



Newcomers News

Published by the Newcomers Club of Grand Traverse
(Antrim - Benzie - Grand Traverse - Kalkaska - Leelanau)

FEBRUARY 2016

DATES TO REMEMBER

- BOARD GAMES: Feb. 14
- BOOK CLUB—MEN'S: Feb. 22
- BOOK CLUB—WOMEN'S AM: Feb. 2
- BOOK CLUB—WOMEN'S PM: Feb. 2
- BRIDGE: Feb. 17
- COCKTAILS & CONVERSATION: See Page 4
- DINNER FOR EIGHT: See Page 5
- DINNER OUT: Feb. 21
- EUCHRE: See Page 5
- FILM GROUP: Feb. 11
- FISHING: See Page 5
- GOLF: See Page 5
- MEN'S BREAKFAST: Feb. 10
- MEN'S SOFTBALL: See Page 6
- MICROBREW: Feb. 26
- NATIONAL WRITERS SERIES: Feb. 6
- NEWCOMERS NEEDLERS: Feb. 4 and 18
- OUT-TO-LUNCH BUNCH: Feb. 10
- PADDLING: See Page 6
- POKER: See Page 7
- SOLOS: Feb. 13
- THEATRE GROUP: Feb. 6
- VOLUNTEER AT THE STATE/BIJOU: Feb. 3 and 18
- WALK IN THE WOODS: Page 7
- WINE TASTING: Feb. 11

Visit us on the web at gtnewcomers.org

Join us for the February meeting!

Connie Hintsala
Alliance for Senior Housing, LLC

Tuesday, Feb. 23, 6:30 pm
Bethlehem Lutheran Church
1050 Peninsula Drive, Traverse City

Please join us for our February program. Connie Hintsala from the Alliance for Senior Housing, LLC, will be presenting.

Alliance for Senior Housing, LLC, is a free senior housing placement service that has served our community for over 15 years. During the program, you'll hear about the different types of complexes in this area, learn what amenities are available and the cost involved. You'll learn about how Medicare and Medicaid work in regards to housing. There will also be some fun interactive audience participation that explains the different reasons why someone would have to move into assisted living.

Finding the right housing solution for you and/or a loved one can be a daunting task, overwhelming and stressful. Hearing about the options that are available to you now will help you if that time ever comes in the future.

Save date for the Beach Bums!

Mark your calendars! Wednesday, June 22, will be a special Newcomers one-time event. Come see a Beach Bums night game on the Party Patio.



More details will follow in future issues.

Webmaster needed

Have you managed a website? Ever worked with Word Press? The club is seeking a part-time webmaster for the spring.

If willing and able, please contact Linda Proffitt at 231-421-5389.

FEBRUARY 2016

After record-setting highs in November and December, winter has finally arrived in Traverse City. Michigan's "winter wonderland" is very active outside our windows. Snow, snow everywhere!



Judy Pelto and Linda Proffitt
2015-2016 Co-Presidents

The snowbirds have left for the winter but the Newcomers' social scene is fully revved up, so there is no reason to get cabin fever. Dinner Out, Wine Tasting, Microbrew, Film Group, Euchre, Theatre Group, Cocktails & Conversation, Book Clubs and many, many more activities make for a very busy social season with the opportunity to not only meet with friends we've made but to make new friends and welcome new people into our community.

Some of us have made and already broken New Year's resolutions. But it's never too late to start again in February or make a new resolution for the rest of the year.

A good resolution for our members is to make sure we are welcoming to individuals who are new to an activity or event. It is human nature to want to congregate with the people we know and have established friendships with, but let's remember what we felt as new members when attending an event for the first time, not knowing anyone, and wondering if people will be cliquish.

So, go introduce yourself to someone you don't know, find out about them and ask them to sit with you. Make it a goal to meet at least two new people at any activity or event you attend. Remember, Newcomers is all about making individuals new to the club feel welcome and turning them into new friends. Random Acts of Kindness week falls in February, so this is a great time to start working on the goal of reaching out to new members and making them feel included.

