

Walking in the Past

Vintage shoes in Benzie

By Susan Koenig

Current Contributor

Benzie County is always filled with surprises. Up the dirt end of Fewins Road, over a small bridge, and nestled among 50 acres of woodland seems an unlikely place to find a barn full of shoes. More than 5,000 pairs of shoes.

From the 120-pound Great Pyrenees who greets you at the door to the aisles upon aisles of shoeboxes waiting just inside, nothing about visiting “a Vintage Sole” is your run-of-the-mill shopping experience.

Entering the barn is a “wow” moment. There are roughly 3,500 shoes for women (all sizes), 1,500 to 2,000 pairs for children, and the rest are men’s shoes or boots. None of these shoes have ever been worn — most have never even been tried on — and the condition of each pair varies from perfect to nearly perfect. A visit to the barn is a historical trip to another era.

The owners of “a Vintage Sole” are Jim and

Carol Brouwer, who have been married for 35 years and now reside in rural Inland Township, just past the fish hatchery. It really comes as no surprise that Jim got into the shoe business — his great-grandfather owned R. Brouwer’s City Boot & Shoe Store in Grand Haven, Michigan, which led to his grandfather’s S.J. Brouwer’s Shoe Company, a spinoff in Wauwatosa (“land of the fireflies”), Wisconsin.



Jim and Carol Brouwer smile through a row of vintage shoes. More than 5,000 pairs are available at their sthoo store. Photo by Aubrey Ann Parker.

Carol, who remembers buying shoes from Jim’s family store, is an Albion graduate whose grandfather was one of the founders

of Crystal Lake’s Congregational Summer Assembly, now commonly known as the CSA (“though in those days, it was called the Assembly,” says Carol).

As Jim wooed Carol, she wooed him into loving Benzie County. In 2005, they moved here fulltime. They had purchased Gwen Frostic’s cottage in the CSA, but it was not habitable for winters, so they eventually bought the house on Fewins Road. Jim was not ready to retire, and the two searched the area to find a storefront to purchase. Instead, they bought nearly the entire inventory from the basement of a traditional family shoe store.

They loaded thousands of shoes — all discontinued styles but brand-new (even though they were old) — into a truck. After several trips, they finally unloaded the shoes into their barn where the boxes are now neatly stacked and sorted by brand, then style, size, and width. There are generally between one

Please see Shoes on page 8

Get Away to Elberta

How to spend a day across the Betsie Bay

By Pearce Pomerleau

Current Contributor

Frankfort is famous for its bustling summer season, quality shops, tasty restaurants, and tourist culture. However, the busy downtown center and crowded beach can sometimes feel overwhelming. Elberta — Frankfort’s neighbor across the bay — provides a quieter, more relaxing alternative to the energy of the bigger town, and it can be just as much fun for you and your family. Take a break from the tourist masses and spend a day in Elberta with these guidelines, advised by locals and tourists alike.



Breakfast: The Lighthouse Café

This tiny restaurant is an Elberta landmark, featuring fantastic breakfast food. Serving only breakfast and lunch, the prices are low, the portions are large, and the wait staff is friendly and fun.

Tip: the hashbrowns are a local favorite.

Morning Activity: Hike the Green Point Dunes

The Green Point Dunes Nature Preserve lies off Green Point Road, approximately seven minutes south of Elberta on M-22. Nearly two miles of trails wind through beautiful forests, meadows, and Lake Michigan beaches. The land is a spectacular

Please see Elberta on page 3

Celebrate The Fourth

- 8am - Firecracker 5k Race, Beulah
- 10am - Independence Day Parade, Frankfort
- 10am - 5pm Art at Mineral Springs Park, Frankfort
- 10:30am - Kids’ Games in the Park, Beulah
- 11am - 3pm - Face Painting in the Park, Beulah
- Noon - Lion’s Club Chicken BBQ, Frankfort
- Noon - 3pm - Sand Sculpture Contest, Frankfort
- Noon - Food Concessions, Beulah
- 1:30pm - Independence Day Parade, Beulah
- 2:30pm - Kids’ Greased Pole Climb, Beulah
- 3:30pm - Kids’ Coin Hunt, Beulah
- 4:30pm - Rubber Duck Race, Beulah

Dusk - Fireworks! Frankfort and Beulah

Fresh Produce from Loving Dove Farm

Grace and the family

By Karen Roberts

Current Contributor

What yellow fruit is commonly used to make a meringue-topped pie and grows in Michigan? It can’t be lemons; it’s too cold in Michigan...

Trick question! Grace Phillips grows productive lemon trees at Loving Dove Farm in nearby Bear Lake. In fact, with the wood-burning stove that heats her greenhouse during the cold season, Phillips has created her own hardiness zone 9 right here in hardiness zone 6 of Northern Michigan. In addition to lemons, Loving Dove Farm produces pomegranates, figs, blood oranges, and ruby red grapefruits, all of which look pretty happy in the heated greenhouse. Other vegetables that Michigan summers are not always so kind to — eggplant, basil, and peppers — also prosper in the greenhouse. At the back, just past a bin of homemade potting soil, is the ebb-and-flow hydroponic project,



Grace Phillips showcases a range of locally grown food at the farmers’ markets. Photo by Aubrey Ann Parker.

with peas, broccoli, radishes, and watercress growing.

The entire greenhouse — the whole farm really — speaks of life, both quality

and quantity. Running down the middle of the greenhouse is a row of tomatoes that climb up nearly 100 ropes. The tomatoes are mainly heirloom grafts, many already with blossoms and all with very sturdy stems. Phillips has the ruthlessness of all good farmers, tearing off lower stems and leaves so as to prevent disease. By the end of the season, these plants will touch the roof of the 10-foot-high greenhouse and they will look a lot like Dr. Seuss characters — tall; not very many leaves, except at the top; stems, as thick as broom handles, propped up by their clips to avoid falling under the weight of the abundant fruit.

Phillips looks around and notes she wants to move up the cross planks around the side so that she can raise the side flaps higher as the season gets warmer. Originally they


were just the right height, but she has added great soil with each season, thus raising the floor. There is no need to ask where she gets her good dirt — huge compost piles sit next to the cow paddock. The cows are standing in dirt that most gardeners would kill for. If cow manure isn’t enough, she can always get it from her goats (who like to be rubbed behind the ears, just like a golden retriever) or her sheep.

Looking at the myriad livestock, the flats of seedlings inside the greenhouse, the well-kept rows of plants outside the greenhouse, the fresh-baked breads in her pantry, and the shelf of homemade tinctures and lotions, the unavoidable question arises — how does Phillips do all this?

“I have lots of help,” she answers. And she does, all homegrown.

Phillips and her husband have five children: two grown and not living at home,

Please see Grace on page 9




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A Day in Beulah

A small town with a big city soul

By Ian Richardson
Current Contributor

On the shore of Crystal Lake, downtown Beulah is the perfect place to spend a beautiful Northern Michigan summer day. From businesses that are decades old to those that just opened, the owners of these establishments live locally and work hard year-round to serve a community that has supported them through many ups and downs. Though the beauty of Crystal Lake is often cited as the biggest draw to Beulah, its businesses — and the people who own them — are an equally compelling reason that this vibrant community remains a relevant and popular multi-generational destination.

Breakfast: L'Chayim Delicatessen
Owner Jonathan has been making the best New York-style bagels in Benzie County for 22 years. When not laboring in the back, he can often be found engaging patrons' tables and weighing in on the topic of the day. Bagels come out still warm and slathered with a liberal amount of cream cheese.
Tip: Check out the local art that is hanging on the wall as part of L'Chayim's "Hit the Wall" series. Each artist's show opens with a wine and cheese party after-hours.

