

Kalamazoo Area Newcomers Club

May 2023

Celebrating 82 Years of Service

Kalamazoo, Michigan

MAY GREETINGS FROM SUZETTE ROSS~ PRESIDENT 🌻

Hello, beautiful May!

A month of growth, beauty, and special holidays and celebrations. Mother's Day, Cinco de Mayo, National Nurses Day, Dance Like a Chicken Day (May 14th), Memorial Day, plus each day in May is a gift of being for each of us.

In the early 1900's, families put a cloth in their larder to bring luck to the household.

29th is Pillow on Your Fridge Day a spin off from the cloth/larder/fridge observance.



The candidates for the KANC 2023-24 Board were voted on at the April meeting/luncheon. At the May meeting/luncheon, the 2023-24 Board will be installed. Please consider attending this event at the Kalamazoo Country Club on May 18th.

KANC will not have a luncheon in June, July or August. However, the Special Interest Groups continue to meet monthly unless otherwise noted in the newsletter or via a general email from our Newsletter Chairperson.

Speaking of our Newsletter Chairperson, a very special thanks to Nancy Greer for the weekly email reminder of upcoming events. A helpful nudge to those of us who forgot to put a KANC event date on our fun things to do list. The newsletter is a plethora of information. Don't miss any of the very interesting, ongoing happenings, special events and general monthly updates.

Read on.....

NEWCOMER TEA

(well actually— we'll have tea in staying with the name, but we also have other yummy goodies for those non tea totalers—)

We invite all of our KANC friends to come meet and welcome our newest members at the Newcomer tea hosted in their honor!

When: Wednesday, May 10 10:00 a.m.

Where: Huntington Run Clubhouse
6255 Cranbrook Lane
Kalamazoo, MI.

RSVP : Janet Wappenstein 269-998-9557

If you know of someone interested in joining KANC or simply learning more about our great group of friends— PLEASE invite them to join the tea!

Special Announcement: Calling all book lovers!!

There has been some recent chatter and interest from several KANC friends asking for the board to revisit starting an **evening** book group!

Please, please, please— If you are one of those members who expressed interest in being a part of this fun Special Interest group~ contact Suzette Ross to learn more details. We would love to get this group rolling for Fall.



May Luncheon- Thursday, May 18~ 12:00 noon



Kalamazoo County Club

Spring is here and we are excited to be returning to the **Kalamazoo Country Club** at 1609 Whites Rd., Kalamazoo. With spring comes flowers, candy and parties! So let's bring some sunshine into our day!

Join us on **Thursday, May 18th from 12-2 pm** for lunch with our special **guest speaker, Cherri Emery (owner of Cherri's Choccol'art)**.

Cherri also let us know that she will be donating a \$100 basket of her chocolate creations to be raffled off as part of our 50-50! We look forward to your joining us.

Following are the luncheon choices: **All priced at \$23**

All are on a wheat tortilla wrap *GF bun is available

1. Michigan Cherry & Almond Chicken Salad
2. House-made Tuna Salad w/lettuce & tomato
3. Boars Head turkey, bacon & swiss w/garlic aioli
4. Caesar Salad

All are accompanied with kettle chips, fresh fruit & family style cookies

Beverages are available at drink station: coffee, tea & ice tea

Please note: No food may be carried out from the Country Club in a box.

Please RSVP with \$23 to Angela Sawyer by May 12

Mail in Luncheon Registration

Thursday, May 18 at 12noon at Kalamazoo Country Club


Make your check —\$23.00 to KANC and mail to Angela Sawyer by May 12.

6499 Trayburne Trail, Kalamazoo, MI 49009

Me  mber _____ Entree Choice

1 _____ 2 _____ 3 _____ 4 _____

Guest _____ Entree Choice 1 _____ 2 _____ 3 _____ 4 _____

May Birthdays	KANC BOARD 2022-2023
 <p> 5/3 Sharon Fiedler 5/4 Juanita Bland 5/6 Ruth White 5/7 Penny Caldwell 5/12 Gloria Seabold 5/18 Marcia Hokin 5/24 Maureen Gilliland 5/29 Sherry Mattingly </p>	<p> President~ Suzette Ross Vice President~ Patricia Niewoonder Secretary~ Judi Blanchard Treasurer~ Donna Ring Luncheons~ Nancy Schwander Irene Smith Programs~ Kathy Eklov and Marcia Hokin Reservations~ Angela Sawyer Membership~ Pat Rose Newsletter/Recruitment~ Nancy Greer Publicity~ Paula Lucking Hospitality~ Janet Wappenstein Special Interest~ Nancy Stern </p>

A big Kalamazoo Newcomer Club welcome to our newest members! 🌻

We look forward to your participation in our many great activities!

Sue Frederick, Sallie Foley, Glenda Leith, Sherri Seifert

📢 Our new Officers and Board members for 2023-2024 are as follows:

OFFICERS:

President~ Patricia Niewoonder
 Co-Vice Presidents~ Sandi Curtis, Sharon Fiedler
 Secretary~ Judi Blanchard
 Treasurer~ Donna Ring

BOARD MEMBERS :

Luncheons~Nancy Schwander and Irene Smith
 Programs~ Kathy Eklov and Marcia Hokin
 Reservations~ Angela Sawyer
 Membership~ Pat Rose
 Hospitality~ Janet Wappenstein
 Newsletter~ Nancy Greer
 Publicity ~ Paula Lucking
 Special Interest~ Patti Litwiller

IT's TIME FOR A BIRTHDAY PARTY!

SPRING HAS SPRUNG, THE GRASS HAS RIZ, I WONDER WHERE THE BIRTHDAY PARTY IS!???

Calling All APRIL, MAY and JUNE BIRTHDAY LADIES! It's time to celebrate....join us for FUN, FRIENDSHIP and a BIRTHDAY BRUNCH!

When: May 22nd

Time: 10:00 AM

Where: MICHELLES in MATTAWAN
25441 Red Arrow Highway (aka Stadium Drive)
Mattawan, MI

Missed your Designated birthday month, feel free to come to this one! It's our final Birthday Bash for the Club year and we'd love a full house! Delicious food, birthday surprises, and maybe a Birthday game .

RSVP and we'll put your name on a chair....do come. We're excited to see you.

Simply "text or call" with a YES to your birthday hostesses.

Nancy Schwander. 269-806-3851

Janet Wappenstein. 269-998-9557

Irene Smith. 269-491-9829

Afternoon Bridge ♠️

Susan Lushin 630-303-0146

Afternoon Bridge is a great time!

May 6 - Sarah DeRusha will be our hostess

May 22 - 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 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 so don't hesitate to call Susan

Bunco 🎲

Janet Wappenstein 269-998-9557

Thursday, May 4 from 1-3 p.m. AT
BUDDYS PIZZA at 5314 S WESTNEDGE.
PORTAGE. 49002

Never played?— its been awhile?— we welcome you. **RSVP TO JANET WAPPENSTEIN**

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

Please come early if you want to enjoy lunch prior to playing !

Special Interest Groups

Euchre

Linda Vanderberg 269~254~2936

Come join the gang and play Euchre.
Don't know how to play? We will teach you .

Everyone welcome !

May Dates:

Tuesday, May 2 and May 16

Time: 1-3 p.m.

Where: Huntington Run Clubhouse

Any questions, call or text Linda Vanderberg

Diners Club

Patty Litwiller - 586-243-8886

Barb Starring - 269-569-0292

Join us for classic American fare at The
Craftsman Chop Co on Thursday, May 25
at 6:00 pm: located at 6905 Sears
Drive, Portage.

Hope you can come and meet some new friends !

Please rsvp to Barb Starring or Patty Litwiller

Garden Group and Beyond

Linda Vanderberg 269~254~2936

April showers bring May flowers and we will be traveling to Holland to tiptoe through the tulips
Monday, May 6. We will visit Windmill Island and Kollen Park before enjoying lunch.

We will meet at Oakland Drive park and ride at 9:00 am to car pool. If driving on your own, meet at the Windmill Island ticket office at 10:30.
Admission to the Island is \$12.00 and tickets can be purchased individually on site.
Please RSVP to LINDA or PATTY

Out to Lunch Bunch

Sharon Weaver -269- 327-4606

Grace Weaver 269-324-5776

We will meet for lunch **Wednesday May 10th at 12 noon at the Black Rock, 550 Trade Centre way in Portage.**

Please have your reservations in no later than Monday the 8th.

Call or email Sharon Weaver at 327-4606
swcats@sbcglobal.net or Grace Weaver 324-5776 graceawleo@gmail.com

All members welcome. Bring a guest if you like and enjoy a pleasant lunch with the Lunch Bunch.

Breakfast Club

Janet Wappenstein 269-998-9957

BREAKFAST CLUB. Join us for yummy food, fun and laughter at **Bob Evans on Westnedge Ave.** We will meet on **Saturday, May 20** at 9:30. RSVP to Janet Wappenstein at 269-998-9557.

Everyone is welcome to join the fun!

Special Interest Groups

Happy Hour

Patty Litwiller 586~243-8886
Linda Vanderberg 269~254~2936

Spring has sprung and it is time to get happy; 4:00 pm
Wednesday, May 3 at Fletchers Pub; 6946 W Q Ave,
Kalamazoo. Weather permitting we will be on the patio
so dress accordingly. Please RSVP to Patty Litwiller or
Linda Vanderberg.

Hiking/Biking/ XC Skiing

Patty Litwiller 586~243~8886
Nancy Stern 269~598~3638

**We will hike at the Kalamazoo Nature Center
on May 9 at 10:00 a.m.** Hopefully we will see
some wildflowers! All are welcome to join us.

There is a fee to enter the Nature
Center(unless you are a member). Adults age
55+ is \$6.00; up to age 55 is \$7.00.
Meet at the Nature Center parking lot at
10:00AM for our walk, & bring a bag lunch &
beverage for a picnic afterwards.
RSVP Patty Litwiller or Nancy Stern.

Friends, Food and Fun

Carol Beckius 269~372~6950
Marilyn Jauch 269~372~7751

**On Saturday, May 13th we will meet at
Buddy's at 5:30 p.m.** This restaurant
located at 5314 S. Westnedge has become one
of our favorite places to go.

Please call Marilyn Jauch at 372-7751 or email
her at ml.jauch47@gmail.com or call Carol
Beckius 372-6950 by May 10 to RSVP.
Hope to see you there!

Consumer File Box

Lois Loeffler 269~372~0038

The **Consumer File Box** needs your
submissions. If you've had good service,
please share your recommendations for the
following:

- **Plumber**
- **Upholsterer**
- **Divorce lawyer**
- **Financial advisor**
- **Personal trainer**

and any other business or service person
with whom you've been pleased.

Did you know you can:

**Follow us on Facebook and watch for a
new revamped KANC webpage coming
soon!** kazoone newcomers.com

Our email address for inquiries is
kanc.kalamazoo@gmail.com

Sit and Stitch

Charlotte Hosking 269~372~2430

**Come join us on Friday, May 19th at 1pm in the
backroom at Chicks with Sticks on Portage
Road. Chicks with Sticks is in the same plaza as
Field's Fabrics.**

We're a very relaxed group who like to sit and chat,
give each other a helping hand, and
primarily have a good laugh. So, whether you knit,
crochet, cross-stitch, sew, or none of the
above, come join us for an afternoon of good
companionship and laughs. If you'd like to learn to
knit come along and we can help you get started.



Book Nook



Charlotte Hosking - 269-372-2430

Come join us on the third Monday of every month at 10am at Grand Traverse Pie Company.

We are always happy to welcome new friends, whether or not you've read the book or liked it!

On Monday, May 15th at 10am we'll meet at Grand Traverse Pie Co to discuss: **Mountains Beyond Mountains: The Quest of Dr. Paul Farmer, a Man Who Would Cure the World** by Tracy Kidder

Leader: Charlotte Hosking

At the center of *Mountains Beyond Mountains* stands Paul Farmer. Doctor, Harvard professor, renowned infectious-disease specialist, anthropologist, the recipient of a MacArthur "genius" grant, world-class Robin Hood, Farmer was brought up in a bus and on a boat, and in medical school found his life's calling: to diagnose and cure infectious diseases and to bring the lifesaving tools of modern medicine to those who need them most.

On Monday, June 19th at 10am we'll meet at Grand Traverse Pie Co. to vote on next year's books. If you have suggestions for our voting list, please send them to Charlotte.

Arts and Entertainment and More - Our newest SIG group!

Paula Lucking 630-632-7771

Louise Javery 269-548-7717

The expected warmer weather on **May 23rd** should be perfect for a visit to Michigan's most awarded & longest running winery, **St. Julian, in Paw Paw.**

Starting at **2pm** we will spend 90 minutes touring the winery, **tasting 5 wines** made in house and **try charcuterie** from **The GatheringTable** of Kalamazoo.

RSVP by May 19th to Paula (incl. choice of just wine or also charcuterie)

\$20 cost if wine tasting only, \$30 if including charcuterie . Pay upon arrival

Drive yourself or arrange carpool (participant list shared after 5/19)

Questions or RSVP to Paula Lucking 630-632-7771 (text or call)

Email. Pflanluc@gmail.com

Special Interest Groups IMPORTANT UPDATES

WE NEED YOUR HELP: PLEASE CONSIDER VOLUNTEERING and BECOME A LEADER SO WE MAY SUSTAIN OUR SIG GROUPS:

Out to Lunch Bunch is looking for a leader(s) for 2023-2024. Interested — Contact Nancy Stern for more details.

Garden and Beyond Group is searching for leaders. There is a fun year planned for 2023 already! So many of you enjoy gardening. Consider becoming a co leader and supporting KANC.

