



The Association of Lifelong Learners

March 2026



Association of Lifelong Learners
665 Johnson St., Alpena, MI 49707
989-358-7207

Email: all@alpenacc.edu
Website: associationoflifelonglearners.org
Office Hours: Mon & Fri 11:00 am—3:00 pm
Tues & Thurs 9:00 am -1:00 pm—Closed Wed

*Production of the ALL Program Guide
is generously sponsored by McFalda Law Office.*

Book Lovers Gathering
Monday, March 2, 2026
ACC Madeline Briggs Center 143
Coordinator: Carey Rapin

1:30-3:00 pm

Many of us have taken the opportunity to read during these cold, blustery days. Please consider attending our Book Gathering to share what you've read and would recommend to fellow readers. We welcome new attendees and assure you we have a very informal, relaxed atmosphere- no formal book reviews or grades, just the opportunity to meet persons with a similar interest and to obtain new ideas for "what shall I read next?"

Carey Rapin loves to share ideas and offers an initial suggestion: "BLACK IS MY BODY" by Emily Barnard. A must read.

1962 Michigan Constitutional Convention: Policy, Politics, & Citizen Engagement
Tuesday March 3, 2026 **12:00 pm – 1:00 pm**
ACC Madeline Briggs Center 140
Coordinator: Ron Young **989-884-4011**

Michigan's current state constitution was drafted at the 1961-1962 Constitutional Convention. "Con Con" was revolutionary in many ways, including being the first convention to include women and African Americans as delegates. Join us to learn how civic engagement, bipartisanship, and dynamic leadership modernized the state's constitution.

This is a Historical Society of Michigan presentation offered via Zoom at the Madeline Briggs Center.



Writing Workshop
Wednesday, March 4, 2026 **11:00 am – 12:30 pm**
ACC Madeline Briggs Center 143
Coordinator: MaryAnn Krajnik Crawford **989-916-5540**

This writing workshop series focuses on writing, sharing, and feedback. Everyone has stories, some are told, some are written, and some, like memoirs, are written to be shared with others.

Mary Ann Krajnik Crawford has been a personal journal writer and teacher of writing for many years.

Basket Making

Thursday, March 5, 2026

1:00-3:30 pm

ACC Madeline Briggs Center 143

Coordinator: Bev Bodem

989-354-4656

Attendees: Minimum: 8 Maximum: 12

Cost: \$45 for materials-paid by Tuesday, February 24 at ALL Office.

Have you always wondered how baskets are made? Or wanted to make one yourself? Join members of the Thunder Bay Basket Guild as they guide you through the process of making your own basket. Participants will be making a simple basket with a wood base which can be used as a trinket box. End result will have a 6 X 6 inch base with 4-5 inch sides, and participant can choose colors for color rows. All tools will be provided.

The Thunder Bay Basket Guild was established in the 1990s to provide a welcoming space where basket weavers could gather, exchange ideas, share their skills, and form lasting friendships. Over the years, while some faces may have changed, the heart of the guild remains the same-a dedicated group of women connected by their passion for weaving.

Brian Schorn - A Surrealist Poetry Reading and Discussion

Thursday, March 5, 2026

6:00 –7:00 pm

Besser Museum for Northeast Michigan 491 Johnson St., Alpena

Coordinator: Mike Mandrick

989-255-2699

Cost: \$10.00 adult, museum members free.

If you are of a curious mind or even an expert, join us for an inquisitive journey into history and discover how great works of art and literature influence the way we think, create, and understand our world. During this special event Brian Schorn will lead a discussion of poetry.

Brian Schorn is an Alpena native and art instructor at ACC.

Forests and Disturbances

Monday, March 9, 2026

11:00 – 12:30 pm

ACC Madeline Briggs Center 140

Coordinator: Tom Hilberg

989-464-5569

Ecological disturbances are events that regulate biomass in forest ecosystems. Knowledge of how disturbances shape forests guide ecological forestry. This presentation will discuss how the ice storm of March 2025 impacted forests (and plantations) from an ecological standpoint and will provide information on the importance of forest complexity.

