

Glen Arbor Sun

Here to Enlighten You



FOURTH OF JULY, 2026 FREE!

Volume XXXI, Issue IX Covering Events, Characters, Businesses and the Arts in Leelanau County and Sleeping Bear Dunes www.GlenArbor.com

Family fun on the Fourth of July

From staff reports

The joy commences when the parade lines up at 10:30 am in the historic maritime village of Glen Haven; it builds along M-109 as children shout and wave, and it crescendos when the force of floats, classic cars, boats on trailers, and fire trucks arrive shortly after noon to delight the throngs of



Carol Worsley is this year's honorary Glen Arbor parade marshal.

thousands gathered along the roadside in downtown Glen Arbor.

Following the vehicles on foot is a Leelanau County version of a New Orleans Second Line Parade: a trumpeter, a kazoo corps, kids tossing newspapers, Elvis impersonators, environmental nonprofit volunteers, and activists whose handmade signs and electioneering messages remind us that the Fourth of July most certainly *is* a political holiday—an anniversary of a subversive, dangerous, and revolutionary act that shook the world—and whose founding document boasts a core message that seems more relevant today than ever. (Remember the original “boat rockers” while at your barbecues, beach picnics, and pontoon flotilla parties on the Glen Lakes.)

Glen Arbor's Fourth of July parade is also a joyful celebration of community and an opportunity to honor those who are sewn into the town's fabric.

This year's honorary grand marshal is Carol Worsley, a celebrated chef and owner of the Thyme Inn bed and breakfast who has lived at least of part of the year in Glen Arbor for more than 60 years. As per tradition, Worsley will ride



Photo from 2024 parade by Jacob Kurtz
Leelanau Vacation Realty owner Ranae Ihme (middle), her daughter Nadia (left) and Janai Misner (right) line up in Glen Haven for Glen Arbor's Fourth of July parade.

in a convertible at the front of the parade.

A graduate of fine cooking schools including Le Cordon Bleu in Paris, Worsley worked under famed chef and author Julia Child. She has drawn acclaim for her gourmet cooking at Thyme

See PARADE on page 18

INDEPENDENCE DAY EVENTS

July 3, 7:30 PM, NMC Concert Band plays patriotic music in Glen Arbor Township park

July 3, Leland fireworks, Hancock Field at dusk

July 4, 10 AM: Flag raising and singalong at Old Settlers Park

July 4, 10 AM, Reading of “Declaration of Independence” at Leelanau County Post Offices

July 4, Noon, Parade arrives in downtown Glen Arbor (gathers in Glen Haven at 10:30)

July 4, 3 PM, Boat Parade on Glen Lakes, meet at Glen Lake Yacht Club

July 4, 3 PM, Leland parade

July 4, Northport fireworks, Haserot Park at dusk

July 5, 8 AM-Noon, Glen Lake Fire & Rescue Pancake Breakfast, Glen Arbor Town Hall

Bicentennial Barn hosts July 5 open house

From staff reports

Leelanau residents and visitors are invited to lock eyes with General George Washington, pay homage to the nation's 250th birthday, and celebrate an historic Leelanau County barn that is now receiving a new round of tender loving care.

Scott and Tamara Stone, residents of southeast Michigan who two years ago purchased the Bicentennial Barn on M-22 and Bohemian Road, 7.5 miles northeast of Glen Arbor, will host a rededication open house on Sunday, July 5, from 11 am until 4 pm.

They won't deliver any grand speeches or declare independence from a tyrant king across the ocean, but they'll recap their restoration of the barn and repainting of murals last year with the community's support, narrate the history of the property, and share their plans for building a new farmhouse.



Tamara and Scott Stone (inset photo) bought the Bicentennial Barn at the corner of M-22 and Bohemian Road northeast of Glen Arbor two years ago.

In March the Michigan Barn Preservation Network awarded Leelanau's Bicentennial Barn and five other barns the title of “barn of the year.” The Stones' property shared the award in

the “family adaptive use” category with the Kangas Farm Barn in Ontonagon County in the western Upper Peninsula.

“A lot of work went into restoring
See BICENTENNIAL BARN on page 5

World Cup fever grips Leelanau

By Jacob Wheeler
Sun editor

Mike Sheldon, owner of River Club Glen Arbor, flew to Los Angeles to watch the U.S. national team play Turkey on June 25. Gary Jonas, co-owner of Farm Club and The Little Fleet in Traverse City, hit Dallas together with his father and his son on June 27 to witness Argentina's date with Jordan. Greg Graetz and his son scored tickets to a friendly match between the United States and Germany at Chicago's Soldier Field, just prior to this summer's World Cup.

Venues including The Little Fleet and River Club are packed with enthusiastic crowds gathered to watch the world's greatest sporting event, co-hosted this summer by the U.S., Canada and Mexico. Crowds hush and gaze at the television as footballers

send creative passes and move in unison up the field. Hundreds of voices crescendo into a roar as the ball cannons toward the goal.

Some locals find creative ways to catch the tournament even as they work. Bea Moreno, a migrant liaison with Suttons Bay Public Schools, joked, “What World Cup?” when asked what the tournament means to her and her family. She has watched some of Mexico's matches at the Leelanau Sands Casino in Peshawbestown where she works.

“We are trying to catch all the matches,” Moreno said. “It's a game that brings so many of our families across the U.S. and Mexico together. We have group chats going on that share the excitement.”

Marshall Collins, a onetime star

See WORLD CUP on page 19



Elliott May and his son Ezra (age 9, in the Christian Pulisic jersey) from Columbus, Ohio, watched at the River Club as Team USA beat Australia, 2-0, on June 19.

The ink on this newsprint was forged in the fight against lies and authoritarianism.



BAY WEAR

Family owned
since 1991

224 St. Joseph Ave
Suttons Bay
231 / 271-4930

332 Main Street
Frankfort
231 / 352-4489

5919 S. Ray St,
Glen Arbor
231 / 334-3411



THE PAINTED BIRD
SUPPORTING LOCAL ARTISTS SINCE 1987



216 N. St. Joseph St., Suttons Bay
(231) 271-3050 | Painted-Bird.com



SLEEPING BEAR INN
Glen Haven
Michigan

Visit Sleeping Bear Inn, a charming historic bed & breakfast nestled on the crystal shores of Lake Michigan. The Inn is an iconic landmark in Glen Haven Village within the stunning Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore.

For reservations visit:
SleepingBearInn.org or call
833.BEARBNB



GOOD HARBOR GRILL

Fresh • Local • Delicious

Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner
M-109 • Glen Arbor
334-3555
www.GoodHarborGrill.com



GROCEr'S DAUGHTER CHOCOLATE

gelato
IS IN SEASON!

Open Daily from 12pm-9pm

11600 S. Lacore Rd. Empire, MI 49630
grocersdaughter.com



Reading the Declaration of Independence

By Ross Boissoneau
Sun contributor

One might wonder why people are gathered at the post office in Glen Arbor on the Fourth of July when it is closed. The story is the same across Leelanau County, in Omena, in Empire, in Lake Leelanau.

Then promptly at 10 a.m. the reason is revealed. “When, in the course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another,” booms a voice.

“And to assume among the powers of the earth,” says another. “The separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature’s God entitle them,” continues a third.

Welcome to the Fourth of July in Leelanau County, where nine people—one at each post office—read aloud



Rink Smith reads the Declaration in Omena.

the Declaration of Independence. At promptly 10 a.m., Rink Smith, Tina Greene, Sheila Bartle and six others

will declaim the words that 250 years ago shook the world, the bold statement of the 13 British colonies of North America to be colonies no more.

“In 2014 *The Leelanau Enterprise* printed a facsimile of the Declaration of Independence,” says Smith. “I hadn’t read it in decades, since I was in school. I was blown away.

“It’s a wonderful document. I said, ‘I’m going to go read it in Omena tomorrow.’ There was no plan.”

So on the Fourth of July he went to the Omena post office at 4 p.m. and read aloud the entire Declaration of Independence. His audience consisted of his wife and a family having a late lunch at the Knot. And a tradition was born.

The next year he did it again, though he got an earlier start, reading it at 10 a.m. A friend suggested he ask others to do the same at post offices around

See DECLARATION on page 18

Upcoming Events

Thursday, July 2: Leland Library Summinars partners with NMC International Affairs Forum to hold “Arc of Fire: Understanding the Connected Wars in Today’s Middle East,” 4 pm

Friday, July 3: NMC Concert Band plays patriotic music, 7:30 pm in Glen Arbor Township park

• Leland holds public fireworks display, Hancock Field at dusk (9 pm)

Saturday, July 4: Independence Day

- 10 am: “Declaration of Independence” reading at all County post offices
- 10 am: Glen Lake Woman’s Club Flag Raising Ceremony and singalong at Old Settlers Picnic Grounds

• Fourth of July parade, lines up and departs from Glen Haven at 11, arrives in Glen Arbor shortly after noon

- Boat Parade through Glen Lake Narrows, meet in front of the Glen Lake Yacht Club at 3 pm
- Leland Fourth of July parade, 3 pm
- Northport holds public fireworks display, Haserot Park, 10 pm

Sunday, July 5: Glen Lake Fire Department pancake breakfast at Township Hall, 8 am-12 pm

• Bicentennial Barn rededication and open house, corner of M22 and Bohemian Road, 11 am-4 pm

Wednesday, July 8: The Homestead hosts Music on the Mountain, Blue Water Ramblers, 7 pm



Saturday, July 11: Glen Arbor Arts Center hosts Youth Plein Air Experience at Thoreson Farm in Port Oneida Rural Historic District, 10 am-2 pm.

• GAAC hosts Coffee with the Authors interview with Tim Mulherin (*This Magnetic North: Candid Conversations On A Changing Northern Michigan*), 11 am

Tuesday, July 14: Leland Library Summinars partners with NMC International Affairs Forum: “The Origins and Purposes of the Modern Refugee Regime,” 4 pm

Wednesday, July 15: Glen Lake Woman’s Club annual Glen Arbor Art Fair at Township Hall, 10 am-4 pm

June 24-August 20: Lanphier Observatory Public Stargazing, 10-midnight, clear skies permitting, at the Leelanau School beach. Adults \$5, students \$4.

Live Music and Performance
Check venues for days and times.

- In Glen Arbor**
- Boonedocks
 - Cherry Public House
 - Glen Arbor Wines
 - M22 store
 - River Club Glen Arbor

Elsewhere in Leelanau County

- Bel Lago

- Dune Bird Winery, near Leland
- French Valley Vineyard
- Northern Latitudes Distillery

• Bay Books in Suttons Bay hosts Books and Wine Book Club, first **Tuesday** of the month, 6 pm

• Stories & More for Preschoolers, Glen Lake Library, **Fridays** at 11 am

• Lake Street Studios Center Gallery art openings, **Fridays** 6-8 pm

• Beach Bards Bonfire, **Fridays**, July 10, July 17, August 21, at Leelanau School Beach, 8 pm. \$1 per being.

Summer Farmers Markets
Visit GlenArborSun.com/calendar for a list of vendors at each market.

Glen Arbor’s market, located behind the Township Hall, runs Tuesdays until Sept. 15.

Leland’s market, located in the Blue Bird parking lot, runs Thursdays until Sept. 3.

Northport’s market, located across from the marina, runs Fridays until Sept. 18.

Suttons Bay’s market, located on St. Joseph St., at the north end of the village, runs Saturdays until Oct. 17.

Empire’s market, located next to the post office, runs Saturdays until Aug. 29.

Recycling located at 9 locations throughout Leelanau County, including at the ball fields in Empire, at the Leelanau School and at Glen Lake School.

CHARCUT-ER-WHAT?
(PROUDLY SERVING FOOD YOU CAN PRONOUNCE.)

Legendary Burgers.
Soups & Salads.
Sandwiches.
Local Brews.

BIG PORTIONS.
BIGGER PERSONALITY.



ART'S TAVERN
GLEN ARBOR

artsglenarbor.com 231.334.3754

Glen Arbor Sun
Here to enlighten you



P.O. Box 615 • Glen Arbor, MI 49636

www.GlenArborSun.com
editorial@GlenArborSun.com
ads@GlenArborSun.com

Subscriptions: Get all 17 issues of the 2026 season mailed directly to you for \$35.

Editors: Jacob Wheeler & Norm Wheeler

Webmaster: Leelanau.com

The *Glen Arbor Sun* is a free magazine published 17 times each year, and distributed throughout Leelanau County and the Sleeping Bear Dunes region. Advertising inquiries, donations, comments, articles, photos, poems, and letters are welcome.

©2026, Glen Arbor Sun, all rights reserved.

Keep It Blue:

Glen Lake Association Raises Awareness, Action for Watershed Health



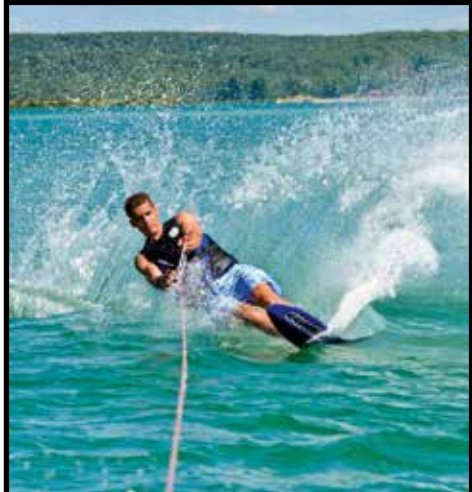
The Glen Lake Association is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving and protecting the water quality, natural resources, and quality of life in the Glen Lake/Crystal River Watershed through leadership, education, and collaboration.

