

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

Date: March 14, 2016

Contact: Human Development Commission
(989) 673-4121

The Bee is Back!

It's time to break out the dictionaries and sharpen up the pencils- SpellMasters 4.0 is upon us! Teams are needed in Huron, Sanilac, and Tuscola Counties to determine who will be this year's SpellMasters. In this 'spelling bee' competition, teams of five adults participate in their local county Bees, and the winning teams will then compete for the Tri-County Championship. The events are being held to support the Human Development Commission's Foster Grandparent and RSVP programs.

During the spelling bees, a WordMaster will call a word, read a definition, and use the word in a sentence. Then, the five-person teams decide on the correct spelling and each team writes it on a piece of paper. A judge then determines whether the word is spelled correctly on each team's sheet. As long as a team spells correctly, it will stay in the bee. If a team misses a word, they can 'buy' the word back for \$5.00 and stay in the bee. Words can be 'bought' up until the last elimination round. Winning teams and their sponsors receive the title of SpellMaster, and will compete for SpellMasters 4.0 Tri-County Champions title.

Registration for SpellMasters 4.0 is \$100.00 per team. The events will be held as follows:

Tuscola County: April 13, 2016 at the Tuscola County Tech Center;
Sanilac County: April 20, 2016 at the Sanilac Career Center;
Huron County: April 27, 2016 at the Huron County Tech Center;
Tri-County Championship will be held on May 4, 2016 at Northwood Meadows in Cass City.

Bees begin at 7:00 p.m. with team sign-in starting at 6:30 p.m. Spectators are welcome! Event sponsors are the Huron Daily Tribune and Tuscola County Advertiser.

The Foster Grandparent Program is for energetic volunteers over 55 willing to give 20 hours per week back to their community. The volunteers are placed in local schools with a purpose of working one-on-one with students who need a little extra attention. Their experience and time helps students achieve higher

levels of literacy and math skills. Students working with Foster Grandparents also show increase in general academic performance, such as increased participation in class.

The RSVP program works with volunteers over the age of 55 who wish to keep active in their community. From driving warm meals to homebound seniors, to helping children at school, to making friendly visits to isolated elderly, RSVP is love in motion.

For more information, contact Kristy Anderson at 989-673-4121. The Human Development Commission is a community action agency dedicated to the mission: "Restoring Hope by Helping People and Changing Lives."

###