









# “Service Above Self” Muskegon Rotary in Motion

<http://www.muskegonrotary.org>




<p><b>Jason Piasecki, President</b>  <b>Jane Clingman-Scott, President-Elect</b>  <b>Ginny Sprague, President Nominee</b>  <b>Mark Meyers, Past President</b>  <b>Tim Arter, Treasurer</b>  <b>Kathy Betts, Secretary</b>  <b>Kim Boersma, Club Coordinator</b></p>  	<h2 style="margin: 0;">Muskegon Rotary Club</h2> <p><b>Club 16 (2809) – District 6290, Chartered May 1, 1916</b>  <b>Next Mtg—March 17, 2022, 12:00-1:30pm</b>  <b>Hybrid Style – The Delta &amp; Zoom</b>  <b>ReWine Sat Club – Next mtg 3/17 5:15 pm</b>  <b>Walker's (Inside the Delta Hotel)</b></p>	<p><b>Mary Anne Gorman, Director</b>  <b>Jeff Lewis, Director</b>  <b>Doug Wood, Director</b>  <b>Asaline Scott, Director</b>  <b>David Ramos, Director</b>  <b>Marty Gerencer, Director</b>  <b>Meredith Smillie, RIM Reporter</b>  <b>Susan Besteman, RIM Editor</b></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 (3/17/22) — Harris Hospitality

**Making a “splash” in Muskegon, enhancing their existing enterprises & planning “what’s next?”**

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

Dan Hartmann

### REFLECTORS

Alan Alpert	Mar 10
Darlene Collet	Mar 17
Bill Erickson	Mar 24

### THIS WEEK'S MENU

Sandwich Buffet

### NEXT WEEK'S BIRTHDAYS

Cathy Brubaker-Clarke	Mar 19
Jane Mountain	Mar 19
Tim Lipan	Mar 20
Steve Edwards	Mar 21

[Caring Connections Fund](#)

### PROGRAMS / EVENTS

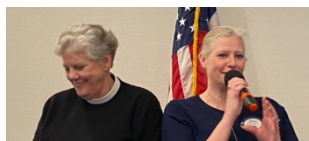
3/10 The FARM  
 3/17 Harris Hospitality  
 3/17 ReWine 5:15 PM  
     Walker's (Inside Delta)  
 3/24 Pours for Polio

March 10, 2022  
 Muskegon Rotary Club  
 Meeting Video  
[Click Here](#)

### VISITORS & GUESTS



Jeff Bessinger (Collections/Exhibits  
 Director at Lakeshore Museum Center) -  
 guest of **Melissa Horton**



Rev. Eileen Stoffan (St. Paul's Episcopal  
 Church) – mother & guest of **Merica Dobry**

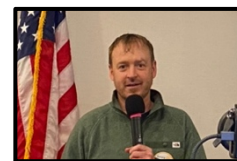


**Esther Ricco** introduced our Honduras  
 travelers, McKenzie Covington, Eliza Piper,  
 and Travis Piper (Eliza's father). To see  
 McKenzie & Eliza's video: [CLICK HERE](#)  
 Check out page 3 for more of this story.



Dawn (Forensic Nursing Student at  
 Oakland University) - guest of **Rita  
 Caviness**

Scott Marecek (Indoor  
 Permaculture Farms)



### Student Guests



Ken Byard, North Muskegon Principal,  
 presented seniors Megan Houseman and  
 Kelty Blastic. Megan is looking forward to  
 studying Orthopedic Surgery and Exercise  
 Science at Hope College. Kelty is deciding  
 between Michigan Tech or MSU for  
 Chemical Engineering.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS



### Grape Escape Preview

Treat yourself or someone special to you to a wonderful dinner while supporting Rotary. The menu is above and looks fantastic!!!!

We are partnering with Baker College and the Culinary Institute of Michigan to host a preview of Grape Escape. We are calling this event Grape Escape Preview @ Courses.

Rotarians are invited to dine at Courses and enjoy a world class meal with fellow Rotarians and their guests. Our hope is for Rotarians and their guests to learn more about the Culinary Institute and for Rotarians to share with their guests the Rotary experience.

