The Association of Lifelong Learners

December 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 -10:00 am—2:00 pm
Tues & Thurs 10:00 am -2:00 pm
Closed Wed

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

Why Register for ALL programs?

1) Registration helps ALL prepare for programs by making sure we have adequate seating and handouts for program participants. Occasionally a bigger room needs to be arranged for popular programs.

2) Registration helps ALL advise presenters of the number of anticipated participants.

3) Occasionally programs with low participation are cancelled at the request of the presenter.

4) Registration helps ALL advise participants of program changes or cancellation.

5) Some programs have limited capacity. Registration helps ALL monitor program capacity and advise participants accordingly.

6) Registration helps ALL provide an enjoyable program for all concerned.

Registering for ALL programs online will improve registration accuracy and reduce office time needed to process registrations.

Use the following link to register online for programs:

DECEMBER 2026 REGISTRATION FORM (2) – Fill out form

You can also find this registration link on the ALL website here:

https://associationoflifelonglearners.org/

or use this QR code with your phone to get to the form:



The sport of Curling: All you ever wanted to know and more!
Tuesday, December 1, 2026 **1:30 – 2:30 pm**
ACC Madeline Briggs Center 140
Coordinator: Linda Ferguson **402-679-7669**
Zoom: Meeting id: 867 0516 5343 Passcode: 472614

This presentation will cover a brief history of curling. An introduction to the sport of curling including scoring, player responsibilities, fundamental skills, shot making and basic strategy will all be addressed. Options for participation locally will be presented, along with costs and equipment needed.

Presenters are from the Thunder Bay Curling Club. Kurt Hines (Curling 8 years, TBCC President), Debbie Wojda (Curling 10 years, USCA certified Level 1 Instructor, TBCC Secretary), Mike Wojda (Curling 8 years, TBCC past president, club founder).

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Writing Workshop
Wednesday, November 4, 2026 **11:00-12:30 pm**
ACC Madeline Briggs Center 143
Coordinator: Mary Ann 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. Sessions will examine issues with writing, share techniques for writing and revising, and practice some editing. Participants write between sessions, share their writing at sessions, and get feedback that they can use for revising and polishing their stories.

Mary Ann Krajnik Crawford has been a personal journal writer and teacher of writing for many years. She retired from Central Michigan University as emeritus professor of English and director of the Writing Center and continues to write for the fun of it.

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Polar Bears - King of the Arctic
Wednesday, December 2, 2026 **1:00 - 2:30 pm**
ACC Madeline Briggs Center 143
Coordinator: Joyce Bobolts **616-893-2998**

Join marine biologist and polar expedition guide Amanda Hunter for an exciting exploration of the Arctic's most iconic predator — the polar bear. Learn how these majestic animals have adapted to thrive in one of the planet's most extreme environments and the unique challenges they face in the changing Arctic landscape. Through Amanda's extensive knowledge and passion for wildlife conservation, you'll gain a deeper understanding of the critical role polar bears play in the Arctic ecosystem, the threats they encounter and the ongoing efforts to protect them.

This is a Road Scholar Online Lecture presented via Zoom and offered by ALL for viewing at Madeline Briggs.

Age Well: Happiness, Health & the Arts
Thursday, December 3, 2026 **2:00-3:30 pm**
ACC Madeline Briggs Center 143
Coordinator: Joyce Bobolts **616-893-2998**

Visiting art museums helps reduce anxiety, depression and loneliness, and simply looking at art can reduce stress and boost the immune system. Join psychology professor Dr. Catherine Sanderson as she describes empirical research from psychological science showing how engaging with the arts can benefit psychological and physical well-being. She will also explore why creating art — painting, drawing, crafting — improves cognitive functioning as well as life satisfaction. This presentation will provide practical, evidence-based strategies that audience members can immediately apply to enhance well-being.

Dr. Catherine Sanderson is the Poler Family Professor of Psychology at Amherst College, with degrees from Stanford University and Princeton University. She has published over 25 journal articles and book chapters, five college textbooks, and two trade books. Dr. Sanderson speaks regularly and is passionate about sharing practical science-based strategies people can use to improve their daily lives.

This is a Road Scholar Online Lecture presented via Zoom and offered by ALL for viewing at Madeline Briggs.

