



Nuda Veritas

Published for Members by the Grand Rapids Lions Club
District 11-C-1 --- Vol. 2016-17, No.8, December 18, 2016

UPCOMING EVENTS

*University Club
Downtown Grand Rapids
Meetings begin at 12:15 p.m.
unless otherwise noted.*

----- We Serve -----

Tuesdays, December 20 & 27
NO Luncheon Meetings
NO Eyeglasses Recycling
(Recycling Center Closed!)

December 24 – January 1:
Hanukkah Sameach! (Happy Hanukkah)

December 25, Merry Christmas!

December 26 – January 1: Heri za Kwanzaa! (Happy Kwanzaa)

January 1 – Happy New Year!



Tuesday, January 3, Commercial Real Estate, Tom DeBoer

Tuesday, January 3, Recycling Center Reopens, 3:00 – 8:00 pm

Monday, January 9, Tuesday, Lions Bowling League Starts Again, Northfield Lanes, 4:45 pm

Merry Christmas!

Happy Hanukkah!

Happy Kwanzaa!

(Editor's Note: See later articles)

December 20 & 27
No Luncheon Meetings & Recycling Center Closed

Due to the holidays, there will be no luncheon meetings. The next luncheon meeting will be on January 3, 2017.

Also, the Recycling Center will reopen January 3 from 3:00 – 8:00 pm, with a work session scheduled that evening. However, you can come any time after 3:00 pm. If you have questions, please contact Lion Scott Brady at scottbrady2120@gmail.com or 616-283-0260.

Tuesday, January 3, 2017
Commercial Real Estate, Tom DeBoer

West Michigan has experienced continued growth since the Great Recession in 2008 and has been ahead of the national curve. What has caused this? Likely, it is the cumulative result of many things, which include the growth in the health & science fields, a spirit of innovation, increasing vibrant cities, ready

access to lakes and nature and a relatively low cost of living (although the cost seems to be rising). You can likely cite more things.

Tom DeBoer, Senior Vice President of Colliers International West Michigan, will share his thoughts about the market and focus on the general and medical office environment in Grand Rapids and along the lakeshore. He is particularly known for his special services to recruit and meet the needs of his clients. As an example, he earned the Commercial Alliance of Relators Annual Award (trade organization) for “2015 Transaction of the Year” for the Switch Pyramid moving West Michigan.

Mr. DeBoer earned his Bachelor of Science degree from Ferris State University. After graduation, he joined Whirlpool Corporation to work in technology development and the internal audit controls for technology, manufacturing, and inventory control. He came back to his home town of Grand Rapids in 1990 and began his work in commercial real estate. In 1995, he helped found Paramount Properties LLC with Bill Bowling, which is now our current office, Colliers International. He is active in numerous professional associations.

Thank you - Meijer Kids Holiday Shopping Event

The event took place on Saturday morning, December 10, 2016. The Chairs, Lion Anne Baird & Lion Mike Thibodeau, thank all who participated that morning and those who donated funds to help with the costs. Each year, Cascade Meijer employees contribute, and this year came up with an additional \$500. The remainder of the funds are drawn from our charitable funds.

We helped 18 visually impaired kids from across Kent Country and 22 kids from Saboath Ministries whose families have financial needs. In addition to our volunteers, nine Lions from the Grand Valley State University Campus Lions Club participated (as they have for many years). The following Grand Rapids Lions volunteered that Saturday (not alphabetical):

Jeff Kraai
Lynn Francis
MP Chelsky
Mary VanderLugt
Mike Thibodeau
Linda Thibodeau
Don Jakel
Bill Fleetham
Molly Fleetham
Bob White
Sharon White

Gary Anderson
Cheryl Anderson
Sherah Eavey
Tom Murphy (& his daughter)
Richard Nelson
Jim Baird
Anne Baird
Kathy O’Bee
Brent Spoelstra
Collen Mulder
Steve Mulder

Editor’s Note: If I missed someone, let me know & I will publish your name in the next issue.

If you want to get involved next year (participating or helping to organize the event), please contact Anne Baird (baird@surfrees.com) 616-446-9496 or Mike Thibodeaux (muthibodeau@gmail.com).

