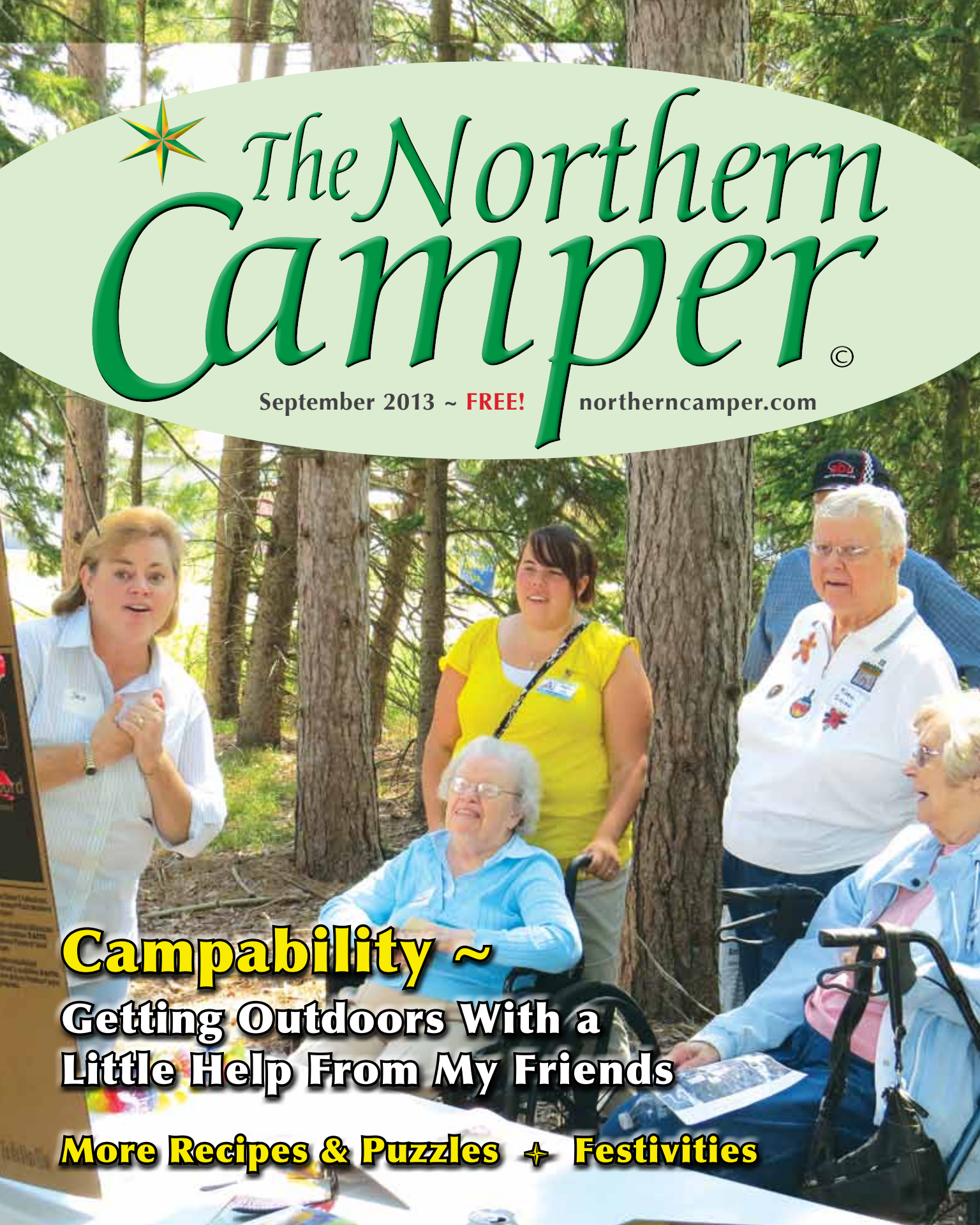

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Getting Outdoors With a Little Help From My Friends

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9 & 10 News ~ Up North 4
Barnes Park Campground ~ Eastport 28
B.C. Pizza ~ Lake City 22
Boon Grocery ~ Beautiful Downtown Boon 11
Bostick's Drug Store ~ Manton 17
Cadillac Family Pharmacy ~ Cadillac 17
Cadillac Farmers' Market ~ Cadillac 11
Cadillac Wexford Transit Authority ~ Cadillac 14
Camp Cadillac ~ Cadillac 24, 28
Coffee Cup ~ Lake City 22
Country Veterinary Service ~ Reed City 19
Crossroads Realty ~ Reed City 32
Culver's ~ Cadillac, Gaylord, Traverse City 3
Cycle-Moore ~ Interlochen 28
Daniela's Delectables 10
Interlochen RV Brokers ~ Interlochen 22
Julie Ann's Quilting & More ~ Cadillac 8
Korner Gem ~ Traverse City 27
Lake City Chamber of Commerce ~ Lake City 22
Little River Casino ~ Manistee 2
Meyer Veterinary Clinic ~ Cadillac 19
MiNews 26 ~ Cadillac 32
Missaukee County Parks ~ Lake City 28
North Star Quilt Guild 22
Opa's Butcher Shop & Chef's Deli ~ Cadillac 10
Patches & Petals ~ Cadillac 8
Pere Marquette Campground ~ Branch 25
Pure Dogma ~ Lake City 19
Renee's House of Quilting ~ Williamsburg 8
Rockhound Creations ~ Lake City 21
S.S. Signals Marketing ~ Lake City 4
The Dutch Pantry ~ Evart 12
The Hall House ~ Manton 25
Timber Ridge RV & Recreation Resort ~ Traverse City ... 28
Two Sisters Quilting ~ Bear Lake 8
Vic's Supermarket ~ Reed City 12

Editor's Pencil

Careful Campin' Kids

I was driving down M-55 between Lake City and Cadillac when I saw a young boy riding his bike without a helmet. It reminded me of one of our "ooops" which does happen, but also can bring awareness to a good cause. If you remember, our cover in July 2010 was a biking family with no helmets. Thanks to a call from the **Cadillac Area Helmet Coalition**, we featured their cause and organization the following month.

I didn't stop and tell the kid. I should have. But I can ask you as parents, please make sure your child wears a helmet and contact the coalition if you need help getting one: **Dianne Conrad, 231.775.1714, alanjconrad@prodigy.net.**

Next, I was at one of my favorite community functions, **Good Morning Lake City. Nicki Schultz from Cadillac Area Chamber & Great Start Collaborative (231.878.6544)** was telling us about the Imagination Library. The program is for any child in the ISD school district to receive a free book once a month until they turn five. What a great program!

That reminded my friend **Lois Stryzinski** to tell me about her idea. "Why don't you do a story on child safety at the campground?" She told me that she watched a boy walk into a fire pit that still had hot coals in it. He was fine, but this is another "ooops" story. We can all learn from this story and remember to cool off our campfires when we're done.

I didn't really need any more convincing that "Careful Campin Kids" would be a good idea, but thanks to a reader from Chicago, I can fix another "ooops." I had a call from **Lynn Wood** who lives in the **Chicago area**. She's been camping at **Goose Lake** for over 50 years and is still going strong! She had picked up our August issue and read our "Unplugged" feature and recognized the game "Chubby Bunny." According to Lynn, the danger of this game has been on the news in her area. **Chubby Bunny can be dangerous** because marshmallows expand when you swallow them, and stuffing too many in your mouth may cause choking. EMTs also have a hard time getting air passage through the marshmallows if you were to choke.

I found the game on the Internet so you know it had to be OK, right? How about we forget the game and just use one or two marshmallows at a time on our beloved s'mores. Thanks to Lynn for another lesson well learned and news well spread.

Please keep your ideas coming, friends and readers. Your ideas, observations and opinions matter. We are blessed to have you care and share!

Kathy Salvatore ~ Publisher

Camper's Sudoku

9	1		3		7			
		4		5		9	6	3
			4		2		1	7
	4		6	3		1		
		8				4		2
		9		2	4		3	
5	8		1		3			
4	9	7		8		3		
			9		5		8	4

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Don't peak until complete! Page 23

The Northern Camper ©

VOLUME 9 ISSUE 4 ✦ SEPTEMBER 2013

Camper's Sudoku 3
Campability ~ Senior Lunch & Hike ... 5
Camper's Gadget 8
Quilting Camper 9
Cookin' Camper 10
Crossword 13
Campin' Kids 14
History Corner 16
Campground Critter 18
It's All About the Dogs 19
Vegetation Station 20
Festivities 21
Small Town Stop 22
Camper's Choice 24
Got Rocks! 26
Campground Directory 28

Cover ~ *Thanks, Julie, for sharing your passion of hummingbirds to all our happy senior campers!*

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Campability ~

Getting Outdoors With a Little Help From My Friends

by Don R. Harris

If you're a recreational camper, you probably don't think of camping as something that requires special athletic ability. In fact, one of the things you might like about it is the fact that it doesn't require athletic prowess, but simply the passion to enjoy the outdoors.

But for some people, getting to a campsite or a walking trail requires the right outdoor setting and a little help from your friends. Recently, I got to see this for myself at "The Senior Northern Camper Picnic and Hike," where I was a volunteer.

The picnic and hike was held on August 5, one of the most beautiful days of summer. Sponsors included:

- *The Northern Camper* Magazine
- Autumnwood of McBain
- Belle Oakes Living Center
- Missaukee Conservation District (MCD)
- Missaukee Commission on Aging (MCOA)
- Cadillac Wexford Transit Authority (CWTA)

Seniors from Missaukee County were invited to the grounds of the Missaukee Conservation District where food, activities, and music were provided. All of the activities were held outdoors, and as one of the organizers put it, "It's like they get to go camping for the day."

Seniors arrived in style on the CWTA buses. K-9 Companion Coco was there to greet guests with a wagging tail. Chef Ray Vasquez and Margo Jacobs from Autumnwood had burgers and hotdogs grilling and there were watermelon and cookies for dessert. There was entertainment, too—a three-piece band specializing in old-time favorites, like "The Unicorn," where the audience joined in on the chorus of "green alligators, and long neck geese, and humpty-back camels, and chimpanzees…" Band members Gene Zwolaki, Bill Jones, and Dave King have performed together for

(continued on page 6)

Campability

(continued from pg. 5)

some time and they often provide entertainment at gatherings like this.

While we were eating, I spoke with Ashley Strye, who is the Life Enrichment Coordinator at Belle Oaks. Ashley said that she works to provide a wide variety of activities for the residents at Belle Oaks. According to Ashley, "they do everything but roller skating."

After everyone had finished eating, the activities began, and I started to get a feel for what it's like for a person with a disability to navigate the great outdoors. The first activity of the afternoon was a series of warm-up exercises conducted by Pat Vasser, a certified water aerobics instructor. Pat explained that since many people in the group were in wheelchairs, the exercises were primarily for arms and ankles.

From there, we went to a series of stations set up along a trail in a wooded part of the grounds. There was a hummingbird station with July Dyer from Cadillac; a loon station with Loon Ranger Helen Sutton from Lake City, a rocks and minerals station with Kathy Salvatore from *The Northern Camper*; a wild flower area with Chere Elenbaas from MCD, and a peeper station from the official peeper keepers of McBain, Bernie and Sandra Meyering. There was also a quilt display thanks to Dawn Paulin from the North Star Quilt Guild, which added a beautiful backdrop to the wooded trails.

