









“Service Above Self” Muskegon Rotary in Motion

http://www.muskegonrotary.org



2014-2015
Distinguished Service Citation
Awarded to the Rotary Club of
Muskegon
For Your Consistently Outstanding Club Newsletter



<p>Jason Piasecki, President Jane Clingman-Scott, President-Elect Ginny Sprague, President Nominee Mark Meyers, Past President Tim Arter, Treasurer Kathy Betts, Secretary Kim Boersma, Club Coordinator</p>  	<h2 style="margin: 0;">Muskegon Rotary Club</h2> <p style="color: red; font-weight: bold;">Club 16 (2809) – District 6290, Chartered May 1, 1916</p> <p style="color: red; font-weight: bold;">Next Mtg—March 3, 2022, 12:00-1:30pm</p> <p style="color: green; font-weight: bold;">Hybrid Style – The Delta & Zoom</p> <p style="color: red; font-weight: bold;">ReWine Sat Club – Next mtg 3/3 5:15 pm</p> <p style="color: red; font-weight: bold;">The Salty Pecker</p>	<p>Mary Anne Gorman, Director Jeff Lewis, Director Doug Wood, Director Asaline Scott, Director David Ramos, Director Marty Gerencer, Director Meredith Smillie, RIM Reporter Susan Besteman, RIM Editor</p> 
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THE FOUR WAY TEST THAT ROTARIANS USE IN MAKING ETHICAL DECISIONS:

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

Next Meeting (3/3/22) — Precise Writing

What do employers want to hear about you? New trends in resume and CV writing.

This is it: the absolute edge of no return: to turn back now and make home or sail irrevocably on and either find land or plunge over the world's roaring rim” - William Faulkner

MEETER - GREETER

Ginny Sprague

REFLECTORS

President Jason Piasecki
for Alan Alpert Feb 24
Joanie Smith Mar 3
Open Mar 10
Darlene Collet Mar 17
Bill Erickson Mar 24

THIS WEEK'S MENU

Mexican Buffet with a salad & cookie

NEXT WEEK'S BIRTHDAYS

Blake Cramer Mar 4
Trenton Hancock Mar 8

[Caring Connections Fund](#)

PROGRAMS / EVENTS

2/24 Rapid Response by Law Enforcement
3/3 Precise Writings
3/3 **ReWine 5:15 PM**
The Salty Pecker
3/10 The FARM



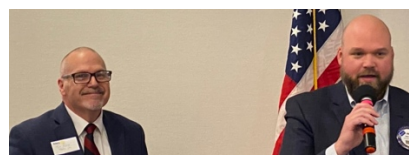
VISITORS & GUESTS



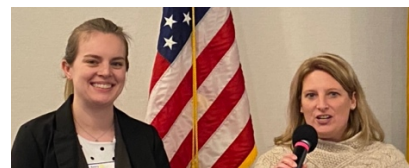
Thank you to LaKisha Harris for the delectable desserts! Click the picture to link to her Facebook page. Thank you **Aaron Maike** for inviting LaKisha.



Emily Morgenstern (Muskegon Chamber of Commerce) - guest of **Dave Alexander**



Tom Palmer (Shoreline Insurance) – pending new membership and guest of **Josh Silvis**



Gwen Adams (Muskegon Museum of Art) - guest of **Melissa Horton**

Charlotte Johnson (saw our postings on Facebook)

Student Guests



Welcome Whitehall! **Marty Sytsema** introduced Principal Brett Westerlund. Brett introduced seniors Alyssa Taylor (MCC on the Muskegon Promise) and Josh Holmburg (Ferris State University)

February 24, 2022
Muskegon Rotary Club
Meeting Video
[Click Here](#)

Muskegon Rotary Board

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ANNOUNCEMENTS



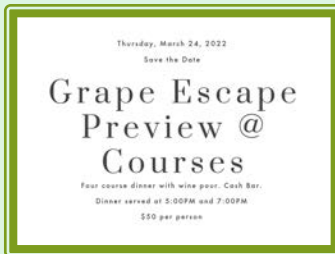
Rotary International District Raffle Tickets LAST CALL!

Our District 6290 50/50 Raffle officially began on January 2, 2022. Tickets are \$20 a piece and the drawing for the six winning tickets will take place on March 11th in Kalamazoo at the President-Elect Training Seminar (PETS). See **Ginny Sprague** for tickets before February 28th. Proceeds will benefit both our Muskegon Rotary Foundation and also the District 6290 Foundation.

