

FRESHWATER REPORTER

A fresh approach to storytelling in Manistee and Mason counties...and a bit beyond.

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My new RV life

By GRACE GROGAN

Following the sun, I live and travel throughout North America in a motor home. Winters are spent in the sunniest place on earth. Yuma, Arizona averages 308 days of sun per year. That doesn't mean I've forgone my roots. Every summer I return to my birth state.

Preferring hot summer days over the cold, ice and snow, I should have been born in the tropics. Instead, I entered the world in Traverse City. My parents relocated, so I grew up in the "only Eaton Rapids on Earth," an island city just south of Lansing. That's probably why I love being near the water.

Blue water winters

As an adult, I lived on the east coast of the thumb, where the blue water flows. Summers there are perfect for boating, jet skis, motorcycles and summer festivals. Michigan holds fond memories, along with some Murphy's Law moments.

Being a state native, I learned to tolerate the cold. Ice skating, tobogganing and winter festivals were regular activities. I even navigated a perilous, death-defying cross-country trail once, but that is a story of its own. The question is, did I hate winter, or did winter hate me?

Hanging Christmas lights on the outside of our house one winter, I stepped off the ladder — forgetting it was on the edge of the porch. I fell onto my back but was cushioned by a pile of snow. Winter weather can prevent injury, but it can also



Above: Silver Lake Sand Dunes. Photo by Grace Grogan. Right: Courtesy photo.



be miserable.

Coming home from Christmas shopping, my car couldn't make it up the driveway, thanks to dropping temps and falling snow. I gathered my packages and waddled my way up the drive. I felt like a penguin taking tiny side-to-side steps, so I wouldn't wipe out on the ice.

Summertime blues

Summer gets equally nerve-wracking. One night, I pulled into my drive and the headlights shone on a skunk walking across the pavement. Thankfully, the stinker was moving away from the house. Just to be safe, I drove through the front lawn — so I could park as close to the front door as possible. As I rolled to a stop, the skunk came strolling down the sidewalk

between the car and porch, disappearing into the bushes. Oh, great. Now what? I gathered my stuff and, key in hand, made a beeline for the door. I avoided getting perfumed this time, but my skunk days weren't over. My neighbor informed me a mother skunk and babies were living under my shed, and wasps built a massive nest under the shed's overhang. Maybe I should rethink summer being my favorite season.

Managing a four-bedroom home, complete with skunks, wasps and snow

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EVENTS
CALENDAR
PAGES 7&8

Summer means BBQ

Story and photos by JOSHUA ELIE

It's time to fire up that grill. Whether you're cooking your choice of meat in your backyard or at your favorite camping spot, you only need to know one thing: it's all about the sauce.



My quest to come up with the perfect barbecue sauce started about 10 years ago. Some of the store-bought brands really are okay if you don't look at the price tag. To me, they all seem to include a little too much of one ingredient or not enough of another, and usually are so sweet and full of fake smoke flavor that you can't taste anything else. You don't need fake smoke when you have real smoke to work with.

During my first attempts, I found the flavor was quite good. Yet, the more sauce I put on, the more it fell into the fire. I think a gallon of sauce per rack of ribs is a little overkill, to put it mildly. It wasn't sticky, sticky, sticky. For that, molasses really is the way to go, as it binds all the ingredients together and lends sweetness.

Picking the right tomato base was my most difficult decision as I have never liked ketchup. I can two bushels of tomatoes every year because I love a robust tomato flavor, and I never got that from ketchup. Mine is more of a salty, tangy, sweet sauce with just a hint of tomato flavor peeking out, making it perfect for a barbecue sauce. You want sauce-flavored meat, not meat-flavored tomato.

There are many stories about the history of barbecue, whether it's Neanderthals cooking over a fire 40,000-400,000 years ago, sacrifices to gods in 1,000 BC, or even the first oven-style barbecues in Asia thousands of years ago.

This is where my barbecue history began. About 50 years ago, people living in a little village called Irons — with a total population of 45, which is 82 less than Walnut Grove of "Little House

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Kaleva Art Gallery celebrates 25 years

Story and photos by RAMONA DEGEORGIO-VENEGAS



For a quarter century, the Kaleva Art Gallery has offered locally handcrafted, original creations in this centrally located Manistee County village. The gallery's annual Arts and Crafts Fair, to be held this year on July 16 during Kaleva Heritage Days (July 14-17), draws visitors to the Finnish community and is one of the best times to visit. Once there, newcomers can also visit Kaleva's sculpture walkway, The Bottle House Museum and two eateries, where they can either refuel with breakfast or lunch and a homemade slice of pie, or quench their thirst with a pint of beer alongside tavern pizza, burgers and meal specials.

I first heard about the small art gallery in Kaleva while substitute teaching in nearby Brethren and stopped by one weekend. Imagine my joy at seeing so many beautiful things, some made by people I know. I bought a birthday gift and a few handmade cards. Years later, I returned to visit a friend and had my eye on a lovely turquoise bead necklace. I told myself if this piece of jewelry wasn't sold in six months, I would claim it for myself. It wasn't, and I did. Just holding the necklace makes me happy.

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Liz Petrella-McKellar, first woman president of the Adams chapter of Trout Unlimited, loves nothing better than to stand in the waters of a running stream with a favorite cigar and fish for trout. Courtesy photo.

More than a fly fisher

By KEVIN HOWELL

Speaking with Elizabeth 'Liz' Petrella-McKellar, you quickly discover there's no question she's enthusiastic about her favorite activity — fly fishing for trout.

Fittingly, in January of this year, Petrella-McKellar was elected president of the Adams Chapter of Trout Unlimited, a group of some 400 members in the greater Traverse City area, which includes the Betsie, Platte and Boardman rivers.

Though she tends to downplay the gender designation, she is the first woman president of that group.

"There was a real big push to let it be known that I was the first female, but I just wanted to do it; it wasn't about gender," she shared during our conversation.

Assuming a leadership role is not new to her. She is chief of staff of Traverse Connect, which, according to a statement on its website, works "to advance the economic vitality of the Grand Traverse Region through the growth of family-sustaining careers."

Her T.U. leadership position has sparked more interest in the sport from area women, and that's one of the things Petrella-McKellar has been encouraging in her new role.

"What that (being the first female president) did do was expose (trout fishing) to females who were going, 'Well, there's another female doing it, so maybe I can get engaged.'"

That's secondary, though, to her priority of cold-water conservation and, consequently, the health of the fish in the waterways. She said a recent member survey generated a lot of response and was followed by a "big meeting" to discuss the results last month.

"Your number one (reason) for joining is cold-water conservation," she said, of the results. "You want healthy waters, then you want a buddy to fish with," she added, with a laugh.

"One follows the other, but you know what? The lead was water conservation and that really made me happy."

Petrella-McKellar, originally from Midland, has been fishing most of her life, spending family vacations around Glen Lake. She made the move with her husband to Traverse City about 38 years ago and a few years back took up residence on the Boardman River.

She discovered the joy of fly fishing for trout while on a trip West about seven years ago.

"Originally, fishing for me was a string and a hook," she explained. "I'd always been a bait caster, but to go to fly fishing — it's (been) seven years now — we went out to Montana, and my first fly fishing experience was in the Gallatin River and the Madison, talk about the holy waters, and it was so much fun."

Now, she casts her love for fly fishing on local rivers, like the Boardman and Manistee, and encourages others to engage in cold-water conservation.