In the process of visiting the different stations, the seniors as well as myself learned a lot about nature. We learned that only the male ruby-throated hummingbird has the scarlet throat; loons can't really walk on land, they sort of scoot along when they have to; and the "thumb on a comb" sound you hear along with the spring peepers is actually a chorus frog.

I teamed up with a woman who used a rolling walker—one that she could sit on and roll if she grew tired of walking. I discovered that things I'd never thought about: how a tree root sticking out of the ground, which I would ordinarily just walk around, could present a challenge for someone pushing a wheelchair. Likewise, I began to realize how a slightly less stable footing might cause someone to consider how far in the woods they can go.

All this made me much more aware of the challenges faced by someone in a wheelchair who wants to get around outdoors and off the pavement. At the same time, I saw first hand how much it could benefit a person with a disability or handicap to get outside for an afternoon.

Fortunately, there are organizations that are aware of those who need help to enjoy the beauty of the outdoors, and are taking steps to address it.

For instance, the National Park Service has been working with the **Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore** and other national parks to provide information about handicapped-accessible campsites. At **nps.gov**, you can find photos and maps of campgrounds along with lists of park attractions. Select a park, then click on "Plan your visit," and then "Accessibility." You'll find information on accessible parking and restroom facilities, accessible campsites, trail surfaces, and amenities such as benches and ramps. Some locations also have Hearing Assist Devices available for hearing impaired visitors. In addition, the Sleeping Bear National Lakeshore has sand wheelchairs available at some locations.

A site specifically devoted to disabled and handicapped travelers is the **Disabled Traveler's Companion website, tdtcompanion.com**. Founded by Kay Wilmers from Lapeer, Michigan, whose husband Ron has been in a wheelchair since 1977, this site is dedicated to getting the latest in travel information regarding accessibility into the hands of the people who need it most—travelers with disabilities. The site provides photos and reviews of places visited, including national and state parks, as well as tips for disabled travelers.

The Handicapped Travel Club, Inc. (handicappedtravelclub.com) was formed in 1973 in Arcala, California, to encourage traveling for people with a wide range of disabilities. The club provides a list of accessible RV parks that have been surveyed by HTC members on a number of topics, such as accessibility of the office, availability of sites level and wide enough for a wheel chair lift, and whether pets are allowed. In Michigan, HTC lists Hartwick Pines State Park and the Petoskey KOA. In addition to maintaining a website, the club publishes a newsletters, hosts local get-togethers, and sponsors an annual rally.

"When We…RV" is an organization for all RV users that provides information on RV Parks and resorts from destinations throughout the world. Their website, **whenwerv.com**, has a section for wheelchair accessible campgrounds. The website lets you search by country and state, and then provides a list of campgrounds where public facilities like showers and restrooms are wheelchair accessible. In Michigan, they list campgrounds in Houghton Lake, Greenville, Standish, and Hopkins.

After my volunteer lunch and a little research, I can truly appreciate the growing awareness of the needs of seniors and the disabled population. At the same time, I can see that finding a campground that suits these special needs may require a certain amount of digging. So put the Handicapped Travel Club's motto into action: Get Out And Live! And look in your own small town for the local venue or event that allows you (or a loved one) to get outdoors with a little help from your friends! ✦

Camper's Gadget

Hands Free Lighting

It is hard to believe the days are getting shorter—dark later in the morning and earlier at night. This is a great time of year to be camping but also can be challenging if you are trying to find stuff in the tent, back of the truck, in the fishing or tool box, or just finding your way along the trail.

There are a couple of ways to go. You could have one of the kids or a buddy hold the light while you fix the tent ropes. Another way to go is with a head lamp, and if you don't have those extra helpers around right when you need them, you can't beat the convenience of hands free lighting.

We use ours all the time. With the head lamp you can be sure the light is pointed where you want it and not at the bat little Joey just thought he saw. With a head lamp the light is focused where your head is focused; you control where it shines.

There are many different types and most are reasonably priced. Some things to look for are how bright it shines and for how long. The brightness is measured in lumens; normally the higher the lumens the brighter the light. Other factors to consider are beam distance, how far does it project usable light, the battery life, and overall size and weight. Other options for the head lamp include a strobe function (nice when walking or riding a bike), high and low beam, water/sweat proof, and angled viewing.

You can find head lamps at most any outdoor store and on-line shopping. Some brands make head lamps specifically for kids. The advantage of going to the local sporting goods store is being able to try it on to see how it feels—and even more important—we're all for shopping local! ✦

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Quilting Camper

by Dawn Paulin

By the time you finish things this month, you will probably have some idea what this is going to look like. I tried and tried to avoid that, but to no avail. If you have missed an issue you can get it online at **northerncamper.com/back_issues.html**, or better yet, **GET A SUBSCRIPTION FOR ONLY $15!** Remember to send us pictures of your completed projects. Any questions or ideas for next year? E-mail **dawn@northerncamper.com.**

Pieces will be referred to by the steps in which they were created. I have continued the numbering from last month in hopes of making this less confusing. Steps 1 through 7 are in the August instructions, so we pick up with step 8 this month.

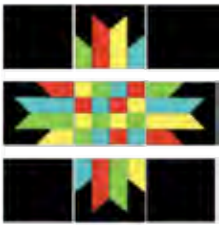
8. Using the remaining 4 (comfort size) or 8 (full size) of the triangles from step 6 and either 4 (comfort size) or 8 (full size) of the rectangles completed in step 5, attach one triangle to each PLAIN end of the rectangle as shown below. Make sure to create pairs of each. Press to the background.

9. Now using two rectangles created in step 4, four of the four-patch blocks created in step 3, and four of the pieces from step 8, create two of the strips shown below (both sizes). Press to the rectangles.

10. THIS STEP IF FOR THE FULL SIZE QUILT ONLY. Similar to step 9, create two larger pieces according to the diagram below. These will use six rectangles from step 4, eight of the four-patch blocks from step 3, and four of the pieces from step 8. Again, press to the rectangles.

11. Cut the 26.75" square (or squares as there are two of them for the full size quilt) in quarters DIAGONALLY See diagram in step 6 for reference. Remember to handle carefully because of the bias edges.
12. Cut the 12.75" squares in half diagonally (see diagram). Since this quilt is set on point, these are your corner triangles. Handle the bias edges carefully.

13. Create the main block using the 6.5" background squares, the 6.5" squares created in step 2 during month two, and the 6.5" squares created in step 2. See diagram below. These should measure 18.5". Top and bottom row should be pressed to the corner squares and the middle row to the center square. You will have either 5 (comfort size) or 13 (full size) when these are completed.



North Star Quilt Guild Show

Mark your calendars and come to the **North Star Quilt Guild Show, September 21, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. at St. Ann's School gymnasium in Cadillac.** A donation of $3 is requested, and lunch will be available for purchase from the Ladies of St. Ann's. As always, we have a raffle quilt (pictured here). This year our quilt top was made by our member **Patty Wallenstein** and the long-arm quilting was done by another member, **Leslie Schliep**. Tickets will be available at the event and are $1 each or 6 for $5.

Enjoy our vendors and the white elephant table while at the show. Our featured quilter is **Martha Szudzik** who will have many of her beautiful projects displayed, including some of her many purses. We will also have a display of our Quilts for Kids—some of the more than 100 quilts we give away every year. These quilts are made both individually by members and at our work bees. They are then donated to organizations like OASIS, Mercy Hospital, and the State Police or to other organizations such as Habitat for Humanity and Relay for Life for their raffles or auctions.

For more information visit **northstarquiltguild.org**.

Cookin' Campers

TOMATOES STUFFED W/ BLUE CHEESE & BACON

- **24 med. cherry tomatoes, stems removed**
- **2 oz. blue cheese, crumbled (about 1/2 cup)**
- **4 slices crisp bacon, crumbled**
- **1 Tbsp. chives, fresh, chopped**

Carve out a shallow cavity in bottoms of tomatoes (opposite stem end); gently squeeze out some of the seeds. Press 1 teaspoon cheese into each tomato, mounding it slightly on top. Top each with bacon; sprinkle with chives. Note: Tomatoes should stand upright. If not, cut a thin sliver of tomato off at the stem-end, so there is a flat surface.

~ Submitted by Laura Gervenack, Spring Lake

BAKED BANANAS

- **4 medium bananas, unpeeled**
- **24 ounces milk chocolate**
- **Whipped cream, to serve**

Cut banana lengthways, through skin; don't cut all the way through. Place 6 chocolate squares in cuts of each banana. Wrap in foil and cook over medium hot coals for 10 minutes, turning once. Remove from foil and place on plate, skin and all.Add whip cream.

~ Submitted by JoAnn Treiber, Manton

APPLE CRISPS

- **2 lbs of seasonal apples**
- **1 tablespoon cornstarch**
- **3 tablespoons plus 1/4 cup sugar**
- **1 cup rolled oats**
- **1/4 cup chopped pecans**
- **1/2 cup all purpose flour**
- **1/4 cup light brown sugar**
- **1/4 teaspoon ground cinnamon**
- **1/4 teaspoon salt**
- **1/2 teaspoon baking powder**
- **2 tablespoons unsalted butter**
- **1/4 cup olive oil**

Preheat oven to 350°. Arrange eight 6-ounce ramekins on a baking tray. Peel, halve & core apples, then chop into a small dice (about 1/2").

Toss apples with 1 T. cornstarch & 3 T. sugar until evenly coated, then divide apples between ramekins.

In medium bowl, mix oats, pecans, flour, remaining 1/4 cup sugar, brown sugar, cinnamon, sea salt & baking powder.

Melt butter in a small saucepan (or in microwave), then stir in olive oil. Pour mixture over dry ingredients and stir until crumbly.

Divide crumbs over each dish of apples, packing them on with your palms if needed to get them all on (don't worry, apples will deflate when they bake).

Bake apple crisps for about 30 to 40 minutes, or until you can see the juices from the apples bubbling around the crumbs. If tops brown too quickly, put a sheet of foil over the whole tray for remaining baking time.

Let cool on rack and serve when lukewarm. Store remaining crisps in fridge. They are quite excellent with a dollop of plain yogurt.

~ Submitted by Daniela Weiner, Traverse City

LOOK WHAT ELSE SHE HAS BELOW!

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HOT COCOA MIX

Seems like when you ask for a Hot Cocoa Mix recipe you're going to get a different one from everyone. Here's some and you can decide.