A good place to start is at our General Meeting on Tuesday, Feb. 23, at 6:30 p.m. at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 1050 Peninsula Drive, Traverse City. Come hear Connie Hintsala from Alliance for Senior Housing speak in detail about the different types of senior housing available in the area.

Linda Proffitt

lindajproffitt@gmail.com

Judy Pelto

jpelto1@charter.net

Co-Presidents

Linda Proffitt 231-421-5389
lindajproffitt@gmail.com

Judy Pelto 231-668-6490
jpelto1@charter.net

Co-Vice Presidents

Brenda Knaack 231-421-3127
knaack222@gmail.com

Jean Sarasin

517-927-6123

jsarasin@sbcglobal.net

Secretary

Barbara Wentzloff 231-929-1422
barb@wentzloff.com

Treasurer

Dennis Stockemer 231-932-2276
dkstockemer@gmail.com

Activity Groups

Judy Pelto 231-668-6490
jpelto1@charter.net

Caring Connections

Lorna Anderson 231-935-1875
lea4475@gmail.com

Event Planner

Carol Cavanaugh 231-943-1614
carolcavanaugh96@gmail.com

Membership/Directory

Doug Morrison 231-360-7406
morrdi@yahoo.com

New Member Support

Donna Stein-Harris, 847-226-5098
donnasteinharris@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor

Doug Weaver 231-421-9513
dwindsail@aol.com

Public Relations

Debbie May 740-701-0724
dmay317@gmail.com

Webmaster

Rose Carman 231-421-1894
brcarman@live.com

City Hostess

Sharon Finch 231-933-4404
hsfinch@charter.net

At Large

Gloria Dean

810-348-4189

gloriaidean@gmail.com

Mary Anne Krzywosinski
989-329-3710

makrzywosinski@gmail.com

Past Co-President

Dave Richard 231-933-0359
crowbar38@gmail.com

Volunteer Spotlight: Kathy Tuckerman

Newcomers' Keeper of the Dunes

By Debbie May

Having your own beach is the dream of most newcomers who come to live in northern Michigan. Newcomer Kathy Tuckerman is living the dream by volunteering to help care for the many miles of beautiful sandy shoreline that comprise the Sleeping Bear Dunes.

"My beach is County Road 669," said Kathy, who moved to Traverse City in the fall of 2009 and joined the Newcomers Club of Grand Traverse. She served on the board of directors for the club as co-vice president and co-president, respectively from 2010-2014.

"I had vacationed for several years in the Glen Arbor area. . . One of the reasons I moved to this area to retire was the beauty and recreational opportunities offered at the Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore."

Even before re-locating Up North, Kathy was a long-distance supporter of the 501c3 non-profit organization called Friends of Sleeping Bear Dunes. The Fremont, Ohio, native worked her last 20 years in finance for Verizon in Irving, Texas, just outside the Dallas-Fort Worth area, before retiring to Traverse City. That move, a little over six years ago, finally allowed her to fulfill a passion of actually offering onsite volunteer support for Sleeping Bear Dunes.



"My initial involvement, which I still do, was the Adopt-A-Beach program," said Kathy, explaining that the program is done in cooperation with the Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore and the Alliance for the Great Lakes to provide monitoring and regular clean-up of the beaches.

"I go out there, at a minimum, once a month from spring to autumn," she said. "The good news is that my beach is usually fairly clean with cigarette butts being the trash I find most often."

Meeting green teens

Kathy enjoys talking with teens who come to volunteer their time on "Green-ager Days" at the dunes as they are the

park's future caregivers. One perk of the whole process, according to Kathy, is meeting new people on the beach and telling them about the cleanup program and the Friends of Sleeping Bear Dunes mission - protecting resources and heightening visitor experiences - along the dunes and national lakeshore.

"It is a wonderful way to get a great walk on the beach and help keep the beach clean," she said.

