

FRESHWATER REPORTER

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

FREE Vol IV, No. 9

freshwater-reporter.com

Aug. 17 - Aug. 30, 2022 FREE

Love at First Paddle

By SHANNON COURIER

I've spent most of my life outdoors — camping, two-tracking, fishing, hiking with my dogs and photographing wildlife and sunsets — but I never really spent time on the water. Growing up in northern Minnesota and Michigan, you'd think I'd have spent my life soaking up the lakes and rivers, perhaps even have gills or fins.

I moved to my little cabin in the northern woods of Michigan to be surrounded by nature and all she has to offer. I've hiked sections of the North Country National Scenic Trail, fished for steelhead at Tippy Dam and trout on the Pine River, and photographed lakes and wildlife throughout Manistee County, but not once have I gotten on the water here.

That is, until Saturday of fourth of July weekend. My boyfriend Chris is an avid kayaker and goes out quite regularly, but try as we might, I never got the chance to get on the water last year. So, plans were made, a date was set, and I left home early that morning. Our plan was to get on the water while it was calm and before most holiday goers were in their boats.

We were officially on our way to Portage Lake in Onekama for my first-ever kayak outing.

I was extremely nervous. I have arthritis and bad joints, so I wasn't sure how this would affect me physically, and to top it off I have a fear of water ... the unfortunate result of a childhood misadventure. Thankfully, Chris is an extremely patient teacher. He helped me get "geared up" in



Chris leads the way into Portage Lake near Onekama. Photo: S. Courier.

a lifejacket, explained some basics and situated me in the kayak. With paddle in hand and the first stroke in the water, well, let's just say it was love at first paddle!

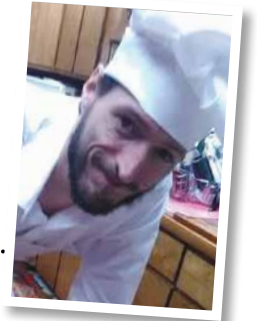
I Was Hooked ... line, sinker and bobber, all within the stroke of a paddle in crystal clear water. The morning sun was shining down on us as the kayaks glided soundlessly over the lake, the breeze against our backs as we made our way effortlessly along the

shoreline, the birds singing their morning songs. It was complete bliss! My eyes were opened to a completely new experience. With each passing moment I could feel my confidence build, and I actually began to relax. It was ... therapeutic. We spent over two hours on the water that first trip, and I didn't want to stop. I reluctantly got off the kayak and, much to my surprise, I didn't

continued on page 4

EVENTS
CALENDAR
PAGES 2&7

THE
SAUCE
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Let's talk Marinara

Story and photos by JOSHUA ELIE

Marinara means "seafaring" or, loosely coined, "mariner" because it was the preferred sauce of the seafaring merchants of Italy. I have never been a merchant. Matter of fact, I couldn't sell a free lunch if my life depended on it, but I have the right to call myself a sailor, earning my "rite of passage" by sailing across Lake Michigan to Two Rivers, Wisconsin and back.



Joshua Elie in sailboat. Courtesy photo.



Peter Elie sails at Port Ludington.

My dad and I left Port Ludington about 6 p.m. As the sun was going down, the S.S. Badger shot past us like we were standing still. All through the night we took four-hour shifts at the tiller. In the middle of the night, way in the distance, we saw what looked like a floating football stadium. It was there and gone again, just as fast. Never did find out if it was an aircraft carrier or an oil freighter, though I heard during a New York City Fleet Week television broadcast our Navy

continued on page 4

NASA sets date for Artemis 1 moon launch

By BROOKE EDWARDS

Pay attention to NASA TV and the internet on Aug. 29 when a historic event is scheduled to take place.

NASA recently announced a launch window for Artemis 1, the test flight of the Space Launch System (SLS) rocket which will carry the uncrewed Orion capsule to the moon and beyond. All rocket launches depend on a "go" for systems check and weather conditions. Possible launch dates, referred to by NASA as "interim," are Aug. 29, Sept. 2 and Sept. 5.

If testing goes as planned, Artemis 1 will be transferred from the Vehicle Assembly Building (VAB) on Aug. 18 to launch pad 39B at Kennedy Space Center in Florida. The moon rocket's last appearance on the launch pad was June 20, for its latest "wet dress rehearsal."

