



January 24, 2014

Save the Date!**Grand River Spring Forum**

GVMC Environmental Programs and the Lower Grand River Organizations of Watershed (LGROW) are pleased to announce the date for the 11th Annual Spring Forum.

Day: May 2, 2014

Time: 8:30-11:30 am

Location: Grand Rapids Public Museum

Everyone is invited! Please save the date for this meeting. Additional information will be reported in future additions of the GVMC Weekly Update.

Special Board Meeting on February 20th

The Center for Michigan is a non-profit, nonpartisan think-and-do tank, that strives to be the state's "Citizenship Company" They will be conducting a special Community Conversation with GVMC Board Members and local government officials at our next meeting. We are pleased to invite **all local elected and appointed officials** from our members to attend this special session. It will be held at Metro Health Hospital from 10:30-11:45 am on February 20th.

GVMC welcomes all our member communities to bring other elected officials and senior staff representatives to attend this special meeting. This Special Meeting provides a unique opportunity for GVMC member communities to provide our opinions on the issues critical to the future of Michigan. Please invite others from your community to attend!

**First Meeting of the Regional Prosperity Alliance Held**

The first meeting of the new West Michigan Regional Prosperity Alliance was held last week in Muskegon. Members representing workforce boards, transportation and regional planning, economic development, adult and higher education and private business from 13 counties gathered together for the organizational meeting.

John Weiss from GVMC was elected chair of this regional initiative. Jacob Maas of Kent/Ottawa Michigan Works was elected vice chair and Deborah Groeneveld of Muskegon/Oceana Michigan Works was named secretary. Committees were also formed for Public Communications, Alliance Communications, Prosperity Plan Development and General Sessions.

GVMC February Quarterly Luncheon to Focus on Healthcare

Our next Quarterly Luncheon will be held on February 20th at noon. It will be at the Metro Health Conference Center located at the Metro Health Campus in Wyoming Michigan at M-6 and Byron Center Ave.

One of the key emerging issues in not only our region, but also our state and nation is healthcare. Michael Faas, President and CEO of Metro Health

Hospital and Metro Health Corporation will speak to us about "2014: Healthcare Strategies and the Impact for West Michigan".

Metro Health is an integrated healthcare system including Metro Health Hospital a 208 bed general acute care teaching hospital; 12 neighborhood physician offices located throughout West Michigan; nationally-recognized heart and vascular services; a cancer center developed in partnership with the University of Michigan and many joint ventures with other healthcare providers.

Reservations can be made at our website, gvmc.org or by contacting Gayle at mccrathg@gvmc.org. Tickets are \$25.00 each. If you have a group attending reserved tables of 8 can be purchased for \$200.