

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 8, 2024

Next Meeting (February 15, 2024, 12-1:30pm) — Hoagies & Grinders at the Delta
Program Topic – Rwanda Restorative Pathways from Genocide

What's Coming

February 15 Rwanda Restorative Pathways from Genocide
February 22 Membership Program
February 29 Muskegon County Crisis Intervention Team (CIT)

Upcoming Birthdays

February 15 Marty Ferriby
February 16 Jane Clingman-Scott
February 21 Kristi Pawlak

Caring

Connections Fund

[Click this link to donate \\$10 on your birthday](#)



Greeters this week

Tim Arter & Irma Carney

Reflectors

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 – Kathy Moore
RIM Editor – Susan Besteman

2/8/2024 Muskegon
Rotary YouTube Video
Link: [Click Here](#)

VISITORS & GUESTS

Kevin Kohlhoff,
guest of
Courtney Porrett



Rob Mathis introduced his guests, Angela Ferrier and (her father) Ken Ferrier



Callie Christensen,
guest of
Tabitha Johnson

John Noling assisted **Mort Kantor** with the introduction of his daughter, Michelle Hanley



Marty Sytsema introduced guests from – dare we say it --- maybe his favorite local school, West Michigan Christian. Counselor Josh Scolma presented Eli Male and Sydney Sytsema.

Muskegon Rotary— Now an Official Peacebuilder Club!



Doug Wood applied, on behalf of our Club, to become an official Peacebuilder Club and received an email response, “I should like to offer the thanks and congratulations of the RAGFP Board in this achievement and for all of your work in peacebuilding,” from Alison Sutherland, Rotary Action Group for Peace Technical Officer. **President Ginny** thanked Doug and all those involved and added, “Our membership in this Rotary Action Group is a source of pride for our Club, and an official recognition of our designation is excellent.”



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 Maiké	Roger Morgenstern
David Ramos	Asaline Scott
Marty Sytsema	Brandon Turnbull

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

This Week's Program: Call 2-1-1



Speakers: **Stacey Gomez**
& Sarah Johnson

Introduced by: **Lisa Tyler**

Reporter: **Kathy Moore**

Prior to introducing the speakers,
Lisa Tyler introduced the CALL 211



agency by sharing a bit of history about its origin and connection to local community. Extremely well positioned to communicate this information, Lisa Tyler

is the Vice-Chair of the CALL 211 Board and works as the Communications Director for Senior Resources, the parent agency of CALL 211 prior to their independent agency formation in 2007.



Stacey Gomez, Executive Director, followed by presenting an overview of CALL 211's services and activities. First, "CALL" is an acronym that stands for Community Access Line of

How 211 Benefits Our Community

- Free
- Confidential
- Multilingual
- Available 24 hours, 7 days
- Easy to remember 3 digit number
- Accurate information about community resources
- Allows public to communicate needs
- Adds capacity to other area organizations



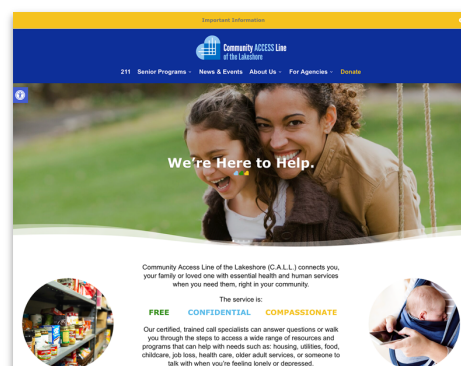
the Lakeshore (C.A.L.L.); but it's also a play on words because we want residents in the service area to call *(the verb)* 2-1-1 to "increase access to community services through effective and compassionate information and assistance" *(the mission)*. CALL 211 is a 501©3 non-profit organization that strives to be a visible and effective access for those in need of health and human service programs while promoting consumer education and option choices. They can easily connect individuals to information and agency referrals for everyday needs or crisis situations.