This July, the Glen Lake Association (GLA) celebrates its second annual Keep It Blue Month as a community-wide reminder that everyone plays a role in protecting water quality. The Glen Lake/Crystal River Watershed includes several interconnected bodies of water that are part of the GLA’s stewardship efforts: Big and Little Glen Lakes, Fisher Lake, the Crystal River, Hatlem Pond and Creek, Tucker Lake, Day Mill Pond, and Brooks Lake.



GLA’s Water Quality Team surveying for harmful invasive species on the shoreline.

“These pristine waters aren’t accidental,” said Kate Gille, executive director of the GLA. “Our members, volunteers, and partners all help preserve the exceptional water quality that makes this place so special. That’s why each summer, we put out the call to all who live, work, and play here: Keep It Blue!”



Everyone who lives, works, and plays in the watershed can help protect water quality.

The GLA’s Keep It Blue Month derives its name from Glen Lake, whose signature color reflects its clarity and overall health. Glen Lake’s health has runoff effects. Its waters flow downstream to the Fisher Lakes, Crystal River, and eventually into Lake Michigan.

“Glen Lake isn’t actually blue, but its crystal-clear water allows light to penetrate deeply, where shorter blue wavelengths reflect back to our eyes,” Gille explained. “Because of its clarity, it’s considered one of Michigan’s most immaculate inland lakes. But that status isn’t a guarantee. It takes real effort and diligence from all of us to keep it that way.”

Lakes naturally age by accruing sediment and organic matter, and human activity can accelerate the process. Fertilizers, leaking septic systems, and runoff can add excess phosphorus to the water, which can facilitate algal blooms that turn clear water murky and green. Invasive species also pose a threat, like Eurasian watermilfoil (EWM), which grows aggressively as it chokes out native plants and animals while limiting recreation. An unchecked EWM infestation could turn Little Glen Lake’s iconic sandy bottom into a dense wall of tall, unswimmable vegetation.

“EWM is one of our greatest challenges at the GLA,” Gille said. “It can easily hitch a ride from lake to lake on boats, gear, and trailers. Once it’s in the environment, it spreads in thick mats that degrade water quality. It’s one of the reasons the GLA operates a free boat wash at 7075 W. Day Forest Rd.” Other threats to water quality include fireworks, unmaintained septic systems, and some land management practices.

Fireworks—while being a beloved summer tradition—can leave behind debris that floats in shallow waters and washes up on shore. This debris leaches toxic chemicals and heavy metals into the water, which can kill native fish and plants, reduce water clarity, and facilitate algal blooms. An unmaintained septic system can have similar impacts when harsh chemicals

and damaging nutrients seep into the ground and eventually make their way into the water.

Those who live in the watershed have the most opportunity to impact its wellbeing. Whether you’re a riparian living right on the water or a neighbor residing upland, how you manage your property makes a big difference in watershed health.

Riparians who choose natural or bioengineered shorelines over options like seawalls, beach sanding, and riprap reduce shoreline erosion and support aquatic ecosystem health. As an added bonus, a strong greenbelt of native plants even deters nuisance geese from landing on lawns.



GLA members David and Maureen Herr’s shoreline showcases native plants, trees, and a healthy greenbelt that protect water quality while preserving recreational access to the lake.

“Shoreline health is one of the strongest contributors to water quality,” Gille said. “Landscaping with native plants instead of turf grass and preserving or planting native trees are just some of the ways our neighbors living on the water can make a difference.”

The GLA offers free shoreline and streambank consultations to watershed residents who want to help preserve water quality and aquatic ecosystem health now and in the future. Consultations can be requested by emailing contact@glenlakeassociation.org.

Upland watershed residents can pay attention to impervious surfaces—driveways, rooftops, patios, decks, and sidewalks that can block rainfall from soaking into the ground. That rainfall becomes stormwater runoff and carries sediments and nutrients that pollute nearby waterbodies. Choosing porous materials and

designing a runoff handling system are great solutions that help protect water quality and overall watershed health.

“Protecting water quality isn’t about doing everything perfectly, all at once,” Gille said. “Small changes made over time can add up to a big impact. Whether it’s scheduling regular septic maintenance, planting a few native species, or choosing a fireworks alternative, every step helps.”

“Everyone has a role to play in protecting the watershed,” Gille added. “Together, we all can Keep It Blue!”

Content provided by the Glen Lake Association. Learn more at: glenlakeassociation.org

Protecting the Water, Together

We all play a role in keeping the water this clear.

When you become a member of the Glen Lake Association, you support science-based water quality monitoring, invasive species prevention, and hands-on conservation work that protects these waters for generations to come.

Learn more or become a member at: glenlakeassociation.org



HONOR & ONEKAMA
BUILDING SUPPLY, INC.
www.honorbldgsupply.com
Knowledge, Service, Integrity.



Cottage Book Shop
5989 Lake Street, Glen Arbor • (231) 334-4223
info@cottagebooks.com • www.cottagebooks.com

INN AND TRAIL



GOURMET

6453 Western Ave, Glen Arbor

www.InnandTrailGourmet.com

Espresso creations, daily quiche, breakfast pastries, ready made sandwiches, soups and so much more. Come explore!

Tues 8-1, Weds-Sat 8-3, Sun 8-1



LA BÉCASSE

Make dinner a special occasion.

Open Tuesday-Saturday
Dinner service, 3-8:30 pm

(231) 334-3944
restaurantlabecasse.com



THE MARTIN COMPANY
OF GLEN ARBOR, INC.
REAL ESTATE

(231) 334-7000

6400 Western Ave.
Glen Arbor, MI 49636

Whether you're buying, selling, or dreaming—We will partner with you on your journey.

You'll feel right at home.

www.martinrealestate.com

Cherry Republic founder Bob Sutherland, *Here All Along*

From staff reports

In 1989, Bob Sutherland started Cherry Republic selling T-shirts out of the trunk of his beat-up old Toyota Tercel. He'd park the car under the streetlight at Art's Tavern and spend summer evenings chatting up tourists at the bar then taking them out to the bungee-down trunk. They'd hand him \$15 for a T-shirt, resplendent with Kristin Hurlin's original cherry tree and the now-iconic phrase, "Life, Liberty, Beaches & Pie."

But the road from the car trunk to Cherry Republic as it is today—the beautiful Glen Arbor campus, seven other Michigan storefronts, gift boxes that ship to countries all over the world—wasn't a straight one. In his new book *Here All Along*, which publishes this month and is available at the store, Sutherland shares deeply personal stories of loss, wayfinding, wildness, adventure, and hard sticky work that built Cherry Republic.

Both funny and deeply moving, *Here All Along* shimmers with anecdotes of Glen Arbor of yesteryear and odes to Lake Michigan and Sleeping Bear Dunes. It's a book for the beach or a cup of coffee and a Montmorency cherry scone. It's a book for anyone who loves Northern Michigan and knows what it means to find your path by getting a little lost along the way.

Sutherland will hold a book launch at Cherry Republic's Glen Arbor store on Tuesday, July 14, at 3 pm, followed by a launch at the Traverse City store on Tuesday, July 21, at 4 pm. RSVPs are required to attend. Learn more at CherryRepublic.com.

Here's an excerpt of *Here All Along*:

"My mother was an Olympic-caliber diver. She was in line to compete for a spot to represent the USA in the 1952 Olympics when her eardrum burst and she missed the trials. She loved to tell us stories of her exploits on the high-diving platforms at Ohio State University and at the high-end resorts that hired her and her dive team to perform for their vacationers. After a decade of working

for me at Cherry Republic, she brought in a photo of herself diving to hang up in the store. She was seventy and she wanted people to know her as more than just a cherry ambassador or Bob's mom.

My mom grew up in a poor coal mining county in rural Ohio. I don't know how she became such a graceful diver. Maybe from jumping into the old flooded coal pits. She was more athletic than most men ever gave her credit for. I adored her grace of movement.

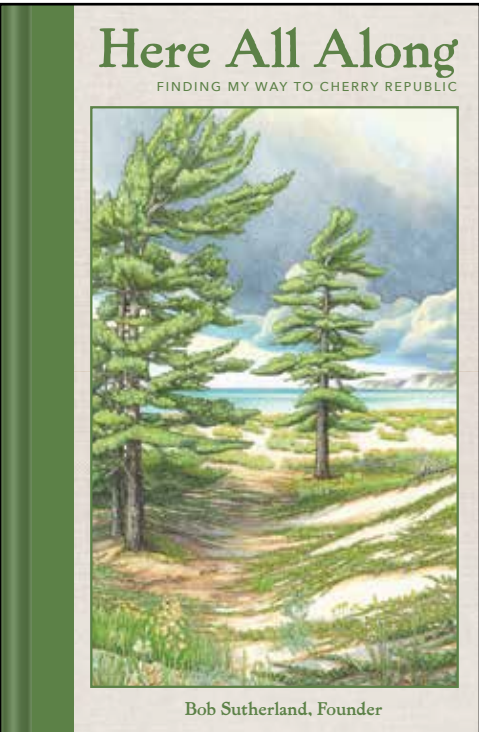
In late summer, when Lake Michigan was at its warmest after many straight days of eighty-degree sun and no wind (so the warmth along shore didn't blow away with the waves), she'd get up from her books and notepads and step into Sleeping Bear Bay. Even summer-warm, the water was still too cold for her skinny self. She would groan in her singsongy way, drawing our attention from our sand holes and forts and splashy water games. Soon she was underwater. All her fluffy hair would deflate around her tiny head. And then, she would swim the crawl. It was absolutely beautiful, these arms lifting up from the water and drawing back down without making a ripple, her legs kicking and floating.

When we moved to Glen Arbor, she accepted a job teaching high school at Glen Lake Community Schools. She thought she'd be teaching literature, debate, and forensics, but when she found out there was an alarming number of students who could not read, my mother switched gears. She researched the best way to teach reading and then created specific classes and curricula. After a year, a dozen or so students were given the life-changing skill of literacy.

Reading, time, energy, our extra clothes, a piece of pie: My mother was always giving something away. My brothers and sister and I all remember the women who marched through her kitchen. She was an informal counselor, and psychologists—who were all men at the time—would send women they didn't know what to do with to my mom. My mom wasn't a private person. She'd just sit these ladies down at the kitchen table and we kids would give her space as she gave her belief, her trust, her self-confidence, and her patience.

I don't know what drove my mom to change the world like she did, to transform every life she could. But when she decided to stop and work for me, of all the kids, I knew what I could give her in return: laughter. Humor was the most consistent language in which my mother and I spoke to each other.

Cherry Republic properties are full of humorous signs and silly sayings. I wanted to give my mom something special, to thank her somehow for working for me and for all those stressful days and nights raising six of us kids. We kids were mostly fine, but there was always one of us strug-



gling—many times it was me. I gave her a staff shirt to wear at work that said across the chest, *My son is a simpleton. Selling more than one fruit would be too complicated.* She roared with laughter, saying, "You want me to wear a shirt that says I raised a stupid son?" That joke lasted forever. She'd say to customers who came to check out at her register, "My son makes me wear this as my staff shirt. My other five kids are brilliant. They don't need my help. But this one. Oh, boy."

On the front of the Cherry Republic Glen Arbor Great Hall, there is a list of 10 warnings from "Attorney General Mr. William Bananaheimer" for customers to read before entering. Incident No. 6 is a warning to customers to get a good look at this lady and remember her face, so they can avoid her cash register when checking out. Whether deliberate or accidental, this woman has been shorting customers of their change since 1961. I loved surprising my mother when I put up the giant banner. For me, it was all a guise to work her image onto the new building as a tribute to her.

She used to say to customers while

See BOB'S BOOK on page 12





PENINSULA PROVISIONS
SPECIALTY WINE & FOOD SHOP

We prepare, you enjoy.

231.994.2223
peninsulaprovisionsmi.com

25 S Lake Leelanau Dr.
Lake Leelanau, MI 49653

**GOURMET FOOD
SPECIALTY WINE
EVENTS**



Old Settlers Park hosts flag raising

From staff reports

Join community members of all ages in celebrating the founding of our nation in a joyous and patriotic ceremony at 10 am on Saturday, July 4, at Old Settlers Picnic Grounds along the eastern shore of Big Glen Lake.

The traditional raising of the flag by the Glen Lake Fire Department will be followed by a singalong of well-loved and familiar patriotic songs. The event is sponsored by the Glen Lake Woman's Club. Bench seating is limited and guests are invited to bring lawn chairs. After the program the chapel at Old Settlers Park will be open for tours. The ceremony and chapel tours conclude in plenty of time to make it to the Glen Arbor parade.

Air Force veteran Ed Peplinski will be this year's featured speaker with an Independence Day speech titled, "Pulling Together as Americans through Gratitude."

In addition to the Fourth of July Flag Raising Ceremony, other Club projects include the Glen Arbor Art Fair on July 15, the improvement and beautification



of the Chapel and grounds at Old Settlers Park, Empire Trunk or Treat, and a Christmas party for residents of the Maple Valley Nursing Home.

For more information about the Glen Lake Woman's Club, visit GlenLakeWomansClub.org

BICENTENNIAL BARN

continues from page 1

the barn on the property since last April, including all the outside preparation and painting that was completed in September and October," shared Scott. "The timber-framed structure was in relatively good condition, but the rest of the barn was in rough shape."