For months, NASA's SLS has undergone multiple rehearsals, testing engines and systems of the rocket and spacecraft. SLS consists of a powerful launch rocket system and the Orion crew capsule. This is the ride that will return astronauts to the moon for the first time since 1972. When the crew of Apollo 17 left the lunar surface that year, little did they know it would take humans more

continued on page 8

Artemis 1 on the launch pad on March 28. This photo was taken 1 mile from the launch site during a Kennedy Space Center bus tour attended by Matt Rumpfeldt, Freshwater Reporter's Florida correspondent.





Lake Superior agates, sliced and polished.

Rocks and Fossils and Minerals. Oh, My!

Story and photos by VALERIE CHANDLER

With many beautiful beaches and stone quarries, Northern Michigan offers a great opportunity for a hobby such as rock collecting or perhaps the thrill of rock hunting. Kids tend to grow up playing with rocks here, whether skipping them on the water, using them in pretend play or stashing them in their pockets to add to their collections. Some of those kids grow up to be rockhounds, due either to a fascination with geology or the rocks' eye appeal and collectability. Others make the discovery later in life. For me, as a child, it was the eye appeal and seeing my dad collect and polish Petoskey stones, which later grew into a more diverse collection of rocks and minerals.



Cephalopod and a Trilobite.

Thanks to Michigan's geological history, our state is one of the best for rockhounding—especially along our extensive shorelines. Several varieties of stones and minerals can be found locally. One is the popular Petoskey stone, a fossilized *Hexagonaria Percarinata*; a Paleozoic-Era coral that thrived in reefs. It had hexagonal patterns all over its surface, and each hexagon was once a coral polyp; the dark center was the mouth, which used tentacles to nourish the coral. Similar to the Petoskey stone is a Charlevoix stone, which has a smaller hexagonal pattern.

Glacial movement downward from Canada caused sedimentary rock to form in river channels. A type found in Michigan is known as puddingstone. The stones are a conglomerate of primarily quartzite embedded with pieces of jasper, chert and other small pebbles. They have been found in Europe, Australia, India and even on Mars!

Lots of people hunt for beach glass, but if you comb the beaches from Frankfort to Leland, you might find the elusive Leland Blue stone. It's a beautiful robin's egg blue,

Smokey quartz crystal.



but can vary from a greenish to purple-like color. The rock is human-made and a rarity, a byproduct of iron smelting phased out in the late 19th century.

You can find minerals in our local counties, mostly in stone quarries, but they take some effort to dig up. Halite, a type of rock salt produced in quantities in Manistee, has been unearthed in our area. We are also home to pyrite or "fool's gold," named for its glistening gold appearance. In Michigan, but not necessarily locally, rockhounds can find fluorite, usually green or purple and transparent, but impurities can make it opaque. This mineral is comprised of fluorine and calcium. Glacial deposits also left us with gypsum, a typically yellow-hued sulfate. Often found in mines is a silvery black mineral, an iron oxide called hematite.

In the Upper Peninsula, you might discover raw copper in old mines, but most are not open to public exploration. Michigan's state gemstone, chlorastrolite or greenstone, is rare and only found in the U.P., usually in the Keweenaw Peninsula, where collectors search waste rock piles from old copper mines. Greenstones are also spotted on Isle Royale, where collecting has been illegal since 2000. If you do find one, it is green to sometimes blue with a turtle shell-like pattern.

Along Lake Superior, you can search for highly sought-after agates washed ashore by waves. These beautifully banded rocks feature delicate layers of minerals in hues of red, orange, white and cream. They may not appear so beautiful in their raw form, but polished they are gorgeous and can sometimes appear transparent.

Relatively new in the rockhound world, Yooperlites were found in the Upper Peninsula, as one would guess, but they have been reported as far south as Chicago. Mostly comprised of syenite rock, similar to granite, they are rich with fluorescent sodalite which glows orange or yellow under ultraviolet light and often forms

