

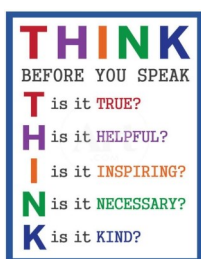
Allendale Lifelong Learners

February 2021

Allendale
Charter Township est. 1849

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From the Director's Desk

How are you filling your days with positivity and hope? What are some things you're looking forward to again? I am saddened that nothing will be as it was before, and things will be as "normal" as normal can be. It can be difficult to stay positive during times like this, but choose your happy and be thankful!

If you are heading south during the month of February, we are meeting for lunch in Kissimmee, FL on February 3. Call, email or text for details.

I have a number to call for COVID 19 vaccine information: 1-888-731-1001. There is also a website people can go to register for notifications when the vaccine is available for each age group. It is <http://bit.ly/3rQBtQe>. The vaccine is being offered in phases, 1A, 1B, 1C and 2.

1A is Healthcare workers and Long term care residents and staff.

1B is 75 years and over not covered in 1c.

1C is 65-74 years old.

2 is all others

There are others covered under these phases, but I'm sharing what I think pertains to this group. If you have any questions, I will try to help as best I can. The bottom line is for you to be safe and healthy.

Have a blessed month and hopefully March will bring some activities back to our schedule. Until next month...Hugs,

All Things Michigan...

Standing near the shoreline of Lake Michigan, south of Holland, is an old brick castle. The castle was built in 1894 by German Immigrant and Chicago businessman Michael Schwarz. The family with their six daughters lived in the castle for about a year but then moved to Holland and left the old castle abandoned. In 1896, Dr. John Parr purchased the Castle making it into a summertime camp for the boys and girls of Chicago Preparatory School in Chicago where he was the head minister.

It must have been a magical place for a summer camp and many of the children's parents loved the area so much that they built summer homes near the camp. Dr. Parr and his wife ran the camp until 1917 when his nephew Carter Brown and his wife took over the duties of running the camp. Over the years their children took over managing the camp. By 1960 the camp had grown tremendously, and the taxes and maintenance had become too much and the camp became Camp Park, a private association. The association owns the magnificent castle and it is used as a library and meeting place.

But as Paul Harvey would say, here is the rest of the story. Author L. Frank Baum had a summer cottage nearby in Macatawa and it is said that the castle partly inspired the Wizard of Oz. and that some of the residents of castle park were his inspiration for a few of the characters in the book, such as the tinman. Exactly how much the castle inspired Baum is unknown but west Michigan was where he went to relax and get away from the pressures of daily life. Castle Park remains as a private community.



The Great Lakes
are calling...



I WOULD NOT SAY I'M
PERFECT
BUT I'M
MICHIGANIAN
SO IT'S ALMOST
THE SAME

DEAR LORD, PLEASE HELP ME NOT
TO LAUGH AT ALL THE SOUTHERNERS



DID YOU GET THE MILK,
EGGS, AND BREAD?!?!?



Meanwhile in Michigan




February 2021


Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Call another member of the group and see how they are doing.	2 	3 11:45 AM —Lunch Bunch for the snow-birds in Kissimmee	4 Find one item from each room of your house that you can donate.	5 Call a sibling and talk about a favorite childhood memory.	6
7	8 Make a treat for yourself and share it with your neighbor.	9 Play a game of solitaire.	10 Send a card to somebody you appreciate. Write a note to let them know you appreciate them.	11 If you have old blankets or towels, donate them to an animal shelter or local Vet.	12 Compliment somebody today.	13
14 	15 	16 Open the door for the person behind you today.	17 Ash Wednesday	18 Clean your pantry and gather some items to donate to a local food pantry.	19 Put sticky notes around your house with positive words to encourage	20
21	22 Make something new for dinner. Try a new recipe or an old favorite.	23 Turn off the TV Tuesday! Make an effort to not watch anything on TV today.	24 Don't complain about anything today. Speak positive words to all.	25 Write a gratitude list of 10 things you are thankful for. It can be more than 10.	26 Be the reason somebody laughs today!	27
28						


You can text or call and leave a message @ 616.843.0572 or send an email to khanes@allendale-twp.org

Many churches are now live-streaming their services during this time. If you need help getting connected to a live stream service from your church or any other local churches so you can watch from home, please ask a family member to help. If they don't know how to set you up, call me and I will help you set it up. I'm no expert, but I can connect either a phone, device or computer so you can hear and see a message each week.




