

# Allendale Lifelong Learners

January 2023

**Allendale**  
Charter Township est. 1849

## In this issue:

- All Things Michigan
- Calendar of events
- Rambling Thoughts
- Just to Warm your heart

Did you Know?



PLEASE, PLEASE!!!  
Sign up for the listed activities, but if you sign up, show up!! Or let me know that you can't make it. We have had some number issues lately and need to crack down on this. Thanks for understanding!

Call Kathy at 616-843-0572 or email [khanes@allendale-twp.org](mailto:khanes@allendale-twp.org) if you would like more information on the Allendale Lifelong Learners or any of the activities listed in this newsletter.

## VOLUNTARY MEMBERSHIP DUES—\$20.00

**Thank you to all who have paid their dues for 2023. I have a complete list if you aren't sure if you paid.**

Dues are \$20.00 per person and can be paid in cash or a check made out to Allendale Lifelong Learners. Typically these **dues are collected September through December and are applied to the coming year.** You can pay anytime during the year. These dues go to help pay for some extras throughout the year. Door prizes, cards, newsletters and special events are just some of the things your dues help to cover the cost of. Plus it gets you member pricing on trips and other events. So when you see \$\$/\$\$, the first price is for members and the second is for non members. **Dues paid after September 1 will be applied to the following year.** As always, if you have any questions, please give me a call (Kathy, 616-843-0572). Thank you!!

**Senior Citizen Golden Age Pass**—If you are 60 years or older and would like FREE admission to all school sponsored activities and sporting events, stop by the Allendale Public School District office, 10505 Learning Lane. These are free to residents over 60 that live in the school district. Passes cannot be used for play-off events and some Theatre performances, but will get you free admission to regular season games and activities.



Are you looking for some extra trips? Suitcase Dreams is an affordable option that we have booked with and enjoyed. Visit their website at: [www.suitcasedreams.com](http://www.suitcasedreams.com). Or call Julie at 231-519-1389. You can also email her at [suitcasedreamstravel@gmail.com](mailto:suitcasedreamstravel@gmail.com).

I would encourage you to check them out—mention you're with the Lifelong Learners too!

There are overnight trips to Memphis and Cape Cod, plus added ones to Branson, The Smokies and more. You deal directly with Suitcase Dreams for booking these trips, and I highly recommend them! Paper copy information will be available at luncheons also.



"No joystick? No mouse? No keyboard?  
How do you turn the pages?"



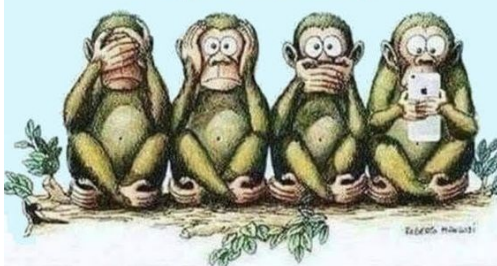
## Beware of the Menopause Fairy

At first she steals your figure, then she steals your sleep, next your mood, your patience, your eyesight, and finally she eats your brain! All she leaves you with is a lousy moustache, a muffin top, hot flashes, itchy skin, 10 million moods, a skelchy memory, and an endless need for naps, coffee, wine, and carbs.



Colouring picture for lazy people.

**Here is the 4th monkey  
he is the sum of the 3 others :  
he sees nobody, hears nobody and  
speaks to nobody**





# A Little Bit of this and that...



Give me a sense of humor, Lord—Give me the grace to see a joke.  
To get some humor out of life and pass it on to other folk!

- I pretended to be asleep and then I fell asleep. Now, I'm going to pretend I'm skinny!
- Rich people have fancy labels on their clothes. Happy people have dog hairs on their clothes.
- Once you hit 60, you need to sit on the edge of the bed and warm up, like an old Buick, before you get up!
- Adults are always asking children what they want to be when they grow up because they're looking for ideas!
- I never make the same mistake twice. I make it like five or six times, you know, just to be sure!
- You know what? I've learned so much from my mistakes...I'm thinking of making a few more!
- Be careful who you trust; salt and sugar look the same.
- I'm pretty excited! Our loan was approved and we're closing on a full tank of gas this weekend!
- 90% of my google search history is just words I wasn't sure how to spell!
- Remember when air for you tires was FREE? Now it's \$1.75!!! Do you know why? Inflation!
- I am proud to announce that I completed the first item on my bucket list. I have the bucket!
- Today my daughter called me 'Birth Person.' I replied, 'Yes, Financial Drain?'
- Welcome to old age! I hope you like ibuprofen!
- If you think you are smarter than the previous generation...50 years ago the owners manual of a car showed you how to adjust the valves. Today it warns you not to drink the contents of the battery!
- I came, I saw, I forgot what I was doing, retraced my steps, got distracted on my way back, have no idea what's going on and now I have to pee!
- Isn't it weird that we have one hand that knows how to do everything and then one hand that just sits there like, "I don't know how to hold a pencil!"
- My boss wants me to sign up for a 401K. No way I'm running that far!
- Never iron a four leaf clover. You don't want to press your luck.
- Am I getting older or are the grocery stores finally playing great music!
- An elderly couple is in church. The husband says to the wife, "I've let out one of those silent farts, what do I do?" The wife says, "Change the battery in your hearing aid!"
- I got an email explaining how to read maps backwards! It was Spam!
- Sometimes I feel like throwing in the towel. But you know what that means...more laundry!
- Good friends and time are two things that become more valuable the older we get.
- If Paul could see the church in America today, we'd be getting a letter!



