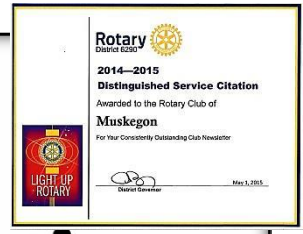





“Service Above Self”

Muskegon Rotary in Motion



<http://www.muskegonrotary.org>

Mark Meyers, President
 Jason Piasecki, President-Elect
 Jane Clingman-Scott, President Nominee
 Tim Arter, Treasurer
 Linda Juarez, Past President
 Kathy Betts, Secretary
 Orville Crain, Director



Muskegon Rotary Club

Club 16 (2809) – District 6290, Chartered May 1, 1916
 Next Meeting May 27 12:00-1:00pm
 From Your Laptop, Phone, or Tablet
 ReWine Sat Club – Next mtg 6/3 5:15 pm

Mary Anne Gorman, Director
 Jeff Lewis, Director
 Ginny Sprague, Director
 JD Wallace, Sr, Director
 Doug Wood, Director
 Susan Besteman, RIM Reporter
 Lori Weiler, RIM Editor



WATCH US GO **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 (5/27/21) — Law Day Presentation
 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
 Jane Clingman-Scott

REFLECTORS
 Bill Loxterman 5/27

NEXT WEEK'S BIRTHDAYS

Jack Briggs	5/24	Apologies
Craig Pirrotta	5/24	—the editor
Bob Scolnik	5/24	failed to include
Marty Sytsema	5/27	these last week
Jeff Fortenbacher	5/29	
Jason Piasecki	6/1	
Dale Nesbary	6/2	


Don't forget [Caring Connection Fund!](#)

PROGRAMS / EVENTS
 5/27 Law Day Presentation
 6/3 MSU Extension/4H
 6/10 Wonderland, Burl & Sprig, Pigeon and Rake Beer Project
 Next ReWine meets 6/3 in person
 Wonderland Distillery 5:15 pm




ANNOUNCEMENTS


Guests
 -Cody Chipman (prospective new member) was introduced by Nancy McCarthy




Student Guests
 Welcome Holton!
Marty Sytsema introduced Superintendent Adam Bayne.
 Adam introduced



-Valedictorian Abby Wisniewski (planning to head to MSU next year) and



-Salutatorian Kylie Gould (planning to head to CMU next year).



Membership Dues
 Dues were due April 30th. If you have any questions, please contact **Kathy Betts** at muskegonrotary@gmail.com.

Every Rotarian Every Year
 The brochure is located on page 10 of this RIM. If anyone would like to send their checks in, send them to **Ginny Sprague** at 1050 Harbor Point Court, Norton Shores, MI 49441. Ginny is happy to help complete the form and send the contribution to Rotary International.

Rotary Opens Opportunities
 Thanks to generous Rotarians and the ReWine Get Your Chili On! Team, Rotary just sent five checks of \$100 each to the following local pantries for use as they deem necessary:

- Fellowship Reformed Church
- Love, Inc.
- Mission for Area People
- Muskegon Rescue Mission
- Salvation Army

This amount represents funds raised in excess of funds used for the 156 Chili Kits and other food items already donated to these same pantries.

Meeters/Greeters
Jane Clingman-Scott made an announcement that they are still looking for meeters/greeters for July and August. janecs1651@gmail.com

If you missed the May 20th meeting, want to watch it again, or share with someone who may be interested in learning more about our Rotary club, you can view the video [here](#).

Membership Council

The Membership Council is looking for more committee volunteers: recruitment, new member, retention and engagement. If you are a new member looking for a place to serve in the club, please consider those membership council committees. Contact **Doug Wood** at dwood1952@gmail.com.