Second Breakfast: Blue Caribou Café
The coffeehouse on the corner was recently reopened by Erik and Kelly Chorley and their family. Blue Caribou features a full-service coffee bar alongside reasonably priced breakfast, lunch, and dinner options in an updated and comfortable space that balances an industrial interior design with a modern urban feel.
Tip: Order the quad latte with no foam for caffeinated bliss. Top it off with a sticky sweet cinnamon roll or a lemon iced ginger scone.

Morning Activity: Dip Your Toes in Crystal Lake
On the Crystal Lake beachfront, Beulah has rebuilt the retaining wall and added a bike lane. Next to the maintained public restrooms and the updated set of kids' playground equipment, the convenience of the public boat dock makes a perfect transition from lake to land. The new, universally accessible fishing dock — fitted with numerous rod holders and located above weed beds — virtually guarantees that there are fish for the kids to catch.
Tip: Bring a worm and a bobber for fishing.

Lunch: East Shore Market
Nels and Karen Nelson's eclectic store is a year-round stop for delicious food and a diverse selection of specialty grocery items. With an emphasis on ethnic food ingredients, East Shore is the place to look if a recipe calls for something that can't be found elsewhere. They also offer a unique selection of liquors, specialty beers, and wines that are hand-picked by Nels and Karen.
Tip: Deciding between a sub, made with their fresh bread and piled high with meat and cheese, and the personal House Special pizza is too much, so just get both. Locals swear by The Judy.

Early Afternoon Activity: The Barber Shop
Get a fresh cut from Steve, who, with a deft hand, always sends customers away looking better than when they walked in. One of the consistently busy places in town, the constant buzz proves the popularity of Steve's work.
Tip: Locals swear to have witnessed Steve work magic with a pair of scissors and a razor.

Afternoon Snack: Sweet Cheeks Sweets
Beulah's newest and youngest entrepreneur is 16-year-old local Maddy Mummey, who just opened Sweet Cheeks Sweets where you can buy sweet delectables that she bakes using the Grow Benzie incubator kitchen. From brownies and cookies to multiple flavors of cupcakes, Maddy's tasty morsels are lovingly made from scratch using family recipes.
Tip: The shop is located next to the pathway to the Darcy Library, which offers a perfect shady spot to enjoy a sweet treat before retreating to the beach.

Late Afternoon Activity: Live For Art Gallery
Live For Art showcases artists with a love for the region who produce works in various mediums from photography and painting to jewelry and glass. Mary Lane founded Live For Art Gallery online in 2009 and made the move to her Beulah storefront in 2011. An open and inviting space makes viewing the art a pleasure.
Tip: Check out the Open House that is offered on Thursdays throughout the summer from 5-7 p.m.

Dinner: Picnic in the Park
Kids can hit Blue Caribou Café for a Moomer's ice cream treat, while the adults can head to East Shore to fill a picnic basket. Every Thursday throughout the summer, there is free music in the park near Crystal Lake. These impromptu concerts by local musicians are a relaxed and enjoyable way to end a summer evening.
Tip: In need of a wine corkscrew? Pop into Crystal Crate and Cargo, one of the longest-



Outdoor seating at the Caribou Café in Beulah. Photo by Aubrey Ann Parker.

running businesses in downtown Beulah, and enter a paradise of unique premium accessories and artisanal products for the kitchen and pantry. A food-gear lover can easily forget what they came for and find themselves perusing the aisles of fantastic items — about 15,000 they can't live without.

After Dinner: The Cherry Hut
Now in their 92nd season, The Cherry Hut is open until 9pm. The wait staff all wear custom-made candy-stripe dresses, reminiscent of another era. Pop over after dinner for a slice of cherry pie, made fresh that morning. Order a cherryade, made from the extra juice that didn't go into the pies.
Tip: Order a piece of pie warm and a la mode for tonight, and order an entire pie to-go for a sweet breakfast tomorrow.

If You Don't Have Kids: Drinks at the Cold Creek Inn
The Cold Creek has a cozy local atmosphere with affordable drinks, good wine pours, and congenial owners. This place has a long history of being very friendly and providing a space that makes it easy to meet new people.
Tip: If you're still hungry, order the thin-crust pizza — even those who don't love pizza swear by it!

There are so many other things to do in Beulah, as well. The shopping is excellent, with everything for foodies to art aficionados to recreation enthusiasts. Crystal Lake Adventure Sports, for instance, has outdoor clothing and an endless variety of outdoor accouterments, but they also sell and rent full lines of Stand Up Paddleboard (SUP), kayak, and surfboard gear for a day of total enjoyment on the water. The staff is knowledgeable, and they have ACA certified instructors offering lessons along with expert bike technicians to keep you moving down the road. Their second annual Up North Stand Up Paddleboard Classic is on July 19. A few doors down at Luna Boutique, Mary Perzigian is in her second year as Beulah's destination for upscale women's clothing. Luna Boutique offers unique lines that are seldom seen, even as far away as Chicago. Perzigian prides herself on being a one-of-a-kind, sought-out destination in Beulah. The Market Basket has a great selection of flowers and local produce, as well as the essentials that everyone needs at home or at the cottage.

When driving on US-31, make sure not to miss Beulah. Follow the newly installed MDOT signs that signal the way to great beaches, dining, and shopping.

Elberta

Continued from page 1

representation of Northern Michigan nature. Because the trail is somewhat out of the way and not very well-known, hikers are unlikely to run into others on the trail.

Tip: Bring insect repellent.

Lunch: Elberto's Taqueria

This colorful take-out restaurant sits in the heart of Elberta and offers a range of fantastic Mexican tacos and burritos that can be customized to your taste. The Taqueria is run by veteran restaurateur Jim Barnes, who has crafted a menu that makes Elberta proud.

Tip: In its second season, Elberto's is now serving both lunch and dinner. Take your food across the street to the small farmers' market park, and eat at picnic tables under the pavilion. A small train-shaped playground is fun for kids.

After-Lunch Pick-Me-Up: Trick Dog Café and Gallery

Visitors should also find time to visit the Trick Dog, an icon of local art and culture for the past 16 years, and an afternoon coffee is a great time to stop in. The Trick Dog is a café and art gallery that features the works of famed Benzie County artist Greg Jaris. With excellent coffee, smoothies, unique art, and a great view, it's another fun destination that brings people to Elberta each year.

Tip: Look for a wooden fish near the steps to the porch. It's actually a giant bell. Give it a ring.

Early Afternoon Activity: The Beach

Elberta's beach on Lake Michigan is famous for its isolation and is the perfect destination for a peaceful afternoon in the sun. A long dirt road runs along the beach, allowing beachgoers to choose a perfect spot in the fine sand. This beach is great for swimming, exploring, or just lying on a towel.

Tip: When the water is calm, the breakwater pier at the end of the beach is accessible, and offers an amazing view of the Frankfort beach and the lighthouse.

Afternoon Snack: Conundrum Café

Located next door to Elberto's, this fun little shop combines coffee, ice cream, and curios with a focus on the history of the Village of Elberta. Get a smoothie or a cappuccino, grab a window seat, and watch the cars pass through town. Don't forget to sort through the shelves of candies, toys, arts, and crafts. The café also rents out bicycles and kayaks, useful for the nearby bike trail and the Betsie River.

Tip: The smore smoothie is definitely

worth trying. Sneak around back to the bike shop to give your wheels a tune-up.

