

**CHAIR:** Ray Senesac    **INVOCATION:** Don Winger    **MUSIC:** Dave Winegardner/Bob Ralston  
**PIG:** Don Winger    **MAILER:** John McClellan    **EDITOR:** John Mier

#### CALENDAR

April 4                      Kiwanis work project in Mt. Pleasant. Call Alex at 631-2457.  
April 16                     Spring Divisional meeting.  
May 15                      Annual Golf Outing Fundraiser. Renee Yates.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS

\*\*\*President Ray gave a warm Kiwanis welcome to guests and prospective new members.

\*\*\*Ginny Morrison presented a \$500 check to Beverlee Wenzel, Executive Director of the R.O.C.K.. Beverlee graciously thanked Kiwassee for our continued support, and added that the R.O.C.K. is improving and broadening their support for teenagers.

\*\*\*Terri Malek-Madani announced that students from the West Midland Family Center's Dow College Opportunity Program will be available to help with spring cleaning and yard work (weekends and after school through May) to help raise money for their summer trips. Call her at 989-205-6675 to make arrangements. Donations appreciated.

\*\*\*Mike Briggs thanked members for bringing empty pop bottles and cans for the Key Club fund raiser. Mike said to bring them next week if you forgot this week. Mike added (for Vicki) that there are two openings for the Tall in the Saddle program—on April 28 and May 26.

\*\*\*Roger Briggs asked for volunteers to attend Key Club meetings. Sign up sheet circulated.

\*\*\*Dave Bender introduced Northwood Circle K member Courtney Wallace, who reported that the club is growing with 25 new members this year. They raised \$1,500 in a recent fund raiser bagging groceries at Glenn's.

\*\*\*Alex Rapanos announced that there will be a Kiwanis District work project (packaging food) in Mt. Pleasant this Saturday. Please call Alex at 631-2457 if you can help.

\*\*\*Diane Stevens circulated sympathy cards for JoAnn Glynn for the loss of her mother, and Jack Colton for the loss of his daughter. Please keep Jo Ann and Jack and their families in your thoughts and prayers.

\*\*\*President Ray reminded members of the Spring Divisional meeting on April 16. Ray will send an e-mail with details.

#### **M.P.S. SUPERINTENDENT CARL ELLINGER DISCUSSES MIDLAND COUNTY REVENUE ENHANCEMENT MILLAGE PROPOSAL ON MAY 5 BALLOT**

Linda Cline introduced Midland Public Schools Superintendent Carl Ellinger. Carl has been M.P.S. Superintendent since July of 2007 when he moved from a similar position in Charlotte, Michigan. Carl's subject was the Midland County Revenue Enhancement Millage proposal, which will be on the May 5 ballot. The proposal will provide additional funding for all Midland County public schools (Bullock Creek, Coleman, Midland, Meridian, and the county E.S.A.). The additional revenue will be distributed based on pupil population. The proposed millage will result in an additional tax of \$75 for a \$100,000 house. The deficit in the '08-'09 school year was \$38 million, and will significantly increase this year. The solution will require a combination of decreased spending and increased revenue. Carl reviewed various M.P.S. cost reductions that have taken place over the past 5 years—virtually in all areas. Administrative costs have been reduced by 31% and instructional staff by 13.5%. Cost reductions have also been achieved in support staff, transportation, maintenance, and curriculum. Spending on athletic programs and extracurricular activities will also be reviewed. There is now a critical need for new text books, improved career and technology training, technology updates, and new busses. Also, the School Board is dedicated to preserving class size. A survey conducted last November indicated 45% of Midland voters will support the millage, with 14% "leaning in that direction". The School Board is currently considering reducing the sinking fund millage as well as delaying the Mills and Eastlawn school closings. Carl said a comprehensive fact sheet is being printed that will be available to residents later in April.