## Community Opportunities

- **Ripple Effect**—6561 Lake Michigan Drive. The proceeds are used to support mission work in our community and abroad. They are in need of volunteers to help sort store donations and to work in the store. If you are interested in helping, please stop by and let them know.
- **Love INC**—Volunteers are needed for this ministry as they continue to supply help to the needy in our community. You can work in their "New to You" store or in the office. Contact them directly at 895-5629 for more information or email— [info@allendalelove.org](mailto:info@allendalelove.org)
- **Allendale American Legion**—We meet every second Monday of the month at Life Stream Church. Door A, Room 119. Sea, air, and land stories are told at 6:30 pm, meeting at 7:00pm. If you are a Veteran, come by and check us out.
- **Engine House #5**—This local museum is looking for docents who have a passion for sharing history! Contact Jeff Blum, at 616.304.1084 or [jblum@wcgrp.com](mailto:jblum@wcgrp.com) for details.

1. I changed my iPod's name to Titanic. It's syncing now.
2. England has no kidney bank, but it does have a Liverpool.
3. Haunted French pancakes give me the crepes.
4. This girl today said she recognized me from the Vegetarians Club, but I'd swear I've never met herbivore.
5. I know a guy who's addicted to drinking brake fluid, but he says he can stop any time.
6. A thief who stole a calendar got twelve months.
7. When the smog lifts in Los Angeles, U.C.L.A.
8. I got some batteries that were given out free of charge.
9. A dentist and a manicurist married. They fought tooth and nail.
10. A will is a dead giveaway.
11. With her marriage, she got a new name and a dress.
12. Police were summoned to a daycare center where a three-year-old was resisting a rest.
13. A bicycle can't stand alone; it's just two tired.
14. The guy who fell onto an upholstery machine last week is now fully recovered.
15. He had a photographic memory but it was never fully developed.
16. When she saw her first strands of gray hair she thought she'd dye.
17. Acupuncture is a jab well done. That's the point of it.
18. I didn't like my beard at first. Then it grew on me.
19. Did you hear about the crossed-eyed teacher who lost her job because she couldn't control her pupils?
20. When you get a bladder infection, urine trouble.
21. When chemists die, they barium.
22. I stayed up all night to see where the sun went, and then it dawned on me.
23. I'm reading a book about anti-gravity. I just can't put it down

*The best kind of people are the ones  
that come into your life, and make  
you see the sun where  
you once saw clouds.  
The people that believe in you so  
much, you start to believe in you too.  
The people that love you,  
simply for being you.  
The once in a lifetime  
kind of people!!*

Well I've finally reached  
the Wonder Years.  
Wonder where my  
car is -parked?  
Wonder where I  
left my phone?  
Wonder where my  
sunglasses are?  
Wonder what day it is?



### **PECANS IN THE CEMETERY**

On the outskirts of a small town, there was a big, old pecan tree just inside the cemetery fence. One day, two boys filled up a bucketful of nuts and sat down by the tree, out of sight, and began dividing the nuts. "One for you, one for me" said one boy. Several dropped and rolled down toward the fence.

Another boy came riding along the road on his bicycle. As he passed, he thought he heard voices from inside the cemetery. He slowed down to investigate. Sure enough, he heard, "One for you, one for me. One for you, one for me." He just knew what it was, so he jumped back on his bike and rode off.

Now just around the bend he met an old man with a cane hobbling along. "Come here quick," said the boy. "You won't believe what I heard! Satan and the Lord are down at the cemetery dividing the souls."

The man said, "Beat it kid, can't you see it's hard for me to walk." When the boy insisted though, the man hobbled to the cemetery. Standing by the fence they heard, "One for you, one for me. One for you,..." The old man whispered, "Boy, you've been telling the truth. Let's see if we can see the Lord." Shaking with fear, they peered through the fence yet were still unable to see anything.

The old man and the boy gripped the wrought iron bars of the fence tighter and tighter as they tried to get a glimpse of the Lord. At last they heard, "One for you, one for me. That's all. Now let's go get those nuts by the fence and we'll be done."

They say the old man made it back to town a full five minutes ahead of the boy on the bike!

Here is information on area businesses and individuals who provide classes or events for your needs.

- **SNAP FITNESS**—If you are members of a Medicare health plan, you may have access to the SilverSneakers® Fitness Program. Stop in and see for yourself or visit the website [www.silversneakers.com/snap/](http://www.silversneakers.com/snap/)
- **Silver and Fit** is a program that promotes exercise for the healthy, aging population. If interested, reach out to our professional staff at **Northern PT of Allendale at 616-895-4050** to get set up on your individualized programming.
- **PICKLE BALL-Every Wednesday and Friday from 9:30 to 11:30** at the new and improved Pickle Ball courts in the township park in summer and at Life Stream (6561 Lake Michigan Drive) in winter. Not sure if you like to play? Stop by and check it out. There are many friendly people there to help! Equipment is provided.
- **Walking Fit—Tuesdays at 5:30 PM**—Enjoy some social interaction and exercise out in the natural elements. Every Tuesday from 5:30 to 6:30PM Meet at Life Stream Church, 6451 Lake Michigan Drive.