Access for all

Today, Kathy also assists in writing grants to help fund future dune

Continued, Page 8

Caring Connections update

Friends always help friends in need. With that in mind, the expanded role of the Caring Connections Program will continue in 2015-16.

To use the program, to sign up to become a volunteer or to obtain more information on the program, contact Lorna Anderson at 231-935-1875 or lea4475@gmail.com.

New members

Joseph & Barbara Backus
East Lansing, Mich.

Rita Cheyne
Dearborn, Mich.

JoAnn Fialon
Pittsburgh, Penn.

Michael Lingenfelter & Jeff Scott
Carmel, Ind.

Mrs. Gaylord Ramseur
Avon, Conn.

Lois and Jim Walsh
Cincinnati, Ohio

ACTIVITY GROUPS

BOARD GAMES

Sunday, Feb. 14, 4 p.m.

Our next meeting is Sunday, Feb. 14, from 4 to 6 p.m. in the Craft Room of the first building at Bay Ridge.

Bay Ridge is located off of Silver Lake Road. When going south, pass Barnes Road. Turn left at the second road (you will see the Bay Ridge sign). Go to the first building. If the door is locked, call Sis Leake at 231-313-3310 to let you in. Sis is our hostess at Bay Ridge for this month.

To RSVP for the meeting contact Natalie Martin at nmartin1216@gmail.com.

The Board Game Group meets on the second Sunday of the month from 4 to 6 p.m. Here's the upcoming schedule:

- March 13 at Bay Ridge in the Craft Room
- April 10 at Bay Ridge in the Craft Room.

BOOK CLUB – MEN'S

Monday, Feb. 22, 10 a.m.

The group will meet on Feb. 22 at Horizon Books, lower level.

The book this month is *Red Notice* by Bill Browder. It's the true story of an American financier in Russia who takes on the Putin regime after his business partner was murdered.

For more information, contact Dave Amos at 231-271-0665 or mideamos@hotmail.com.

BOOK GROUP – WOMEN'S—AM

Tuesday Feb. 2, 10:30 a.m.

Natalie Martin will lead the discussion of *The Drummond Girls* by local author Mardi Jo Link. Before the discussion we will vote on the books for the coming year. Lunch will follow at Amical.

Please note the change in the email address of activity group leader Carole Wasserman: iramwasserman@gmail.com.

BOOK CLUB – WOMEN'S – PM

Tuesday, Feb. 2, 1 p.m.

We will meet Feb. 2 to discuss *Zeitoun* by Dave Eggers. Jean Sarasin will lead the discussion,

The group meets in the lower level of Horizon Books.

The other book selections for the coming year are:

- February – *Zeitoun*, Dave Eggers
- March – *The Girl on the Train*, Paula Hawkins
- April – *The Art of Racing in the Rain*, Garth Stein
- May – *Grand River and Joy*, Susan Messer

For questions, contact Robbin Stott, stottrobbin@gmail.com or Mary Kennedy, marymiles40@gmail.com.

BRIDGE

Wednesday, Feb. 17, 1 p.m.

Looking for a reason to get out this winter? Laugh and learn? Come join the Wednesday Afternoon Bridge Group. We meet the third Wednesday of the month. This month it's Feb. 17, 1 p.m., in the lower level of Horizon Books.

Remember all are welcome. It is a very casual, fun group. Please let Denise Stephens know if you will attend at vanstep@hotmail.com or 906-364-5688.

COCKTAILS & CONVERSATIONS

Cocktails & Conversation has hosts for both February and March with dates to be determined. You will be notified with details by email if you are on the group's email list.

If you have been enjoying this event please consider volunteering to host a C&C. It's really quite easy. For newer members this is a great way to get your feet wet and make some new lasting friendships in one short evening. You pick the date and time and Michele Richard, the group's activity leader, will guide you through the process. You may also consider hosting with another person or couple if you like. If you live in a smaller condo or association, you might consider using your clubhouse. Please call or email Michele for more information at 231-357-3039 or richard.michele@rocketmail.com.