Tickets are on sale. Dinner will be served at 5:00PM and 7:00PM. Seating is limited at Courses to 46 guests per seating. You will enjoy a four course meal and one wine pour. Tickets are \$50 per person and all proceeds go to our Rotary club. A cash bar is also available. Tickets are available through Eventbrite and the link is listed below.

On behalf of the Grape Escape committee, I look forward to enjoying a wonderful evening out at Courses.  
<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 24<sup>th</sup> or are willing to help with Grape Escape:  
[msmillie@bethany.org](mailto:msmillie@bethany.org).

### Muskegon Rotary Board

Jason Piasecki [jason@revel.in](mailto:jason@revel.in)  
 Jane Clingman-Scott [janecs1@comcast.net](mailto:janecs1@comcast.net)  
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 Marty Gerencer [marty.gerencer@gmail.com](mailto:marty.gerencer@gmail.com)

### Rotary on the Road

By: **Bill Loxterman**



Muskegon Rotary Club was represented well Tuesday, March 8<sup>th</sup> as **John Noling** presented a superlative program on the District 6290 Life Leadership Conference to the Greenville (MI) Rotary Club. Paying rapt attention is Penny Dora, long-time Life Leadership coordinator for Greenville, a person with whom District Life Leadership Co-Chair Noling has worked with for many years and now was able to connect in person. Greenville Rotary members truly appreciated hearing about the history of Life Leadership in West Michigan and about the 2022 conference venue change (to Ferris State Univ.) this June. Accompanying Rotarian Noling was Executive Bodyguard and Chief Photographer **Will-Yum Loxterman**.

### Please Welcome Potential New Members:

Myra Dutton, CEO of HGA Support Services - her sponsor will be **Aaron Maike**

Emily Morgenstern, Director of Marketing & Advocacy for Muskegon Lakeshore Chamber of Commerce - her sponsor will be **Dave Alexander**

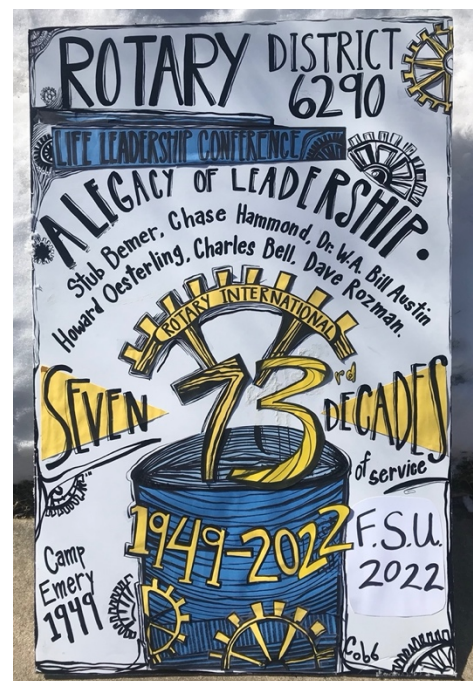
Erica Patton, Principal at Muskegon Heights Academy - her sponsor will be **John Noling**

Arnetta Thompson, Superintendent at Muskegon Heights Public School Academy - her sponsor will be **John Noling**

Reverend Eileen Stoffan - Priest in Charge at St. Paul's Episcopal Church - her sponsor will be **Merica Dobry**

Robert Lukens - Community Development Director with Muskegon County - his sponsor will be **Jason Piasecki** - Robert is a returning member

### Life Leadership



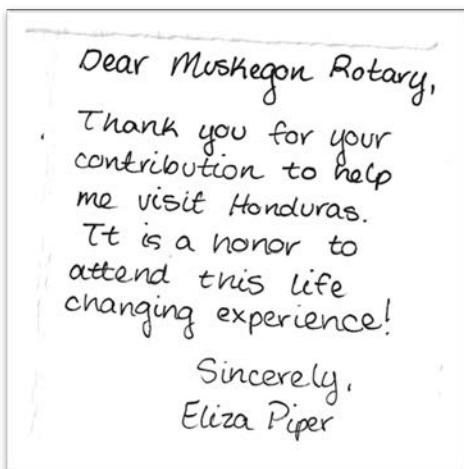
If you know of a deserving high school leader for this terrific scholarship opportunity, please contact **Brianna Scott** or **John Noling** for more information.