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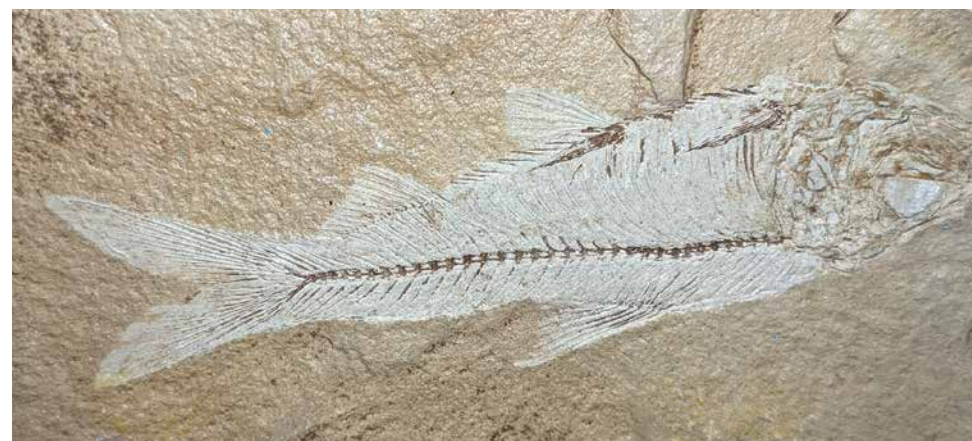
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Fossilized fish skeleton in stone

unique patterns in the rock.

Michigan is also a haven for fossils such as crinoids, trilobites, brachiopods, favosites and halysites. Crinoid fossils look like small, stacked discs with holes in their centers; they are from stems of an animal that was a relative of a starfish, and the long stalk attached to the sea floor. Trilobites are segmented arthropods, which makes them easy to recognize. They are one of the earliest known groups, spanning more than 270 million years. Brachiopods have hard "valves" on the upper and lower surfaces and look like stone clam shells. Favosites, or honeycomb coral, are calcitic tubes packed closely together, resembling honeycomb or lace patterns. Halysites, or chain coral, are tubes of coral that formed to look like links in a chain, fossilized in marine rocks.

When scouring our local shores and beaches, state parks or quarries, it's important to know the law about collecting, since many have their own policies and regulations. Michigan law states an individual cannot remove more than 25 pounds of stones, minerals or fossils per year from state-owned land for personal or non-commercial hobby use. It



Crinoid fossils (top and center), brachiopod (right) and fossilized fern (left).

is also illegal under federal law to remove stones from National Lakeshores. Lastly, pay attention to where you look for your treasures and always ask for permission if you wish to enter private property. Happy hunting!

Valerie Chandler lives in Wellston with her husband Matthew and their border collie/Australian shepherd. She is a citizen of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians. The rocks, fossils and minerals pictured here are from her personal collection.

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Sauce Boss

continued from page 1

has used oil freighters as aircraft carriers. I took my four hours off to catch some sleep and woke up at sunrise in a giant swarm of black flies—even there, in the middle of the lake. What happens is, black flies lay their eggs on dead fish, the dead fish drift in the current, and when the flies hatch there is nowhere for them to land, other than on you! Mind you, we hadn't seen land in 10 hours. We were taking turns between the tiller and fly swatter when this big, black cloud came out of nowhere. Then the winds came up so strong we had to drop the sheets (sails). The wind took care of our fly issue, though it also blew us 10 miles off course. In the distance, we could see rain. Strong southern winds carried it at a 45-degree angle to the north, and on the other side was half a rainbow. Brilliant is the only word I can use to describe it, so we aimed for the center—with no land in sight for about six more hours. Then, there it was, Wisconsin, or I should say, LAND. There is a true mystical beauty to the freshwater sea, except for the 20 hours we spent on our sailboat, not exactly a cruise ship, without seeing land. So, we pulled into port, and I realized I forgot to bring sandals (again), and it's way too hot for my



Meatball spaghetti.

work boots. I asked the dock operations manager where I could get some. He pointed at this big hill in the distance and said, "About five miles up that hill—makes for a great jog." I told him I didn't need a jog; I needed a sandwich and a nap! Now, I have never seen a dockmaster fall off the dock into the drink, but he got to laughing so hard ... So, I got a cheap pair of flip-flops, and we wandered around town. There was only one significant difference from our small port towns: everything was painted like it was the 1950s. Felt like I was in a re-run of "Happy Days". We popped into a local taproom for burgers and beers. Dad asked if I had seen enough and I replied, "Yup. You?" "Yup." I asked our server, "Is Wisconsin cheese really as great as everyone says?" She pointed across the deck and replied, "Go

over there and find out." It was a smokehouse — fish, that is — and it also had smoked cheeses. We stocked up on both. If you can get locally made Wisconsin cheese, you'll find there is none better. I am a fisherman, smoke my own fish, and all I can say is, damn, they really know how to smoke theirs! The way home was uneventful. We hoisted the sheets before passing their lighthouse, and our sails didn't come back down until we hooked our buoy in Port Ludington. We gorged ourselves on smoked fish and cheese all the way home. I had a beautiful woman standing on the dock to welcome me back, and my dad had his beautiful wife (I call her Mumsie) with a big platter of meatball spaghetti, with marinara for all.

