

	KIWASSEE	SMOKE SIGNALS	KIWANIS
CHAIR: Bruce Rayce		INVOCATION: Jim Morgan	MUSIC: Alex Rapanos
HAPPY \$: Ray Senesac	GREETER: Rudy Phillips	MAILER: Roger Briggs	EDITOR: Diane Stevens

CALENDAR

January 21: BOD meeting, Memorial Presbyterian basement conference room, 12-1pm

February 23: Items for Whispering Pines due to Susan Love

April 5: Big Project proposals due to BOD from Committees

April 21: Top 2 Big Project proposals chosen by BOD.

April 26: Top 2 presented to General Membership, who then vote by ballot

May 3: Winning Big Project announced to General Membership

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Karen Adams: Young Children: Priority 1 Committee meeting today.

Martha Briggs: A place is available on the CROP Walk Planning Team. Be a part of this worthwhile community event that Kiwassee Kiwanis has participated in for 44 years. Heather McLaughlin is currently on the Team, and Martha is the Kiwassee representative. If you are interested in being on the Planning Team, contact Martha.

Penny Ecarius: The program to educate about the dangers of human trafficking was well attended at the Salvation Army, about 125 people showed up! A victim of human trafficking gave a moving personal account. The goal was awareness of this horror, even in our own Midland County.

Chuck Gartner: Flag Project workers, there has been an upgrade in the flag storage closet. Look for the little disks on the wall and tap the centers.....light! No penalties if you leave the light on...just will need a new battery.

Susan Love: The plastic tub at the back of the room is a collection point for the incentives used by Friends of Whispering Pines in their "Earn to Learn" program. Gail and Dave would appreciate any donations that we could make to their store shelves. Items are needed by FEBRUARY 23.

- **CLEANING PRODUCTS:** paper towels, window spray, disinfectant wipes, dish soap, all purpose cleaner, laundry soap, fabric sheets, trash cans/bags, brooms, dustpans, bleach/spray.
- **CHILDREN'S ITEMS:** board books;, children's books, markers, games, art materials, puzzles, crayons, puppets, baby dolls
- **PERSONAL HYGIENE:** toilet paper, deodorant, toothpaste toothbrushes, floss, shampoo, conditioner, body wash, hand soap, bandaids, facial tissues, hair brushes, skin lotions
- **MISCELLANEOUS:** first aid kits, smoke detectors, carbon monoxide detectors, bath towels, wash cloths, dish towels, dish cloths, sheets, blankets, candles, coffee pot, pillows, plates, pots and pans, floor rugs, snow shovels, toasters, vacuums
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As per Gail, "New and gently used items are appreciated. This is not an all-inclusive list. If you have things in your home that are no longer needed, someone else might have a use for it."

Gene Moore: There is scientific evidence that smiling is good medicine, as your brain thinks you are happy. See the handout!

Jim Rajewski: Final accounting for nuts and candy fundraiser continues. Awards will be announced in a few weeks. Heather McLaughlin and John Meier, please contact Jim to settle your bills.

Doug Snoddy: Junior Youth meeting today. Idea: lanyards for nametags instead of pinning them to a droopy pocket or collar?

Bruce Rayce: Bruce collected 25 pairs of shoes for the Michigan District's shoe and boot fundraiser to benefit ELIMINATE.

Continue to clean out your closets and bring unwanted footwear to Bruce at the next meeting. Thank you to Rudy for being the Greeter and Jim Morgan for the Invocation. Committee Chairs, don't forget to send project money requests to Bruce for the upcoming BOD meeting agenda. Kiwanis Club of Saginaw is celebrating their 99th anniversary with a Cash Bash. Ticket price is

Day celebration. Donations made by parents/caregivers will go to the local Children's Miracle Network Hospital, a preferred charity of Kiwanis International. Register on the Kiwanis International website. Cleveland Manor sent a thank you note for the \$200 donation made by Community Service for food and favors at their Christmas Party. The Tennis Center tournament is fast approaching. Bruce and several members volunteer as drivers for the players. If you are interested in helping, contact Bruce. New Hope Village will be the featured non-profit guest on opening night of the tournament, as per John Congleton. On January 25, the Evening Club will have a Detroit representative from Homeland Security speak regarding Syrian immigration policies. Contact Dick Koppel on MidlandKiwanis.org if you would like to attend.

GUESTS

Ray Senesac's guest is Grant Murschel, Midland Community Development Planner. Ray is encouraging him to return for another visit, or more. Duane Brook's guest is again Carolanne Guillemette of Chemical Bank Trust Department. She is planning to join as a Corporate Member.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Jim Young had chest pains while in Destin, Florida and is now in the hospital for observation and follow-up procedure. Keep him in your thoughts and prayers that he can quickly get back to enjoying the Florida sunshine.

PROGRAM: COMMUNITY SERVICE, "IT'S NOT YOUR GRANDMA'S SENIOR CENTER!"

Tina Podboy-Laughner, Volunteer & Community Outreach Manager, Senior Services, Midland, provided a history of the current Senior Services and a breakdown of its many offerings. The goal of the Center is to be a "one stop shop" for Midland County residents aged 60 years and older, and their caregivers, for services and opportunities to support and enhance their lives.

The first idea of organized senior citizen assistance began in 1960 with a committee whose main concern was senior housing availability. The 1965 construction of Cleveland Manor was the result of this meeting. In 1966, the concerned citizens' group, now named Midland County Council on Aging, gained non-profit status, and the first office with paid staff was created in 1974. With a new name, Senior Services of Midland County Council on Aging moved into the Dublin Road facility in 2001 and now has 120 staff members and 500 volunteers.

The 2015 Annual Report for the organization shows funding comes mainly from three sources: Millage, 57.1%, Program Revenues, 25.6%, and State and Federal Grants, 13.8%.

An initial step to gain Senior Services' assistance is an in-home assessment by a Care Coordinator. This evaluation of the individual and their living situation will determine what services are needed/wanted. Services and programs include caregiver training and support, adult day services, memory support services, transportation, counseling, handyman services, health benefit and/or prescription assistance, and Meals on Wheels, a meal delivery option. Meals on Wheels started in 1978. Volunteer drivers/delivery folks are greatly needed! Another dining option is to have a meal at one of the Centers: Trailside Center, Coleman Center, Greendale Center, Happy Diners Center, Mills Center, Sanford Center, or Birchwood Center.

Even if services are not needed, there are many activities for the 60+ year olds: TED discussions, Lunchtime Learners, health education presentations, fitness classes, card and even bingo games, and special events. A new program called Encore 50/70 targets the "younger" crowd of 50-somethings up to age 70 for a group activity such as an art Happy Hour at Creative 360 or an evening at Oscars with trivia and tacos.

Volunteers are needed in many capacities in Senior Services' programs, but especially as drivers for either Meals on Wheels or errands, and for a new program called Remembering When. This is a national program, in collaboration with the Red Cross, Midland Fire Department, and volunteers to help seniors with fire and fall prevention.

For more information about Senior Services and their assistance and enrichment opportunities, call 989-633-3700 or go to SeniorServicesMidland.org.

NEXT WEEK: Program To Be Announced, Greeter John Congleton, Invocation Gerry Schwark