She was named Grand Marshal of the 2022 National Trout Festival in Kalkaska.

"The trout festival got ahold of me ... and it was an amazing run," she said. "I spent the entire time volunteering, being engaged, working the trout pond. I have a classic car, so I got to judge the classic car show, did a pizza eating contest, (and) we had dancers. It was that typical small-town festival feel; it was so cool."

Being a cold-water conservation ambassador at events like this one is important to her, but she likes nothing better than to be in the stream with a favorite cigar and her fly rod.

"Our son has a place on the Manistee River, and we took our waders," she said. "Our son was on the dock screwing around, three of the grandchildren were running around on the property."

"I'm a cigar smoker, so I get my cigar, light my cigar, get my rod, my husband, and I walk upriver, and we get in. It's Father's Day, right? My first cast I land a nice brown trout, and it was lovely. I look over my shoulder; I see my husband, I see my eldest son, see three of my grandchildren, my daughter-in-law, all on the bank. We're having this experience, all separate but all together. It was amazing!"

As the chapter's Trout Unlimited president, she is currently working to educate the public on water issues like didymo (invasive algae), mud snails and riverbank erosion. For more information about Trout Unlimited, go to tu.org.

Kevin Howell is a Mason County freelance writer. He loves the Michigan woods, lakes and, especially, Michigan craft beers, not necessarily in that order.

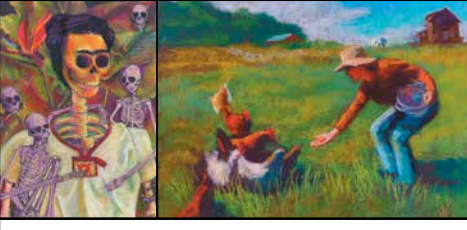
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Backroads to Peacock: lost and found again

Story and photos by **KEVIN HOWELL**

My navigator Jean and I noticed a roadside sign for a place named Peacock several times as we cruised M-37 north of Baldwin. "Peacock, hmm, I wonder what's down there," Jean commented on at least one of those pass-bys. It sounded like a good "Backroads and Beaches" story, so off we went on another road trip.

Rather than follow the sign at 4 Mile Road, though, I checked our old well-worn road atlas and Gazetteer map, and yes, did a Google map search, too, for a backroad route to Peacock. There are definitely easier, paved ways to get there, but what's the fun in that?

I found a road I suspected would take us there named, oddly enough, Peacock Road. Off U.S. Highway 10 east of Branch and west of M-37 — you have to look hard or you'll miss it — we turned onto the fairly (for rural Michigan) well-maintained gravel/dirt road and headed north through the deep woods of the Manistee National Forest.



Good advice, but is this the road to Peacock?

Little ORV signs, and signs commanding "Stay on Trail," began to appear on right and left turnoffs, then the road narrowed and wound through the woods. I think it turned into an ORV two-track the deeper we went. A few miles later, we came to a fork in the road, and when you come to a fork in the road you take it, so we went left.

This road was wider and headed toward a small cluster of buildings. Cruising from the south, feeling a little less lost, we stopped a couple of folks on a gator-type vehicle and asked, "Is this Peacock?" Yep. They told us about where we were, what was a little further up the road, and how to find the Peacock Township Hall and, eventually, Irons.

Somewhere around Bass and Loon lakes, between Peacock and Irons, was our lunch destination. On the way, we stopped by the township hall (closed) and found our way



Navigator found a little library outside Peacock Township Hall.

to a small fishing access point and pier, called Spencer Bridge, in a quiet spot in the woods on the Little Manistee River.

Peacock itself, like most villages in the area, was a logging camp originally and a rail station for the Chicago and West Michigan Railroad. The place was named for the village's first postmaster, David J. Peacock, in 1897. The post office closed in 1943 and, according to Bruce Micinski of the Lake County Historical Society, the village also had a depot at the railway



Finally made it to Na-tah-ka. The restaurant/bar is next door, but I like this sign.

crossing, livery stable, general store, and an African-Americans-only cemetery. Today, there are about a dozen residences still in Peacock.

An old spooky tale from in Peacock's past, called the Legend of Bloody Run Creek, can be found online, though Micinski cautions details of that account may not be wholly accurate. Today, there are about a dozen residences left in Peacock.

We headed west on 4 Mile Road and found our way to Loon Lake on the way to Na-tah-ka Inn, which lies between Loon and Bass lakes. Before we got there, we found a little house-turned-restaurant called Blossoms, on North Bass Lake Road. The place looked so charming, we turned in for lunch. We had eaten at Na-tah-ka on a prior visit and enjoyed the food and atmosphere with its backwoods bar kind of atmosphere. Note: there are two Na-tah-kas, with Na-tah-ka South serving folks in Baldwin.

Blossoms, a little breakfast-and-lunch eatery across from the lake, was just as unique, with about a half dozen or so tables in what looked like someone's former living room. The food was great: a club sandwich for me, that turned into two meals, and a cheeseburger for the navigator. Two women seemed to be the entire kitchen/waitstaff, and the atmosphere was comfortable and friendly. According to menu cover, the place has been around since 2000.

We were surprised when we left Blossoms that it was just around the bend from Na-tah-ka, but after all, variety is the spice of life, right?

To discover some of the best little haunts and nicest views of Michigan, take a chance and turn down a dirt road sometime. You never know where it might lead.

To read more about Peacock's colorful history and view photos, visit <https://freshwater-reporter.com>.

Kevin Howell lives in Mason County. He loves the Michigan woods, lakes, people and, especially, Michigan craft beers — not necessarily in that order!



Campgrounds on the way to Peacock ... and beyond

Compiled by **KEVIN HOWELL**

Looking for a place to camp while in the backwoods of Lake County? On the primitive side is **Timber Creek Campground** off U.S. Highway 10, a few miles east of Branch, with drinking water, pit toilets and spacious sites (no electricity available) near a North Country Trail trailhead. Call (231) 745-4631.

Modern resort camping with camp stores, playgrounds, swimming pools and full hook-ups can be found at several campgrounds in eastern Mason/western Lake counties:

Pere Marquette/East Ludington KOA Holiday, 11713 West 40th Street, Branch. (231) 480-0303.

Timber Surf Campground Resort, 6575 East Dewey Road, Fountain. (231) 462-3468.

Leisure Time Campground, 9214 West 5 Mile Road, Irons. (231) 464-6614.

Closer to the village of Irons are: **Peaceful Winds RV Park**, Brooks Road. RV lots, tent camping, full hookups. (231) 266-8703.

Irons RV Park and Campground, 5623 West 10-1/2 Mile Road, Irons. Store and activities. (231) 266-2070.

Best Bear Lodge and Campground, 10642 West Merrillville Road, Irons. RV sites and cabins along ORV trails. ORV rentals. (231) 266-5235.

Check with the Huron-Manistee National Forest for more information about area campgrounds: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/activity/hmnf/recreation/camping-cabins>

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RV life

continued from page 1

was more than I could handle. Four years after becoming a widow, I decided to downsize. That's when Paul suggested I join him on the road. He had "gone" full-time RV the year before and knew I would enjoy a life of travel. Best decision I ever made!