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



The marinara makes the best pizza.

Elie's Marinara Sauce

- 1/2 cup salted butter
- 1 large yellow onion (2 small)
- 1 small head of fresh garlic
- 2 (28-oz) cans crushed tomatoes
- 1 (6-oz) can tomato paste, on standby

Mince onion and garlic separately. Melt butter in a 3-quart (or bigger) pot. Add the onion, stirring frequently until half caramelized, about 15-20 minutes on low heat. Drop in the garlic. Give a good stir, then add the tomatoes. Bring to a boil, and let simmer for *at least* 30 minutes. Always keep stirring and have a lid or splash guard handy because it will jump back at you, just like frying bacon. If too thin, add the paste.

Additions:
For a thicker marinara, simmer for a couple of hours or try adding a second can of tomato paste. Many recipes call for a basic Italian spice, such as oregano or basil. Or simmer a couple of bay leaves in the sauce and remove before serving. Try olive oil or red pepper flakes. Adding a tablespoon (or more, to taste) of sugar will balance the acidity of canned tomatoes. *Buon appetito!*

First Paddle

continued from page 1

feel any pain. My back and knees felt great, and my mind was clear. Since then, we've done a handful of kayak outings in Portage Lake and Pine Lake, each trip as precious and exciting as the first. Skimming over the surface at 1 mph is exhilarating; it breathes life into me like nothing before. As you silently move across the water, the bald eagle soars overhead, the call of a loon reaches your ear from across the lake, and the beautiful trees and flowers sway in the breeze along the shoreline. A love for the outdoors, a beautiful


state to explore, an amazing teacher and companion with whom to enjoy it all, who also tolerates my need for stopping and smelling the flowers along the way ... Yep! I'm finally enjoying life like I'm supposed to. I only hope my next 50 years are destined to be spent in a kayak and enjoying the outdoors.

Shannon Courier lives in Manistee County with her two dogs, Moose and Otter. She loves bird watching, being outdoors, photographing nature and KAYAKING.



Here I am, all suited up, holding my paddle upside down. Lol! Photo: Chris.

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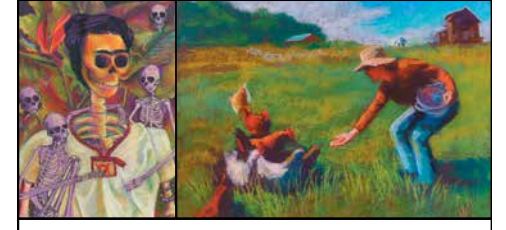
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Finishing a river paddle, no matter what

By **STEWART A. MCFERRAN**

Editor's note: Please be aware that some of the paddling described here includes the risk of serious injury or death and should not be attempted by novices.

I paddled my canoe down Bear Creek in Manistee County alongside others, including Linnaea Melcarek in her blue kayak. It was a beautiful trip that ended at the creek's confluence with the Manistee River at High Bridge. Melcarek's mother Natalie rode with me, paddling from the bow. Even though the water was high, we had to scoot over some logs.

Melcarek, 48, said she owns two kayaks now. One is a 10-foot Old Town.

"It's a lot more maneuverable in tight spots," she said, adding, "It's very sturdy, so I can just go bombing over stumps and down trees and all the trouble I like to get into."

Her enthusiasm for paddling began after her parents acquired kayaks, which made her "a little jealous" for her own boat. After buying her blue kayak, she didn't feel her skills were "up to par," so she contacted the Traverse Area Paddle Club. Club leaders assessed her competency, taking her on an individual outing.

"From there I was able to go on a ton of trips with (club members)," she said. "I was going two or three times a week, just because I was so excited about all the different rivers I had to explore."

She said she's been kayaking in locations as far away as Alpena and "almost anywhere you can think of in the area." She named Lois Goldstein and John Heiam as mentors, as well as Mitchell "Mitch"



Mitch Treadwell and Linnaea Melcarek. Courtesy photo.

Treadwell, 33, her paddling buddy and inspiration. All are TAPC members.