You can text or call and leave a message @ 616.843.0572 or send an email to [khanes@allendale-twp.org](mailto:khanes@allendale-twp.org)

# Rambling Thoughts

## "4 Worms In Church"

Four worms and a lesson to be learned!!!!

A minister decided that a visual demonstration would add emphasis to his Sunday sermon. Four worms were placed into four separate jars. The first worm was put into a container of alcohol. The second worm was put into a container of cigarette smoke. The third worm was put into a container of chocolate syrup. The fourth worm was put into a container of good clean soil.

At the conclusion of the sermon, the Minister reported the following results:

The first worm in alcohol . . . . . Dead .

The second worm in cigarette smoke . . . Dead.

Third worm in chocolate syrup . . . . Dead.

Fourth worm in good clean soil . . . Alive!!

So the Minister asked the congregation,

"What did you learn from this demonstration?"

Susie A was sitting in the back, quickly raised her hand and said, "As long as you drink, smoke and eat chocolate, you won't have worms!"

That pretty much ended the service!

Always wear underwear...

Always wear underwear in public, especially when working under your vehicle. From the local paper comes this story of a couple who drove their car to the shopping center, only to have their car break down in the parking lot. The man told his wife to carry on with the shopping while he fixed the car.

The wife returned to see a small group of people near the car. On closer inspection, she saw a pair of hairy legs protruding from under the car.

Unfortunately, although the man was in shorts, his lack of underpants turn his private parts into glaringly public ones. Unable to stand the embarrassment, the wife dutifully stepped forward and quickly put her hand up his shorts and tucked everything back into place.

As she stood back up, she looked across the hood of the car and found herself staring at her husband, who was standing idly by!

The mechanic however, had to have 3 stitches in his forehead!

## A TRUCK DRIVER

A truck driver stopped at a roadside diner one day to grab some lunch. He ordered a cheeseburger, a coffee and a slice of apple pie. Just as he was about to eat them, three big hairy bikers walked in.

The first biker grabbed the trucker's cheeseburger and took a big bite from it.

The second biker picked up the trucker's coffee and downed it in one gulp. The third biker ate the trucker's apple pie.

The truck driver didn't do anything or say a word as all this went on.

When they finished, he just paid the waitress and left.

The first biker said to the waitress, "He ain't much of a man, is he?"

"He's not much of a driver, either," the waitress replied. "He's just backed his 18-wheeler over three motorbikes."



*Sometimes the bad days seem to take over...this page is intended to give you hope, make you smile and let you know you are not alone. I'm not a mental health professional, but want to support those who struggle with being okay!*

When you replace  
"why is this happening  
to me" with "what is this  
trying to teach me?"  
everything shifts.

Don't make yourself small for anyone.  
Be the awkward, funny, intelligent,  
beautiful little weirdo that you are.  
Don't hold back. Weird it out.

Sometimes you don't  
realize the weight of  
something you've been  
carrying until you feel the  
weight of its release.

I WILL BREATHE.  
I WILL THINK OF SOLUTIONS.  
I WILL NOT LET  
MY WORRY CONTROL ME.  
I WILL NOT LET MY  
STRESS LEVEL BREAK ME.  
I WILL SIMPLY BREATHE.  
AND IT WILL BE OKAY.  
BECAUSE I DON'T QUIT.

HERE TO REMIND  
YOU THAT SLOW  
HEALING IS STILL  
HEALING. DON'T  
BE TOO HARD ON  
YOURSELF.

"It is time. It is time to forgive yourself for all of the things you did not become. It is time to exonerate yourself for all the people you couldn't save, for all the fragile hearts you fumbled with in the dark of your confusion. It is time, child, to accept that you don't have to be who you were a year ago, that you don't have to want the same things. Above all else, it is time to believe, with reckless abandon, that you are worthy of me, for I have been waiting for years."



## LIFE

has a funny way of teaching us. It will create a deep sadness so we know how to truly understand happiness. It will create chaos in our lives, so that we may appreciate the peaceful times. And it will take away those we love, so that we truly understand what their presence meant to us.



LET'S ROOT  
FOR EACH  
OTHER AND  
WATCH EACH  
OTHER GROW

In life, friendships change, divorces happen, people move on, others die. Money and jobs will come and go. Live long enough and your health and body will change.

It goes with the territory of being human.

The fact that you are still here gives you an advantage.

## DON'T LOOK BACK.

Look straight ahead!  
Decide to use all of your knowledge, skills, experiences and your life lessons from your mistakes, defeats and setbacks, to start over again.

Life changes.

You may not have the same life as before, but you can still enjoy your life!



