

Official 2017 Flag Flying Days

January 1	New Year's Day
January 16	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
February 12	Lincoln's Birthday
February 20	Washington's Birthday (Observed)
May 8	VE Day
May 14	Mother's Day
May 20	Armed Forces Day
May 29	Memorial Day
June 14	Flag Day
June 18	Father's Day
July 4	Independence Day
September 2	VJ Day
September 4	Labor Day
September 11	Patriot Day
October 9	Columbus Day
November 7	Election Day
November 11	Veterans Day
November 23	Thanksgiving Day
December 7	Pearl Harbor Day
December 25	Christmas Day

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Muskegon Clippers Baseball is Back and Better Than Ever

"New League, More Games, Upgraded Concessions, Field Improvements - Same Great Fun"

MUSKEGON, Mich., May 11, 2017 – Muskegon's summer collegiate baseball team, the Muskegon Clippers, will be returning for its fourth season at historic Marsh Field in Muskegon. Opening day will be Tuesday evening, June 6, 2017 at 7:05pm.

This season is full of new things at the ball park.

New League – Higher Quality of Play

The Clippers were admitted into the highly respected Great Lakes Summer Collegiate League which is supported by Major League Baseball. The Great Lakes Summer Collegiate League (GLSCL) will have 15 teams in three divisions. The Clippers will compete in the Northern Division.

Other teams in the Northern Division of the Great Lakes Summer Collegiate League will be the **St. Clair, Ontario, Green Giants, the Irish Hills Leprechauns from Adrian, Michigan, the Lake Erie Monarchs out of Flat Rock, Michigan** and the **Grand River Loggers out of Grand Haven, Michigan.**

The GLSCL is sanctioned and supported by Major League Baseball and markets their league as, *"future Major League Baseball stars right in your backyard"*.

"Joining the GLSCL, a very prestigious and long-standing baseball league, with a very high level of play will provide baseball fans with another great entertainment option", said Muskegon Clipper Owner, Pete Gawkowski. "The support of the league and the affiliation with Major League Baseball will enhance the product on and off the field."

Improved Roster

By joining the new league, the Clippers will be adding more players to their roster from Division I colleges and universities. They will also be playing more games against better competition.

The Clippers have completed their roster and have signed players from Universities like Michigan, Michigan State, Western Michigan, Central Michigan, the Citadel and Western Kentucky University. Several stand outs from last year's squad will also playing for the Clippers. They include, Austin Batka, University of Michigan, Andrew Null, Slippery Rock University, and Cameron Bair from Davenport University.

In addition, the roster will include several local stars including Jacob Bushberger, Davenport University and Montague High School; Tyler Trovinger, Oakland University and Mona Shores High School; Bryce Kelley, Michigan State University and Rockford High School and Nolan

Muskegon Author Releases New Illustrated Kids' Book

By Kate Wolfe

In her new children's book, *The Jumbled Seed*, Muskegon author, Judy Marecek, imaginatively tells the story of a very confused seed as he tries to discover his purpose in life. The little Jumbled Seed encounters other seeds who are much more confident of their own purposes but are not much help to him in finding out what kind of plant he will become. As the Jumbled Seed grows into a Jumbled Tree, ugly and full of thorns, he can't even believe that he is good for anything in life until he finds that he has a purpose of true importance all his own as he witnesses the crucifixion of Jesus Christ. In *The Jumbled Seed*, Marecek brings out the important lesson that children are unique and that God has a purpose for their lives.

Written to appeal to children between the ages of six and twelve, *The Jumbled Seed* contains full-color illustrations by local artist, Collin Holtrop. He really appreciated being a part of *The Jumbled Seed* project. Designing the art itself was fun for him, and also a challenge, since he had to find a good balance between the more realistic art style he uses in his own work and the cartoon art style that really reflects the NanaBE series' appeal to children and parents.

In addition to *The Jumbled Seed*, Marecek has written two other books in the NanaBE series: *The Independent Branch*, also illustrated by Collin Holtrop, and *The Forgiven Letters*, illustrated by Collin's siblings, Kaerlyn and Cameron Holtrop.

Find out more information on NanaBE at www.nanabestories.com. The Kindle e-book and the printed softcover versions of *The Jumbled Seed*, as well as other stories in the NanaBE series, can be purchased at Amazon.com.

Bryant, Davenport University and Rockford High School

Upgraded Concessions

Well known for their ball park dog, brat and popcorn, the Clippers will be adding delicious hamburgers right off the grill, nachos, pizza and Dippin' Dots ice cream to their concessions line up.

In addition, to a variety of soft drinks and ice cold Budweiser products, the Clippers will be adding craft beer nights and tap takeovers to their schedule.

And of course the Clippers will have team gear and merchandise available for purchase.

Special Recognition Nights and Events

Throughout the season the Clippers will be offering up special recognition nights for groups like veterans groups, little league teams, sports clubs and charitable groups. There are even plans for "Bark in the Park", where fans can bring their dogs to the park.

The Clippers also can arrange for group ticket sales, company picnics, family reunions and other special events on their party deck.

The Fan Experience

The Clippers have gotten rave reviews from baseball experts and casual fans alike. Not only is there great baseball played, but the fans love the historic ballpark and the fun and interactive atmosphere that is created during the games.

Part of the excitement includes walk up music for each Clipper batter. Crowd participation with the action on the field and between innings is part of the uniqueness of Clipper baseball. And finally, kids are allowed to run the bases after the games.

Opening Night

Opening night for the Muskegon Clippers is Tuesday, June 6, 2017 at historic Marsh Field on Laketon Avenue in Muskegon. The Clippers will play the Grand River Loggers. Gates open at 6:00 pm; first pitch is at 7:05pm.

Opening night is also free magnet game schedule giveaway night! Everyone through the gate will receive a /FREE 2017 clippers game schedule while supplies last.

Ticket Information

Game tickets are \$5 for adults; \$3 for Senior Citizens, \$3 for students; \$2 for children 5-12. Children 5 and under are free. There is also special pricing for season tickets, a 10 game flex package or group sales.

For more information contact Pete Gawkowski at 231-638-7696 or visit our website at www.muskegonclippers.com or join our Facebook page by searching Muskegon Clippers.

Judy Marecek has played the character of NanaBE for nearly five years, bringing Bible lessons to children in Sunday Schools of churches in the Muskegon area. Marecek says that she has written the books with the NanaBE character in order to put the lessons she teaches into print with the hope that she will be able to share them with a wider audience of children. The goal of the NanaBE series is to enable children to know that they are loved, unique, and that God has a very special plan for each one of them.

