

Luncheon Speaker: Tom Henry



Tom Henry is The Blade's environmental writer-columnist, an award-winning journalist with 30 years of experience who specializes in Great Lakes policy and energy issues. He began working for The Bay City Times upon earning his bachelor's degree from Central Michigan University in 1981, then moved to Florida in 1985 for six-plus years at The Tampa Tribune. He was one of eight journalists awarded a 1991-92 Kiplinger fellowship to Ohio State University, which led to a master's degree. He created the environment beat upon joining The Blade in early 1993. Last fall, Tom was elected by his peers to the board of directors of the Society of Environmental Journalists, one of the nation's largest journalism groups. He also has been appointed by Michigan State University to an advisory board for a program being established to better educate Great Lakes journalists about climate change. He has had essays appear in Harvard University's Nieman Reports and the Yale Forum on Climate Change & The Media, and has received kudos for his work from Columbia Journalism Review and the Knight Science Journalism Tracker, among others. He now writes columns on a regular basis for two publications, The Blade and Great Lakes Echo, an online magazine published by MSU's School of Journalism with support from the Miami-based Knight Foundation. In addition to energy and the environment, Tom has written extensively about crime, politics, music and books, and is the proud author of one of the most comprehensive articles ever published in a newspaper about the history of pinball. He and his wife, Jordie, live in Maumee and have two sons, Parker, 16, and Ian, 14, along with three dogs and a cat. In his spare time, Tom writes CD reviews for The Blade and takes guitar lessons with Ian, who also plays cello and is a member of the Toledo Junior Youth Orchestra.