My final year in Michigan, I was leaving for work one morning. Starting my car, I threw my purse and cell phone onto the passenger seat, then began clearing snow off the windows. As I stepped between the garage door, porch and car, I hit ice and went down hard on the cement driveway. After getting myself up and safely into the car, it hit me. Where I fell, I wasn't visible to anyone. What if I hadn't been able to get up? How long would I have been lying in the cold before someone found me? Final thought: "I'm so glad this is my last Michigan winter!"



Fort Gratiot Lighthouse. Photo by Grace Grogan.



Palmer Park Boardwalk, St. Clair. Photo by Grace Grogan.

Bonny birth state

Now I winter in the south and spend summers traveling the north. No matter where I go, Michigan is always on my travel list. Just like every native, I have my favorite spots.

Michigan's west side has a beautiful playground called the Silver Lake Sand Dunes. I've driven the dunes, watched a dune-climb competition, then moved up the coast to enjoy more beaches and lighthouses.

Nothing compares with walking the longest freshwater boardwalk in the world. Located in St. Clair, you can stroll 1,254 feet along one of the busiest waterways in the world. More than 5,000 ships travel the St. Clair River each year.

Michigan's shores hold 129 lighthouses, and I frequently visit the oldest one. The Fort Gratiot Lighthouse sits on Lighthouse Beach, just north of the Blue Water Bridge in Port Huron. I like to take a walk under the bridge on the Thomas Edison Parkway, where Lake Huron flows into the St. Clair River.

For me, no Michigan visit is complete without a trip to Frankenmuth for a famous chicken dinner at Zender's. Also, Bronner's — the world's largest Christmas store, with more than 6,000 ornaments — is a "must stop." The perfect finish for my Frankenmuth trip is a relaxing one-hour cruise down the Cass River on board the Bavarian Belle Riverboat. This authentic paddlewheel vessel is moored near the

waterfall at the River Place Shops and offers narration for newcomers and the historically inclined.

As an RV'er, I spend my life visiting breathtaking sights from coast-to-coast in Canada and the U.S. Still, no matter how far I roam, the Great Lakes State always pulls me back home.

Grace Grogan is a freelance writer, photographer and Michigan native who lives and travels in North America full time in a motor home. She remains connected to her home state through membership in the Detroit Working Writers, Rochester Writers Freelance Writers Group, and her "Who Am I?" genealogy column published in The Lakeshore Guardian.



Grace Grogan with Jeep and RV. Courtesy photo.

BBQ

continued from page 1

on the Prairie" TV fame — decided to get together and roast an ox. They placed the beast on a spit over an open flame for a day or two. At the same time, they held a corn-husking contest. Word got out to nearby villages, so the people of Irons invited everybody to join them. It didn't take long for people to see this as a great occasion for barter and sales, too, so they would bring what they had, and the event grew into the annual Irons Area Flea Roast and Ox Market festival, still held each year in June.

I was quite young at the time, but I will never forget what a celebration it was, with old friends getting together and making new friends.

Joshua Elie is a musician and retired building contractor. He now enjoys life as a homesteader.



Elie's BBQ Sauce

- 4-quart pot (for one batch)
- Splash guard or lid
- 1 medium onion chopped
- 1 T cooking oil
- 1 large fresh garlic clove minced
- 1-3 tsp chili powder
- 1/4 tsp ground pepper
- 1/4 tsp cayenne pepper
- 1 cup ketchup (or substitute home-canned tomatoes)
- 1/3 cup molasses
- 2 T Worcestershire sauce
- 2 tsp vinegar
- 2 T spicy mustard
- 1/2 tsp hot pepper sauce

In about a 4-quart pot, sauté onion in oil until tender. Add garlic and cook 1 minute. Stir in chili powder and both ground peppers. Cook 1 minute longer.

Stir in ketchup, molasses, vinegar, Worcestershire sauce, mustard, and hot pepper sauce. Keep stirring; you don't want burned molasses stuck to your pot. Bring to a boil, reduce heat and simmer 30-40 minutes or until desired consistency. Cool 15 minutes.

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Scoping the field

By **BRIAN ALLEN**

Imagine standing at the Lake Michigan shore looking toward deep waters and seeing hundreds of waterfowl that you just can't make out with binoculars. Or being at the Arcadia Marsh boardwalk trying to tell what type of heron or little diving grebe is on the far side, (something I've seen happen too many times), or what tawny-colored animal is hunting at the edge of the cattails. It's time to buy a spotting scope. If you want something a little more economical than lugging around a \$7,000 telephoto lens and camera, a scope is the way to go.

There are a lot of variables with a scope that can make a purchase confusing. You must know what you want well before you buy, so you get the right scope for your activities. Needing to see ducks at the end of the pier on a windy winter day under an overcast sky demands something completely different than a portable little scope you can pack along on a trip to the sunny Everglades.

First, let's get one of the decisions made. Should it be an angled scope, in which you look down into an eyepiece that points upward at a 45-degree angle, or a straight eyepiece scope that you look directly through, in line with the scope at the target? My first two scopes were straight, as I thought that it was most natural to look directly at the target. But as I grew older and used the scope more for field trips to help (invariably shorter) observers to view, I went with an angled scope. An angled scope is much better for looking at objects above the horizon, such as hawks in trees, birds on a hillside or even stars at night. Most birders I know have angled scopes. If you are fortunate to have a home on a hill and will use the scope to look down or out at the horizon, a straight scope might be a better fit.

Spotting scopes come in different powers of magnification, or their eyepieces do, and the size of the objective lens (the large lens in front) makes a difference in the amount of light entering the scope. The weight of the scope makes a difference, too. Scopes are described with the magnification first and the size of the objective lens next. For example, 15x-65 is a scope of fifteen times magnification with a 65 mm-sized objective lens. The range of objective lens is usually from the smallest at 50mm to the largest at 85mm. A 50mm objective is great for a lightweight scope used in good daylight. An 85 mm lens is good for a scope that doesn't need to be carried around a lot and is used in dim light or for seeing objects at a great distance, where the extra light



Brian Allen looks through his angled scope. Photo by Greg Bodker.



Looking through a straight scope. Pixabay photo.

gathering is useful. I have an 80 mm scope that is at its best when I set it down at the end of the pier to watch waterfowl on an overcast windy day. Conversely, I would not want to take it on an airplane but can set my little 50mm scope completely in a day pack, along with its smaller tripod.

Years ago, most of us birders would not get an eyepiece having zoom magnification as the optics were miserable. We would buy a 20x (wider field) or 30x (more magnification but narrower field) fixed eyepiece. Now that the optics are much better, most scopes have zoom eyepieces. The description of the scope might look like this: 15-30x 65mm or 20-60x 80mm. Again, a lower power makes the field of

view larger, so it is easier to find something at 15x, while the image is larger, and field of view smaller at 30x or 60x. It's always better to search for something on the lower power, then zoom up to the best view on a higher power.

It's unlikely you will be able to purchase a scope that will make you happy in the long run for under about \$250. To manufacture lenses that work well under that price point, with features such as waterproofing and reliable focusing mechanisms, is just too difficult. I've chosen some examples of scopes that I can recommend based on experience and speaking with others who have these scopes. Prices are from the website Optics4birding.com.

Lightweight Travel Scopes

1. Nikon Fieldscope 13-30 50mm. \$830. One of the best little travel scopes. Observers are surprised to see such a good image from such a small scope.
2. Celestron Hummingbird 9-27x 56mm. \$260. A great value, just a little heavier than the Nikon.
3. Kowa TSN 500 20-40x. \$500.

