

"Kiwanis is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to changing the world one child and one community at a time."

CHAIR: JELLUM INVOCATION: PENNY ECARIUS MUSIC:  
BURK/MEYER PIG: D. Winger EDITOR pro tem: ENGLUND

## CALENDAR

October 16—Nuts by Rajewski

October 20—Fall Leadership Meeting, Mt Pleasant

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

\*\*\*Welcome back, Mike Merrill.

\*\*\*Englund--We had a seven people show up to pick up clothing for Pinecrest at the Presbyterian Church last Thursday. We had 19 bags and Bob Nankee delivered them with his truck.

\*\*\*Winger--World Series playoffs coming. No predictions.

\*\*\*Jellum--Thank you from the Salvation Army

## PROGRAM

Diane Stevens introduced Rachel Larimore of The Chippewa Nature Center. Rachel works for the Nature Preschool sponsored by the Chippewa Nature Center and the West Midland Family Center. Why is there a Nature Preschool? It is a way to engage a sense of wonder and build a lifelong relation with nature. It will help reduce "nature deficit disorder." Kids are not playing outside as much as they used to.

Nature Preschool is for 4 year olds and some 3 year olds. It is 2.5 hours each day, Monday through Thursday. It is funded by the Michigan School Readiness Program, or tuition on a sliding scale. It costs about \$3000 per year per child. There are about 18 in each class and there are three staff members.

It is a daily outdoor experience. Through play, children learn. They learn teamwork, develop creativity, experience music, make friends, do painting, meet animals including toads and worms, ride tricycles and scooters, and play in sandboxes. In the indoor classroom they experience cooking, blocks, art, chalkboards.