Scott estimates he has personally spent around 450 hours on this project so far.



"Despite the hours it's been rewarding and fulfilling work. While there is still some minor work to be done most of the hard stuff is completed."

"So much more than a hardware store!" **Do it Best**

GARDEN CENTER • NURSERY • ANNUALS • PERENNIALS • BAGGED DIRT & MULCH

GRILLING

CRP FURNITURE

OUTDOOR INTERIORS

GARDEN CENTER

POTS

NURSERY

Serving ALL of Leelanau County!

northwoodshardware.com
(231) 334-3000
6053 S Glen Lake Rd. (Off of M-22) • Glen Arbor, MI 49636

Northwoods HARDWARE
HOME • GARDEN • NURSERY

Bel Lago
LIVE MUSIC
— & LAKE VIEWS —

Tuesday & Friday 5:30-7:30pm + 25% off pizza
Saturday & Sunday 3:30-5:30pm

bellago.com | @bellagowinery
6530 S. Lake Shore Drive, Cedar, MI 49621

FRENCH VALLEY VINEYARD

WINE, BEER & CIDER
LIVE MUSIC MONDAY & THURSDAY • 4-7PM
featuring special guest performances by
i.am.james • Hannah Laine • The Insiders • Looking Forward
Tom Petty Tribute CSN&Y Tribute

fvvineyard.com • @fvvineyard
3655 S. French Road, Cedar, MI 49621

DUNE BIRD WINERY

SERVING WINE + ESPRESSO

LIVE MUSIC THURSDAY + SUNDAY | 3-6PM
FOOD TRUCK POP-UPS ON SUNDAYS

dunebirdwinery.com | @dunebirdwinery
5620 N. Manitou Trail, Northport, MI 49670

HARMONY
ESTATE WINERIES OF LEELANAU

Sleeping Bear Forever: new name reflects expanding mission

By Berry Kendall
Sun contributor

On any given summer day, visitors stream into Sleeping Bear National Lakeshore with a familiar itinerary: climbing the dunes and gathering at scenic overlooks to capture shots of the sweeping bluffs and shifting blues of Lake Michigan. But a few miles inland, another landscape offers a different narrative.

A weathered red barn leans gently into the wind at Port Oneida. Rows of apple trees still mark orchards planted generations ago. White farmhouses sit beneath towering maples, their porches looking out across fields first cultivated more than a century ago. In Glen Haven, restored maritime buildings recall an era when steamships connected isolated shoreline communities and commerce shaped life along the lakeshore.

These places don't command the same attention as the dunes. Yet, together they reveal the history, culture and character that give Sleeping Bear its soul. Helping people discover that story has become the defining mission of the nonprofit formerly known as Preserve Historic Sleeping Bear.

Now approaching its 30th year, it is entering a new chapter with a new name: Sleeping Bear Forever. The rebranding reflects more than a fresh logo or updated marketing. It represents an organization that has grown beyond preserving historic buildings to helping people experience, understand and connect with the cultural heritage of Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore.

For executive director Susan Pocklington, the change isn't about leaving the past behind. It's about inviting people to see more of it. "We just really want people to understand that there's more beyond the dunes," she said.

The park's historic farms, orchards, villages and cultural landscapes tell an equally important story, one that too often remains hidden in plain sight. For nearly three decades, the organization has quietly worked behind the scenes raising private funds to restore historic buildings, preserve cultural landscapes and support projects that ensure that the history, landscapes and stories of Sleeping Bear National Lakeshore endure.

As Preserve Historic Sleeping Bear becomes Sleeping Bear Forever, the nonprofit hopes visitors discover the history, heritage and human stories that have always existed beyond the iconic landscape.

Founded in 1998 as a grassroots advocacy organization, Sleeping Bear

Forever emerged at a time when many of the park's historic buildings faced uncertain futures. Farmhouses, barns, nautical structures and other remnants of the area's agricultural and maritime past had deteriorated after decades of abandonment and exposure to Northern Michigan's harsh winter climate.

"Our preservation mission remains at the heart of everything we do," Pocklington said. "But the name Sleeping Bear Forever better reflects how we have grown, and the direction we are going—to reawaken these places through expanded interpretation, visitor experiences, community engagement and stewardship—protecting these resources into the future."

Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore welcomes more than 1.5 million visitors each year. The landscape preserves one of the nation's most significant collections of historic agricultural and maritime resources. Throughout the park stand farmsteads, orchards, life-saving stations, inns, cottages and villages that tell the story of the families who cultivated this peninsula long before it became a national lakeshore. These buildings are rooted to the land and essential to maintaining the cultural distinction of the region.

As founding member Lissa Edwards wrote in 1999, "[We] believe that these buildings are critical to maintaining the grace and integrity of a history that has shaped this peninsula for decades. They are rooted to the land and are essential to maintaining the cultural distinction of the region. We are offering Sleeping Bear Forever as a resource to the Park, to ensure that these magnificent pieces of our history be protected in the best way they can."

Since then, the organization has become an indispensable philanthropic partner to the National Park Service, helping preserve the cultural landscape that gives Sleeping Bear its unique character. According to Pocklington, "[Sleeping Bear Forever] works to fill the gap between the capacity and funding of the National Park Service and the park's preservation and interpretive needs."

Volunteers have repaired weathered barns, painstakingly restored century-old windows, stabilized log cabins, revived orchards, and preserved farmsteads that might otherwise have disappeared into history. Equally important, Sleeping Bear Forever seeks to preserve the natural histories and stories of those who inhabited the area.

Its accomplishments are substantial. Volunteers and contractors have completed more than 100 preservation



Sleeping Bear Forever volunteers clear the Bayview Trail.

projects on dozens of the park's 366 historic structures and landscapes. Their efforts represent more than \$2 million in combined cash, in-kind donations and volunteer labor.

Preserving history, Pocklington believes, means more than repairing old buildings.

"The buildings are important," she explained. "But they only truly come alive when people experience them."

That philosophy lies at the heart of the organization's new identity. Rather than focusing solely on preservation work, Sleeping Bear Forever intends to expand opportunities for visitors and residents alike to engage with the park's remarkable human history. New programming will include heritage hikes, traditional trades workshops, speaker series, expanded tours, farm-to-table dinners and educational initiatives designed to connect new generations with the people who once lived and worked throughout the park.

Launching this month is Sleeping Bear Folk & Field School, described as "a new series of immersive educational experiences designed to help people discover, preserve and engage with the rich heritage and natural landscapes of the Sleeping Bear Dunes region." According to a press release from Sleeping Bear Forever, approximately 20 classes will be offered throughout the summer and fall taught by skilled artisans, historians, naturalists and other specialists. Subjects include leather crafts, basketry, rug braiding, gardening, food preservation, regenerative agriculture, fly fishing, woodworking and photography of historic structures, among others.

"The Sleeping Bear Folk & Field classes offer a way to pass these tradi-

tions to the next generation by harnessing the growing interest in hands-on learning, self-reliance and sustainable living," said Pocklington. "Participants can discover the satisfaction of creating something with their own hands while gaining a deeper appreciation for the knowledge and traditions that have connected people to this landscape for generations."

What has evolved is the organization's understanding of how preservation succeeds. Saving historic buildings, Pocklington said, is only part of the work. She explained that people also need opportunities to experience those places, understand their significance and create memories of their own.

Sleeping Bear Forever's office is located at the Port Oneida Heritage Center inside the historic Charles and Hattie Olsen Farmhouse which also serves as an interactive museum and visitor center. It opened to the public in 2016 and Pocklington said that when people crossed the threshold, some were moved to tears after driving by the home for years. "One older gentleman visited for over an hour and as he walked out he said, 'Thank you so much. Now I know where to bring my grandchildren to tell them how I lived and grew up'."

"We're really where nature and culture meet," said Pocklington. "Sleeping Bear Forever seeks to tell the stories of how common people lived. We're trying to build respect for what came before the dune climb and help visitors appreciate that. Preservation plus activation equals heritage, recreation and engagement. The way I look at it, we are preserving the soul of Sleeping Bear."

For more information on classes or to volunteer, visit SleepingBearForever.org



6391 S LAKE ST
GLEN ARBOR, MI 49636

GLEN LAKE • LEELANAU COUNTY

**YOUR FULL-SERVICE
GLEN LAKE MARINA**

RENTALS

Pontoons, tri-toons, powerboats, jet skis & SUP

SALES

New & pre-owned boats and motors

SERVICE

Repairs, maintenance & winterization by certified techs

STORAGE

Seasonal storage, haul-out & spring launch

LODGING

Lakeside lodging just steps from your boat





SCAN TO BOOK
RENTALS ONLINE

231.334.4556

glencraftmarina.com

RENTALS.GLENCRAFTMARINA.COM

**PENINSULA PERENNIAL
NURSERY**

7740 N. Swede Rd. Northport, MI
(231) 944-6663



Carefully curated shrubs,
perennials, and trees



Leelanau County's
Premier Nursery

String Band returns to The Homestead’s Music on the Mountain

By Ross Boissoneau
Sun contributor

The next Music On The Mountain concert at The Homestead will be a throwback.

On July 8, the Blue Water Ramblers will take the stage, performing their mix of traditional favorites in the folk tradition, songs by Woody Guthrie, Tom T. Hall, John Denver and others, along with their own originals. “We come out of the Woodie Guthrie-Pete Seeger folk and bluegrass tradition,” says bandleader R.H. “Bear” Berends.

That’s not the only way in which the Grand Rapids-based band can be seen as a throwback. The Blue Water Ramblers played the very first season of Music On The Mountain back in 2015. Berends is excited to return to The Homestead, as he fondly remembers the setting atop the resort’s ski hill, overlooking the sun shining and eventually setting over the sparkling waters of Lake Michigan.

“What I remember is it’s such a unique and beautiful venue. The audience gets to see the water,” Berends says, noting with a laugh that his only complaint is the band doesn’t get the same view as the attendees.

The Blue Water Ramblers got their start back in 2002, picking up the pieces after the band Beats Settin’ Home splintered. Berends and Banjo-Jim – banjo player Jim Foersch – first teamed up in that band in 1993. Berends joined Banjo-Jim and Beats Settin’ Home at the Wheatland Music Festival in Re-



mus in 1993. “I wanted to sing with Banjo-Jim, so I learned all his songs and taught him mine, and here we are.” They enjoyed playing and singing together so much that teaming up again seemed like a no-brainer.

The band includes Berends, Banjo-Jim, Nate Myers on mandolin, Connor Meston on fiddle and Jesse Lynn on bass. He’s the son of original bassist California Dan Lynn, who still plays with the band on occasion, such as festivals and shows in the U.P., where he now lives.

With so much history already behind them, and the fact he, Banjo-Jim and mandolinist Myers are all in their 70s, why does Berends continue to play? For Berends it’s an easy question to answer. “It’s so much fun,” he says simply.

Yet it’s more than that. He says the response they get from audiences stays with them long after the show.

“When people come up afterwards and say, ‘I’ve had such a bad day, I

needed to be lifted up. Thank you so much.’ With the music we try to inspire, put a smile on your face.”

He says following a show some years ago in Auburn Hills, a concertgoer spoke with him following the performance. She told Berends that she had been out of his home for a year and a half and the show inspired her to change her life. “C’mon, this is just folk music,” Berends says wonderingly. “What a blessing.”

Berends says the band’s music is a blend of traditional folk, bluegrass and country, with him and Banjo-Jim sharing vocals. “It’s a traditional Appalachian string band,” he says. A typical set includes originals and folk favorites, along with three or four fiddle tunes, instrumentals from the Appalachian tradition.

Their originals follow in the style of the music’s forebears, though they reflect modern life. “Our repertoire comes right out of our Michigan life experiences and the history of the Great Lakes. We think our hero, Woody Guthrie, would approve because we’re singing the people’s songs about the people’s lives and they can join right in,” Berends says in press materials.

The band has released five recordings, which, like its shows, mix originals with the tried-and-true. As the description for 2006’s *Coming Home* says, the band sings songs of “the lakes, love, life, lumberjacks, and the land. We do some political lampooning, pick bluegrass, sing shanties, boogie-woogie down the highway,

play authentic Michigan calypso and even rock a polka for the shanty boys.”

He is looking forward to the show and hopes there’s a good crowd. “You ride a chairlift to the show. I can’t believe anybody who lives within a 30-mile radius” wouldn’t love it, he says.

This will be the third show of the season in the series, which takes place atop Bay Mountain at The Homestead. The show begins at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$22. For tickets and more information, go to tinyurl.com/Tickets-MOTM.

HARRIGER
Construction INC.
CUSTOM HOMES • REMODELING • LANDSCAPING • SNOW REMOVAL
LICENSED 231-326-5572 INSURED
harrigerconstruction@gmail.com

Glen Lake Woman’s Club
ART FAIR
Glen Arbor Town Hall
Wednesday, July 15, 2026, 10-4
Sponsored by **Cherry Republic**

6669 W. Western Avenue
Glen Arbor • 334-3022

Devette & Ford
Insurance Agency, Inc.
Auto
Seasonal Homes & Businesses
Life Insurance
Blue Cross/Blue Shield

COTTONSEED APPAREL
6501 WESTERN AVE
GLEN ARBOR, MI 49636
231-334-7377
cs@cottonseedapparel.com
cottonseedapparel.com

Author talk examines a changing Northern Michigan

From staff reports

What happens when a place is so beautiful that everyone wants to go there—and then they stay? That question is central to Leelanau County author Tim Mulherin’s book *This Magnetic North: Candid Conversations On A Changing Northern Michigan*. Mulherin will discuss why he wrote the book, and the conclusions he drew at the July 11 Coffee with the Authors interview at the Glen Arbor Arts Center. The program begins at 11 am.