# All things Michigan

One of the most remarkable athletes in all of Michigan history, Al Widing Sr, competed in the grueling 120 mile AuSable River Canoe Marathon from Grayling to Oscoda a total of 41 times between 1955 and 2014. His last race was in 2014 at the age of 89! He finished second three times over the course of his amazing career. I met Al a couple times in his later years and in spite of his notoriety and fame, I found him to be a quiet unassuming man. He lived near Mio and passed away in 2018 at the age of 92. Here is a photo of the 2018 Au Sable River Canoe Marathon tribute poster.



What was the first enclosed shopping mall to be built in Michigan? No, it's not the Northland Center, in Southfield. The Northland was indeed the world's largest shopping center, and the first in Michigan, opening in 1954.....but it was not originally enclosed.

The honor of Michigan's first enclosed shopping mall goes to Rogers Plaza in Wyoming, a suburb just south of Grand Rapids. It opened in 1961, was the first mall in western Michigan, and Michigan's first enclosed mall – a mall with an actual roof hovering over all the shops...an event that awed Michiganders at the time (the Northland finally put on a roof in 1974).

Upon opening, Rogers Plaza had an A&P, Cunningham Drugs, Kresge's, Kroger, Montgomery Ward, and many other small shops and stores. Other shops soon followed...but by the 1990s, business began slacking off. Throughout the 90s, shops closed and replaced by others, who in turn ended up closing.

Montgomery Ward finally left in December 2000, taking almost 150 jobs with it. Re-developments, altered drives & streets, plans for improvements, and squabbles continued. Now, in 2023, the structure is referred to as a 'dead mall' meaning it's still open, but very little customers...almost barren.

So how do we bring business back to the malls? How do we fill them up again to become the bustling teenage hangout and shoppers frenzy it used to be? It doesn't take an Einstein to figure out a solution, you know: just eliminate online shopping for good.

*Ready to brush up on your Michigan etymology? Here are some of Michigan's most unusual names, what they mean, and where they came from.*

## Muskegon—muh·skee·gn

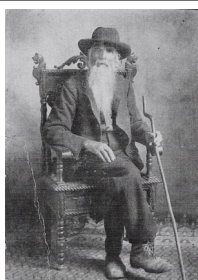
This western Michigan port town may be better known as “The Skee” or “Skeetown,” but before it was a hub for boats of all types, it was a village for indigenous Odawa. Muskegon’s namesake is the Muskegon River. French fur trappers explored the river as early as the 1600s. The river’s name was derived from the Odawa word “mashkiigong“, meaning either “marshy river or swamp” or “river of marshes.”

Snowshoeing and cross country skiing conditions are coming to Ottawa County! As soon as conditions allow, Pigeon Creek and Hemlock Crossing Parks will again be renting equipment. Getting prepared for us means getting that equipment ready. Getting prepared for you means knowing where to go to get up-to-date information. As you start thinking about coming out, you'll want to get familiar with our "Winter Recreation" ([miottawa.org/winter-rec](http://miottawa.org/winter-rec)) and "Trail Conditions" ([miottawa.org/trails](http://miottawa.org/trails)) pages. Check in often to get updates on the status of these popular winter destinations. While exactly when will be up to Mother Nature, we are looking forward to seeing you skiing, snowshoeing, and sledding soon!



Possibly the most confusing Jeopardy question ever if you're not from Michigan

KEEP UP...NORTHVILLE IS WEST OF DOWNTOWN THIS MICHIGAN CITY; SOUTHFIELD IS NORTH, & "SOUTH" THIS, AS SUNG BY JOURNEY, DOESN'T REALLY EXIST



Daniel Whipple was born in 1800. After an extraordinary life he finally came to live outside Traverse City at age 90 and spent his last 19 years there, finally passing away at 109. Among his accomplishments he

was a member of General John C. Fremont's expedition, served as a trail scout with Kit Carson, and was a Civil War veteran. He was a familiar figure in Traverse City where he was known by everyone as Uncle Dan. Even after reaching the 100 year mark he was known to walk the five miles from his home into downtown Traverse City.



**Europeans:** I drove 40 minutes to the Netherlands for some groceries and then I popped in to Germany real quick to see some relatives before driving back home for the day. **Americans:** I drove in Michigan for 9 hours and I’m still in Michigan!

# January 2023

Sun   Mon   Tue   Wed   Thu   Fri   Sat

1	2 8:30 AM— Breakfast at Murphy’s	3 2:00 PM— Knitting at library	4 10AM— Leadership meet- ing 5:30 PM— Bunco at library	5	6	7
8	9	10 2:00 PM— Hand and foot at library 5:30 PM— Walking fit at Life Stream	11 12 noon— Potluck at the town hall	12 11AM— Exercise at Love INC	13	14 11AM to 4PM—Hello Dolly
15	16	17 2:00 PM— Knitting at library 5:30 PM— Walking fit at Life Stream	18 10AM— Crafts at the town hall	19 11AM— Exercise at Love INC 5PM— Supper Club	20	21
22	23	24 2:00 PM— Euchre at library 5:30 PM— Walking fit at Life Stream	25 12 noon— Monthly Lunch- eon at Main St. Pub	26 11AM— Exercise at Love INC	27	28
29	30	31 5:30 PM— Walking fit at Life Stream	February 1 NO BUNCO THIS MONTH			

**Thursdays at 11:00 AM**—Exercise class!!! Join the group as we meet in the Love INC building, located at 6631 Lake Michigan Drive . Get fit and have fun!