- **16 ounces dry milk powder**
- **1 cup white sugar**
- **3/4 cup unsweetened cocoa powder**

- **1 1/2 cups white sugar**
- **1 cup powdered non-dairy creamer**
- **1 cup dry milk powder**
- **3/4 cup unsweetened cocoa powder**

- **25 5/8 ounces nonfat dry milk powder**
- **6 ounces powdered non-dairy creamer**
- **2 cups confectioners' sugar**
- **1 (16 oz.) instant chocolate drink mix**

- **3 cups nonfat dry milk powder**
- **3/4 cup white sugar**
- **1/2 cup unsweetened cocoa powder**
- **10 cups dry milk powder**

- **4 3/4 cups sifted confectioners' sugar**
- **1 3/4 cups unsweetened cocoa powder**
- **1 3/4 cups powdered non-dairy creamer**

- **5 cups dry milk**
- **3/4 cup sugar**
- **3/4 cup cocoa**

As you can see the basic recipe is the same: dry milk, some type of sugar and some type of chocolate. I heard that powered sugar works best because it mixes better and dissolves faster. I questioned the use of presweeten cocoa mix, doesn't that defeat the purpose of making your own and was told that it just helps sweeten it more. Dry milk versus creamer; creamer dissolves faster and gives you a richer flavor but dry milk works great. The only rumor that I couldn't find anyone to help with is that a box of instant chocolate pudding will help make it richer.

~ Submitted by JoAnn Treiber, Manton

APPLE SWEET & SOUR BRATS

- **1 32 oz. jat sauerkraut, rinsed & well-drained**
- **1 cup applesauce**
- **1 onion, sliced**
- **1 tbs butter**
- **1 large apple, cored and cubed**
- **1 salt and pepper, to taste**
- **1 tsp cinnamon**
- **1/2 cup apple juice**
- **12 bratwurst**
- **2 tbs brown sugar**

In a large saucepan, simmer sauerkraut, applesauce and apple juice for 20 minutes. In large deep skillet, heat butter over medium heat; add onions and saute, stirring frequently, until very soft, about 10 minutes. Add brown sugar and cook for 5 more minutes. The onions should be caramelized. Add apple pieces and saute for 5 more minutes until apples are just tender. Add to sauerkraut along with cinnamon, salt and pepper. Keep warm until ready to serve.

Prepare a medium-hot fire. Grill bratwurst directly over fire, turning until evenly browned, about 5-7 minutes, or until internal temperature reaches 160°.

~ Submitted by Ebels, Falmouth *(courtesy Nat'l Pork Board)*

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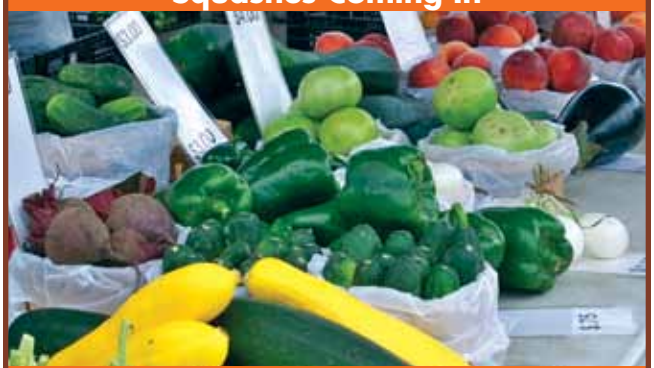


Accepting
Bridge Cards
Double Up Food Bucks

CAPTAIN ARNE'S FISH TACOS

- **Fish**
- **Taco Shells, Hard or Soft**
- **Shredded Cabbage**
- **Avocado, Thinly Sliced**
- **Salsa**
- **Cilantro (Optional)**

Use any fish, fresh,or leftover. Heat shells over campfire in pan or on a grill. In shell add fish, shredded cabbage, thinly sliced avocado, and salsa. We are fans of cilantro, but that is up to you!

~ Submitted by Arne Sarya, Traverse City

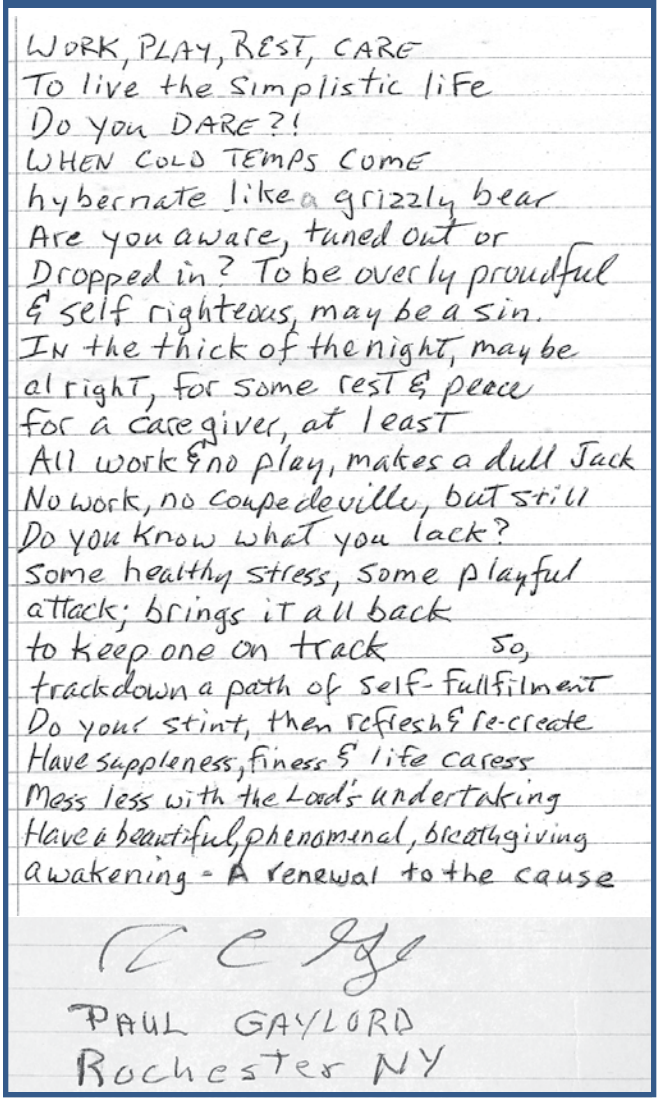
APPLE SALSA

- **2 medium apples, cored and diced**
- **2 Tbs lime juice (more if apples "absorb" it)**
- **1 small can mandarin oranges**
- **1 small can crushed pineapple (optional)**
- **1 jalapeño pepper (or milder pepper; remove seeds)**
- **1/2 chopped onion**
- **1/2 cup chopped red and green pepper**
- **1 Tbs minced garlic**
- **2 Tbs cilantro**
- **1/4 tsp ground cumin**
- **1 tsp vegetable oil**
- **2 tsp apple cider vinegar**

Mix apples and lime juice to prevent apples from browning, then add rest of ingredients. Chill at least 2 hours before serving. Great with scoopables and if you get the baked kind, it's all healthy! It also tastes great on chicken and burgers.

~ Submitted by Dawn Paulin, Cadillac

Thoughts to Ponder While You Wander



WORK, PLAY, REST, CARE
To live the simplistic life
Do you DARE?!
WHEN COLD TEMPS COME
hybernate like a grizzly bear
Are you aware, tuned out or
Dropped in? To be overly proudful
& self righteous, may be a sin.
IN the thick of the night, may be
al right, for some rest & peace
for a caregiver, at least
All work & no play, makes a dull Jack
No work, no coupe deville, but still
Do you know what you lack?
some healthy stress, some playful
attack; brings it all back
to keep one on track so,
trackdown a path of self-fullfilment
Do your stint, then refresh & re-create
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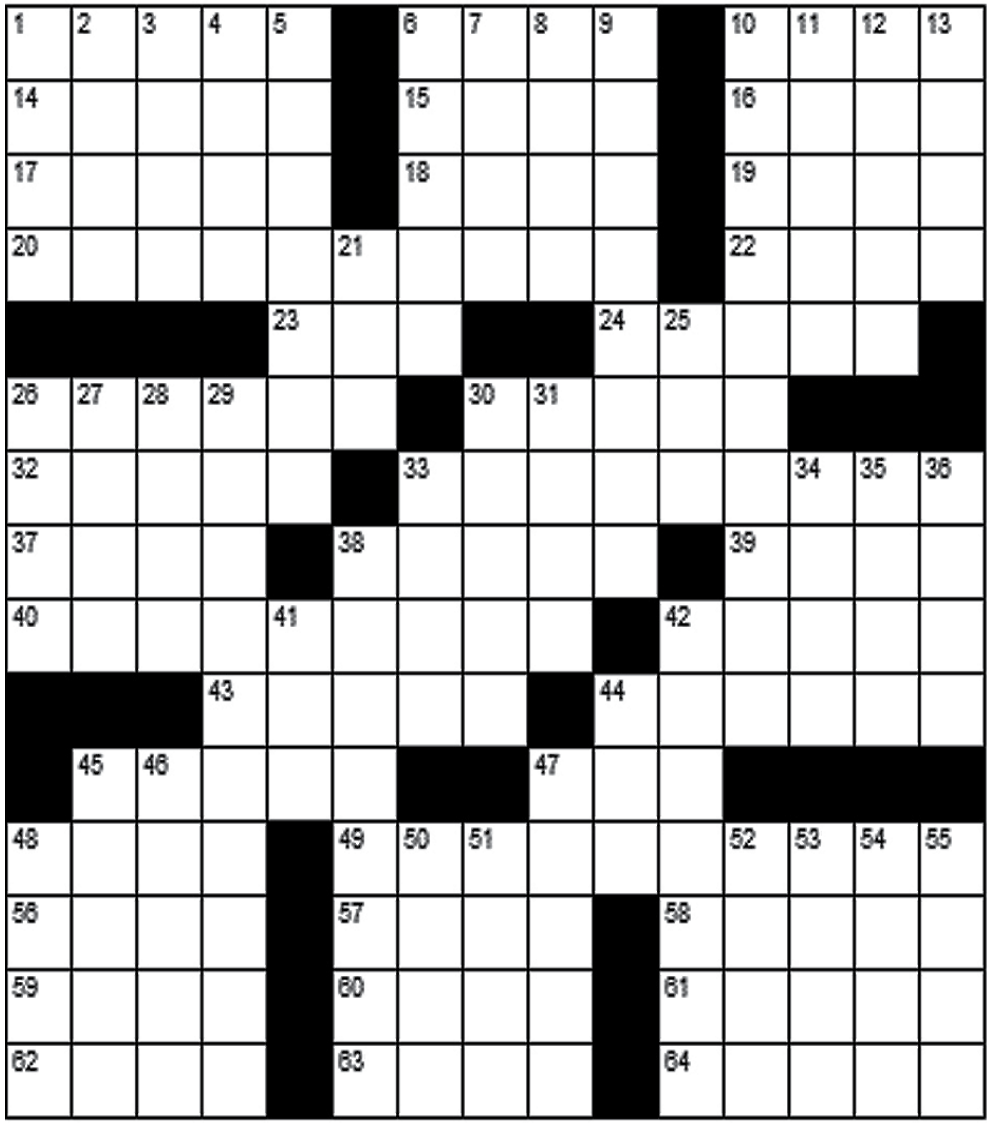

ACROSS

1. Cavalry weapon
6. Welt
10. Phone
14. Marble
15. Dogfish
16. Hodgepodge
17. Taxonomic group
18. German for "Mister"
19. Exploded star
20. Extra
22. Tibia
23. To and ___
24. Homeric epic
26. Wind sock
30. Liberates
32. "Bolero" composer
33. Initiation
37. Not closed
38. Grain to be ground
39. Border
40. Pass into or through
42. A loud sleeping sound
43. Unsmooth
44. Belonging to the peerage
45. Rock
47. Adult males
48. Hearing organs
49. Blockhouse
56. 57 in Roman numerals
57. By mouth
58. Female demon
59. Chair
60. Relocate
61. Lacquer ingredient
62. Counter current
63. Visual organs
64. Notes