Decent Entry Level Economical Scopes

1. Vortex Diamondback HD 16-48 x 65. \$500.
2. Pentax PF-65 ED 2. \$500-\$800.
3. Swift Premier. \$400-\$675.

High Quality Mid-level Scopes

1. Leupold Pro Guide 20-60x85. \$800-1,000.
2. Vortex Viper 20-60x85. \$900
3. Vortex Razor 27-60x85 angled. \$1,600
4. Leupold Santium HD 27-55x80. \$1,700.
5. Nikon Monarch 16-48x60. \$1,400.
6. Kowa TSN 550 15-45. \$1,800.
7. Zeiss Conquest 30-60x85. \$2,000.

Top Line Scopes with Highest Quality Optics

1. Leica APO Televid 25-50x82. \$3,400.
2. Kowa TSN-99 40x80mm. \$3,250-4,000.
3. Swarovski ATS/STS 20-60x or 25-50x 65 or 80mm. \$3,150-\$4,500.
4. Zeiss Victory Harpia 22-65 or 23-70 85 or 95mm \$3,700 to 4,800.

I think you could be happy with any of these listed scopes if you match the lens size with the activity that you do the most. Of course, the more expensive scopes will last longer, and you won't feel the need to trade up so often.

There are so many times I've shared my scope so others could see a loon on the lake, an eagle perched at the top of a pine tree or an egret across the marsh. I've had the pleasure of hearing these same people remark how close the birds seem and how astonished they are at their beauty, as they have never seen them so well. Life is short, and there is so much of the world to see. Don't wait. Get a scope.

Dr. Brian Allen is a long-time birdwatcher and bird researcher based in Manistee County. Each spring he counts birds and bird species from Bear Lake to Wellston as a volunteer with the U.S. Geological Survey. Reach him at manisteebirder@gmail.com

How to tour space without a ship

Story and photos by **BROOKE EDWARDS**

Have you ever dreamed of exploring the universe? Most of us cannot currently fly to space, but we can fulfill our desire to see more of it by stargazing. We take for granted what we see every night in the sky, that is, until we see it closer. You can peer into our solar system and beyond, viewing objects you may have seen only in pictures.

How Is This Possible?

Though you can see beautiful views with your eyes alone, unfortunately, they do not have enough power to show you details. To even see close to what the eyes of astronomers have seen, you need magnification.

The first time I looked through a telescope, my 20-something-year-old self gasped in front of professional astronomers and a crowd of people. Memories of my childhood nights spent looking at the moon filled my mind. Up to that point, this closer view had been hidden from me. Tears filled my eyes as I sincerely thanked the female astronomer who showed me this formerly inaccessible view.

When another astronomer introduced me to Jupiter, I nearly passed out. From that night forward, the need to see those views again was often on my mind. At the time, I had been working on testing an app for a space-related company. This was just a fun way to make extra money. Yet, when the cash arrived, I knew just what it was going toward ... purchasing my 25x70 astronomy binoculars. A 90mm refractor telescope followed two years later.

What Can I See?

Better yet, what are you missing out on?

The craters and details of the moon, for one. To this day, I am stunned by the beauty of our natural satellite. The magnification, even in astronomy binoculars, can make you feel as though you are almost there. Through them, you can see some of Jupiter's moons and faintly make out the Orion nebula.

Moving up to the magnification of a small telescope, you can achieve even better views of the moon and Jupiter's moons. You will also be able to see the rings of Saturn, something that still stuns many people I meet. Even though our planetary neighbors are exciting to view, some people dream bigger. The most powerful scopes (definitely not for beginners) provide crisp images of nebulae.

Small telescope vs. astro binoculars

If you want simple, easy viewing, astronomy binoculars are your best choice. Larger than regular sporting binoculars, they are still quite portable and require minimal set up. A tripod is recommended for stable viewing, as their weight can make them hard to hold still for more than a minute. The biggest benefit: a wider field of view.

For powerful viewing, you may wish to try a small telescope. Though the view may be more magnified than astronomy binoculars offer, you have a narrower view of the sky. Targets can be a bit tricky to find because of this. Set up takes a few minutes, though, if you have patience, the views are worth the time and effort.

If you are just beginning to view the night sky, I highly recommend starting with a good pair of astronomy binoculars. You will feel lost in space at first, but, after some practice, you will begin to feel at ease



Above. A view of the moon as seen through a small telescope. Right. The bands of Jupiter can pop on a clear night through the eyepiece of a small telescope.

when using your equipment and become an expert at finding objects in the dark sky.

Why should I spend the money?

Truthfully, this is Michigan, a state where lake-effect clouds cover the sky half the year. Though we cannot control the weather, we can control our desire to observe and learn. There are many clear nights in the dead of winter when I've been able to whip out my astronomy binoculars. I may eventually upgrade, but as long as I do not do anything extreme, such as dropping them off a cliff or leaving them in a storm, they will always function. In fact, my binoculars and telescope will probably last me for life.

Acquiring a telescope or a pair of astronomy binoculars can give you an evening of wonder. The ever-changing, seasonal nature of our night sky can provide countless hours of discovery. Either piece of equipment will bring you a lifetime of amazing nights, of wondering as you look up just what lies out there, beyond the lens.



Sky and Telescope Magazine offers a comprehensive guide, "How To Choose Your First Telescope", at: <https://tinyurl.com/598mdh5b>

My next night-sky presentation and star party will be held at 8:30 p.m., July 8, at Orchard Beach State Park, 2064 N. Lakeshore Road, Manistee. A Michigan Recreation Passport is required.

Brooke Edwards is a NASA/JPL Solar System Ambassador. She lives in Manistee and has given area presentations and hosted night-sky viewings. Follow her group on Facebook: @BrookeEdwardsSolarSystemAmbassador

Art Gallery

continued from page 1

A few weeks ago, I was visiting the gallery again when two sisters arrived to make their annual gift purchases. Among them were several quilts and a bird house.

Offering one-stop shopping for birthday, anniversary and holiday presents, this gallery is the place to find functional gifts and mementoes.

Fabric arts of handwoven, knitted or felted scarves, mittens, and hats are next to handsewn quilts and throws. On the walls are paintings, mirrors, art glass, metalworks, wooden creations and photographs of local scenes. Jewelry, some made with area stones, and wooden pens and shell-casing pens catch the eye not only with their beauty but because they're artistically displayed in interesting ways. Shelves hold pottery, soy candles and Christmas or "lake house" decorations. Browse the rag rugs and windchimes. You can pick out all-occasion artistic cards, some with photographs, from a rotating stand. In one corner are quilt squares and materials, and handmade paper. Student artwork is frequently on display in its own area toward the back. Kaleva, Michigan "sisu" apparel, cookbooks and Finnish souvenirs are also available for purchase.

Cooperative community of artists

The Kaleva Art Gallery is a cooperative gallery, which means it is member operated. Local artists and crafters living up to 25 miles away may join. According to Cynthia Asiala, one of the gallery's 20 or so members, an artist or a crafter wishing to become part the cooperative



Historical photo of the New York Publishing Company, which was housed in the present-day Kaleva Art Gallery building.

can attend meetings held in the gallery at 6 p.m. on the first Monday of month, or on the second Monday if the first falls on a holiday. After completing an application in person or downloading it from the website, new members can opt to work in the gallery or not. Working members pay \$40 annual dues and work 4 hours a month, which entitles them to an 85% commission on sales of their wares. Non-working members pay their dues and receive a 60% commission. For me, talking to people who visit the gallery would be the best part of becoming a member.