Food Trucks

The next Muskegon food truck will take place on Wednesday, May 26 at Temple Methodist Church (aka Supper House) parking lot at 2500 Jefferson - directly across from M. Heights High School main entrance. Volunteers need to arrive between 4:00-4:15 and food distribution will begin at 5:00 p.m. Volunteers should be finished and on their way home by 6:30 p.m. Spouses, significant others, kids supervised by parent/s are all welcome. If any questions please contact me at: boezaara@gvsu.edu or call: 616-745-8465

WEEKLY COVID REPORT

Kathy Moore reported a downward trend. We were impacted with the large backlog. 12.8% positivity rate as of 5/16/2021. Cases are decreasing with 52 avg/day and we are opening up places to a 50% capacity with physical distancing still on June 1st. A total of 14 deaths in the month of May (these follow a similar pattern with co-morbidities and age).

Christine Robere reported things are getting a little bit better. There were no further new hotel check-ins this week. There was a food truck at the hotel Thursday afternoon. The number one need still is housing. The food pantries do need help with summer stock up and Kellogg reached out and WZZM is helping to promote these pantries.

Thank you to all our Community Outreach Partners!

NOTE: Data changes quickly. Current graphs can be found on the Muskegon County Public Health website.

Public Health: www.Muskegonhealth.net

Mask Up Muskegon:

<https://www.maskupmuskegon.org/vaccineinfo>

THIS WEEK'S PROGRAM: Three Minute (Soap Box) Updates

Moderator: **Kris Collee**

RIM Reporter: **Susan Besteman**

Marty Gerencer—FARM



Marty is the Executive Director for the West Michigan Food Processing Association. This association is part of Greater Muskegon Economic Development (formerly Muskegon Area First) and the vision began in 2015 in partnership with Consumers Energy Foundation, Muskegon County Community Foundation, and 30 other collaborators that culminated into this association today.

“Our wastewater capacity, freshwater, land, logistics, interchange of US-31 and US-96 to Chicago and Detroit, and our deep-water port surrounded by 6,000 farms and over 200 food processors make this area very attractive to food companies.”

Through this collective effort, they showcase Muskegon County and West Michigan assets to food companies throughout the world. Our wastewater capacity, freshwater, land, logistics, interchange of US-31 and US-96 to Chicago and Detroit, and our deep-water port surrounded by 6,000 farms and over 200 food processors make this area very attractive to food companies.

Since the association began in 2017, we've attracted dozens of food companies around the world leading to pending discussions with Greater Muskegon Economic Development, Muskegon County Chamber, and other community leaders.



**WEST MICHIGAN
FOOD PROCESSING
ASSOCIATION**

Holistic • Supportive • Catalyst for Growth

Their annual conference will be focused on healthy food and more sustainable food practices and will be held on September 24th, 2021. This will be at Muskegon Community College followed by the ribbon cutting ceremony of the FARM (Food, Agriculture, Research, Manufacturing Center) accelerator facility. This facility has a vision to accelerate industry 4.0, food companies, pilots, and new technologies that will all lend forward more sustainable practices and introduce STEM training to high school and college students feeding our workforce future for the food industry and beyond.

Built in 2020, in spite of the pandemic, they were able to finish in the first quarter of 2021. Lively Up Kombucha is their first tenant and they are in discussions to onboard their second tenant. Some of the many partners to thank include Community Foundation from Muskegon County, Greater Muskegon Economic Development, Muskegon Community College, the Chamber, John Grace Construction, Progressive AE, Michigan Economic Development Corporation, Michigan and US Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, as well as many more. To learn more, visit their website at:

<https://www.westmichfoodprocessingassn.com/farm>

Michael Ramsey— Community EnCompass



Michael is on loan from Mercy Health Muskegon to Community EnCompass until March 2022 to facilitate and lead the Eviction Prevention Program for Community EnCompass' Homeless Services Division to the tune of \$2.5 Million pumped into our community over the last six months. A total of \$13 Million will be added as well for rental arrearages and utility assistance for Michael to oversee until next March. Michael is excited to help streamline services for those who need help to gain services easily, quickly, and efficiently, as well as allowing our community engagement for sustainability in the future.

“\$2.5 Million has been pumped into our community over the last six months. A total of \$13 Million will be added as well for rental arrearages and utility assistance.”

