

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

Darlene Collet Mar 17 Bill Erickson Mar 24

THIS WEEK'S MENU

Honey Mustard Glazed Pork

#### **NEXT WEEK'S BIRTHDAYS**

Alan AlpertMar 24Howard HardestyMar 29Jennifer HammondMar 30Caring Connections Fund

#### PROGRAMS / EVENTS

- 3/17 Harris Hospitality
- 3/17 ReWine 5:15 PM
  - Walker's (Inside Delta)
- 3/24 Pours for Polio
- 3/31 Electronic Vehicles

March 17, 2022 Muskegon Rotary Club Meeting Video <u>Click Here</u>

# VISITORS & GUESTS



Olivia Scharmer (Freshman at Muskegon Catholic Central & daughter of Michelle Harris & Fred Scharmer) - guest of **President Jason Piasecki** 



Trent Smillie – husband & guest of **Meredith Smillie** 



Lynnette Lipan – wife and guest of Tim Lipan

#### Student Guests



Welcome Orchard View! Principal Samantha Wilson presented seniors Danielle Blanchard and Daylen Rogers. Daylen is heading to Western Michigan University for Computer Engineering. Danielle is heading to Grand Valley State University for a major in Psychology.

# **Muskegon Rotary Board**

Jason Piasecki jason@revel.in Jane Clingman-Scott janecs1@comcast.net Ginny Sprague ginny.e.sprague@gmail.com Mark Meyers markm@nortonshores.org Tim Arter tarter@brickleydelong.com Kathy Betts kbetts01@gmail.com Kim Boersema muskegonrotarycc@gmail.com Mary Anne Gorman ma.gorman@hotmail.com Jeff Lewis jeff.lewis@shorelinecity.com Doug Wood doug.wood@orchardview.org Asaline Scott ascott03169@gmail.com David Ramos david@ramosautobody.com Marty Gerencer marty.gerencer@gmail.com

# **ANNOUNCEMENTS**



#### **Grape Escape Preview**

#### Don't miss it! March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Rotary is 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.

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 the Rotary experience.

Dinner will be served at 5:00PM and 7:00PM. 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: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/grape-escapepreview-courses-tickets-265167120997

They are also looking for committee members for Grape Escape this year. Contact **Meredith Smillie** for any further questions or are willing to help with Grape Escape: <u>msmillie@bethany.org</u>.

# **RIM Reporting Team**

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# 2022 March Madness & 32 Brave Rotarians!



The madness began on Saturday!

Thank you to all our Brave Rotarians for their participation in 2022 March Madness & support of the Rotary Foundation. Stay tuned for who is still on the roster in the coming weeks!

**Dave Alexander** (Houston) Tim Arter (Memphis) Pam Babbitt (Arizona) Susan Besteman (Texas Christian U) Cathy Brubaker-Clarke (Auburn) Jane Clingman-Scott (Tennessee) **Don Crandall** (Kansas) **Gene Fethke** (Providence) **Jim Fisher** (Baylor) Judy Hayner (Villanova) **Ed Hendrickson** (Miami) Susan Holkeboer (New Mexico State) Marcia Hovey-Wright (Duke) **Don Hutchins** (Creighton) **Rich Kramer** (Purdue) Jenny McNeill (Gonzaga) **Roger Morgenstern** (St. Mary's) Kristi Nagengast (Wisconsin) John Noling (St. Peter's) Steve Olsen (North Carolina) Emma Peterson (Texas Tech) (Notre Dame) **Frank Peterson** Jason Piasecki (Michigan State) Joan Schmitt (lowa State) **Bob Scolnik** (Murray State) John Selmon (Michigan) **Josh Silvis** (Arkansas) **Meredith Smillie** (Ohio State) Joanie Smith (Texas) **Rem Sprague** (Richmond) **Marty Systema** (Illinois) **Doug Wood** (UCLA)



# 8<sup>th</sup> Street Park Updates



President Jason on behalf of Asaline Scott announced the Muskegon Heights Police Department (MHPD) and the G.U.N.S. (Gaining Unity through Nonviolent Solutions) Programs are working to upgrade the 8th Street Park, located between Hovey and Barney Avenues, in the city of Muskegon Heights. The plan is to upgrade the Basketball Courts, the Football Feld, Playground Equipment, add Picnic Tables, and a Concession Stand. The current playground equipment is outdated and deemed unsafe.

The effort to fund these improvements is well underway, and organizers have almost reached their goal. To date, over \$64,000 has been raised through a \$14,000 grant from the Community Foundation for Muskegon County, a \$6,000 Federal Community Policing grant and support has been leveraged through a matching \$20,000 grant challenge by a local philanthropist that has been matched by Muskegon Community College, DTE, Comerica Bank, Hackley Community Care, Tyler Sales, Trinity/Mercy Health, D & D Logistics, Mr. Max McKee, Webb Chemical, The Grand Rapids/West Michigan Urban League, Muskegon Heights Optimist, Muskegon County Lake Hawks and many other individual donors. In addition, the Muskegon Tech Center students will build a Concession Stand in the spring of 2022.

Dr. Pamela Smith is coordinating this project and is asking for Rotary's help with donations for the playground equipment and assistance with the community

installation on April 22<sup>nd</sup>. For more information, contact Pamela at 513-304-6144 or **Asaline Scott**.



