



Nuda Veritas

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District 11-C-1 --- Vol. 2015-16, No. 1, September 1, 2015

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

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

Tuesday, September 8, First Luncheon Meeting of the Year (FY2015-16), 616 Development, Monica Steimle

Tuesday, September 8, 6:00 pm, First Scheduled Recycling Night for the 2015-16 Lions Season – Every Tuesday Night (no dinner tonight)

Monday, September 14, Season Opening of Grand Rapids Lions Club Bowling League, Northfield Lanes, 4:45 pm

Tuesday, September 15, The Prodigal Government, Peter Letzmann

September 17 – 19, USA/Canada Leadership Forum, Grand Rapids, MI

Monday, September 21, Lions Club Bowling League, Northfield Lanes, 4:45 pm

Tuesday, September 22, Power of a Hero Story, Doug Kliewer

Tuesday, September 8 616 Development, Monica Steimle

616 Development says its mission is simple: to build urban community by transforming underutilized spaces into places where people can live, work and play. This transformation typically, but not always, combines mixed-use development for retail, office and residential uses – what 616 calls “24 hour buildings.” 616 Development also has a property development component (616 Lofts) and works to construct projects and then gather feedback from those served to improve future development and operations.



616 has redeveloped a number of properties in or near downtown Grand Rapids, including “the Rood Building” at 139 Pearl Street, 206 Grandville Avenue, 1 Ionia & 7 Ionia (Heartside Entertainment District), the Kendall Building at 616 Monroe Center, the vacant Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Heritage Hill and the new construction on Michigan Street at Eastern Avenue.

Derek Coppess founded 616 Development in 2007 when he realized that urban living offered the opportunity to get to know neighbors. He indicates he wants to foster a sense of place to meet a growing demand for vibrant urban spaces. Mr. Coppess grew up in Lake Odessa, southeast of Grand Rapids, left the area to attend college and returned to West Michigan in 2003.

Monica Steimle is 616’s Director of Development. She primarily works on the startup of development projects. This includes, but is not limited to, reviewing neighborhoods and project sites, site acquisition, and working with the neighbors and communities in which 616 invests. Ms. Steimle works on how 616 can improve

the communities it serves and the Grand Rapids community at large. She was raised in Holland, attended Grand Valley State University and had an early career in hotel management. She has 10 years of experience in real estate in downtown Grand Rapids. She lives with her three children in the Belknap Neighborhood.

Tuesday, September 15 **The Prodigal Government, Peter Letzmann**

What should be done with local governments and school districts that are nearly bankrupt? How did they get that way?

Peter Letzmann has a vast array of knowledge and experience to offer to these and similar questions. He helps small governments, not for profit groups and businesses improve the performance of their organizations. He is an attorney, a court-certified mediator, an educator, consultant, public speaker and author. His interests include the integrity and effectiveness of local governments, mediation, civil rights and employment & domestic issues.

He was the City Attorney of Troy, Michigan for seventeen years. In Troy, he was responsible for all of the city's legal matters, including advising city officials, defending the city against claims and law suits, land use, eminent domain, telecommunications, ordinance prosecutions, personnel and labor, law enforcement, contracts, ordinances and documents. He also had been a Deputy City Attorney for the City of Pontiac and an Assistant Corporation Counsel for the City of Detroit.

Mr. Letzmann graduated from the University of Detroit Law School in 1972. He received his Bachelor of Arts Degree from Wayne State University and has attended the FBI's Police Legal Advisors Academy and other continuing education courses for municipal attorneys. He has made hundreds of presentations regarding legal issues and leadership aspects of government and taught in school at Oakland University and has been an instructor at MSU, EMU, Oakland Community College, Kellogg Community College, Washtenaw Community College and others. He also was an adjunct professor at Grand Valley State and Ferris State Universities. In addition, he has provided training to cities, counties and State departments. He lives in Kentwood.

