

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

November 14, 2024

Next Meeting (November 21, 2024, 12-1:30pm) — Lemon Pepper Chicken Buffet at the DELTA
Program Topic – Boys & Girls Club

What's Coming

- November 21 – Boys & Girls Club
with a tour after meeting!
- November 28 – No Meeting
Happy Thanksgiving!
- December 5 – Peace Projects by the
Interact Clubs

Upcoming Birthdays

- November 22 Karen Kayes
- November 23 Rob Mathis
- November 25 Emma Peterson
- November 27 Kirk Hallman
- November 28 Gary Nelund
- November 30 Roger Morgenstern

Caring Connections Fund



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

Greeter This Week

Bill Erickson & Darwin Smith

Reflector This Week

Rabbi Alan Alpert

RIM Reporting this Edition

Photographer – Wyatt Huggett
RIM Reporter – Sue Samiengo
RIM Editor – Susan Besteman

Visitors & Guests



Monica Turnbull welcomes guests
Zabrina Santiago and Laura Nichols



Heidi Sytsema welcomes her guest
and daughter, Anna Sytsema



Susan Crain welcomes guest Craig
Person



Tim Tuthill welcomes his guest
Michelle Lipka



Dave Medendorp welcomes guest
Bob Malenfant



Marty-Sytsema introduces Mona
Shores High School Counselor, Stacey
Meyers. She introduced seniors Ava
Freye and Mayson Southland.

11/14/2024 Muskegon Rotary
YouTube Video Link: [Click here](#)

ReWine meetings are every 1st &
3rd Thursday each month at
5:15pm at **Unruly Brewing**

This week's program: SafERteens: Implementing Evidenced- Based Youth & Firearm Injury Prevention in Muskegon County & Beyond



SAFERTEENS



Implementing Evidence-based Youth & Firearm Injury Prevention Programs in Muskegon County & Beyond

Presenter: Dr. Brian R. Stork, MD
Introduced by: Emma Peterson
RIM Reporter: Sue Samiengo

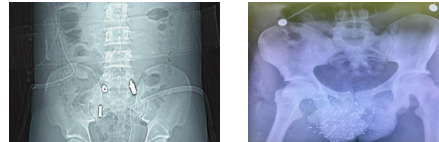
In 2017, Dr. Stork's private urology practice, West Shore Urology, merged with the University of Michigan Department of Urology to become Michigan Medicine West Shore Urology. At the same time, Muskegon was experiencing an uptick in violence. Urology is not the first specialty one might relate to gunshot injuries, but they are involved with approximately 7% of cases.



gunshot wound, the surgeon noted that this was his third admission for gun-related violence. A discussion led to the realization that there needed to be more done than treating the injuries. Something needed to be done to prevent this ongoing violence.



Gun Violence and Firearm-related Injuries



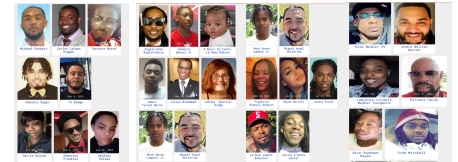
The first step taken was a retrospective study of gun violence and firearm-related injuries. This was accomplished through chart reviews from May 1, 2015 – June 30, 2019. A total of 307 firearm related injuries were identified. Because Hackley was the level 1 trauma center at the time, 82% of the cases were treated there.

Of these 307, 213 were victims of attempted murder/bodily harm (not accidents or attempted suicide). The mean age was 25 years, 89% were male, and 85% were black. They averaged a one-day stay with a median hospital charge of \$10,184 per patient. These bills totaled \$6,370,000 over 4 years with reimbursement coming from Medicaid (68%), commercial insurance (10%), uninsured (8%), Medicare (5%), or other (1%). Of particular interest is that even with this, the hospital lost money.

There is a personal, family, community, and societal cost to gun violence. There are psychological injuries to the victim, witnesses, and families that can lead to the next generation of gun violence.



FATAL SHOOTINGS IN MUSKEGON, MICHIGAN



With all of this in mind, the question arose: Can we prevent future youth violence and firearm-related injuries through intervention within the healthcare system. A study in Flint showed that in the 12 months preceding a violent injury, 50% of youth received care from a health care provider, often in the emergency room. Interventions could be made available upline, before the escalation to gun violence.



Can Healthcare Prevent Youth Violence & Firearm-related Injuries?



In the Flint Study, the 12 months preceding a violent injury, 50% of youth received care from a health care provider, often in the Emergency Room setting.