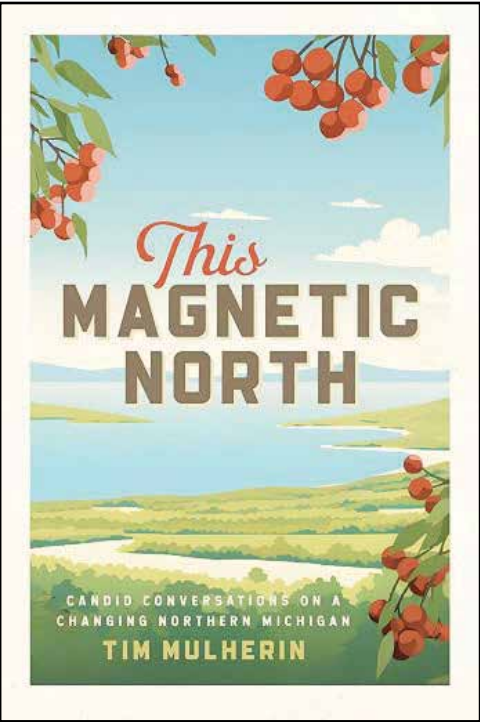
Mulherin, a seasonal Leelanau County resident, conducted dozens of interviews in an effort to get some clarity on his question. He spoke with climate refugees, lifestyle migrants, people fleeing the COVID pandemic, tourist industry leaders, conservationists, business owners, public safety officials, descendants of European settlers, and descendants of the region’s first and original hu-



man inhabitants. All these voices helped Mulherin in his “personal exploration of the relocation phenomenon that’s occurring in northwest lower Michigan ...” Published in 2025, *This*

Magnetic North was named a 2026 Michigan Notable Book by the Library of Michigan.

Coffee with the Authors is a series of conversational interviews with local, regional, and state authors about the art, craft, and process of writing, facilitated by GAAC gallery manager Sarah Bearup-Neal. There is no charge. Coffee with the Authors enjoys the support of the Cottage Book Shop and the Glen Lake Community.



OLIVER ART CENTER FRANKFORT
COASTAL CARAVAN ART FAIR
JULY 25TH 10AM - 4PM
UNIQUE MICHIGAN ARTISTS’ BOOTHS
OAC BLOODY MARY BAR
LIVE MUSIC by:
THE NEPHEWS @ 11am
CHRIS SKELLENGER @ 1pm
RED TOP HOT DOGS FOOD TRUCK
KIDS’ ART TENT • CERAMICS DEMOS • OPEN HOUSE
AT THE END OF 2ND STREET IN FRANKFORT
MUSIC, ART, AND FUN ON THE SHORES OF BETSIE BAY
132 COAST GUARD RD, FRANKFORT - OLIVERART.ORG

Betsy Webb - Rob Serbin - Anne Rollo - Ron Raymond - Charlie Carpenter - Gaia Nesvacil

6675 W. Western Ave
Glen Arbor, MI 49636
231.334.2758
www.serbinrealestate.com

Views of Glen Lake
This is one of the last homes along a ridge line that runs south to north on the eastern hills flanking Big Glen Lake, 940’ feet in elevation, towering above the north east corner of the lake with some of the best views in the area; Big Glen and Fisher Lake, Alligator Hill, Sleeping Bear Point, South Manitou and Sleeping Bear Bay & the Manitou Passage. Doesn't get much better than this! This circa 1970's well built chalet/cottage hybrid, has been thoughtfully updated & maintained by the second owners, here since 1993, who are ready to pass the keys to their successors.

\$1,100,000 MLS# 1946352

Extended ICE Detention: the psychological impact on Michigan detainees

By Claire Keenan-Kurgan,
Michelle Jokisch Polo, and
Adam Yahya-Rayes

Michigan Public Radio

For many of the people detained at North Lake Processing Center in Baldwin—the Midwest’s largest immigrant detention center, 80 minutes from Leelanau County—there’s no way to know how long they’ll be there. “I feel abandoned,” said Kamal Tijani, who arrived in the U.S. from Nigeria in 2017. “In here, sometimes you feel down, and sometimes you feel like you know nobody cares about you... you call your friends, and they don’t pick up.” Tijani has been at North Lake in Bald-

win since October of 2025—meaning he’s spent nine months in ICE detention. In Michigan, hundreds of immigrants are being held inside detention centers for over six months, and for some, like Tijani, it’s been closer to a year. Tijani first came to the United States to live with his uncle and attend college in Chicago on a student visa that was valid through 2019. There, he met his now wife, who’s originally from Georgia. They moved into an apartment in Chicago, and he worked night shifts as a maintenance technician. When Immigration and Customs Enforcement arrested him in October, officials said he had violated the terms of his student visa by staying in the United

States beyond its expiration date. Without his income, his wife lost their apartment and had to go back to stay with family in Georgia. She hasn’t been able to make the trip up to Michigan. “I just got married last year,” he said. “And you want to send me back, you want to separate me from my friends, my family, my wife—for what, you know, for what reason?” In the nine months that he’s been at North Lake, he’s gotten to know another of the men in his unit named Stanley Minjale. Like Tijani, Minjale has also been at North Lake for nine months. He was working as a nursing assistant in Chicago and living in Indiana when he was detained. “It’s quite challenging,” Minjale said of being held in North Lake. “It’s not easy to be here for that long period of time without freedom, just doing the same thing every day, the same routine.” Minjale immigrated to the United States from Malawi in 2021 on a student visa that was initially valid through September 2022. He later received an extension through March 2027, but that status was terminated after he failed to enroll in a university as required. At the time of his arrest, Minjale had a work permit and was working full time. He has a U.S. citizen son who’s almost two years old. During the time he’s been detained, Minjale said, he’s missed several of his son’s developmental milestones, including his second birthday. The possibility of being deported back to Malawi scares him. “I can’t leave a toddler, just like that,” said Minjale. “That means he’s going to grow up without a father.” Tijani and Minjale are just two who have spent months together in the same unit. As of March, there were around a hundred people, including women, from all over the world who had been at North Lake for six months or longer. The average length of stay there is six weeks, according to the latest data retrieved from Immigration and Customs Enforcement by the Deportation Data Project, which hasn’t been updated since March of this year. Both Minjale and Tijani have received deportation orders, but they remain at North Lake in part because they are still fighting their cases. The process for doing so is bureaucratic, opaque, and because of policy from the Trump administration, they are being detained indefinitely. Tijani said many of the people around him are also depressed. “They don’t know if they are going



“We’ve got to speak up and say ‘this is not right!’” 90-year-old Clarice McKenzie explained why she stood alone along M-37 near Baldwin during a No Kings protest this spring. McKenzie told the Sun she received six honks of support and heard no foul language, though Lake County voted overwhelmingly for Trump. “My family thinks I’m brave for doing this. But this isn’t brave.” McKenzie said the bravest thing she ever did was riding the New York City subway by herself several years ago.

A devout United Methodist inspired by social action, McKenzie joined Grand Rapids clergy on a visit with detainees at North Lake this spring. She met Gloria, a Nigerian woman who immigrated to Detroit 10 years ago and left five children behind when she was apprehended by ICE. According to McKenzie, Gloria eats little but rice inside the prison, where food conditions are reportedly poor. “Her faith gives her the ability to get through each day,” said McKenzie. “She reads the Bible and watches television.”

McKenzie, who lives in a Grand Rapids retirement home, hopes to visit Gloria again during Fourth of July weekend.

to go out here in America, or if they are going to go back to their country.”

Detainment in a former prison facility

Before it became a detention center, for years North Lake operated as a private prison.

See ICE DETENTION on page 9

VISIT OUR STUDIO + GALLERY BY APPOINTMENT

Explore original paintings, prints, drawings, and more. Inspired by the beauty of Northern Michigan, Royce + Angela create art rooted in this remarkable landscape.

SCHEDULE YOUR PRIVATE STUDIO VISIT
angelamsaxon@gmail.com | or text 231 631 5079

2312 E KASSON ROAD, CEDAR
ANGELASAXON.COM | ROYCEDEANS.COM

8137 S GLEN LAKE RD
GLEN LAKE, MICHIGAN

Boat Rentals

- ◆ Full Day • Half Day • Weekly
- ◆ Tri-Toon & Pontoon
- ◆ Hourly Jet Ski
- ◆ Watersports Lessons

231-334-4891
narrows-marina.com

SCAN TO RENT TODAY

Contact Ranae Ihme at ranae@lvrrealty.com

Your #1 Leader in Glen Arbor and Leelanau Real Estate

www.lvrrealty.com

(231) 218-2714

6546 S. State St.
Glen Arbor, MI 49636

9004 S Dunns Farm Rd ~
Big Glen Lake ~ 4BR/5.5BA
\$5,299,000
—New Listing

Tall Timber D3 ~
Homestead Water-front ~ 1BR/1BA -
\$510,000
—New Listing

Le Bear 6A ~ Fractional Glen Arbor ~ Lake Michigan -
\$385,000 —New Listing

3 Brook Hill Cottages Vacant Lot in The Homestead Near Lake Michigan \$139,900 —
Price Improvement

Le Bear 12 F, G, H ~ Fractional Glen Arbor ~ Lake Michigan - \$1,200,000
—New Listing

Glen Arbor Arts Center holds Youth Plein Air Month

From staff reports

Following a wildly successful inaugural run last year that engaged more than 140 young creatives, the Glen Arbor Arts Center (GAAC) is thrilled to announce the return of the Youth Plein Air Month this July. This unique, month-long program invites children ages 6 to 15 to step outside the traditional classroom and into the fresh air to experience the historic tradition of plein air painting—the practice of painting entirely outdoors.

Designed to foster creative confidence, exploration, and a connection with nature, Youth Plein Air Month gives young artists the tools and guidance to translate Northern Michigan’s spectacular landscapes and historic buildings into their own unique artwork.

“We were absolutely blown away by the incredible response from the community and the sheer number of kids who participated last year,” said Scott Bouma, executive director of the Arts Center. “This program is entirely unique because it removes the barriers to outdoor painting, providing high-quality materials and real-world exhibition opportunities



to kids completely free of charge and on their own time. We are so excited to bring it back and watch a new wave of young artists find their inspiration in the open air.”

Youth Plein Air Month features several interconnected, family-friendly components throughout July:

- **Borrow a Free Plein Air Art Kit:** Throughout the month of July, families can check out fully stocked, professional-style art kits from the GAAC office. Available at no cost for up to four days, each kit includes everything needed for an outdoor painting adventure: standing easels, canvases, paints, brushes, and a palette.

- **The Youth Plein Air Experience** (Saturday, July 11; Rain Date: July 12): From 10 am to 2 pm, children ages 6 to 15 are invited to Thoreson Farm in the Port Oneida Historic District for a hands-on painting event. Young artists will receive guidance from experienced, professional artists and watch live

demonstrations. To further spark imaginations, this year’s event features a storyteller and historical props provided by Preserve Historic Sleeping Bear, allowing kids to visualize and paint the spirit of a vintage working homestead.

- **Public Exhibit & Celebration** (August 3-6): The experience comes full circle as every participating artist (ages 6–15) is invited to submit one completed plein air painting to be displayed in a public youth exhibition at the Glen Arbor Arts Center. Art drop-off is open through August 2, and the program will conclude with a celebratory public gathering and awards ceremony recognizing select peer-judged works on August 6.

All materials and events associated with Youth Plein Air Month are completely free, though supplies for the borrowable kits are limited based on daily availability. GAAC recommends contacting the office to check for availability, kit check-out is first-come, first-serve.

For more details on kit checkout hours, event registration for the Thoreson Farm experience, or exhibition guidelines, visit GlenArborArt.org or call (231) 334-6112.

ICE DETENTION

continues from page 8

Today not much has changed beyond the facility’s name. Over half of the people held there as of March had no criminal convictions or pending charges. They’re held as “immigration violators”—a civil charge.

“Legally speaking, people are being held administratively—but the experiences they’re having while they’re detained are very, very similar, if not identical to the experience that any incarcerated person is having,” said Caitlin Patler, a sociologist at the University of California Berkeley who studies the effects of U.S. immigration policies.

Patler said unlike people who are held in jails, or prisons, for crimes they committed, many immigrants have no sense of when they will be released.

They don’t know how long they’ll be detained, said Patler, “and there are really very few constitutional limits on the length of detention.”

Not everyone in ICE custody is treated the same. Some immigrants are subject to mandatory detention, meaning they cannot be released on bond while their immigration cases are pending. Others can request a bond hearing before an immigration judge.

A 2018 Supreme Court ruling allowed the federal government to detain certain immigrants for prolonged periods without providing automatic bond hearings. Those subject to mandatory detention generally include some newly arrived asylum seekers and immigrants with certain criminal convictions, including lawful permanent residents.

Since returning to office, President Donald Trump’s administration has sought to broaden the categories of immigrants subject to mandatory detention to include immigrants who have not been charged with a crime.

Federal courts across the country have largely rejected those efforts, but the issue is likely headed to the Supreme Court, which will decide whether the government can hold certain noncitizens in immigration detention for extended periods without access to a bond hearing.