Sarah Johnson, Resource Manager, continued the program by presenting the four main components of CALL 211's services: 1) Regional Contact Center, 2) Community Resource Directory, 3) Data & Reporting, and 4) Community Engagement. There are a variety of ways to connect with 211 – by phone, chat, text, email, or website. To do the work, CALL 211 utilizes specialized software designed to maintain information and referral data; and to communicate with other platforms of agency partners. In addition, the



database can gather volumes of statistical data to capture and report on a variety metrics. The services provided are objective, multi-lingual, available 24/7, and always confidential.

Of course, the agency that specializes in providing information – provided more information. To see the program in its entirety, click [this link](#) to watch the video. Or visit their website at www.call-211.org for the full 2-1-1.



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 Vegas

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

On behalf of the Chili Cook-Off Committee, thank you to the 23 cooks and 15 sponsors for this year's event! 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**.



Three Interact students,
Addison

Schmittz, Levi Jackson, and 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.](#)

Thank You To Our Sponsors!

Get Your Chili On! Cook Off
February 13, 2024

Rotary Club of Muskegon

EVENT SPONSORS

Tim and Cheryl Arter

Carim and Sally Calkins

Susan Crain

Kathy Moore

GrandRiverOffice

Ginny and Rem Sprague

John and Sue Noling

Doug and Kim Wood

GRAND VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY
MUSKEGON INNOVATION HUB

The Valkyrie
at the 4 Corners

TEQUILA BAR & GRILL
Los Amigos

Barry's

Edward Jones
Michael J. Hansen,
Financial Advisor

Hearthstone
bistro · bar · grill

LAKE SHORE
MUSEUM CENTER

Latinos Working For The Future

MHS Interact Blood Drive



American Red Cross

Blood Services

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:

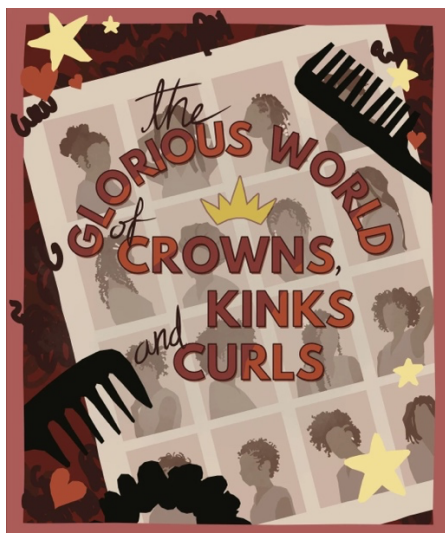
<https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-results?zipSponsor=MHS>

New Members' Event

Our Engagement and Retention Committee is hosting a new members' social event on Thursday, Feb. 29th at the Heritage Museum of Business and Industry at 5-7pm. New members, sponsors, navigators, and committee chair persons will receive an invitation soon to sign up to attend. If you have any questions, contact **Lisa Metzdorf**.

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

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.

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

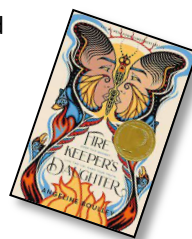
Learn more at MADL.org/Humans



[Two Minute Trailer – Click Here](#)

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.