A \$6 million CDC grant was received by U-M to advance youth firearm violence prevention. Please watch this YouTube video for more information: <https://youtu.be/tQHwhV1XO5c>. (A portion was shared during the meeting, but there is more to view.) Screenings for risk of future firearm-related violence are completed with youth in the ER. Screening questions involve behaviors that were experienced or displayed by the individual within the past three months. These included things like pushing or throwing something at another person, kicking, biting, choking or beating up another person, being threatened with a knife or gun or using a knife or gun in self-defense. For those who show a need for intervention, a 30-minute session is provided to teach prevention skills

– how to avoid getting into that type of situation. Youth are invited to talk about their goals for their life. There was concern that the patients would not want to talk, but 70% do want to talk about it and many come back for more.



Unfortunately, capacity issues were encountered. Nurses did not have the capacity to do the screenings and social workers and clergy did not have the capacity to implement the program. Community Health Workers (CHW) can be used in this role, but currently there is no funding mechanism for CHWs to be reimbursed for this work. Dr. Stork

and others advocated for changes that will allow for this in the future if the legislature is passed.



A variety of partnerships have allowed this work to happen. Each community has an approach that fits their needs. Some players include the University of Michigan Institute for Firearm Injury Prevention, the Michigan Youth Violence Prevention Center, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Justice Assistance Grant Program, Trinity Health, MSMS, the Michigan Association of Health Plans, Priority Health, Patricia's Chocolate, Touchpoint Marketing and more. For additional information on the Youth Advisory Board involved in this project, please visit Additional info about Youth Advisory Board:

<https://drbrianstork.com/the-michigan-youth-violence-prevention-center-advancing-gun-violence-prevention-through-a-youth-driven-approach/>



Root Causes of Youth Violence



Issues	Solutions
Violence/lighting among the youth & adults	Positive outlets for youth (e. skating, gaming/arcade Weekends /evenings)
Lack of trust between adults & the youth	Open-forum w/ police, teachers, staff and youth
Non conflict resolution No cope skills Home - SEL	Tools - Resources: Outlets - Sports (basketball, football, boxing) - brotherhood/sisterhood - Counsel
Lack of comfort w/ people who can help - Connection - Awareness - Bonded	Peer lead convoys Family "vibe" help Connection (set on the field with the youth)
Social Media	Parent spending more time w/ children Positive use of social media Block or delete the app Positive interactions matter to community

Issues & Solutions

Issues	Solutions
Trauma/Trauma • Scared to talk • Appearance - self esteem • Grief • Resources there but not connected to get the help "I don't know them"	Vent, therapy, trust - make effort to connect, build rapport Vulnerable Transparent MORE FUN ->)
Gun violence	• Recreational activities • Youth groups • Mentorship/traveling • Youth jobs (better way to make money)
Lack of education	• Parent involvement for lack of education • Tutor, communication (parent, child, teacher relationship) • College readiness - not teaching just giving work • School creations • Fear of shooting • Harassment

Spotlight Video Rotary Youth Exchange District 6290 Inbound Fall Conference 2024



Our Muskegon Rotary Youth Exchange Committee hosted this year's conference Nov 8-10th. The conference gives our Inbound students an opportunity to serve others in West Michigan. They participated in a food truck distribution, helping with the Muskegon Micro-Forest, and reading to children at Hackley Hospital in their native languages.



Watch the video (courtesy of Mike Vogas) with all the photos — [click here](#).

Muskegon Rotary Board

Tim Arter, President
Dave Alexander, President-Elect
Roger Morgenstern, President Nominee
Ginny Sprague, Past President
Kristi Nagengast, Treasurer
Jane Clingman-Scott, Secretary
Kim Boersema, Club Coordinator

Directors:
Aaron Maibe
Brandon Turnbull
Marty Sytsema
Tom Palmer
Esther Ricco
Lisa Tyler
Please email Club Board Members through this [link](#):

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Honoring Our Veterans

for their service and sacrifices to our country on Veteran's Day.

We in Rotary take responsibility to place 35 flags along Seaway Dr and clean the Southern to Hackley Ave median strip of litter for five national holidays throughout the year: Memorial Day, Flag Day, July 4th, Labor Day, and Veterans Day.



Army veteran **Carim Calkins**, **Cindy Maynard**, and **Sue Noling** joined **Sally Calkins**, **Brian Boucher**, and **John Noling** to pay our club tribute this Veterans Day. For more information on joining the Rotary Flag Team next year, please contact Carim, Cindy, or John.

Brave Rotarians Contest Started!



