

KIWANIS CLUB  
OF ANN ARBOR

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PUBLISHER  
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# Ann Arbor

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## Today's Program

Today's speaker was Robert Stephens, First Vice President-Investment Officer, The Emrick Investment Group of Wells Fargo Advisors. He provided copies of, and discussed the topics within, a brochure entitled "Preparing for better days: 2012 Economic and Market OUTLOOK: A special publication from our Investment Strategy Committee." The first page of the brochure (a) summarizes the Group's economic and market forecasts for 2012 with respect to four topics: the U.S. economy, U.S. equities, fixed income investments, and international investments; and (b) recommends portfolio weightings, by equity sectors and asset classes. Each of the four topics is then discussed and summarized as follows:

The U.S. Economy: The slow recovery should continue. Expectations are low; look for any upside surprises to have significant effects.

U.S. Equities: Anticipate slow earnings growth and continued volatility. Large-cap and growth stocks are likely to perform

best.

Fixed Income Investments: Expect no relief from low interest rates. Diversification, not "reaching for yield," should be the name of the game.

International Investments: Everyone's talking about Europe, but divergence between developing countries and most everyone else is a trend to watch.

The brochure's conclusion is summarized as: Investors should maintain a balanced strategy to ride out the storm and prepare for better days.

Mr. Stephens emphasized these points during his presentation:

In spite of market volatility, hidden gems are to be found in foreign investments.

Domestic stocks look relatively cheap, but seek out quality stocks, especially in companies that can grow internationally.

If you own a mutual fund, keep a close eye on its underlying assets. If they decline quickly, consider selling.

In fixed-income investments, stick to investment-grade, high-quality securities.

Steer clear from "complex products" dreamed up by financial gurus.

Hedge funds are apt to be burdened with expensive overhead costs; be careful.

Allocate your assets to include several classes of assets, and periodically review those allocations.

In response to questions, Mr. Stephens said:

Gold could be a good investment in 2012, but it doesn't pay dividends and is not always easy to sell; be cautious.

The uncertainty in taxation adds volatility to the markets. He is optimistic that Congress and the President will work together to help resolve taxation uncertainties.

He is optimistic about the automobile industry during the next three years.

He is not sure if recent new federal financial regulations are strong enough to prevent more financial irregularities.

If the capital gains tax is increased, he thinks it will not be raised above 20 percent.

## Next Weeks Program

Allen Knight and Katie McFadden Kidle, representing Teach for America, will speak about how they help children of low-income families. Introduction by Tom McFadden.

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## Assignments for Next Week

**Officer of the Day:** Fred Sanchez

**Announcer:** Clar Dukes

**Dockers:** Ann Mattson, Tom McFadden, and Jim Meretta

**Sorter:** Kurt Schmerberg

**Hardware:** Jerry Brown, Dave Hughes, Andrea Kotch-Duda

**Furniture:** Jonathan Bulkley, Jim Kane, Jerry McMahon, and Mel Williams

**Sporting Goods:** Larry French and Don Kossick

**Electronics:** Bill Robb and Associates

**Lamps:** Ron Henderson, Rob Schultz, Chris Winkler, and Friends

**Antiques:** Sally Lamkin and Julie Machak

**Beds and Toys:** Lee Bachman and Steve Hiller

**Office and Medical:** Jim Mattson and team

**Invocation:** Lloyd Kitchens

**Greeters:** Gene Buatti, Al Engerer, Bob Gray, and Andrea Kotch Duda

**Hospitality:** Jane Talcott

**Cashier:** Martha Petroski

**Vouchers:** Howard Ando, Rose Marie Barhydt, Claire Dahl, Molly Kelly, Andrea Kotch-Duda, and Bill Lynn



This is what we call HOME.....now in our 91st year.

## Our Visitors this Week

George Beal, guest of Steve Pezda; Mike Babcock, guest of Bryce Babcock; Megan Pratt, Natalia Migas, and Cindy Chau, members of the UofM Circle K Club; Dick Miller, Bill Fennell, Linda Lawther, and Shataura Clayborne, members of the Ypsilanti Kiwanis Club; Jack Novodoff, member of the Ann Arbor Western Kiwanis Club; Alan Burg and Kenneth Hillenburg, guests of Al Dailey and prospective transferees from the Tecumseh Kiwanis Club; and Jim Wheaton, prospective member.

**“The Thrift Sale  
is the driving  
force of our  
Success”**

## Announcements

**Meetings on 6 February at 1:15 p.m.:** Community Service Committee and the Eliminate Project Committee

**Warehouse Sale:** On Saturday, 4 February, we need people to help sell at the warehouse sale and to pick up merchandise. Contact **Melissa Tyler** (mmt203@gmail.com) or **Nick Dever** (cnd@dhdwlaw.com)

**Club Facebook Page:** Have you “liked” our Facebook page? Of the 221 people who “like” or follow us, only ten are members of our club. “Liking” the Ann Arbor Kiwanis Thrift Sale page will automatically bring the club’s Facebook postings to you whenever you sign into Facebook. It’s easy; just search for Ann Arbor Kiwanis Thrift Sale on Facebook or click the Facebook icon on either the club or thrift sale websites. Once you get to the page click the “Like” button next to our name. After that, you can help the club extend its social media reach even further by inviting your Facebook friends to like the page as well.