Late Afternoon Activity: Waterfront Park

Elberta's Waterfront Park stretches along Betsie Bay from the old ferry docks to the fishing marinas. Formerly a Lake Michigan shipping hub, the park is filled with historical landmarks, the



Trick Dog offers fresh-brewed coffee, delicious baked goods, and unique gifts in addition to the art gallery. Photo by Aubrey Ann Parker.

most noticeable of which is the old Life Saving Station. Visitors will also see the ruins of an old foundry. The park features a huge playground for the kids, and the historical markers will fascinate the adults. A walk along the bay offers beautiful views of downtown Frankfort and the marinas.

Tip: Try to read all of the historical markers, since each one offers a different view of Elberta or Frankfort during their heydays.

Dinner: The Mayfair

The Mayfair Tavern offers a great menu and friendly atmosphere. After being closed for a year, the restaurant was recently refurbished and reopened under new management. It's been a huge success.

Tip: Order the Crescent Bakery Pretzel as an appetizer. You'll thank me.

After Dinner: Sunset from the Lookout

Along the route to the beach is the lookout, a parking lot high on the bluff above Lake Michigan. Nowadays, it's a great spot to watch the kiteboarders on a windy day, but Elberta has been known since the 1930s as one of the best areas of the country for "soaring," the hobby of glider plane enthusiasts. The greatest sight that Northern Michigan has to offer is the sunset over the Great Lake. Anyone who has the patience can watch the red sun shrink to a sliver before disappearing below the waves.

Tip: Bring a camera.

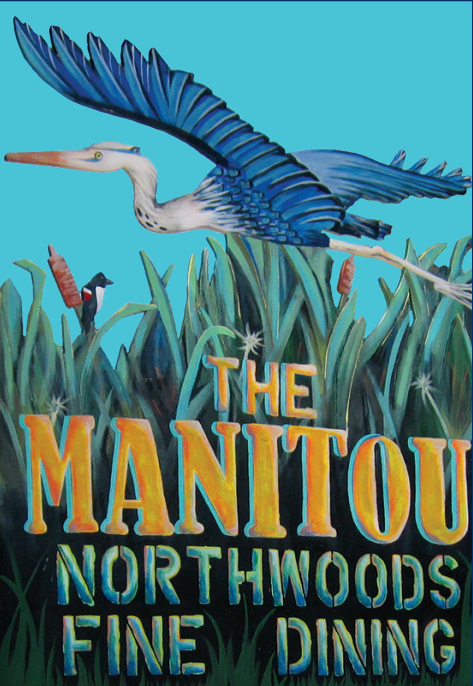
If You Don't Have Kids: Drinks at the Cabbage Shed

The Cabbage Shed began as a dockside vegetable warehouse, which was later converted into a restaurant and bar. Wooden and weather-beaten, "The Shed" looks like it would be full of salty sailors and fishermen, and it often is. The staff is friendly and the bar is good. From the inside, the building looks like it has been built from driftwood, and the old marina that it overlooks adds a nautical feel to the place.

Tip: Listen in at the bar, and you might hear some fun fish stories from the regulars. And check the music schedule, because there's always a rotation of great bands coming through.

This list covers a lot of ground, but it still doesn't come close to describing all the different things to do in Elberta. The village offers something for everyone, be it kayaking on the river, cycling on the trail, or enjoying one of several charter fishing services. Elberta also hosts a number of special events. For instance, the Elberta Farmers' Market features some of the best local food and crafts every Thursday, and it is a popular attraction that brings visitors from far and wide.

The Village of Elberta provides the perfect get-away from the bustle of downtown Frankfort, without sacrificing any of the beautiful scenery, plentiful activities, or fantastic food. Many locals often overlook some of the attributes of the little town. Don't make the same mistake. Schedule a day this summer to enjoy the charm and adventure of Elberta.



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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Mondays

Music with Miss Char at Benzie Shores District Library at 630 Main Street in Frankfort. 10-11am

Friends of the Library needs volunteers to help sort for the annual book sale in Frankfort. If you are interested in helping, please call 231-352-4671. 10:30-11:30am.

Grow Benzie Farmers’ Market, 5885 Frankfort Highway (M-115), Benzonia. 3-7pm.

Open sewing studio at Grow Benzie, 5885 Frankfort Highway (M-115), Benzonia. 6-9pm.

Tuesdays

Benzie Shores District Library offers assistance with technology. Learn how to download ebooks, audiobooks, and magazines to your personal devices. 10am-12pm.

Dance Benzie: Improvisational partner dancing at the Mills Community House in Benzonia. Free, donations welcome. 8-10pm.

Thursdays

Elberta Farmers’ Market at the Elberta Pavilion Park. 8am-12pm.

Story hour with Miss Julie at Benzie Shores District Library in Frankfort. 10-11am.

Open Mic Night at the Cabbage Shed in Elberta. 231-352-9843. 8pm.

Beulah Music in the Park until Thursday, August 14. 7-8pm

Saturdays

Frankfort Farmers’ Market at Open Space Park on Main Street, between 7th & 9th streets, along the beautiful Waterfront. 9am-1pm.

Join a Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore ranger for a different walk or talk or hike every Saturday — there’s always

something happening at 1pm. To find out what’s happening, visit <http://goo.gl/aLUdAG> or call 231-326-5134 for details.

Thursday, July 3

The Accidentals, a duo of young local female musicians, play at Stormcloud Brewing Company in Frankfort.

Thursday - Sunday, July 3 - 6

Schmidt’s Amusement Carnival returns to Frankfort’s Open Space Park with rides and games. 231-352-7251.

Thursday - Wednesday, July 3 - 9

The new works of Honor-based painter Mary Kay Niemiec will be on display at Live For Art Gallery in Beulah. 231-882-9370.

Friday, July 4

Frankfort’s Independence Day Celebration: The day’s activities begin at 7:30am with the Men’s Club Pancake Breakfast at St. Ann Catholic Church at 508 Crystal Avenue (M-22), and the breakfast goes until 11am. Next is the decorated bike contest in the Graceland Fruit parking lot at 9:30am, then the parade at 10am, followed by \$1 Koegel Hot Dogs at the First Congregational Church at 431 Forest

11am is a pancake breakfast. There will be kids’ games beginning at 10:30am and face painting at 11am in the park. There will be train rides at Dairy King from 11am to close. Enjoy food and fun all day, beginning at noon. The parade begins at 1:30pm, and the kids’ greased pole climb at 2:30pm. The coin hunt on the beach is at 3:30pm, and make sure to get your rubber duckie to the starting line at 4:30pm. Stay downtown for the fireworks at dusk (approximately 10:30pm), or enjoy them from the boat!

Saturday, July 5

20th Annual Lake Ann Homecoming, including a tractor parade and lots of other awesome activities! 231-275-7557. 9am-3pm.

Saturday, July 5

44th Annual Beulah Art Fair. Original paintings, jewelry, pottery, graphics, crafts, sculpture, and photography. Rain or shine. 231-325-6642. 10am-5pm.

Sunday, July 6

The RFD Boys is a bluegrass group playing at The Garden Theater in Frankfort. Tickets are \$20 in advance, or \$25 at the door. (Kids 16 and under are free.) Tickets are available at The Garden Theater, Frankfort Bookstore, Stormcloud Brewing Company, and Beulah’s East Shore Market. Concert starts at 8pm, with after-party at Stormcloud.

Monday, July 7

Britton.Davis.Duo play at Stormcloud Brewing Company in Frankfort.

Tuesday, July 8

National Coho Salmon Festival community meeting and spaghetti dinner at the Homestead Township Hall. Tickets are available from Coho board members for \$5 per adult or six for \$20; kids under five years old eat free. 231-651-0094. 6:30pm.

