Celebrating Tom Buteyn as Bostwick Lake Association's Volunteer of the Year!

We are thrilled to extend our heartfelt congratulations to Tom Buteyn, an invaluable member of the Bostwick Lake Association, for his outstanding dedication and commitment. Tom has been named the Volunteer Member of the Year, a well-deserved recognition of his tireless efforts. Tom has been a driving force behind the scenes, dedicating his time and energy to numerous initiatives that have made a significant difference in our beloved Bostwick Lake community. His contributions, both large and small, have not gone unnoticed. Thank you Tom for all your hard work!

CORRECTION for article of new pastor at Bostwick Lake Congregational Church

In our October 5th edition, we included a church logo for First Congregational Church in the piece about Bostwick Lake Congregational Church's new pastor. We apologize if this caused confusion to those who have read the Squire and seen two churches listed for the same article. The original article is below.

Boastick Lake Congregational Church is excited to announce and welcome our new pastor, Rev. Dr. Jonathan White who has joined our church family and has already proven to be a great spiritual leader for our congregation. We welcome those in our community without a church home to come and visit Bostwick Lake Congregational Church (579 E. Riverview Rd., Rockford) and meet Pastor Jonathan. We meet for worship on Sundays at 10:30 AM, or you can view our live stream at http://www.bostwicklakeucc.org.

Pictured is the new pastor (Jonathan) and two church leaders signing the church commitment document.

Kent County to Activate Operation Green Light in November to Honor Veterans

GRAND RAPIDS, MI (October 10, 2023) - Kent County Veterans Services will be activating Operation Green Light in early November to honor veterans ahead of the Veterans Day holiday.

During the week of November 6-12, area businesses and residents are being asked to replace outdoor lights with green bulbs to help support military veterans and to raise awareness about the resources available to them through the Kent County Veterans Services. Now in its second year, Operation Green Light is a national initiative of the National Association of Counties and the National Association of County Veteran Services Officers.

Kent County Veterans Services connects veterans and their families to earned benefits. These benefits may include emergency funds for unforeseen circumstances like rent assistance, utility payments, food grants, disability, spousal or dependent benefits, burial assistance, and more. Operation Green Light sheds light on these programs to aid veterans and their families in finding the programs that best fit their needs.

We are excited to continue our success from the previous year when numerous businesses and residents actively participated,” said Martha Livett, Director of Kent County Veterans Services. “In this year's initiative, our aim extends beyond illuminating urban landscapes; we extend a challenge to individuals across every corner of the county to participate.”

In the weeks leading up to the initiative, Kent County Veterans Services invites businesses and residents to make a meaningful contribution by:
- purchasing green light bulbs for their homes and businesses,
- visiting accesskent.com/greenlight for a toolkit of resources to promote the cause, and
- rallying friends, family, and networks to join this initiative, together illuminating Kent County in a vibrant show of support for our veterans.

The week-long observation ends with the annual Veterans Day Parade on Saturday, November 11 in downtown Grand Rapids. The parade starts at 10 a.m. on Division Avenue under the I-196 overpass. From there, the parade will continue south to Fulton and then east to Veterans Memorial Park where it ends with a Ceremony of Remembrance. Please join Kent County Veterans Services in shining a green light of hope and support for the more than 28,000 veterans who call Kent County home. Visit https://www.accesskent.com/Departments/VeteransServices/ to learn more about available resources.

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RESOURCES
continued from page 5

In the last nine years, total circulation of KDL's 700,000 physical items has increased by 20%. Its digital collection has doubled to include more than 15.6 million items and posted a circulation increase of 300%. This collection is not limited to books, music and movies; it features a wide range of educational materials including video courses, language lessons, online databases, research and at-home learning materials, Wi-Fi hotspots and a Talking Book & Braille Center.

These resources — and more — support early literacy and education and improve accessibility for residents. At-home learning materials support children learning how to read in a non-traditional classroom setting. Wi-Fi hotspots allow individuals who do not have access to internet at home to connect to online resources, which was particularly critical during the pandemic. Braille resources give individuals with vision impairment a chance to experience the joy of reading.

The library also serves as a hub for thousands of programs, community gatherings and more each year. Program attendance at the library's 20 branches has increased by 62% since 2014. In 2022, more than 5,000 in-person programs were hosted by the library, ranging from weekly storytimes and teen movie nights to mental health seminars and lab experiments for students.

These programs help build community and connection across the more than 440,000 residents who live in KDL's service area. Whether it's parents with young children building camaraderie during an afternoon Babytimes, students forming friendships during Teen Zone or young professionals connecting over shared interests, the library provides a safe space for people of all ages, demographics and backgrounds to come together to learn and connect.

To find a branch near you and learn about the many opportunities available through KDL, visit kdl.org.

Kent District Library is pursuing a reduced-rate millage in November 2023 to support operations for through 2034. To learn more about the proposed millage, which is expected to save taxpayers $3.1 million annually, visit kd.org/millage.

To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. To solve the puzzles use the numeric clues provided.

**SUDOKU**

Fun By The Numbers

6 4 2
8 2 3
4 5 7
9 4 2
5 6 1
7 5 2
8 8 5
1 5 6
7 2 3

Layer: Intermediate

Solution on Page 15

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