DOWN

1. Epic
2. Matured
3. Musical group
4. Decorative case
5. Relaxing
6. "Yippee!"
7. Ends a prayer
8. Former Italian currency
9. Soonest
10. Coherent
11. Hello or goodbye
12. Enraged
13. Give temporarily
21. Fury
25. Meadow
26. Let go
27. Sexual assault
28. Baking appliance
29. Unselfishness
30. Religious belief
31. Ploy
33. Outcropping
34. False god
35. Monster
36. Require
38. Shockingly repellent
41. 2,000 pounds
42. Undershirt
44. One more than nine
45. Rescued
46. Threesome
47. Burrowing mammals
48. If not
50. "Iliad" city
51. Rant
52. Angel's headwear
53. Portent
54. Citrus fruit
55. Speaker's platform

Answers on page 23

WORD SEARCH
DON'T BUG ME

Abdomen
Aphid
Bug
Cockroach
Ladybug
Mosquito
Thorax
Ant
Bee
Butterfly
Cocoon
Larva
Moth
Wings
Antennae
Beetle
Chrysalis
Fly
Metamorphosis
Termite

M L C O B F M T I G R X K M A N L A
Y C Q H N U E A U L U R E C N E A P
X L O L R R T B N E U T T Z T M R H
Z L F C M Y Y T O H A T N A E O V I
F O O I K D S T E M M O T H N D A D
Z E T J A R I A O R Z H W U N B P C
V E A L N U O R L O F V C Q A A F S
T I X B Q Z P A M I B L E N E U C G
O K P S H H A N C E S B Y R Y B O N
G O O V O T L S Q H T H O R A X C I
Z M A S E E B B E E T L E K Q B O W
A C I U Z C H A E Y Q N G O Q H O A
F S A F G U B Y J A E Q Z I F T N Y

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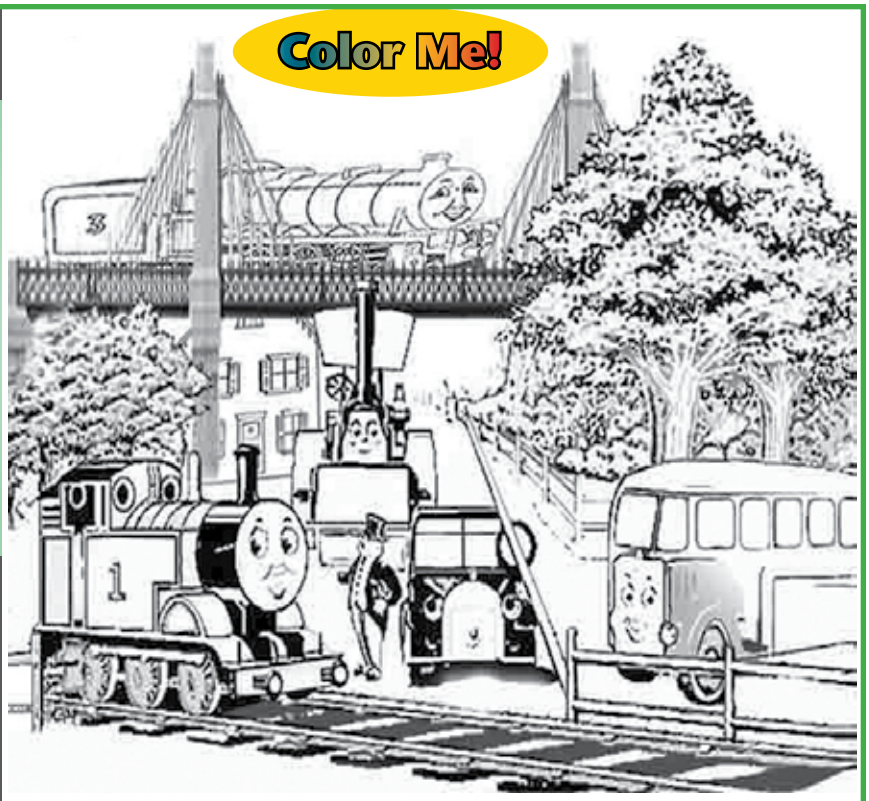
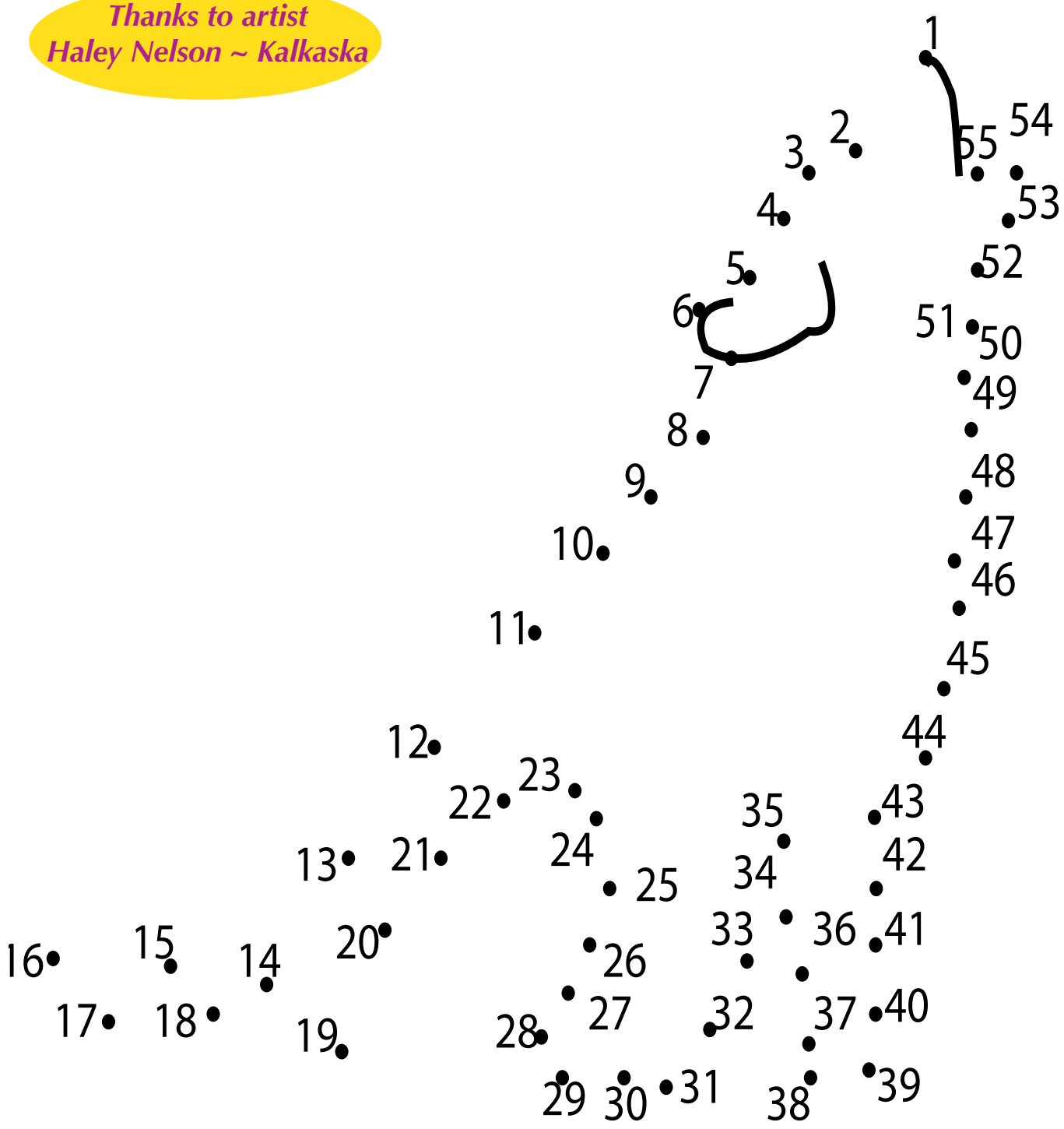


CAMPIN' KIDS!

Thanks to artist
Haley Nelson ~ Kalkaska



by Gerry Bandelow

Totem Poles

The Totem Pole is an arrangement of symbols. In most cases the symbol is an animal associated with a legend created for the purpose of conveying a story or event.

Totem poles are monumental sculptures carved from large trees, mostly western red cedar. The word "totem pole" was the name given by Europeans and was derived from the Algonquian (most likely Ojibwe) word odoodem, which means "his kinship group." Totems were mostly a form of communication for just a few of the Pacific northwest coast Native American Indian tribes. As they had no written language, the "story poles" were used to convey their legends, events or even varying beliefs to depict the relationship between animals, celestial bodies, plants and landscapes and also human cultures.

By the 19th century, certain Christian missionaries reviled the totem pole as an object of heathen worship; they urged converts to cease production and destroy existing poles. Later, explorers such as Jean-François de La Pérouse noted that totem poles were never treated reverently; they seemed only to illustrate stories, and were usually left to rot in place when people abandoned a village. The association with "idol worship" was only an idea from the Christian missionaries.

There is no exact date of the first totem poles. There are only a few 19th and early 20th century totem poles left in their native settings or in native ownership. Most have rotted and fallen to the ground and only a few have been preserved in museums and international exhibits. Noteworthy examples include those at the Royal British Columbia Museum in Victoria and the Museum of Anthropology at UBC in Vancouver. These date back as far as 1880.

While 18th-century accounts of European explorers along the coast indicate that poles existed prior to 1800, they were smaller and fewer in number; most were the size of a walking stick. Introduction of iron and steel tools from early settlers led to much larger totem poles that were more intriquitely carved.

The vertical order of images on the totem pole is believed to be a significant representation of importance. The phrase, "low man on the totem pole" derives from this belief of ordering importance; that the higher figures on the pole are more important or prestigious. A counter-argument frequently heard is that figures are arranged in "reverse hierarchy" with the most important representations being on the bottom. The poles were bigger and stronger at the base, thus the figure had to support the symbles above him on his shoulders.

Some poles have no vertical arrangement at all, consisting of a lone figure atop an undecorated column. When animal symbols are used, they can repersent different things to different clans. Some of the animals recognized by the northwest coast native lore are as follows:

- The Eagle – Intelligent and resourceful, he rules the sky and is able to transform himself into a human.
- The Bear – A teacher that taught the people to catch salmon and pick berries.
- The Owl – A respected animal thought to symbolize the souls of the departed.
- The Wolf – A very powerful symbol that can help people that are sick or in need.
- The Raven – A trickster, curious and mischievous, often misbehaving.
- The Killer Whale – Honored as a strong and brave fish (more in the far northwest). The mythology of the killer whale is that it will bring food and assistance to a chief or other important person lying helpless and/or wounded.

The totem pole we know today has been desired since the first explorers, fur traders and settlers arrived in America. With these early traders came more wealth and more poles.