Dr. Greg Corace is a forest and wildlife ecologist, Forestry Assistance Program, Alpena-Montmorency Conservation District. Prior to working for the Conservation District, Greg was a scientist and land manager for the U.S. Department of Interior. Greg had responsibility for NEPA conservation planning, wetland and terrestrial ecosystem management, inventory and monitoring, and applied research on over 103,000 acres of land in the Upper and Lower Peninsulas of Michigan.

Mike Diethelm: Restoring Alpena Mansions**Tuesday March 10, 2026****1:30-3:00 pm****ACC Madeline Briggs Center 140****Coordinator: Linda Ferguson****402-679-7669**

Mike Diethelm has resurrected and restored some of the most beautiful houses in Alpena, and some of the not so beautiful. In all he has rehabbed a total of 21 houses in Alpena, 225 across the nation. Mike, an Alpena native, will share his experiences in renovating these houses. The presentation will include before and after pictures as well as historical commentary.

Mike Diethelm graduated from Alpena High School in 1986, attended Alpena Community College and received a degree in Political Science from Central Michigan University. Mike is the son of Ralph Diethelm and Margaret Nichols, has worked in banking and real estate for 18 years and started his own company (Clean Foreclosures USA LLC) in 2009.

Demon in the Gale: The Untold Story of Michigan's Great Fire**Wednesday, March 11, 2026****7:00 - 8:00 pm****ACC Madeline Briggs Center 143****Coordinator: Ron Young****989-844-4011**

The Thumb Fire of 1871 is not very well known as it struck the same night as the Great Chicago Fire. Fire returned to the region in 1881, killing hundreds and wiping out whole towns. Hear the stories of these forgotten tragedies and how their legacies linger today. This is a Historical Society of Michigan presentation offered via Zoom at the Madeline Briggs Center

Moveable Feast at Mangos**Thursday, March 12, 2026****11:30-1:00 pm****Mangos 121 W. Chisholm St., Alpena****Coordinator: Jane Roose****989-255-5673**

Join the ALL Moveable Feast for a visit to Mangos for lunch. The restaurant is friendly, informal, serves great Mexican dishes, has American fare, and lunch specials. The ALL Adventures in Music Program featuring Trickey Road Roughnecks will be at Granum Theatre at ACC shortly after lunch. Consider attending both or which ever you prefer. Each attendee is responsible for his/her own tab. Please feel free to invite someone who has not experienced our "fun" feasts. Call the ALL office at 989-358-7207 or email all@alpenacc.edu or register online for a reservation so the restaurant and coordinator can plan accordingly.

Mangos boasts, in the coordinator's opinion, the most beautiful and exotic decor of any restaurant in Alpena. The booths and chairs were hand-painted and shipped from Mexico, the bar and lighted decorations are beautiful and bring to mind agates. To continue the art theme, outside their doors is the infamous Alpena fish mural. Those who have been around for awhile will remember this was the location of the Owl Restaurant for generations.



Adventures in Music
Featuring: Truckey Road Roughnecks
Thursday, March 12, 2026 1:30 to 3:00 PM
Granum Theatre ACC

Tour of Bay Athletic Club

Friday, March 13, 2026 **1:00 – 2:00 pm**
200 W. Chisholm St., Alpena
Coordinator: Linda Ferguson & Wendy Payne **402-679-7669**

Come take a tour of the new Downtown Bay Athletic Club. We will be taking you on a walk showing you a few machines and our Group Exercise Studio. Please bring a change of shoes for your tour through the facility.

Tracie Granata is the Membership Director, Group Ex Instructor, and personal trainer. She had her doctorate in physical therapy but quickly realized that she loved the prevention side instead of the rehab side of exercise. **Erin Andrews** is the Group Ex Manager, Instructor and personal trainer. She has her bachelors in Health and Physical Education. She has been with BAC for 5 years.

Zachariah Chandler Saved the Declaration of Independence—Literally
Tuesday, March 17, 2026 **12:00 – 1:00 pm**
ACC Madeline Briggs Center 143
Coordinator: Ron Young **989-916-5540**

Michigan Senator Zachariah Chandler was an outspoken and influential politician during the Civil War and Reconstruction. He was instrumental in preserving the Union, abolishing slavery, and expanding civil rights legislation. Join us to learn how he also took action to preserve the Declaration of Independence for future generations. A History Hounds Virtual Lecture! This is a Historical Society of Michigan presentation offered via Zoom at the Madeline Briggs Center



ALL Photography Club
Tuesday , March 17, 2026 **7:00-9:00 pm**
ACC Madeline Briggs Center 143
Coordinator: Dick Bremer **989-727-8028**
Zoom Meeting ID: 847 0459 7928 **Passcode: 635146**

Join in the discussions about photographic techniques and equipment. Or just stop in and check out some of the photos from Club members and visitors. All skill levels are welcome. Join us in-person or on Zoom.