This is a reservation-only activity that fills quickly, so please check your calendar carefully before you make RSVP. There is always a waiting list for this event. If an unavoidable conflict arises, please cancel at least 48 hours prior so your host may invite someone else to fill your spot.

ACTIVITY GROUPS

DINNER FOR EIGHT

Join us for Dinner for Eight! Six people join two hosts at their home and each "pair" of people will provide part of the meal. The hosts provide the entrée and a couple of sides, plus beverages with up to two glasses of wine per person. The guests bring appetizers or salad and bread or dessert.

Contact Nancy Johnson at 231-668-9633 or johns526@msu.edu if you are interested in joining as a full member or as a substitute.

DINNER OUT

Sunday, Feb. 21, 5 p.m.

The Dinner Out group will meet on Feb. 21 at Tuscan Bistro, 12930 S. West Bay Shore Drive, Traverse City.

Tuscan Bistro features "a lively mix of Northern Italian Cuisine." They have an updated menu and are excited to share it with the group. Social hour will start at 5 p.m. with dinner following at 6 p.m.

Please contact Joan Showalter at Joanshowalter@gmail.com if you would like to attend.

EUCHRE

Euchre groups meet once a month in each others' homes. We currently have 10 groups. Each group is made up of three to four tables. Group members change tables and partners throughout the evening, which fosters lively conversation. Of course, food and beverage are involved. The players within any group are of varying levels of experience. Euchre, in Newcomers, is a social, not a competitive event.

This group is headed by Gregg and Sue McDonald at gsmcdonald64@gmail.com or librarygirl1963@hotmail.com.

FILM GROUP

Thursday, Feb. 11

The film group is a casual, fun group made up of people who love the movies. We attend movies at different theaters throughout the season and go out for discussion, food and libations afterwards. The group meets the second Thursday of every month from September through May. The group may occasionally add an extra film date during any given month if a film looks interesting and it's not available at the time of the regular meeting date.

Notification as to the film, time and place is emailed to film group members a few days before the outing. Anyone interested in joining the group may contact Judy Pelto at jpelto1@charter.net.

FISHING

Enjoy the ice fishing this month but be careful out there. Steelhead are going to be available if you can handle the weather. A good month to catch up on that reading you have been putting off because there was so much to do.

The Fishing Group includes Newcomers who are interested in fishing activities of any kind. The group evolves according to the interests of its participants.

Contact Pete at phalbers99@gmail.com or 231-922-7289 if you're interested in joining the group.

GOLF

The golf group is going into hibernation at least until May 2, 2016. That outing is a Monday and will be held at the Crown golf course beginning at 10 a.m. We will publish our tentative schedule of golf outings in April's newsletter.

We will continue calling the Crown our home course due to the popularity with our membership. If anyone has any suggestions where they would like to play golf, please let us know. Most courses we played this year cost between \$25 and \$40, which is negotiated by us. The cost for each golf course for 2016 is not determined until February.

Questions? Contact coordinators Mike Huffman at 517 655-3374 or wdcspike@yahoo.com, or Dale Wentzloff at 231-383-0379 or dale@wentzloff.com.

MEN'S BREAKFAST

Wednesday, Feb. 10, 9 a.m.

This group meets at the Omelette Shoppe next to the Wild Birds Unlimited store in the Campus Plaza the second Wednesday of the month at 9 a.m. We meet all year around and always meet regardless of the weather. Bring all the testosterone you can muster.

Contact George Kobernus at gkobernus@charter.net or 231-933-9321.

ACTIVITY GROUPS

MEN'S SOFTBALL—SENIOR LEAGUE

Men's softball is done for the season. Men's softball - senior league is sponsored by the YMCA and is made up of men age 55+. All games are played at the Civic Center fields. Games are played once a week from May through August. Players do not have to be a member of the YMCA to play. Anyone can play, no experience necessary, but players will have to supply a glove as the league does not supply any equipment. Everyone who shows up will get a chance to bat.