**Join our Walking Fit Class!** Enjoy some social interaction and exercise out in the natural elements. Every Tuesday from 5:30-6:30pm. Meet in front of the Ivy Rehab Allendale Clinic • 6173 Lake Michigan Drive

W  
H  
A  
T  
,  
S  
  
H  
A  
P  
P  
E  
N  
I  
N  
G

- **Monday, January 2 at 8:30 AM, Breakfast**—Join the group as we gather for breakfast at Murphy’s restaurant in Allendale. Warm your heart and tummy with good food, fellowship and hot coffee! No need to call, just show up!
- **Tuesday, January 3 & 17 at 2:00,** Needlework at the library- Are you interested in giving back to the community? Do you have the talent to knit or crochet? Join us as we make scarves, hats, mittens or gloves for local schools. Not able to knit or crochet? Donations of yarn will be accepted too.
- **Wednesday, January 4 at 10:00 AM**—Lifelong Learners Leadership Team Meeting at the town hall.
- **Wednesday, January 4 at 5:30 PM—BUNCO!** We are going to play Bunco at the Library and want you join us! Eat before you come and play Bunco with the AFD guys, who are ready to serve you a delicious dessert. Cost is\$5/\$6 at the door! Prizes given!
- **Tuesday, January 10 at 2:00 PM—Hand and Foot at the Library!!!**—We all know a version of this game, but follow our own house rules. FREE! You may bring snacks to share and I’ll provide water and pop.
- **Wednesday, January 11, Potluck Luncheon at 12 noon**—Join us at the town hall for a lunch of goodies. Bring a dish to share (9x13 or equivalent) and your own table service. Or pay \$7/\$9 and omit the dish to pass. Drink is provided. We will play Card Bingo following lunch. Bring a white elephant gift that you don’t need anymore and somebody else could use. We will add those items to our prize table for Bingo. Ideas: puzzle, book, dish, picture, knick-knacks, etc...
- **Saturday, January 14, 11:00 PM to 4:00 PM**—Homeschool Performing Arts presentation of Hello Dolly. This classic comedy/musical show sings and dances itself along with a fun, fast paced energy! Tickets are \$15.00 each. We will stop for lunch on the way, which is in addition to the play cost. Payment of \$15.00 is due by Wednesday, January 11.
- **Wednesday, January 18, 10:00 AM—Crafts at the town hall.** Craft this month will be wood slice coasters. You can bring a card or picture you want transferred to the wood slice, or we will have vinyl expressions available. Everything else will be provided. Cost is FREE!! But please sign up!
- **Thursday, January 19 at 5:00 PM**—Supper club at Culvers in Allendale. Free dessert if you have an anniversary this month and join us.
- **Friday, January 20 at 2:00 PM at the Allendale Library**—Have you ever wanted to learn how to knit or crochet? Now is your chance! Allendale Library staff and the Lifelong Learners are partnering up to teach others how to knit or crochet. All ages are welcome! No experience needed, just a willingness to learn and keep trying! A limited amount of needles, hooks, and yarn will be available while supplies last.
- **Tuesday, January 24 at 2:00 PM**—Euchre at the Library. Bring your friends or meet new friends as we play Euchre at the library. FREE! You may bring snacks to share and I’ll provide water and pop.
- **Wednesday, January 25 at 12 noon**—Monthly Luncheon at Main St. Pub with a visit with Allendale Township Supervisor for a ‘State of the Township’ update. Get the scoop on what’s happening in Allendale. Please RSVP so we know who is coming, as seating is limited.





## Just to Warm your Heart...

A seminary professor was vacationing with his wife in Gatlinburg, TN. One morning, they were eating breakfast at a little restaurant, hoping to enjoy a quiet, family meal. While they were waiting for their food, they noticed a distinguished looking, white-haired man moving from table to table, visiting with the guests. The professor leaned over and whispered to his wife, 'I hope he doesn't come over here.' But sure enough, the man did come over to their table. 'Where are you folks from?' he asked in a friendly voice.

'Oklahoma,' they answered. 'Great to have you here in Tennessee,' the stranger said.. 'What do you do for a living?' 'I teach at a seminary,' he replied. 'Oh, so you teach preachers how to preach, do you? Well, I've got a really great story for you.' And with that, the gentleman pulled up a chair and sat down at the table with the couple. The professor groaned and thought to himself, 'Great...Just what I need; another preacher story!'

The man started, 'See that mountain over there? (pointing out the restaurant window). Not far from the base of that mountain, there was a boy born to an unwed mother. He had a hard time growing up, because every place he went, he was always asked the same question, 'Hey boy, Who's your daddy?' Whether he was at school, in the grocery store or drug store, people would ask the same question, 'Who's your daddy?'

He would hide at recess and lunch time from other students. He would avoid going in to stores because that question hurt him so bad. 'When he was about 12 years old, a new preacher came to his church. He would always go in late and slip out early to avoid hearing the question, 'Who's your daddy?'