Thursday, July 10

Benzonia Academy Lecture Series at the Mills Community House presents “The History of Chimney Corners Resort.” Through pictures, anecdotes, and recipes, Claudia Bailey will share the origins and expansions of the 79-year-old resort on the west shore of Crystal Lake, as well as share insights into the family-run resort businesses that once surrounded the lakes of Northern Michigan. 7pm.

Thursday, July 10

Cousin Curtiss plays at Stormcloud Brewing Company in Frankfort.

Thurs - Wed, July 10 - 16

Ted Peterson and Rosita Gendernalik will be featured at Live For Art Gallery in Beulah.

Friday - Saturday, July 11 - July 12

Benzonia Public Library’s annual used book sale! Friends preview sale on Friday from 5-8pm (sign-ups accepted at the door). Sale runs on Saturday from 9am-3pm.



Friday, July 11

Summer Sounds Series features The Accidentals, a duo of young local female musicians, at Michigan Legacy Art Park at Crystal Mountain Resort in Thompsonville. Enjoy a relaxed outdoor concert in the Art Park’s amphitheater. Guests are welcome to bring chairs and a picnic. Refreshments are available for purchase. Suggested donation of \$10 per person. <http://goo.gl/WesV8I> 7pm - 9pm.

Saturday, July 12

Benzie Home Health Care’s 45th annual pasty dinner at Trinity Lutheran Church in Frankfort. Give \$10 and get a great meal — homemade pasty, coleslaw, beverage, and ice cream sundae. You’ll also get the knowledge that you are helping the seniors of Benzie County, so it’s a win-win! Individual pasties are available for \$5 each. 231-325-0138. 4-7pm

Monday, July 14

Mulebone plays at Stormcloud Brewing Company in Frankfort.

Tuesday, July 15

Sciencetastic Storytimes presents “Radical Robots with Stewart and Mark” at the Darcy Library in Beulah. 6pm.

Wednesday, July 16

Visitors to Green Cuisine at Food For Thought on Oviatt Road, between Honor and Empire,



Avenue after the parade until 1pm. Art in the Park will be going on from 10am to 5pm, and the Frankfort Lion’s Club will be holding their annual chicken BBQ at noon — both events occur in Mineral Springs Park. To participate in the sand sculpture contest at noon, you only need to bring your tools, sunscreen, and imagination to the right of the pier on Lake Michigan beach. Judging held at 3pm. The AMAZING Fireworks will begin at dusk (approximately 10:30pm) on the Frankfort beach, but they can definitely be seen from the Elberta beach, too.

Friday, July 4

Beulah’s Independence Day Celebration: Start your 4th of July off with a bang — the bang of a gun at the starting line of the Firecracker 5k Race at 8am. At 8:30am is the 1-mile family walk/run, and from 8 to

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- July 17
- July 31
- August 14
- August 28
- September 11
- October 2
- November 13
- January 14 (2015)

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will be able to meet and sample the works of local food and beverage artisans, tour the organic farm and green buildings, as well as socialize, learn, and have fun in a beautiful setting. This beloved event promotes the best in local food and sustainable business practices. There will also have a “green lifestyles” tent, where you can learn about other green local products and services. Green Cuisine was Michigan’s first zero-waste event. <http://www.foodforthought.net/registration/> 5-8pm.

Thurs - Wed, July 17 - 23

Frankfort summer resident Lesa Chittenden Lim will show works that she created with pastels, pastels with watercolor, and etchings at Live For Art Gallery in Beulah. 231-882-9370.

Thursday, July 17

Artist talk with John DeHoog and Brian Nelson at the Oliver Art Center in Frankfort. Nelson is a sculptor of metal, and DeHoog makes innovative furniture and sculpture. Both artists defy traditions and inspire with their creativity. This free artist talk is offered in partnership with the Jean Noble Parsons Center and Eastern Michigan University. Admission is free, but space is limited. <http://goo.gl/C7A0EY> 5:30pm.

Thursday, July 17

United Methodist Women’s 10th annual Very Cherry Smorgasbord at 537 Crystal Avenue in Frankfort. We have cherries of some form in every dish (with the exception of the potatoes). There are no advance ticket sales; tickets are at the door only! Costs \$12 for those 13 years and older, \$6 for ages 4 to 12, and free for children 3 and younger. 231-352-4723. 5-7pm.

Friday, July 18

Summer Sounds Series features Robin Connell Jazz Trio at Michigan Legacy Art Park at Crystal Mountain. Bring a picnic or refreshments are available for purchase. Suggested donation of \$10 per person. <http://goo.gl/WesV8I> 7-9pm.

Friday, July 18

Opening reception for Dennison Griffith, Andrew Otis, and Carol Stewart at the Oliver Art Center in Frankfort. There will be wine and appetizers. The event is free and open to everyone. <http://goo.gl/C7A0EY> 5-7pm.

Saturday, July 19

Benzie Conservation District’s water tour at Pearl Lake Access Site on Wagner Road. Join us for our second water tour of the year. www.benziecd.org 231-882-4391. 9am-12pm.

Saturday, July 19

Port City Arts & Crafts Fair: when this outdoor arts & crafts fair’s former name was the Elberta Craft Fair, it was located at the Elberta

Waterfront Park, however, the name and the location have been changed to Frankfort’s Market Square Park. 231-352-7251. 10am-4pm.

Saturday, July 19

Come see Wings of Wonder Raptors at the Darcy Library in Beulah. Sign up for event reminders at [Facebook.com/DarcyLibrary](https://www.facebook.com/DarcyLibrary). Every Saturday a fun event, beginning at 11am.

Tuesday, July 22



Sciencetastic Storytimes presents “Magical Music with Shelly” at the Darcy Library in Beulah. 6pm.

Wednesday, July 23

Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy’s Trail Building at St. Pierre Trails. Help expand the trail system at Arcadia Dunes! Whether you are brand new to Arcadia Dunes or are in the midst of an on-going love affair with the place, trail building is a great way to learn about this amazing property. Volunteers will learn a brief history of the preserve from GTRLC staff, as well as the technique and theory behind sustainable trail design, before heading out to help construct the final three miles of a new five-mile loop. Plan to meet at the St. Pierre parking area. Dress for the weather. Bring water and comfortable shoes. All other tools will be provided. Trail building is a somewhat strenuous activity, but all participation levels are appreciated. Please RSVP by visiting www.gtrlc.org/events or call us at 231-929-7911. The event is free. 2-4pm.

Wednesday, July 23

Plant It Wild’s “Ferns, Sedges, and Grasses” field trip. Vern Stevens, owner of Designs by Nature, will explain that there’s more to a native plant gardens than just flowers. Join as he

discusses how to use native ferns, sedges, and grasses in your landscape. All PIW’s programs and field trips are free and open to the public. Program begins at Trinity Lutheran Church at 955 James Street between 9th and 10th streets. 231-889-7020. 7pm.

Wednesday, July 23

36th annual CSA Arts & Crafts Fair: find decorative, whimsical, and wearable art at the Assembly Ball Field on M-22 at Crystal Lake, just outside of Frankfort. More than 100 artists from all over Michigan and be-

yond will be selling decorative art, pottery wall hangings, oil paintings, watercolors, fine photography of local landscapes, jewelry made with everything from old silverware to semi-precious stones, wooden objects of art – vases, bowls, birdhouses, children’s delights – American Girl doll clothes, books, handmade toddler outfits, handcrafted herbal soaps, paper goods, baskets, furniture, and much more. Rain or shine. The food tent will offer breakfast, lunch, and snacks, including donuts, pizza, and beverages. There will also be a bake sale. From 9am-2pm, the Cottage Treasures Sale will run next door to the ball field, just inside the Assembly Building. 816-304-4123. 10am-4pm.