Bear Creek is one of the tributaries of the Manistee River. Another is Slagle Creek. I asked Melcarek about Slagle. She said it's the largest creek flowing into the Manistee River along that section of the Manistee River Trail. She said Treadwell had been thinking about paddling it for a couple of years. Coming home last year from a paddle on the Pere Marquette River, they scouted Slagle Creek for a launch spot. She said the creek is used more for fishing but seemed "doable," not too deep and had fewer trees laying across it than another river they tried.

Melcarek is generally a cautious person



Linnaea Melcarek paddles her kayak on Bear Creek. Photo: S.A. McFerran.

who wears her lifejacket while paddling. Still, she often classified the paddling adventures she undertook with Treadwell as "bad ideas" or "crazy." One of those trips was on the north branch of the Boardman River.

"On the way there, there was this crazy rainstorm," she began. "We were getting warnings on the radio. 'Take cover' type of warnings! We got to the put-in and the river is just a-raging. The great thing about all that rain was it covered up all those logs that would have been in our way. The only problem was that there were low bridges that I couldn't get under."

Melcarek portaged around those bridges. Treadwell, whom she described as smaller and nimbler, kayaked under all the bridges. At Broomhead Road, Melcarek ditched her kayak and bicycled back to her car. Treadwell continued to the forks.

Melcarek said he told her it was a little harder after Broomhead. She added, "This is not something I recommend; it's only for crazy people."

She elaborated a little more about her adventures with Treadwell.

"Mitch has pushed me to do things I wouldn't have thought I could or should do, like paddling upstream on the Boardman, paddling in the winter, paddling places like Kids Creek and doing longer distances," Melcarek said.

I have followed their river adventures on Facebook. One adventure took place on Kids Creek, a largely urban creek that runs underground and unseen through neighborhoods on Traverse City's west side. The two have tackled most sections of the creek, participating in what could be called kayak spelunking. On Melcarek's Facebook page is a photograph of a tunnel. She told me it's the last and longest tunnel under Wadsworth Street before Kids Creek enters the Boardman River.

Of the tunnels, she said, "They all have adequate headroom." Treadwell added

that it depends on the water level. He said a kayaker can ordinarily pass beneath objects such as a sewer pipe, unless the creek is high ("up a couple of feet"), which makes travel "difficult."

"During a really strong flood, Kids Creek can come up 5 feet or more," Treadwell cautioned.

He purchased a whitewater kayak to travel through smaller, tighter spaces.

"In a 30-inch culvert, it really depends how much water there is in there," he said, adding, "So, if it's half full, then there's 15 inches above the water line, but often those culverts are more than half full which means that you can't necessarily have that much room. And, also, the problem with a linear culvert like that is, depending on the elevation profile of the road and the stream, it's not always smooth across the top. There can be sections where the top of the culvert dips down and you wind up with lower clearance."

The thought of entering a small culvert in a boat while water rushes through it terrifies me. But these two are determined to paddle as many rivers, streams and creeks in Northern Michigan as they can, despite culverts, tunnels, downed trees, low bridges and flash floods.

As we wrapped up our conversation, Melcarek shared her kayaking goals, such as paddling entire rivers in sections. She told me she needs to finish paddling a portion of the Manistee and AuSable rivers.

"Then I just want to do some more exploring, find some more creeks," she said. "I want to do Slagle Creek and find some new, fun places and get out with friends and enjoy the rivers."

S.A. McFerran grew up on the water with a rowboat. The canoe seemed like a sleek craft to him. He has led canoe adventures on whitewater rivers and keeps a Mad River canoe beside the stream in front of his home.



Bear Creek flows through forests and into the Manistee River. Photo: S.A. McFerran.



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Blueberry's Story*


By Lousia Loveridge Gallas

Once upon a time stones spoke to us. All beings and creatures understood each other, during hardship, cared for each other. As we humans starved Black Bear found the last surviving infant, plucked you, sacred blueberry, from a thriving bush. As she fed you to the child a tiny flap appeared that hangs down forever in the darkness of our throat: the uvula to remind us again of our bond, how other beings serve us so we may protect them and ourselves.

A gentle tug releases you into our basket of sweetgrass whose fragrance mutes the singed air from wildfires, every single berry precious as we gather you, fresh, a sweetness in the midst of our world's furies.

New life grows from dirt.
So may our redemption.

*an Ojibwe legend



Roadside treasure

By **PAT STINSON**

Driving hundreds of miles to deliver each issue of this newspaper, I've seen my share of backroads. If you're reading this, I've probably driven near you. Exploring backroads has always been one of my favorite pastimes. Nowadays, the allure of the road for me also includes finding fresh produce and other gems for sale at the ends of driveways.