## Honduras Trip



World Community Services Chair **Mark Meyers** (right) offers our best wishes for a safe trip to Dr. Travis Piper and Rotary Interactors Eliza Piper and McKenzie Covington after our club donated an extra \$707 this week to help furnish building supplies and water filters for their WEHOP sponsored trip to Honduras. The \$707 donated to the Honduras trip was raised with donated \$325 proceeds from the ReWine **Get Your Chili On!** event of three years ago and \$382 collected at this week's lunch meeting. Thank you Rotarians! Stay tuned for some of their reporting in next week's RIM.



## RIM Reporting Team

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## 2022 March Madness & 32 Brave Rotarians!



Best of luck to our Brave Rotarians!

Thank you to all our Brave Rotarians for their participation in 2022 March Madness & support of the Rotary Foundation.

1. **Dave Alexander**
2. **Tim Arter**
3. **Pam Babbitt**
4. **Susan Besteman**
5. **Cathy Brubaker-Clarke**
6. **Jane Clingman-Scott**
7. **Don Crandall**
8. **Gene Fethke**
9. **Jim Fisher**
10. **Judy Hayner**
11. **Ed Hendrickson**
12. **Susan Holkeboer**
13. **Marcia Hovey-Wright**
14. **Don Hutchins**
15. **Rich Kramer**
16. **Jenny McNeill**
17. **Roger Morgenstern**
18. **Kristi Nagengast**
19. **John Noling**
20. **Steve Olsen**
21. **Emma Peterson**
22. **Frank Peterson**
23. **Jason Piasecki**
24. **Joan Schmitt**
25. **Bob Scolnik**
26. **John Selmon**
27. **Josh Silvis**
28. **Meredith Smillie**
29. **Joanie Smith**
30. **Rem Sprague**
31. **Marty Systema**
32. **Doug Wood**



## This Week's Spotlight: Ara "Doc" Demirjian



### Ara "Doc" Demirjian

Ara Demirjian joined Rotary in 2011 to connect with a good social organization and he had many friends in Rotary. Ara has been married for 56 years and has two children and two grandchildren. Ara is Armenian and lived in several countries before coming to the United States where he studied at the University of Michigan in engineering and water purification. Ara was instrumental in the creation of the Muskegon Waste Water Plant which he stated is unique in design. Ara likes being able to mentor future generations and thinks Rotary should solicit a younger generation to become Rotarians.

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

## Interact Insider



Tyrie is the Acting President of a re-emerging Rotary Interact Club at Muskegon High and is ready to recruit new members! **John Noling** or **Blake Cramer** can take your pop cans to help start them on their service above self journey.

## New Member Induction:



### Tom Palmer

Born and raised in Muskegon, Tom Palmer is an advocate for everything Muskegon. After graduating from Muskegon High, Muskegon Community College and Michigan State University, he returned to Muskegon to start his first foray in insurance at Western Southern Life selling life insurance but not too well. After meeting my wife to be, Chris, and realizing he wanted to be home in the evenings, he found his way into industrial sales and did that until 2000. He was married to Chris for almost 12 years when she died in an accident in 2001 and God held him in the hollow of his hand. Right after Chris passed, he was approached about being an evangelist and worked toward that goal and was ordained in 2002. He worked with 4 congregations in Michigan to help them grow and travels to other states to teach still. He met his now wife Karen at church in 2004 and the first thought was "Is God bringing me a wife?" They were married in less than a year and have been almost 17 years and live in Twin Lake with 2 dogs and 23 chickens. Insurance came back to find Tom in 2006 when he started his career as an agency owner at Farm Bureau Insurance. That was good, not great though as everything fell on him as the agency grew. Shoreline Insurance was a great fit from the start. Shoreline has a team approach to taking care of clients and Tom focuses on home, auto and life insurance with the many carriers Shoreline represents. Outside of the office, Tom likes riding and fixing bikes, camping, fishing and bow hunting. He served on the Bluebird Cancer Retreats and Read Muskegon boards in the past and on the Lake Michigan estate Planning Council now. He is a founding member of the Lakeshore Referral Partners networking

group. Both of his sisters had polio and suffer from post-polio syndrome still. He is enthused about our initiative to end polio worldwide.