- It's not denial—I'm just very selective about the reality I accept.
- My 'leaving the house' clothes have really missed me. I put them on today and they hugged me so, so TIGHT!
- Honestly, it's not the way I look that reveals my age. It's my use of complete sentences when I text!
- 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!
- Don't stress about your eyesight failing as you get older. It's nature's way of protecting you from shock as you walk past the mirror.
- They say 40 is the new 30 and 50 the new 40. All I know is the older I get, the more 9:00 PM is the new midnight!
- Beauty comes in all shapes and sizes. Small, large, circle, square, thin crust, thick crust, stuffed crust, extra toppings!
- I need some advice. Not about anything in particular...just give me some random advice.
- When does a 'Dad joke' become a 'dad joke?' When it becomes apparent!
- Funny thing about getting older. Your eyesight starts getting weaker, but your ability to see through people gets so much better!





- Fact 1:** Reading can make you a better conversationalist.
- Fact 2:** Neighbors will never complain you are reading too loud.
- Fact 3:** Knowledge by osmosis has not yet been perfected, so you'd better read.
- Fact 4:** Books have stopped bullets. Reading could save your life.
- Fact 5:** Dinosaurs did not read. Look what happened to them.





Rambling Thoughts

I took my wife to a restaurant. The waiter, for some reason, took my order first. "I'll have the rump steak, rare, please." He said, "Aren't you worried about the mad cow?" "Nah, she can order for herself." And that's when the fight started...

When our lawn mower broke and wouldn't run, my wife kept hinting to me that I should get it fixed. But, somehow I always had something else to take care of first, the shed, the boat, the game...Always something more important to me. Finally she thought of a clever way to make her point. When I arrived home one day, I found her seated in the tall grass, busily snipping away with a tiny pair of sewing scissors. I watched silently for a short time and then went into the house. I was gone only a minute, and when I came out again I handed her a toothbrush. I said, "When you finish cutting the grass, you might as well sweep the driveway." The doctors say I will walk again, but I will always have a limp.

My wife sat down next to me as I was flipping channels. She asked, "What's on TV?" I said, "Dust." And that's how the fight started...

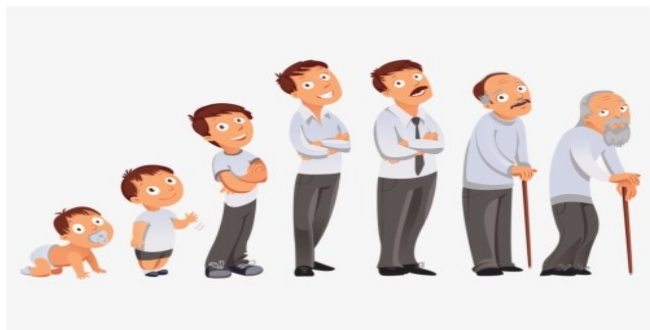
My wife was hinting about what she wanted for our upcoming anniversary. She said, "I want something shiny that goes from 0 to 150 in about 3 seconds." So I got her some bathroom scales. And that's when the fight started...

I was in a fender-bender the other day. The driver got out of the other car, and he was a DWARF!! He looked up at me and said 'I am NOT Happy!' So I said, 'Well, which one ARE you then?' And that's how the fight started!

Soda becomes coffee, bikes becomes cars and play becomes work. Remember when Dad's shoulders were the highest place on earth and mom was your hero?

Remember when race issues were about who ran the fastest and war was a card game? Remember when the most pain you felt was when you skinned your knees and goodbyes only meant until tomorrow?

And we couldn't wait to grow up...