Totem poles are still carved today by Native Americans and others. Costs may vary from hundreds to thousands of dollars. Each culture typically has complex rules and customs regarding designs represented on poles. The designs are generally considered the property of a particular clan or family group, but are not the exclusive cultural property of a single culture, so they are not easily protected. Some tourist areas in the northwest produce cheap imitations of totem poles, executed with little or no knowledge of Native American artistic skill or the deep cultural knowledge required to produce an authentic pole.

Today, totem poles can be seen everywhere from campgrounds, hotels, restaurants and amusement parks. In northern Michigan, totem poles can be found at Cadillac's Camp Torenta, the Great Wolf Lodge in Traverse City and in front of souvenir shops in several Michigan tourist destinations. I also know of one that is very close to home; my backyard!

I have carved a 12-foot totem pole from a tree that our local beaver had cut down. I researched the Native American totem pole symbols and paid close attention to how other tribes carved each animal. I was careful not to copy any one carving trying to be true to native culture but at the same time, use my own creativity. For me, the pole symbolizes the feeling you get at summer camp. More importantly, it is a representation of the Native American heritage of my wife and our son.

At the top of the pole is the eagle, which we see a lot on our lake. It's also the symbol used on most totem poles today. In the center is the bear, which is also native to this area. On the belly of the bear is a white face—a kind of crest that represents me, the carver, the white man At the bottom is the beaver, which represents the animal that brought the tree to its early demise. Last, on the back of the totem pole I carved the cross, which is an important symbol in our storyboard. In front of our totem pole is a fire pit where family and friends gather and tell stories as the flicker of the campfire lights up each carved face. The totem pole will be in many memories of family, friends, campfires and the lake.

Whether paying honor to the Native American heritage, a story pole, or representation of the outdoors, the totem pole is recognized throughout the world. Explore northern Michigan and look for your favorite totem. ✦

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Campground Critter

by Jenifer Witt

One of my all-time favorite movie scenes is in "The Great Outdoors." A pair of adorable and mischievous raccoons raid a cabin's trashcans, and poke fun at the family's choice of hot dogs. I love this scene because it shows how cute and destructive raccoons can be. On the other hand, we see raccoons on cartoons and movies, and they are often portrayed as sweet-faced, waddling, cuddly animals. Many people don't know that there is more to raccoons than the adorable, masked woodland creatures that are portrayed in cartoons. While, yes, raccoons are as cute as can be, they are also mischievous, industrious, destructive, and a potential pest to your campsite.

photo by lwpkommunikacio on Flickr

Indigenous to North America, the raccoon is a fascinating creature. The raccoon originally lived in wooded areas, close to water. They have moved closer to human settlements because they can find food easily. The fact that raccoons have become so comfortable around humans makes them fun to watch, but also a potential pest to campers.

One of the most distinctive features of the raccoon is the black mask on its face. That mask is actually a thick layer of fur to keep the animal warm in the cold winters. It's the raccoon's bandit mask that has helped to further its reputation as a mischief-maker. In the wild, raccoons eat fish, small animals, berries, or nuts that they have foraged, but they love human food, and will gravitate toward campsites and your stash of goodies.

Raccoons are attracted to shiny objects and they are prone to pick up aluminum foil, food wrappers, car keys, and jewelry. They might run off with your stuff, which is bad for you, or choke on it, which is bad for them. So, make sure to keep things that might be attractive to raccoons out of their reach.

Raccoons have adorable, dexterous little hands and feet, which help them get into a lot of trouble at your campsite. Those nimble hands can open jars, latches of coolers, zippers of bags, and lids of trash cans. Basically, they can get into anything that is not secured. Since raccoons are nocturnal animals, you could wake up to a major mess due to unsecured food or trash.

Secure your food by keeping it in the car or a padlocked cooler. It sounds unbelievable, but raccoons have been known to unhook bungee cords or unzip tents to raid campers' coolers. Keep trash inside your camper or take it to the campground trash dump before bed each night. Those sharp claws and agile hands can rip into a trash bag very quickly. You want to enjoy your time at camp; you don't want to spend your vacation picking up trash all over your campsite. Clean the surfaces and grease traps of grills to keep raccoons away. If you have a pet door on your cabin or camper, secure it so that raccoons can't come in for a surprise nighttime visit.

Remember that although raccoons are adorable and look harmless, they are indeed wild animals. Avoid feeding raccoons because they will keep coming back to the campground and become a pest to you and other campers. Besides, human food is not good for wild animals. Treat raccoons with respect by protecting them and your family by securing your camping equipment and food. ✦

It's All About the Dogs . . . *by Tracy Greeley*

Expressions of Love?

Do you know that dogs have anal glands similar to a skunk?

Fortunately they do not use it as a weapon the same way a skunk does, but they can spray, drip or shoot on command.

When two dogs meet, they immediately start sniffing each other during the greeting process. What they actually are doing is smelling what's in those two interesting glands. Sort of like how we shake hands and say, "Hey how the heck are ya?" Ever notice how one dog cannot wait to smell another dogs feces? He's actually smelling the oily residue on top that is full of information. Our human guess is that it tells the approximate age, health, sex, etc. of the dog so it really isn't bad manners on their part.

If all goes well, a healthy dog will take care of his anal glands by himself. However, if you see your dog scoot across the floor, more than likely "Houston we have a problem." Other signs of trouble or discomfort can be licking or biting the anus, sitting uncomfortably, having difficulty sitting or standing, or chasing its tail.

Some anal glands won't work as they should because of inherited malformations (genetics), or because of a history of poor-quality foods that produce poor-quality bowel movements. We are learning that fiber and/or probiotics may also help with regularity in our dogs. If the anal glands don't empty properly, they can become impacted, making bowel movements difficult or painful, and potentially leading to infections or abscesses. Or if your dog's stools are soft they may not be exerting enough pressure on the glands, causing failure to empty.

Your veterinarian or conscientious groomer can provide relief by manually expressing the glands or squeezing them out. The glands should contain an oily fluid, which has a distinct odor. Or it can be a thicker paste, which may call for a veterinarian recommended diet change. Expressing glands can be a very smelly process, but if you're game you can have your vet or groomer teach you how to do it. However, most people whose dogs need their anal glands expressed periodically prefer to pay to have it done. I for one, consider the duty an expression of love. ✦

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Vegetation Station

by Jenifer Witt

ACORNS

Ouch! Ouch! Have you ever been walking through the woods and had acorns fall on your head? Do you know that there is more to the common acorn than those pesky bumps on the head?

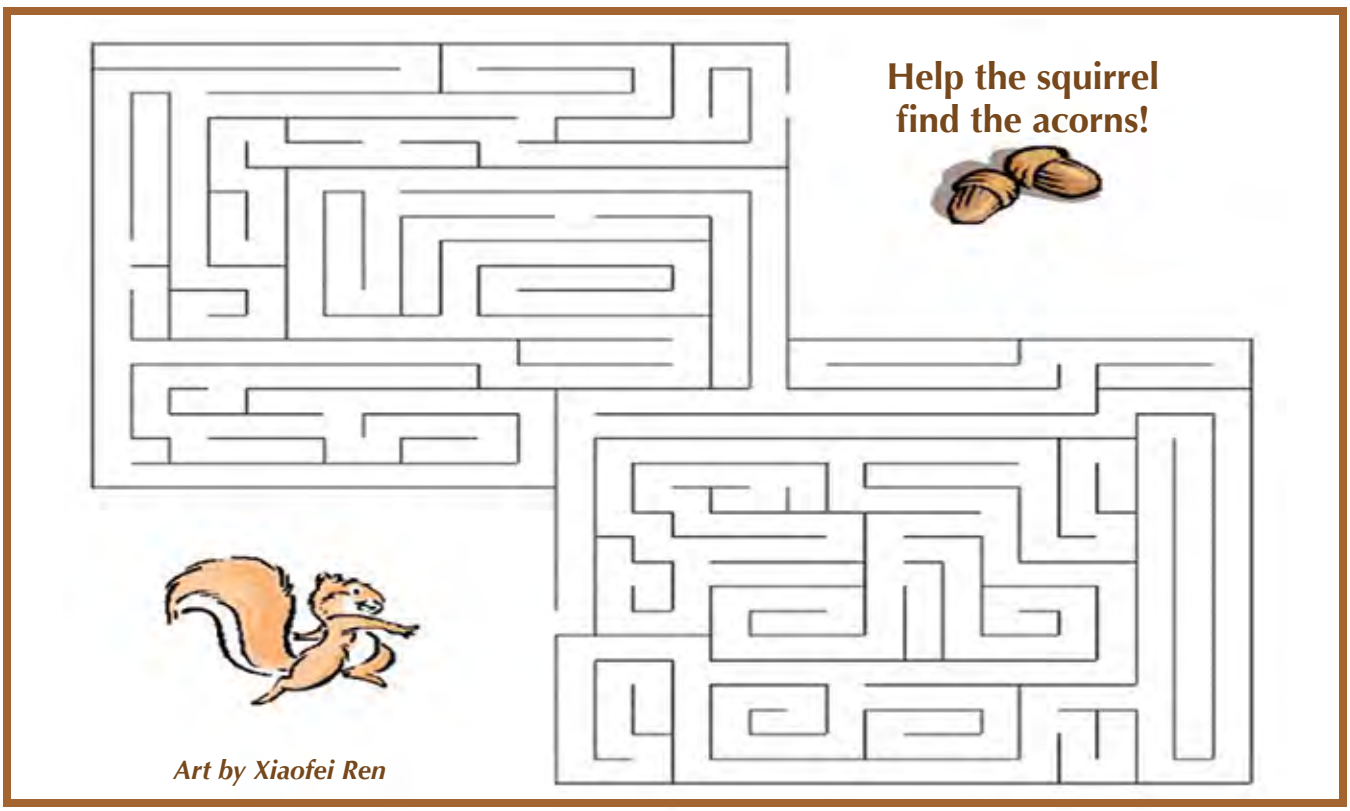
Also known as the oak nut, acorns are important to the ecology of the north woods. Acorns are the seeds of the oak tree, and a mature oak can produce up to 1000 pounds of acorns in a year.

Inside the acorn is a seed, encased in a hard, cup-shaped shell. Acorns are too heavy to be dispersed by the wind, so they depend on animals for dispersal. The seeds are dispersed when animals forage for acorns and take them to their nest or den. It is through this dispersal process that new oak trees can grow.

Squirrels are notorious for gathering acorns in the fall. They stockpile their acorns in various locations. Squirrels and birds that stash acorns often wait to feast upon them until enough water has permeated the nut to soften the shell and leach out the tannins.

Acorns are actually quite nutritious for both animals and humans. Native American, European, and Asian cultures have eaten acorns for thousands of years. Acorns can be dried in the sun or indoors, and stored in a cool, dry place. Before they can be used in food, the tannins must be leached out by water. A paste or flour can then be made from the nuts and used in cooking and baking. Acorns are a healthy fat, and can be stored for a long time.

