones to get to know each other and work side by side on a service project much like they will do on their trips. So proud of what we can accomplish together!



## Get Your Chili On! Cook Off and 50/50 Raffles



**Addison Schmitz** volunteered her time at this week's Rotary meeting to help sell tickets, find cooks, and sign-up new sponsors for their Chili Cook-Off on February 13<sup>th</sup>.

The chili cook-off is a benefit fundraiser to support local Rotary Interact students who will be participating in international service projects in El Salvador & Honduras in March & April 2024. Proceeds will be used to purchase house building materials & other supplies such as books for a library as well.

**Tuesday, February 13, 2024**

**5:30-7:30pm**

First Lutheran Church,  
1206 Whitehall Road  
Muskegon MI 49445



Menu: Chili, cornbread, salad, desserts, and bottled water

Tickets are \$10 each (or \$15 at the door) – Children 5 and under free.

### Scan QR code to buy your tickets:

Please enter the total \$ amount of the tickets you want to purchase. \$10.00 x number of tickets you'd like. Example, enter \$20.00 if you wish to buy two tickets. The email receipt you receive will serve as your ticket into the event. If you'd like to be a cook for the chili cook-off contest, please contact **Esther Ricco** or if you'd like to be a sponsor, please contact **Michelle Burley**.



**EL SALVADOR FUNDRAISER**

**Spaghetti Dinner**  
FUNDRAISER

Lakeside Cafe

Join us for a Spaghetti dinner to help raise money for Muskegon High School Rotary Interact kids going to El Salvador to build homes!

**Monday, February 5th**  
at Lakeside Cafe from 5pm-7pm

**\$12.99** Dinner include: Spaghetti, Meatballs, Garlic Bread! (Drink not included.)

We also will be accepting pop cans donations!

**Interact**  
Rotary Sponsored Club



Terrell Jones stopped by **Mike Vogas'** studio to record their thoughts on Interact and their upcoming trip to El Salvador.

[Click this here to watch the video.](#)

## MHS Interact Blood Drive



Wednesday February 21st, the MHS Rotary Interact Club has a blood drive scheduled in the High School Cafeteria from 12-6pm.

Our club planned this drive with the goal of recruiting community members as opposed to our student body, so we need your support!

Did you know the Red Cross is experiencing a desperate shortage of banked blood in their stores right now? They need our help! Please consider giving if you are able. You can use this link to sign up for a time:

<https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-results?zipSponsor=MHS>

# DEI Corner



## HUMANS OF MUSKEGON

Delve into the experiences of our Human Books who want to answer your questions about their experiences, the challenges they've faced, and the profound lessons they've learned along the way.

**Saturday, February 17 | 10:00 am - 1:00 pm**  
Egelston Branch of MADL

**Wednesday, April 3 | 10:00 am - 1:00 pm**  
Muskegon Community College Gerber Lounge

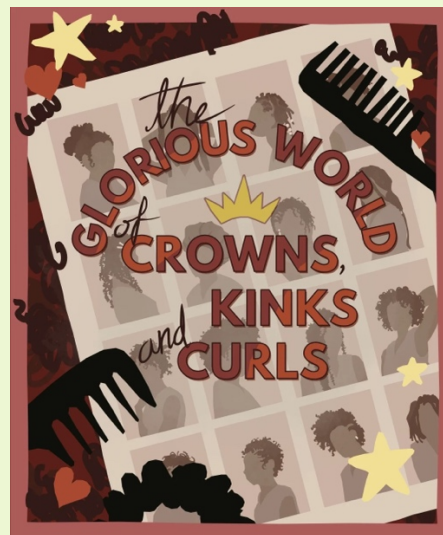
[Learn more at MADL.org/Humans](https://www.madl.org/Humans)



[Two Minute Trailer – Click Here](#)

## The Glorious World of Crowns, Kinks and Curls

Presented by MUSKEGON CIVIC THEATER



A collection of monologues and scenes exploring the complex relationship black women have with their hair. From Afros to braids, weddings and funerals, falling in love to grieving a loss, these stories serve as a powerful reminder that for Black women in particular, hair is both deeply personal and political. These heartbreaking, heartwarming, and

hilarious stories will take audiences on an unparalleled journey into the world of Black womanhood.