For information about next summer's season, contact Tom Andres, tandres8@hotmail.com, 231-421-5060.

MICROBREW GROUP

Friday, Feb. 26, 5 p.m.

What do the following quotes have in common?

- "America's Best Beer Towns" - CNN Money
- "Top 7 Beer Destinations in N. America" - The Travel Channel
- "One of 3 Emerging Beer Towns" - Draft Magazine
- "One of America's Top Foodie Towns - Bon Appetit

Our own Traverse City! Taking full advantage of the source of these accolades, the Microbrew Tasting Group will meet in February at The Ridge Microbrewery. The Ridge is located near the Leelanau Sand Casino north of Suttons Bay. The Ridge has a nice selection of beers and wine.

If you have not yet signed up for the group, please contact Joel McElrath at jmcelrath@epri.com or 650-714-4557.

It is the mission of the Microbrew Tasting Group to visit all the area's breweries. The group attends one location each month. The sessions sometime include a tour of the facilities, but the focus is on trying the different beers made in the area. Also, there is priority placed on socializing with others who enjoy beer. Many times the group will have dinner together following the tasting.

NATIONAL WRITERS SERIES

Saturday, Feb. 6, 5 p.m.

The National Writers Series group will meet at 5 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 6, for dinner and conversation before hearing two-time Pulitzer Prize nominee James Tobin discuss his book *The Man He Became*, about Franklin Roosevelt, and his other popular books.

The group will dine at Firefly, 310 Cass St., before the show. The NWS author event begins at 7 p.m. at the City Opera House.

Remember ... you'll need to purchase your own tickets. Information about getting tickets can be found at: www.nationalwritersseries.org

Please RSVP to Doug Weaver by Tuesday, Feb. 2, at dwindsaild@aol.com. Questions? Email Doug or co-leader Linda Proffitt at lindajproffitt@gmail.com.

NEWCOMERS NEEDLERS

Thursdays, Feb. 4 & 18, 1 to 3 p.m.

Join us twice a month for a couple of hours of uninterrupted knitting, crocheting, needlepoint or rug hooking. Our low-key group enjoys working on projects in the company of others. Come with a project, or just to chat. If you need help, some-one is probably able to assist you.

We meet on the first and third Thursdays of the month, 1 to 3 p.m., at Aroma's Coffee Shop at the intersection of M-22 and M-72, across from Tom's West Bay. We meet in the conference room.

Have questions or want to be added to the email list for re-minders? Contact Robbin Stott, stottrobbin@gmail.com, or 231-932-1709 for more information.

OUT-TO-LUNCH BUNCH

Wednesday, Feb. 10, 11:30 a.m.

This month we will gather at the City Opera House. Doors open at 11:30 a.m. for the "Picnic at the Opera" show, which is from noon to 1 p.m.

Please bring your own lunch and drink, and then sit back and enjoy while Miriam Pico and her guests entertain us while we have a February picnic. Seth & May are her featured musical guests.

Please RSVP to Sis Leake at 231-313-3310 if you will be available/interested in joining us.

PADDLING

The Paddling group has completed its summer season. We enjoyed kayaking two rivers and two lakes this year. Lin Dann will remain the leader for the 2016 season. Those interested in joining the group but didn't get a chance to sign up at the Kickoff Dinner can contact Lin at dannL@michigan.gov or 989-280-4028.

Sometime this winter Lin will connect with new participants and those already enrolled. She will gather information re: skill levels and preferences for locations for future paddles. She'll then create a schedule for spring/summer 2016.

ACTIVITY GROUPS

POKER

Tuesday, Feb. 2, 1 p.m.

The poker group meets the first Tuesday of the month, with winter hours of 1 to 4 p.m. and summer hours of 6 to 9 p.m. The group meets on a rotating basis at each member's home.

The February meeting will be at the home of Michael Rollert. Mike's e-mail is michael.rollert@gmail.com. Please let Mike know of your attendance. He will send out blast with directions to his house. The poker group coordinator is Mike Huffman. Phone is 517-655-3374. E-mail is wcdspike@yahoo.com.