While driving on country roads to our newspaper stop in Luther, I've been flagged down by a 5-year-old with an adorable puppy and a lemonade stand. I've devoured lavender cookies sold in a purple-painted booth outside Ludington, chased a Bear Lake farm's potatoes as they rolled across my car's floor mat, and spent too many minutes trying to choose my favorite bouquet of cut flowers from a stand near Onekama.

I try not to be tempted by large roadside stands with showy canopies. I'm seeking small stands, sometimes no more than a table but usually the size of a potting shed,



maybe a little larger. Overall, I've found the smaller the stand, the more specialized or handcrafted the goods for sale.

In my travels on local roads, I've also discovered stands with delicious pear-lavender jam and violet-flavored jelly. I've driven away with ever-bearing strawberry plants, all manner of baked goods, fresh eggs and heirloom tomatoes. Many places sell dried and potted herbs, garden-grown vegetables of all kinds, freshly picked orchard fruits and cultivated berries. Some offer maple syrup, honey and pumpkins. A few sell bushes, including lilacs. One



even has a sign-up sheet for chickens – the packaged kind.

You can't go wrong with locally grown, locally raised or locally crafted goods and treats. They're fresher, hardier, longer lasting, more flavorful and just ... more.

So, gas up the car — prices have dropped — and get off the state highways. Travel county roads and country roads. Bring lots of small bills and change. (A few places accept local checks or mobile phone payments.) Look for the makeshift stands, small sheds and cloth-covered tables. You'll find roadside treasure waiting for you there.

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Visitors enjoy the opening reception of “Celebrating the Ludington State Park” at Ludington Area Center for Arts. LACA courtesy photo.

Community Calendar

continued from page 2

Live Music: Keith Scott, Beulah
 1:00-4:00pm. Free. St. Ambrose Cellars, 841 S. Pioneer Rd.

Live Music: Ravon, Ludington
 4-7pm, Free. Legacy Plaza, 112 N. James St. Bring lawn chair/blanket.

August 27
Live Music: Delilah DeWyde, Beulah
 5:30-8:30pm. Free. St. Ambrose Cellars, 841 S. Pioneer Rd.

Live Music: Eat-It-Up Trio feat. Michael Harrison & Ellie Martin, Baldwin
 7-9:15pm, Free/donations. Jazz, Blues. Wenger Pavilion (behind Jones Ice Cream). Bring lawn chair/blanket or on 99.3FM.

Live Music: Salt City Dixie Jazz Band, Ludington
 7pm, Free/donations. Ludington State Park Amphitheater, 8800 West M-116. If rain: Lake Michigan beach house. Bring lawn chair/blanket/bug spray. Mich. Recreation Passport required to drive into park.

Live Music: Sam Morrow w/ Doug Henthorn Band, Cadillac
 7:30-11pm, \$15 ADV, \$20 DOS. Coyote Crossing Resort, 8593 S. 13 Rd. Info/tickets: coyotecrossingresort.com

August 27-28
North Country Trail Run, Manistee
 50 Mile Ultra Marathon, 50k Ultra Marathon, 26.2 Mile Marathon, 13.1 Mile Half Marathon. 3500 UdeHills Rd. For info/to join the wait list: northcountrytrailrun.com

August 28
Classic Car Show & Chicken BBQ, Manistee
 11am-3pm, Grant Township Fire/Rescue, 835 W. Hoague Rd.

Live Music: Jesse Jefferson, Beulah
 3:30-6:30pm. Free. St. Ambrose Cellars, 841 S. Pioneer Rd.

August 29
Live Music: The Duges, Beulah
 5:30-8:30pm. Free. St. Ambrose Cellars, 841 S. Pioneer Rd.

Live Music: Duffy King Koalition, Elberta
 7-9:15pm, Free. Latin, Jazz, Rock & Funk. Waterfront Park Amphitheater. Bring lawn chair/blanket. If rain: Waterfront Park Picnic Pavilion or listen from your car or boat on 99.3FM

August 30
The Mo & Linda White Golf Classic, Thompsonville
 \$135/person. Day of golf to support Michigan Legacy Art Park. Crystal Mountain's Betsie Valley Course, 12500 Crystal Mountain Dr. Register: <https://michlegacyartpark.org/events/golf/golf-classic-registration/>

Live Music: Duffy King Koalition, Manistee
 7pm. Free. Latin, Jazz, Rock & Funk. Rotary Gazebo, First Street Beach. Bring lawn chair/blanket. Please social distance. Masks encouraged & appreciated. Or tune your car radio to 99.3 FM.