10 RULES FOR BEING HUMAN:

1. You will receive a body. You may like it or hate it, but it's yours to keep for the entire period you are alive.
2. You will learn lessons. You are enrolled in a full-time informal school called, "life".
3. There are no mistakes, only lessons. Growth is a process of trial, error and experimentation. The "failed" experiments are as much a part of the process as the experiments that ultimately "work."
4. Lessons are repeated until they are learned. A lesson will be presented to you in various forms until you have learned it. When you have learned it, you can go on to the next lesson.
5. Learning lessons does not end. There's no part of life that doesn't contain its lessons. If you're alive, that means there are still lessons to be learned.
6. "There" is no better a place than "here." When your "there" has become a "here", you will simply obtain another "there" that will again look better than "here."
7. Other people are merely mirrors of you. You cannot love or hate something about another person unless it reflects to you something you love or hate about yourself.
8. What you make of your life is up to you. You have all the tools and resources you need. What you do with them is up to you. The choice is yours.
9. Your answers lie within you. The answers to life's questions lie within you. All you need to do is look, listen and trust.
10. You will forget all this.

As I'm sure you're already aware, the upswing in coronavirus (COVID-19) in our area has meant that it's once again vital to limit social contact and avoid gathering. While I know this is disappointing, I hope you can understand the steps I'm taking to help keep you safe. If you need anything, please reach out and let me know. Have a blessed month and stay healthy!

You can text or call and leave a message @ 616.843.0572 or send an email to khanes@allendale-twp.org

When the two ears are put side by side it forms the shape of the heart. Interestingly, the word 'ear' sits right in the middle of the word 'heart' (h-ear-t). The ear is the way to the heart so if you want someone's heart, learn to listen to them. If u want God's heart learn to listen to him

Powerful ❤️



"The whole world is a series of miracles, but we're so used to them we call them ordinary things."

(Hans Christian Andersen)



Did you know fruit flies lay 500 eggs at a time on the fruit in your kitchen? Reuse wine corks in your fruit bowl. They absorb moisture from the ripening fruit and put off a fragrance that repel the pesky bugs.

THE YEAR 1965 \$\$\$

President: Lyndon B. Johnson
Vice President: Hubert H. Humphrey
Population: 194,302,963
Life expectancy: 70.2 years
Inflation: 1.6%
Unemployment: 5.2%
New Home: \$13,600.00 - \$21,500.00
New Car: \$2,650.00
Average Rent: \$118.00
First-Class Stamp: \$0.05
Gallon of Regular Gas: \$0.31
Dozen Eggs: \$0.53
Gallon of Milk: \$0.95
Loaf of Bread: \$0.21
Vietnam War Continues
First Mandated Health Warnings on Cigarettes
Popular Toys: Super Ball and Skate Board
Men's Hair Grew Longer
Miniskirt Makes Appearance
Beatles Release 4 New Albums
Selma to Montgomery Civil Rights March
The Voting Rights Act
Gateway Arch Completed
Days of Our Lives Debuted
Doctor Zhivago Premieres



Wow!



What a Year!

1 9 6 5

★ BE KIND TO THE WISHERS
★ WHO HAVEN'T GOT WISHES
★ BE KIND TO THE FISHERS
★ WHO HAVEN'T GOT FISHES
★ BE KIND TO BEGINNERS
★ WHO HAVEN'T GOT ENDS
★ BE KIND TO THE STRANGERS
★ WHO HAVEN'T GOT FRIENDS
★ BE KIND TO THE WALKERS
★ WHO HAVEN'T A SHOE
★ BE KIND TO THE TALKERS
★ WHO HAVEN'T A CLUE
★ BE KIND TO THE OUTSIDERS
★ AND INSIDERS TOO
★ BE KIND TO THE KIND
★ KEPT CONFINED IN THE ZOO
★ BE KIND IN YOUR MIND
★ AND IN ALL THAT YOU DO
★ AND YOU'LL FIND
★ THAT MANKIND
★ CAN BE KIND TO YOU TOO.



