



## Recap – December 3, 2019 Luncheon Mtg Candace Smith Candice Fleszar-Smith Tours Around Michigan

Meeting started at 12:16pm by Pres Ed Thauer with the Pledge & Prayer. Broke for lunch.  
Reconvened at 12:48

1. Lynn Francis gave the bowling report
2. Pat Mullen was the tailtwister sub for Jamie Junod, who had double knee replacement surgery.
3. Happy Buck – graduation, Lynn Francis was on the news, bowling results, remembering Mike Luhn with OSU game & hunting success, Craig Nobbelin is home.
4. Induction of New Member Linda Zizos, sponsored by Rick Stevens
5. Saturday is Meijer shopping, 7 am at Meijer Cascade, 40 children, help is still needed
6. Holiday Party is Saturday, Dec 14 2019 at Pam & Kim Gary's home. 6:30pm
7. Dec 17<sup>th</sup> luncheon meeting is the holiday raffle. Ryan Smith still needs giveaways.
8. 23 members in attendance
9. Raffle – no winner



### PROGRAM: Candance Fleszar-Smith, Tours around Michigan.

Candace started out in Lansing, then worked at Amway consulting with companies in tourism. Several years back, she started her own company, giving tours around Michigan to individuals or groups. Grand Rapids has 750,000 visitors a year. She has a walking tour of downtown for 90 minutes. Or a 3-hour driving tour which includes downtown and heritage hills. She begins with the city, feuding founders, renaissance and mob bosses. Example: St Marks Episcopal Church is made of the rocks from the Grand River when they took them out to take away the rapids. Did you know that Grand Rapids had the longest log jam in history? It was 7 miles long, 30 feet deep. It finally stopped when it hit Grand Haven. It created ½ million dollars in damage (took out the blue bridge). It was in the 1880's they turned the "blue" bridge into a pedestrian bridge. It wasn't originally blue, the bridge was painted with a primer that was blue, everyone liked it so they kept it blue. Another historical event was that the native American Indians burial mounds were wiped out by a developer in Grand Rapids. McKay Tower was the first fur trading post. It also held the first election, 1<sup>st</sup> lodging, 1<sup>st</sup> wedding. It wasn't until Louis Campau developed the streets for the center of the city. Louis Campau and Louis Lyons feuded over the designing of the streets. They both had their own ideas of how they should go. The Amway Plaza Hotel in 1915 had a Mediterranean Lobby, which is the same design as Grand Central Station in New York. The chandelier in the lobby of the Pantlind Hotel which 4,000 lbs and has one of the largest gold ceilings in the world. Grand Rapids is also known for the Grand Rapids Ford Museum, the history of President Ford. Monroe Center had Houdini do a trick by climbing 5 stories on one of the buildings. Rosa Parks bus ride in Detroit was made at the American Seating Company in GR. The Frank Lloyd Wright home, Steelcase spent millions of dollars to restore to the original form. They reproduced the furniture and carpets to the original designs. Heritage Hills has 1300 homes dating back to 1840. There are many famous people's places to see in GR: Betty & Jerry Fords 1<sup>st</sup> home, which was a rental unit. William Lear of Lear jets and Fountain School where Betty Ford went and of course, the actress Jillian Anderson. Grand Rapids has a lot to offer, come explore.



Candace Fleszar-Smith Contact Information->

Meeting was adjourned at 1:36, submitted by Cheryl Anderson