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Three Lakes, One Legacy: Charlevoix's Maritime History
Tuesday, December 8, 2026 **12:00- 1:00 pm**
ACC Madeline Briggs Center 143
Coordinator: Ron Young **989-884-4011**

Discover the story behind the new book, The City on Three Lakes. Drawing on the museum's extraordinary photographic collections, new photography, and more than two years of research, the book offers a comprehensive account of how this small town became one of the Great Lakes' most important ports.

This is a Historical Society of Michigan presentation offered for viewing by ALL at the Madeline Briggs Center,

ALL prefers that you register for our programs, but if things change in your schedule, give the ALL office a call @ (989) 358-7207 or call the program coordinator to let us know you are coming or not.

Book Lovers Gathering
Wednesday, December 9, 2026 **1:30-3:00 pm**
ACC Madeline Briggs Center 143
Coordinator: Carey Rapin **989-255-0396**

"One can never have enough socks."Said Dumbledore. Another Christmas has come and gone and I didn't get a single pair. People will insist on giving me books. J.K, Rowlings- The Sorcerer's Stone. Carey loves to give and receive books and hopes you will attend our Book Gathering to share your ideas for Christmas gifts to others and why not to yourself?

Carey Rapin encourages you to call her if you are new to ALL and have any questions about Book Lovers!

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Making Christmas Candy with Lisa
Wednesday, December 9, 2026 **2:00-4:00 pm**
Alpena Senior Center, 501 River Street, Alpena
Coordinator: Joyce Bobolts **616-893-2998**
Number of attendees: Minimum : 5 Maximum : 14
Cost: $10 for candy supplies payable at the time of event.
Please call/email Lisa by December 2nd to reserve your spot: (989)356-3068 / rosenbeckl@yahoo.com

Interested in learning how to make Christmas candy? We will be making peanut butter balls, rum balls, as well as a few other and new recipes. We will taste test our efforts when done. You will be given copies of the recipes. Please bring a container to take some candy home, too.

Lisa Rosenbeck is recently retired and loves to cook, bake and make candy.

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Meet Mrs. Claus
Thursday, December 10, 2026 **1:00-2:00 pm**
ACC Madeline Briggs Center 140
Coordinator: Wendy Payne **703-472-5862**

Everyone knows Santa Claus, but what do you know about Mrs. Claus? Learn a bit of the history of Mrs. Claus. Get an understanding about the role "Mrs. Claus" plays in supporting Santa and helping share and spread joy to children of all ages.

Lisa Heileman has been portraying Mrs. Claus and other joyful characters for Metro Detroit, the Thumb and Eastern Michigan. Lisa is a graduate of Santa Claus International University, Chas. W. Howard Santa School, Santa Nana Holiday University and Advanced Christmas Performers Workshop. She has volunteered for International Brotherhood of Real Bearded Santas (IBRBS) and acts as Recording Secretary for Michigan Assoc. of Professional Santas. She began as a live reindeer presenter for Santa Claus and Co. L.L.C., and has enjoyed events as Mrs. Claus for Detroit Lions fans and the Detroit Wings, among many other community events. Lisa also enjoys volunteering and working locally, and clowning around to make a joyful difference wherever she is.

14th ANNUAL FRIENDSHIP ROOM DINNER





On THURSDAY DECEMBER 10 we will be celebrating our 14h annual dinner with the clients of the Friendship Room. Our social hour will begin at 3:30 P.M. with dinner to follow beginning at 4:00 P.M.

In the past our contributions have been more than $1,000 per year. When writing a check make it payable to "All Saints – Alpena". On the memo line write Friendship Room. If you would prefer not to provide a monetary contribution, it is suggested that you purchase a gift card from one of the following merchants.

- **Meijer**
- **Gordon Food**
- **Wall-Mart**
- **Dial-A-Ride ticket voucher**



Or provide any of the following food items:

- **Baked Beans**
- **Broth**
- **Butter**
- **Mayonnaise**
- **Chicken Broth**
- **Beef Broth**



We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible to share a meal with the clients at the Friendship Room.



From Fur Trading Post to Industrial Powerhouse
The Early Settlement of Flint
Tuesday, December 15, 2026 **12:00 – 1:00 pm**
ACC Madeline Briggs Center 143
Coordinator: Ron Young **989-884-4011**

Brought to you by America 250 MI. Discover the early roots of Flint, Michigan! This talk will explore city's earliest days as a humble fur trading post along the Flint River, and lay the groundwork for the city it would one day become.

This is a Historical Society of Michigan recorded program offered for viewing by ALL at the Madeline Briggs University Center.

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ALL Photography Club
Tuesday, December 15, 2026 **7:00-9:00 pm**
ACC Madeline Briggs Center 143
Coordinator: Ron Young **989-884-4011**
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.

Reminder: The College is Closed for the Christmas and New Year's Holiday from December 24th through January 3, 2027. ALL Offices will be closed to members during that time. Programs typically held offsite may still be held. Online registrations and voice and email registrations will be available during those days.



Do you have a presentation... or hobby to share? Do you know others who have a presentation or hobby to share? Do you 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 programs to offer.

Adventures in Music

Featuring

THE TRUCKEY ROAD ROUGHNECKS BAND
Friday, December 11, 2026, at 1:30 pm
Granum Theatre

Back by popular demand, please join the Association of Lifelong Learners in welcoming The Truckey Road Roughnecks again to our ***Adventures in Music*** series of musical performances**.**

The Truckey Road Roughnecks have been together for more than a decade though not always by this name. Formerly known as Music for You, the group took a brief hiatus when key members passed but soon reorganized as the Truckey Road Roughnecks. Core members include Don Grabiel, fiddle; Julie Grabiel, guitar; Diane Madsen, bass guitar; Bryan Strong, vocals and guitar; Beth Strong, vocals, guitar and mandolin. Additional friends of the group are Linda LaCross, vocals, guitar and mandolin; Maureen McWilliams, guitar; and Jon Clearwood, guitar. With a broad range of musical skills, the band's talent is best featured with Bluegrass, classic country, and vintage waltz tunes. For this performance, the group will focus on Christmas music for your holiday enjoyment. Start your holiday festivities at the Granum Theatre!

So please join us for a festive afternoon on Friday, December 11, 2026, at 1:30 pm in the Granum Theatre. (Note the change from our usual Thursdays to Friday, just for this performance.)

This musical program is made possible with the help of Alpena Community College, the Association of Lifelong Learners, and the Granum Grant. We are also looking forward to the return of Carol Cadarette on Thursday, February 11, 2027, for another Adventures in Music performance.



Rewind - Snowshoe Priest: Bishop Fredric Barga
Tuesday, December 22, 2026 **12:00-1:00 pm**
ACC Madeline Briggs Center 143
Coordinator: Ron Young **989-255-0396**

Father Baraga arrived in the New World on December 31, 1830. For the next several decades, he traveled throughout the Great Lakes Region and beyond to minister to Native and immigrant communities. Join the speaker to learn about the far-reaching impact and legacy of the Shepherd of the Wilderness.

This is a Historical Society of Michigan recorded program offered for viewing by ALL at the Madeline Briggs University Center.



RECURRING SESSIONS



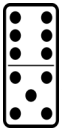
PICKLEBALL
Monday, Wednesday, Friday **9:00 - 11:00 am**
APlex
Coordinator: Pamela Borchert **989-464-6044**

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**
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: Julie Byrnes **734-761-2123**

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.

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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.