Thur - Wed, July 24 - 30

Oil landscape paintings by Pam Spicer of Glencoe, Illinois, will be featured at Live For Art Gallery in Beulah. Instead of an Open House on Thursday, Spicer will present an artist talk on Tuesday, July 29, at 5:30pm. 231-882-9370.

Friday, July 25

Summer Sounds Series features Michigan-based bluegrass band Lindsay Lou & The Flatbellys at Michigan Legacy Art Park at Crystal Mountain. Bring a picnic or refreshments are

available for purchase. Suggested donation of \$10 per person. <http://goo.gl/WesV8I> 7-9pm.

Friday - Sunday, July 25 - 27

The Dunesville Music Festival is a family-friendly atmosphere with lots of great music, arts & crafts, food, and fun. Various stages to accommodate an all-Michigan line-up with workshops and activities to promote a strong emphasis on encouraging youth and family. Festival organizers are bringing many new talents to the spotlight and promoting local artists, too. They intend on creating a lasting impression that will keep you and your family excited for the future of Dunesville. The volunteer staff looks forward to helping to ensure the safety and enjoyment of all. The festival is at 4846 Hulbert Road in Lake Ann. <http://goo.gl/4mCa7i> 231-651-9713.

Tuesday, July 29

Sciencetastic Storytimes presents “Flights of Fancy with Kris” at the Darcy Library in Beulah. 6pm.

Tues - Wed, July 29 - 30

Back by popular demand, Mike Bishop returns to the CSA for two days of bird-banding demos. Sponsored by the Benzie Audubon Club. benzieaudubon.org 231-871-0503 From 6-8:30pm on Tuesday and from 8-11am on Wednesday.

Thur - Wed, July 31 - August 6

Oil paintings by Janet Grissom will be featured at Live For Art Gallery in Beulah. 231-882-9370

Friday, August 1

Benzie Conservation District’s Little Platte Lake water tour at North Branch Creek on Deadstream Road. Join us for our third water tour of the year. www.benziecd.org 231-882-4391. 9am-12pm

Friday, August 1

Summer Sounds Series features Lee Murdock at Michigan Legacy Art Park at Crystal Mountain. Bring a picnic or refreshments are available for purchase. Suggested donation of \$10 per person. <http://goo.gl/WesV8I> 7-9pm.

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Finding the Creative Life

A Conversation with Holly Wren Spaulding

By Jenny Robertson Richardson

Current Contributor

Writer, teacher, and editor Holly Wren Spaulding returns this month to teach two classes at the Oliver Art Center. On July 2, she offers the class “Collage Book: Make a Memoir from Fragments,” and on July 7, she’ll teach “Found World: A Creative Lab for Poets and Writers” (both class descriptions can be found on Art Center’s website). A native of Northern Michigan, Spaulding now resides in Northampton, Massachusetts, and travels home in the summer to teach.

Spaulding studied writing, editing, and book publishing at Interlochen Arts Academy, the University of Michigan, and Trinity College in Dublin, Ireland, earning many awards for her writing along the way. Her poetry collection, *The Grass Impossibly*, was published by Michigan Writers Cooperative Press, and her essays and poems have appeared in *The Nation*, *The Ecologist*, *New Internationalist*, and other publications. She was also part of a small team of filmmakers who produced the international award-winning documentary, *Flow*, about the global water crisis and grassroots efforts to defend water from corporate interests.

Since *Dunes Review* literary magazine founder Anne-Marie Oomen asked us to serve as co-editors almost 15 years ago, I’ve witnessed Spaulding’s fierce passion for her art and her unswerving commitment to create opportunities for others. When I needed a boost in my poetry work, I took her “Poetry Bootcamp” class in Traverse City. When I needed teaching experience, I signed on as an assistant for Spaulding’s poetry class at Northwestern Michigan College. And when I felt I had produced enough poems to begin assembling a chapbook, I joined what she’s called her “manuscript incubator,” entitled “A Body of Work,” and gave a public reading alongside a talented group of other women poets.

ROBERTSON: On your website (HollyWrenSpaulding.com) you write: “Born a poet and reared on good books and wild nature, I grew up among a community of socially engaged artists who showed me

the value of imagination, innovation, and collaboration.” Your ability to follow an essentially solitary and individual pursuit and yet consistently consider its implications for the community strikes me as rare. Could you speak a bit to the value that this path has had for you?

Spaulding: I’m very interested in cultivating relationships and situations that connect



Writer, teacher, and editor Holly Wren Spaulding. Photo courtesy Holly Wren Spaulding.

artists to each other, foster affinity, and advance skills — individually and collectively. I come from a community-organizer background, so many of the principles and techniques that I draw upon to build these networks of like-mindedness are rooted in models of radical education and even movement building, and they’re motivated by my desire to contribute to some greater good. My range of influence is ultimately small, but the idea is big because our world needs people who can think well and complexly and who can solve problems; our society needs sensitive and perceptive people who resist the call of consumerism as a way of life and who can think beyond the clichés and stereotypes to a clearer, more nuanced view. Poetry fosters our humanity and it pushes back against speed, waste, and distraction. I guess the value I experience is in knowing that this is worthy work, which is important to me. I want my labors to matter to more than myself or my family.

In terms of my own writing, it’s true that my native habitat is solitude, but I need conversations and community in order to evolve. I think we all do. The public part of my work makes the writing life a little more companionable!

ROBERTSON: Another strength I’ve noted in you over the years is your ability to start new projects just as they are needed by others. It seems to me that a person has to have a strong sense of conviction and trust in herself to take leaps like these. Have you noticed a pattern in how the ideas for your ventures have come to you?

SPAULDING: When I moved back to Northern Michigan after graduate school, inspired by my travels and education, I quickly recognized that if I needed a circle of other poets to share my work with, for example, I would need to initiate that and create that myself. I’m also quick to recognize inefficiencies and gaps and bad design in the world around me — and this includes some of the silly ways we organize socially. I see so many alternatives to competing against each other, which is something that happens when we fear scarcity, which most writers do, so I’m here to say, “There’s room for all of us,”

and I’m here to help writers focus on what really matters — their writing — so that they can participate more fully in the literary and wider community. I’m also an entrepreneur because I have a lot to offer others, but I haven’t found an institution or organization where I can really do what I do on terms that work for me. I ask myself every week if there’s a better way, a way that doesn’t involve so much uncertainty and spiritual extremity, and I’m always revising and refining how I work. There’s a lot of trial and error. That’s the nature of being an artist. So yes, every day I connect to my conviction so that I can keep doing this.

ROBERTSON: The northwest Michigan community lost a great teacher when you moved to Massachusetts, but we’ve been lucky enough to get you back here for classes, at Frankfort’s Oliver Art Center and at venues in Traverse City and Leelanau County. You’ve

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taught and mentored many writing students over the years. What have been the rewards of teaching for you?

SPAULDING: I’m gratified by the daily challenge of communicating with students about craft or the varieties of their human experience, which is what we’re usually trying to write about. I’m mainly driven by my own curiosity, so the classroom is a place for me to keep learning and walking up to the edge of what I know or understand.

The other satisfaction has to do with seeing my students expand their toolboxes and grow in their hearts and minds. I am always delighted when one of them publishes or gets into graduate school or completes a book as a result of any of our work together. When these things happen, I am affirmed that what I’m doing matters, and it reinforces my commitment to keep offering what I have to support emerging writers, who — like myself — need encouragement and skillful support.