Not knowing when a release will take place, coupled with an immigrant’s experience inside detention, leads to poorer health outcomes for those detained, according to Dr. Altaaf Saadi, a neurologist at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston who has been researching the health impacts of long stays inside immigration detention.

“Being isolated from their family for months, their children for months, can be psychologically devastating,” said Saadi.

And then on top of that, those being held may also be facing precarious conditions inside detention centers.

Just a few months ago, at the North Lake Processing Center, hundreds of detainees staged a hunger strike over concerns about poor food and medical care and prolonged detentions.

Saadi’s research has shown health outcomes worsen with each month in detention.

Immigration officials have said that detention is the best way to make sure people are actually processed for removal from the United States.

But for immigrants inside this means they are stuck, not knowing when they

will see their families and friends again.

“I’m depressed when I think about my family out there. I’m so depressed most of the time, so I always try my best not to think about it, just to be strong,” said Minjale. “[To] read a lot of books and to interact with these people, like playing cards, playing chess, playing checkers... to buy time. But it’s not easy. It’s very hard.”

Both Minjale and Tijani have appealed their deportation orders, but they don’t know when the immigration court will make a final decision on their case. Until then, they remain at the North Lake Processing Center.

This reporting is made possible by the Northern Michigan Journalism Project—led by Bridge Michigan and IPR—and is funded by Press Forward Northern Michigan.



FARM CLUB
RESTAURANT | MARKET | FARM | BREWERY | BAKERY
A gathering place to celebrate land, honest food and community.
Open year round in Leelanau County, MI | farmclubmi.com



ARBOR GALLERY
FINE ART and FURNITURE

FEATURING:
David Westerfield
Stephanie Schlatter
Paul Czamanske
and more



6656 Western Ave
Glen Arbor
Michigan
231.883.4979

BECKY THATCHER DESIGNS
Glen Arbor Leland Traverse City





12777 S Benzonia Trail
231-326-5138

We Service Domestic AND Import Vehicles



Synchronicity GALLERY

For the Casual Art Lover to the Serious Collector



Award-Winning Michigan Artists



PAINTINGS
CERAMICS
SCULPTURE
PHOTOGRAPHY
JEWELRY
GLASS
FIBER
WOODWORK
FURNITURE

SynchronicityGalleryMI.com
231-334-4732
6671 Western Ave, Glen Arbor
OPEN 7 Days a Week, May–Oct 31



LIVELY ACRES

JOIN US FOR OUR
BACKYARD BLUES,
BREWS & BBQ
FESTIVAL
AUGUST 7 & 8
LIVELYACRES.COM

A BURST OF COMMUNITY SPIRIT WRAPPED IN THE AROMA OF FRESH, LOCAL FARE



NEIGHBORHOOD MARKET

SEASONAL PRODUCE • DAIRY • MEAT
BREAD • BAKED GOODS • CHARCUTERIE
GRAB & GO AND PREPARED FOODS

OPEN DAILY!
M - SAT 9 AM - 7 PM
SUN 9 AM - 3 PM
3805 W EMPIRE HIGHWAY, EMPIRE MICHIGAN

 Lively NeighborFood Market
 @livelyneighborfoodmarket

Historic St. Wenceslaus Parish concludes weekend masses

By Rebecca G Carlson
Sun contributor

Whether directly or indirectly connected to the Gill’s Pier Catholic Church, the termination of full-service masses at “the church in the orchard,” St. Wenceslaus, and moving to limited use, is a historic and cultural loss, a communal and civic loss, and ultimately a loss of vital Leelanau County history.

Honored as a Michigan Historical Site both for the church and cemetery, St. Wenceslaus has witnessed almost 136 years of Leelanau County History. It stands as a testament to the births, baptisms, confirmations, weddings, deaths, and many celebrations of this interwoven farming community. By changing to “limited use,” this means a loss of social services, a loss of spiritual education, and ultimately loss of a place of prayer.

From the church website, this heartbreaking message is posted. “On Monday, June 1, Bishop Walsh issued a decree that as of July 1, 2026, St. Wenceslaus will change in status to a “Limited Use” church. This means that there will no longer be weekend

or weekday masses at our church and you will need to go elsewhere to attend services (unfortunately the same status also has been designated for nearby St Gertrude in Northport). Both are churches of historical and communal significance which is a loss for everyone in the Leelanau Peninsula.”

I was sickened to learn that there are labels for the decommissioning and closing of churches across the county: de-churching and redundant churches. First of all, how does one de-church? Secondly, are there redundant churches? Are St. Wenceslaus and St. Gertrude redundant? Not to the parishioners. Not to the hard-working immigrants who settled the area and built the churches with their own hands and donations. Not to the succeeding generation of worshippers over the past 136 – 150 years. This is a horrible and uninformed decision on the part of the Gaylord Diocese.

January 2026 was the first indication that a change would take place at St. Wenceslaus, when the bishop let the leadership know that the church would be sold. A few weeks later, there was a decision to scrap that plan and alter the type of services St. Wenceslaus could offer. Sketchy. From the St. Wenceslaus website: “Jacob and Anna Kolarik deeded to Bishop Henry Richter of the Diocese of Grand Rapids 1-1/2 acres on November 1, 1890” land for the church. “[L]and was conveyed by Julius and wife Mary Kolarik to Bishop Haas on October 7, 1948” for the rectory. “Roy and Celia Kalchik donated a strip of land on the east and north to enlarge the cemetery grounds.” So, Diocese of Gaylord

and Bishop Jeffrey Joseph Walsh – give the land back that was given to you if it is too much trouble to oversee from 1-1/2 hours away. It was donated to the Catholic Diocese in good faith, and their years of devoted service should not be “extinguished,” as noted in the Decree.

In reading the Decree, it is problematic and troubling that a religious governing body who has only visited the parish once in the last four years is determining the future of the St Wenceslaus community that has been self-sufficient and profitable for the Catholic Church for 136 years. Nor does it seem like whoever wrote the decree knew anything about the actual parish at Gill’s Pier. Number 5, labeled “Positive Pastoral Benefit” of the Decree lists the following reasons, “The proposed union [of St. Wenceslaus and St. Mary parishes] is expected to: strengthen sacramental life, ensure more consistent pastoral leadership, and foster a more viable and unified parish community.”

These three reasons clearly underscore the lack of knowledge and understanding of St. Wenceslaus and its steadfast and loyal parishioners. And honestly, can the Holy Spirit of St. Wenceslaus and the community be “extinguished” as noted under “Juridic Effects”?

During our conversation, Deacon Martin Korson expressed sorrow as the congregation was “blindsided by the decision” as St. Wenceslaus has been operating smoothly for years. Of all the charitable and community support projects over the years, Deacon Korson stated, “We did well and we shared.” Ultimately, the Diocese’s decision for these faithful parishioners is “heartbreaking.”

While some Catholic churches can seem overly ornate, stuffy, and formal, St. Wenceslaus is one of the rare churches that truly serves as a sanctuary. The sensory experience of walking into this space is one of warmth as Deacon Korson personally welcomes congregants into the church.

Once worshippers walk through the vestibule to the nave, the interior, while modest and intimate, creates a feeling of peace. Yes, there are rich visuals from the altar, the gorgeous stained-glass windows, along with the sounds of creaky wooden pews and kneelers, and the scents of wood, polish, and incense, but all these sights, sounds, and smells are uniquely Catholic, and create a sense of coming home to parishioners.

From my childhood of working the family’s cherry orchard each summer, I always felt a kindred connection to St. Wenceslaus when attending Sunday



A view of St Wenceslaus Parish from Julius Kolarik’s plum orchard.

service. Our motley crew would stumble in to church, grandparents, cousins, parents, siblings, and take over a small section at the back of the church. For us kids (there were nine of us), some had bedhead, cockeyed ponytails because I couldn’t stop moving around, others had clothes on that were a little wrinkly, and others may have forgotten to brush our teeth, but our parents were breathing a sigh of relief they got us all into the cars and to church before mass began.

Walking in, genuflecting before entering the pews, and finally sitting down allowed everyone to relax for the first time in a week after the back-breaking orchard work. During the hour of service, we all found a true sanctuary.

Once the congregation offered the prayer ‘Our Father,’ I knew my favorite part of mass, the Rite of Peace, was next. The Rite of Peace “is an exchange of gestures within the Holy Mass where we greet one another with a symbolic gesture. If you attend a Roman Catholic Mass somewhere in North America, you have most likely shaken hands or given a slight bow to your fellow Mass-goers while saying something like ‘peace be with you’... This is the sign of peace” (Cohparish.org). While my 7-year-old version of shaking hands and saying “peace be with you” was not what one could call solemn or peaceful, my enthusiasm in shaking hands made up for it in getting my “peace be with you” people to smile.

Putting limitations on the services that St. Wenceslaus can offer is not just a county-wide loss, it’s a personal, devastating loss.

The community-wide implications of this decision are negative and felt beyond the Catholic community. After learning of the limited services being forced on St. Wenceslaus, one Suttons Bay resident asked, “No more summer Chicken Dinners at St. Wenceslaus?” This was a picnic that turned into an annual summer celebration for over 114 years. Kathy Allen went on to add the decision is “heartbreaking.” Ditto Kathy! For many of us, attending the chicken dinners was a highly anti-

See ST WENCESLAUS on page 11

Glen Lake Woman's Club

ART FAIR

Glen Arbor Town Hall
Wednesday, July 15, 2026, 10-4

Sponsored by Good Harbor Grill



Bay Books

Great reads to keep you company through the summer

Fiber Arts & Book Club

Meets on the fourth Tuesday of every month, 6-7:30 pm at Bay Books.
Bring your favorite fiber arts project (crocheting, knitting, felting, needlepoint, embroidery and get literary in crafty company!

Open Monday-Friday, 10 am-6 pm. Saturday, 10-5, Sunday, 12-5

220 N Saint Joseph St., Suttons Bay

Call us at 231-944-6809, email baybooksmi@gmail.com, or check us out on Facebook or Instagram. Online ordering available at www.baybooksmi.com.





NEW LEAF INTERIORS

Interior Design | Kitchen & Bath

Traverse City | Glen Arbor | Scottsdale

newleafid.com 231.421.5999





EMPIRE, MI

Open 9-4, Sun-Thu; Fri & Sat 9-7

www.ShipwreckCafe.com (231) 835-2580

Glen Lake Woman’s Club holds Glen Arbor Art Fair

From staff reports

The 54th annual Glen Lake Woman’s Club Art Fair will be held on Wednesday, July 15, from 10 am until 4 pm at the Glen Arbor Township Hall. The Art Fair features artists carefully selected to represent a wide variety of one-of-a-kind art pieces for sale including pottery, painting, textiles, woodworking, and jewelry.

Each year, thousands of people shop for that unique piece of art, either for themselves or for a special gift. Some go to their favorite artists’ booths to add to a collection, while others like to peruse vendors new to the Art Fair for a special purchase. The Art Fair is a family-friendly event with a large selection of treasures available across a wide range of price points. Whether you’re looking for a beautiful homemade purse or jacket; an original painting of a favorite, local scene; a stunning piece of new jewelry; or a unique pottery garlic keeper; you are sure to find it at one of the well-displayed booths, both inside and outside the Township Hall.

Co-chairs Ruthy Bolton and Meg



DeJager begin coordinating the Art Fair Committees in January to make sure all runs smoothly for vendors and shoppers on Art Fair Day. You can find them scurrying throughout the Fair, along with other Glen Lake Woman’s Club members in their bright yellow t-shirts throughout the day. They will also be hosting an information table right inside the Township Hall doors and can direct you to a specific booth.

“Even with all our hard work these seven months, we couldn’t pull off a successful Art Fair without the support of local businesses who donate advertisements and food, the media for getting the word out, and the Empire Lion’s Club members for assisting with parking,” said Bolton. “The scholarship recipients and Glen Lake High

School Football players have a history of volunteering at the Art Fair with enthusiasm, energy, and willingness to assist where needed most. You will find them distributing coffee and donuts to vendors early in the morning, serving in the kitchen, setting up and taking down tables, and assisting customers at the popular jewelry or bake sale tables.”

“The vendors really set the tone for the quality of the art at the Fair and Bay Area Transportation Authority greatly improves the vendor loading/unloading and parking,” DeJager added.

“BATA is pleased to partner with the Glen Lake Woman’s Club Art Fair to provide vendor transportation to and from the event location. Helping support Leelanau County groups, organizations and events with transportation is a just one-way BATA can provide added value to the communities we serve,” stated Eric Lingaur, communications and development director for the Bay Area Transportation Authority.

All proceeds from the Art Fair support scholarships for Glen Lake Community School students. According to Ginna Woessner, chair of the Club Scholarship Committee, “Since 1980, the Woman’s Club has awarded over \$368,000 to 271 students to assist them on their path of higher learning. Our students have gone primarily to Northwestern Michigan College and have studied diverse careers like maritime engineering, culinary, graphic design, welding, police academy, and general studies to name a few. Some students go into the workforce after earning certificates or an associate’s degree while others further their education and have become dentists, doctors, and teachers. Whatever their passion, we are so pleased to play a part in their journey.

Your support of the annual Art Fair supports our student scholarship program.”

The Glen Lake Woman’s Club, a 501(c)(3) organization, was established in 1937 with the goal of fostering social, civic, and educational projects. The charter members adopted as their slogan, “If you wish to live in a better place, better the place in which you live.” For more information about the Glen Lake Woman’s Club, the Art Fair, or our scholarship program, visit the Glen Lake Woman’s Club Art Fair Facebook page or their website, GlenLakeWomansClub.org.

