



Portage Senior Center Newsletter



Valentine's Day Lunch

**Tuesday, February 11,
11:45 AM**

\$1 reservation fee

"If you have only one smile in you, give it to the people you love." ~ Maya Angelou

Come join us for Senior Services lunch (\$3 donation) and celebrate Valentine's Day! We will have entertainment, deco-

rations and prizes by our sponsor, Absolute Home Care. Reservations must be made at PSC before noon on Monday, February 10.

The PSC would like to thank Absolute Home Care and Medical Staffing for sponsoring this event.



St. Patrick's Day Lunch

**Tuesday, March 11,
11:45 AM**

\$1 registration fee

"For each petal on the shamrock this brings a wish your way. Good health, good luck, and happiness for today and every day." ~ Author Unknown

Come join us for Senior Services lunch (\$3 donation) and celebrate St Patrick's Day! We will

have entertainment, decorations and prizes by our sponsor, Adult Day Services at Oakland Centre. Make your reservations before noon on Monday, March 10.

The PSC would like to thank Adult Day Services at Oakland Centre for sponsoring this event.

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Friends of the Portage Senior Center 2014 Golf Benefit Approaching

It may be winter, but the Friends of the Portage Senior Center Golf Benefit Committee members are *springing* into action. Mark your calendars for Monday, May 19, 2014, as **your** time to get onto a beautiful course at Angels Crossing Golf Club for a great cause. The event schedule this year will be changed to include an 8:30 AM check-in period for 18-hole players and a 9 AM check-in for 9-hole players.

With this change, all golfers will have an opportunity to come together for a great reception lunch at the Club House at 1:00 PM. Registration forms are being finalized and registration payment and team names will be due by Friday, May 16. Watch for more news on this important annual event supporting programs and services of the PSC.

Message from the Deputy Director

~ A Fond Farewell ~

By the time you read this message, I will have left my position as Deputy Director of Recreation and Senior Citizen Services, having accepted a new position in senior care, where my passion in health services for frail elders can be more fully realized.

While the decision to resign from PSC Deputy Director was a difficult one, I know that I leave the PSC in capable hands. Our Director of Parks, Recreation and Public Services, William Deming is at the helm, with Tricia Keala, Recreation Program Manager providing interim management of the PSC, and last but certainly not least, our wonderful staff are always ready to assist you.

Sincere thanks to each of you for your support during my tenure as Deputy Director. I deeply value and respect the commitment of so many of you who keep the PSC a critical hub for seniors in our community. I wish the Senior Center and everyone who calls this *special place* their second home, a fond adieu.

Jill Hess
Deputy Director of Recreation
and Senior Citizen Services

PSC Class and Facility Rental Fee Increases Approved

A review of fee schedules at the Senior Center has recently been completed by the division of Parks, Recreation and Public Services. Increases were approved by the Portage City Council on December 17 for 2014. While it is always hard to increase costs, it is critical that we retain quality instructors who are appropriately trained in areas such as fitness, while still keeping our commitment to ensure access to classes for all older adults. For class participant experiencing financial hardship, the PSC is fortunate to have the Bea Butler Scholarship Fund through the Friends of the Portage Senior Center. Please *contact* me or Dentia Demler, Program Coordinator at the Senior Center for information about Bea Butler Scholarship Fund. All inquiries are confidential.

Class Registration Process Strengthened

The PSC will now post in the PSC Newsletter a registration deadline for each class or program offered, along with class minimums that must be met by the deadline given. Payment in full must be made prior to the first session of a class or course. **No refunds will be given after the first session of class, except for medical reasons.** If you are uncertain that a class is right for you, you are invited to observe a class prior to registering. If a class or course is cancelled or altered by the PSC, you will receive a refund or be given the opportunity for additional class time in lieu of monetary compensation.

Portage Senior Center

The **PSC** is supported by the City of Portage, contributions, memberships and grants. Some funding is also received from the State of Michigan through the Area Agency on Aging. The PSC offers services and activities to persons over 50 years of age. Annual membership fees are \$25 for Portage residents and \$35 for all others. No one will be denied membership due to an inability to pay. The PSC Newsletter is mailed bi-monthly to members.

Advisory Board

- Ann Perkins, Chair
- James Hoppe, Vice Chair
- Monifa Jumanne, Secretary
- Pat Berninger
- Mary Maisto
- Ruth Ann Meyer
- Trudy Riker
- Art Roberts
- Helen Tubbs
- David Vernier
- Kyle Huitt, Youth Participant

PSC Staff

- Director of Parks & Recreation*
William Deming, MS
- Deputy Director of Recreation and Senior Citizen Services*
Jill Hess, LCSW, ACSW
- Administrative Asst.*
Janet Gates
- Program & Volunteer Coordinator*
Denita Demler
- Trip Coordinator*
Johanna Thompson
- Receptionists*
Morning: Judy Grey
Afternoon: Allison Alexander

Key Constituents

- Senior Services, Inc.*
Meal Site Coordinator
Vince Wheat

The Portage Senior Center is Michigan's first nationally accredited senior center.



Crafters Garage Sale

Saturday, April 12, 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM

It's time to sign up for the Crafter's Garage Sale! Table sign-up begins Monday, February 11, at the PSC. Registration forms can be picked up at the reception desk. Members may sign-up for one table at the cost of \$10—which includes one 6 foot table. The cost for non-members is \$25. Items for sale can include craft supplies related to any art and craft production such as skeins of yarn, fabric, books, magazines, tools, UFO's, and even finished items. Keep looking through your stash and start planning ahead. Use some of our winter days to clean your closets and craft rooms. Space is limited, so sign-up early.

Medicare Fraud

Thursday, March 6, 10:00 AM

Over \$65 billion a year is spent on fraudulent or improper Medicare claims. Join us to learn how you can:

- Deter: Protect your personal information
- Detect: Watch out for those common fraud schemes
- Defend: What you can do to protect Medicare

This program is presented by Lisa Fuller, Regional Coordinator of MMAP (Michigan Medicare/Medicaid Assistance Program) of Senior Services Southwest Michigan. Register at 329-4555 by Tuesday, March 4.

New Member Orientation (NMO)

Thursday, March 13, 10:30 AM

The NMO is a great way for new members to learn more about the PSC and meet other new members. Let the receptionist know if you would like to make a reservation for the Senior Services, Inc. lunch immediately following the presentation. Pre-register at 329-4555.

Art Club

Monday, 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

The PSC Art Club offers beginning and accomplished artists of all mediums the chance to get together once a week and share their creativity with like-minded individuals. There is no fee to participate. All you need to qualify for this club is a desire to create art and a PSC membership!

Book Club

2nd Monday, 10:00 AM

The Book Club meets on the 2nd Monday of the month from 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM. The book of the month to read for February: *Z: (Zelda Fitzgerald)* by Therese Fowler and March is *The Color of Water*. Check the bulletin board under "Programs and Activities" for additional information. Group leader is Ann Perkins.



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- Promote wellness
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- Support caregivers

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Spring Fling

Friday, March 21, 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Registration Fee: \$1

Western Michigan University's Family Studies Student Organization is planning a Spring Fling for all Portage Senior Center members and guests. There will be music by the Portage Senior Center Band, dancing, refreshments and much more! You are welcome to dress up as you would like, but formal attire is not required. Registration deadline is Wednesday, March 19.

Big Screen Movie

Monday, February 10, 1:15 PM

"Love's Abiding Joy"

Michael Landon directs the fourth installment of the popular series "Love Comes Softly," by beloved author Janette Oke. "Love's Abiding Joy" continues the story of Missie (Erin Cottrell) and her husband (Logan Bartholomew) following their treacherous journey West. They have set up a homestead and begun to raise a family. Now that a railroad connects the states, Missie's father (Dale Midkiff) is able to visit. But when the joyful reunion is interrupted by tragedy, the faith and love of this family is once again challenged. Rated PG. Closed-captioned. 87 minutes. View the movie for free; 50 cents for popcorn.

Big Screen Movie

Monday, March 10, 1:15 PM

"Little John"

Family Court Judge Natalie Britain (Gloria Reuben) searches for the truth and makes life-altering decisions affecting hundreds of children and their families. But Natalie has her own secret that has haunted her every day for 12 years – the birth of a child that she put up for adoption. However, she doesn't know that her son has been adopted and is being raised by her own father, John (Ving Rhames). Natalie's well-ordered life is thrown into turmoil when John and Little John travel west so the child can meet his mother. Natalie's wise law clerk (Patty Duke) plays a strong supporting role. Rated PG. Closed-captioned. 98 minutes. View the movie for free; 50 cents for popcorn.

Dining Out Club

An advance reservation with the reception desk by noon on the previous business day is required for this activity. All meals are self-pay. Hosts: Hal and Shirley Ray.

February

Dinner

Monday, February 3

5:00 PM

Brann's Steak House & Grille

700 MLK Blvd., Portage

Breakfast

Tuesday, February 11

8:30 AM

Julianna's

2105 Lake Street

Kings Hwy., Kalamazoo

Lunch

Thursday, February 20

11:30 AM

Bennucci's

3717 E. Cork St.

(across from The Crew)

March

Dinner

Monday, March 3

5:00 PM

Theo & Stacy's

5225 Portage Road, Portage

Breakfast

Tuesday, March 11

8:30 AM

Colonial Kitchen

7816 South Westnedge

Portage

Lunch

Thursday, March 20

11:30 AM

Panda Dynasty

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Choir

Thursday, 9:30 AM

The Portage Senior Center Choir is looking for men and women who enjoy singing. We meet Thursday mornings from 9:30-11:30 at the Senior Center. There are no auditions nor a requirement to have a great voice. All you need is a love of singing and a smile (the latter is a requirement). The PSC Choir performs at retirement communities, PSC events and other community events. Please come and join the fun!

Loaves & Fishes - PSC Bag Recycling Program

This group collects paper and plastic grocery bags on the first Wednesday and Thursday only of each month. The bags are used for the Grocery Pantry Program at Kalamazoo Loaves & Fishes. Bags are sorted on the first Friday of the month.

PSC Needlers

Thursdays, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

The PSC Needlers knit, crochet and donate completed projects to various community agencies throughout the year. Members are welcome to join the Needlers every Thursday morning to take part in a feeling of accomplishment and camaraderie.

Readers Theatre

Wednesdays, 2:00 PM (2nd & 4th)

Join this fun group that produces skits and readings to present to area schools and churches. No memorization required. Babs Smith leads the group, which meets twice monthly on the second and fourth Wednesdays. Please visit this friendly group to learn more

Recycled Cards

Tuesdays 10:30 AM

The Recycled Cards group meets every Tuesday, and accepts whole greeting cards with verses intact, but does not accept or use Christmas cards. The cards are cut apart and redesigned to create a "new" card. The cards are available for sale in the PSC lobby.

Walkers with Walkers

Tuesday and Thursday, 9:30 AM

Enjoy the health benefits of walking and the camaraderie of friends by joining the Walkers with Walkers group. This group uses assistive devices to help them with their mobility. Penny Newhouse is the group leader. The group meets in the spring and summer at the PSC and then leisurely walks the Bicentennial Trail. In the fall and winter they meet at the Crossroads Mall Food Court at the Carousel.

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PSC Kazoos of the Red Hat Society

This special chapter of Red Hatters call themselves the PSC Kazoos. The Red Hat Society is a social organization founded in 1998 in the U.S. and now has over 40,000 chapters. All you need to join this merry group is a sense of humor, a PSC membership, and the ability to have fun! Women of the Red Hat Society have a fantastic time by adding comedy and friendship to their life experiences. Tea parties, birthday celebrations, Halloween events, and lunch outings are just a few of the events you'll find Red Hatters attending. Marie Tucker (269-375-2104) is the "Queen" of this group and Jackie Wnuk and Barbara Pullano are "Princesses." This group meets monthly except in January and February.

Garden Talk for 2014

Tuesdays, 6:30 - 8:30 PM

March 11, 18, 25 and April 8, 15, 22

Free to the public

Series Presented by Schram's Greenhouse

For those who love to garden, we offer Garden Talk. This is a series of weekly gardening themed presentations that gardeners of all skill levels can appreciate. This program is offered free to the public by Schram's Greenhouse. Please register at (269) 327-5347 (Schram's Greenhouse). Topic and speaker schedules will be available at the PSC reception desk after February 28.

Sisterhood

This women's social group meets the second Friday of each month. Meeting agendas are posted under "Programs and Activities" on the PSC bulletin board. For more information, please call 329-4555.

February 14, Friday
Time: 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM
Event: Valentine Lunch at Main Street Pub
Site: 7509 South Westnedge Portage
Hostess: Clara Schnyders

March 14, Friday
Time: 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM
Event: Lunch at Red Lobster (back room)
Site: 6535 South Westnedge Portage
Hostess: Ruthie Tiesma

Super Books - Fundraiser!

2014 Super Books are now available at the reception desk. Each coupon book is only \$40 and contains hundreds of dollars worth of coupons. Get yours today!

Computer Classes at Portage District Library

Portage Computer Users Club

Thursdays at 10:00 AM

Drop-in computer question and answer session. No registration required.

All registration deadlines are one week prior to date of first class session, unless otherwise noted. Classes will not be prorated. All class schedules are subject to change. All fees listed as Member/Non-Member unless otherwise noted. Portage Senior Center accepts cash or checks for payment.

Computer Classes

Computer Tutoring

Individual laptop computer tutoring by an experienced volunteer is available Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Your full hour appointment focuses on whatever aspect of computer usage you'd like to cover. PSC members only. Register and pay at the PSC reception desk.

Laptop Introduction to Office

This class is designed for those who have a basic working knowledge and would like to learn more about Microsoft Office software. Class will provide an overview of Windows Explorer, Word, Excel, Access, PowerPoint, and Photo Editing. Please note: Students will need to bring a laptop computer and a one gigabyte flash drive to

each class including the first class. Flash drives will be used to save lesson plans and homework.

Other Classes

AARP Smart Driver Program

Thursday, February 27
9:00 AM

Fee: \$15 AARP Members/
\$20 Non-Members AARP
Instructor: Richard Baker

This is a refresher course developed for older drivers which includes Driving Safety Strategies; State of Michigan Driver Regulations; Dealing with Trucks, Motorcycles, Bicycles and Aggressive Drivers; New Developments in Intersections; Road Signs, Lane Markings and Traffic Signals; Changes in Vehicle Safety Devices and Features; and more. Check

Continued on page 8

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Ruth

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Sharon George, Director



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Exercise Classes					
Class	Days	Time	Dates	Fee	Instructor
Body Rebound Minimum 12	M-W-F	10:30AM — 11:30AM	Mar 7 — May 28 No class Memorial Day (Mar 24-Apr 16 Use DVD)	\$42/\$52	Helene Thompson
Enhance Fitness Minimum 12	M-W-F	8:10AM — 9:10AM	Mar 17- May 9	\$42/\$52	Deb Snell
QiGong Minimum 8	W	7:00PM - 8:00PM	Mar 26 - May 7	\$42/\$52	Ed Kehoe
Strength & Stretch Minimum 12	M-W	9:20AM — 10:20AM	Mar 10 - Apr 23	\$42/\$52	Joy Morris
T ai Ji Minimum 8	T	8:30AM - 9:30AM	Mar 4 — Apr 15	\$42/\$52	Ed Kehoe
Yoga Minimum 8	T	1:00PM - 2:30PM	Mar 25 - May 13	\$72/\$82	Christine Peckels @ St. Catherine s-Stanley
Zumba Gold Minimum 12	M	5:00PM — 6:00PM	Mar 3 — Apr 21	\$26/\$36	Gretchen Pouliot
SilverSneakers Splash	T-Th	11:00AM - 12:00PM	Mar 4 — Apr 16	\$60 PSC Members	Pay @ Portage YMCA
Computer Classes					
Laptop Intro. To Office	W	10:00AM - 12:00PM	Mar 19 - Apr 30	\$24 Members Only	Royce Bland
Computer Tutoring	M-W-F	10:00AM - 12:00PM	Jan - Dec 2014	\$10 per hour (Members Only)	Paul Sabin or Gordon Heikkila
Art Classes					
Painting with Acrylics	W	1:00PM — 3:00PM	Feb 12 - Mar 19	\$62/\$72	Rae Sills
Reminiscence Writing	W	10:30AM - 12:00PM	Apr 9 — May 21	\$32/\$42	Wilma Kahn
Portraiture	W	1:00PM — 3:00PM	Apr 2 — Apr 23	\$42/\$52	Rae Sills



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with your insurance agent for possible discounts after course completion. Register at the PSC and make checks payable to AARP Smart Driver Program.

iPad Demonstration

Monday, March 17
1:30 PM

Presenter: Larry Smith,
PSC Member
Fee: Free

Having trouble with your new iPad? Thinking of getting an iPad? This will be an introduction to iPad navigation and general use. Main iPad applications and tools will be covered. Our presenter will provide several demonstrations and guidance. Registration deadline is Friday, March 14.

Partnership with WMU Lifelong Learning Academy

Your Changing Eyes
Friday, February 14 & 21
9:00 - 11:00 AM

Instructor: Nattaly Flores
Location: Portage Senior Center

Registration: 387-4200
WMU Lifelong Learning Academy

Fees: \$20 Lifelong Learning Members/
\$30 Non-Members

Topics to be covered in this course include eye care professionals, eye conditions, home safety and available services. Also included will be helpful information for participants' immediate use such as: tips on safe travel, lighting, contrast, low vision magnification and glare protection.

Scholarships

For any member experiencing financial hardship, the PSC is fortunate to have sustained a scholarship program through the Friends of the Portage Senior Center, in the *Bea Butler Scholarship Fund*. Members of the PSC or community at large are encouraged to contact Deputy Director, Jill Hess or Program Coordinator, Denita Demler for additional information regarding program eligibility. All information is kept confidential.

Thank You

The Following Memorial Donations Were Received Between October 24 and December 24, 2013.

- Dolores Paul, in memory of Virginia Clancy PSC Tai Ji Class and Beverly Folz, in memory of Wayne Howser
- Pat Brown, PSC Relaxed Pace Bridge, Robert & Mary Foster and Harold Brant, in memory of Willa Kellar
- Betty Lujan and Art Roberts in memory of Linda Nemitz and Bob Slager
- Gerald & Mary Anderson, Michigan Works Y.O.U., Janet and Frank Schroeder, Deborah and Don Konkle, Scott and Kim Schroeder, April and Gary Schmidt, W. E. Upjohn Employee Research, Michigan Commerce Bank, and Jack & Susan Kreling in memory of Donna Flesher