# Interact Insider

#### **Congratulations Big Reds!** 1<sup>st</sup> Club Fundraiser Success



On a rainy and cold March Saturday morning, thanks to many Rotarians, MHS staff, and other community donations, the newly emerging MHS Rotary Interact Club completed its first fundraiser....and did they cash in! They are now in a position to establish their new Interact club treasury account to do more good in the community and



world. Pictured above (L to R) Bryce Thompson, Deante Mayhew, Acting President Tyrie Ross, and J'Karion Johnson. **Congratulations Big** Reds! We look forward to working with you!

#### Interactors Honor March is Reading Month



**Orchard View Rotary Interactors** recently made bookmarks as a service project for early elementary students to honor March is Reading Month.

### Life Leadership Spotlight: Honduras Trip Update



Ca'Mya Jackson is a sophomore at MHHSA, active as a Majorette with the Marching Band, also on the Volleyball Team, and is starting Track this year. She has had prior leadership roles in her Church as an usher and praise dancer. She wants LLC to help her "get out of her comfort zone" to help her do more for others as a leader. She is interested in the field of Interior Design.



Sophomore Maguel White is a member of Upward Bound, Student Advisory, and is a Percussionist in the Marching Band. Besides playing on the school Basketball team, Maguel serves as an usher in his Church. Making new students feel more comfortable when they come to high school and bringing more opportunities to all students are goals Maquel wants to work on with what he learns at the Life Leadership Conference this summer.

Our Muskegon Rotary Interact team of Eliza Piper (and father, Travis) and McKenzie Covington have been busy this past week working on building new homes, latrines, and water systems in the LaPaz area of Honduras. They joined Rotarians from Michigan, Pennsylvania, and New York, who besides their hard work, visited Rotary Clubs, schools, clinics, and cultural sites while in Honduras. Thanks so much to Rotary/ReWine members who sent along \$707 in cash to buy needed materials to support their trip. Thank you Eliza, Travis, and McKenzie for your terrific Service Above Self spirit! We look forward to your report to our club. For more photos, see page 5 or click here.





# 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.

#### **Committee Chairs Update CR**

**Kim Boersma** sent an email reminder to committee chairs and council to update member lists and descriptions of all committees and council in ClubRunner. Contact Kim with any questions.

# This Week's Spotlight: Kevin Donovan



Kevin joined Rotary in 2006 when the reigns of Muskegon Construction were handed over to him. Kevin has been married to his wife Suzanne for 40 plus years. He has three adult children (two boys and a girl), and four grandchildren with another one on the way. Kevin enjoys playing the guitar and participating in the praise and worship group. Kevin works for John Grace Construction which is a restoration company that primarily deals with insurance work. They take care of anything from an overflowing toilet to a total fire loss and anything in between. Kevin mitigates the immediate problem by removing damaged materials and then puts it back together. Kevin is a carpenter by trade, he's been in the construction business for over four decades. He has held the belief that we can do good work in the public sector, be good stewards of the public's tax dollars, and always worked hard to promote local participation so the tax dollars stayed in the community.

To view Kevin's video, <u>click here</u>.

# THIS WEEK'S PROGRAM:



**Harris Hospitality** 

Speaker: Michelle Harris RIM Reporter: Jackie Farrar

Michelle Harris and her husband Fred Scharmer are the owners of Harris Hospitality. Harris Hospitality owns and operates Pints & Quarts, Harris Catering, and The Deck. They started

the restaurant business 19 years ago and are very passionate about the business.

HARRIS Catering

Pints & Courts was the first restaurant they opened. They worked 80-hour weeks while learning how to operate the business. They took the good with the bad and learned more during the first couple of years then all the time they spent in college. Pint's & Quarts has evolved and

changed over the years into one of their most profitable businesses.

#### In 2014 they

presented a proposal to the city for the old Captain Jacks location at Pere Marquette. The City determined that they were the right fit for the development. The building was in terrible shape and took a lot of work to get it up to code. In 2019, a request was submitted to expand the Deck and in 2020 the Deck opened, and capacity went from 280 to 520 due to the expansion. The restaurant had doubled

sales from the previous year and Fred and Michelle realized by mid-summer that space was an issue that resulted in another discussion for an expansion.



Fred and Michelle spent most of the Spring helping the construction team. When the business opened it was crazier than they could have imagined. The 2021 season had more than doubled in 2020 so they decided to close Pints & Quarts for



the rest of the summer and merge the work teams together to conquer the rest of the season. This was the best decision they made. Fred and Michelle have built an amazing team that shares their vision, and they realize without the team they would not be successful.

The Deck employed 264 people in 2021 and served 350,000 guests. They are looking to fill 310 positions for the 2022 season. Fred and Michelle are both from Muskegon, very proud of the city, and are excited that the Deck is part of the business community. They are thankful to everyone who has supported them throughout the years.





# Rotary International Ukraine Refugee Aid

The World Community Service Committee met March 17, 2022 and approved a \$1500 donation from the committee's budget toward the Rotary International Ukraine Refugee Aid effort. Rotarians have given \$1.2 Million US so far. To donate to Rotary's Disaster Response Fund to support refugees and victims of the Ukraine crisis, click the link below through Rotary International's website or through cash/checks at a club meeting. Contact **Past President Mark Meyers** for more information.

Donation link: https://lnkd.in/eQTexMPG

For a report of the Rotary Internaitonal Ukraine Projects as of March 17, 2022, <u>click here</u>.

# **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.



**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.

# **2022 District Conference**



District Governor **Gary Chenoweth** extended in 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

<u>REGISTER NOW</u> by clicking Register Now.....did you click it?

# Honduras Update Continued from Page 3:











