

Kalamazoo Area Newcomers Club

January 2024

Celebrating 84 Years of Service

Kalamazoo, Michigan

January Luncheon

Louie's Corner Cafe and Bar~ Thursday, January 18 ~12 noon

IS IT A BIRD?

IS IT A PLANE?

No....ITS A HELICOPTER from WEST MICHIGAN AIR CARE!!!!

At the helm is SARA STURGEON, FLIGHT NURSE!

She will navigate and educate us on what WEST MICHIGAN AIR CARE does for our Community!!! So many things you didn't know.

Join us at Noon on January 18th for lunch at "LOUIES Corner Cafe and Bar. It's near the corner of 8th Street and Q Ave in Texas corners. The address is 7177 West Q Ave, Kalamazoo, Mi. 49009. Louie's has amazing food and an "out of this world environment

Doors open at 11:45am with luncheon beginning at noon. See you there!!

Our in-flight menu is as follows:

1. Southwest Salad-Romaine and iceberg lettuce, topped with onions, tomato, black olives, grilled corn, 3-bean blend, grilled red and green peppers and Monterey Jack cheese. Topped with jalapeño cheddar and blue corn tortilla strips. Served with chipotle ranch dressing. \$19

2. Chicken Ranch Wrap-Crispy chicken tenders, romaine lettuce, tomato, onion, shredded cheddar cheese and ranch dressing in a jalapeño cheddar tortilla wrap. Served with French fries. \$15

3. Louie's Prime Dip-Shaved prime rib with melted Swiss cheese, caramelized onion and roasted red pepper. Served with a side of Aus Jus. and house chips. A gluten free bun is available upon request. \$16

Lunches include your choice of coffee, tea, soda or water. Free refills are available. Louie's has a full bar which you may order from and purchase individually on a separate check.

Mail in Luncheon Registration

Thursday, January 18 at 12noon at Louies Corner Cafe and Bar

Make out your check to KANC and mail to Angela Sawyer by January 8

6499 Trayburne Trail, Kalamazoo, MI 49009

Member _____ Choice _____ Guest _____ Choice _____

January Message from the KANC President— Patricia Niewoonder

Hello 2024, and hello and Happy New Year to all of the members of the Kalamazoo Area Newcomers Club.

I hope everyone is enjoying this holiday season. My holidays are usually filled to the brim visiting family, walking or driving through holidays displays, and celebrating with friends.

Speaking of celebrating with friends, didn't everyone truly enjoy our December luncheon at the Kalamazoo Country Club. The decorations were so very festive and a perfect setting for our gathering. It was great fun to catch up with all of our KANC friends. We were having so much fun, no one seemed to want to leave. If you weren't able to attend, you sure missed a wonderful performance of the Old Thyme Harmony Quartet. So glad I heard them.

My last comment this month is about resolutions for the new year which many of us make and then break all too quickly. If you make and keep just one resolution this year, please resolve to attend our monthly luncheons. We host them for you and we select speakers with you in mind. In order for us to continue to be a vibrant and flourishing organization for another 80 years, we need you to be an active part of KANC. Come join the fun.

Patricia Niewoonder
KANC President

January Birthdays

KANC Board 2023-2024

1/3 Gayle Leavitt

1/6 Sherry Deditius

1/10 Alta Herman

1/17 Carrie Andrews

1/20 Karla Stanley

1/23 Ann Perkins

1/23 Karel Juhl

1/23 Mary Tylicki

1/30 Sarah DeRusha

President~ Patricia Niewoonder

Vice President~ Sandie Curtis, Sharon Feildler

Secretary~ Judi Blanchard

Treasurer~ Donna Ring

Luncheons~ Nancy Schwander and Irene Smith

Programs~ Kathy Eklov and Marcia Hokin

Reservations~ Angela Sawyer

Membership~ Pat Rose

Newsletter/Web/Recruitment~ Nancy Greer

Publicity~ Paula Lucking

Special Interests~ Patty Litwiller

Did you know: Facts about KANC founding:

The original foundation of KANC stemmed from an offshoot of the services of Welcome Wagon-- Newcomer Hostessing Service.

In 1940, Ann Ewing Smith, a resident of Kalamazoo and former Welcome Wagon hostess, started a business establishing a local independent personalized advertising service. She sought clients who were local businesses she believed she could recommend to new residents of Kalamazoo. She soon realized in calling upon these women they had a great need to get acquainted with not only local businesses and cultural events but also wanted a place to meet and form friendships.

She met with the Executive Secretary of the YWCA and the two women launched a joint sponsorship of a Newcomers Organization. This was the beginning of the YWCA Newcomers Club. Acting as an outreach organization to provide activities and programs for new residents to engender friendship and business connections.

Over the years-- the need for friendship, activities and programs continued- The group grew to over 400 members. In fact the group grew so large, an offshoot group was formed for those members who had been part of the group for over three years.

The group chose the name " Encore Club".

How many organizations can proudly say they are still thriving after 84 years?

Special Interest Groups

Arts Entertainment and More
Paula Lucking 630~632~7771

They will not be meeting for an event in January . Watch for further updates

DID YOU KNOW: You can stay up to date with KANC happenings by:

- Reading the weekly email update sent to your inbox
- Posting the KANC calendar in a handy spot for reference
- Checking out Kalamazoo Newcomers Club on Facebook for event pics!
- Viewing our webpage at kzoonewcomers.com when you lost your emailed newsletter!

Afternoon Bridge
Susan Lushin 630-303-0146

Monday, January 8th - Dawn Rice will be our hostess

Monday, January 22nd - Susan Lushin will be our hostess

Location will be determined by the hostess. If you have signed up to play, the hostess will be contacting you to determine how many tables and where we will be playing. We often meet at a restaurant and have lunch before we play. We start playing bridge at 12:30 p.m. New players and subs are always needed for bridge. Don't hesitate to call if you have an interest in playing with this fun group in a relaxed atmosphere.

Garden Group and Beyond
Nancy Stern 269~598~3638
Donna Ring 269~370~1337

Ever wanted to learn more about the KVCC Food Innovation Center? Here is your chance to get a "behind the scenes" tour. The Center grows some of the fresh produce used in their onsite culinary school.

We will meet at the Food Innovation Center, 224 E Crosstown Parkway, Kalamazoo, on Wednesday, January 24 at 10:30. Wear comfortable shoes for an indoor walking tour. There may be an opportunity for us to eat in the onsite restaurant. If not, we will plan to eat at another location for lunch. RSVP to Donna Ring 269-370-1337 or NancyStern,269-598-3638 nnc.stern@gmail.com or dring7@gmail.com

Euchre

Linda Vanderberg 269~254~2936

Everyone is welcome to join the fun in this lively afternoon of fun and laughter. Never played. Come learn. This is a great way to meet new friends.

Tuesday, January 2 and 16 ~ Time: 1-3 p.m.

Where: Huntington Run Clubhouse 6225 Cranbrook Lane, Kalamazoo

Any questions, call or text Linda so she can save you a seat.

Diners Club

Patty Litwiller - 586-243-8886

Barb Starring - 269-569-0292

Escape to the tropics with us at Junglebird, 6:00pm, Thursday, January 25.

Jungle bird is located at 155 W. Michigan Ave and serves up craft cocktails and made from scratch cuisine, all inspired by flavors from the Caribbean, South America, South Florida and Cuba.

Please RSVP by Jan. 21 to join us for a fun time. We welcome everyone!

Consumer File Box

Lois Loeffler 269~372~0038

loisloeffler@gmail.com

Consumers File Box has a new entry for a **window washer**. Still needed are recommendations for **cleaning services** and **handymen who can accomplish household tasks** (hanging pictures, replacing smoke alarms, putting window screens and screen doors on, etc.)

