

CHAIR: Renee Castellon
PIG: Joe Malan

INVOCATION: Al Klashak
MAILER: John McClellan

MUSIC: Acappella
EDITOR: John Mier

CALENDAR

June 8 Roundtable, noon at Shirleen's.
June 8 Annual Cookout at Emerson Park (Section D), 6 p.m..
June 24, 25 Eagle Village work project. Duane Townley.
July 7 Pinecrest Picnic.
July 19 Annual Golf Outing at Midland Country Club's new course. Renee Castellon.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS

***Duane Brooks reminded members that our Annual Cookout will be at 6 p.m. on June 8 at Emerson Park (Section D). Spouses are invited. Noon Roundtable will be at Shirleen's.

***Mike Briggs will be bike riding 100 miles with his daughter on June 8 for the American Lung Association. See Mike if you would like to pledge a donation. Mike and his daughter have collected \$1,500 for the American Lung Association so far---way to go Mike!!

***Duane Townley circulated sign up sheets for June 24 and 25 to complete the cabin painting work project at Eagle Village. Cars will leave MCFTA at 8:30 a.m. and return by 5:30 p.m..

***Ray Senesac recognized the seven members with May anniversaries.

***Dick Jellum circulated a sign up sheet for volunteers to distribute balloons and substance abuse literature from Kiwassee's booth at the Summer Art Fair next weekend. Dick also announced that the Annual Pinecrest Picnic will be on July 7. More details later.

***Vicki Briggs thanked the seven members (and spouses) who helped with the Tall in the Saddle program this year.

***Dan Macek, representing Young Children Priority One, presented a check to Tina Hickey from the Mid Michigan Community Action organization. Tina thanked Kiwassee and said the donation will be used for their "Sipping Cup" program to transition babies from bottle feeding.

***Congratulations to Bob Davidson on his recent marriage, and to President Renee on the occasion of her first Wedding Anniversary!!

***President Renee welcomed a number of members from the Kiwanis Evening Club.

MIDLAND COUNTY'S GREAT START COLLABORATIVE

Jim Schroeder, representing Young Children Priority One, introduced Erin Lauderbach, who is a Professional and Resource Development Coordinator for the Midland County Educational Service Agency (ESA). Erin was a public school teacher and an elementary school principal before devoting full time to raising her family, and she recently welcomed the opportunity to work with the ESA. Erin's purpose today was to talk about Midland County's Great Start Collaborative, which was started by the Midland ESA about two years ago. This organization is actually a partner with the Early Childhood Investment Corporation (ECIC) chartered by Governor Granholm in 2004. Their mission is "All children will enter Kindergarten safe, healthy and ready to succeed in school and in life". Erin said that their rallying cry and "bottom line" actually is: "The first five years makes all the difference". The Great Start Collaborative (GSC) is composed of community leaders from fields of health, education, child welfare, child care, business, and philanthropy—as well as parents. These folks work together to coordinate planning, implementation, and improvement of programs and services to children from birth to age 5. Strategic priorities are: physical health, social and emotional health, early care and education, family support and parenting education, and basic needs, economic security, and child safety. The GSC works closely with a number of Midland County organizations, including The Imagination Library, Success by Six, Legacy Center for Student Success, Literacy Council, West and North Midland Family Centers—and many others. A Parent Coalition has also been formed, and Erin introduced Karin Pelletier who is the Parent Liaison for that group. Karin said the Parent Coalition helps the GSC and other organizations to better understand the needs of the community and provides valuable feedback to organizations and community leaders in terms of the effectiveness of the programs.