**Kids Against Hunger:** This packaging project will be held at our new warehouse (840 Plaza Dr., across from the airport) on Saturday, 25 February. We need 50 volunteers (ages 6-100) at each of three one-hour shifts: 10:30-11:30 am.; 11:30 am-12:30 pm.; and 12:30-1:30 pm. Contact **Al Dailey** (evnpar@comcast.net; phone: 734-426-4267) to reserve a time slot. There is no cost to participate.



We have evolved....these are our heroes.

To add further interest in our weekly communication, we will begin to offer you an opportunity to win fabulous prizes by submitting your guess as to which member is pictured below. You should submit your answer to Al Dailey at [evnpar@comcast.net](mailto:evnpar@comcast.net) or Bob Gray at [rhgray@umich.edu](mailto:rhgray@umich.edu)

And now, for our first challenge.....Who the heck is this?????

First correct email entry received will forever be considered lucky, brilliant, or likely the photographer.....



Kids Against Hunger needs more volunteers for Saturday, February 25. We need help with registration and supplies and more kids and adults to fill spots at the packaging tables.....PLEASE, call Al Dailey, 330-6549 or 426-4267.

We could also use donors for some basic snacks (drinks and cookies) for the volunteers.

## Happy Dollars.....and Fines and such....

### Fines:

Responding to a questionable joke emanating from the head table, **Garry Evans** proposed a fine on any club member who has ever told a bad joke. The motion carried, and a lot of guilty parties complied.

### Happy Dollars:

**Doug Hanton**, for **Bob Barden Jr's** convincing the City's Register of Deeds that **Doug's** mortgage has, in fact, been paid in full; **Ron Gardner**, for the favorable publicity (to 600,000 Kiwanians worldwide) about our Club's participation in the Eliminate Project; **Bill Hallock**, in hopes of helping 12 Circle K members obtain tickets to the Michigan-Alabama football game (call him if you have friends in high UM circles); **Kathy Griswold**, for earning a \$50 Target gift card for participating in a diabetes research project; **Garry Donner**, for having bought a nifty pocket clip to keep his cell phone safe, but discovering at today's meeting that the phone was missing; **Brenda Bolzman**, for **Jerry Brown's** explanation of how Medicare B will keep her feeling fit and looking great for years to come; **Megan Pratt**, for Circle K's upcoming election and its 12 February fundraiser, featuring bowling teams (**Don Kossick** probably can give you more details); **Melissa Tyler**, for getting a new iPhone.

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## Hospitality News...

**Bob Johnson** continues to recover from hip surgery at home, and no longer needs to use a walker. **Marie Olsen**, widow of **Don Olsen**, is in hospital.

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## You Should Know...

### You Should Know:

**Last Week's Sale:** \$6,251

**Today's Fines:** \$18.46

**Today's Happy Dollars:** \$8.40

**Voucher/Direct Assistance:** 6 families received \$702.40 in merchandise

**Attendance Jan. 30:** 84



Known world wide as the place for the "funkiest" gift.

*"Serving the Children of the World...our motto, our mission"*



Forerunner of the Thrift Sale....the vision continues.

# February 2012

| Sun | Mon        | Tue             | Wed                   | Thu | Fri | Sat                                  |
|-----|------------|-----------------|-----------------------|-----|-----|--------------------------------------|
|     |            |                 | 1                     | 2   | 3   | 4 SALE                               |
| 5   | 6 Meeting  | 7 Board Meeting | 8                     | 9   | 10  | 11 SALE                              |
| 12  | 13 Meeting | 14              | 15                    | 16  | 17  | 18 SALE                              |
| 19  | 20 Meeting | 21              | 22                    | 23  | 24  | 25 SALE<br>Kids<br>Against<br>Hunger |
| 26  | 27 Meeting | 28              | 29 Happy<br>Leap Year |     |     |                                      |

## Our Sponsored Programs.....Service to Youth



WISD Aktion Club



We need to start one of these!!  
Who has a Middle School child  
or grandchild?



Angell Elementary



Huron High School  
Pioneer High School



Circle K International

University of Michigan

**"Serving the Children of the World"**

**KIWANIS CLUB OF  
ANN ARBOR**

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[www.a2kiwanis.org](http://www.a2kiwanis.org)

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Alan Caldwell, 734-927-3111  
[acaldwell@seniorhelpers.com](mailto:acaldwell@seniorhelpers.com)**

**We're on the Web  
[www.a2kiwanis.org](http://www.a2kiwanis.org)**

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**"Kiwanis Thrift Sale" is  
on the Web  
[www.kiwanissale.com](http://www.kiwanissale.com)**