

January 2010



Serving the Children of Grand Rapids and the World
Meeting Every Tuesday at 12:00 noon at the Radisson at Ann Street and US 131

Kiwanis Grand Rapids North

Programs You May Have Missed

JANUARY 5

Rick Zweering — The American Pension Business

ERISA: Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA) signed into law by President Ford.

Pension vs. 401K

- First pension was the B&O railroad in the late 1800's
- Pensions were beneficial to a company because the increased benefit of the pension could be amortized over 40 years; current law allows amortization over seven years
- Business downturn resulted in under funded plans; ERISA was governments attempt to protect workers pension plans
- In the late 1980's, accountants pushed for normalcy so the unfunded liability of a pension would show on the balance sheet
- 401K plans came into existence when the pension plans were perceived as being too generous

JANUARY 12

Elizabeth Crouch and Sandra L. Barraza, Noorthoek Academy

The Noorthoek Academy is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing a continuing education program in the arts and sciences for special needs students, who want to pursue their educations in a college setting after high school.

- Founded in 1989, the first program of its kind in the US
- Located at GRCC; otherwise self-funded as a non-profit
- 50-60 students, ages 18-40 years; no limit on the number of years in academy
- Annual budget approximately \$60,000; student tuition \$200/semester
- More information:
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Noorthoek_Academy
<http://noorthoekacademy.org/>

JANUARY 19

Jonathon Mickulich, Network 180

What is Network 180?

- Prior to 2005 was Kent County Community Mental Health
- Network of organizations serving mental illnesses and substance use disorders
- Network 180 does evaluation and referral for the 26 participating agencies
- Funded primarily through Medicaid dollars
- Access center open 24/7 on Fuller St.
- More information:
<http://www.network180.org/>

Email membership news items to Roger Brook at kiwanisgr@gmail.com

If you are not receiving this newsletter by email,
contact Roger Brook at kiwanisgr@gmail.com

Quotable Notables

Affliction: I thank God for my handicaps, for through them, I have found myself, my work and my God.
Helen Keller

Possessions, outward success, publicity, luxury — to me these have always been contemptible. I believe that a simple and unassuming manner of life is best for everyone, both for the body and the mind.
Albert Einstein

All Wrapped Up: A man (or woman) wrapped up in himself (or herself) makes a very small package.
Gods Little Instruction Book

Friends: Lots of people want to ride with you in the lime, but what you want is someone who will take the bus with you when the lime breaks down.
Oprah Winfrey

Member News and Happy Dollars

Roger Brook — wonderful 3-day weekend in Frankenthuth at Zehnder Splash Village with our whol family

Jason VanDam — wife hired as a recruiter at ITT

Linda Paige — father-in-law passed away Christmas night

Coming Programs and Events

February 9
Program: Dr. Fahner, DeVos Children's Hospital
1:00 pm Board Meeting

February 16
Program: Mrs. Joan Johnson, Blodgett Burn Camp

February 20
Kiwanis Michigan Mid-Winter Growth Session, 9:30 AM, Mt. Pleasant

March 2
Program: Peter Varga from The Rapid

March 23
Dave Smith, Employers' Association

April 10
Spring Divisional —Div. 13&14, Governors Visit,
5:00 PM

June 24-27
Kiwanis International Convention, Las Vegas, NV

Upcoming Program Responsibility

- March — Jason VanDam
- April — Linda Paige
- May —
- June —

KIWANIS GRAND RAPIDS

**Located in Grand Rapids,
Michigan, and dedicated to
Serving the children and
youth of the greater Grand
Rapids Area.**

Email: kiwanisgr@yahoo.com

We are on the web
kiwanisgrandrapids.org

KIWANIS—Serving the Children of the World

Purpose: To improve the quality of life for children and families.

Mission: Kiwanis is a global organization of men, women and youth dedicated to serving the children of the world and improving the quality of their life.

Objectives:

- To give primacy to human and spiritual rather than to the material values of like.
- To encourage daily living of the Golden Rule in all human relationships.
- To promote the adoption and application of higher social, business and professional standards.
- To develop by precept and example a more intelligent, aggressive and serviceable citizenship.
- To provide through Kiwanis clubs, a practical means to form enduring friendships, to render altruistic service, and to build better communities.
- To cooperate in creating and maintaining that sound public opinion and high idealism which make possible the increase of righteousness, justice, patriotism and goodwill.

Club Service Recap

Kids First Food Basket: help with the production and delivery of 2000 sack dinners for needy children each week day (Youth Services)

Hours Total — 50

Members Involved — 20

Estimated Youth Served — 40000

Terrific Kids: Visit six schools with Terrific Kids (Youth Services)

Hours Total — 20

Members Involved — 12

Estimated Youth Served — 200

Salvation Army: Deliver food and goods to the salvation army each Tuesday

Hours Total — 20

Members Involved — 10

Estimated Youth Served — 500

Urban Legend: GPS Thieves

A couple of weeks ago a friend told me that someone she knew had their car broken into while they were at a football match. Their car was parked on the green which was adjacent to the football stadium and specially allotted to football fans. Things stolen from the car included a garage door remote control, some money and a GPS which had been prominently mounted on the dashboard.

When the victims got home, they found that their house had been ransacked and just about everything worth anything had been stolen.

The thieves had used the GPS to guide them to the house. They then used the garage remote control to open the garage door and gain entry to the house. The thieves knew the owners were at the football game, they knew what time the game was scheduled to finish and so they knew how much time they had to clean out the house. It would appear that they had brought a truck to empty the house of its contents.



“Making a Difference”

Kiwanis North Grand Rapids is located in Grand Rapids, Michigan and dedicated to serving the children and youth of the greater Grand Rapids Area.

Contact us at kiwanisgrandrapids.org

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- * **Recycling** Keeps Hundreds of Thousands of Tons of Plastic Out of Our Landfills Which Takes 450 Years to Decompose
- * **Recycling** as an Industry has Created 103,000 Jobs
- * **Recycling** Conserves Resources and Energy by Reducing our Dependency of Raw Materials

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Further information about TMH is available by phone at 616-363-2107 or email at sales@tmhcorp.com.
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