Journal Writing

Wednesday, March 18, 2026

11:00 – 12:30 pm

ACC Madeline Briggs Center 143

Coordinator: Mary Ann Krajnik Crawford

989-916-5540

This session invites us to write for ourselves and others. Journal writing is a first step for creating stories, capturing memories, and exploring our ideas and feelings. This is writing for fun and insight in a no-pressure atmosphere. You can write in response to prompts I will bring or about whatever you choose, and you can do as much or as little writing and sharing as our time allows.

Mary Ann Krajnik Crawford has been a personal journal writer and teacher of writing for many years.

Violence Against Women Act

Thursday, March 19, 2026

1:30 – 2:30 pm

ACC Madeline Briggs Center 140

Coordinator: Linda Ferguson

402-679-7669

Also available via Zoom : Meeting id: 829 8476 1812 Passcode: 397909

This little known law provides important protections for (surprisingly, given the title) not only women but anyone who is the victim of violence, whether committed by an intimate partner or someone else. Before its passage in 1994, law enforcement tended to look at domestic violence as a private matter, leaving victims, particularly wives, defenseless under the law. Reauthorization requirements for the law have led to significant controversy over various provisions, especially those involving the LGBTQ+ and immigrant communities. One requirement of the law is that the Department of Justice consult with tribal nations once a year about their problems with violence and what is needed to address them. Jan Charter has attended two of these consultations and her talk will describe the heart breaking experiences of these communities.

Jan Charter is a retired attorney, splitting her time in retirement between Alpena and Santa Fe. She became interested in the problem of Indigenous women in New Mexico going missing or murdered with little law-enforcement follow-up, which led her to an exploration of the Violence Against Women Act.

Have a presentation or hobby to share? Know someone who has a presentation or hobby to share? Have a topic you would like to learn more about. Contact the ALL Office at 989-358-7207 or email all@alpenacc.edu to share your ideas. ALL is always looking for new material .

Finding Gladys—Alpena Civic Theatre

Sunday, March 22, 2026

2:00-4:00 pm

Alpena Civic Theatre, 401 River St, Alpena

Coordinator: Glenda Aasland

907-460-4098

Tickets are \$20 each and must be paid to the ALL office by Wednesday, March 11, 2026 to reserve a seat.

Finding Gladys- Gladys is the main character in a care home who dreams of being a celebrity in Hollywood and Broadway. To fulfill her fantasy, she writes a play and enters it in a national contest. The competition turns out to be a scam.

The Alpena Civic Theatre has been bringing live theatre to the Alpena area for 68 years. They are a 501c3 nonprofit theatre run completely by volunteers.

My Adventures in Art

Tuesday, March 24, 2026

1:30– 2:30 pm

Olin Joynton Fine Arts Center at ACC

Coordinator: Judy Reimann and Linda Ferguson

989-657-0806

Ellen LaCross will speak about her background and how art became an important part of her life. She works in many different kinds of media, including cheese cloth, parchment paper, lightweight spackling and textured backgrounds which will be on display at the art center to show as examples.

Ellen LaCross is an Alpena native, attending ACC and Western University. She enjoys attending many art workshops throughout the year and is enjoying this new vocation after retiring.

Connecting our Community—The Alpena News

Wednesday March 25, 2026

10:00-11:30 am

ACC Madeline Briggs Center 140

Coordinator: Wendy Payne

703-472-5862

Available by Zoom: Meeting ID: 838 4680 1410 Passcode: 732489

With all the changes happening in the world - specifically in the area of technological developments - we are so fortunate to still have a local newspaper. The Alpena News connects our community, its people and organizations, through communication. The staff is passionate about and dedicated to keeping up with what's going on around us, locally and worldwide.