Sort, Clean and Measure Used Eyeglass ***Tuesday, September 8, 6 – 8pm***

The Eyeglass Recycling Center will commence operations on Tuesday, September 8 from 6:00 to 8:00 pm. It will be open every Tuesday from 6:00 – 8:00 pm through the beginning of June 2016 (with the exception of the Tuesday between Christmas and New Year's). All Lions, spouses and guests are encouraged to participate whenever they can. Many boxes of eyeglasses are ready to be processed.

On the last Tuesday of each month, the Lions will continue to hold its last meeting of the month, with a dinner provided, at the Eyeglass Recycling Center (no luncheon meeting at noon that day).

The Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center is at Jamark Labs at 4282 Brockton SE, Suite D, Grand Rapids. It is approximately 1/2 mile east of Broadmore Avenue, about 1 block north of 44th street at the first traffic light and on the east side of Brockton. It is the northern-most suite in a series of connected businesses. Parking and the entrance is at the front of the building. If you have questions or want more information, please contact **Lion Brent Spoelstra**, the recycling coordinator, at bespoelstra@yahoo.com or 616-283-0260, or one of the other committee members.

Welcome Our New Members!

Three new members have joined the Grand Rapids Lions Club over the summer! We will introduce them in this issue and publish a profile in later editions of the newsletter. Please welcome:

- **Lion Lisa LaFave** joins the luncheon club and is an Oncology Account Manager at Spectrum Pharmaceuticals. She lives on Sundial Drive NE in Grand Rapids. Her sponsor is Bill Reese.
- **Lion Steve Shubert** joins the luncheon club and is a Financial Services Professional at Mass Mutual Financial Group. He and his wife, Juliana, live on Eastern Ave NE in Grand Rapids. His sponsor is Keith Crittenden.
- **Lions Mary VanderLugt** joins the Branch Internet Club and is a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist with Practice Consultants. Her sponsor is Brent Spoelstra.

Volunteers for USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum

The Grand Rapids Lions Club has been asked to play an important volunteer role on Wednesday and Thursday, September 16th and 17th to welcome Lions to Grand Rapids at the airport and by staffing the Registration Table at the Amway Grand Plaza Hotel for the USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum. We will have upwards of 2,000 Lions from the USA, Canada and across the world attending. You don't need to be attending the Forum to volunteer, although the Forum is a great opportunity for Leadership Development.

Recently, you should have received an email from Lynn Francis and Craig Nobbelin asking you and/or your spouse to volunteer for one or more 3-hour shifts at one or both these two locations. There are still spots left to fill. If you have not yet volunteered, please contact them as soon as possible to schedule your shift(s). Contact Lynn or Craig at the following:

Registration Table: Craig Nobbelin at 616-458-0471, or c.nobbelin@yahoo.com; The 3-hour shifts still available on Sept. 16 begin at 11:00 am & 5:00 pm, and on Sept.17, at 7:00 am & 10:00 am.

Airport Welcome: Lynn Francis at 616-458-1567, ext. 3, or Lynn@primegr.com; The 3-hour shifts on both days begin at 8:00 am, 11:00 am, 2:00 pm, and 5:00 pm.

Lions Club Bowling League Starts September 14

Lion bowlers are gearing-up for the start of the Grand Rapids Bowling League, which begins on Monday, September 14th at Northfield Lanes, 2222 Plainfield Ave NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49505. Practice starts at 4:40 pm, with the competition beginning at 4:45 pm, and usually finishing by 6:15 pm. Some Lions go out to dinner after bowling. Our bowling secretary, **Lion Fred Martin**, said, "We welcome all Lions, spouses and significant others to join in the *fun*. There are no qualifications, other than being able to throw a bowling ball down the alley."

The cost is \$155.00 per session. The fall session goes until December 19. If you can't bowl full time, substitutes are often needed. You are also welcome to come to the alley to heckle the bowlers and get to know the other Lions. To sign up or ask questions, please contact Fred Martin at fmartin@allegragr.com or 901-0578.

Grand Rapids Lions Club, Website: www.grlions.org
Mailing Address: c/o Craig Nobbelin, Secretary, 258 Morris Avenue SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49503
Editor & Lions Secretary: Craig Nobbelin, 616-458-0471 or e-mail: c.nobbelin@yahoo.com