

## Greater Muskegon Economic Development Announces New President/CEO



**Marla Schneider**

Muskegon, MI – Greater Muskegon Economic Development (GMED) is pleased to announce that Marla Schneider will join the organization as President/CEO beginning June 1, 2022. She will take the reins from Jim Edmonson, who was hired in 2019 to help implement a three-year transition plan for the organization.

Schneider spent a decade working as the Vice President of Marketing and Communications for Greater Fort Wayne Inc., the lead economic development agency for the Fort Wayne/Allen County Indiana region. Most recently she was the President of Three Rivers Distilling Co. in Fort Wayne, which was named the 2021 Small Business of the Year by Greater Fort Wayne Inc.

As GMED President/CEO, she will oversee the many economic development programs that currently support the community's business growth. She will also be responsible for continuing to cultivate partnerships with businesses, local elected officials, regional and state economic development partners, and other stakeholders to develop the vision and strategic plan for economic development in Muskegon County. "I am impressed not only by the natural amenities in the area, but also the rigorous efforts to redevelop downtown as an active, modern destination," said Schneider. "Muskegon County has an abundance of community assets that are critical in our ability to attract and retain workforce talent. I am extremely excited about partnering with leaders, stakeholders and residents to make Muskegon County an even more desirable location for economic development projects."

## Lucille "Lucy" O'Bradovich

1937 - 2022



Nunica, Michigan - Lucille O'Bradovich passed away peacefully, at the age of 84, on June 9th, 2022, in Coopersville, Michigan. Lucy was born to Willard and Marian (Lybarker) Schaub, in Suttons Bay, Michigan on September 9th, 1937. Lucy was

the oldest of ten children and is survived by two sisters and two brothers. The family relocated to Fruitport, Michigan when Lucy was a child, and it was there, in her teen years, that she met the love of her life, Emil O'Bradovich. Three days after her 18th birthday, Emil and Lucy eloped in Chicago. Nine months later, their first son, Jack, was born, followed by Judy, Sue, and Eli. Emil and Lucy bought acreage just down the road from Emil's parents, and so began O'Bradovich Farms. Lucy worked side by side with her husband and children to produce a thriving vegetable, dairy and truck farm. They were a fixture at the Muskegon Farmer's Market for four generations. Lucy was a devout Catholic, and whenever her health would allow, she faithfully attended mass at St. Michael's in Coopersville, and encouraged others to do the same. Lucy's family is grateful that she is finally free from pain and has been reunited with her husband, Emil, and her two sons, Jack and Eli. Left to mourn her, and carry on her feisty spirit, are her daughters Judy O'Bradovich-Rowe and Susan (Edward) Pouch; her grandchildren, Jeremy, Regina, Melissa, Eli, Hayley, and Cassey; four great-grandchildren, and a huge network of extended family. Mass of Christian Burial was June 16, 2022, at St. Michael's Catholic Church in Coopersville. Interment took place in Spring Lake Township Cemetery. Memorial contributions in memory of Lucy may be given to Hospice of Holland or Kid's Food Basket Muskegon. Please sign the family's online guestbook at [www.sytsemafh.com](http://www.sytsemafh.com).

Condensed from the Muskegon Chronicle from Jun. 13 to Jun. 14, 2022.

## Candidate Bio: Hon. Gregory C. Pittman

I have served as Muskegon County Probate Court Judge since my appointment, by Gov. John Engler, in January, 1998. It is my honor and privilege to presently serve, by appointment of the Michigan Supreme Court, as the Chief Judge of both the 14th Circuit and 61st Probate Courts, for the County of Muskegon.

This new 14th Circuit Court Judgeship will greatly improve the public's access to timely resolution of their legal matters and enhance the delivery of justice in Muskegon County, and I am proud of my role in helping bring this new judgeship into existence.

**I am seeking your support and ultimately your vote to be your new 14th Circuit Court Judge. I would continue as Chief Judge of both the Circuit and Probate Courts of Muskegon County, and maintain my primary docket as Family Court Judge.**

As you consider offering your valued support for my candidacy please take note that in my now 24 years on the bench I have:

- In 1998 founded the Muskegon Responsible Fathers Initiative.

- From 2006-2012 served on the Michigan Task Force for Children's Justice.

- In 2013, tasked by Governor Snyder with developing systemic solutions to stemming the "School to Prison Pipeline" in the County of Muskegon. That effort resulted in the development of the School Teams Assisting Youth Project (STAY Project). Local school districts have since adopted STAY principles in the effort to keep students connected to their educational program and present in school.