You'll look at acorns a little differently next time one hits you on the head while you're out hiking the trails. This fall, when you see the busy little squirrels stocking up on acorns, consider joining them. ✦



Art by Xiaofei Ren

SEPTEMBER FESTIVITIES

Acme

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Buckley

Cornstock At Bison Lodge & Campground
September 14 • Games, Camping, Great Food

Interlochen

Avenue of the Arts-Autumn Festival and Art Hop • Sept. 21
Library Euchre Tournament • September 24

Lake City

Festival of The Pines • Sept. 19-22

Leland

Leland Heritage Celebration & Library Book Sale• Sept. 21

Ludington

Silver Lake Sand Dunes Apple & BBQ Cook Off • Sept. 14-15

Manistee

Hops & Props on the River• Sept. 14
Craft beers and wooden boat parade.

Manton

Harvest Festival • August 30 – September 2
Music every day! Craft show and book sale. Horseshoe Tournament Saturday. Pancake Breakfast Sunday. Monday: Parade at 10 am, Lumberjack Competition, Horse Pulls, Chicken BBQ.

Pentwater

Annual Fall Fest Art and Craft Fair • September 28-29

Roscommon

Roscommon Firemen's Memorial Festival • Sept. 19-22

Traverse City

Taste of Traverse City • Sept. 13-15
Red Wings Training Camp • Sept. 12-18

Scottville

Harvest Festival • September 10-15

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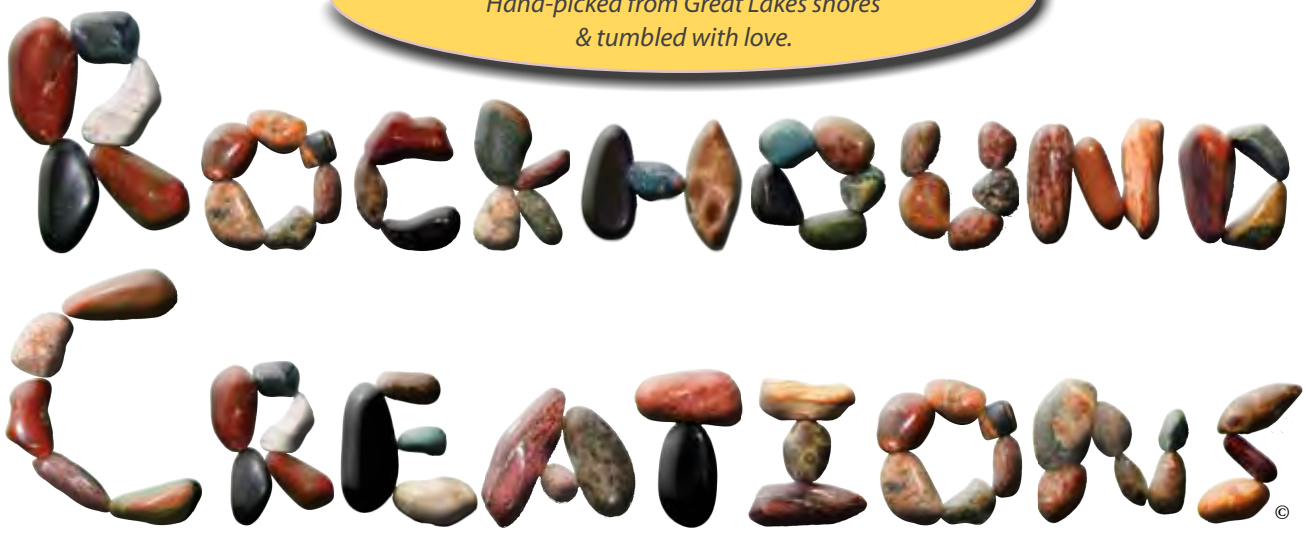

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35TH ANNUAL FESTIVAL OF THE PINES

STOP

Lake City • Missaukee County

by Joann Treiber

While looking for information for this story I was given a flyer from the 1962 Festival of the Pines held in late October (thanks Lake City Chamber). Even as someone that doesn't work in the Christmas tree industry, I understand that this would put it in the middle of the harvest season. Is that the reason the date was changed to mid-September? Hmmm . . .

The old flyer had things listed like Christmas Tree Grading Demonstration, would that have taught me how to choose a better Christmas tree or just explain to me why one cost more than the other? Hmmm . . .

There used to be a "Judging of Christmas Trees" and since the owners would have brought their best trees to be judged, that would have been fun to see what they considered "their best," and what the judges would have chosen as the "best."

I had to go to U-tube to learn what "Flocking" was. That's pretty cool, but not sure you can decorate after that stuff is on. Does anyone in the area still do that? Can I get it in colors? Hmmm . . .

The festival activities then stated something I do recognize—the log sawing and chopping contest—which they still have today. On Saturday, September 21, they will have a Lumberjack contest where they will throw axes, cut logs with both power saws and hand saws, boil water (that is not what it sounds like) and much more.

Along with the things you would think of when you hear "Festival of The Pines," the event has also added some activities to entertain everyone. They have a Prince & Princess Contest, a teen dance, Youth Archery Tournament, and a horseshoe competition. Other activities include a used book sale, bingo, lumberjack breakfasts, muzzle loader competition, parade and craft show and a beverage tent with music both Friday and Saturday evening.

All of this is to honor the Christmas tree growers and the logging industry in our area. How cool is that? Hmmm . . . ✦

UNPUZZLER

Sudoku *(Page 3)*

9	1	5	3	6	7	2	4	8
2	7	4	8	5	1	9	6	3
8	6	3	4	9	2	5	1	7
7	4	2	6	3	8	1	9	5
6	3	8	5	1	9	4	7	2
1	5	9	7	2	4	8	3	6
5	8	6	1	4	3	7	2	9
4	9	7	2	8	6	3	5	1
3	2	1	9	7	5	6	8	4

Crossword *(Page 13)*

S	A	B	E	R	■	W	A	L	E	■	C	A	L	L
A	G	A	T	E	■	A	M	I	A	■	O	L	I	O
G	E	N	U	S	■	H	E	R	R	■	N	O	V	A
A	D	D	I	T	I	O	N	A	L	■	S	H	I	N
■	■	■	■	F	R	O	■	■	I	L	I	A	D	■
D	R	O	G	U	E	■	F	R	E	E	S	■	■	■
R	A	V	E	L	■	C	A	U	S	A	T	I	O	N
O	P	E	N	■	G	R	I	S	T	■	E	D	G	E
P	E	N	E	T	R	A	T	E	■	S	N	O	R	E
■	■	■	R	O	U	G	H	■	T	I	T	L	E	D
■	S	T	O	N	E	■	■	M	E	N	■	■	■	■
E	A	R	S	■	S	T	R	O	N	G	H	O	L	D
L	V	I	I	■	O	R	A	L	■	L	A	M	I	A
S	E	A	T	■	M	O	V	E	■	E	L	E	M	I
E	D	D	Y	■	E	Y	E	S	■	T	O	N	E	S

Camper's Choice

by Dawn Paulin

CAMP CADILLAC

Cadillac/Wexford County

The first thing that struck me about Camp Cadillac was the quiet. Only one mile off of US 131 (take exit 183 and head east), it seems like there should be more "city" noise. Owned by Bobbi Jo and Jack Austin, it is a family-oriented campground with a lot of activities—especially on Saturday. I got there in time to see the Barrel Train in action and there was no doubt that the kids loved it. They were lined-up for the ride 15 minutes before it started and you could hear them throughout the ride around the campground. The train departs every Saturday at 10:30 a.m. and is the start of events for the day. Various activities occur from week-to-week ending with a hayride and Candy Bar Bingo. The adults have fun too, including Euchre and horseshoe tournaments.

The Camp was started in 1967 as a trailer park. The previous owners had it for 17 years and added the in-ground, heated pool and updated the electrical. Bobbi Jo lived 10 miles away and would camp here two or three times each summer. She loved the feel of being away from the city despite the proximity to Cadillac.

Bobbi Jo bought the Camp in 2009 and Jack became the "toilet plunger and equipment repairman" when they married two years ago. Bobbi Jo's mom and dad live in the on-site apartment weekdays during the summer and her mom is in charge of the day-to-day operation. Their sons Jacob and Gavin, and daughter Courtney—who covered for her mother while she gave me a tour of the grounds—are also an important part of the operation.

Since taking over Camp Cadillac, Bobbi Jo has added theme weekends. If camping there, you may find yourself a part of Super Soaker, Game Show, Pirate, Christmas in July, or Halloween in August. They also added to the store (with Hudsonville ice cream), increased the size of the game room, and added the pavilion and dog park. They have basketball and volleyball courts, and a playground. Next year they will have a paintball course and an outside theater system for movies. There are also plans to expand the pool area.

Camp Cadillac includes 33 acres that adjoins state land in the back. There is a nature trail that leads past the river and is near the fishing pond. Bobbi Jo said that they get all kinds of ducks in the spring. The petting zoo is also a unique attraction. We reached the goats just at feeding time so they were not very social but Bobbi Jo introduced me to grandpa Pepper, the twins Pickles and Frickles, and two more on loan for the season. There are Fallow Deer (who make the most interesting noise when they are scolding you for not bringing them treats), rabbits (Lionhead this year), and space for future acquisitions or rescues.

The camp is also assisted by "Worker

Campers," who work a predetermined number of hours in exchange for camping fees. I had the opportunity to ask one of the workers, Kerry Rhodeick, why he does this. He said that he and his wife retired in January, sold their house, bought a condo and now, "he needed something to do." He stated that, "Bobbi Jo and Jack are just good folks to work for." Workers may find themselves cleaning or mowing the grounds, running the children's activities, or doing customer service. Bobbi Jo said they currently have openings for next year.