ReWine

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



Braver Angels Workshop



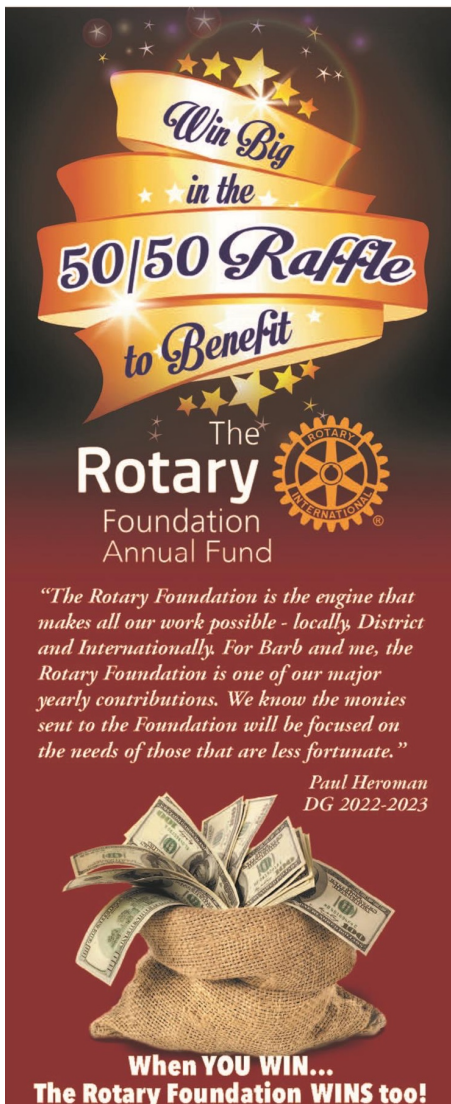
Cathy Brubaker-Clarke announced that the Braver Angels Workshop "Skills for Bridging the Divide" still has room for more attendees. Join February 23 from 8:30-11:30am at the Norton Shores Library. This is a red and blue organization where people can talk and have civil conversations. This workshop is 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 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.



Win Big
in the
50/50 Raffle
to Benefit
The
Rotary
Foundation
Annual Fund

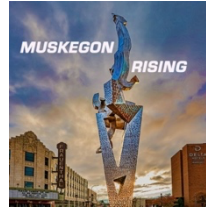
"The Rotary Foundation is the engine that makes all our work possible - locally, District and Internationally. For Barb and me, the Rotary Foundation is one of our major yearly contributions. We know the monies sent to the Foundation will be focused on the needs of those that are less fortunate."

Paul Heroman
DG 2022-2023

When YOU WIN...
The Rotary Foundation WINS too!

Muskegon Rising Ep 5: Nelson Neighborhood Association

Episode 5 of the Muskegon Rising podcast dives deep into the heart of our community with the Nelson Neighborhood Association.



Join us as we chat with Paula Kendra and learn how this non-profit is transforming the neighborhood in the heart of the City of Muskegon with enthusiasm and a deep-rooted connection to history.

Listen now at:

<https://www.buzzsprout.com/2269729/14450915>

Member Spotlight Kelly DeVos



Kelly DeVos works for Shelby State Bank and is the Co-chair of the Peace Builders Committee, member of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee, and member of the Environmental Sustainability Rotary Action Group. With a total of 11 kids (including step-kids and in-laws) and 5 grandkids, Kelly stated that she has always taught her children to practice service above self even before she knew that was a natural aspect of Rotary. She strongly believes that we are only stewards of our community and environment; and we should always strive to leave it in the same or better condition.

Watch the video [here](#).

New Member Induction



David Medendorp grew up in both Muskegon & Grand Haven. He went to Muskegon Christian school & then on to Grand Haven High School. He continued his education by attending Muskegon Community College, Muskegon Business College, & Davenport School of Business. After getting his real estate license, David went on to earn the Graduate REALTOR® Institute (GRI) designation. With the time required to earn a GRI, & only 19% of REALTORS® obtaining it, David has demonstrated his level of commitment to his clients & the industry. This also continues to be a great way to stand out in his field & to prospective home buyers & sellers.

In 1987 David began his journey as a real estate agent with past Rotarian, Elmo Hahn (who has since passed away) at Hahn Realty with Coldwell Banker. He has sold real estate in West Michigan ever since.

Now David is not just a realtor, but a broker & the proud owner of Medendorp Real Estate Group. He has represented buyers & sellers from as far North as Leelanau, & as far South as Holland. He is also a Certified Commercial Investment Member (CCIM), which makes him a recognized expert in the commercial & investment industry. This designation process ensures that CCIMs are proficient not only in theory, but also in practice.