Gallery history, landmark location

The Kaleva Art Gallery is located on the southeast corner of Wuoksi and Aura streets, kitty-corner from the village post office. It is close to the old railway, now a sculpture trail with permanent art installations depicting Finnish history and culture. The Bottle House Museum and



This circa 1900 photo, displayed in The Bottle House Museum, shows what the building's exterior looked like long before Kaleva Art Gallery moved into it.

Maple Grove Community Center area are only a few blocks away.

Asiala shared the gallery's history with me. She wrote:

The gallery began with the Brethren High School Service-Learning class in 1997, when they called local artists together to show and sell their artwork as part of the newly formed cooperative. Approximately 25 artists responded, and the grand opening of the gallery was held in December 1997. Neil Terwilliger loaned space to the artists in the building next door to its present location (on Wuoksi Avenue) and the first years of operation proved successful. In 2004 the former drug store became available, and the gallery relocated there. This historic building is now owned by the village, which leases it to KAG.

As the oldest structure in town, pre-1900, the building has an interesting

history. The New York Publishing Company set up presses and printed "The Siirtolainen," or "Immigrant." This paper was mailed to Finns in the U.S. and Finland, in their own language. It urged readers to come to Kaleva-named after the Finnish epic "The Kalevala." Many Finns came, enticed by a place where the streets had Finnish names and they could speak their native tongue. But the "promised" fertile land was not. The immigrants needed "sisu," or determination, to survive on the tree denuded, sandy-soil farms. These people worked together, helping one another.

One story claimed that the Finnish Newspaper had leanings toward Communism. Later, the building housed a drugstore, owned by Chug and Hazel Gustafson, which offered delicious ice cream and cherry cokes. If walls could talk, I'd cover my ears, well, maybe.

When to visit, how to contact

Kaleva Art Gallery hours of operation are 12-4 p.m. on Fridays and Sundays and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturdays. The building is located at 14449 Wuoksi Avenue. The gallery can be reached at 231-362-2749. Completed membership applications may be mailed to: Kaleva Art Gallery, P.O. Box 243, Kaleva, MI, 49645.

To learn more, find them on the Kaleva website at www.kalevamichigan.com or follow them on Facebook @Kaleva-Art-Gallery.

Ramona DeGeorgio-Venegas is a retiree of the Manistee Ranger District, Huron-Manistee National Forest, where she worked in recreation and as an outdoor recreation planner.

Community Calendar

TELL THEM YOU SAW IT IN FRESHWATER REPORTER!

To be included in our July 27 edition, please submit your announcements by July 13. Be sure to include the address where the event takes place, for visiting readers. Email your calendar events or press releases to: editor@freshwater-reporter.com. Email anytime for our online calendar. **Always check with the venue** before attending as some event dates may change or be canceled due to weather, scheduling or Covid-19. Despite our best efforts, errors may occur.

ONGOING EVENTS

Thru July 22
Summer Member Art Exhibition
10am-4pm Mon- Sat, 12-4pm Sun, Free. Oliver Art Center, 132 Coast Guard Rd.

July 8-30
Scenes of Epworth Art Exhibit, Ludington
Tues-Fri, 11am-4pm, Free. Ludington Area Center for the Arts, 107 S. Harrison St.

Thru Sept 22
Artisans Market, Ludington
2-6pm, Thursdays, Legacy Plaza Pavilion, 112 N. James St.

Thru Sept 23
Farmers Market, Ludington
3-7pm, Fridays, Legacy Plaza Pavilion, 112 N. James St.

Thru Sept 28
Benzie Community Farm Market, Benzonia
2-6pm, Wednesdays. Grow Benzie, 5885 Frankfort Hwy.

Thru Oct 1
Farmers Market, Manistee
9am-12pm, Saturdays, Wagoner Community Center, 260 Saint Mary's Parkway

Thru Oct 13
Farmers Market, Elberta
8am-12pm, Thursdays, Penfold Park, 1098 Lakeside Blvd.

Thru Oct 15
Farmers Market, Frankfort
9am-1pm, Saturdays, Open Space Park, Main St.

DAILY EVENTS

July 7
Block Party, Onokama
4-6pm, Free. Activities along Main St. Games, food, sales, raffle to win bicycles.

Live Music: Nick Veine, Ludington
4-7pm, Free. Legacy Plaza stage, 112 N. James St. Bring lawn chairs/blankets.

Live Music: Wink, Beulah
5:30-8:30pm, Free. St. Ambrose Cellars, 841 S. Pioneer Rd.

Live Music: Cousin Curtiss, Onokama
6-8pm, Free/donations. Onokama Village Park, 4775 Main St. Rain venue: Onokama School, 5016 Main St. Bring lawn chairs/blankets/picnics/kids.

Live Music: The Accidentals, Beulah
7-8:45pm, Free. In the street downtown.

Live Music: Awesome Distraction, Manistee
7pm, Free. Jaycee's bandshell, Veterans Memorial Park, 177 Memorial Drive. Rain venue: 5th Ave. Beach House. Bring a chair pad/blanket.

Live Music: Double Trouble-Mary Rademacher/Francesca Amari, Mark Kahny Band, Cadillac
7pm, Free. Pop, Jazz & Showtunes. Rotary Performing Arts Pavilion, 100 S. Lake St., and on 99.3FM. Bring lawn chairs/blankets

July 7-9
Bear Lake Days, Bear Lake
Food vendors, entertainment, parade, fireworks over the lake.

July 7-9
West Michigan RC (Remote Control) Expo, Baldwin
Thurs. 12-5pm, Fri. & Sat. 10am-5pm, Free for spectators. Nonstop flying with 100+ RC planes & helicopters. Flight Simulators, Track & cars to try. 50/50 raffle, hobby shop, pilot prizes. Baldwin RC Park, Baldwin Municipal Airport, Scrape Ave. Bring chairs/coolers.

July 8
"Rockhounding 101" Guided Rock Hunt, Bear Lake
10am, Free. Led by Leann Burger on Lake Michigan at Pierport Beach, 2801 13 Mile Rd.

July 8
Star Party and Presentation, Manistee
8:30pm, Shelter House at Orchard Beach State Park, 2064 N. Lakeshore Road. Brooke Edwards, our area's NASA/JPL Solar System Ambassador, will bring her telescope and also answer questions about the night sky. A Michigan Recreation Passport is required for vehicles entering state park property.

Live Music with Dede Alder, Beulah
5:30-8:30pm, Free. St. Ambrose Cellars, 841 S. Pioneer Rd.

Live Music with Fauxgrass, Kaleva
7pm, Free. Northern Natural Cider House & Winery, 7220 Chief Rd. Bring lawn chairs/blankets.

Live Music: The Timebombs, Thompsonville
7-9pm, \$10 ADV, \$15 DOS, 12 & under Free. Hi-octane Party Pop-Rock 90s Hits. ¼ mi. hike to amphitheater. Bring chair pad or blanket. Michigan Legacy Art Park, Crystal Mountain Resort, 12500 Crystal Mountain Dr. Rain venue: inside the resort. Info/tickets: michlegacyartpark.org

Live Music: Dark Desert Eagles, Manistee
7:30pm, \$40 adults/\$10 under 17. Eagles Tribute Band. Ramsdell Regional Center for the Arts, 101 Maple St. Tickets: ramsdelltheatre.org

July 9
Birdwatching Series, Thompsonville
8-9:30am, \$5 adults, kids Free. Michigan Legacy Art Park Trailhead, ¼ mile from parking area, rain or shine. Guided hike. Bring binoculars if avail. Check Facebook 1 hr prior for severe weather cancellation. Crystal Mountain Resort, 12500 Crystal Mountain Dr.