August 31
Live Music: Bill Frary, Beulah
 5:30-8:30pm. Free. St. Ambrose Cellars, 841 S. Pioneer Rd.

Live Music: Guitar Group, Luther
 6-8pm, Free. Purchase Pavilion, 209 State St. Bring lawn chair/blanket.

Live Music: Duffy King Koalition, Ludington
 7-9pm, Free. Latin, Jazz, Rock & Funk, Waterfront Park, 300 William St. Bring lawn chair/blanket.

September 1
Live Music: Coconut Radio, Ludington
 4-7pm, Free. Legacy Plaza, 112 N. James St. Bring lawn chair/blanket.

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

September 2
“Who are You?”, Onekama
 10am-12pm, Free. Identify plants & arthropods w/ Dr. Joshua Shields. North Point Park, 8999 Greenway St.

Live Music: Canopy Space, Ludington
 4-7pm, Free. Legacy Plaza, 112 N. James St. Bring lawn chair/blanket.

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

September 2-3
Library Historical Exhibit, Book & Bake Sale, Baldwin
 10am-5pm, Pathfinder Community Library, 812 Michigan Ave.

Minnehaha Brewhaha Music Festival, Arcadia
 Fri. 6-11pm, Sat. 11am-midnight. Info/tickets: www.music-moves-me.org

September 2-4
Brethren Days
 Festival with craft vendors, food, beer, music & fun. 14476 Coates Hwy. Info: Facebook

September 3
Laborfest 2022, Manistee
 9am-6pm, Free. 6pm-11pm, \$21. 9am Car & Bike Show, 12pm Parade, 1-5pm Local Bands, 6-11pm The Downtowners, Jake Kershaw, Here Come the Mummies. Family-friendly until 6pm, with kids' games. Food vendors, craft beverages all day. Douglas Park, First Street Beach. Bring lawn chair/blanket. Info/tickets: <https://saltcityrb.com/event/laborfest-2022>

Friends of the Library Book Sale, Manistee
 10am-4pm, behind the library, 95 Maple St.

Live Music: Rhett & John, Beulah
 1:30-4:30pm. Free. St. Ambrose Cellars, 841 S. Pioneer Rd.

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

Live Music: Duffy King Koalition, Baldwin
 7-9:15pm, Free/donations. Latin, Jazz, Rock, Funk. Wenger Pavilion (behind Jones Ice Cream). Bring lawn chair/blanket or on 99.3FM.

Live Music: Tim Grimm, Ludington
 7pm, Free/donations. Ludington State Park Amphitheater, 8800 West M-116. If rain: Lake Michigan beach house. Bring lawn chair/blanket/bug spray. Mich. Recreation Passport required to drive into park.

Live Music: The Insiders (Tom Petty & the Heartbreakers Tribute Band), Cadillac
 8:30-11pm, \$25 ADV, \$30 DOS. Coyote Crossing Resort, 8593 S. 13 Rd. Info/tickets: coyotecrossingresort.com

Still time to see the area's stunning mixed palette of art

By MARK VIDEAN

Locals and visitors have several exciting opportunities to experience fine art in regional venues this month. Art centers in Mason, Manistee and Benzie counties are exhibiting an outstanding array of artworks, from the representational to the abstract, some with elements of both, created by artists living in the area and beyond. Also in August, the Frankfort-Elberta Chamber of Commerce will host its 46th annual Frankfort Art Fair, featuring fine art and high-quality crafts for two days only.

In Mason County, the Ludington Area Center for the Arts (LACA) presents “Celebrating the Ludington State Park”, a show capturing the beauty of the park from the perspectives of 49 artists working in diverse media. Visitors will find imagery from the familiar to the previously unseen. The exhibition runs through August 27. Half of all proceeds from the sale of artwork will be shared by LACA and Friends of the Ludington State Park, the show's nonprofit partners.

“Art is Art”, an exhibit of abstract artwork presented in various media, is currently on display at the Ramsdell Regional Center for the Arts (RRCA) in Manistee through September 3. The show features works by six Northern Michigan artists: Susan Wild Barnard (textiles), Jef Bourgeau (prints on canvas), Jesse Hickman (mixed media), Judy Jashinsky (graphite on paper), Rufus Snoddy (acrylic paintings with textural elements) and Pier Wright (bold, large paintings). The title “Art is Art” refers to this quotation by artist Barnett Newman: “Art is art. Everything else is everything else.”

