Dear Neighbors:

At HSC, we believe in giving back to the communities where our employees live and work.

One way we do that is with the HSC Community and Regional Empowerment (CARE) Fund where organizations and community programs may apply for up to $30,000 in grant funding to assist with their community project. As a member of the CARE Fund Committee, I was able to reach out to applicants to discuss their projects and how they would use the funds. Organizations were chosen if their missions aligned closely with our own. We look forward to seeing them use the funding to spark positive change in our communities.

Another way we support local communities is through youth grants. HSC employees who work with youth organizations such as sports teams, musical groups and robotics clubs are eligible to receive grants of up to $500. The grants can be used on expenses such as uniforms, travel costs and classroom needs. HSC employees are often leaders in their communities, and these grants allow us to support their efforts to inspire the next generation.

Through these programs and more, HSC is empowering Saginaw, Bay and Midland County residents to reach higher. It’s my distinct pleasure to work on behalf of these programs and I look forward to seeing our communities flourish because of them.

Happy Holidays!

Kristen Opperman, Communications Liaison
Christmas at Roethke Park

The Thomas Township Christmas Train & Light Festival is a holiday tradition like no other. Each year, HSC employees volunteer to decorate a portion of the Roethke Park train tracks with Christmas-themed decorations and lights. When the sets are finished, children ride the train and marvel at the transformed holiday wonderland.

“We used to only send our New Hire Group to decorate. This season, we invited all of HSC and their families to participate,” said Bradley Cayo, HSC process automation engineer. “It’s a great way to get involved in an event that is popular in the community.”

HSC United Way Campaign

For more than 10 years, HSC has held an internal United Way Campaign to raise money for charities through the United Way of Saginaw County. This year’s planning committee for the campaign formed in July, and all HSC employees had the opportunity to join.

“I’ve always been involved with United Way volunteerism in some way,” said Van Montbriand, HSC manufacturing engineer and campaign chairman. “When I was approached to join the committee, it sounded like a great way to give back while developing leadership skills.”

This year’s campaign ran longer than usual to accommodate new and old events — from the classic chili cook-off to soaking fellow employees at the dunk tank in September. A crowd favorite was the Spirit Contest. Employees had a blast voting for which college attire CEO and Chairman Mark Bassett would wear at the quarterly town hall.

“Collection boxes were set up for multiple colleges, and employees helped their favorite school win by leaving donations,” said Kurt Pudvay, HSC multi-craft trade leader and campaign chairman. “It came down to the wire, and was really fun to see how competitive people got.”

Outside the events, nearly every HSC employee visited the campaign’s website. From there, employees could donate to the campaign and pick exactly where their dollars would go. At the campaign’s close, HSC surpassed the 2020 goal and raised $106,000 to support local charities. Our thanks go to everyone who helped plan the campaign, and all the HSC employees and friends who donated.

Thank You Congressmen

This holiday season, Hemlock Semiconductor thanks Congressman John Moolenaar and Dan Kildee for raising their voices to help protect Saginaw County jobs by eliminating wrongful tariffs China put in place against U.S.-made polysilicon in 2014. The tariffs have effectively barred HSC from the Chinese market, which consumes over 90% of the world’s polysilicon.

“We feel very fortunate to have two U.S. representatives who are very engaged on our behalf,” said Vice President of External Affairs Brooke Beebe. “Both representatives have visited HSC to learn more about our company and the trade issue. With their help, HSC has been able to share our story with the media and advance our cause in Washington, D.C.”

To learn more and raise the profile of the trade issue, follow us on social media and share posts with the hashtag #OpenPolyTrade.
**Saginaw’s Most Stylish**

Saginaw’s Most Stylish is the county’s most fashionable fundraiser, and this year Communications Liaison Kristen Opperman walked the runway representing HSC. Participants collect votes by raising funds for United Way of Saginaw County. While Opperman may not have been crowned Saginaw’s Most Stylish 2019, she raised over $4,500 with the help of supporters in the community!

“Participating in Saginaw’s Most Stylish was such a fun experience,” Opperman said. “I was able to advocate for a great organization that helps families in our community become financially stable.”