The game is small stakes to keep the game and conversation fun and friendly and no weapons are produced. We play dealers choice, which sometimes evokes a response "did you just make that up?" But we all like new games we haven't played before. The host merely has to provide the home and setup, while members bring snacks and drinks.

SOLOS GROUP

Saturday, Feb. 13, 7 p.m.

We will be going Contra dancing. A basic-skills workshop is from 7 to 7:45 p.m. with the band and actual dancing from 8 to 11 p.m. Several members of the group have requested this event because they insist it's a lot of fun!

The dance is located at Gilbert Lodge at Twin Lakes, 6800 N. Long Lake Road. Admission is \$11 per person. Additional details can be found at www.dancetc.com.

Questions? Contact Whitney Allen at wickedney@gmail.com or 917-690-4758.

The Solos Group is made up of people who are single or perhaps married but in need of someone to pair up for events when spouses or significant others prefer not to mingle.

THEATRE GROUP

Saturday, Feb. 6, 7:30 p.m.

The Book of Liz – stuffed with laughter! Liz is the under-appreciated genius behind the delicious cheese balls, which serve as the religious community's financial backbone. When her patience is tested by the local brethren, Liz resolves to run away and experience the outside world.

We will attend the Feb. 6 presentation of *The Book of Liz* at the Studio Theater next to the main library. Please contact Chuck Watson at watson144@gmail.com or Kerr Anderson at kerrandsn@gmail.com if you plan to attend the play and dinner at a local restaurant before the show (details to be announced at a later date).

Our group discounted tickets are available through Betsy

Willis, Development Director at OTP. Please contact her directly at 231-947-2210, Ext. 102. Please let her know you are with the Newcomers group.

If you would like Liz's recipe for cheese balls please let Chuck Watson know and he'll send it along to you.

Interested in joining the group? Please contact Chuck Watson at watson144@gmail.com or Kerr Anderson at kerrandsn@gmail.com.

VOLUNTEER AT THE STATE/BIJOU

Wednesday, Feb. 3, 2:30 p.m./State, approx. 4 p.m./Bijou
Thursday, Feb. 18, 2:30 p.m./State, approx. 4 p.m./Bijou
State/Bijou Theatres Volunteers: Join us as we work in the concession area, take tickets, sweep floors, usher or run errands. Free popcorn and pop, a voucher for another movie, and tokens for the parking ramp complete the experience. Our afternoon shift is sometimes slow and sometimes busy. Give it a try and perhaps you might like to move to a busier time on your own. You are more than welcome to remain at this less active level, too.

We have two shifts per month, and you may choose the one you prefer. We work on the first Wednesday and the third Thursday of each month from 2:30 to 5:15 p.m. at the State and 4 to 6:15 p.m. at the Bijou (subject to change as the movie schedule dictates). Join us for dinner after if you have time.

Space is limited, so please sign up via email with Nancy Johnson. Contact Nancy at johns526@msu.edu or 231-668-9633 if you would like to be added to the list of potential volunteers.

WALK IN THE WOODS

The next walk in the woods will be in spring. Group leaders Leigh Wietsma and Dave Bessmer will announce the first events – here and on the Newcomers website – as soon as they have them worked out. If anyone still wants to sign up for this activity (in order to be on the email list) just email Leigh at lawietsma@gmail.com.

WINE TASTING

Thursday, Feb. 11, 4 p.m.

The wine group will be sampling at Aurora Cellars at 7788 East Horn Road in Lake Leelanau on Feb. 11. The group will once again meet on a Thursday since winter hours are limited. The visit will begin at 4 p.m. with a short tour, so please be prompt. There is a charge of \$5 per person for five tastings.

This month's gathering is limited to 60 people. Please RSVP to Denise at mcelrathbeachbum@att.net so she knows whom to include. You can RSVP now; you do not need to wait for her email announcement.