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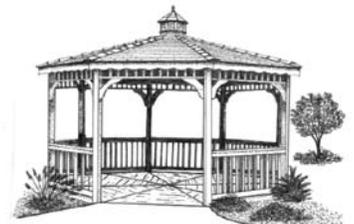
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Welcome New Members

between October 24 and Dec 25, 2013

Mary Arnold	Thomas Richardson
Maxine Sherburn	Theodore & Marguerite Philips
George Walker	Doris Parish
Barbara Benders	Marcia Schubert
Sandra Hycoop	Terry Marlatt
Walt & Philomene Retman	Roy & Donalee Williams
Winifred Marsh	Cheryl Morrissey
Robert Perkins	Paul & Diana Swope
Elizabeth McNinch	Patrick Morrissey
Marbe Burns	Edward & Sally Mahieu
Constance Micklin	

Thank You Generous Donors

who have already sent in Annual Appeal Gifts!

Onalee Anderson	Sharon Grube
Chet and Josephine Arnold	Desdamona Hale
in memory of Esther	Michael & Elisabeth Johncock
Stewart, Jean Means and Stephanie Cole	Harry & Lillian Joyce
Edward Bachleda in memory of Mary Bachleda	Richard Knapp
Dorothy Barstow	Lola Leder in memory of Gus Leder
Bijoy & Janet Bhuyan	Jean Leonard
Jack Bowker in memory of Clara Bowker	William & Alma McCarty
Andrew & Patricia Brogowicz	Paul & Cathy Mejia
Darlene Brown	Penelope Newhouse in memory of Marion Kotz
Shirley Bumgardner	Heather Parsons
Thelma Burrell	Howard & Georgia Potrude
Ruby Cain	Harold & Shirley Ray in memory of Cam & Millie Lambe
Ilene Carley	Barbara Roty in memory of August Roty, M.D.
Jeannette Carney	Carolyn Selby
Ardis Chisnell	Dr. Bhadra Shah
Dorothy Criss	Thomas Simon in memory of Helen Simon
Richard Davidson	Ed & Nancy Stob
William & Andrea Deming	Carole Stokes
Sharon Dickey	Jack & Anna Stryd
Iola Dunsmore	Wilma Tays in honor of Jill Hess
Phil & Dorothy Edie	Loretta Walsh in memory of Egon Nithammer
Katherine Egeler	Margaret Weiss
Josephine Elliott in memory of George and Elizabeth Woog	
Dorothy Endres	
Louis & Barbara Farraye	
Marilyn Fuller	

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Endowment Thanks

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February 18 & 19

(Tuesday and Wednesday)

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Stay Independent – Prevent Memory Loss

2nd Thursday of every month
1:00 PM - 2:30 PM

Session 1: February 13

Session 2: March 13

Fee: \$7/\$9 /Non-Members/Session

Instructor: Suzanne Gernaat

A strong prevention program can delay the onset of Alzheimer's. You can lower your risk of memory loss by up to 70% with just a few simple lifestyle changes. Don't let your memory slip away! Register by calling 329-4555.

Hearing Screenings

3rd Tuesday – Quarterly (January, April, July, October)

Tuesday, April 15

9:00 AM – 11:00 AM

A certified audiologist from the Hearing Center will provide the following services at no charge: hearing screenings, hearing aid cleaning/check, ear-mold retubing, and ear-mold impressions. Please call 329-4555 to schedule an appointment (required).

Healthy Beginnings – Monthly!

Presenter: TenderCare Portage

Fee: Free and Open to Public

This Wellness Initiative is open to the community as well as PSC members. The program focuses on ways to keep our senior population informed on healthy living and provide the tools necessary to make it happen. The goal of the Wellness Initiative is to assist seniors to live to their fullest potential with the most current, accurate information. The program will have speakers and clinical personnel provided by TenderCare Portage. Register at 329-4555.

- Tobacco Use Education – Thursday, February 20 at 1:00 PM
- Body Mass Index Education – Thursday, March 20 at 1:00 PM
- Diabetes Indicators Education – Thursday, April 17 at 1:00 PM
- Up-to-date Vaccinations and Screenings Education – Thursday, May 15 at 1:00 PM

Diabetes Support Group

Quarterly (January, April, July, October)

Friday, April 4, 1:00 PM

Leader: Bob Erikson, Diabetes Education Coordinator

A diabetes educator will speak on new methods of diabetes management at the April 4 meeting. Participants will be called prior to each meeting. Call 329-4555 to be added to the Diabetes Support Group call list.



