

Kalamazoo Area Newcomers Club

June 2025 Celebrating 85 Years of Service Kalamazoo, Michigan

June Message from the KANC President— Patricia Niewoonder

It is hard to believe that another year of fun with our many friends of the Kalamazoo Area Newcomers Club is coming to an end. We had wonderful luncheons held throughout the community with some great presenters. To name a few - we had a local city clerk share information about our area elections, the director of Habitat for Humanity talked about our local programs, and we learned so very much about the establishment and works of the Ladies Library Association. I know that the planning and luncheons committee is hard at work to find engaging and intriguing programs for FY 2025-26 as well as researching the best places to host our luncheons. Look for more information to come later this summer.

This past year we implemented the use of the BAND app as another way to communicate with our members especially when we have "spur of the moment" activities that we think others may be interested in. Almost 40 KANC members have joined the movement. If you haven't joined yet, please consider exploring the benefits of this app.

Also this year we have been exploring the possibility of implementing an optional electronic payment process. This would allow our members to pay for dues and luncheon fees electronically. Our committee chaired by KANC Treasurer, Donna Ring, is moving forward and looking at the options. I think it will be exciting to see this unfold. I don't know about you, but KANC is one of the few organizations that I need to mail in a check to pay for activities. Please look for more information to come at the new year begins.

But just because it's summer it does not mean all of our activities cease. The book clubs still meet to discuss their favorite books, the garden club and the hiking/biking group will still explore the great outdoors, and our various card and social groups will continue to enjoy monthly gatherings. Come and join the fun!

Patricia Niewoonder
KANC President

June 2025 Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Evening Book Club 5:30 p.m. Parkview Hills Clubhouse	3 Euchre Huntington Run Clubhouse 1-3 p.m.	4 Happy Hour University Roadhouse 4:00 p.m.	5 Bunco Story Point Portage 1:00 p.m.	6	7
8	9 Afternoon Bridge 12:30 Susan Lushin	10 Hike and Bike Texas Drive Park — biking 10:00 a.m.	11 Out to Lunch Bunch 12:00 noon Berries Pancake on Gull Road	12 Board meeting Huntington Run Clubhouse 9:30	13	14 Food, Friends, and Fun Stienspark Biergarten 5:00 p.m.
15 Happy Father's Day	16	17 Euchre Huntington Run Clubhouse 1-3 p.m.	18 Diner's Club Martinis 6:00 p.m.	19	20	21 Breakfast Club Rooster's 9:30 a.m.
22	23 Afternoon Bridge 12:30 p.m. Carol Vuilleminot	24 Arts and Entertainment Homer Stryker Field 6:00 p.m.	25 Garden Group and Beyond 10:00 a.m. Linda Vanderberg's house	26 Birthday Bash University Roadhouse 12 noon	27	28

KANC Board 2025-2026

Thank you to our Board and SIG Leaders

President~Irene Smith
Vice President~Kathy Roberts/Barb
Starring
Secretary~ Gayle Leavitt
Treasurer~ Donna Ring
Luncheons~ Nancy Schwander/Pam Meyers
Programs~ Kathy Eklov/ Marcia Kolinski
Reservations~ Angela Sawyer/Cheryl
Omans
Membership~Morgan Zapata
Hospitality ~Linda Vanderberg
Newsletter/Web~ Nancy Greer
Publicity~ Open
Special Interests~Patty Litwiller

A Heartfelt thank you to all of the board members and SIG leaders who supported KANC in 2024-2025 and a warm welcome to our new board members and SIG leaders for the upcoming 2025-2026 year. We appreciate your dedication to guide the Club throughout the year. It is with your vision, focus and service that KANC is able to continue to thrive.

Our outgoing board members include Patricia Niewoonder, Lori Miller, Judi Blanchard, Pat Rose, Marcia Hokin and Paula Lucking. Thank you!

The Big Birthday Bash



**Attention all April, May, and June
Birthday Friends!**

Special B-day party just for you!

**Thursday, June 26 ~12 noon
University Roadhouse**

Come get to know your birthday
friends!

RSVP to Linda Vanderberg
269~254~2936

Mark your calendar!

June Birthdays

6/1 Lila Hauge- Stoffel
6/3 Janet Leonard
6/4 Irene Smith
6/7 Donna Ring
6/7 Holly Vestal
6/9 Jennifer Tschirhart
6/10 Sandie Curtis
6/17 Paula Aldridge
6/18 Chris Willson
6/28 Brenda Turner
6/29 Joyce Beattie

Special Interest Groups

Arts Entertainment and More ~ Patty Litwiller 586-243-8886 Linda Vanderberg 269-254-2936

Take me out to the ballgame   

Join us for an evening at the ballpark on **June 24** to watch our Kalamazoo Growlers take on the Royal Oak Leprechauns. We will meet at **6:00 at Stryker Field Stadium** main gate ticket booth to buy our tickets ahead of the 6:30 game. Be sure to rsvp Linda Vanderberg or Patty Litwiller.

Afternoon Bridge
Susan Lushin 630-303-0146

June 9 - Susan Lushin will be our hostess
June 23 - Carol Vuilleminot 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

Linda Vanderberg 269~254~2936

Come join our **Garden Group on June 25 at 10:00 a.m.** for an interesting presentation of "Turning grocery store flowers into beautiful bouquets ", presented by Lorraine Kraker.

Lorraine graduated from Michigan State Ornamental Horticulture Design, and worked as head landscaper for Wedel's. From there she went on to become the head landscaper for the Gull Lake Country Club.

Lorraine is now retired, but still very, very active!! We will meet at the home of Linda Vanderberg, 1842 Cumberland St on Wednesday, June 25th at 10:00.

Please RSVP to Linda 269-254-2936.

Euchre

Linda Vanderberg 269~254~2936

Euchre is happening this month on **Tuesday, June 3 and June 17 at Huntington Run Clubhouse**. Time 1-3 p.m.

Don't miss out on this lively game filled and social time with friends.

RSVP to Linda so she can save you a seat.

Diners Club

Kathleen Smothers~ 269-615-7054

Have you ever been to, or even heard of **Martini's Pizza**? It's a wonderfully well kept secret, but it's time to rediscover this fabulous restaurant that offers more than there yummy pizza. Let's gather at 6pm, (potentially on the patio) on **Wednesday, June 18th**. The address is: **832 S. Westnedge Ave. Kalamazoo**. Parking lot is on Village St. (west side of the building). Check out their website: <https://www.martiniskzoo.com>

Contact: Kathleen @ 269-615-7054

Consumer File Box

Lois Loeffler 269~372~0038

loisloeffler@gmail.com

GARDEN HELPER FOUND!!

I have a recommendation just in time for those of us who'd like help with our flower beds and shrubs.

Tyann has weeded and fertilized our flower beds, deadheaded, laid mulch, cut down the grasses, cleared overgrown ground cover from a large area, taken out bushes, and will divide and replant some perennials and bulbs later in the season. She is very personable, strong, quick, efficient, thorough, has past experience working with a landscape business, and is more affordable than others I have thought of hiring.

Please call and leave a message on my landline or email me if you have questions or want her contact information.

Out to Lunch Bunch

Dannie Hickson 269~720~0504

Nita Comensoli 269~598~2497

Lunch Bunch will meet on **June 11th at 12 noon at Berries Famous Pancake House, 5585 Gull Road, Suite 117, Kalamazoo**. Please join us for food, fun and friendship.

RSVP by text to Nita or Dannie to let them know you plan to join in the fun.

Breakfast Club

Esther Cetina 269~254~5729

Karla Stanley 269~744~1917

Martine Goddeyne 269~873~8864

Breakfast Club will be heading to **Rooster's Call** 6050 Gull Road. Kalamazoo 49048 on Saturday, June 21 at 9:30 a.m.

Everyone is welcome to join the fun! Please RSVP to one of the hostesses.

Special Interest Groups

Happy Hour

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

Come join us June 4, 4:00 pm at **University Roadhouse (1332 W Michigan Avenue)**.

If weather permits we will enjoy the afternoon on their patio. Please RSVP Linda Vanderberg or Patty Litwiller by June 2.

Sit and Stitch

Charlotte Hosking 269~372~2430

Sit and Stitch will be taking a break for the months of June and July to enjoy the nice weather.

We will plan on having a luncheon in August with details to be announced in the July/ August newsletter.

Hiking/Biking/ XC Skiing

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

Time to get those bikes out and start riding! Join us for a ride on **Tuesday, June 10**. The ride begins at Texas Drive Park, 6603 Texas Dr., Kalamazoo. Please be ready to ride at 10AM.

We will ride to Celery Flats, returning to Texas Drive Park, about 13 miles roundtrip. Lunch TBD, likely at Fletcher's Pub in Texas Corners. All are welcome!

RSVP Patty Litwiller or Nancy Stern.