But one day, the new preacher said the benediction so fast that he got caught and had to walk out with the crowd. Just about the time he got to the back door, the new preacher, not knowing anything about him, put his hand on his shoulder and asked him, 'Son, who's your daddy?' The whole church got deathly quiet. He could feel every eye in the church looking at him Now everyone would finally know the answer to the question, 'Who's your daddy?'

'This new preacher, though, sensed the situation around him and using discernment that only the Holy Spirit could give, said the following to that scared little boy.. 'Wait a minute! I know who you are! I see the family resemblance now, You are a child of God.'

With that he patted the boy on his shoulder and said, 'Boy, you've got a great inheritance. Go and claim it.' 'With that, the boy smiled for the first time in a long time and walked out the door a changed person. He was never the same again. Whenever anybody asked him, 'Who's your Daddy?' he'd just tell them, 'I'm a Child of God..'

The distinguished gentleman got up from the table and said, 'Isn't that a great story?'

The professor responded that it really was a great story! As the man turned to leave, he said, 'You know, if that new preacher hadn't told me that I was one of God's children, I probably never would have amounted to anything!' And he walked away..

The seminary professor and his wife were stunned. He called the waitress over & asked her, 'Do you know who that man was -- the one who just left that was sitting at our table?'

The waitress grinned and said, 'Of course. Everybody here knows him. That's Ben Hooper. He's governor of Tennessee !'

Someone in your life today needs a reminder that they're one of God's children!

Saw this analogy and it made so much sense, so I'm sharing it with you!

A bottle of water at Costco is \$0.25.

The same bottle in the supermarket is worth about \$0.50.

The same bottle in a bar costs \$2.

In a good restaurant or hotel it can be worth up to \$3.

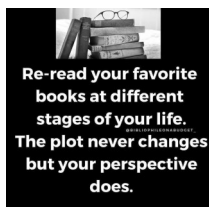
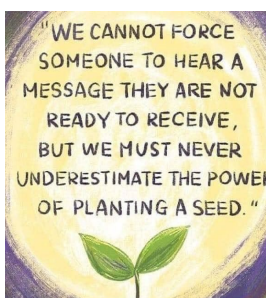
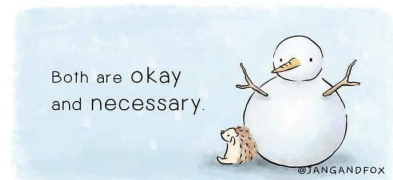
At an airport or on the plane, you may be charged \$5.

The bottle and the brand is the same, the only thing that changes is the place. Each place gives a different value to the same product.

When you feel like you are not worth much and everyone around you belittles you, change places. Do not stay there. Have the courage to change places and go to a place where you are given the value you deserve. Surround yourself with people who really appreciate your worth.

Don't settle for less. You are worthy!

## An Encouraging Word...



An unhealed person can find offense in pretty much anything someone does.

A healed person understands that the actions of others has absolutely nothing to do with them.

Each day you get to decide which one you will be.

**Nobody told me that when you get a husband the ears are sold separately.**

So tonight as I was cooking, I was thinking about life. And I said in my subconscious "I've reached my breaking point."

I began to make cornbread and cracked these two eggs and I heard "Now I can use you!"

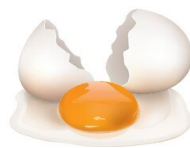
You see an egg can't be used until it's broken.

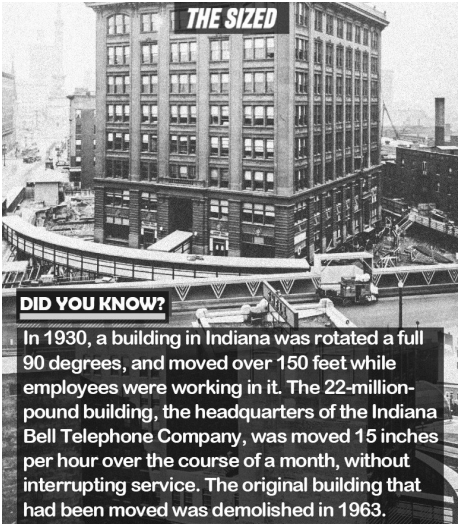
I immediately found joy in the breaking!! . Not everyone will understand this but to those who do be encouraged.

Yes you're at your breaking point!

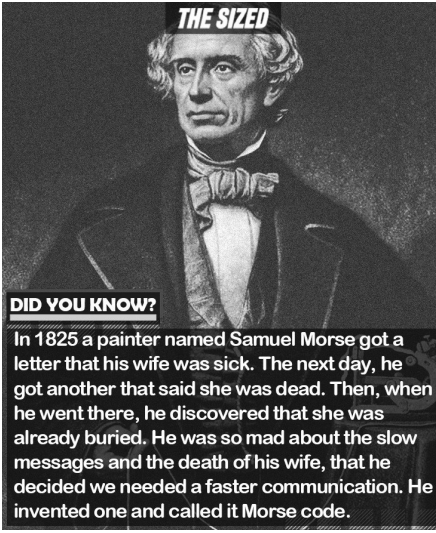
Yes you are broken!