Bobbi Jo and Jack live on the grounds and she admits that summers are like living in a fishbowl; however, when I asked her what she likes most she was quick to respond "THE PEOPLE" and I can see why. Most were curious about what I was doing there and seemed genuinely excited about the story. Camp Cadillac has 114 spaces with choices of rustic, electric only, electric and water, or electric, water and sewer. There are also three cabins for rent. It is officially open from April 15 to October 15; however, they do have spaces with only electric during hunting season. You can make reservations on-line at **campcadillac.com or call 231-775-9724**. ✦

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got rocks?

by Otis Bentley Bailey

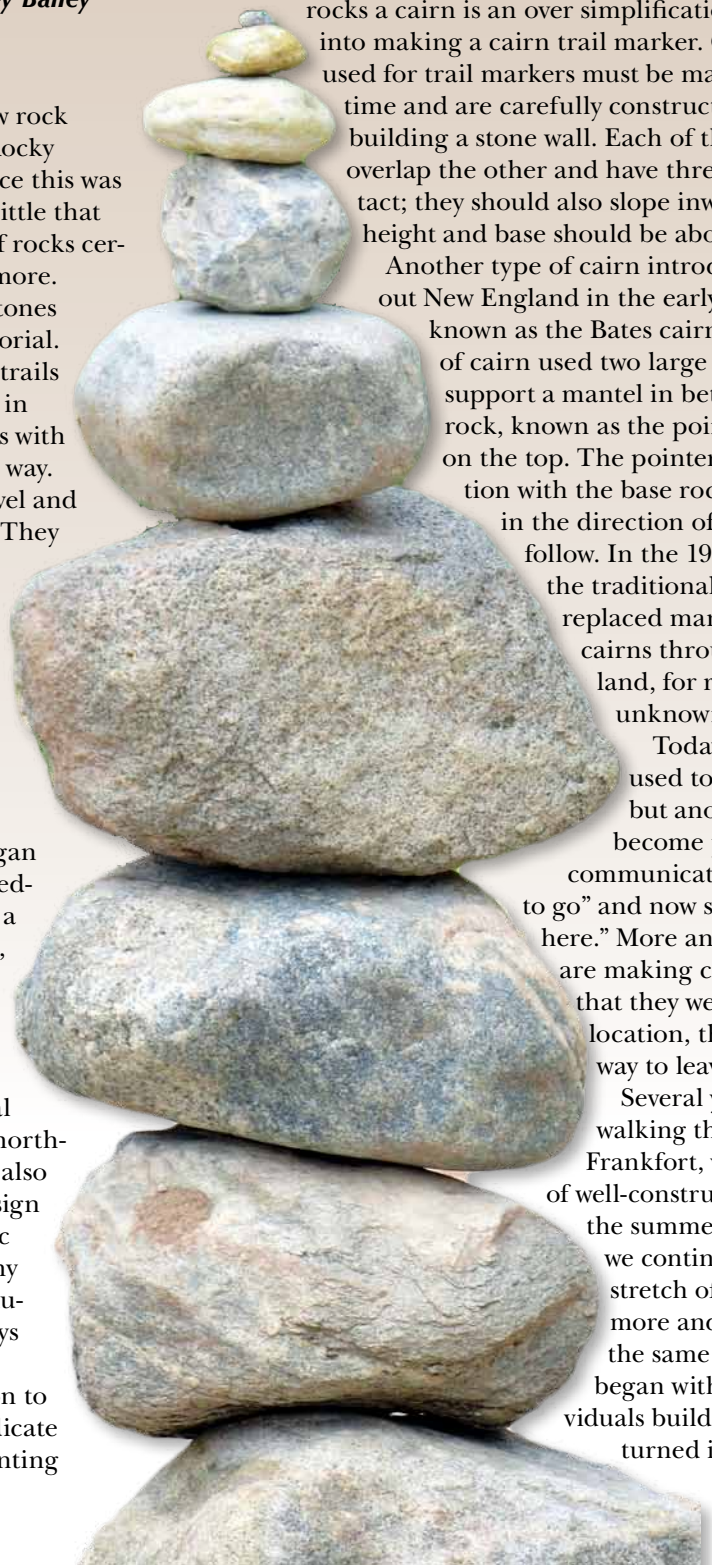
Rock Cairns

I remember the first time I ever saw rock cairns; it was in the backcountry of Rocky Mountain National Park in 1972. Since this was my first trip out west, there was very little that didn't catch my eye and these piles of rocks certainly did. I knew I needed to learn more.

Rock cairns are a pile of rocks or stones used to mark a trail or define a memorial. They are most popular along hiking trails above tree line, in the high arctic, or in desert areas where dead trees or trees with flags aren't practical for marking the way. The cairn marks the direction of travel and can be seen for quite some distance. They help hikers head in the right direction and also stay on the trail which helps reduce impacts to the fragile high alpine tundra. In bad weather, such as fog, cairns help keep you on track as they are usually placed close enough together so one can be seen from the previous.

While rock cairns have been used to mark trails since early humans began exploring, the Canadian Inuit are credited with using these stone pilings as a central part of navigation, as long as 4,000 years ago. Their rock cairn or *inuksuk* (*inuk=man, shuk=substitute*) has become a vital part of Canada's northern culture. It was also used as the main design for the 2010 Olympic logo. There are many forms of *inuksuit* (plural) and each conveys a distinct message. Some give direction to travelers, some indicate rich fishing or hunting grounds, others were used to coral wild game like caribou, and some to remember lost lives.

The word "cairn" has a Scottish Gaelic origin (*carn*) and simply means a pile of rocks. The first known use of the word is around the 15th century. Along the exposed granite trails and summits of New England's Arcadia National Park, cairns have been used to guide hikers for over 100 years. But, simply calling a pile of rocks a cairn is an over simplification of what goes into making a cairn trail marker. Conical cairns used for trail markers must be made to last a long time and are carefully constructed, similar to building a stone wall. Each of the rocks should overlap the other and have three points of contact; they should also slope inward a bit. The height and base should be about equal.



Another type of cairn introduced throughout New England in the early 1900s was known as the Bates cairn. This type of cairn used two large base rocks to support a mantel in between. Another rock, known as the pointer rock, rested on the top. The pointer rock in conjunction with the base rocks all pointed in the direction of the trail to follow. In the 1950s and 1960s, the traditional conical cairn replaced many of the Bates cairns throughout New England, for reasons mostly unknown.

Today, cairns are still used to mark the trail but another use has become popular—they communicate less of "where to go" and now signify "I was here." More and more people are making cairns to show that they were at a particular location, the cairn being a way to leave their "mark."

Several years ago while walking the beach north of Frankfort, we saw a couple of well-constructed cairns. As the summer progressed and we continued to walk that stretch of beach, we saw more and more cairns at the same location. What began with one or two individuals building a few cairns turned into a local attrac-

tion and destination along the Lake Michigan shore. By the end of the summer, hundreds of cairns had been built of varying shapes, sizes and configurations.

Cairns along the shore of Lake Michigan can be considered a form of "green graffiti." However, unlike traditional graffiti, the beaches are cleansed of the cairns after the winter storms and ice flows. Some of the cairns along the shore are even built with sand and rocks. Regardless, come spring all evidence is gone and rocks lay strewn until visitors return and the ritual is repeated.

It's important to remember that when hiking along trails marked with cairns you must not add any or change those that are there. Care is taken in construction of these trail markers and a simple addition can change its meaning.

I am always building new cairns in our rock garden at home: a different arrangement, color or configuration. It's fun to build a new one and see how long it takes my wife to notice. We both love to look at the garden when it rains as the colors add a new dimension.

And as much as I hate to bring it up the "s" word, it's a little sad when the snow blankets them for the winter.

What started out as a form of navigation in the high Arctic continued to be used for thousands of years as trail markers. Today, rock cairns also represent art forms and display personal expression. So as you travel through Northern Michigan, look carefully and you will see more of these unique rock forms indicating "I was here." ✦

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Missaukee County Parks

Missaukee Lake	Day	Month	Season
Electric	$25	$450	$1,525
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CABINS
2 Days/$45 Per Night
$210 For 7 Days

	Electric	Primitive
Crooked Lake	$25	$20
Ben D. Jeffs	NA	$15

No Reservations Crooked Lake/Ben Jeffs

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Missaukee Lake full July 2013. Boat slips sold out for season.

231-839-4945 • Season May 15 – October 1

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Campground Directory

Antrim County

COUNTY

Barnes Park Campground • 231-599-2712
12298 Barnes Park Rd., Eastport, MI 49627
Park offers beautiful sandy beach on Lake MI. Trails to hike or bike through the forest, two modern restrooms, playground.
Facilities: 76 sites (14 rustic), electric, sanitation, reservations, wheelchair accessible, beach, Wi-Fi. SEE PG. 28

STATE

Graves Crossing Forest Campground • 989-732-3541
Facilities: tents & small trailers/10 sites.

Pinney Bridge State Forest Campground • 989-732-3541
Facilities: tents/15 sites.

Benzie County

PRIVATE

Hanmer's Riverside Resort & Livery • 231-882-7783
2251 Benzie Hwy. US-31, Benzonia, MI 49616
Overlook scenic Betsie River. Cabins & campsites on river; kitchen, fire rings, air cond., grill, picnic tables, indoor pool/spa, more.
Facilities: tent, RV, cabins; electric, water, reservations, wheelchair accessible, boat launch, cable, Wi-Fi.

Vacation Trailer Park • 800-482-5101 • 231-882-5101
2080 Benzie Hwy. US-31, Benzonia, MI 49616
Facilities: tent, RV, cabins, trailers; electric, water, sanitation, reservations, partial wheelchair accessible, swimming pool, boat launch/canoes,camp store, laundry, cable, Wi-Fi, rec. room.

Grand Traverse County

STATE

Arbutus No. 4 Rustic Camp • 231-922-5280
Facilities: rustic/30, boat launch.

Interlochen State Park • 231-276-9511
M-137, Interlochen, MI 49643
Facilities: Duck Lake – electric/418, wheelchair accessible, reservations, beach, boat launch, store; Green Lake – rustic/58 sites, teepee & tent rental/4 sites.

Lake Dubonnet State Camp • 231-922-5280
Facilities: rustic/50, boat launch.

Lake Dubonnet Trail Camp (Equestrian) • 231-922-5280
Facilities: rustic/200 people, reservations.

Scheck's Place State Forest Camp • 231-922-5280
Facilities: rustic/30, boat launch.

Scheck's Place Trail Camp (Equestrian) • 231-922-5280
Facilities: rustic/200 people, reservations.

Traverse City State Park • 231-922-5270
1132 US-31 North, Traverse City, MI 49686
Facilities: tents & RVs/343, cabins/2, electric, water, sanitation, reservations, beach.

PRIVATE

Bison Lodge and Campground • 231-342-0169
8746 Fox Rd., Buckley, MI 49620
15 minutes south of Traverse city off M-37
Facilities: tent, RV (14), electricty, water, sanitation station, reservations, beach.

Everflowing Waters Campground • 231-938-0933
5481 Brackett Rd., Williamsburg, MI 49690
1 mile north on US-31 from intersection of M-72 & US-31 (Acme). 1 mile east on Brackett Rd., left side. 7 miles from Traverse City.
Facilities: RVs, tents, electric, water, reservations, Wi-Fi.

Timber Ridge RV & Recreation Resort • 231-947-2770
4050 Hammond Rd., Traverse City, MI 49696
Facilities: RVs, cabins, electric, water, sanitation, reservations, pool, store, laundry, Wi-Fi, rec. room, tennis, pickleball, dog park. SEE PAGE 28

Traverse Bay RV Resort • (231) 938-5800
5555 M-72 East, Williamsburg, MI 49690
Luxury motor coach & RV resort located minutes from Traverse City. All sites have cement pads with full hook-ups & 50 amp electric.
Facilities: RVs, electric, water, sewer, reservations, wheelchair accessible, pool, laundry, cable, Wi-Fi, rec. room.

Traverse City KOA • 231-269-3203, 800-249-3203
9700 S M-37, Buckley, MI 49620
Cabins/deluxe cabins, fun train rides, jumping pillow, dog park.
Facilities: tents, RVs, cabins, electric, water, sanitation, reservations, wheelchair access, pool, store, laundry, rec room, cable, Wi-Fi.

Lake County

STATE

Bray Creek State Forest Campground • 231-775-9727
Facilities: rustic/9, boat launch.

Carrieville State Forest Campground • 231-775-9727
Facilities: rustic/31 sites.

Leverentz Lake State Forest Campground
Facilities: rustic/18 sites on Big Leverentz Lake, rustic/7 sites on Little Leverentz Lake; boat launch.

Lincoln Bridge Rustic Campground • 231-775-9727
Facilities: rustic/9 sites.