Exploring six artists' individual interactions with their shared time and place in Northern Michigan is the focus of “The Northern Eye”, showing now through Sept. 9 at Elizabeth Lane Oliver Center for the Arts (OAC) in Frankfort. Works range from realistic representations to the purely abstract. Artists are Jamey Barnard (paintings), Jef Bourgeau (“Crumpled Paintings” and “The Lake



The “Art is Art” exhibition includes abstract artworks by (from left) Rufus Snoddy, Jef Bourgeau and Piers Wright, among others, at the Ramsdell Regional Center for the Arts in Manistee. RRCA courtesy photo.

House” installation), Jason Care (painted portraits and neo post-impressionist landscapes), Judy Jashinsky (“Land to Water”, “Water to Land”, 80” x 35”, pastel, acrylic paint, and colored pencil on wood), and Mary Sidor (“10,000 Marks” series, India ink on paper).

To view and purchase works by more than 150 artists in an outdoor setting, head to the Frankfort Art Fair, held 1-7 p.m., Aug. 19, and 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Aug. 20, at Market Square Park, 420 Corning Ave. The fair also features live music, food vendors and a kids' play area. A classic car show takes place concurrently at Mineral Springs Park, 630 Main St. (M-22), east of the shopping district.

LACA, at 107 Harrison St. in Ludington, is open Tues., Thurs., Fri., 11 a.m.-4p.m.; Wed., 11 a.m.-6 p.m., and Sat., 11 a.m.-2 p.m. RRCA, at 101 Maple St. in Manistee, is open Wed.-Sat., 12-3 p.m. OAC, at 132 Coast Guard Rd. in Frankfort, is open Mon.-Sat., 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and Sun., 12-4 p.m.

Admission to all three art centers is free, and donations are appreciated.

Mark Videan is a printmaker, woodcarver, basket weaver, tattoo designer and retired jeweler. He lives in Manistee and is Freshwater Reporter's co-editor, calendar wrangler and word puzzle wizard.



Portraits of some of “The Northern Eye” artists, painted by Jason Care, can be seen at Oliver Arts Center in Frankfort. From left: Jason Care, Jamey Barnard, Judy Jashinsky and Jef Bourgeau.



An Artemis launch captured by FR correspondent Matt Rumpfeldt, using his cellphone's zoom feature and taken from his backyard in Florida.

Artemis

continued from page 1

than 50 years to make a return journey. With lack of funding, diminishing public interest and a focus on research in Earth orbit, decades slipped away.

Since Artemis 1 is a test flight, it will not ferry astronauts. This honor is reserved for Artemis 2, which does not have a launch date but will fly the same path as Artemis 1. NASA's plan for Artemis 1 is to fly the uncrewed Orion capsule around the moon, traveling several thousand miles beyond it before heading back to Earth. The mission will last more than a month. During this time, NASA will determine if Orion is fit for human spaceflight. The Orion crew capsule is the first spacecraft designed for humans to travel this distance into space and fly for an extended time without landing or docking to a space station.

Following a successful mission, Artemis 2 will take astronauts on a crewed flight around the moon, possibly as soon as 2024. Artemis 3 is the mission that will land humans, including the first woman and person of color, on the moon. Assuming all goes according to plan, Artemis 3 may take flight in 2025 or a bit beyond.

NASA and private space companies are working together to advance humanity into space. Now is the time to get excited! Who will be the first person to set foot on the moon once again? With this test flight, we are getting closer to the answer.

Brooke Edwards is a NASA/JPL Solar System Ambassador. She lives in Manistee and has given area presentations and hosted night-sky viewings at Fifth Avenue beach. Follow her Facebook page: Brooke Edwards - Solar System Ambassador.

August CryptoQuote by Mark Videan

A cryptoquote is a quotation by a well-known person that has been encrypted by substituting one letter for another. See if you can solve the puzzle to reveal the quote and its author.

B PKYGKDW XTIIKY LBR QX ZOKC WOK XTC QX XOQCQCE,
WOK SYKKHK QX SAJZQCE, WOK SQYLX BYK XQCEQCE,
BCL WOK ABZCIJZKY QX SYJMKC. -NBIKX LKCW

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FRESHWATER REPORTER

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

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