ROBERTSON: Besides teaching classes, you also mentor writing students through online and written exchanges, edit manuscripts, co-direct the communications firm STORYhouse, and offer personal mentorship through your consulting practice, LIFE/form. Can you give a few examples of the kinds of people and projects you work with in a given year?

SPAULDING: It really varies, but every one of my clients and students has identified something in themselves that’s saying “There has to be more to life than this …” Especially in my one-on-one work, these recognitions are accompanied by the decision to get support as they make their way toward what they really want to do with their time and attention. I engage in this contemplative process with them, and I always start with listening, which is a social technology we don’t employ enough in our culture. The dominant culture would have us believe that we should shout or announce or perform our lives to the whole wide world — especially on social media — but a lot of us are longing for something else, something more connective, and I try to tune into that impulse, and find out what their story is. Overall, the people I work with have really interesting, often secret inner-lives, so we talk about how to shape our choices and ambitions around what really matters to us, whether that’s art or public service or relationships or something else.

ROBERTSON: I know that many of your students have gone on to publish and win awards. How do you feel when they send you news of their successes in life and writing?

SPAULDING: Just thrilled for them! I also know that, at the end of the day, very few

people can appreciate what it means to have a poem accepted for publication or to win a prize for a manuscript, but I understand what that means to a writer, so I celebrate it and try to do what I can to help my writers get where they’re trying to go.

ROBERTSON: Who are a few of the writers who have influenced you most over the years? And what are you reading now?

SPAULDING: On my nightstand right now there’s an anthology of nature writing, *The Pleasures and Sorrows of Work* by Alain de Botton, Seth Godin’s *The Icarus Deception*, and poems by Anne Carson and Laura Kasischke. This morning I woke up to poems by Jennifer Sperry Steinorth, a local poet and friend, which I find as interesting as anything I’d find in a journal.

I continue to be influenced by my earliest teachers; for example, the poet Ken Mikolowski, whom I studied with at University of Michigan. Ken represented the path of the iconoclast, and I come from a background that predisposes me to seek the alternative route. Although he taught within the academy, he didn’t think so highly of that fact that he presented it as the only way to make a life as a writer. He provided an example of an anti-establishment sensibility. Having recently left academia myself, I’m glad for those kinds of models. With his wife, Ann, he founded and ran *The Alternative Press*, where they published many outsider poets and artists. As far as I could tell, Ken didn’t waste any of his life endearing himself to the gatekeepers or pandering to publishing trends. I liked that and felt a kinship toward his ethos. I still do.

ROBERTSON: What’s next for you?

SPAULDING: I have a book of poems entitled *Pilgrim*, which is coming out this fall from Alice Green & Co. I’m learning the art of the book proposal and working on a nonfiction project entitled *The Something Else*, which considers ways and reasons for re-aligning one’s work, finances, and relationships with values that lead to more meaning and satisfaction. It’s a book about slowing down, resisting the culture of overwork and overwhelm, and finding a saner path. This year, I’ll offer some weekend retreats for writers and creatives of all stripes where I’ll work more intensively with those who want to make truer, deeper commitments to lives that include creativity as an essential part of their purpose. Thanks for asking!

Read more Questions and Answers with community figures on our website BetsieCurrent.com




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Shoes

Continued from page 1

and three of everything. There are shoes from the 1940s all the way to the 1970s, but they did not take anything past the early '70s, when "shoes got ugly," according to Carol. Boots (think "Go-Go") are the biggest sellers of the inventory.

Initially the Brouwers' daughter Libby — an Interlochen graduate and now a fifth-generation shoe retailer — looked about the treasure trove and took 12 pairs of heels to the Fashion Institute of Design and Merchandising (FIDM) in Los Angeles to "test" on her friends and fellow students. She was overwhelmed by the enthusiasm and compliments, especially over the 1940s black suede heels. Libby's education in Art History, Fine Arts, and Fashion fused into the formation of the business.

"We celebrate individuality and flair," Libby says on the website, but "a Vintage Sole began with a love of shoes."

Her parents say, "We couldn't have done this without her."

The sales are mostly online, but the Brouwers also love having people over to shop around in the barn. Carol and Jim are a gregarious couple who will regale you with many delightful stories, about shoes and otherwise. Visitors will be amazed at how many stories there are about shoes — as a fundamental necessity and also a fashion statement. For example, Jim told us that the wedge, a popular style today, was invented during World War II because the need for metal (for war materials) was so intense that shoe manufacturers were forbidden to use any metal in high heels, hence the call for a new style of shoe.

Who is the vintage client? All over the board, apparently — young, old, grandmas, teens, and tweens. The Brouwers have also sent shoes to clients in Australia (for a costume designer) and Norway (for a play that was set during World War II), the United Kingdom, Canada, Germany, and Israel.

Almost all of these shoes are stamped "Made in the USA," with a small percentage having been manufactured in Brazil, where tanneries began to flourish after they began

to lose support in the States. The quality of these shoes is far superior to what we have become accustomed to in modern days. We all know how difficult it can be to find a shoe that fits all over, not just in length. In the first half of the 20th century, American shoe manufacturers used a "combination last" to create their product. A last is a block or form, shaped like a person's foot, on which shoes are made or repaired. A combination last would



(brands) or Yeh-Yehs and Tiffany boxes, named after the famous Audrey Hepburn film (styles). Some promotional slogans were even funnier, for example, Hush Puppies "quiet your barking dogs," or wearing Red Goose is "half the fun of having feet." You know the footies that are given out during overseas flights? The '40s footies were made of leather — with a leather container, no less — and were made primarily for use on long train rides. Classy! Other fun finds include the Boy Scout "official" boot, a '50s boot with a wool lining, fabulous rabbit-fur-lined galoshes that are made to go over high heels (for those of you too young to remember — an overshoe for cold and wet weather that is especially high, warmly lined, and made of fabric and rubber). Perfect for staying warm and chic during a cold Benzie winter like the one that we just endured.

When "a Vintage Sole" ships shoes, the recipient also gets a "thank you" card, a guarantee that the shoes are genuine and unworn, and sometimes a "wartime box."

Visit aVintageSole.com or the barn to learn about the "Shop/Save/Support" element of their

An array of vintage shoes that are in mint condition. Most of the 5,000 pairs have never even been tried on. Photo by Aubrey Ann Parker.

mean that a shoe might be shaped narrower in the heel, with a regular size for the width, or vice versa. Most of the shoes fabricated at that time also had a cushioned heel.

All of the boxes have the original prices marked on them. One interesting style, the "Willow Tarsal Traveler," was originally \$6.95 and is now priced at \$128. Most of the shoes cost between \$28 and \$248, depending on era and style.

The brand and style names are fun and varied, such as: Cheer Leaders, Western Maid, Charm Step, Janigans, and Missy Mates

business — the Brouwers provide a Benzie Discount Code. When you use this benefit, 15 percent of the sale will be deducted from your order and a Vintage Sole will donate 5 percent to Benzie Food Partners, a volunteer food bank that provides assistance to the county's financially disadvantaged population.

Are you ready? The barn of "a Vintage Sole" is easy to find. Give the Brouwers a call at 231-275-1525 or email them for directions: contact@avintagesole.com.