March 22 - Raising Butterflies - Helen W

April 26 - Kalamazoo River Watershed Council

May 6- Tulip Festival Holland

Jun 28 - Composting and recycling

July 8 - Marshall Garden Tour

Aug 23 - Tour of Ruthmere or Havilah
Beardsley House in Elkhart - Angela

Sept 27 - Potluck- (planning for the upcoming year happens here)

Get to know our members: In Her own Words: Esther Cetina

When somebody ask you to write an autobiography, many questions about who you are given thought and the first thing that comes to your mind is, it is not easy to decide what were the most important events in your life, that marked your destiny and brought you were you were today. My journey is long so I've decided to tell the story of the circumstances and facts that brought me to United States so others will have have a little understanding of myself.

My name is Nidia Esther Cetina Castillo, and I was born in Mérida Yucatan, México, the 13th of July of 1967. My parents, both alive, are middle upper class and are a very close, conservative, catholic family.

I had a magnificent, awesome childhood, I remember always being loved and spoiled ~ my son and daughter, my two brothers, my cousins, my aunts, and other in laws, always found the perfect moment that brought our family together.

I married a doctor in 1992, who with time, became The Minister of Health of Yucatan.

During 3 years before the Governor election in 2012, both my husband and I, started to become involved in politics. In that time, I was supporting him in his new endeavor.

The Governor campaign in 2012 was a crazy time where literally every week night we had a meeting in our house, often with over 80 people and we did such a good job, this lead to my husband becoming the Minister of Health and this is when everything began to spin in my life:

drivers, secretaries, people in my house all the time, thousands of contacts everywhere and an unexpected job for me~I became the head of volunteers in all the public hospitals in the state. That changed my life, and the way that I see the world, my upper class bubble pump and I tried to do my best to help all this humble, poor and amazing people that I met during that time. I am so proud of all that we achieved as a group with my volunteers, and our fundraising events, that this only gave me fulfillment and peace in my life.

I started to contemplate a divorce, and finally received a divorce 2017, in a pre campaign year, because I received support from people I knew in power positions.

I always consider myself a liberal, and even more after my divorce, when I started to understand how difficult it is for a divorce women to navigate the society in Merida.

I had friends that stopped talking to me, and others, tried to changed my mind. My husband was famous and rich, so why I was trying to separate?, It was the real friends who stuck with me, the ones who thought what was the best for me.

During that time, I became a member of the expat community, so when I met Mark, my husband now, through facebook, during the pandemic, when I was living with my parents, and video calls all the nights with him, became so important to me. It was the light of my days.

It was then I started really think if I could be an immigrant, an idea that never ever crossed my mind!!!. When he finally propose to me, after a year, I knew that the path was not going to be easy, all that I have in México, all the friends and family I know, this secure place were I grew up, My culture, my language and the way we communicate, will change.

But I always consider immigrants, brave people, and for me, I knew the process will be easier. I have had a tourist visa since I was nine and all my life have visited different parts of United States once or twice a year. All of that played in my favor and I got my residence in 4 months.

Mark and his mom's support were fundamental stones for the new life I wanted to build, so I jumped and it has been the best decision in my life. I married Mark Geib in 2021 and I am going through the assimilation and acculturation process, getting new friends on the way, like these amazing women that are part of this group who opened their arms to me, since the first moment.

Thank you all!!!

May 2023

KANC Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 Euchre Huntington Run Clubhouse 1-3 p.m.	3 Happy Hour Fletcher's Pub Q Ave 4:00 p.m.	4 Bunco Buddy's Pizza 1-3p.m.	5	6
7	8 Afternoon Bridge 12:30 p.m. Host-Sarah DeRusha Garden Group Holland Windmill Island 10:30 a.m.	9 Hiking/Biking Kalamazoo Nature Center 10:00 a.m.	10 Out to Lunch Bunch Black Rock Cafe 12 noon New Member's Tea 10:00 a.m.	11 Board Meeting 9:30 a.m. Huntington Clubhouse	12	13 Friends, Food and Fun Buddy's Pizza 5:30 p.m.
14	15 Book Nook Grand Traverse Pie 10:00 a.m.	16 Euchre Huntington Run Clubhouse 1-3 p.m.	17	18 Luncheon Kalamazoo Country Club 12 noon	19 Sit and Stitch Chicks w Stick 1:00 p.m.	20 Breakfast Club Bob Evans 9:30 a.m.
21	22 Afternoon Bridge 12:30 p.m. Host- Susan Lushin Birthday Party Michelle's Mattawan 10:00 a.m.	23 Arts and Entertainment St Julian Winery 2:00 p.m.	24	25 Diners Club Craftsman Chop House 6:00 p.m.	26	27
28	29	30	31			