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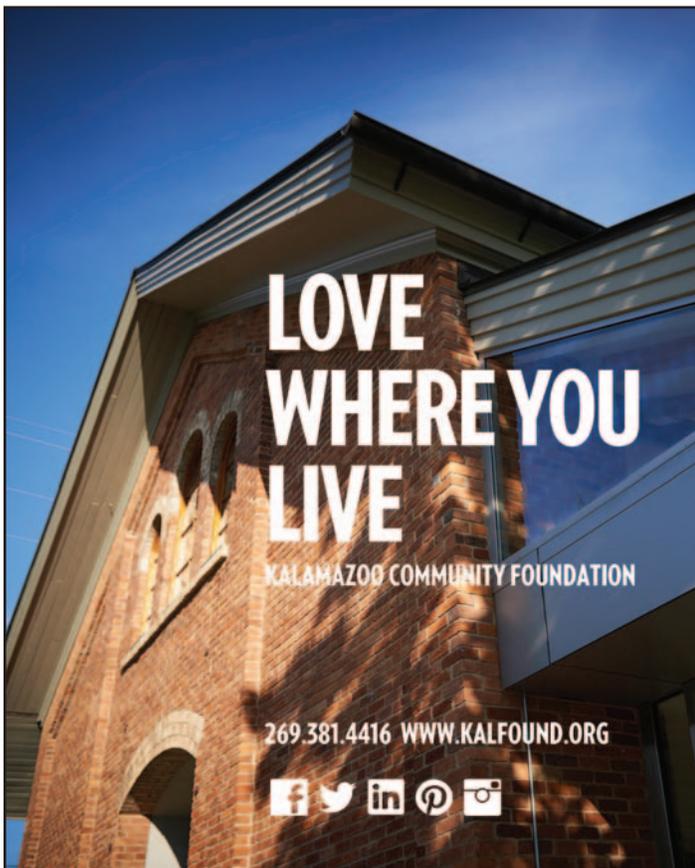


PSC Needlers

Dedicated to fulfilling the needs of our local community, the PSC Needlers work diligently to supply lap robes, hats, mittens, shawls, and more to Bronson and Borgess Hospitals, VA Hospitals, Portage Community Outreach Center, Salvation Army, Kalamazoo Gospel Mission and others. Over 2,000 items were donated by this wonderful group throughout the 2013 year.

Business

Muffins and the Market at the Library
First and third Thursday mornings 9:00 AM
Popular morning investment discussion group



Thanksgiving Food Basket Program

Again this year, we partnered with Portage Community Center (PCC) to collect food items for their program to “make life better” for many families in our community during the holiday season. Because of the generous giving of our members, we donated 14 grocery bags of boxed and canned foods to the PCC. Thanks to Volunteer Thanksgiving Basket Coordinator, Pat Rose, we were able to organize and deliver the items to PCC.

Holiday Adopt-A-Family

Thank you to all who bought gifts for the Holiday Adopt-A-Family in partnership with the Portage Community Center. The PSC “adopted” a mother and son and enjoyed a very good response from members. An impressive load of wrapped and labeled gifts were delivered to the Community Center by our Volunteer Adopt-A-Family Assistant, Jane Wendling, and Ashley Machacek, our WMU Intern.

Quarterly Volunteer Orientation

Thursday, April 24, 10 AM

The PSC Quarterly Volunteer Orientation will be held on April 24. Topics for discussion will include working with difficult people, current and future volunteer programming, MySeniorCenter™, and logging volunteer hours. The orientation is intended to benefit both new and experienced volunteers. Register at the reception desk.

Volunteer Help Wanted

Volunteer Greeters

We are looking for volunteers to greet members and assist at the membership kiosk. Two-hour shifts are available Monday through Friday, from 9 – 11:00 AM and 11 – 1:00 PM.

Volunteer Van Driver

Drivers needed for transporting patrons in our Community Service Van program on a planned route to and from various center activities and grocery shopping trips within the City of Portage. Various days and hours would be 8:30 AM – 1:30 PM.

Community

What’s Going on at the PDL?

For more information please call: 329-4542 ext. 600

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Monday, February 3 at 1:30 PM Call 329-4555 to save your seat.

Special Trip Preview: Tropical Costa Rica. Tuesday, April 1 at 10:00 AM. Call 329-4555 to save your seat.

Fun 2014 Day-Trip Outings!

HEARTBEAT OF HOME . . . Chicago, Illinois
Wednesday, March 12

Created by the Producers and Director of *Riverdance*, *Heartbeat of Home* is a music and dance spectacular featuring the dynamic, vibrant components of traditional Irish, Latin and Afro-Cuban music and dance. With world-class dancers from Ireland, USA, Australia, Britain, Canada, Italy, Mexico and Spain, the production will create a dream world of heart-stopping, high-energy music and action. Great seats! Feel like you've traveled overseas without leaving the U.S.! Includes lunch.

FORD-O-RAMA . . . Detroit
Tuesday, March 25

Your day begins early with a relaxing motor coach ride to the Metro area, once a major hub for the growth, movement and advancement of industry in the USA. Arrive at the Ford Assembly Plant in Dearborn for a tour of production lines, followed by lunch. The Edsel and Eleanor Ford Mansion, built in 1926 and located in Grosse Pointe Shores awaits your arrival following the meal.