Steve Schulwitz, Community Editor, has been with the paper for 28 years. He began as a part-time sports reporter and then a beat reporter for Montmorency and Alpena counties. Steve has covered some of the largest stories in Northeast Michigan and even the state. Steve's goals are to protect the storied history of The News while making subtle changes that include more public input and content. **Kayla Wikaryasz** is the senior reporter of the editorial staff and assistant to the editor for The News. Born and raised in Alpena, Kayla is a graduate of Michigan State University. She is well versed in news at every level and is a skilled writer.

Souper Cooking

Thursday, March 26, 2026

10:30-1:30 pm

ACC Newport Center - CTR 102 (kitchen)

Coordinator: Wendy Payne

703-472-5862

Lisa Rosenbeck who guided you through making bakery cookies and Christmas candy will lead you through creating a magnificent lunch for a large group. You will create everything on a menu from soup to nuts. Literally, soup-2 kinds, salad, rolls and dessert with nuts. Your creations will be enjoyed by those who attend the March Happening that celebrates program coordinators. The kitchen is adequate but not large so **the number of "helper cooks" is limited to 10**. As with all ALL programs **with limited attendance, participation will be on a first signup, first participate basis**. There is no fee for this cooking class but you will get lunch and your work will be immediately appreciated. Instant gratification!!

Lisa Rosenbeck has recently retired and loves to bake and cook. Lisa had been feeding groups of friends for years.

March Happening - Coordinator Recognition

Thursday, March 26, 2026

11:30-2:00 pm

ACC Newport CTR 104/106

Coordinator: Linda Ferguson

402-679-7669

Cost: Lunch will be provided. There is no cost for ALL Coordinators. Other attendees are free to give a voluntary contribution of their choice.

The annual March Happening is not only a chance to meet, greet and catch up with your fellow ALL members but is a time to recognize and celebrate those who so freely give their time and energy to coordinate the programs for the Association of Lifelong Learners. Lunch and entertainment will be provided. You won't want to miss this annual ALL event recognizing the magic that coordinators bring to ALL programs.

AHS Tech Workshop

Thursday, March 26, 2026

3:00- 5:00 pm

ACC Madeline Briggs Center 143

Coordinator: Linda Ferguson

402-679-7667

Bring any and all of your technology devices that are giving you headaches to this workshop. Bring in all your questions about those devices to this workshop. The AHS students of DECA** club are here to help. These students know it all, if one can't help another can. Club advisor Amanda Pilarski also shares her knowledge and skills. This is one-on-one help that focuses on **your** situation and concerns. If you find their skills helpful and valuable, any donation to help offset the expense of these competitions would be appreciated.

** Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA) is a high school and college program for students interested in business. The organization prepares emerging leaders and entrepreneurs for careers in marketing, finance, hospitality, and management.

MARCH RECURRING SESSIONS



PICKLEBALL

Monday, Wednesday, Friday

9:00 - 11:00 am

APlex

Coordinator: Pamela Borchert

989-464-6044

Pickleball continues. Call the APlex for additional info @ 989-354-6164. APlex fees apply.



Duplicate Bridge

Mondays

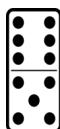
12:15 - 4:00 pm

Call for Location in Alpena. Call Marcy at

989-354-2306

or Bev at 989-595-5119 for more information

This is a form of Bridge where partners play a fixed set of hands in competition with several other partners to see who does the best. This form of Bridge is for experienced Bridge partners interested in some friendly competition. It is also appropriate for individual experienced Bridge players interested in subbing from time to time.



Mexican Train Dominoes

Tuesdays

9:15 - 11:30 am

ACC Madeline Briggs Center 143

Coordinator: Eileen Wikaryasz

989-884-1140

Ready for a fun, addictive and fast-moving game that has lots of surprising twists and turns? Join us for Mexican Train Dominoes! You may join our class any time during the year.



Pinochle

Wednesdays

12:30 - 3:00 pm

ACC Madeline Briggs Center 140

Coordinator: Mary Ann Kenne

989-255-4414

Julie Byrnes is inviting you to join her and others in single deck Pinochle on Wednesdays.

ALL is supported by membership fees. Guests are always welcome. A modest donation from guests for the value of your experience is always appreciated.