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Grape Escape Preview



Grape Escape Preview at Courses will take place on March 24, 2022 at Baker College Culinary Institute. Tickets are \$50 a person which includes a four-course dinner and three wine pours. A cash bar is also available and reservations are limited. Purchase tickets on EventBrite at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/grape-escape-preview-courses-tickets-265167120997>

They are also looking for committee members for Grape Escape this year. Contact **Meredith Smillie** if you would like dinner on March 24th or are willing to help with Grape Escape: msmillie@bethany.org.

2022 MARCH MADNESS and 32 BRAVE ROTARIANS!



14 Brave Rotarians Still Needed!

March is around the corner, and so is March Madness, our ever-popular 32 Brave Rotarians contest. We need to recruit 32 Brave Rotarians* to fill out our brackets and compete to win a Paul Harris Fellow award either for yourself or as a gift for another deserving individual.

Each Brave Rotarian will contribute \$100 to the Muskegon Rotary Foundation to participate in this contest. Starting with the Thursday, February 17, Rotary meeting, we will

solicit brave Rotarians to fill our brackets each week until we fill our slots. You can also claim your bracket spot by emailing Ginny Sprague at remsleep1@comcast.net or ginny.e.sprague@gmail.com. Ginny will acknowledge each person who wants to participate in writing.

After completing the first round of tournament games, each Brave Rotarian will be matched with a college or university team still in the big dance and begin the competition in the second round of 32 on March 19 and 20. As your team moves through the brackets, so do you!



Following the final tournament game in New Orleans on Monday, April 4, we will know which team wins the NCAA Men's College Basketball Tournament and which Brave Rotarian will receive a Paul Harris Fellowship prize.

At our meeting on Thursday, April 7, we will draw two names from all 31 Brave Rotarians whose teams did not win the tournament. Each of the two drawing winners will also receive a Paul Harris Fellowship. If you are one of our three lucky winners, your \$100 investment will yield a prize worth \$1000. If you are already a PHF, you can award your prize to another worthy candidate of your choosing or claim your prize to advance your PHF to a plus category.

We appreciate your support of the Rotary Foundation, and let the Madness begin.



Happy 106th Birthday, Rotary Club of Muskegon!

Thank you, **Mike Vogas**, for your superb talent composing this special video. [CLICK HERE](#)

This Week's Spotlight: Lisa Sabourin



Lisa Sabourin joined Rotary in 2010 and wanting to be connected to the business community and noting no one can say no to Jim Fisher. Married to Bret for 23 years, Lisa has two sons, one at Olivet and the other a senior at Mona Shores High School. They are all huge fans of sports and being outdoors including boating and snowmobiling. President of Employer's Association of West Michigan, Lisa loves her position and her fantastic team at the Employer's Association. She especially enjoyed helping local businesses through the COVID pandemic. Lisa and her team also love supporting local businesses and their human resource needs.

To view Lisa's video, [click here](#).

THIS WEEK'S PROGRAM:

Muskegon County
Rapid Response by Law Enforcement

Rapid Response Task

Force: Local Police
Departments Join Together
Regarding School Threats



Speakers: **DJ Hilson, Michael Poulin, and Jon Gale**
RIM Reporter: **Meredith Smillie**

Muskegon County Prosector DJ Hilson facilitated a conversation with Muskegon County Sheriff Michael Poulin and Chief Jon Gale of our Norton Shores Police Department. Muskegon County Law Enforcement has developed a Rapid Response Team and school safety task force, in direct response to threats on social media towards Mona Shores Public Schools. There

issue to ensure our children and schools are safe and that parents felt safe sending their children to school. The task force garnered a lot of attention across the state by leading the way and being innovative in their response to this growing threat.



Sheriff Michael Poulin explained that these school threats bubbled up after the tragedy at Oxford Public Schools. When a threat comes to the attention of law enforcement, Central Dispatch handles the bulk of these calls and police chiefs are immediately notified of the potential threat.

The threats that came in on social media were seen throughout the county and in surrounding communities. When working with federal investigative agencies, dissemination of information is necessary and needs to happen quickly. Local law enforcement has immediately responded to these threats and took these social media threats very seriously, executing search warrants and seizing of phones, computers and tablets.



Muskegon Area Intermediate School District



were several threads throughout the county and geared towards many Muskegon County Public Schools; however, the initial threat was to Mona Shores Public Schools which prompted Chief Gale to initiate an email asking for assistance. All the police departments jumped in immediately to tackle this issue geared towards Muskegon County ISD Schools, including the FBI and Secret Service. Law enforcement immediately responded on this





DJ noted that he works closely with law enforcement as the Prosecutor's Office issues warrants and files the criminal charges. DJ notes that they are interviewing students, assessing threat level (such as access to weapons, family support) and ascertaining the child's mental health status (cooperating with Health West).