Because there are so many unknowns currently, if you have a need or any questions I can help you with, please text or call and leave a message @ 616.843.0572 or send an email to khanes@allendale-twp.org

This is what we, who are 70+ years old have to look forward to!

This is something that happened at an assisted living center. The people who lived there each had a small apartment, but they all ate at a central cafeteria. One morning, one of the residents didn't show up for breakfast so my wife went upstairs and knocked on his door to see if everything was okay. She could hear him through the door and he said that he was running late and would be down shortly, so she went back to the dining area.

An hour later he still hadn't arrived, so she went back up towards his room and found him on the stairs. He was coming down the stairs, but was having trouble getting his legs to work right. She told him she was going to call an ambulance, but he told her no! He wasn't in any pain and just wanted to have his breakfast. So, she helped him the rest of the way down the stairs and he had his breakfast.

When he tried to return to his room, he was completely unable to get up even the first step so they called an ambulance for him.

A couple of hours later she called the hospital to see how he was doing. She was told that he was fine, he just had both of his legs in one side of his boxer shorts.

I'm sending this to my children so that they don't sell the house before they know all the facts.





Just to Warm your Heart...

In a rush to get things done, I ran across this story and thought you might appreciate reading it. It certainly gave me something to ponder!

There's a story of a fisherman who was sitting on the dock one early afternoon with a few fish in his possession.

A rich business man--a visitor from out of town--said "Why aren't you out there fishing this afternoon?"

The fisherman said, "I've caught all I need for today... and I'm just sitting back here, smoking my pipe and enjoying the beautiful day."

"But", the businessman objected, "if you were to use your time fishing, you could catch more fish and then sell what you don't need and make some extra money."

"And then what?" replied the fisherman.

"Well," replied the business man, "after saving enough money from your sales, you could buy a new and bigger boat that would take you out further into sea and you could catch bigger fish and make even more money."

"And then what?" said the fisherman.

"Well, then you could buy a whole fleet of boats and catch thousands of fish and make thousands of dollars in one day and become rich like me."

"And then what?" asked the fisherman.

"Well," then you could sit back and enjoy life like I do" said the rich man.

"Well," said the fisherman, "Isn't that what I'm doing already?"



I got some jam on her new couch,
But Grandma doesn't care.
I lost my toothbrush, dropped a glass,
My old jeans have a tear.
I tipped the cat dish on the floor,
My feet are always bare,
The way I look is a disgrace,
But, Grandma doesn't care.
She's very busy, then she sees,
the tangles in my hair.
She gets a brush, I make a fuss,
But, Grandma doesn't care.
When I am grown and on my own,
When visits become rare, I won't forget
the love I'd get.
When Grandma didn't care.

Unknown Author



YOUR IMPACT ON OTHER PEOPLE

is bigger than you think. Someone still giggles when they think of that funny thing you said. Someone still smiles when they think of the compliment you gave them. Someone silently admires you. The advice you give has made a difference for people. The support and love you've offered others has made someone's day. Your input and opinions have made someone think twice. You're not insignificant and forgotten. Your existence makes a positive difference, whether you see it or not.

Compassionate Reminders



“ Why do we close our eyes
when we pray, when we cry,
when we kiss, when we dream;
because the most beautiful things
in our life are not seen,
but felt only by the heart.

Drink water from the spring where horses drink. The horse will never drink bad water. Lay your bed where the cat sleeps. Eat the fruit that has been touched by a worm. Boldly pick the mushroom on which the insects sit. Plant the tree where the mole digs. Build your house where the snake sits to warm itself. Dig your fountain where the birds hide from heat. Go to sleep and wake up at the same time with the birds – you will reap all of the days golden grains. Eat more green – you will have strong legs and a resistant heart, like the beings of the forest. Swim often and you will feel on earth like the fish in the water. Look at the sky as often as possible and your thoughts will become light and clear. Be quiet a lot, speak little – and silence will come in your heart, and your spirit will be calm and full of peace.”

My wish for you in 2021

When you are lonely, I wish you love.
When you are down, I wish you joy.
When you are troubled, I wish you peace.
When things are complicate, I wish you simple beauty.
When things are chaotic, I wish you inner silence.
When things look empty, I wish you hope.