RECURRING SESSIONS



Spitzer

Thursdays

10:00 - 11:30 am

ACC Madeline Briggs Center 140

Coordinator: Marilyn Klingshirn

989-354-0884

Spitzer is a challenging card game that requires lots of concentration. It is played extensively in our area, mainly around Rogers City, Alpena, Posen, and regular tournaments are held. Spitzer-challenged people are welcome to come learn the game. Experienced players are welcome to come enjoy playing and guiding the newbies. Name tags encouraged.



Contract Bridge

Fridays

12:30 - 3:00 pm

ACC Madeline Briggs Center 140

Coordinator: Julie Byrnes

734-761-2123

This is an ongoing group of varied players who welcome all players at any time. We are a teaching class but welcome experienced players also.



Square Dancing

Fridays

4:00 - 6:00 pm

Call Glenn Taylor for Location

Coordinator: Glenn Taylor

803-292-9613

Dancing is the Best Activity for Brain Health - Square Dancing is super fun as well! Come join our very active group. No partner needed. Singles and beginners are welcome! We meet most Fridays from 4-6 PM. Call Glenn at 803-292-9613 for location.

Recurring Programs are held the same day of the week in any given month. To find detailed dates of these programs, please refer to the Calendar on Page 11.

March 2026

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	S
1	2 Pickleball 9:00-11:00 am Dup Bridge 12:15 - 4 pm Booklovers 1:30-3:00 pm	3 Dominoes 9:15 - 11:30 am 1962 Michigan Constitutional Convention 12:00-1:00 pm	4 Pickleball 9:00-11:00 am Writing Wrkshp 11:00 -12:30 pm Pinochle 12:30-3:00 pm	5 Spitzer 10 - 11:30 am Basket Making 1:00-3:30 pm Brian Schorn-A Surrealist Poetry Reading 6:00-7:00 pm	6 Pickleball 9:00 -11:00 am Bridge 12:30 - 3:00 pm Sq Dancing 4 - 6 pm	7
8	9 Pickleball 9:00-11:00 am Dup Bridge 12:15 - 4 pm Forests and Disturbances 11:00-12:30 pm	10 Dominoes 9:15-11:30 am Restoring Alpena Mansions 1:30-3:00 pm	11 Pickleball 9:00 -11:00 am Pinochle 12:30-3:00 pm Demon in the Gale 7:00-8:00 pm	12 Spitzer 10 - 11:30 am Moveable Feast Mangos 11:30-1:00 pm Adventures in Music 1:30-3:00 pm	13 Pickleball 9:00 -11:00 am Bridge 12:30 - 3:00 pm Tour of Bay Athletic Club 1:00-2:00 pm Sq Dancing 4 - 6 pm	1 4
15	16 Pickleball 9:00-11:00 am Dup Bridge 12:15 - 4 pm	17 Dominoes 9:15-11:30 am Zachariah Chandler 12:00-1:00 pm Photography Club 7:00-9:00 pm	18 Pickleball 9:00-11:00 am Journal Writing 11:00-12:30 pm Pinochle 12:30-3:00 pm	19 Spitzer 10 - 11:30 am Violence Against Women Act 1:30-2:30 pm	20 Pickleball 9:00 -11:00 am Bridge 12:30 - 3:00 pm Sq Dancing 4 - 6 pm	2 1
22	23 Pickleball 9:00-11:00 am Dup Bridge 12:15 - 4:00 pm	24 Dominoes 9:15-11:30 am My Adventures in Art 1:30-2:30 pm	25 Pickleball 9:00-11:00 am The Alpena News 10:00-11:30 am Pinochle 12:30-3:00 pm	26 Spitzer 10 - 11:30 am Souper Cooking 10:30-1:30 pm March Happen. 11:30-2:00 pm AHS Tech 3:00-5:00 pm	27 Pickleball 9:00 -11:00 am Bridge 12:30 - 3:00 pm Sq Dancing 4 - 6 pm	2 8
1	Alpena Civic Theatre Finding Gladys 2:00-4:00 pm	3 Dominoes 9:15-11:30 am	4 Pickleball 9:00-11:00 am Pinochle 12:30-3:00 pm	5 Spitzer 10 - 11:30 am	6 Pickleball 9:00 -11:00 am Bridge 12:30 - 3:00 pm Sq Dancing 4 - 6 pm	7



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Madeline Briggs Building

Alpena, MI 49707