- In 2016, as Presiding Judge of the 14th Circuit Court Family Division, led the Family Court in collaborating with the University of Cincinnati Corrections Institute to revamp Muskegon County's juvenile justice system.

- Been appointed and currently serve on the Michigan Supreme Court's Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Workgroup.

Again, I thank you for your time, your consideration, your support and for your vote in November!

**"DON'T QUIT 'TIL YOU VOTE FOR PITT!"**

Get in touch:

[info@pittman4judge.com](mailto:info@pittman4judge.com) or  
(231) 287-5290

## Stop the Abortion Amendment!

submitted by Citizens to Support MI Women and Children

A committee called Reproductive Freedom for All is working to amend the Michigan Constitution. Led by Planned Parenthood and the ACLU, this committee's amendment would create a new unlimited and unregulated right to abortion in our state.

This radical proposal is not about reproductive freedom, which already exists. This poorly-worded amendment would repeal dozens of state laws, including laws unrelated to abortion. It could affect any law related to pregnancy and abortion and does not exempt minor children.

## BBB Info on Scams

- Never pay with a gift card wire transfer or cryptocurrency- No government agency will take those forms of payment.

- Don't pay for a "free" government grant. If you must pay money for a "free" grant, it isn't free. Go to [Grants.gov](http://Grants.gov) for lists of official grants.

**Report potential scams:** Better Business Bureau - File a report with [BBB Scam Tracker](http://BBB Scam Tracker). IRS- Fill out the IRS Impersonation Scam form at [tigta.gov](http://tigta.gov), or call TIGTA at 1-800-366-4484, Federal Trade Commission - 877-FTC-HELP or [www.ftc.gov](http://www.ftc.gov).

## Candidate Bio: Ashley Podein

Ashley is a resident of Fruitport Township and this is her second run for the Muskegon County Commission. She holds a MA in Social Work from GVSU and is passionate about providing quality reproductive and mental health services for Muskegon County residents. She is also an athlete and coach (Basketball) and is committed to fostering a culture of fitness through expanding recreational opportunities for our community. She will fight to protect law enforcement funding and essential public safety programs like HazMAT. As a newly single mom of two daughters, Ashley understands the challenges that many of our people face every day trying to raise a family in a safe, supportive environment. She will stand up to those commissioners who want to dismantle county government. Her campaign motto is: "Elect a County Government that works for All of US!"

## Donald G. Wescott

1928 - 2022



Donald Gene Wescott passed away on May 31, 2022 at the age of 93. He was born in Wisconsin on September 2, 1928 to Glen and Ellen (Hoaglund) Wescott. He grew up in Muskegon and graduated from Muskegon High School in 1946. After graduation, Don joined the United States Army and was stationed in the Philippines. While there, he was noticed

by baseball scouts from the Chicago White Sox and signed a contract to play in the minors as a pitcher. After being honorably discharged from the Army, Don moved to Oklahoma where he played baseball for the Seminole Oilers for two years. In Oklahoma, he met a beautiful Irish lass, Patricia Ann Murphy, and they married in 1949. They moved back to Muskegon where he worked for Kaydon Corporation and retired after 39 years. He loved baseball, and enjoyed playing in the City Leagues on the Pepsi team for many years. Don was the Parks & Recreation Director of Fruitport in the 70's and enjoyed doing work that benefited young athletes. After nearly 50 years of marriage, Patricia passed away in 1998. In 2000, he married another Irish beauty, Patricia Ann Chuley, and she survives him. Don is also survived by his large family including: his children and step-children, Regan (Ken) Robbins, Patrick (Paulette), Terry (Pam), Kay (Bob) Bowen, Beth (Marc Senecal), Amy (Jeff) Rundquist, Ann (Mike) Singleton, Jenna (Keith) Chuley Nelson, Christopher (Lisa) Chuley, Jason (Malinda) Chuley, Michael (Ingrid) Chuley; 25 grandchildren; 19 great-grandchildren; his sister, Barbara (Bert) Sluyter; and many nieces, nephews, and in-laws. He was preceded in death by: sister, Betty; and brother, Wayne. Don's family would like to express heartfelt gratitude to Hospice, the V.A., and Eileen and Ron Pannucci for their invaluable help. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to the Harbor Hospice Foundation. A Mass of Christian Burial took place Wednesday, June 8, 2022 at St. Mary's of the Immaculate Conception, in Muskegon. Interment was at Pine Hill Cemetery in Fruitport

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