THE REST OF THE STORY...

I believe in the rest of the story. I believe there's still ink in the pen.... and someday all that's hazy through a clouded glass will be clear at last.

What's mainly wrong with society today is that too many Dirt Roads Have been paved.

There's not a problem in America today, crime, drugs, education, divorce, delinquency that wouldn't be remedied, if we just had more Dirt Roads, because Dirt Roads give character.

People that live at the end of Dirt Roads learn early on that life is a bumpy ride. That it can jar you right down to your teeth sometimes, but it's worth it, if at the end is home...a loving spouse, happy kids and a dog. We wouldn't have near the trouble with our educational system if our kids got their exercise walking a Dirt Road with other kids, from whom they learn how to get along. There was less crime in our streets before they were paved.

Criminals didn't walk two dusty miles to rob or rape, if they knew they'd be welcomed by 5 barking dogs and a double barrel shotgun. And there were no drive by shootings. Our values were better when our roads were worse!

People did not worship their cars more than their kids, and motorists Were more courteous, they didn't tailgate by riding the bumper or the guy in front would choke you with dust and bust your windshield with rocks. Dirt Roads taught patience.

Dirt Roads were environmentally friendly, you didn't hop in your car For a quart of milk you walked to the barn for your milk. For your mail, you walked to the mail box. What if it rained and the Dirt Road got washed out? That was the best part, then you stayed home and had some family time, roasted marshmallows and popped popcorn and pony rode on Daddy's shoulders and learned how to make prettier quilts than anybody. At the end of Dirt Roads, you soon learned that bad words tasted like soap.

Most paved roads lead to trouble, Dirt Roads more likely lead to a Fishing creek or a swimming hole. At the end of a Dirt Road, the only time we even locked our car was in August, because if we didn't some neighbor would fill it with too much zucchini.

At the end of a Dirt Road, there was always extra springtime income, from when city dudes would get stuck, you'd have to hitch up a team and pull them out. Usually you got a dollar...always you got a new friend...at the end of a Dirt Road!

By Paul Harvey



Geezers" (slang for an old man) are easy to spot:

- At sporting events, during the playing of the National Anthem, Old Geezers hold their caps over their hearts and sing without embarrassment. They know the words and believe in them.
- Old Geezers remember World War I, the Depression, World War II, Pearl Harbor, Guadalcanal, Normandy and Hitler. They remember the Atomic Age, the Korean War, The Cold War, the Jet Age and the Moon Landing, not to mention Vietnam.
- If you bump into an Old Geezer on the sidewalk, he will apologize. If you pass an Old Geezer on the street, he will nod or tip his cap to a lady. Old Geezers trust strangers and are courtly to women. Old Geezers hold the door for the next person and always, when walking, make certain the lady is on the inside for protection.
- Old Geezers get embarrassed if someone curses in front of women and children and they don't like any filth on TV or in movies.
- Old Geezers have moral courage. They seldom brag unless it's about their grandchildren.
- It's the Old Geezers who know our great country is protected, not by politicians or police, but by the young men and women in the military serving their country.

This country needs Old Geezers with their decent values. We need them now more than ever.

Thank God for Old Geezers!



Faith doesn't always take you out of the problem, Faith takes you through the problem. Faith doesn't always take away the pain, Faith gives you the ability to handle the pain. Faith doesn't always take you out of the storm, Faith calms you in the midst the storm. Amen

BE THANKFUL

Be thankful that you don't already have everything you desire. If you did, what would there be to look forward to?
Be thankful when you don't know something, for it gives you the opportunity to learn.
Be thankful for the difficult times. During those times you grow.
Be thankful for your limitations, because they give you opportunities for improvement.
Be thankful for your mistakes. They will teach you valuable lessons.
Be thankful when you're tired and weary, because it means you've made a difference.
It's easy to be thankful for the good things. A life of rich fulfillment comes to those who are also thankful for the setbacks.
Find a way to be thankful for your troubles, and they can become your blessings.