But that's ok! You are ready to be used!





The inventor of the wind chill factor died recently...He was 82, but felt like he was 64.



**Did you know...**that there are churches in the Allendale Community that will open their doors to indoor walking during the winter months during regular business hours? Check out Life Stream and Spring Valley and keep moving!!

When Wally Bronner was 16, he started an after-school sign painting business that he ran out of his parents' basement. When he graduated high school in 1945, sign painting became his full-time job. Things took a jolly turn when he met merchants from Clare who wanted Christmas decorations for the city's lampposts. Bronner created a line of panels—and that was the start of his career in Christmas.



1. In my hand, I have two coins that are newly minted. Together, they total 30 cents. One isn't a nickel. What are the coins?
2. What is the opposite of ladyfingers?
3. What kind of tree can you carry in your hand?
4. How many of each species did Moses take on the ark with him?

Train your mind to see the good in everything. Positivity is a choice. The happiness of your life depends on the quality of your thoughts. And remember, being positive doesn't mean ignoring the negative. it means overcoming the negative.

The condition of your heart is going to determine the condition of your life. Guard it with all your strength. Don't let any evil in; don't make room for unbelief, for bitterness, for fear, for anxiety, because if there are bitter things in your heart, then there will be bitterness in your life.

Life is amazing. And then it's awful. And then it's amazing again. And in between the amazing and the awful its ordinary and mundane and routine. Breathe in the amazing, hold on through the awful, and relax and exhale during the ordinary. That's just living heartbreaking, soul-healing, amazing, awful, ordinary life. And it's breathtakingly beautiful."

MAYBE I'M NEITHER AN INTROVERT NOR AN EXTROVERT - MAYBE I'M JUST A VERT

One day it just clicks. You realize what's important and what isn't. You learn to care less about what other people think of you and more about what you think of yourself. You realize how far you've come and you remember when you thought things were such a mess that you would never recover. And you smile. You smile because you are truly proud of yourself and the person you've fought to become.

"Be more concerned with your character than your reputation, because your character is what you really are, while your reputation is merely what others think you are."

Gentle reminder... You're not too old and it's not too late.



# Laughter is good for the soul!



An Airbus 380 is on its way across the Atlantic. It flies consistently at 800 km/h at 30,000 feet, when suddenly an Eurofighter with a Tempo Mach 2 appears. The pilot of the fighter jet slows down, flies alongside the Airbus and greets the pilot of the passenger plane by radio: "Airbus, boring flight isn't it? Now have a look here!" He rolls his jet on its back, accelerates, breaks through the sound barrier, rises rapidly to a dizzying height, and then swoops down almost to sea level in a breathtaking dive. He loops back next to the Airbus and asks: "Well, how was that?" The Airbus pilot answers: "Very impressive, but watch this!" The jet pilot watches the Airbus, but nothing happens. It continues to fly straight, at the same speed. After 15 minutes, the Airbus pilot radios, "Well, how was that?" Confused, the jet pilot asks, "What did you do?" The Airbus pilot laughs and says: "I got up, stretched my legs, walked to the back of the aircraft to use the washroom, then got a cup of coffee and a chocolate fudge pastry." The moral of the story is: When you're young, speed and adrenaline seems to be great. But as you get older and wiser, you learn that comfort and peace are more important. This is called S.O.S.: Slower, Older and Smarter.

My brother took going to jail really badly. He refused food, drinks. He spat and swore at anyone who came near him and started throwing things everywhere.

After that we NEVER played monopoly again.

I just had a physical.

The doctor said, "Don't eat anything fatty"

I said, "Like bacon and burgers?"

He said, "No fatty, don't eat anything!"

	Hello, are you there?	
	Yes, who are you?	
	I'm Watt.	
	What's your name?	
	Watt's my name.	
	Yes, what's your name?	
	My name is John Watt.	
	John what?	
	Yes. Are you Jones?	
	No. I'm Knott.	
	Will you tell me your name then?	
	Will Knott.	
	Why not?	
	My name is Knott.	
	Not what?	
	Not Watt, Knott.	
	What?	

- I'm not one to brag, but I made it out of bed this morning!
- I hate it when I gain 10 pounds for a role and then realize that I am not an actress!
- The reason people say vinyl sounds better is because the music was better!
- I hate it when TV shows say they contain "adult situations" but then doesn't show anyone going to work, paying their bills or cleaning up after their kids.
- Kindness doesn't cost a thing, yet it's the richest gift you can give.
- I'm on a low carb diet. Whenever I feel low, I eat carbs!
- You know what sounds amazing for dinner? Anything I don't have to cook!
- We're celebrating New Years Eve with a couple of "Adult" Beverages...Metamucil and Ensure!
- It's all fun and games until your arm fat starts waving at you aggressively when you're blow drying your hair!
- I find it helps to organize shores into categories: Things I won't do now; Things I won't do later; Things I'll never do...
- Knowledge is knowing a tomato is a fruit. Wisdom is not putting it in a fruit salad.
- I'm still waiting patiently for the wisdom that's supposed to come with old age...
- When you have exhausted all possibilities, remember this: you haven't!
- When you're a kid you make funny faces in the mirror. When we become adults, the mirror gets even!
- There's no better Karate instructor than a spider web in your face.
- That awkward moment when you've said 'what' three times and still have no idea what they person said, so you just agree!
- My parents spanked me as a child. As a result, I now suffer from a psychological condition known as "respect for others!"
- Do you remember being able to get up without making sound effects??? Good times...eh?
- I would lose weight, but I hate losing...
- My favorite childhood memory is my back not hurting!
- If vegetables are so good, explain to me why vegans are always trying to get them to taste like meat? Take your time...I'll wait!
- It's that weird time of the day when I don't know if I need water, coffee, a cookie or to leave civilization and go live amongst the woodland creatures.
- Never be afraid to try something new. Remember, amateurs build the ark; professionals built the Titanic.