Cycle Idlewild
9am, Williams Island

Live Music: Keith Scott, Beulah
1-4pm, Free. St. Ambrose Cellars, 841 S. Pioneer Rd.

Live Music: Delilah DeWyld, Beulah
5:30-8:30pm, Free. St. Ambrose Cellars, 841 S. Pioneer Rd.

"Pirates of the North Coast" Premiere, Ludington
7pm, \$10 in advance, \$15 at the door. Q&A after the film with writer/director Franklin Sollars, cast & crew. Ludington Area Center for the Arts, 107 S. Harrison St.

Live Music: Double Trouble-Mary Rademacher/Francesca Amari, Mark Kahny Band, Baldwin
7-9:15pm, Free/donations. Pop, Jazz, Showtunes. Wenger Pavilion (behind Jones Ice Cream). Bring lawn chair/blanket or listen to 99.3FM.

Live Music: Hicks With Picks, Ludington
7pm, Free/donations. Ludington State Park Amphitheater, 8800 West M-116. Rain venue: Lake Michigan Beach House. Bring lawn chairs/blankets/bug spray. Michigan Recreation Passport required to drive into the park.

Live Music: Roosevelt Diggs & Zac Bunce, Cadillac
8-11pm, \$10. Coyote Crossing Resort, 8593 S. 13 Rd. Info/tickets: coyotecrossingresort.com

July 10
Live Music: Jabo Bihlman, Beulah
3:30-6:30, Free. St. Ambrose Cellars, 841 S. Pioneer Rd.

July 11
Live Music: The Duges, Beulah
5:30-8:30pm, Free. St. Ambrose Cellars, 841 S. Pioneer Rd.

Live Music: James Armstrong, Elberta
7-9:15pm, Free. World-touring Chicago Blues & Soul. Waterfront Park Amphitheater. Bring lawn chairs/blankets. Rain venue: Waterfront Park Picnic Pavilion or listen to 99.3FM in your car/boat.

Live Music: Awesome Distraction, Onokama
7pm, Free/donations. Rock Classics, Folk & Americana. Onokama Village Park. Rain venue: Onokama School, 5016 Main St. Bring lawn chairs/blankets/picnic meals/kids.

July 11-17
Ludington Offshore Classic Fishing Tournament, Ludington
Info/schedule/registration: offshoreclassic.com

July 12
Live Music: James Armstrong, Manistee
7pm, Free. Chicago Blues & Soul. Rotary Gazebo, First Street Beach. Bring lawn chairs/blankets. Please social distance. Masks encouraged & appreciated. Or tune car radio to 99.3 FM.

July 13
Historic Walking Tour, Baldwin
5pm, Led by Bruce Micinski at Lake County Historical Museum, 915 Michigan Ave. For info: 231.898.6500

Live Music: Bill Frary, Beulah
5:30-8:30pm, Free. St. Ambrose Cellars, 841 S. Pioneer Rd.

Live Music: Mike the Ramblin' Man, Luther
6-8pm, Free. At the Purchase Pavilion, 209 State St. Bring lawn chairs/blankets.

Live Music: James Armstrong, Ludington
7-9pm, Free. World-touring Chicago Blues & Funky-Soul Band, Waterfront Park, 300 William St. Bring lawn chairs/blankets.

Live Music: Kevin Jones & 10th World, Baldwin
7-9:15pm, Free/donations. World Jazz & Soul infused with African Rhythms. Wenger Pavilion (behind Jones Ice Cream). Bring lawn chairs/blankets or sit in car and listen on 99.3FM.

Live Music: Road Less Traveled, Ludington
7pm, Free/donations. Ludington State Park Amphitheater, 8800 West M-116. Rain venue: the Lake Michigan Beach House. Bring lawn chairs/blankets/bug spray. Michigan Recreation Passport required to drive into the park.

July 14
Live Music: Grinder Gordie, Ludington
1pm, Free. Big Sable Point Lighthouse, Ludington State Park, 5611 N. Lighthouse Dr. Bring lawn chairs/blankets. Michigan Recreation Passport required to drive into the park.

Live Music: Jim Dodson, Ludington
4-7pm, Free. Legacy Plaza stage, 112 N. James St. Bring lawn chairs/blankets.

Live Music: Wink, Beulah
5:30-8:30pm, Free. St. Ambrose Cellars, 841 S. Pioneer Rd.

Live Music: Barefoot, Beulah
7-8:45pm, Free. In the street downtown

Live Music: I Am James, Manistee
7pm, Free. At the Jaycee's bandshell, Veterans Memorial Park, 177 Memorial Drive. Rain venue: 5th Ave. Beach House. Bring a chair pad/blanket.

Live Music: James Armstrong, Cadillac
7pm, Free. World-touring Chicago Blues & Funky Soul Band. At the Rotary Performing Arts Pavilion, 100 S. Lake St., and on 99.3FM. Bring lawn chairs/blankets.

Live Music: Barefoot, Beulah
5:30-8:30pm, Free. St. Ambrose Cellars, 841 S. Pioneer Rd.

Live Music: Full Cord Bluegrass, Kaleva
7pm, Free. Northern Natural Cider House & Winery, 7220 Chief Rd. Bring lawn chairs/blankets.

Live Music: Erin Zindle & The Ragbirds, Thompsonville
7-9pm, \$10 ADV, \$15 DOS, 12 & under Free. High-energy Indie-Pop. Global Beats, Rock Guitar, Folk. ¼ mile hike to amphitheater. Bring chair pad/blanket. Michigan Legacy Art Park, Crystal Mountain Resort, 12500 Crystal Mountain Dr. Rain venue: inside resort. Info/tickets: michlegacyartpark.org

July 15-17
Kaleva Heritage Days
Family-friendly activities. Arts & crafts show, softball tourney, car show, pie-eating contests, auctions, raffles, eucre tourney, pony rides, parade & fireworks. Info: 877.626.4783

July 16
Kaleva Art Gallery Second Annual Art & Craft Show
10am-4pm, Free. Outdoors along Wuoski Ave.

Live Music: Chris Smith, Beulah
1:30-4:30pm, Free. St. Ambrose Cellars, 841 S. Pioneer Rd.

July 16
Lakeside Club Tour of Homes, Manistee
1-5pm, \$15. Info/tickets: www.lakesideclubmanistee.org/toh-tickets-information.html

Live Music: Third Coast Swing, Free Soil
5-9pm, \$20 in advance, \$25 at the gate. Kyle Brown, opening act. 352 W. Forest Trail Rd. Bring lawn chairs/blankets. Tickets: <https://www.foresttrailmusic.com/summer-concert-series>

Buccaneer Bash, Ludington
5-10pm, \$5 adults/kids free. Kids' games, raffles, beverages, food trucks, Tropical Rock by Two Dudes in Flip Flops & more. Alzheimer's Association Fundraiser. Dress like a pirate. At Ludington Boat Club, 502 Lake St.