Volunteer Spotlight

Continued from Page 3

projects being sought by a Friends' accessibility assessment committee. The committee, of which Kathy is a member, is working with an outside consulting firm to improve park designs for trails and beaches at Sleeping Bear Dunes. When approved and completed, these changes will allow for more universal access of park facilities by all visitors.

Beyond her hands-on park projects, Kathy is in her second volunteer term on the Friends of Sleeping Bear Dunes' Board of Directors. Administratively, she has served as secretary, led membership ef-

forts and coordinated volunteer activities in addition to her role as a Vice-Chairperson. In a way, her volunteer service is a dream come true.

"I always knew I wanted to volunteer here when I retired, and helping the national park has been a perfect fit," she said.

Taking on more

While driving to Glen Arbor to volunteer at the dunes is her habit in the summer, Kathy also gives of her time year-round in Traverse City, where she resides.

The Traverse City Film Festival is a recipient of Kathy's time. She began in 2010 by ushering at the Lars Hockstad Auditorium, one of the movie venues at the annual festival. More

recently, Kathy started working in the TCFF Box Office, and today she helps oversee sponsor ticketing. This year, Kathy added two more volunteer activities. She now helps direct guests at the Traverse City Visitor Center and ushers locally for the National Writers Series.

Kathy said she initially decided to volunteer as a way to get involved in the Traverse City community. She recommends those new to volunteering start small and build upon their passions.

Looking back on the last few years, Kathy said, "Volunteering has really enriched my life. I have met many great people while helping worthwhile organizations."

Women's Golf survey

If you are looking for an opportunity to golf without the competitive edge, this may be the group for you. Juanita Watson and Janet Cohen would like to start a ladies' golf group that focuses on having fun and socializing while playing nine holes, regardless of your skill level and recent golf experience.

The group would play local Traverse City area courses, including the Crown, Bay Meadows, and Elmbrook. Play would begin around 9 a.m., and end with socializing over lunch. The group is planning to golf once a week on Thursdays, beginning in June. (Details will be forthcoming once it's determined there is enough interest from our Newcomers to start this activity and receive board approval.)

If interested, email Juanita at watsonjuanita.1949@gmail.com or Janet at cohenp@charter.net.

These Newcomers were in the news!

Living Up North, Newcomers are always showing up somewhere. This month, there are reports of five club members showing up in area marketing pieces and the news.

"It's great to open a local brochure or newspaper and see our fellow club members making headlines or contributions to the community," said Debbie May, who oversees public relations for the Newcomers Club of Grand Traverse.

Among the many who have recently captured the pen of area reporters or the flash of local paparazzi are:

Carol Cavanaugh, the current event planner for the New-

comers Club. An image of Carol was recently spotted in a full-color, cooking class photo in a brochure distributed by Fustini's Oils and Vinegars. The expanding company has its original location on Front Street in Traverse City. There are currently four other Michigan-based stores and one in Maui, Hawaii.

Joe M. Coffman, a member of the Newcomers Club since 2009. Joe wrote an article entitled "Hearing the healing." It appeared in the Jan. 8 issue of the *Traverse City Record-Eagle*. The article is about the history and value of symphonic music. Joe wrote, "Symphonic music touches the best parts of us, and it's

worth saving. It's healing you can hear."

Jean Sarasin, a current co-vice president for the Newcomers Club. A brief news article and photo of Jean appeared in the *Traverse City Record-Eagle* last fall. Jean, a retired executive vice president and COO of Michigan Retailers Association and Retailers Insurance Company, has been re-elected to a three-year term on the Retailers Insurance Board of Directors.

Bill Stott and Doug Weaver, who went on a 140-plus mile backpacking trip along the North Country Trail in the Upper Peninsula in early Octo-



Hiking article.

ber. The pair, along with a Kansas City friend, Bruce Kaldahl, hiked the trail in 10 days. The *Traverse City Record-Eagle* published a feature story and photographs about their journey on Jan. 14.