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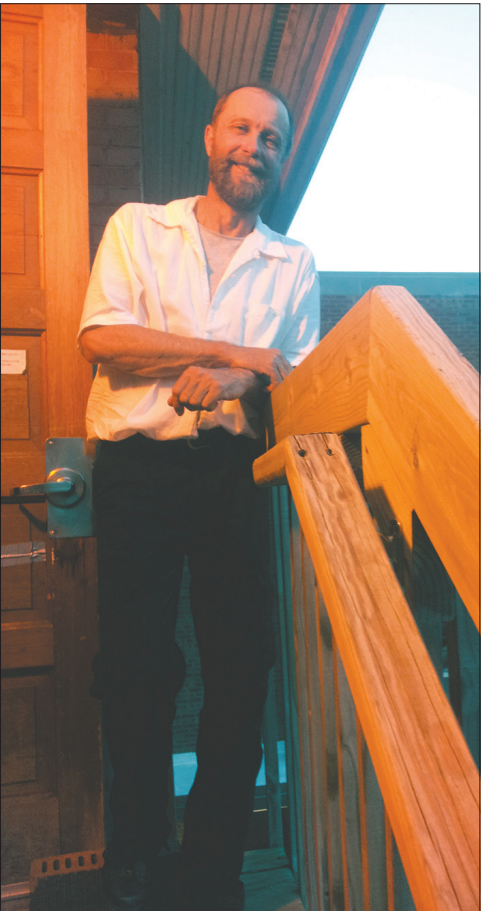
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Humans of Benzie

By Suyeon Yang
Current Intern

“How did you start dancing?”

“When I was growing up, I saw my parents dancing at weddings and house parties and how much they loved it. My father went to college on the GI Bill and taught ballroom dancing at the Arthur Murray Dance Studio in Milwaukee for extra money while in college. He first saw my mom while in the same class and told another classmate that he would marry her one day. They danced together at the next college dance party, and well, the rest is history. Having grown up in the rock & roll era, I didn’t come to partner dancing until much later in life. While I missed out on dance lessons from them while growing up, I’m doing ‘remedial’ dance now.”



A human: Male Dancer #1. Photo by Suyeon Yang.

Humans of Benzie County is an ode to the popular Humans of New York project, which has acquired more than 7 million followers in its four years on-line. In the words of Brandon, HONY’s founder, the project provides “daily glimpses into the lives of strangers on the streets.” The Humans of Benzie County series strives to connect the reader with the subject, expanding our connection to the community. The series is curated by Suyeon Yang, our effervescent summer intern. We hope that you enjoy this as much as Suyeon. This is the first in an online series. Check out website for more humans.

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Grace

Continued from page 1

and three others, Magdalena (19), Amos (17), and Zephaniah (15) pitch in. (Oh yeah, add home schooling to Phillips’ schedule.)

Phillips has not set out to train her children to become farmers, though they certainly know a lot about it. But she does take satisfaction in knowing that her older sons both work in healthy food-related jobs, and they come home to get healthy food from Mom when



Phillips provides customers with naturally fermented vegetables, in addition to fresh vegetables and local meats. Photo by Aubrey Ann Parker.

they can. Meanwhile, the others have taken on food-producing projects that they want to do: Amos raises the goats, Magdalena raises rabbits and has built a flower garden to sell flowers, and Zephaniah is raising laying chickens and ducks.

Given all this, one can’t help but ask — do you ever eat junk food? Sure, she answers, but when pressed, not very much — an occasional soft drink, s’mores maybe. In fact, the older boys went on something of a sugar spree after leaving home but found they didn’t like it and came back to healthy food after a few months.

Loving Dove Farm is one of very few — sometimes it’s the only — farm to offer produce at the Frankfort Farmers’ Market year-round. The family can be found at the Elberta Farmers’ Market throughout its season, too. To prepare the day before, most of the vegetables are harvested and packed into crates. Some go into a large walk-in cooler and some into the root cellar. Phillips bakes bread the day before and scones the morning of market day.

Market days start early — loading the trailer starts around 6 a.m. Zephaniah was doing most of the loading on the day that *The Betsie Current* visited, while

Phillips pulled together containers, harvested some last-minute basil, found a place for fresh flowers in the truck, and got some food together for the family to eat while at the market. When asked why he was the only one loading, Zephaniah said that the others were doing chores. Market day or not, animals still need to be fed, cows and goats still need to be milked, and pens still need to be cleaned. Loading the trailer for market day rotates for the kids, but no one is idle. Even the cats and dogs have jobs — chasing mice and scaring off wild rabbits (though, unless you’re a rabbit,

I wouldn’t take the ‘Beware of Dog’ sign too seriously — both dogs are real leaners).

So does having all three kids up and working early in the morning mean Phillips doesn’t confront the age-old problem of parents of teenagers — them sleeping until noon whenever possible? “No,” she says, “We are just regular people. None of us loves to get up early. It wouldn’t be the worst thing if farm markets opened at 10 instead of 8.”

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THE BETSIE CURRENT

Go with the Flow

Improvisational Moves at Dance Benzie

By *Suyeon Yang*
Current Intern

“Chorophobia” is the irrational fear of dancing. If you are dance-phobic – like a certain editor of *The Betsie Current* – you might not want to jump onto the dance floor because you might not know the specific style of dance or you may be afraid of forgetting the steps.

Even if you enjoy dancing or are excited to learn how to dance – like a certain intern of *The Betsie Current* – you may have no idea where to start.

Dance Benzie, a local dance group that is driven by donations-based classes every

certain dance moves or limit your freedom of expression. There is no right or wrong in this type of dance; two people dance by moving with the rhythms of the music and by following the movements of their partner.

Although this type of dance might seem unfamiliar at first, it quickly becomes almost second nature. It is a unique experience of sharing space while keeping the balance between you and your partner. First, you close your eyes as you are dancing to feel and acknowledge your partner’s presence and moves, and then you respond to his or her moves without planning the exact choreography. And not to fear: if you think you are lost when it comes to understanding the concept of improvisational partner dancing,



Wide open spaces and friendly faces greet Dance Benzie participants. Every Tuesday, the group provides an opportunity to dance for all levels of dancers. Photo courtesy of Dance Benzie.

Tuesday night, is a great icebreaker for dance beginners of all types. About a dozen smiling faces prove that there is nothing to be afraid of, and an easy-to-learn dance style makes the time fly by. This fun group can change you from standing alone beside a dance floor to dancing with freedom and joy.

“This fun, social dance gives connection between individuals,” says Dan Kelly, one of Dance Benzie’s organizers. “It’s nice to get to know people in this way.”

While having a whole lot of fun, you can make connections with others, making friends by sharing moments of freely dancing. You can jump, roll, jive, shimmy, tap dance, or moonwalk! Anyone is welcome in Dance Benzie – young or old, beginner or professional dancer

At Dance Benzie, you will learn an improvisational connected-partner dance, which does not demand instruction for

then ask any Dance Benzie dancer to show you its fundamental concepts. Through this free-style dance, you can create your own dance moves with your partner and engage in a co-leadership way of dancing – equally expressing and accepting each other’s dance moves, two people move as one dancing body on a journey to make connections, getting to know each other through cooperative and interactional dancing.

Dance Benzie was established and is run by a group of local volunteers. Dance Benzie classes begin at 8pm and last until 10pm at Mills Community House in Benzonia.

Suggested adult donation: \$5 per for couple, \$3 for single, \$1 for student.

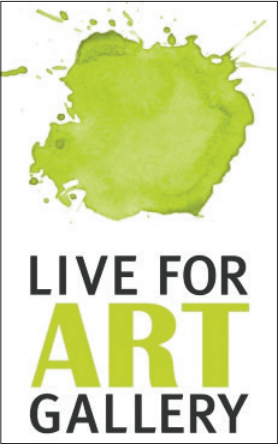
Website: facebook.com/dancebenzie

Meet Artists

At the Live For Art Gallery

From Staff Reports

Live For Art Gallery, located in downtown Beulah, hosts weekly Artist Open Houses on Thursdays through August 14 from 5-7 p.m. Each week will showcase new works by a variety of gallery artists, and each artist will be available to talk about their new works on display during the event. Gallery patrons will also have the opportunity to view the new pieces for a week following each event.



