



March 15, 2013

### **Congressman Bill Huizenga Meets with GVMC Board and Quarterly Luncheon**

United States Congressman Bill Huizenga met with our GVMC Board of Directors and spoke at our Quarterly Luncheon on Monday. We were pleased to have him as our guest.

During the informal discussion with the Board, the Congressman answered questions about the federal budget, the current issues with the sequester and our economy. He detailed that the \$85 billion sequester is only 7% of the total amount of federal spending that is over budget for the year. When asked by Board members he detailed that the sequestration is not a matter of, "good choice versus bad choice. It's bad choice versus really bad choice".

After the Board Meeting, over 130

governmental and business leaders attended the GVMC Quarterly Luncheon. At the luncheon, Congressman Huizenga spoke about political, relationship and trust issues that impede compromise and collaboration necessary to find solutions to our nation's problems. He also answered questions from the audience.

Brian Donovan, East Grand Rapids City Manager commented, "

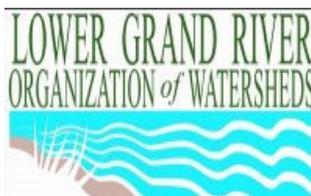
Congressman Huizenga provided us with great insight on the issues and challenges in Washington. Also, by bringing highly powerful speakers to us, GVMC is not only helping us to understand their issues, but it also helps them understand the unified voice our region. This is a learning opportunity for everyone in attendance. These types of meetings and the sharing of ideas and opinions are very beneficial."



### **LGROW Announces 10th Annual Grand River Forum**

LGROW will be hosting it's 10th Annual Grand River Forum and Spring Meeting on **Thursday, April 25th, 2013** at the East Grand Rapids Community Center. Presentations will include the Grand River Restoration Project, City of Grand Rapids Water Quality Index, and changing water levels and what this means for the Lower Grand River Watershed community. There will also be watershed updates and updates on other LGROW activities.

This event will be from 9:00-11:30am and will include breakfast. The event is **free** and open to anyone. If you are interested in attending please RSVP to [Katherine.Collen@gvmc.org](mailto:Katherine.Collen@gvmc.org) or 616-776-7601.



### **GVMC Board of Directors Seeking Candidates for At-Large Member**

Due to scheduling conflicts, John Helmholt of the Grand Rapids Public Schools recently resigned from the GVMC Board of Directors. We appreciate John's service and dedication to GVMC.

Anyone interested in serving as an At-Large Member of the Board is encouraged to contact me or Rockford City Manager Michael Young.