Join your DEI Committee members for a group outing.

**3:00pm Sunday, February 18**

Beardsley Theater

Tickets available at Frauenthal Center Box Office, 425 W. Western Ave.  
(231) 727-8001

[muskegoncivictheatre.org](https://www.muskegoncivictheatre.org)

Ask to be seated in Rotary Group.

Cost is \$30 there are 20 seats on hold at the Frauenthal box office. Email **Andy Buelow** and let him know, call or go to the box office, or go online and purchase tickets yourself. After February 8 they will release any tickets not claimed.





## Great Michigan Read

The Great Michigan Read begins in March with the book, "Fire Keeper's Daughter."



Thanks to **Doug Wood**, our Club has been recognized by Michigan Humanities as an official partner and is getting 20 copies of the book, penned by Michigan author Angeline Boulley, for distribution to members. **Sarah Rinsema-Sybenga** provided exciting news that the book's author, Angeline Boulley, will be visiting Muskegon April 17 as part of the community read! Stay tuned for more details. To help prepare for her visit, Sarah asked Rotarians to contact her, **Nancy McCarthy**, or **Doug Wood** if you have any native ancestry and would like to be part of a program with the author.

## Braver Angels Workshop



**Cathy Brubaker-Clarke** announced that the Braver Angels Workshop "Skills for Bridging the Divide" still has room for more attendees. Join February 23 from 8:30-11:30am at the Norton Shores Library. This is a red and blue organization where people can talk and have civil conversations. This workshop is not specifically politics but is learning about how we can talk with each other in a good, cohesive, caring way and really listen to each other. There is no charge, but donations are welcome. It is sponsored by the Rotary Peace-Builders Committee. Sign up through this Eventbrite link:

[Braver Angels Workshop Signup Link Click Here](#)

Contact Cathy at [cbrubakerclarke@developmuskegon.org](mailto:cbrubakerclarke@developmuskegon.org) for further information. Max 50 people so sign up soon.

## District 6290 50/50 Raffle

**Meredith Smillie** is selling 50/50 tickets for the Rotary International Foundation. Tickets are \$20 a piece. Together we can change lives by building better communities. Join us in the great 2024 50/50 Raffle. Half of your ticket goes to the Rotary Foundation to do more good works in the world and half your ticket will be returned in prize money to 6 lucky winners. Tickets for \$20 each are on sale through February 29, 2024. See Meredith to purchase. Cash or check made out to Rotary District 6290.

The poster is for the "Win Big in the 50/50 Raffle to Benefit The Rotary Foundation Annual Fund". It features a large, stylized number "50/50" in the center, with "Win Big" above it and "to Benefit" below it. The Rotary logo is visible on the right. At the bottom, there is an illustration of a burlap sack overflowing with US dollar bills. Text at the bottom reads "When YOU WIN... The Rotary Foundation WINS too!". A quote from Paul Heroman, DG 2022-2023, is included: "The Rotary Foundation is the engine that makes all our work possible - locally, District and Internationally. For Barb and me, the Rotary Foundation is one of our major yearly contributions. We know the monies sent to the Foundation will be focused on the needs of those that are less fortunate."

## Muskegon Rising Ep 4: "The Defenders" of Positive Growth in Criminal Justice



You might be tempted to think that positive, lasting change has little or nothing to do with criminal justice, but you'd be wrong. Fred Johnson, Chief Public Defender for Muskegon County, and fellow Public Defender, **Kendrah Robinson** reveal the effort and insight required to apply justice in all its meanings. They are two of the twenty public defenders applying competence and compassion to the work of making our community a better and safer place to be. This is their story.



Subscribe on Apple Podcasts, Spotify, Amazon Music, and wherever you listen to podcasts.

<https://muskegonrotary.org/page/muskegon-rising-podcast>

## New Members' Event

Our Engagement and Retention Committee is hosting a new members' social event on Thursday, Feb. 29<sup>th</sup> at the Heritage Museum of Business and Industry. More details to follow.

## Early Spring This Year According to Groundhog