July 3-9: The new works of Honor-based painter Mary Kay Niemiec will be featured during the week of July 3rd. The display will highlight the beauty of Northern Michigan in a variety of oil and watercolor landscapes. Regarding her most recent work, Niemiec remarked, “The picturesque surrounding area offers endless inspiration for landscape and nature paintings. I love the process of beginning with a blank canvas and making a statement with style and color.”

July 10-16: Award-winning artists Ted Peterson of Glen Arbor and Rosita Gendernalik of Indian River will have an Open House on July 10. Peterson, a well-respected watercolorist, creates pieces ranging from pure abstract to realism. “I delight in captivating the mystery of an old barn or the sparkle in the river like the midnight sky,” said Peterson. Gendernalik will talk about her ceramic vessel ‘Petal Pot’ technique, which often uses more than 4,000 individual pieces of clay that are put together piece by piece to form the intricate design of the vessel.

July 17-23: Frankfort summer resident Lesa Chittenden Lim will show works that she created with pastels, pastels with watercolor, and etchings. An award-winning artist, Lim uses her creative spirit to compose images that reflect the beauty of nature. She often works on-site and seeks out locations and images that provoke strong feelings.

July 24-30: Instead of an Open House on Thursday, Pam Spicer will present an artist talk on Tuesday, July 29, at 5:30pm. Spicer is from Glencoe, Illinois, and she will talk about the layering color in her paintings. Spicer’s oil paintings incorporate favorite images from her travels to Northern Michigan, western North Carolina, and beyond. “I photograph light and design in nature and paint from my photographs, incorporating vivid color and energy,” Spicer says.

July 31-August 6

Oil paintings by Janet Grissom, a recently featured artist at Frankfort’s Oliver Art Center, are based on travels and life experiences. Speaking of her most recent work, Grissom says, “these experiences led me to work with more vibrant and heavily textured colors, creating landscapes and seascapes that are memorably tactile. I use palette knives and any other tool that best allows me to express my thoughts and ideas about the selected area in nature that I am painting.”

Live For Art Gallery showcases jewelry, glass, paintings, pottery, and mixed media pieces by artists from Great Lakes states. For more information, please call 231-882-9370.



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Frankfort Oral History

Intergenerational Project Announced

From Staff Reports

The City of Frankfort invites area youth to be part of a new summer program entitled “Stories of Town and Harbor: The History of the Frankfort Community”. This project will give students ages 11-17 the opportunity to conduct interviews, utilize transcription software, conduct research, write biographies and create archives of the stories told by Frankfort elders and folk legends. The archive will be utilized as a foundation for the City’s self-guided historic

together the substantial history of the Betsie Bay and Harbor with our identification as part of the greater Pure Michigan campaign,” says Bruce C. Ogilvie, former chairman of the Frankfort Planning Commission. “The State travel program seeks to create destinations for visitors to the State. Local placemaking seeks to identify places that enhance and make memorable local sites, such as Point Betsie Lighthouse. These regional and local planning efforts identify, and then engage visitors, with the historic context of places and events that resonate and compliment the local advertising tagline, Northern Michigan Preserved. Combining the efforts



The Frankfort beach. Photo courtesy of the Bob McCall Collection.

walking tour, along with official documents which will promote the history and culture of the Frankfort community. All Frankfort area and county-wide youth are encouraged to participate in this project.

“The history of the Frankfort community is an asset that is not currently presented effectively as we continue to strive toward an enhanced quality of life, and establish our keen sense of place within the region,” says Frankfort superintendent Joshua J. Mills. “The work associated with ‘Stories of Town and Harbor: The History of the Frankfort Community’ will enable our community to become better aware of our tradition-rich heritage and establishment of our place as a premier community along the Lake Michigan shoreline. There are numerous positive aspects associated with our ability to share and make people aware of our history that will certainly augment the social and economic wellbeing of the community. Engaging the youth will have a lifetime impact to those involved and may lead to improved synergy as we move forward in the future. The positive impact of this project will provide enhanced education and awareness and will result in additional community amenities for our residents, guests and visitors.”

Created and facilitated by educator and historic preservationist, Gretchen Eichberger, the project’s overall goal will be to provide students with a meaningful way to contribute to the development, planning and preservation for the City of Frankfort. The Project will also help to build strong relationships among elders, youth and community leaders. Sessions began in late June and conclude in early August for 2-3 mornings per week running approximately three hours each. Interested individuals should visit FrankfortMich.com/recreation, and click on “Stories of Town and Harbor”. The link will include the preliminary syllabus and registration form.

“Gretchen brought a unique opportunity to the Frankfort community, one that ties

of the Planning Commission, the Frankfort Downtown Development Authority, with new way-finding signage and facilities, and the direct engagement with youth in preserving and disseminating our history, creates a synergy that will benefit the greater Frankfort area for years to come.”

Funded in part by the City of Frankfort, this program has received generous financial support from the Willoughby Rotary Foundation, Frankfort Rotary Good Works Fund and public contributors. Support has been granted from the Friends of the Benzie Shores District Library. The Project has also received endorsement from the Elizabeth Lane Oliver Center for the Arts, Friends of Point Betsie, Frankfort Elberta School District, and the Benzie Area Historical Society.

Inquires for this project can be made by contacting 231-871-0215.

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Summer Sounds Series

Michigan Legacy Art Park Concerts Begin July 11

From Staff Reports

Great hiking combines with outdoor sculpture at the Michigan Legacy Art Park, which presents its summer 2014 season of entertainment and educational programs.

The annual Summer Sounds series offers five outdoor concerts beginning July 11 with The Accidentals and concludes with nationally renowned jazz duo Miriam Pico with David Chown on Aug. 8. Additional dates and acts are listed at the park’s website at MichLegacyArtPark.org. Enjoy the relaxed atmosphere and great music with friends and family. Come early to hike the Art Park and consider bringing a picnic dinner. All concerts take place on Fridays at 7 p.m. at the outdoor amphitheatre. Suggested donation is \$10, and free for children 17 years and under. All proceeds directly benefit the activities of Michigan Legacy Art Park. Golf cart shuttles are available for those unable to walk the trail. Light snacks and beverages are available for purchase at each concert. New in 2014 is the option to purchase a custom gourmet picnic dinner for two delivered to you at the concert. Call Crystal Mountain at 231-378-2000 ext. 5000. Pricing starts at \$24.95.

For those wanting to visit the Park but who are unable to hike the hilly terrain, golf cart tours are available. Reservations are required and can be made through the Art Park’s website.

Michigan Legacy Art Park, a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, was founded in 1995 and offers an unparalleled experience of art, nature and history. More than 40 outdoor sculptures line 1.6 miles of hiking trails that wind through a 30-acre preserve of wooded hills. The Art Park inspires artists to create sculptures that interpret Michigan’s history, culture, and environment — making a unique cultural and recreation destination located on the grounds of Crystal Mountain. Area teachers bring hundreds of students to explore the Art Park for curriculum-based field trips each year. Through the

“Looking to Learn” materials for teachers, students receive memorable lessons about history, math, science, culture, and the environment.

Crystal Mountain and Michigan Legacy Art Park received the Governor’s Award for Innovative Tourism Collaboration in March 2009. Michigan Legacy Art Park is supported in part by grants from Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs and the National Endowment for the Arts.

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