Chief Gale described how they are collaborating with local school districts and the need for constant communication with local superintendents and assessing whether students and staff can attend school the next day when threats like these arise. Superintendents need all the information possible to make these determinations. Dr. John Severson (Muskegon ISD Superintendent) held meetings with all of the superintendents in Muskegon County, with the task force present, to determine how to keep our schools safe and to continually assess threat level. Chief Michael Poulin emphasized the amazing working relationships the police departments have with one another and within the Muskegon ISD schools. All of the districts reached out to law enforcement and the task force to develop



appropriate safety plans and to provide the support our schools need, such as additional police presence at schools and during after school activities. All three men emphasized that this task force is very effective and cooperative.



DJ Hilson noted that 24 juveniles have been charged with making social media threats to our local schools. Law enforcement and the prosecutor's office have worked very hard to ensure our schools are safe and had to take these threats very seriously in the wake of the tragedy in Oxford this past fall. Brett Westerlund, Principal of Whitehall Schools and guest at the meeting, stated he was very thankful for the task force and the support that was provided to the local school districts.



There were a total of 39 individual cases that came in within 30 days. Some juveniles were formally charged, some were sent to diversion programs, expelled from school, etc... and therefore, the response had to be very quick to assess the threat level when social media threats are made. Some of the charges are very serious. DJ noted that many of the students were middle school age and some really just wanted a day off of school and therefore forwarded or posted the threats on social media. However, there were a few more



serious threats made and the students needed to be held accountable and held responsible for their decisions. A tremendous amount of resources were diverted to the task force and keeping our children safe.

Chief Jon Gale also shared about the success the Ride with Pride Program at Mona Shores. Ride with Pride is a program that has effectively engaged students, parents and law enforcement and has blossomed around the state of Michigan.



Ride with Pride started 9 years ago and grew out of the fear some students have of police officers. Ride with Pride was to foster relationships with students and to catch students doing great things in their schools versus engagement for negative activities. Ride with Pride is now in 9 school districts in Muskegon, spreading to Ottawa, Oceana and Kent County. Prior to COVID, things were really rolling and many positive outcomes were noted within these partner schools. COVID has been a huge hurdle to overcome. It was noted that there is one North Muskegon student



that has expressed interest in law



enforcement after Ride with Pride was initiated, and another is in the military police, but exact stats were not known at the time of the presentation of how many students expressed interest in law enforcement after participating in Ride with Pride.

Local schools districts really see kids doing some great things in their districts and want to reward students for positive behaviors. Ride with Pride allows police departments in providing rewards to these students, such as winning a car during an assembly. Officers love engaging with students and mentoring them and seeing the amazing results these partnerships with local school districts are having.



The program is well loved by DJ, Michael and Jon, and the energy the students bring to his initiative. The students engage in Ride with Pride contracts at the start of the school year and are recognized for making positive and healthy decisions. The students are not forced to sign the contract, but most do sign the agreement. Some examples include not having



negative contacts with police, or school front office staff, traffic violations, wear your bike helmet, make healthy choices and be kind. They can win prizes during a raffle at a celebration at the end of the year. Each time they are caught being "positive" their name is put into a raffle and multiplies their chances of having their name drawn and winning some pretty cool prizes.



There is also a Safe Senior initiative to keep our senior adults safe. That team started about 2 years ago and there is a team of detectives that are able to dedicate time and energy to ensuring seniors are not being scammed or taken advantage of, including elder abuse. For more information, visit the website at: <https://safeseniors.info/>



2022 District Conference

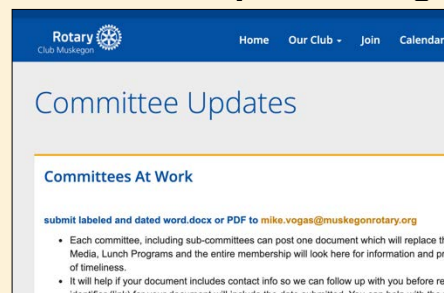


Registration is now open for the 2022 District Conference "Because of the Water" Traverse Bay Resort and Spa MAY 12TH - 14TH, 2022

For help with registrations, call Kathy at the District Office at 616-935-9559. We are offering several meal packages to meet your needs.

[REGISTER NOW](#) by clicking Register Now.....did you click it?

New Muskegon Rotary Committee Updates Page



Do you want to know more about what each committee is up to? Head to our website at MuskegonRotary.org and select the drop down menu from the "Our Club" tab. Then click on the "Committee Updates" link to get the latest information on each of our Committees at work. If you are a committee chair or representative, send your committee updates as a Word Document or PDF to **Mike Vogas**. Here is a short video description of how to access this site – [CLICK HERE](#).

This now contains Mike.vogas@muskegonrotary.org