Bunco

Angela Sawyer 434~996~1776

Thursday, June 5 AT 1:00 PM. Story Point Milham Drive Portage.

Take the elevator up to the 2nd floor activity room

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.

Friends, Food and Fun

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

Please join us on **Saturday, June 14th** to visit **Steinspark Biergarten on Milham** (just east of Portage Rd.). It is a small park-like outdoor restaurant where you can order German food, like schnitzel, bratwurst, spätzle, potato salad, and sauerkraut. Beer, wine, and pop are also available. It should be a fun place to spend an early evening. Everyone is welcome! Please let Carol or Rita know if you plan to join us!

Rita: 269-353-6832 Carol: 269-823-8557

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 you've read the book or liked it! We have a new location!

We meet in the **Parkview Hills Clubhouse** in the dining room.

No need to RSVP— Just show up!

June 16th - Voting on next year's books. A list of suggested books will be emailed in early June.

July 21st - The Frozen River by Ariel Lawhon

Leader: Rosemarie Nado-Cadeau

August 18th - Everything I Learned, I Learned in a Chinese Restaurant by Curtis Chin

Leader - Donna Lindsay

Special Announcements

KANC is in search of an individual with marketing and/or publicity experience to join our Board for the 2025-2026 year. If you are well networked and willing to make connections and outreach in the greater Kalamazoo area this volunteer role may be for you. Our goal is expand our membership thru awareness of KANC in the community (KANC is a hidden gem most women do not know about) This may include solicitation at community events, press releases for local publications, managing of KANC Facebook page, networking with other non profits. Basic technology and writing skills needed. Attendance at our monthly board meetings held the second Thursday of month at 9:30 a.m. is preferred. Contact Nancy Greer at 269-599-8495 or Irene Smith 269-491-9829 to learn more.

Do you like to dine out? Seeking someone to **lead Diner's Club as the Special Interest Group leader for next year.** This responsibility includes choosing a monthly restaurant in the greater Kalamazoo area, coordinating the reservation and communicating with those members who RSVP to attend. Write up is included in monthly newsletter. Monthly date is currently last Wednesday of month but can be adjusted. Contact Patty Litwiller if interested . 586-243-8886

Evening Book Nook

Tracy Buschert 816~210~1091 Holly Vestal 269~312~6950

Meets the 1st Monday of the month at 5:30pm in the library at Parkview Hills
Clubhouse

For questions about the Monday Night Book Club - send text to Holly Vestal
269~312~6950 or Tracy Buschert 816~210~1091. No need to RSVP to attend
this group.

Monday June 2nd

THE HUMMINGBIRD'S DAUGHTER by Luis Alberto Urrea

The prizewinning writer Luis Alberto Urrea's long-awaited novel is an epic mystical
drama of a young woman's sudden sainthood in late 19th-century Mexico. It is
1889, and civil war is brewing in Mexico. A 16-year-old girl, Teresita, the
illegitimate but beloved daughter of the wealthy and powerful rancher Don Tomas
Urrea, wakes from the strangest dream-a dream that she has died. Only it was not
a dream.

Discussion Leader - Donna Ring

Monday July 7th

JAMES by Percival Everett

A re imaging of The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn by Mark Twain.

When Jim overhears that he is about to be sold to a man in New Orleans,
separated from his wife and daughter forever, he runs away until he can formulate
a plan. Meanwhile, Huck has faked his own death to escape his violent father. As
all readers of American literature know, thus begins the dangerous and
transcendent journey by raft down the Mississippi River toward the elusive and
unreliable promise of the Free States and beyond.

Discussion Leader - Diane Wenger

Monday August 4th

Monday Night Book Club will be taking the month off

 **Coming in July — Garden Group and Beyond— Mark your calendars for this fun event as the group heads to Niles!** 

Garden Group and Beyond

Join Newcomer friends at **Fernwood Botanical Gardens**, 13988 Range Line Road, Niles, on Wednesday, July 23, departing at 9:00 am. We will be take a 60 minute guided interpretive tour of the gardens. After the tour plan to eat lunch at the cafe on Fernwood's grounds. After lunch you may want to spend more time exploring the gardens.

A head count will be needed by Wednesday, June 25. So please RSVP so we can let Ferndale know how many will attend. Plan to carpool.

Admission is \$7.

RSVP to Donna Ring 269 370-1337. dring7@gmail.com

For more information about Ferndale go to the Ferndale Web page at ferndalebotanical.com