Out to Lunch Bunch

Dannie Hickson 269~720~0504

Nita Comensoli 269~598~2497

We will be meeting at **Erbelli's Gourmet Pizza on January 10th at 12 noon**. The restaurant is located at 6214 Stadium Drive. All members and guests are always welcome. Please come and enjoy a great lunch with your Newcomer Friends. All members and guests are always welcome. Come and enjoy a great lunch with Newcomer friends.

Please rsvp via text or phone to Nita or Dannie at the above numbers.

Breakfast Club

Patty Litwiller 586-243-8886

Join us on Saturday, January 20 at 9:30 a.m. for breakfast.

We will meet at Bob Evans Restaurant on South Westnedge
RSVP to Patty Litwiller if you can attend.

Everyone is welcome to join the fun!

Special Interest Groups

Happy Hour

Patty Litwiller 586~243-8886

Happy Hour will be cancelled for January as we recover from the Holidays. We will resume in February with a Happy Hour you don't want to miss. Happy Hour meets vintage pot-luck! So dig through your old recipes (or your Mom's) and bring an oldie but goodie to what will surely be an epic event. Details to follow in the February newsletter.

Friends, Food and Fun

Carol Beckius 269-372-6950

Marilyn Jauch 269~372~7751

On January 13 at 5:30 will be going to Main Street Pub and Grill on W. Main St. in Kalamazoo. Please RSVP to Marilyn Jauch by January 9. If your plans change, please let Marilyn know. Hope to see you soon.

Hiking/Biking/ XC Skiing

Patty Litwiller 586~243~8886

Nancy Stern 269~598~3638

Start the New Year with some exercise and Newcomer friends!

We will meet at **Milham Park Golf Club on Tuesday, January 9 at 10:00AM.** If there is enough snow, we will cross country ski. If not, we will walk on the paved trails near there. In either case, meet at Milham Park Golf Club, 4200 Lovers Lane, Kalamazoo.

Watch for updated info in the weekly email notice several days before we meet. Lunch afterwards, TBD by the group.

RSVP Patty Litwiller or Nancy Stern are welcome!

Coping with Everyday Life

Sylvia Blum 269~323~1727

Led by Sylvia Blum, this open forum discussion can benefit all of us as we go about our day-to-day lives. Since the first Monday of the New Year falls on New Year's Day, we will not be meeting in January.

The group will resume meeting on our regular first Monday, February 5, 2024. We will be meeting for lunch at Buddies Pizza on Westnedge at 1:00 p.m.

All are welcome to join us, as we discuss coping with the everyday stresses in our lives.

Please call Sylvia if you plan to attend.

Sit and Stitch

Charlotte Hosking 269~372~2430

Join us on Friday, January 19th at 1pm in the backroom of **Chicks with Sticks**. (Chicks with Sticks is in the same shopping center as Fields Fabrics in front of the airport on Portage Road.) Knitters, needlework, crafters,

Bunco

Angela Sawyer 434~996~1776

Thursday January 4 AT 1:00 PM. AT BUDDYS PIZZA at 5314 S WESTNEDGE. PORTAGE. 49002

RSVP TO Angela Sawyer 434-996-1776

Bring \$2 😊. We play for money but keep that a secret.....

Never played? No problem. Anyone can learn.

Book Nook

Charlotte Hosking - 269-372-2430

Come join us on the third Monday of every month at 10am. We are always happy to welcome new friends, whether or not you've read the book or liked it! We have a new location! From now on we'll meet in the Parkview Hills Clubhouse in the dining room. Thanks to Donna Lindsay for arranging this for us.

**On Monday, January 15th at 10am we'll be at Parkview Hills Clubhouse to discuss:
The Covenant of Water by Abraham Verghese**

Leader: Suzette Ross

A stunning and magisterial new epic of love, faith, and medicine, set in Kerala and following three generations of a family seeking the answers to a strange secret.