DECEMBER 2026

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	S
	30 Pickleball 9:00 -11:00 am Dup Bridge 12:15 - 4 pm	1 Dominoes 9:15 - 11:30 am Curling 1:30-230 pm	2 Pickleball 9:00 am-11:00 am Writing Workshp 11:00-12:30 pm Pinochle 12:30-3:00 pm Polar Bear 1:00-2:30 pm	3 Spitzer 10 - 11:30 am Happiness, Health 2:00-3:30 pm	4 Pickleball 9:00 –11:00 am Bridge 12:30 - 3:00 pm Sq Dancing 4 - 6 pm	5
6	7 Pickleball 9:00 -11:00 am Dup Bridge 12:15 - 4 pm	8 Dominoes 9:15 -11:30 am Charlevoix's Maritime History 12:00-1:00 pm	9 Pickleball 9:00 –11:00 am Pinochle 12:30-3:00 pm Book Lovers 1:30-3:00 pm Christmas Candy 2:00-4:00 pm	10 Spitzer 10 - 11:30 am Mrs. Claus 1:00-2:00 pm Friendship Room 3:30-5:00 pm	11 Pickleball 9:00 –11:00 am Bridge 12:30 - 3:00 pm Adv in Music 1:30-3:00 pm Sq Dancing 4 - 6 pm	12
13	14 Pickleball 9:00 -11:00 am Dup Bridge 12:15 - 4 pm	15 Dominoes 9:15- 11:30 am Fur Trading 12:00-1:00 pm Photography Club 7:00-9:00 pm	16 Pickleball 9:00-11:00 am Pinochle 12:30-3:00 pm	17 Spitzer 10 - 11:30 am	18 Pickleball 9:00 -11:00 am Bridge 12:30 - 3:00 pm Sq Dancing 4 - 6 pm	19
20	21 Pickleball 9:00-11:00 am Dup Bridge 12:15– 4:00 pm	22 Dominoes 9:15-11:30 am Snowshoe Priest 12:00-1:00 pm	23 Pickleball 9:00- 11:00 am Pinochle 12:30- 3:00 pm	24 College Closed ALL Closed	25 College Closed ALL Closed	26
27	28 College Closed ALL Closed Pickleball 9:00-11:00 am Dup Bridge 12:15– 4:00 pm	29 College Closed ALL Closed	30 College Closed ALL Closed Pickleball 9:00- 11:00 am	31 College Closed ALL Closed	1 New Years Day College Closed ALL Closed	2

Name _____ Phone Number _____

Email Address _____

✓	Program Title	Day	December Dates	Time	Location
	Curling	Tues.	1st	1:30-2:30 pm	ACC M. Briggs 140
	Writing Workshop	Wed.	2nd	11:00-12:30 pm	ACC M. Briggs 143
	Polar Bears	Wed.	2nd	1:00-2:30 pm	ACC M. Briggs 143
	Happiness, Health & Arts	Thurs.	3rd	2:00-3:30 pm	ACC M. Briggs 143
	Three Lakes, One Legacy	Tues.	8th	12:00-1:00 pm	ACC M. Briggs 143
	Book Lovers Gathering	Wed.	9th	1:30-3:00 pm	ACC M. Briggs 143
	Making Christmas Candy	Wed.	9th	2:00-4:00 pm	501 River St. Alpena Senior Center
	Meet Mrs. Claus	Thurs.	10th	1:00-2:00 pm	ACC M. Briggs 140
	Friendship Room	Thurs.	10th	3:30-5:00 pm	322 West Chisholm Alpena
	Adventures in Music Truckey Road Roughnecks	Fri.	11th	1:30-3:00 pm	Granum Theatre ACC Newport Ctr
	Fur Trading Post to Industrial Powerhouse	Tues.	15th	12:00-1:00 pm	ACC M. Briggs 143
	Photography Club	Tues.	15th	7:00-9:00 pm	ACC M. Briggs 143
	Rewind-Snowshoe Priest	Tues.	22nd	12:00-1:00 pm	ACC M. Briggs 143
	Pickleball	M, W, F	Monday, Wednesday, Friday	9:00 - 11:00 am	APlex
	Duplicate Bridge	Mon.	Mondays	12:15 – 4:00 pm	Call for Location
	Mex. Train Dominoes	Tues.	Tuesdays	9:15 - 11:30 am	ACC M. Briggs 143
	Pinochle	Wed.	Wednesdays	12:30 - 3:00 pm	ACC M. Briggs 140
	Spitzer	Thurs.	Thursdays	10:00 - 11:30 am	ACC M. Briggs 140
	Contract Bridge	Fri.	Fridays	12:30 - 3:00 pm	ACC M. Briggs 140
	Square Dancing	Fri.	Fridays	4:00 - 6:00 pm	Call for Location

The Association of Lifelong Learners has implemented a system to register for ALL programs online. You will still be able to register with the above form. However, you may find it easier to register electronically with your computer or smart phone. See details on the back of this form.