Smoke on the Water Rock & Blues Festival, Manistee
5pm-12am, \$21 ADV, \$30 Day of. With Sufferin' Suckotash, The Downtowners, Project 'Stee, Big Slip Daddy, Perfect Strangers (Deep Purple Cover Band), & D.J. Skeezy between sets. Douglas Park, First Street Beach. Bring lawn chairs/blankets. Info/tickets: <https://saltcityrb.com/event/smoke-on-the-water/>

Live Music: Brett Mitchell Band, Beulah
5:30-8:30pm, Free. St. Ambrose Cellars, 841 S. Pioneer Rd.

Live Music: Luke Winslow-King, Kaleva
7pm, Northern Natural Cider House & Winery, 7220 Chief Rd. Bring lawn chairs/blankets. Tickets: 231.889.0064.

Live Music: James Armstrong, Baldwin
7-9:15pm, Free/donations. World-touring Chicago Blues, Funky Soul Band. Wenger Pavilion (behind Jones Ice Cream). Bring lawn chairs/blankets or sit in your car and listen on 99.3FM.

Live Music: Chloe Kimes & Band, Ludington
7pm, Free/donations. At the Lake Michigan beach house, Ludington State Park, 8800 West M-116. Bring lawn chairs/blankets/bug spray. Michigan Recreation Passport required to drive into the park.

Live Music: Josh Meloy with Adam Joynt Band, Cadillac
7:30-11pm, \$15 ADV, \$20 Day of. Coyote Crossing Resort, 8593 S. 13 Rd. For info/tickets: coyotecrossingresort.com

July 17
Live Music: Jabo Bihlman, Beulah
3:30-6:30pm, Free. St. Ambrose Cellars, 841 S. Pioneer Rd.

July 18
Live Music: The Duges, Beulah
5:30-8:30pm, Free. St. Ambrose Cellars, 841 S. Pioneer Rd.


Live Music: Greg Nagy's Men of Leisure, Elberta
7-9:15pm, Free. Blues, Rock & Soul. Waterfront Park Amphitheater. Bring lawn chairs/blankets. Rain venue: Waterfront Park Picnic Pavilion or listen from your car or boat on 99.3FM

Live Music: Elvis Tribute Artist Jake Slater, Onokama
7pm, Free/donations. Onokama Village Park. Rain venue: Onokama School, 5016 Main St. Bring lawn chairs, blankets, picnic meals, kids.

July 19
Live Music: Brett Mitchell, Beulah
5:30-8:30pm, Free. St. Ambrose Cellars, 841 S. Pioneer Rd.

Live Music: Greg Nagy's Men of Leisure, Manistee
7pm, Free. Blues, Rock & Soul. At the Rotary Gazebo, First Street Beach. Bring lawn chairs/blankets. Please social distance. Masks encouraged & appreciated. Or tune car radio to 99.3 FM.

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FRESHWATER REPORTER

A fresh approach to storytelling in Manistee and Mason counties...and a bit beyond.

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July 19
Live Music: Bill Frary, Beulah
5:30-8:30pm, Free. St. Ambrose Cellars, 841 S. Pioneer Rd.

Live Music: Suzi Sizemore, Luther
6-8pm, Free. At the Purchase Pavilion, 209 State St. Bring lawn chairs/blankets.

Beach Sweeps/Green Drinks, Ludington
7-8:30pm, Free. Help clean up the beach. Meet at South concession stand, Stearn's Park, 420 N. Lakeshore Dr. Gloves & bags provided. BYOB afterwards (no glass)

Live Music: Greg Nagy's Men of Leisure, Ludington
7-9pm, Free. Blend Pop, Soul & Blues Rock, Waterfront Park, 300 William St. Bring lawn chairs/blankets.

Live Music: Mustang Band, Baldwin
7-9:15pm, Free/donations. Classic Rock & Country Favorites. Wenger Pavilion (behind Jones Ice Cream). Bring lawn chairs/blankets or sit in your car and listen on 99.3FM.

Live Music: Canopy Space, Ludington
7pm, Free/donations. Ludington State Park Amphitheater, 8800 West M-116. Rain venue: the Lake Michigan beach house. Bring lawn chairs/blankets/bug spray. Michigan Recreation Passport required to drive into the park.

Live Music: Wink, Beulah
5:30-8:30pm, Free. St. Ambrose Cellars, 841 S. Pioneer Rd.

Traverse City Dance Project, Frankfort
7pm, Free. 4 dance performances by 8 dancers from national/international dance companies, incl. 2 from Traverse City. Live music. Garden Theater, 301 Main St. Register: <https://gardentheater.org>

Live Music: The Accidentals, Kaleva
7pm, Northern Natural Cider House & Winery, 7220 Chief Rd. Bring lawn chairs/blankets. Tickets: 231.889.0064.

Live Music: Bill Frary & The Frequency, Beulah
7-8:45pm, Free. In the street downtown

Live Music: Chloe Kimes, Manistee
7pm, Free. At the Jaycee's bandshell, Veterans Memorial Park, 177 Memorial Drive. Rain venue: 5th Ave. Beach House. Bring a chair pad/blanket.

Live Music: Greg Nagy's Men of Leisure w/ Donny Brown (Verve Pipe), Cadillac
7pm, Free. Pop, Soul, Blues, Rock. Rotary Performing Arts Pavilion, 100 S. Lake St., and on 99.3FM. Bring lawn chairs/blankets.

July 20-23
Troutarama, Baldwin
Midway carnival, craft/food booths at Michigan & 7th. Entertainment tent. Mustang Band at Wenger Pavilion, 7/20, free. Sidewalk sales downtown. Kids games/contests at Hollister Park. More at troutarama.com

July 22
Clean Boats, Clean Waters Boat Washing Event, Bear Lake
DNR Boat Launch. For times & info, contact Manistee Conservation District 231.889.9666

Live Music: Jen Sygit & guest, Beulah
5:30-8:30pm, Free. St. Ambrose Cellars, 841 S. Pioneer Rd.

Live Music: Gregory Stovetop, Kaleva
7pm, Free. Northern Natural Cider House & Winery, 7220 Chief Rd. Bring lawn chairs/blankets.

Live Music: The Bootstrap Boys, Thompsonville
7-9pm, \$10 ADV, \$15 DOS, 12 & under Free. A Fresh Take on Country. ¼ mile hike to amphitheater. Bring a chair pad or blanket. Michigan Legacy Art Park at Crystal Mountain Resort, 12500 Crystal Mountain Dr. Rain venue: inside the resort. For info/tickets: michlegacypark.org

July 22-24
Arcadia Daze Festival, Arcadia
Finch Park, 17240 5th St. 5K race, pickleball/cornhole tournaments, kid's activities, arts & craft vendors, food booths, Auto Muster, street dances, Fri. night fireworks, Sunday parade followed by Scottville Clown Band Concert. Lions Club Community Fundraiser.

July 23
Scrap Tire Recycling Event, Kaleva
9am-12pm, \$2.00/tire. Bay Area Recycling for Charities, 14407 Industrial Dr.

Ludington Coin Club Coin & Stamp Show, Ludington
9am-4pm, Free. Door & raffle prizes. Hamlin Town Hall, 3775 N. Jebavy Dr.

