

March 10: Camp Fish Tales Fish Races at Camp Fish Tails (Penny Ecarius)
March 11: Walk for Warmth, Midland Community Center (Diane Stevens)
March 16: The ROCK fundraiser, Great Hall, Valley Plaza, (Doug Snoddy)
March 18: Kids Against Hunger meal packaging (contact Tom at tom.workentine@charter.net)
March 23-25: Regional robotics competition at HHDow High. (Carolanne Guillemette)
April 18, 11:45am: Kiwassee Kiwanis Club's 50th Anniversary Celebration (Dick Skochdopole)
April 19: Children's Grief Center fundraiser, Great Hall, Valley Plaza (Brian Goodwill, Cal Hoerneman)
July 17: Kiwassee Kiwanis For Kids Golf Outing, Snow Snake (Betsy Sullivan and Porter Brown)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Penny Ecarius: This Friday night at Camp Fish Tails, 2177 E Erikson Road, Pinconning, doors open at 5:30pm, meal at 6pm with beef and fish taco bar, coleslaw, beverages, BYOB, \$20 cost for food, bring cash for betting on the racing fish, starting at 7pm. Penny decorated our fish! She has invited our Midland County Kiwanis Family to participate in this fundraiser.

Dick Skochdopole: The 50th anniversary committee needs to contact the following folks: Jim Schroeder, Jim Jocks, Mary Dalton, Dave Chapin, Michele Minkel. Please let Dick know if you have an address or phone number. (NOTE: Got them all. Thanks.)

Doug Snoddy: There will be a Kiwanis table at the ROCK fundraiser event on 3/16. Tickets are free but a donation is greatly appreciated. Two guests from Northwood Circle K, Noah Stoffel, and Kristey Godley, challenged us to beat the Midland Kiwanis Club in donations to the March of Dimes and support of Circle K members attending District Convention. They kindly had buckets for contributions in the center of our tables, instead of the original toilet, painted blue and gold.

Betsy Sullivan: Don't forget the April 17 Kiwanis for Kids Golf Outing! How to help: provide silent auction prizes (with the donor's name), assemble a foursome, serve food, become or find sponsors.

Cal Hoerneman: Third annual Hearts of Hope fundraising lunch for Children's Grief Center is on 4/19 at noon, Great Hall, Valley Plaza. Only 2 seats at the Kiwassee table remain!

Diane Stevens: Walk for Warmth will not use our registration help as the event is being organized by the Farwell and Bay City MMCAA offices. The Walk begins at 10am at the Midland Community Center. Today is the last chance to donate. Diane will walk and represent Kiwassee.

Fred Honerkamp: Max Bottomley is home now and feeling better but has to avoid crowds and infections. He may be back with us next week. Today is National Pancake Day and all money from pancake sales at IHOP restaurants goes to the Kiwanis Children's Hospitals. Fred will be serving from 5pm-7pm at the Mt. Pleasant IHOP. Come on over and get a flapjack! Fred's guest is Jim Whiteside.

PROGRAM BY AUDIT COMMITTEE, FIRE CHIEF CHRIS COUGHLIN

Ray Senesac introduced Fire Chief Chris Coughlin from the Midland Fire Department. Midland currently has three fire stations: Station 1, 816 E Haley, built in 1957; Station 2, 313 Townsend, opened in 1993; Station 3, 1717 N Saginaw, opened in 1976. Midland's population from 1970 to 2000 increased by 19%, and the City's square mileage increased by over 9 square miles. Emergency call numbers grew from 482 in 1976 to 5,283 in 2016. Amazingly, staffing numbers have even dropped by one, from 1976's 46 firefighters to 2017's 45 firefighters. This growth in population, square mileage, and emergency calls has led to increased response times for both fire and medical emergencies. (Seventy five percent of today's calls are medical events.)

Evaluations of response times and performance in 1998/1999 and 2006/2007, by both outside professionals and Fire Chiefs, all revealed the need for improved response times (National standard is 4 minutes.). Given the growth of the City, only the creation of a fourth fire station will improve that response time. And those evaluations were done before the explosive growth of the City north of US 10.

Four options exist: 1)build new station #4; 2)build #4 and relocate #1; 3)build #4, relocate #1, and relocate #3. The most pressing issue for any of these option is acquisition of land for station locations. Vacant land is fast disappearing.

Fire prevention tips for homeowners: Make sure smoke alarms work. Install a newer model alarm with interconnected units throughout the house. Keep outdoor grills and smokers away from the house, even when on a deck. Place fireplace ashes in a metal container. Make sure fire extinguishers work. Turn it upside down, hit it with a mallet to loosen the powder and give it a good shake. If the powder has become solid, replace the extinguisher. Make sure the utility area around the furnace and hot water heater has a 3' diameter clear space. Clean out the clothes dryer vent. Either have a professional do it (contact Fred for a name.) or use a leaf blower to blast out the fuzz.) Have chimneys cleaned out every year.

Chief Coughlin's presentation will be posted to the Kiwassee website.

REMINDERS: Next week, Invocation by Jim Heffel, Greeter Mike Feider, Program by Senior Youth. **Past presidents, please loan your year's scrapbook to Diane Stevens or Dick Skochdopole for use at the 50th anniversary celebration luncheon.**