Michael has been able to hire 15 more people to oversee these funds and activities in the Community Rental Assistance Program and Emergency Solutions Grant (homeless or at risk of being homeless funds). With increasing capacity across the board, a new phone system was purchased as well in order for easier accessibility to staff. Michael shared he is excited with the opportunities laid before us and partnerships because of the extra financial assistance. Some partners

include Mission for Area People, Muskegon/Oceana Community Action Partnership, and Mid-Michigan Community Action Partnership. Michael is grateful for these dollars our community has been given and they are looking to be the best stewards possible with this gift. In the beginning, our community was given \$100,000 but was awarded extra money after showing the great use of funds.

Michael@communityencompass.org

If you or anyone you know needs landlord/tenant rental assistance, please head online to fill out an application at COVID Emergency Rental Assistance [here](#):

Dakota Crow—Boys & Girls Club



Dakota, Chief Professional Officer, thanked everyone who came out last Saturday to the Great FuTours Event!

Boys and Girls Club got started in Muskegon in 2015. The first one ever was back in 1867 in Hartford, CT. After looking for a home base for six years, they finally found it and worked out a contract that was signed last week with Muskegon Community College. This building was previously the MCC Lakeshore Fitness Center and YMCA before that. Dakota is looking forward to continuing the use of the building as another great community asset. Thank you to Tom Devoursney, **Chris McGuigan, Bob Scolnik, Don Kalisz, D.J. Hilson**, and the many others involved.

All of the other sites will continue to stay open with the exception of the Nelson Elementary site. They were seeing approximately 100 per day during school and approximately 200 per day during the summer months from the Nelson site so those kids and some more will now be at the new location. This new location will allow them to double their capacity for youth served for about the same amount of money with greater efficiencies.



BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF THE MUSKEGON LAKESHORE

Dakota shared some extra excitement with the extra opportunities coming including food service and outdoor activities for our community's youth. They will be able to provide transportation and there will be three phases for renovations beginning January 2022 for approximately 10 months.

Additional information for 2021:

- 1) We start to serve youth in this building June 14.*
- 2) We are hiring (great for college students).*
- 3) The pool just passed its health inspection and we will open for public rental/usage.*
- 4) Rachel Fawcett is developing a community health/fitness usage starting in June(ish)*

If you would like a group tour, contact Dakota at cpo@bgclubmuskegon.com

Kara Zielinski—United Way Lakeshore



Kara is the Resource Development Director for UWL and oversees fundraising and the annual Community Campaign (which in 2020 resulted in a \$2.5 million investment in their nonprofit partners, programs and services servicing 101,500 families).

Over the course of this past year, you've heard weekly updates from UWL's President **Christine Robere** regarding COVID response, their impact, and volunteer efforts. The 2021 Community Campaign, Campaign Cabinet and United Way were integral to rebuild our communities from the ongoing effects of the pandemic. Kara thanked their outstanding team of volunteers leading our 2021 Campaign Cabinet including:

- Tom Schultz, Tyler Sales, Campaign Chair
- Shawn Buckner, Meijer, Past Campaign Chair
- Mike Kuznar, QTS
- Jack Russell, Rolar Products
- Kris Collee, AgeWell Services
- Bryan Lambert, Brightway Insurance
- Andy Usik, 5/3
- Gary Allore, Mercy Health
- Aaron Maike, Baker College
- Tom Quinn, Coles Bakery
- Michael Brower, Pigeon Hill
- Sandra VanderHyde, County of Muskegon
- Chief Lewis, City of Muskegon
- Troy Bell, Muskegon Heights City Manager
- Bill Kenney, Millrights 1102

Recognize the names of some of these dedicated community leaders? Each of

them is recruiting volunteers to assist in leading their efforts. Kara and United Way Lakeshore invite us to join the team. The goal this year is *growth!* They need our help to grow and strengthen our dedicated supporters, organizations and corporate partnerships and to help engage NEW businesses and donors. Kara stated, "The only way we can support our nonprofit partner agencies' increasing needs from the pandemic is through expanding our reach in community partners!"

"The United Way has led and supported LOCAL initiatives, nonprofit agencies and programs in our community for 103 years!"