Spanning the years 1900 to 1977, *The Covenant of Water* is set in Kerala, on South India's Malabar Coast, and follows three generations of a family that suffers a peculiar affliction: in every generation, at least one person dies by drowning—and in Kerala, water is everywhere. h

The family is part of a Christian community that traces itself to the time of the apostles, but times are shifting, and the matriarch of this family, known as Big Ammachi—literally “Big Mother”—will witness unthinkable changes at home and at large over the span of her extraordinary life. All of Verghese's great gifts are on display in this new work: there are astonishing scenes of medical ingenuity, fantastic moments of humor, a surprising and deeply moving story, and characters imbued with the essence of life.

February 19th - The Violin Conspiracy by Brendan Slocumb

Leader: Donna Lindsay

March 18th - Our Missing Hearts by Celeste Ng

Leader: Linda Kubinski

Evening Book Nook

Suzette Ross 269-501-0847 or email suzross2@gmail.com

Attention all Evening Book Enthusiasts

For the month of January, the Evening Book Club will be meeting on
Thursday, January 4 at 5:30 p.m.

We are reading the "Bandit Queens" by Parini Shroff. It is the author's debut novel about a "self-made" widow who is approached by other wives to help them get rid of their no-good husbands. Twists and turns abound.

The January 4th meeting will be hosted by Carrie Andrews at her home - 3390 Dunns Ridge, Kalamazoo. To ensure ample seating, please RSVP to Carrie at (269) 290-8376 and join the discussion.

Other books selected through May of 2024 include:

February - The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store by James McBride

March - The Murmur of Bees by Sofia Segovia

April - Mystic River by Dennis Lehane

May - The Waters by Bonnie Jo Campbell

We invite anyone interested in sharing the love of books to join us in this newly formed book group!

This group will be rotating locations of where they meet monthly at the discretion of the hostess. Meet time will be 5:30 p.m.

Suzette will be happy to share further specifics to anyone interested. Call or text her with questions.

Upcoming Luncheon Venues 2023/2024-12 Noon

January 18, 2024 ~Louie's at Texas Corners

West Michigan Air Care with Sara Sturgeon, Flight Nurse

February 15, 2024 ~Main Street Pub on Gull Road

Kalamazoo Valley Museum with William Gould-McElhone, Educator

March 21, 2024 ~Comensoli's Italian Grille

Community HomeWorks Kalamazoo City Commissioner, Chris Praedel

April 18, 2024 ~North 11

Confections with Convictions

Chocolates for every Occasion with Dale Anderson, Founder

May 16, 2024~Martell's

Charity Contribution to First Day Shoe Fund, Maggie Hesketh

Introduction of Board 2024-2025

Meet our Newest Member: Welcome! So happy to have you!

Jean Grossman

January 2024 Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Happy New Year	2 Euchre Huntington Run 1-3 p.m.	3	4 Bunco Buddy's Pizza 1:00 p.m. Evening Book Club 5:30 p.m. Carrie Andrews	5	6
7	8 Afternoon Bridge 12:30 Dawn Rice Evening book group Carrie Andrews Home 5:30 p.m.	9 Hike and Bike Milham Park Golf Club 10:00 a.m.	10 Out to Lunch Bunch Erbelli's Stadium Drive 12 noon	11 Board Meeting 9:30 a.m.	12	13 Friends, Food and Fun Main Street Pub 5:30 p.m.
14	15 Book Nook Parkview Hills 10:00 a.m.	16 Euchre Huntington Run Clubhouse 1-3 p.m.	17	18 January Luncheon Louie's Cafe and Bar 12 noon	19 Sit and Stitch 1:00 p.m. Chicks w Sticks	20 Breakfast Club Bob Evans 9:30 a.m.
21	22 Afternoon Bridge Susan Lushin 12:30	23	24 Garden Group and Beyond Food Innovation Center 10:30 a.m.	25 Diner's Club Jungle Bird 6:00 p.m.	26	27
28	29	30				