

CALENDAR

Thursday, September 13: Saginaw Thomas Township Kiwanis Club Golf Outing, Apple Mountain (R Briggs)

Saturday, September 22: Walk to End Alzheimer's, Loons Stadium, 9 am. (S Bender)

Sunday, October 7: CROP Walk (Gartner, Kyle Clark, M Briggs)

Wednesday, October 17: Aktion Club Talent Show (M Briggs)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Stu Bender: The Walk to End Alzheimer's is Saturday, September 22, at the Dow Diamond. Registration is 9 and the Walk begins at 10. Donate today or online: Google "Walk to End Alzheimer's."

Martha Briggs/Chuck Gartner: The CROP Hunger Walk is Sunday, October 7. Please donate today or online: visit www.crophungerwalk.org/midlandmi/marthabriggs. Sign up to volunteer the day of the Walk.

Brian Goodwill: HSV meets after today's meeting. Please sign up to give an invocation in October.

Dick Jellum: Community Service meets after today's regular meeting.

Bruce Rayce: Senior Youth meets after next week's meeting. Who will go to tomorrow's Key Club meeting?

Gordon Rogers: Members elected Jim Heffel to replace Allison Maloney as a BOD Trustee. Kim Clark has agreed to replace Mark Fenske as Vice-President; members will vote on this change at the 9/18 meeting.

Jim Young: Multiple severe weather predictions forced the cancellation of flag installations for Labor Day.

Betsy Sullivan: The Golf Outing committee will meet every second Tuesday at 11:00, including next week.

MEMBER NEWS: Mike Cronenberger reported yet another Max Bottomley sighting, this time at church last Sunday. Now we just want to know when he'll be back at a meeting! Bob Davidson reported that Larry is slowly recovering at home, doing some walking and hoping the medication for his heart will help him.

PROGRAM: Sue Landis and Michelle Bell, Midland County Juvenile Care Center

Senior Youth co-chair introduced Sue, JCC's Mentor Program Coordinator; and Michelle, who directs JCC's Court Services, explaining that this program is a follow-up to the May 22 panel program, when Doreen Allen suggested that mentors are among one of the greatest needs for troubled youth in Midland County.

Sue gave an overview of the Center, which serves 13-18 year-olds, 80% of whom are boys, 20% girls. Truancy is a major problem, and JCC's goal is to get these kids back in school. The Center has two main sections: Detention, a 24/7 lockdown for up to 22 youth, where stays range from overnight to several months; and Day Treatment, a 12-hour weekday program for 22 youth. Two teachers in two classrooms cover the MPS curriculum for grades 6-12, using E2020 on-line credit recovery.

Students in Day Treatment have an Individual Student Plan for education and treatment, a probation officer, counseling, and attend after-school programs that address anger control, problem solving, mindfulness, and more. They also volunteer in the community. A popular and successful program is "Pawsitive Helpers," in which students teach hard-to-adopt shelter dogs. Pre- and post-program assessments show positive results.

The Midland Kids First Program includes Baby Court for young parents convicted of neglecting their children aged 0-3 years; Recovering Youth Futures, which focuses on substance abuse; Strengthening Families, a 15-week program for parents and youth; and Midland Mentors, the program Sue manages.

Similar to Big Brothers/Sisters, Midland Mentors pairs an adult with a youth who lacks natural mentors like coaches, scout leaders, and youth pastors. They need a caring adult who will be a role model, a sounding board, and most importantly, a non-judgmental person to spend 2 hours with them doing ordinary, everyday activities that give them a chance to talk. Since its inception in 2004, 175 kids have been matched. Former youth are now mentors, and many youth have kept in touch with their mentors long after they aged out of the JCC program.

The process to become a mentor includes an interest questionnaire, background check, references, and training. Given the greater number of boys than girls at JCC, male mentors are especially needed. Contact Sue at slandis@co.midland.mi.us for more information.

COMING UP: Committee reports: Sept. 11—Club News & Publicity, Membership, Human and Spiritual Values, and Senior Youth. Sept. 18: Club Meetings, Fund Raising, Community Service, Junior Youth, YCP1.