He has sold more than 1500 homes in Muskegon & over 500 commercial or investment properties in the 36 years he has been in real estate.

David married his wife Erin Medendorp in 2002. David and Erin have raised 4 children. Brooklyn is 33, she is a homeowner & works at Socibowl downtown. Paige is 20, she also owns a home in Norton shores, & works doing home health care. Riley is a senior at

Mona Shores High School along with being a proud tuba player & works at Qdoba. Their youngest Chandler is a Junior at Mona Shores High School & is a committed member of the Sailors football team!

Together they live in a Lakeside home that overlooks the Sappi property & was formerly owned by Eugene LeBoeuf. They recently purchased a cottage near Crystal Mountain where he spends his free time golfing, skiing & remodeling their second home.

David was a longtime member of the Jaycees until the age of 41. He is excited to become a part of the Muskegon Rotary Club, which his grandfather John Bytwerk was also a part of. He loves the concept of being a part of a group where people come together to help with their community's needs and his heart's desire is to make Muskegon an even better place to live! David is sponsored by **Scott Timmer**.

RI: WHERE IT ALL BEGAN



The first Rotarians, from left, Sylvester Schiele, Paul Harris (pointing to book), Hiram E Shorey and Gustavus H Loehr.

Rotary is celebrating its 119-year anniversary this year with countless stories of service and goodwill in its history. Here's a small tale of its beginning:

The first Rotary meeting was held in Room 711 of the Unity Building on Dearborn Street in downtown Chicago. The room, the office of mining engineer Gus Loehr, was restored to its original condition for RI's 75th anniversary in 1980. When the building was demolished in 1989, Rotarian members of the Paul Harris 711 Club removed and preserved the room's flooring, wood trim, office equipment, and furnishings. In 1994, the room was re-created at RI World

Headquarters, 1560 Sherman Av, Evanston, IL. Hundreds of Rotarians visit the office each year. **Courtesy: "A Century of Service"**

VOGAS: SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

Contributed by **Bill Johanson**



When AV guru **Mike Vogas**, right, joined Rotary a couple of years ago, one of his early comments

concerned the poor quality of the hotel meeting's audio system. We'd heard that complaint before – except, that is, from those veteran members pleasantly dozing after lunch - but newbie member Mike rose to action with better equipment and his personal quality sound during the meeting.

We may not have fully realized Mike's total value at first, fools that we were. Then, the Covid epidemic struck, changing the world as well as Club meetings. Several members quit or went on leave, and Muskegon Rotary membership was in jeopardy of who-knows-what. Fortunately, the Vogas Studio introduced us to Zoom video and, before long, meetings continued off-site and in surprisingly effective fashion. Some 240 members soon dwindled down to 223 – not too bad – but dedication to service remained strong as did member recruitment, student involvement, and ReWine Satellite support.

We delight in all this. RI has continued strengthening Rotary membership around the world and certainly here. Muskegon members are again meeting in person as well as via Zoom. The important business of Rotary – Service Above Self – continues.

MUSKEGON AREA DISTRICT LIBRARY

Black Lives are Beautiful with
DR. CHARMEKA NEWTON

Join Dr. Char Newton to discover her new co-authored workbook designed to help members of the Black community counter the impacts of racialized trauma while also cultivating self-esteem, building resilience, fostering community, and promoting Black empowerment. This workshop will help community members learn strategies to celebrate their Blackness.

Registration required at MADL.org/Calendar

Friday, March 8 | 3:00 pm
Muskegon Heights Branch of MADL
2808 Sanford St, Muskegon Heights

For Adults

HACKLEY COMMUNITY CARE
We're All In

HealthWest

LAZARUSMAN CONSULTING



Our reflection for the week was given by **Karen Buie** who recited "Words to Live By" which included, "No matter how you feel, get up, dress up, and show up; life isn't tied with a bow but it's still a gift."