HE DIDN'T WANT TO SING "WHITE CHRISTMAS" FOR THE TROOPS...

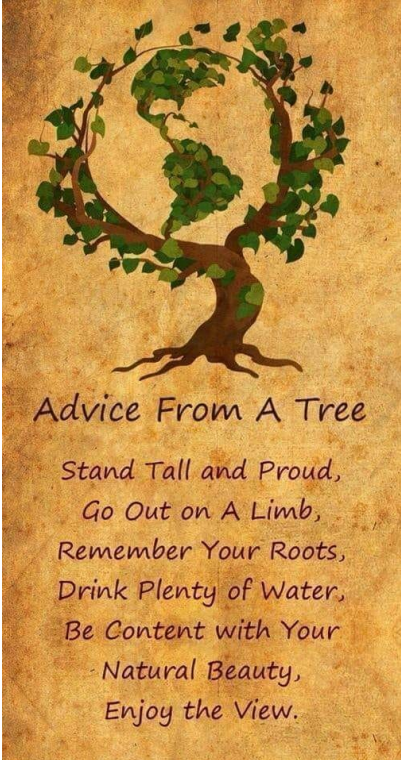
Entertainer Bing Crosby spent 25 weeks touring with the USO, entertaining servicemen in Britain, Belgium, and France during WWII. His rendition of the popular song, "White Christmas" was constantly requested by troops during Bing's USO appearances overseas, which gave the singer some mixed feelings. "I hesitated about doing it because invariably it caused such a nostalgic yearning among the men, that it made them sad," Crosby said in an interview. "Heaven knows, I didn't come that far to make them sad. For this reason, several times I tried to cut it out of the show, but these guys just hollered for it." Clearly, they identified with the wistful lyrics about holidays at home. (\*\*\*\*Note about the composer: This song was written by Irving Berlin, who also wrote "God Bless America" and many more classic songs. Berlin's three-week-old son had died on Christmas day in 1928, so every year on December 25, he and his wife visited their baby's grave. He may have written the lyrics of this wistful song in response to missing his child during the holidays. )



WITH ME,  
WHAT YOU SEE  
IS WHAT YOU GET -  
I DON'T PRETEND  
TO BE SOMETHING  
I'M NOT.  
  
WELL, NORMAL...  
  
SOMETIMES  
I PRETEND TO  
BE NORMAL.



I'm a  
person who  
wants to  
do a lot of  
things  
trapped in  
a body that  
doesn't.



Advice From A Tree

Stand Tall and Proud,  
Go Out on A Limb,  
Remember Your Roots,  
Drink Plenty of Water,  
Be Content with Your  
Natural Beauty,  
Enjoy the View.

CHECK  
THIS  
OUT!

Each month I will feature a local event or activity that might be of interest to you. Please share if you know of an upcoming event that I can include here.

Coopersville Farm Museum & Event Center

Jam Night

6:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Musician sign up begins at 5pm



Sing, Play, Listen

Family Friendly



Microphones, music stands,  
and sound system provided

Acoustics only

Join us the first & third Tuesday of  
every month, year round!

Admission:  
\$5 per person  
Members &  
kids 12 & under free  
Visit [coopersvillefarmmuseum.org](http://coopersvillefarmmuseum.org)



375 Main Street, Coopersville, MI  
(616) 997-8555



We have packaged snacks and  
beverages available in the Gift  
Shop, however, you are welcome  
to bring your own refreshments.

PLEASE:  
Do Not Attend if you are sick.

Please contact the museum if you would like to  
sponsor a free Jam Night: 616-997-8555 or email  
[leeanno@coopersvillefarmmuseum.org](mailto:leeanno@coopersvillefarmmuseum.org)

Free Jam Nights are sponsored by River Village  
Apartments; Feb. 15, Aug. 2, Oct. 4, & Dec. 20

All events are subject to change without notice.

2022

This newsletter is a service of the Allendale Charter Township Senior Citizens organization. If you know somebody who would benefit from the information included in this newsletter, please contact Kathy Hanes at 616-843-0572 or email [khanes@allendale-twp.org](mailto:khanes@allendale-twp.org)

1. A quarter and a nickel. 2. Mentos (Men Toes!) 3. A palm tree! 4. None, Moses wasn't on the ark; Noah was!