Tom's definition of success is finding peace in all situations. - Philippians 4:6-7 "Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God and the peace of God, which surpasses understanding, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus." Tom is sponsored by **Josh Silvis**.

## Parties in the Park



**Merica Dobry** announced June 3, 2022 is the date for the first Party in the Park this year. Save the date and more details to come.

## Rotary Swag



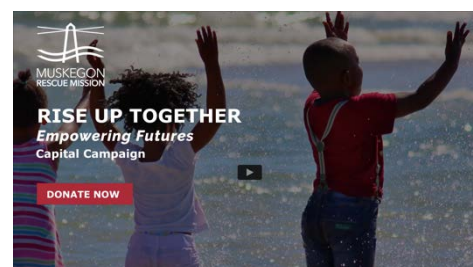
If you have been waiting for more Rotary swag, **Merica Dobry** announced it will be available again soon through a link with Trophy House. Stay tuned on the updates for more swag.

## Monthly Support



Monthly breakfasts focus on being a sounding board for our club Presidents. Thanks for all the great work!

## Muskegon Rescue Mission Capital Campaign



Muskegon Rescue Mission has launched the public phase of its Capital Campaign. Tuesday, March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022, they are hosting an informative panel of local business leaders discussing the impact the preschool, daycare, and community resource center will have in our community. Strolling dinner from 6-7pm and the panel discussion from 7-8pm. Contact **Melissa Boughner** at [mboughner@muskegonmission.org](mailto:mboughner@muskegonmission.org) for more information and/or visit their website at <https://muskegonmission.org/riseuptogether/>

## 2022 District Conference



District Governor **Gary Chenoweth** extended an invitation to our club 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. They are offering several meal packages to meet your needs. More information is available on their website at [www.ridistrict6290.org](http://www.ridistrict6290.org)

**REGISTER NOW** by clicking Register Now.....did you click it?



## THIS WEEK'S PROGRAM:

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY Product Center



Food  
Agriculture  
Research  
Manufacturing

## FARM

Speakers: Clarence Rudat

RIM Reporter: **Meredith Smillie**



**Kris Collee** introduced Clarence Rudat of The FARM as part of the MSU Agriculture Department. Clarence grew up in Muskegon and graduated from Muskegon High School. He left West Michigan to attend college and has now returned home.

Michigan State University

Product Center



**CLARENCE RUDAT**  
Manager -  
Food, Agriculture,  
Research and  
Manufacturing (F.A.R.M.)  
[rudatcla@msu.edu](mailto:rudatcla@msu.edu)  
231-740-5615



The Michigan State University (MSU) Product Center and the West Michigan Food Processing Association announced a partnership on Monday, August 2, 2022 that brings the university's resources to the doorstep of west Michigan food companies and innovative entrepreneurs.

Clarence Rudat shared that The Michigan State University Product Center assists young entrepreneurs develop and refine their

companies and skills. Clarence is the director for the MSU product center located in Muskegon. Clarence extended his thanks to numerous foundations and agencies that helped to fund The FARM and expanding food and agriculture industries in Muskegon. The West Michigan Food Processing Association, in partnership with the FARM, was proposed to Muskegon County and Muskegon Community College agreed to house the project here in Muskegon. Everyone in the community came together to make FARM happen.



The FARM was created by CANR, ABR, and MSUE (MSU Extension) in 2003 and began working with businesses in 2004 and expanded through MSU Extension in 2010. 2022 saw the FARM flourish in partnership with West Michigan Food Processing Center and MSU is in process of taking over the location here in Muskegon and Clarence will act as director. The FARM is the only service under the product center of MSU located outside of East Lansing. The FARM also offers innovation counseling is

available in 9 service locations, and they are located statewide.