LOCAL TREASURES . . . Kalamazoo Area
Monday, March 31

Step back in history with a day out as we celebrate spring by visiting historic buildings in downtown Kalamazoo, some of which are not accessible to the general public. Our tour will include lunch at the recently renovated Ladies Library and features a special guest speaker. Travel back in time and revisit some of your favorite haunts from the past.

"BOOGIE WOOGIE SWINGTIME"! Cornwell's Turkeyville . . . Marshall, MI
Thursday, April 24

A musical comedy tribute to our military forces. Three ladies do their best to nurse a valiant war hero back to health by cheering him up with a USO show. Includes songs like Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy, Star Spangled Banner, Don't Sit Under the Apple Tree, Sentimental Journey and many more!

MAGNIFICENT M AND Ms . . . Grand Rapids, Michigan
Monday, April 28

Melodic music, myriads of color and modern marketing are just a few of the adventures to be had on this trip. An organ concert at Dale & Gail's begins this very special day. A stop at Meijer Gardens to view the always beautiful and fascinating butterfly exhibit is also included, followed by a stop at Horrocks indoor farmer's market.

Continued on page 17

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From page 16

MYSTERY TREASURE HUNT?

Thursday, May 1

There will be no treasure maps, pirates, parrots, treasure chests or bottles of rum. There will be a day of good fun, an included lunch and gifts to bring home that will remind us of the places we've been while on the hunt! Don't miss out on this one! Sign-up early.

TIPTOE THRU THE TULIPS . . . Holland, Michigan

Friday, May 2

Put on your wooden shoes and board the bus to Holland for a guided tour through the Dutch Village. Lunch is included along with a musical show, "That's Entertainment," at Evergreen Commons.

BIRDS & BEES AT FERNWOOD BOTANICAL GARDENS . . . Niles, Michigan

Tuesday, May 13

Did you see that bird? What is it? I can hear it but I can't see it! Get the binoculars! Sound familiar? If you're a backyard birder, novice or experienced birdwatcher, come on our trip to Fernwood Botanical Gardens. An on-site naturalist will assist as we learn to identify native and spring migrating birds by sight and sound.

A DELICIOUS DRIVE . . . Saugatuck, Michigan

Thursday, May 29

Receive an honorary culinary diploma while sampling fresh foods. This six-hour tasting tour will take us to a

variety of places in the Saugatuck area. Our local guide specializes in culinary adventures in Italy, France, Spain, and Ireland - and now, what he has been offering lucky guests all these years in Europe, is possible in his hometown of Saugatuck.

GARDEN DELIGHTS & CHELSEA FAVORITES . . .

Ann Arbor & Chelsea

Tuesday, June 10

Visit the U of M Matthaei Botanical Garden for a guided tour followed by a visit to Nichol's Arboretum (self-guided). This is prime time to enjoy the Peony Garden, boasting the largest collection of heirloom peonies in North America! Lunch is included at the popular Common Grill Restaurant. A stop at the Chelsea Teddy Bear Company completes this perfect *get-away day*.

U.S. 12 FAR EAST . . . A SAUK TRAIL

Thursday, June 12

This trip is a continuation of the "Near East" trip taken in 2013. We will begin in the Irish Hills (Lenawee County) area and continue east on the Sauk Trail through Clinton, Saline, Ypsilanti, Dearborn and Detroit. Along the way visits will be made to Clinton Woolen Mill, Clinton Hotel (former flour mill and used later by Henry Ford to produce plastics and electricity), an underground railroad, civil war barracks, a WWII air museum, an 1837 arsenal commandant's headquarters, and time permitting, perhaps a little more.

Continued on page 18

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From page 17

THE OAK RIDGE BOYS . . . Auditorium Theatre, Shipshewana, Indiana

Friday, June 13

This group, which has now been together for more than 40 years, is returning to Shipshewana! Their concerts are pure magic and they have the rare knack of making the audience feel special with more than stage presence. The Oak Ridge Boys put on a show as sincere and genuine as entertainment gets.

"THE LAST ROMANCE" . . . Purple Rose Theatre, Jackson & Chelsea

Wednesday, June 18

A crush can make anyone feel young again – even a widower named Ralph. On an ordinary day in a routine life, Ralph decides to take a different path on his daily walk – one that leads him to an unexpected second chance at love. En route, stop in Jackson for a visit to The Ella Sharp Museum of Art and History and her 19th century farmhouse. Lunch at the popular Common Grill Restaurant is also included.

Extended Trips – 2014 Fun Get-Aways!