Editor: The three articles which follow are published because all are celebrated during this holiday season and have a "similar" heritage. People across the world celebrate in their own way, but all have a message of love and peace for humankind. This trio of articles includes Christmas for comparison to the others which are not the predominant celebrations for many people during this holiday season.

Merry Christmas **(This year - December 25)**

Christmas Day (Old English: Crīstesmæsse, meaning "Christ's Mass") is an annual festival commemorating the birth of Jesus Christ, observed most commonly on December 25 as a religious and cultural celebration among billions of people around the world. As a feast central to the Christian liturgical year, it is prepared for by the season of Advent or the Nativity Fast and initiates the season of Christmastide. This, historically in the West, lasts twelve days and culminates on Twelfth Night; in some traditions, Christmastide includes an Octave.

The traditional Christmas narrative, the Nativity of Jesus, delineated in the New Testament says that Jesus was born in Bethlehem, in accordance with messianic prophecies; when Joseph and Mary arrived in the city, the inn had no room, and so they were offered a stable where the Christ Child was soon born, with angels proclaiming this news to shepherds who then disseminated the message furthermore.

Christmas Day is a public holiday in many of the world's nations, is celebrated religiously by the vast majority of Christians, as well as culturally by a number of non-Christian people, and is an integral part of the holiday season. Some Christian groups reject the celebration. In several countries, the celebration is on Christmas Eve, December 24, is the main focus, rather than December 25, with gift-giving and sharing a traditional meal with the family.

Source: Wikipedia.com

Happy Hanukkah **(This year: December 24 - January 1)**

Hanukkah (Chanukah), the Festival of Lights or Feast of Dedication, begins on the 25th day of the Jewish month of Kislev, and lasts for eight days. On the secular calendar, Chanukah generally falls in December. It is a Jewish holiday commemorating the rededication of the Holy Temple (the Second Temple) in Jerusalem at the time of the Maccabean Revolt against the Seleucid Empire (2nd century BC).

The Syrian-Greek regime of Antiochus sought to pull Jews away from Judaism, with the hopes of assimilating them into Greek culture. Antiochus outlawed Jewish observance, including circumcision, Shabbat, and Torah study, under penalty of death. Many Jews, called Hellenists, began to assimilate into Greek culture, taking on Greek names and marrying non-Jews. This began to decay the foundation of Jewish life and practice.

When the Greeks challenged the Jews to sacrifice a pig to a Greek god, a few courageous Jews took to the hills of Judea in open revolt against this threat to Jewish life. They were led by Matitياهو, and later his son Judah the Maccabee. This small band of pious Jews led guerrilla warfare against the Syrian-Greek army. The Empire sent thousands of well-armed troops to crush the rebellion, but after three years the Maccabees beat incredible odds and succeeded in driving the foreigners from their land.

When the Jewish fighters entered Jerusalem, they found the Holy Temple in shambles. The Maccabees cleansed the Temple and re-dedicated it on the 25th of Kislev. When it came time to re-light the Menorah, they searched the entire Temple, but found only one jar of pure oil bearing the seal of the High Priest. They lit the Menorah and were rewarded with a miracle: That small jar of oil burned for eight days, until a new supply of oil could be brought. From then on, Jews have observed a holiday for eight days, in honor of this historic victory and the miracle of the oil.

Source: Wikipedia.com & others

Happy Kwanzaa **(This year: December 26 - January 1)**

Kwanzaa is a week-long celebration held in the United States and in other nations in the Americas. The celebration honors African heritage in African-American culture and culminates in a feast and gift-giving. It was created by Maulana Karenga and was first celebrated in 1966–67. It has its roots in the black nationalist movement of the 1960s and was a means to help African Americans reconnect with their African roots and historical heritage. Over time, Kwanzaa has gained mainstream support and become “*A Celebration of Family, Community and Culture.*” Christmas is often celebrated with Kwanzaa.

Kwanzaa has seven core principles (Nguzo Saba): [in English] Unity, Self-Determination, Collective Work & Responsibility, Cooperative Economics, Purpose, Creativity and Faith.

While the celebration Kwanzaa has a short history as a celebration, the uniqueness of the African American experience in American history provides a reason to celebrate to instill hope, love of family and pride for the future. Isn't that what all three celebrations do?

Source: The Official Kwanzaa Website

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