Kara also touched on the question "why United Way?" They have led and supported LOCAL initiatives, nonprofit agencies and programs in our community for 103 years! Can you imagine where we would be as a community without United Way at the forefront of identifying gaps in services and collaborating with our nonprofits to create solutions?



United Way of the Lakeshore

Their role as UWL staff, Campaign Cabinet, and volunteers is to build relationships and manage fundraising in the workplace, individual, and corporate capacities which help fund our nonprofit partner agencies. This is why UWL is unique and more relevant than ever! The pandemic created an increase in needs and services, resulting in higher demand on our

partner agency programs. With our help our agencies are able to focus less on fundraising and more on their core mission work!

So, again Kara and United Way Lakeshore invite you to join the 2021 Campaign team as a volunteer, host a workplace campaign if your company isn't currently engaged (these are fun and a great way to boost employee morale and engagement), and/or consider an individual or corporate contribution to the 2021 Community Campaign. Help them grow to meet the increased need of services in our community. Please reach out to kara@unitedwaylakeshore.org.

Tim Lipan -- Upcoming **NOT TO BE MISSED** Events in Muskegon



Muskegon Area Sports Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony will be **June 12th, 2021** at the Mercy Health Arena. This is open to the public and a couple people being inducted include hockey player Robin Bouchard and football player Brady Rose. <http://mashf.com/>

Muskegon Clippers Opening Day is **June 3rd** with the 1st pitch at 7:05pm. <http://www.muskegonclippers.com/vi-ew/clippers>

Restore the Roar with Muskegon Bike Time **July 15th-18th**. <https://muskegonbiketime.com/>

Joan Smith—Muskegon Heights Academy



June 4th, 2021 at 3:30 PM come support the kids at Muskegon Heights Academy High School (back of the school) to help fire them up to rebuild the band. Any person who has an instrument that they would like to donate for these kids, please contact Joan. joan.hilles@gmail.com

Upcoming Rotary Programs:

May 27:

Come hear about Law Day 2021, "The Rule of Law", from participants and organizers of this annual event. See and hear three outstanding young speakers and the winning submission for art and speech.

June 3:

MSU Extension / 4-H
MSU Extension plays an important role in supporting the agriculture community. It's hallmark program, 4-H, offers young people the opportunity to further explore character development through club engagement.

June 10:

Panel discussion with Wonderland, Burl & Sprig, Pigeon Hill and Rake Beer Project. Learn what's new in craft beverages from four area purveyors. Feel free to BYOB.

Interact Insider

John Noling asked Mona Shores Interact President Simran Tumber her takeaways from a talk presented at the Life Leadership Council Meeting. Here was Simran's response:

"Upon viewing Molly's talk with the LLC group, I have discovered the importance of persevering through hardships and continuing to improve oneself from within. Everyone goes through struggles in life and those 'struggles are gifts' that need to be cherished. That journey needs to be cherished. With perseverance, diligence, and the will to go on forward and achieve that fulfillment or life goal, you are demonstrating what a true leader is."

Simran also noted some of the MSHS Club's accomplishments this year.

- Hometown Heroes
- Food Trucks
- Honduras Hurricane Relief
- Pop Can Drives
- Beach Cleanup
- Tremendous Tree Sale
- Lakeshore Watershed Cleanup
- Adopt-a-Family
- Pioneer Park Beach Cleanup

Last Saturday, MSHS Interactors returned \$165.50 in cans for their club.

Despite a pandemic, these "kids" (tomorrow's leaders) are certainly making a difference.



RIM Reporting Team

Susan Besteman susan@bestemanproperties.com
Jackie Farrar farrarjackie@yahoo.com
Susan Holkeboer sholkebo1905@aol.com
Bill Johanson bill.johanson@yahoo.com
Kathy Moore MooreKa@co.muskegon.mi.us
Meredith Smillie msmillie@bethany.org
Lori Weiler lori.weiler@summitlawncare.net

Enjoying the RIM Weekly Newsletter? Please consider helping by reporting at weekly meetings. Reach out to RIM Editors Lori Weiler and Susan Besteman to see how you can help.

lori.weiler@summitlawncare.net susan@bestemanproperties.com