Silver Creek Rustic Campground • 231-775-9727
Facilities: rustic/26 sites.

(continued on page 30)

Campground Directory (continued from page 29)

PRIVATE

Enchanted Acres Canoe & Campground • 231-266-5102
9581 N. Brooks Rd., Irons, MI 49644
Free casino package, firewood available on site only. Stay for 7 days, get 1 free. 1 mile south of Irons (10 1/2 mile) on Brooks Rd.
Facilities: tents, RVs, cabins, electric, water, sanitation, reservations, wheelchair access, store, rec room, cable.

Pere Marquette Campground • 231-898-3511
11713 W. 40th St., Branch, MI 49402
Hiking, biking, canoe or kayak. Come back to nature this summer! Learn how to enjoy the outside again.
Facilities: tents, RVs, cabins, electric, water, sanitation, reservations, wheelchair access, store. SEE PAGE 24 ~ FOR SALE

LEELANAU COUNTY

STATE

Leelanau State Park • 231-386-5422
15310 N. Lighthouse Point Rd., Northport, MI 49670
Facilities: rustic/52, RVs/10, cabins/3, reservations, beach.

PRIVATE

Indigo Bluffs Motorcoach Resort/RV Park • 231-326-5050
6760 W. Empire Hwy. (M-72), Empire, MI 49630
Come visit the most beautiful place in the USA. Tranquil, beach, wine, kayak, canoe, and salmon fishing; much more. Planned activities for kids and adults.
Facilities: RVs/119, cabins/2, electric, water, sanitation, reservations, wheelchair accessible, pool, camp store, laundry, Wi-fi, club house, playground, nearby beach and boat launch.

Lake Leelanau RV Park • 231-256-7236
3101 S. Lake Shore Dr., Lake Leelanau, MI 49653
Directly on Lake Leelanau, a 21 mile long lake with swimming, boating, boat rentals, fishing and water sports. All full hook-up sites.
Facilities: tent/4, RVs/196, cabins/1, electricity, water, reservations, wheelchair accessible, beach, boat launch, laundry, cable, Wi-Fi, rec. room.

MANISTEE COUNTY

STATE

Healy Lake State Forest Campground • 231-922-5280
Facilities: rustic, 24 sites.

Orchard Beach State Park • 231-723-7422
2064 N. Lakeshore Rd., Manistee, MI 49660
Facililities: 201 acres, tents, RVs, cabins, reservations.

Tippy Dam • (231) 848-4880
5200 Dillings Road, Bretheren, MI 49619
Facilities: rustic, 40 sites, boat launch.

FEDERAL

Blacksmith Bayou Access Site • (231) 723-2211
Facilities: 6 sites.

Government Landing • (231) 723-2211
Facilities: 3 sites.

Pine Lake Campground • (231) 723-2211
Facilities: 12 sites.

Red Bridge River Access • (231) 723-2211
Facilities: 4 sites, boat launch.

PRIVATE

Insta Launch Campground & Marina • 231-723-3901
20 Park Ave., Manistee, MI 49660
US-31 north, through Manistee to Park Ave., turn right on Park Ave. & go 2 blocks to campground.
Facilities: tents & RVs/127, cabins/10, electric/117, water/67, sanitation, reservations, wheelchair accessible, beach, boat launch, store, laundry, cable, Wi-Fi, rec room.

Little River Casino Resort • 866-572-4386
2700 Orchard Hwy., Manistee, MI 49660
Facilities: RVs, electric, water, sanitation, reservations, wheelchair access, pool, laundry, store, cable, Wi-Fi, rec room.
SEE PAGE 2

Twin Oaks RV Campground & Cabins • 231-848-4124
233 Moss Road, Wellston, MI 49689 • 877-442-3102
Facilities: RVs/28, group camping/8, tents/24, cabins/4, electric/33, water/15, sanitation, reservations, store, laundry, rec room, Wi-Fi, playground, fish station, volleyball, horseshoes, open year around, Good Sam Park. SEE PAGE 28

MECOSTA COUNTY

PRIVATE

River Ridge RV Resort • 231-823-8338
22265 8 Mile Rd., Stanwood, MI 49346
Facilities: RVs/226, rental trailers/5, electricity, water, sanitation, reservations, wheelchair accessible, pool, boat launch, store, laundry, cable, Wi-Fi, rec. room.

MISSAUKEE COUNTY

CITY

Maple Grove Campground • 231-839-4561
5543 W. Davis Rd., Lake City, MI 49651
Large primitive overflow area for holidays or reunions. Rental building holds 60 w/ kitchen facilities.
Facilities: 32, electric, water, sanitation, reservations, wheel chair access, Wi-Fi, rec room. SEE PAGE 28

COUNTY SEE PAGE 28

Ben D. Jeffs River Park • 231-839-4945
PO Box 800, Lake City, MI 49651
Facilities: rustic/17 sites.

Crooked Lake Park • 231-839-4200
PO Box 800, Lake City, MI 49651
Facilities: 37, electric/15, 1 rental cabin, toilets, shower, sanitation, beach, boat launch.

Missaukee Lake Park • 231-839-4945
PO Box 800, Lake City, MI 49651
Facilities: tents & RVs/170 sites; electric/21, water/96, sanitation, reservations, beach, boat launch.

STATE

Goose Lake • 231-775-9727
Facilities: rustic/54, boat launch.

Hopkins Creek Camp (Equestrian) • 231-824-3591
Facilities: rustic/16, 108 people, reservations.

Long Lake State Forest Camp/Missaukee • 231-775-9727
Facilities: rustic/20, boat launch.

Reedsburg Dam • 989-275-4622
Facilities: rustic/38, boat launch.

Spring Lake State Forest Campground • 231-775-9727
Facilities: rustic/32, boat launch.

Osceola County

CITY

Riverside Park Campground - Evart • 231-734-5901
315 N. River St., Evart, MI 49631
Facilities: tents & RVs/15, electric, water, sanitation, reservations, beach, boat launch, Wi-Fi, playground, shuffleboard, basketball, volleyball, fishing platforms.

Veteran's Memorial Park • 231-667-0100 • 231-743-6801
226 S. Mill (M-66), Marion, MI 49665
Facilities: tents/12 (rustic), RVs/38 (full hook-up w/sewer 12), electric/26, water/26, sanitation, reservations, wheelchair accessible, playground, pavilion rental.

STATE

Sunrise Lake • 231-775-9727
Facilities: rustic/17, boat launch.

PRIVATE

Cadillac Woods Campground • 231-825-2012
23163 M-115, Tustin, MI 49688
Facilities: tent/15, RVs/29, cabin/6, electric, water, sanitation, reservations, wheelchair access, pool, laundry, store, mini-golf.

Roscommon County (West)

STATE

Houghton Lake • 989-275-4622
Facilities: tents & RVs/50, toilets.

North Higgins Lake/East • 989-821-6125
11747 N. Higgins Lake Dr., Roscommon, MI 48653
Facilities: tents & RVs/82, electric, reservations, wheelchair access.

North Higgins Lake/West • 989-821-6125
11747 N. Higgins Lake Dr., Roscommon, MI 48653
Facilities: tents & RVs/92, cabin, electric, reservations, wheelchair access.

South Higgins Lake • 989-821-6374
106 State Park Dr., Roscommon, MI 48653
Facilities: tents & RVs/400, cabin, electric, reservations, wheelchair accessible, boat launch, beach.

PRIVATE

West Houghton Lake Camp • 989-422-5130
9371 W. Houghton Lake Dr., Houghton Lake, MI 48629
Facilities: tents/7, RVs/120, cabins/2, electric/121, water/75, sanitation, reservations, wheelchair accessible, store, laundry, Wi-Fi, rec room.

Wexford County

STATE

Baxter Bridge Campground • 231-775-9727
Facilities: rustic/25, boat launch.

Long Lake/Wexford • 231-775-9727
Facilities: rustic/16, boat launch.

Mitchell State Park • 231-775-7911
6093 E. M-115, Cadillac, MI 49601
Facilities: tents & RVs/221, electric, reservations, beach, boat launch.

Old US-131 Campground • 231-775-9727
Facilities: rustic/25, boat launch.

FEDERAL

Hemlock Campground • 231-723-2211
Facilities: rustic/19.

Peterson Bridge • 231-723-2211
940 S. State, Route 37, Cadillac, MI 49601
Facilities: rustic/30, boat launch.

CITY

Lake Billings RV Park • 231-824-6454
221 E. Elmore St., Manton, MI 49663
Facilities: tents, RVs, electric, water, sanitation, reservations, wheel chair access, beach, laundry, Wi-Fi.

PRIVATE

Birchwood Resort & Campground • 231-775-9101
6545 E. M-115, Cadillac, MI 49601
We have 100' frontage on Lake Cadillac with 3 docks.
Facilities: RVs/33, cabins/8, electric, water, reservations, wheelchair accessible, cable, Wi-Fi.

Camp Cadillac • 231-775-9724
10621 E. 34 Rd., Cadillac, MI 49601
Facilities: tents, RVs, cabins, electric, water, sanitation, reservations, pool, store, laundry, Wi-Fi, rec room.
SEE PG. 24, 28

Northern Exposure Campground • 231-885-1199
285 Manistee River Dr., Mesick, MI 49668
Open May 1 - Oct. 15
Facilities: tents & RVs/262, cabins/3, electric, water, sanitation, reservations, wheelchair access, beach, boat launch, store, Wi-Fi.

Pine River Paddlesports Center & Quiet Campground
231-862-3471 • 9590 South M-37, Wellston, MI 49689
Facilities: tents/30, cabins/1, reservations, wheelchair accessible, store, disc golf, climbing wall, paddlesports, bike rentals.

Reed City Office
231-832-8322

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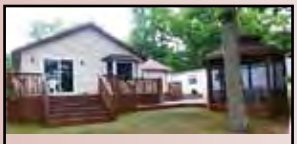
Bitely – TNC13045020 – $50,000
2 BR, 1 Bth Cabin on Big Twin Lake (Lilly Lake) with 50' of frontage and a gradual slop to the lake and views that are just beautiful.

Evart – TNC13027997 – $99,900
Move in home, access to Chippewa Lake. 3 bdr, 2 bth, remodeled kitchen, fireplace, loft, balcony, 2 car garage with it's own bath/heat, concrete drive, 2 sheds.

Luther – TNC13037582 – $104,900
2 bdrm, 1.5 bth ranch on 20 acres; state land on 3 sides, 1351' of trail on north edge of property so all you have to do is jump on the toys and hit the trails.

Evart – TNC13049895 – $119,900
Beautiful 3 Bdrm, 2 Bth, ranch with views from 4 seasons room of your private 200' frontage on the Muskegon River, 2+ car detached garage.



Bitely – TNC13043020 – $149,900
60' Big Twin lake frontage; 3 bdrm, 2 bth; attached 2 stall garage, large deck & gazebo. Includes 1960 mobile home in awesome shape with 2 bdrm, 1 bath.

Hersey – TNC13030476 – $675,000
Log home, 20 acres and 450' of Muskegon River frontage. 5 bdr, 3 1/5 bth, 4+ car garage, open loft, back up generator, security system, and much more.

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