Now hiring for Summer 2026!

Email LakerShakesMarket@gmail.com

Moomers Ice Cream
Cones and Shakes
Beer and Wine
Coffee and Espresso
Local Products

8995 S Dunns Farm Rd., Burdickville
(231)334-4669 lakershakes.com

A Glen Lake Tradition for over 30 years.



The Sound Garden Cerus Quartet serenades a baby at Grocer’s Daughter Chocolate.

ST WENCESLAUS
continues from page 10

pated summer ritual for those of us in the Leelanau Peninsula and beyond.

In some form or other, St. Wenceslaus has been a place of worship for generations of parishioners. Built by the hands of the hard-working, immigrant, Bohemian community of Gills Pier. Moving to “limited use” by order of the Gaylord Diocese erases the tangible history and a vital communal anchor for the people who built St. Wenceslaus.

As many congregants have generations of personal history tied to this church, effectively closing it will lead to significant grief and a loss of community cohesion. St. Wenceslaus is more than a place of worship, it is the heart of this farming community, offering

stability, and most importantly, a sanctuary for everyone. “St. Wenceslaus stands [as] a landmark...a sentinel, as it has been for all of us, as a pillar, and guidepost for years, a beacon on a hill” (“The Treasure We Share”).

As Deacon Korson and I finished up our conversation on the front steps of St. Wenceslaus, a parishioner walked up and stated “Catholicism is about Community.” But how do these communities survive if the heart has been ripped out?

The “Pastoral Plan 2026” put out by the Gaylord Diocese quotes the Bible: “Love never fails” (1 Cor 13). Closing a church does not seem to be a symbol of love, but a lack of faith. “Go, therefore, and make disciples” (Mt 28:19-20). How can more disciples be created if the over-seeing Diocese is closing the churches?

Glen Lake Woman’s Club

ART FAIR

Glen Arbor Town Hall
Wednesday, July 15, 2026, 10-4

Sponsored by [Cottage Book Shop](http://CottageBookShop.com)

The Best Golf Value in Beautiful Leelanau County!

SUGAR LOAF
THE OLD COURSE

Beer, Wine & Spirits
231-228-2040

Make your T-Time online at:
www.golfttheloaf.com

The Old Course is conveniently located off M-22
Between Leland and Glen Arbor
4512 S. Townline Rd.
Cedar, MI 49621

the secret garden
Handcrafts Gallery

Downtown Empire
More than 200 Artists
Celebrating 30 Years!
Open Daily
(231) 326-5428

RIVERSIDE
CANOE TRIPS

Kayaks | Tubes | Canoes
Rafts | Boats | SUPs

231-325-5622
www.canoemichigan.com
5042 N. Scenic Hwy. Harbor, MI 49640

Leelanau
COFFEE ROASTING CO.

Glen Arbor cafe hours, 7 am to 5 pm (May-October), LeelanauCoffee.com

Sound Garden saxophone surprise in Sleeping Bear Dunes

By Sophie Schwartz
Sun contributor

One might expect to hear the sounds of a saxophone in a sophisticated concert hall, a wedding, or an otherwise lavish, exclusive event. Fewer may expect to hear such sounds in places such as local boutique Cottonseed, or at 9 a.m. outside of Rinco Bros Coffee.

This surprise and accessibility is the prime objective of the Sound Garden Project, an initiative by Interlochen Public Radio to “plant classical music in unexpected places”.

The Cerus Quartet, an award-winning saxophone quartet, visited Glen Arbor as part of this initiative from June 9-21. The Quartet performed in locations such as Leelanau Coffee Roasters, Cherry Republic, and even the post office before hosting a culminating concert at the Glen Arbor Township Hall.

The members of the quartet include Robert Campo, Laura Ramsay, Kyle Kato and Samuel Dishon, all graduates from the University of Michigan. Although the group has been working together for five years, this is their first

full season together, and they have plans to bring their music all over both the East and West coasts this summer.

I was fortunate enough to witness three of the quartet’s performances, including one at Cottonseed, their culminating concert at Glen Arbor Township Hall, and their final performance at Rinco Bros Coffee Roasters.

The reactions to the unexpected music have been varied but overwhelmingly delightful. As I watched the group perform in Cottonseed apparel, many customers stopped and became entranced with the music. The Quartet approached two women inside the shop and asked them to listen to a piece and reflect on which season they felt it represented best. Upon hearing which seasons they picked, the quartet played the same piece again while focusing on the idea of winter or autumn. When they were finished performing, many customers lingered and chatted amongst themselves or with the quartet members, seeming enthusiastic about the music.

The group reports that some of their most memorable moments performing in Glen Arbor include their performance at Cherry Republic, where a woman was so startled by the music that she let out a blood curdling scream, or on the quiet lakeside shores, where an older man stopped the group to tell them how much their music reminded him of his late wife whose ashes he had spread in the lake.

Compared to their seemingly spontaneous, unexpected performances on the street, I noticed the atmosphere in the culminating concert in Glen Arbor Township Hall was noticeably more formal and serious. The group



tangible sense of community. Audience member and coffee-drinker Sean Swikle remarked that this was “a great way to start the morning, with coffee and community.” Other spectators reported that the music and dancing made them feel like they were in an “enchanted garden filled with sounds of music and enjoyment.”

Reflecting on their time in Glen Arbor, Campo shares that it had been “an awesome two weeks of creating community in a way they otherwise would not have been exposed to,” and that their time in Glen Arbor has left them feeling revitalized for the rest of their season. The group all expressed that everyone they had interacted with had been very welcoming, leading to their concerts feeling much more relaxed.

Next, the group will head out west to continue planting their melodies in the least expected of places along the west coast.

Glen Lake Woman's Club

ART FAIR

Glen Arbor Town Hall

Wednesday, July 15, 2026, 10-4

Sponsored by Northwoods Hardware

LEARN TO SAIL!

FREE Public Sailing Lessons at the Glen Lake Yacht Club, in cooperation with the GLYC Foundation

Fridays 10–11:30 am June 19 – August 7
Ages 12 and up

Reservation Required / Space is Limited
Call the Club at 231-334-4013

Leelanau Energy

Community Action for Clean Energy

Your Neighbors
Educating & Advocating
for Clean Energy!

Learn more, join our team!

web: www.LeelanauEnergy.org email: info@LeelanauEnergy.org

performed many of the same pieces as they did around town, and were accompanied by storytellers Norm Wheeler and Anne-Marie Oomen, who shared historical stories and reflections on the area. The crowd skewed older, and while the performance was beautiful and touching, I noticed less people stopping to linger and chat afterwards.

Comparatively, their final performance at Rinco Bros Coffee the next morning featured many dancing children, old friends catching up, and a

BOB’S BOOK

continues from page 4

she happily worked the cash register, “I keep working as a preventative for dementia.” Ironically, when the pandemic forced her to stop working, forgetfulness set in within a year. Within three years, her dementia forced us to put her in a 24-hour-care home in Leland. Within four years, she was gone. It felt like my humor ran dry when she got dementia. I haven’t created a funny sign in Glen Arbor since she died.

Here’s how I like to remember her: Not that long ago, maybe seven years or so, she came running into our conference room when we were having our weekly leadership meeting. My eighty-five-year-old mother has the latest Cherry Republic holiday catalog in her hands. She’s overflowing with sparkle and joy in her eyes. She reads a humorous, embellished passage I’d written about my childhood. She’s laughing so hard she can hardly read, and then all seven of us in the room are joking back and forth, all laughing so hard because everyone is funny—you have to be to work here. Eventually, the room settles down. We can’t stretch the jokes any longer.

I don’t want her to leave, though. I want to be with her like this forever.

Beside my desk in Cherry Republic Headquarters, I have a section of wall



that is a tribute to my mom. There are pictures, drawings, and an old letter she wrote to me with some sweet encouragement. In the center of the collage is a photo of her in the middle of a high dive.

This is the photo that she hung in the store for a decade, so customers would realize that she was a whirlwind—more than Bobby’s mom, so much more. She looks so strong and graceful in midair. The entire pool is watching her.”

FOOD FOR
THOUGHT

PRESERVES & PROVISIONS

Salsas, Dressings,
Marinades, Mustards,
BBQ Sauces, Caramels,
Jellies, & Preserves

FoodForThought.net

SAVORY ESSENTIALS FOR
SUMMER BBQS

Glen Lake Association seeks help catching giant invasive koi

By Sophie Schwartz
Sun contributor

If you ask any fishing enthusiast what they hope to catch in Glen Lake, most will likely tell you they are seeking perch or bass or perhaps even a pike. However, this summer may be prime time to instead aim for bright orange koi fish, as the invasive species presence is confirmed in the lake for the third summer in a row.

Koi, an invasive species known for their bright coloring, are a domesticated form of carp native to eastern Asia. They resemble oversized goldfish, and hold distinct and striking color patterns of orange, black, white and yellow. Their beautiful appearance makes them extremely popular as pets and in ornamental ponds worldwide. It is believed that the koi likely started off as pets, and made their way into the lake through being purposefully released. A single



female can lay up to 400,000 eggs per breeding cycle, allowing for the population of koi to easily proliferate.

This prolific spawning causes intense disruptions within the food chain as resources become scarce for native fish. Koi also have a tendency to stir up lake bottoms as they forage (referred to as “rooting”), which can be harmful to native plant species as well as promoting the growth of invasive plant life. Their presence in the lake can promote algae blooms and lead

to decreased water clarity, a critically important aspect of Glen Lake.

In an effort to mitigate this potential damage, the Glen Lake Association (GLA) is asking for the help of the public to locate the invasive koi. As the water becomes warmer, the fish become more active and tracking the population is critical. Photographs of the fish are extremely useful in this process, as each koi bears unique patterns and coloration. These distinctive features help give an idea as to how many koi remain in the lake.

If you spot an orange swimmer in Little Glen Lake, Big Glen Lake or Fisher Lake this summer, you can help the GLA by emailing a photo of the fish along with the date and location of the sighting to contact@glenlakeassociation.org.

GLA executive director Kate Gille stresses how important the combined effort of the community is. “Protecting

water quality is truly a community effort, and we are grateful for residents’ willingness to help us stop invasive species from spreading. These sighting reports and photos are incredibly valuable; each piece of data helps us better understand how many koi are present in the system and allows us to respond quickly and effectively.”

In recent years, several koi have been removed from the lake, including several large, pre-spawn females each carrying thousands of eggs and, in 2024, a record breaking 24.5 pound fish. The GLA is continuing its partnership with a highly experienced bowfishing team this summer in order to continue the removal of the koi.

To learn more about invasive species prevention and management in the Glen Lake watershed, visit the Glen Lake Association website at glenlakeassociation.org/invasive-species.

Lake Street Studios launch summer art openings

By Katie Dunn
Sun contributor

Just as one exhibit comes down, another rises in its place—a rhythm that defines the summer art season at Lake Street Studios Center Gallery. There is little pause between them, only a seamless moment of transition, where one body of work gives way to the next. In that exchange, a living tapestry of creative work takes shape within Glen Arbor’s arts community.

Return: Charles Murphy

That rhythm was on full display as the series opened with Traverse City-based art-ist Charles Murphy on June 26. Murphy’s return—his first in roughly a decade—carried the weight of both familiarity and evolution, a reentry forged by years of growth in his practice.

Murphy has shown at Center Gallery several times over the years, including 1999, 2008, 2009, and most recently in 2015, making this his fifth exhibition with the gallery and placing him among its longer-standing artists.

“Charlie is a seasoned painter who is greatly loved by the arts community and by students that he has taught,” says Allison Stupka, gallerist and co-owner of Center Gallery with her husband, Harry Fried. “We were so happy to kick off our summer with his work—he is such a warm and generous painter, teacher, and human. His work is finely rendered and light at the same time. He and his paintings are gems.”

Murphy’s exhibition brought together a body of work that felt both expansive



Charles Murphy’s show opened June 26.

See LAKE STREET on page 16

Local Wines
...
Relaxed
Tasting
Room & Wine
Garden

Live Music 7
Days a Week!

EARN ENTRIES Starting June 29
SUNDAYS • 2PM-7PM

10 winners of **\$250 Rewards Play** + 25 entries into the Finale
One winner of **\$500 Cash + \$500 Rewards Play**
+ 100 entries into the Finale

JULY 26 • 2PM-7PM

Five winners of **\$500 Cash** +100 entries into the **Finale**
Four winners of **\$1,000 Cash**

ONE CLUB CAR® CRU
+ **\$2,000 CASH WINNER**

LEELANAU SANDS CASINO
LeelanauSandsCasino.com | 800.922.2WIN

Please see Players Club for promotional rules and details.
Management reserves the right to alter or withdraw this promotion at any time.
Owned and Operated by the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians.

Gazing into a pool of courage

By Rev. Lucy Waechter Webb
Sun contributor

Where does the story begin?

I am tempted to start with the trip I took to my mother’s hometown with her this spring. Or when I first got into ancestry work about seven years ago. But to begin there would be to begin the story with me.

And that is not what this story is about.

This story is about the courage of Benny Gordon, Jr.

It is a story about the power of everyday people choosing to show up and speak up for their own dignity and the dignity of their neighbors. It is a story about a small group of local citizens who refused to accept the status quo in their hometown.

