

## SMOKE SIGNALS

### KIWASSEE

September 5, 2006

### KIWANIS

Volume XVII No. 43

Chair: Jim Jocks

Invocation: Don Winger

Pig: Don Winger

Music: Bill Burks/Mike Merrill

Editor: Stu Bender sub for John Mier

- Sept. 9. 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Circle of Health Benefit Game, Northwood vs. Findlay.  
Tickets \$5/apiece Dick Skochdopole
- Sept 16 Adopt a Highway, 9 AM Community Center Room BO 59,  
Dick Jellum

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Don Peterson: Contribution envelopes for CROP are on each table. Cash or checks welcomed. Linda Kline is the designated walker for these contributions.

Jack Higgins: T & A sales are running behind schedule. \$3,000 in 3 weeks. Get your sales efforts started.

Stan Englund: Thanked KK for the magazines for Pinecrest. Movement to modernize Pinecrest has begun.

Ron Keller reported that Bill Marklewitz's condition has improved. Bill is at Mayo's.

Stan Englund reported that the Bottomleys are back in the US. Martha's condition (broken leg) is much improved.

Bill Barnett presented a check for \$250 to the Food Pantry.

Brian Jackson recognized Duane Brooks for bringing in at least 5 new members to KK. Kiwanis International also recognizes this achievement.

### THE GREAT LAKES LOONS

PAUL BARBEAU, VP & GM

Brian Jackson introduced Paul Barbeau, the VP & GM of the Great Lakes Loons. Paul comes to Midland from Spokane where he was VP and GM of the Spokane Indians. He is a native of Boston. The idea of a minor league baseball team started with Dow Chemical people asking themselves how to make this area a more attractive place to live and work. Bill Stavropoulos who has had a major role in starting the team grew up next door to Carl Yastrzemski and has always been a baseball fan. The Midland Baseball Foundation was put together with the help of local foundations. A \$35 million stadium is being built with no public funds. The Midland Baseball Foundation will own the park and the team. It is a non-profit organization. All teams in the 14 team Midwest League are affiliated with a major league team. The Loons affiliation will be known by the end of Sept. The HOK firm will build the stadium. They have built Camden Yards in Baltimore and Comerica Park in Detroit among others. 50,000 tickets were sold the first day with a total of 83,000 tickets having been sold to date. Tickets will be affordable at \$6 and \$8.50 and each game will have great entertainment.

All players are the property of a Major League team. The league's level is class A.

40 million fans attended minor league baseball last year. The Loons will play 140 games in 2007 of which 70 are home games.