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**Fire Academy Scholarships Awarded**

HSC honors first responders who risk their lives for our safety by giving back to local departments. This year alone, we hosted trainings on our campus, donated equipment to local departments, invited students to tour HSC facilities and much more.

HSC recently turned up the heat on our first responder support by providing scholarships for students receiving their Fire Academy training. Aspiring firefighters are required by the state to go through the three-to-six-month program before officially suiting up.

“Whether you want to work part- or full-time, on-call or volunteer, this is the training you go through to become a firefighter,” said Will Krause, safety and emergency training technician at HSC. “We provide these scholarships to help students get the knowledge they need.”

HSC received applications from fire departments in Saginaw, Bay, Midland and Gratiot Counties. HSC awarded $8,550 in scholarships to 21 trainees from 12 departments.

“Many local fire departments have a hard time gathering funds to send students to the academy,” Krause said. “By offering these scholarships, HSC is making a direct impact on the community by ensuring firefighters are getting the training they need.”

The decision to provide Fire Academy scholarships came from conversations about what HSC could do to make the greatest impact.

“We didn’t want one fire department to receive more funding than another,” Krause said. “By sponsoring individual firefighters within the four counties, we’re able to better distribute our funding.”

Some employees, like those on the safety emergency services team, are required to receive Michigan Firefighter I&II training. Krause is a volunteer firefighter in addition to working at HSC and has passed the Fire Academy training.

“Going through the academy was fun. It was an adventure,” he said. “I learned a lot and gained valuable experience that I still use every day here at HSC.”
For 10 years, we’ve invited students from local schools to submit artwork for a chance to be featured in our annual community calendar. This year’s Calendar Contest theme was “How Electronics Connect & Help the World.” Participants were asked to illustrate how smart devices — such as phones, tablets and computers — bring the world together while improving the way we live. Twenty-three young artists from six local schools submitted some incredible work.

“By highlighting examples of smart technology at work, these students’ artwork invites us to reflect on scientific accomplishments while imagining what smart products are on the horizon,” said Noreen Warrick, HSC assistant general counsel and Calendar Contest judge. “HSC looks forward to playing our part in further connecting and energizing our world through silicon technology.”

Fourteen students were picked to be featured in the 2020 Community Calendar and took home $75 gift cards. The cover winner took home the $200 prize. HSC also awards a grand prize of $1,000 to the school whose student wins “Best of the Best” honors. This year, the competition was so tough that two schools took home grand prizes. Birch Run Marshall Green Middle School and White Pine Middle School each got $1,000 to promote the arts in their schools.

Calendar Contest Winners

Winners
Birch Run Marshall Green
Owen Quinnan
Eliza Fobear
Ella Rabideau
Giselle Rodriguez

White Pine Middle School
Zori Rasco (Grand Prize)
Macy Ziehmer
Ty Hirschenberger
Frederick Sunderman IV

Nouvel Catholic
Salvador Guerra
Savannah Reitz
Ava Duprey

Carrolton Middle School
Alexia Perez

Merrill Middle School
Braxon Cochran

Finalists
Nouvel Catholic
Lydia Schade

Carrolton Middle School
Della Ancel
Cali Hagadorn

Merrill Middle School
Addison Fordos
Althea McMillan
Blake Mager

Swan Valley Middle School
Amelia Jones
Akiera Martinez
Clark Krupnek

Fire Departments Who Received Fire Academy Scholarships

Bay City Department of Public Safety (Fire Operations Division)
Birch Run Township Fire Department
Buena Vista Fire Department
Carrollton Township Police Department (Fire Department)
Portsmouth Township Fire Department
Chesaning-Brady Fire Department
Frankenmuth Fire Department
Kochville Fire Department
Lee Township Fire Department
James Township Fire Department
Spaulding Township Fire Department
St. Louis Area Fire Department

Swan Valley Middle School
Mason Duperon

Nouvel Catholic
Lydia Schade

Carrolton Middle School
Della Ancel
Cali Hagadorn

Merrill Middle School
Addison Fordos
Althea McMillan
Blake Mager

Swan Valley Middle School
Amelia Jones
Akiera Martinez
Clark Krupnek