Benny Gordon was a father, a businessman, a veteran and a civic leader in Webster Groves, Missouri, a town just outside of St. Louis. He grew up during Jim Crow segregation and was committed to building a community that was no longer governed by the inhumanity of a law that saw us as separate from one another.

In July of 1949, as the thick Missouri summer air hung heavy, he and seven friends decided that it was time to go for a swim in the freshly minted city pool. They were refused entry because they were Black.

This spring, I visited that pool with my mom in Webster Groves, her childhood home, for the first time. She remembered riding her bike up the hill to practice for the swim team in the 1960s. It was here, just a decade earlier, that her grandfather, my great-grandfather, “Happy” (Clarence) Appel as the mayor of Webster Groves, denied Black residents access to swim in the city pool.

It was a story I had not heard growing up, but learned more recently in my adulthood as I began asking questions about my ancestry and our people’s relationship to the history of racial violence in this country.

As we stood there together on the outside of the 8-foot security fence

that surrounded the modernized splash pad and water park features of the 21st century pool, we reckoned with the role of our ancestor in the violence that took place there. We spoke words of prayer, apology and hope. As we turned to leave, I bent down and took a large stone from the land, a symbol, that I was committed to carry the weight of this story forward. I didn’t know how just then, but I knew that the story needed to live in the telling of my family’s history, and in the histories that I passed on to my children.

Back in northern Michigan, a few short weeks later we met Ben Gordon III, Benny Gordon Jr.’s son, over the phone. The city’s newly renovated Recreation Center and Pool had been renamed in honor of his father. The dedication was happening in two weeks; he had heard that my mom and I had been in town recently, and he invited us back to Webster to speak at the dedication.

In May, we returned to the pool. I stood there with my mom, my sister and three of our children and we offered a public apology for what our grandfather did. My mom said, “Although I was not personally involved in these past actions, we recognize that silence, inaction, and lack of awareness can contribute to ongoing inequity. For that, I am sorry.” Together we celebrated the life of Benny Gordon, the change he fought for, and broke bread with his family.

Just a couple generations later, we were able to imagine a different way of being together. Ben Gordon III quoted Martin Luther King Jr. in our conversation, “Love is the only force capable of transforming an enemy into a friend.” And then he said, “Over these last years we’ve been able to have enough love to make this conversation between our families possible.” This has left me feeling profoundly hopeful.

This public dedication was to honor and celebrate Benny Gordon Jr. specifically. And, for every courageous African American who has pushed back against racial violence, there was an adversary, sometimes many adversaries on the other side. Often those faces fade into history as if only real in another time.



When we remember the people in these stories were some of our own ancestors, our grandparents and great-grandparents we can feel for how we are like them. We can touch the weight of our own choice and complexity more. Because here’s the thing: we are capable of both enacting the same violence or mustering the same courage of those who resisted.

Now is the time to get clear about what we want our own legacy to be. This specific story about a pool in Missouri is the story of all of us. It is the story of this country. As we observe the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States, it matters where we begin our story. There are real consequences for how we tell the story of our origins as a nation.

As the Palestinian poet Mourid Barghouti writes, “If you want to dispossess a people, the simplest way to do it is to tell their story with ‘secondly’.” The author, Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie continues this logic in her Ted Talk “The Danger of a Single Story” by offering this example: “Start the story with the arrows of the Native Americans, and not with the arrival of the British and you have an entirely different story.”

When I moved to Leelanau County, I picked up the local history account from Bingham Township Hall to learn a little more about where I live in the county. As I cracked the cover, I was disappointed to read that the first line began, “The white man’s first possible visit to this land of the Ottawa and Chippewa Indians is thought to be...” centering the ‘white man’ in the story. The paragraph goes on to read, “the Indian tribes signed the Treaty of Washington giving [emphasis added] the government the upper western portion of the state...”

To start the story with the pioneer families who arrived on the land erases the history of all those who lived and loved, who hunted and fished, who made art and sang, who grieved and died on this land before the white settlers came. To start the story with “secondly” erases the violence and land theft that occurred to make it possible for these settler families to make their home.

This land was not “gifted.” It was taken from a people whose descendants still live as our neighbors here today.

Leelanau County was built by

systematically shrinking Indigenous access to land through a series of laws (Allotment Act, Pre-Emption Act, Land Sales Act, etc.). What was once held by Indigenous people as common land, rooted in the idea that we are not separate from each other or the land itself, was within a generation converted to parcels for private ownership, ripe for fences and ‘no trespassing’ signs. Where eventually, access to swimmable water would be greatly reduced because ‘the closer to the Bay, the more you pay’.

In these consequential days of our nation, we are reckoning with what story we’re going to claim about who we are. In a time when racism is becoming unabashedly explicit again, we must continue to call out current and historical racial violence.

As I return home and reflect on our journey, I am left with immense gratitude for Mr. Benny Gordon Jr.

As he reflected on his military service in his later years, he said, “We were drafted with the premise that we were fighting for democracy, yet we didn’t have it. If I could go thousands of miles from home to fight for an ideal, certainly I could stay here and make it happen.”

Benny Gordon Jr. insisted that we be a people committed to equity, justice and inclusion. He insisted our lives are connected to each other, and should not be held separate. He understood this value to be central to the choices we make as citizens and community members. He knew to build a nation worthy of the democracy we claim that we would have to struggle for it, and live by the philosophy: “Things don’t just happen; people have to make them happen.” This is what I am celebrating and willing to struggle for as we mark the 250th anniversary of this nation.

Note: We believe that a commitment to repair is more than words. My family has contributed to the Freestyle Pool Pass to support the ongoing work of ensuring that every person, no matter their race, gender, sexuality, physical ability or class are able to use the public pool in Webster Groves. In honor of Benny Gordon, we invite those in our own community who have benefited from the exclusion of others inside the broader history of our nation to make a donation. Find a link to donate on the Freestyle Pool Pass Facebook page or via check, payable to Webster Rock Hill Ministries, 111 East Waymire, 63119. Include “Freestyle Pass Fund” in the memo.

Featuring
100+
Artists

ART 2026

LEELANAU

FUNDRAISER + EXHIBITION

at the Old Art Building | Leland, MI

Join us July 24 – August 2 for the 34th Annual Art Leelanau Fundraiser and Exhibit supporting artists and the mission of the OAB to promote arts & culture in Leelanau County!

GLEN ARBOR ARTISANS

studio gallery of
Kristin Hurlin & Paul May
5956 South Ray Street (M22)
glenarborartisans.com

GLEN LAKE ARTISTS GALLERY

6027 LAKE STREET, GLEN ARBOR

Charles Murphy

GLEN ARBOR'S ORIGINAL GALLERY

To Belong Once Again

The author's name has been withheld to protect her immigration status.

“Welcome to America,” an immigration officer told us at the Fort Lauderdale-Miami Airport. With those words, he stamped our papers, confirming that everything was in order with our process and that, finally, we could enter the country. He had no way of knowing the profound commotion his words had caused within me.

That “Welcome to America” lingered, echoing in my ears as we walked down a narrow hallway toward the exit of the crowded airport. With one hand I pulled a small suitcase, and with the other, I held my daughter, who looked just as disoriented as I felt. A few steps ahead walked my husband, quickening his pace alongside our youngest son. I felt a whirlwind of emotions: peace, disbelief, confusion, fear, joy, solace, gratitude, and nostalgia.

That day at the airport, the United States of America seemed to me like the most beautiful place in the world, simply because, by stepping onto this soil, I was reclaiming hope for my family. In my country, I spent many sleepless nights wondering what would become of my children if their father or I were imprisoned. My daughter is autistic, and my youngest son was barely five years old. Hearing those words meant we had escaped the dictatorship. We would no longer suffer persecution; we had arrived safely.

The dark night

I never planned to live in another country; I believe that someone’s greatest achievement in life is to remain close to the people to whom they belong—and my family and I belonged to our Central American land. But in a radical and unexpected turn of events, events we once believed impossible, we were forced to close the doors of our home with no reopening in sight. We had to hit pause on those warm weekend afternoons surrounded by my mother, father, siblings, grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, and friends. On April 13, 2024, we were forced into exile.

We became migrants because we were victims of political and religious persecution. My husband, a lawyer, and I, a journalist, became involved in defending a relative who was unjustly imprisoned and sentenced to 26 years in jail, without ever having a trial, access to a defense attorney, or the right to appeal. His crime: “treason to the homeland,” a fabrication invented by the regime to incarcerate dissidents.

Defending our relative’s rights and speaking out for his release was the reason we, too, became targets. In my country, under the dictatorship, political prisoners have suffered physical and psychological torture, and some have died in national prisons due to violence and the deprivation of food and medicine, as the United Nations (UN) has confirmed in its reports.

A lawyer and a journalist persecuted

by a dictatorship: it is perverse that the very professions vital to the balance of power and access to justice become the targets of a manhunt. But in my homeland, there are no journalists left. It is the only country in the Western Hemisphere where not a single printed newspaper remains in circulation. They were wiped out.

And so arrived the dark night when we had to pack our bags. We gathered our children’s most cherished toys, organized our essential documents, and drove toward the border in the early hours of the morning. We told the children we were going on a very long trip and that, for this journey, we did not have a return date.

The balm of the north

The beautiful Leelanau County before my eyes for the first time, embraced by a majestic nature, was like a balm for the wound of displacement. All migration is painful, but exile strikes you like an assault that robs you of everything you have. That is why contemplating this northern landscape, with its brilliant lights and infinite trees, brought us a healing peace.

Here we were, in a paradise of vibrant blossoms, cherry trees in full bloom, towering pines, and majestic sand dunes where the sky and the water become one. It was a sensory delight to walk along the trails for the first time, feeling like explorers discovering lakes, creeks, and streams. Life in those first few weeks was a duality between the perfection of Leelanau and the memory we carried of all our accumulated suffering.

The most valuable thing—as if arriving in this beautiful place were not already a gift—has been the people. Against all my expectations, my family immediately found affection, solidarity, friendship, connection, and empathy. We have been surrounded by so many good people that I can only say we are blessed to be part of this place. Upon our arrival, we found many awakened hearts, people who did not look at our vulnerability with antipathy, but instead set out to make us strong once more.

In this county, we found friends who watched over our material and emotional needs with a deeply moving constancy. It was not a fleeting gesture of pity; we were never viewed as lesser, but as



The Cerus Quartet turn the saxophones loose at Synchronicity.

equals. Our friends truly welcomed us into their lives. They are our neighbors, our co-workers, our priests, and the wonderful school our children attend.

They look after my children, sometimes take them to the beach, learn to dance Latin rhythms with me, help me improve my English, help us repair our car or my son’s gaming console, welcome us into their homes, share their stories and worries with us, call us on a Saturday to offer a warm afternoon together, or bring me soup when I have the flu. One moment—is all of this not belonging once again?

With its warmth, this community has made me relearn what it means to belong. Where do we belong? To the place where we are born, or to the place where we build our bonds? I still ask myself many questions from my identity as a migrant, but one thing is clear to me: every displaced family deserves a place to find a home again.

In April, the waters of Lake Michigan flash shades of blue that contrast with the gray reflection of the sky, but in summer, their transparency

and turquoise colors dazzle the eyes of even the most experienced traveler. During our first summer, while we were enjoying those warm waters, an older woman who heard us speaking in Spanish gently approached us.

“Hola,” she said to me.

I returned her greeting and smiled. She mentioned that it was rare to see Latin Americans choosing to live through northern Michigan winters. I replied that we had arrived in the country less than two months ago and that we didn’t yet know what real cold was.

She let out a somewhat ironic laugh—now that I have lived through two winters, I understand why. But before saying goodbye, she wished us luck and said the very same words that, at the airport, had sealed our arrival:

“Welcome to America!”

Dune Climb Inn
GLEN LAKE, MICH.

- Motel rooms and suites with kitchens
- In the heart of the Sleeping Bear Sand Dunes National Lakeshore
- Steps from the famous Dune Climb
- Open year round

DuneClimbInn.com 231.631.7875

Glen Lake Woman's Club

ART FAIR

Glen Arbor Town Hall
Wednesday, July 15, 2026, 10-4

Sponsored by Northwoods Hardware

**A SPIRITUAL FOUNDATION
TO GUIDE AND BLESS**

How to apply the
Ten Commandments,
The Lord's Prayer,
and Jesus' Sermon
on the Mount
to our daily lives

Christian Science Sunday School

Sundays 10am to 11am

All are welcome up to age 20

First Church of Christ, Scientist
6753 W. Harbor Hwy (M109)
Glen Arbor

Empire Museum Complex
Open Tuesday-Saturday, 1-4 p.m.,
closed Sunday & Monday
Heritage Days, October 11, 1-4 pm

**CENTER
GALLERY**

Kathleen Conover
July 3 - 9

Joseph Lombardo
July 10 - 16

Margo Burian
July 17 - 23

Openings Fridays • 6-8 pm
On Lake Street in Glen Arbor
231-334-3179
lakestreetstudiosglenarbor.com

LAKE STREET

continues from page 13

and deeply energized. The show included 31 pieces spanning oil, acrylic, and water-color, underscoring both his versatility and the prolific nature of his practice. While there was not a single unifying theme, a clear throughline emerged in the work’s vibrancy and in Murphy’s steady attention to composition. Many of the pieces leaned into familiar northern Michigan imagery, particularly built forms like barns and shoreline structures, which appear not as strict representations but as reinterpreted. Watercolors embellished with gold leaf were especially striking—adding a luminous, almost kinetic quality to the work. Murphy describes himself at heart as “more of a studio painter.” Across oil, acryl-ic, and watercolor, he selects materials in direct response to the subject matter ra-ther than adhering to a single fixed method. That responsiveness shapes the work on view, where each piece feels considered not only in its imagery, but in how it is ultimately rendered. In this particular body of work,

Murphy acknowledges that it is informed by Paul Klee (1879-1940) and Gustav Klimt (1862-1918). In his fluid handling of water-color, there is a kinship with Klee’s balance of structure and suggestion. Klimt’s presence is most visible in Murphy’s use of gold leaf, where surface luminosity makes light itself a part of the composition. Murphy’s influences extend beyond the historical; they are also regional and rela-tional. Murphy situates his artistic practice within a broader sense of belonging among artists in northern Michigan. “As artists I believe we are all seeking ‘our tribe,’” he shares. Reflecting on the idea of “tribe” that emerged in his post-art school years, he describes how conversations with artists in the region affirmed that sense of community. “Upon visiting northern Michigan and speaking with many artists in the area, I realized that place was here in a vast community of art-ists,” he says. He adds that his connection to the region has become lasting: “It has proved to be true that my place and tribe was in the Grand Traverse area.”