"THUNDER OVER LOUISVILLE", Louisville, Kentucky

April 11 - 13

Rated as one of the top 100 events in North America, the Derby Festival's *Opening Ceremonies* is truly a sight to behold. The Air Show dazzles the crowd with more than 100 planes, aerobatics teams, daring sky diving groups and breathtaking stunts. When it gets dark, the Thunder

rolls. Eight 400-foot barges assemble on both sides of the 2nd Street Bridge to form the stage from which the fireworks spectacular ignites. The breath taking 28-minute show includes Thunder's signature one-mile "waterfall" effect off the bridge, making the fireworks seem to rain down forever!

FIRESIDE THEATRE AND LAKE GENEVA . . . Fort Atkinson/Lake Geneva, WI

June 3 - 4

Enjoy the heart-warming musical, *"Fiddler on the Roof,"* featuring one of Broadway's most beautiful musical scores in the 700-seat *theatre-in-the-round* of Fireside, and their award-winning cuisine! Lunch and a tour of the historic Baker House, a visit to Lake Geneva and an ice cream social cruise, as well as an in-depth, historical narration about the many estates and mansions that line the shores of beautiful Lake Geneva. We'll also have an opportunity to take in The Dancing Horses show – a Vegas-style performance with show horses, costumes, talented performers and Dancing Waters (jets of water choreographed to music and changing lights). Includes dinner! Overnight stay will be in Lake Geneva area.



International Trips:

NOVA SCOTIA – "A Taste of the Maritimes"

August 2 - 10, 2014

Motor coach to Toronto for a show and overnight stay before continuing on by air to Halifax, Nova Scotia. Visits include Peggy's Cove, Cape Breton Island, Cabot Trail and sightseeing tour of Prince Edward Island! Highlights include Halifax Harbor dinner cruise, scenic Marine Drive Highway, Alexander Graham Bell Museum, spectacular tour of Cabot Trail, Cape Breton Highlands National Park, and Canada's number one musical, Anne of Green Gables. For more information about this trip, stop in at the Trip Office, open Tuesdays and Fridays from 9:30 AM to 2:30 PM.

DISCOVERING POLAND

September 4 - 15, 2014

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Continued on page 19



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From page 18

Walk the meandering lanes of historical Krakow, where you will visit Wawel Castle, once home to the kings of Imperial Poland. The somber history and tragic reality of Auschwitz is unveiled during a moving visit. Behold the Black Madonna on a tour of Jasna Gora Monastery. Stand on the dock where union workers formed the Solidarity Anti-Communist movement in 1989 Gdansk. Explore the ancient city squares and UNESCO World Heritage sights of Torun, Wroclaw, Warsaw, Gdansk and Krakow. This nation, with its rich past and thriving economy, is ready to be discovered as the old "east" transforms itself into the new heart of Europe. Early booking discount available.

TROPICAL COSTA RICA

November 3 - 11, 2014

Lush forests and stunning waterfalls . . . exotic wildlife and endless coastlines . . . Costa Rica is truly a slice of paradise! Visit Monteverde Cloud Forest, one of only four places in the world with an ecosystem so unique that it produces a cloud forest! Additional tour highlights include San Jose, Coffee Plantation, Guanacaste, Hanging Bridges, Arenal Volcano (land of spas and hot springs), Lake Arenal Cruise, Cooking Demonstration, Cano Negro Refuge, Zarcero, National Theatre and much more! *Early booking discount available.* **Special Trip Preview: Tuesday, April 1, 2014 at 10:00 AM.** Call 329-4555 to save your seat.

2014 READ ALL ABOUT IT
A Look at the Black Experience
through Story and Poetry

Sunday, February 16, 2:00 PM

at Portage District Library

Tasleem Jamil will perform poetry from her new collection *Black Baptist Muslim Mystic* and Anna-Lisa Cox will discuss and read from her two books *A Stronger Kinship*, a history of Covert, Michigan and *Founding Freedom: African Americans on the Antebellum Frontier*. Cosponsored with the West Michigan Black Heritage Society and Racial Healing Initiative. No registration required.

The Culture of Food: Chocolate

Wednesday, February 12, 2:00 PM

at Portage District Library

Learn how chocolate is made and a variety of chocolate flavors from around the world with Dale Anderson, owner of Confections with Convictions. Register by calling 269-329-4542 ext. 600 starting Tuesday, January 14th at 9:00 AM. There is a \$5 fee at the door.

Registration Required.

Great Books Reading Group

January 19 -May 19, 2:00 PM

at Portage District Library

Two Sundays a month the group will discuss readings from the Great Books anthology *Great Conversations 2*. No registration required.

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scan-in kiosk. No matter how quick your visit, your presence counts! When 200 people drop in over the course of a week simply to get information - our kiosk

system captures those numbers in report form, offering statistics that support space use, staff positions, and funding requests. When you visit,

no matter the reason, no matter the time of day, please use your membership card and be a part of the PSC power.

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