Jim Fisher announced this week's exciting Brave Rotarians' contestants who were jolted out of the contest: **Melissa Moore**, **Ryan Sterkenberg**, **David Mendendorp**, **Pam Babbitt**

Words from **Dr. Rem Sprague** on why he donates to the Rotary Foundation: "I donate to the Rotary International Foundation because I believe in Rotary International's mission to have a positive impact on the world. I enjoy Muskegon Rotary, the friends I've made, the impact we've made in Muskegon, the welcoming culture, and the regular information about what is happening around us. But I also realize Muskegon Rotary is part of a worldwide organization and I am proud of that membership too. In order to carry out its worldwide mission, Rotary International needs the support of Rotarians everywhere. They are us and we are them."

RIM Reporting Team

Co-Editors: Susan Besteman & Jackie Farrar

Reporters: Kathy Moore, Roger Morgenstern, Meredith Smillie, Sue Samanigo, Ginny Sprague

Photographers: Mark Alpher, Wyatt Huggett, & Roger Morgenstern

Contributors: John Noling, Mike Vogas, & Doug Wood

Honduras Trip



Nancy Crandall announced the next Rotarian work trip to Honduras, Feb. 16-22, 2025, is ready for you to sign up by November 30th. The work will build on efforts this year to construct and equip a community library near the capital of Tegucigalpa. Contact **Sarah Rinsema-Sybenga** at srinsema@madl.org if you are interested in learning more or attending.

Registration Link:

<https://www.chispaproject.org/register#registration>



MISSION: SPARK a culture of reading through student access to books
SUPPORT educators to engage creatively
FACILITATE intercultural exchange through service

Vision: spark a desire for lifetime learning to enhance quality of life

Chispa Project creates vibrant school libraries and empowers teachers in Honduras to foster a love of reading and learning. By delivering thousands of books directly to schools and working with local communities, we help set up sustainable libraries managed by students, parents, and teachers. Our programs ignite a passion for education, strengthen literacy, and support long-term academic growth.

<p>Library Process</p> <p>Partnership & Assessment: Collaborate with schools to assess their needs and establish a shared vision for the library project.</p>	<p>Set Up: Provide books, shelving, colorful mural and decorations to create a library space that provides a safe and safe space for children to learn and explore.</p>	<p>Launch: Inaugurate the library with community events and reading activities</p> <p>Follow-up: Offer ongoing monitoring and evaluation over a calendar year to ensure sustainability.</p>
<p>Teacher Development: Our workshops equip educators with skills in creative reading activities, learning strategies, and classroom management. Teachers learn how to maximize the use of their new libraries, from engaging students through read-alouds to fostering critical thinking and integrating storybooks with the curriculum.</p>	<p>Training: Train teachers, parents and students in library management and to implement reading habits</p>	<p>Our Impact in Numbers</p> <p>Books Donated 68,688</p> <p>Students with New Libraries 22,361</p> <p>Teachers Trained 1,262</p>

Books: Chispa provides books to school communities and trains them to create school libraries, classroom libraries or traveling backpack libraries, each customized to meet the unique needs of the community. We focus on providing children's books to promote literacy and a love of reading.

Teacher Development: Our workshops equip educators with skills in creative reading activities, learning strategies, and classroom management. Teachers learn how to maximize the use of their new libraries, from engaging students through read-alouds to fostering critical thinking and integrating storybooks with the curriculum.

Books change the story

www.chispaproject.org



Muskegon Rotary Slate of Officers

President Tim Arter announced at our Annual Meeting during our Dec. 19th luncheon, we will be holding our election for new officers and directors who will take office July 1, 2025.

Our Nomination Committee process of developing a Slate started in August. After that nomination process was completed, the Board of Directors approved a Slate of Officers and Directors at its meeting on Tuesday of this week. This Slate includes the two additional director positions approved by the membership’s vote last week to amend the Club Bylaws.

The following individuals and associated positions represent the Board-approved Slate of Officers:

President Nominee– **Lisa Tyler**

Treasurer – **Kimberly Taylor**

Director (two-year term ending June 30, 2027) -- **Dimitri Poland**

Directors (three-year terms ending June 30, 2028) --**Arlen Gaddy, Lisa Kraus, Melissa Moore, and Sarah Rinsema-Sybenga**

Also, in accordance with Club Bylaws, as of July 1, 2025:

Dave Alexander will ascend to the office of President and **Roger Morgenstern** will ascend to the office of President-Elect.

Other nominations can be offered.

Muskegon Rising Podcast Ep 45: Dennis Kirksey - The Milwaukee Clipper



Join us as we explore the legendary Milwaukee Clipper with Dennis Kirksey. This retired passenger and automobile ferry is now a historic landmark offering a captivating glimpse into Muskegon's rich maritime heritage.

Discover the fascinating history of this majestic vessel, from its construction to its retirement, and learn about its current role as a must-see museum.