Muddy Fox Trot, Scottville
10am, \$20 adults. Free for WSSC students, kids 16 & under. 5K mud run with obstacle course. Concessions. West Shore Community College, 3000 N. Stiles Rd. Register: westshore.aspcnected.com

Live Music: Straits Shooters, Bear Lake
1-4pm, Free, on the sandbar.

Live Music: Greg Nagy's Men of Leisure, Baldwin
1-2:30pm & 7-9:15pm, Free/donations. Pop, Soul, Blues, Rock. Wenger Pavilion (behind Jones Ice Cream). Bring lawn chairs/blankets or sit in your car and listen on 99.3FM.

Live Music: Chelsea Marsh, Beulah
1:30-4:30pm, Free. St. Ambrose Cellars, 841 S. Pioneer Rd.

Live Music: Gabriel Lundy, Beulah
5:30-8:30pm, Free. St. Ambrose Cellars, 841 S. Pioneer Rd.

Live Music: Plain Jane Glory, Ludington
7pm, Free/donations. Ludington State Park Amphitheater, 8800 West M-116. Rain venue: the Lake Michigan beach house. Bring lawn chairs/blankets/bug spray. Michigan Recreation Passport required to drive into the park.

Live Music: Joe Stamm Band & Northern Strange, Cadillac
7:30-11pm, \$10. Coyote Crossing Resort, 8593 S. 13 Rd. For info/tickets: coyotecrossingresort.com

S. S. Badger Shoreline Cruise, Ludington
8:30pm boarding, 9-11pm cruise. \$45 + \$7 security fee, kids 4 and under free. Theme: Through the Decades. Entertainment by Mike

Lenich. Cruises sail rain or shine. For info/tickets: ssbadger.com

July 24
Live Music: Jabo Bihlman, Beulah
3:30-6:30pm, Free. St. Ambrose Cellars, 841 S. Pioneer Rd.

July 25
Live Music: The Duges, Beulah
5:30-8:30pm, Free. St. Ambrose Cellars, 841 S. Pioneer Rd.

Live Music: Bobby Murray's Detroit All Stars, Elberta
7-9:15pm, Free. Grammy-winning R&B, Funky Blues & Soul. Waterfront Park Amphitheater. Bring lawn chairs/blankets. Rain venue: Waterfront Park Picnic Pavilion or listen from your car or boat on 99.3FM

Live Music: Jim Hawley, Onekama
7pm, Free/donations. Classic Rock Hits. Onekama Village Park. Rain venue: Onekama School, 5016 Main St. Bring lawn chairs, blankets, picnic baskets, kids.

Live Music: Bobby Murray's All Stars, Manistee
7pm. Free. Listen to Old School R&B, Funky Blues & Soul. At the Rotary Gazebo, First Street Beach. Bring lawn chairs/blankets. Please social distance. Masks encouraged & appreciated. Or tune your car radio to 99.3 FM.

July 26-Sept 3
Art is Art Exhibit, Manistee
1-5pm Tues-Fri, 12-3pm Sat, Free, Ramsdell Regional Center for the Arts, 101 Maple St. Opening Reception Aug 6, 4-6pm.

July 27
Live Music: Bill Frary, Beulah
5:30-8:30pm, Free. St. Ambrose Cellars, 841 S. Pioneer Rd.

Live Music: Adam Joynt Band, Luther
6-8pm, Free. At Purchase Pavilion, 209 State St. Bring lawn chairs/blankets.

Live Music: Bobby Murray, Ludington
7-9pm, Free. Soulful Rockin' & Party Time Blues, Waterfront Park, 300 William St. Bring lawn chairs/blankets.

Live Music: Grand Rapids Jazz Orchestra, Baldwin
7-9:15pm, Free/donations. Swinging Originals & Traditional Favorites. Wenger Pavilion (behind Jones Ice Cream). Bring lawn chairs/blankets or sit in your car and listen on 99.3FM.

Live Music: Adam Plomaritas, Ludington
7pm, Free/donations. At the Lake Michigan beach house, Ludington State Park, 8800 West M-116. Bring lawn chairs/blankets/bug spray. Michigan Recreation Passport required to drive into the park.

Live Music: May Erlewine, Frankfort
8pm, \$25, Garden Theater, 301 Main St. <https://gardentheater.org>

July 28
Flower Show - Give Bees a Chance, Onekama
12:30-6pm, Free. Farr Center, 5283 Main St. For info: portagelakegardenclub.org

Live Music: Ruthie Eilers & Frank Galante, Ludington
1pm, Free. Big Sable Point Lighthouse, Ludington State Park, 5611 N. Lighthouse Dr. Bring lawn chairs/blankets. Michigan Recreation Passport required to drive into the park.

Live Music: Redux, Ludington
4-7pm, Free. Legacy Plaza stage, 112 N. James St. Bring lawn chairs/blankets.

Live Music: Wink, Beulah
5:30-8:30pm, Free. St. Ambrose Cellars, 841 S. Pioneer Rd.

Live Music: May Erlewine, Kaleva
7pm, Northern Natural Cider House & Winery, 7220 Chief Rd. Bring lawn chairs/blankets. Tickets: 231.889.0064.

Live Music: Bill Hicks Blues Band, Beulah
7-8:45pm, Free. In the street downtown

Live Music: Bluewater Ramblers, Manistee
7pm, Free. Jaycee's bandshell, Veterans Memorial Park, 177 Memorial Drive. Rain venue: 5th Ave. Beach House. Bring a chair pad/blanket.

Live Music: Bobby Murray, Cadillac
7pm, Free. 3x Grammy-winning Soulful Rock & Party Time Blues. Rotary Performing Arts Pavilion, 100 S. Lake St., and on 99.3FM. Bring lawn chairs/blankets.

Sunset Beach Bonfire & Live Music with Eric Engblade, Ludington
8-10pm, Free. Bring beach chairs, blankets. Stearns Park Beach, 420 N. Lakeshore Dr.

July 29
Beulah Art Fair
10am-5pm, Free. Outdoor fair with original work by artists, live music. Beulah Village Park, 7122 Prospect Ave.

Live Music: The Ukes, Ludington
3-5:30pm, Free. On the stage at Legacy Plaza, 112 N. James St. Bring lawn chairs/blankets

Live Music: Sam & Bill, Beulah
5:30-8:30pm, Free. St. Ambrose Cellars, 841 S. Pioneer Rd.

Live Music: American Ages, Ludington
6-9pm, Free. On the stage at Legacy Plaza, 112 N. James St. Bring lawn chairs/blankets.

Live Music: King Possum, Kaleva
7pm, Free. Northern Natural Cider House & Winery, 7220 Chief Rd. Bring lawn chairs/blankets.

Live Music: Yid Vicious, Thompsonville
7-9pm, \$10 ADV, \$15 DOS, 12 & under Free. Yiddish Folk & Dance. ¼ mile hike to amphitheater. Bring chair pad/blanket. Michigan Legacy Art Park, Crystal Mountain Resort, 12500 Crystal Mountain Dr. Rain venue: inside the resort. Tickets: michlegacypark.org

Live Music: Mark Dvorak, Baldwin
7pm, American Banjo Music. Lake County Historical Museum Boat House Stage, 915 Michigan Ave. Bring lawn chairs/blankets. Info: 231.898.6500

Artrageous, Manistee
7:30pm, \$15-25. Live performance painting and music. Ramsdell Regional Center for the Arts, 101 Maple St. For info/tickets: ramsdelltheatre.org