The FARM facilities are state of the art and USDA/FDA certified. There are a large network of individuals and businesses available within FARM. The FPIC Food Processing and the Innovation Center is Michigan's leading independent pilot food processing facility. They had 130 production days and developed 22 new appliances.



The FARM is managed by the MSU Product Center. The clients provide their own equipment and longer-term leases are available with co manufacturers to spur innovation. There is also a mobile food processing lab that showed up at the FARM yesterday. It is designed to be on the education side of MSU and can assist students with transporting equipment. It is a state of the art, \$1.5 million dollar truck.



Target audience for the FARM focuses on fruit and vegetables producers, entrepreneurs and startups and R and D for medium to large food manufacturers, workforce development and

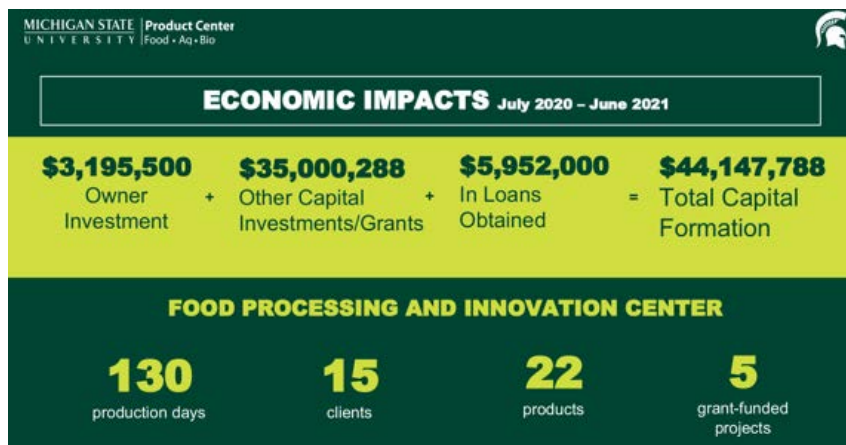


training and technology and equipment manufacturing. They are also looking to have an anchor at the FARM for the school programs via the MAISD for customized meals for students that are developed locally, and students may participate in meal development for their school district. In addition to STEM training and education focusing on food and agriculture; the FARM is promoting AG Day at the Muskegon Farmer's Market on May 7 and Harvest Day at West Central Research Station in Hart this fall to bring people closer to agriculture.



Product Center Clients, Public Private Partnerships, Leveraging Capital Engage Producer and Processors, Engaging Students and Workforce Development and Cultivating Research and Innovation is the recipe for success per Clarence. We need safe and

healthy food coming to our tables. FARM wants to help grow West Michigan in the food and agriculture industries. The FARM will also assist with locating food processing and innovation centers. Muskegon has excess wastewater available and therefore has room to grow the agriculture infrastructure in Muskegon. Food processing plants are running 24 hours a day and are only fulfilling 75% of the demand and the FARM's goal is to reach out to these businesses to assist with them. There are hundreds of agricultures and food processing jobs available throughout the country. Students needs to be engaged and get hands on technology, and to see that these professions are growing and in demand.



## RIM Fun From Facebook ON THAT PLEASANT NOTE



Long before the late Glen Campbell, above, became known nationally as an outstanding vocalist, actor and TV personality, he was one of the most in-demand recording studio guitarists in the world.

How good was he? The Lone Ranger knows! Take a look at this video ([link at bottom](#)), one you may have never seen before. "Hi Yo, Silver, Away!"

This is world-class guitar playing and Campbell makes it look easy. And he didn't read music like most studio musicians.

The sounds of Glen Campbell on guitar and the symphony orchestra playing Rossini's "William Tell Overture" will take you back to those golden days of yesteryear, when the strains of Rossini's masterpiece coming over the radio meant the *Lone Ranger Show* was about to begin.

<http://bit.ly/2MqnY5e>