Listen now and experience the grandeur of the Milwaukee Clipper.

<https://www.buzzsprout.com/2269729/episodes/16093056-dennis-kirksey-the-milwaukee-clipper>

This link (thank you, **Mike Vogas**) connects to the entire collection of our YouTube Muskegon Rising video podcasts.

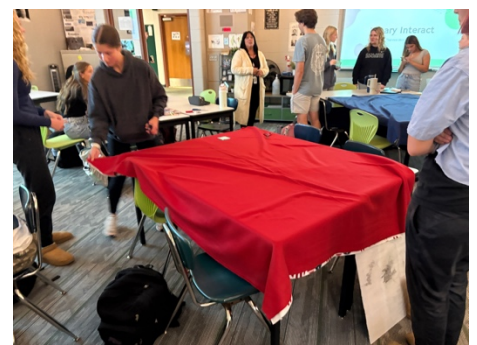
[CLICK HERE FOR ALL PODCASTS](#)

Every Monday 8:30-10:30 am, volunteers are needed to help maintain the Marquette micro-forest. Contact **John Noling** if you can help.



Reeths-Puffer Interact

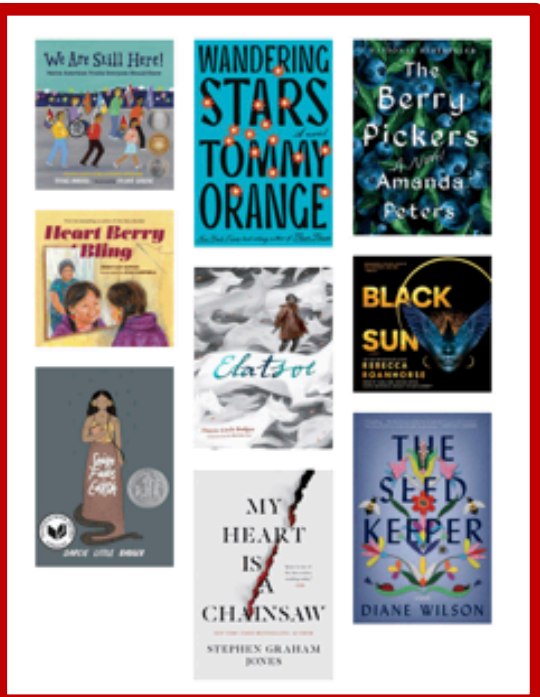
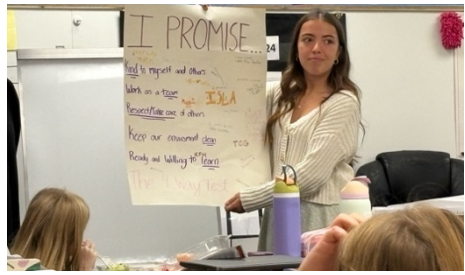
The Reeths-Puffer Interact Club is creating blankets for local veterans living in assisted living situations. Five individuals with connections to the students are being selected to receive the blankets on Veteran's Day.





North Muskegon Interact and Early Act

The NM club met Nov 6th and chose an environmental area for their first project. The focus will be on recycling and reusing books through a drive or a partnership with "little libraries".



Native American Heritage Month - Local Public Library Partnership

Native American Heritage Month by MADL_Staff - a staff-created list : Native American Heritage Month is observed in November to call attention to the culture, traditions, and achievements of the nation's original inhabitants and of their descendants. The official designation of November as National Native American Heritage Month was signed into law

lpl.bibliocommons.com

Night at the Museum

It was a fun “Night at the Museum” for a group of Rotarians, their family and friends. Executive Director **Missy Horton** and her staff opened the doors of the Lakeshore Museum Center’s Muskegon Museum of Science and History downtown after hours Thursday night Nov. 14. For two hours, guests had the run of the entire two-story museum, along with snacks and beverages. Thanks to all who attended and to our Social Committee for making the arrangements!

A photograph of three people standing outdoors near a body of water. Two men in blue polo shirts and one woman in a purple polo shirt are looking at a camera. One man is holding a clipboard and a pen. The scene is bright and sunny.

EVERY ROTARIAN EVERY YEAR

ROTARY FOUNDATION MONTH

November is Rotary Foundation Month, a time to celebrate and support the life-changing work of our Foundation. Since The Rotary Foundation began, it has awarded more than US\$6.5 billion to help members transform communities locally and globally. We are deeply grateful to Rotary members like you who make Doing Good in the World possible.

GIVE TODAY: rotary.org/donate
LEARN MORE: rotary.org/foundation

The logo for The Rotary Foundation, featuring the text "The Rotary Foundation" next to a stylized gear icon.