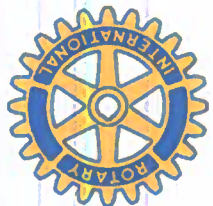


Rotary Club of Kalamazoo

September 16, 2024.

Editorian: Judy Moore



Today's meeting was called to order by president elect Dann Systma. He then led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance. Invocation was given by Rotarian Sid Ellis.
Arts News: Art News was presented by D. Terry Williams, with highlights of arts events for the week.

Guests: Dr. Kandace Lavendar, Ethan Walker, Dr. Grace Lubama, former Rotarian Bob O'Boyle, former Rotarian Cindy Trout, and Jenna Maxwell.

Announcements: Amy Remmert announced that it was time for the annual District 6360 Raffle which funds local programs in the district. Dollars from tickets sold are redistributed to the clubs. They are eliminating the dinner this year which had always been held in Hastings, and the drawing will instead be held here at ONE of OUR CLUB MEETINGS! We have always been one of the top ticket sellers, so this should be incentive to do that again this year! We will receive 115 tickets and they will be available on our website soon.

Bill Dimond announced the World Polio Fund Raising Day which will be held at KNAAC, 315 W. Michigan Ave., 5:30 -7pm, \$15 per person, light refreshments, and cash bar.

Happy Bucks: There were a couple which were happy which I missed (sorry!) but one which was sad which was the passing of a former member and president, Bob Tower.

Program: Rotarian PP Jack Hopkins introduced the speaker for today, Dr. Grace Lubama. Dr. Lubama is originally from Uganda and spent some time in California before coming here as CEO of the WCA in November of 2014. There she created the first Human Trafficking program in Michigan. She also created the Kalamazoo Cradle program. Last July she became President and CEO of the Kalamazoo Community Foundation.

Dr. Lubama said she had spent some time going back to the original intent of the foundation and the donor, Dr. W. E. Upjohn. Therefore, they will no longer do any programming but will focus on listening to the community, mobilizing people, mobilizing resources, growing resources so that they are there in perpetuity." We have a spirit of giving in this community in this community and we need to continue that."

They will continue to focus on racial, social and economic justice as well.