Summer 2026 Lineup

Murphy’s meditations on finding his “tribe” among artists in northern Michigan echo broadly in the structure of the summer program itself, which reflects a deliber-ate balance of continuity and renewal. Alongside Murphy, returning artists in-clude Joseph Lombardo, Margo Burian, Jeff Condon, Jessica Kovan, and Ruth Kitchen. The season also introduces new voices: Kathleen Conover, Chelsea Gar-ter, Andrew Jagniecki, Jill Hunt, Darcy Bowden, and Debra Howard. Taken to-gether, the group forms a dynamic interplay of established presence and fresh perspective—each contributing to the evolving identity of Center Gallery.

Arrival: Kathleen Conover

Kathleen Conover arrives this season as one of the series’ new voices. Raised in southern California and now based in Michigan’s Upper Peninsula, her introduc-tion to Center Gallery came, fittingly, through the same network of regional art-ists that sustains the community. While visiting painter and Empire-based artist Mark Mehaffey at a Friday night reception, she encountered the gallery’s opening-night atmosphere firsthand, describing it as “an exciting, energy filled crowd of art patrons, creatives, and art enthusiasts of all makes.” A full-time mixed water media painter, Conover moves between watercolor, acrylic, gouache, graphite, charcoal, pigment sticks, and ink. She describes water-color as “my first love and main medium,” and her practice is rooted in the north-ern Michigan landscape. She explains her approach as an effort at “marrying the fluidity and spirit of watercolor with my personal interpretation of my environment.” Now exhibiting within the same Friday night series that she first experienced as a visitor, she says, “I’m thrilled to be a part of the Friday night reception tradition.”

Continuity: Joseph Lombardo

For Lombardo, consistency defines his presence in Glen Arbor—he embodies con-tinuity within the Center Gallery summer series. He first exhibited with Center Gallery in the summer of 2010, following an artist-in-residence experience with the Glen Arbor Arts Center (GAAC) in 2008 and the early connections in the community that grew out of that time. “I have shown with them every summer since, only missing summer 2020 due to COVID,” he notes. From there, Lombardo’s summers in Glen Arbor settled into a steady pattern of teaching, exhibiting, and returning



Joseph Lombardo’s painting of Art’s.

each year. “I stay in Glen Arbor for two short weeks in July,” he explains. “I teach a plein air painting workshop with GAAC the first week. My exhibit opens on Friday of my first week up north.” “It’s an honor to have had the opportunity and to be accepted as a part of the Glen Arbor art community,” he says.

History of Center Gallery

Center Gallery’s origins trace back to 1983, when Suzanne Wilson, the mother of Stupka, joined Ananda Bricker and Midge Obata in transforming an unlikely space—a modest, dilapidated garage—into a veritable hub for artistic exchange. What began as a simple act of reclamation and imagination grew into a working compound of studios, with Wilson’s atelier at its center. In the early 1990s, that creative mission evolved even further when Wilson began organizing Friday night art openings at Center Gallery. The idea was disarmingly simple: on Friday evenings throughout the summer, the doors would open to the public, unveiling a new body of work by a featured artist. Stupka recalls that Glen Arbor-based artist, Greg Sobran, was the first artist to be featured at these summer openings. My mother, Kathleen Dunn, showed her pas-tels and oil paintings at the Center Gallery Friday night openings several times during the 1990s.

David Westerfield

Glen Arbor-based artist David Westerfield is also part of the gallery’s pantheon of Friday night artists. He exhibited his work there in 2013. A highly regarded figure in the regional arts community, Westerfield now owns and operates Arbor Gallery on the west side of Glen Arbor. Reflecting on his earlier connection to Center Gallery, he recalls the significance of that first invitation: “I remember the Center Gallery

See LAKE STREET on page 17

JOIN US!

Cost \$10/Person
Children 6 and under eat free

glen Lake Fire and Rescue Association IS HOSTING A

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

WHEN AND WHERE

SUNDAY JULY 5, 2026

TIME 8:00am-12:00pm

GLEN LAKE FIRE DEPARTMENT WILL BE HOSTING A PANCAKE BREAKFAST AT THE GLEN ARBOR TOWNSHIP HALL.

6394 W WESTERN AVE, GLEN ARBOR, MI 49636

Proceeds will go to

Glen Lake Fire & Rescue Association to assist the Glen Lake Fire Department with funding for training and equipment purchases.

Thank you for your support!

The Glen Lake Fire & Rescue Association is a non-profit 501 (c)(3) corporation

HAPPY 4TH OF JULY, LEELANAU

250 YEARS

BETWEEN TYRANTS

1776-2026

KING GEORGE III

THE DONALD

Celebrate Independence Day: Nov. 3rd.

VOTE BLUE

Leelanau Dems

PAID FOR BY LEELANAU COUNTY DEMOCRATS PO BOX 215, EMPIRE, MI 49630

LAKE STREET
concludes from page 16

reception being a very enjoyable evening—a great community get-together. Being invited to show there was a compliment to my work and gave me confidence and energy to pursue my passion for painting.”

For Westerfield, the region’s artistic strength is shaped as much by its people as by its landscape.

“Glen Arbor has to be one of the best art communities in Michigan,” he says. “With all the galleries and the art center, there are a lot of opportunities here for artists. The beauty of the area naturally brings artists, but the fact that so many community members support the arts—and recognize the value of what we have here—keeps the art scene vibrant. The fact that Center Gallery has been around so long is a testament to that.”



David Westerfield painting

At the Helm

The legacy—and longevity—of Friday night openings has been masterfully sus-tained over the decades by Stupka, a continuation of the vision first articulated by her mother.

“My mom usually made a postcard which announced the lineup of artists. A ta-gline on one of them reads ‘wine, sometimes music and always good conversa-tion.’ As a steward of this place for now 23 years, that line resonates with me. It’s a place where on Friday nights you can sip some wine or sparkling water, look at some new art and take a breath, think and talk to other people,” Stupka shares.

She reflects on unexpectedly assuming leadership of the gallery after her mother’s untimely passing, and the responsibility of continuing what had become a deeply revered community

space. “When the dust settled, I did know that I didn’t want to say goodbye to that wonderful community of art lovers and artists she’d been a part of.”

The work, she notes, is never without its challenges. “Walls, roofs, heaters need to be fixed or replaced, raccoons suddenly come out of the attic on pieces of insulation, printers jam. Life happens!”

What endures, she suggests, is the shared experience and discovery that continues to animate the gallery.

“That thread of fun, that astonishment at what people can create, that feeling of talking with other people about what they see and experience—it’s such a joy to steward this,” she says. “I recently read a line in a book, Properties of Thirst, that read ‘you can’t save what you don’t love.’ That feeling in the gallery—that’s what I’m lucky to be part of and that’s what I want to keep going.”

Sustaining tshat spirit week after week requires both direction and ex-acting attention to detail, much of it carried by Christine Deucher, gallery manager. Deeply attuned to both artists and process, she is an indispensable presence in the rhythm of the season, moving between curatorial conversations and the meticulous work of preparing each Friday night opening.

“Three indomitable artists [Wilson, Bricker, and Obata] who saw in an old auto-motive building on Lake Street a place that could be a home for artists—I have been here for the last nine years and have been lucky enough to see that dream in its fruition,” Deucher says.

Community Response

The Friday night openings have become more than events. They are a ritual, a gathering point where art and community intersect in ways both quiet and affirm-ing.

The openings draw a steady stream of first-time visitors and seasonal guests. Tourists and passersby are often pulled in by curiosity. Music frequently threads through the space as well—sometimes a scheduled performance, other times the loose, impromptu sound of a guitar drifting through conversation. In this way, the gatherings expand beyond a fixed audience, becoming part of the town’s

broader summer circulation.

Reliably in attendance is a devoted group of local art supporters, among them Kathy Cornille and her husband, Jeff Annatoy; Jane McSherry Cline; Jim Frixen; Angela Saxon and Royce Deans; Gary and Pam DeCoker; Gary Cozette and Joe Lada; Laura Cavender; and Mary MacDonald. The list extends well beyond these names, a clear indication of how genuinely communal and widely celebrated these art openings are.

For those who return year after year—not as artists, but as part of the audience—the series holds its own kind of significance.

Cornille, an avowed aesthete, shared her insights on their appeal and resonance.

“We like going to the openings for two reasons,” Cornille says. “To connect with people in the community who support the arts, and to support the artists—some familiar to us, some not—and learn about their work. We’re also aware that pub-lic art not only enriches the individuals experiencing it, but also helps invigorate the surrounding area, with real economic and cultural benefits for the community at large.”

Sunset: Ruth Kitchen

As the season moves toward its final weeks, that sense of shared presence carries through to its closing exhibition.

In late August, the season will conclude with work by Kitchen, marking a return to an artist who first showed at Center Gallery in 2024. “I hadn’t really thought about being the last show of the summer,” she says, noting that she plans “a series of small sunset paintings for the show.” Looking at the work in that context, she adds, “I guess my show is the ‘sunset’ for the

season—kind of corny!?!”

She also contemplates the long arc that brought her back to the gallery, describing how she has “visited the gallery countless times over many years,” and how it has “always been a stop on visits to Glen Arbor probably for as long as they have been open.” As the final Friday night opening of the summer, her exhibition sits at the end of a season defined by both returning artists and new voices—an idea she cap-tures simply in her appreciation for “having established and... emerg-ing artists exhibit at the gallery.”

Between those two points—opening and closing, return and arrival—the gallery’s 37th season unfolds as it always has: one exhibition at a time, each building on the last. Taken together, they form something larger than any single show: a layered, evolving portrait of a place, its artists, and the community that continues to gather around them.

“We have a responsibility as a ‘leg-acy’ gallery to keep alive the idea of our founders of supporting artists and art. We love our opening nights with the artist there for people to meet. We want to be a Friday destination where people come together to celebrate art and all it brings,” Deucher says.

Glen Lake Woman's Club

ART FAIR

Glen Arbor Town Hall
Wednesday, July 15, 2026, 10-4

Sponsored by **Serbin Real Estate**

EXHIBIT + WORKSHOPS + ARTIST TALK



Gayle Kabaker

Finding Beauty & Light

August 7 - 16 at the Old Art Building; Leland, MI

Gayle Kabaker is an award-winning painter, writer, teacher, and visual storyteller whose work explores beauty in all its forms through a distinctly feminine lens. Join us for this incredible exhibit and multiple workshops for all ages! Info at oldartbuilding.com



KLING

Youth Plein Air Month!

Youth ages 6–15 learn painting skills & create art with the opportunity to showcase their work.

YOUTH PLEIN AIR ART KITS!

Checkout kits at GAAC, July 1–31 | FREE

Borrow fully stocked art kits, with instructions. Use anywhere! Contact us for availability.

YOUTH PLEIN AIR EXPERIENCE

A day of outdoor art and imagination for young artists at Thoreson Farm, with hands-on painting, live demos, and historic storytelling offered by Sleeping Bear Forever. Youth may join one or both sessions, all materials provided, FREE

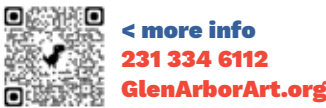
Saturday, July 11, Thoreson Farm (Rain date: July 12)

- 10 am–noon: with artists Stephanie Schlatter + Hank Feeley
- Noon–2 pm: with artists Mark Mehaffey & Barbara Reich

YOUTH ART EXHIBIT & GATHERING/AWARDS CEREMONY

Every participant may exhibit one completed plein air painting at GAAC. The week concludes with a celebratory gathering and awards ceremony. FREE

Entry Deadline: Aug 2 | Exhibit Dates: Aug 3–6, 9 am–3 pm
Gathering/Award Ceremony: Thursday, Aug 6, 6 pm



SPONSORS

Amy L. Clark-Carels Fund: “Kindness”
Glen Arbor Women’s Club
Margo Burian
State Savings Bank
Marsha Garber & Family
Blick Art Materials



Photo from 2024 parade by Jacob Kurtz

PARADE

continues from page 1

Inn, a onetime antique shop on the west side of Glen Arbor, which she and her late husband Don purchased in 1997. “I’ve stayed at probably a hundred B&B’s all over the USA and Europe. This is number one,” frequent guest Russ Douglas told the *Sun* in 2013. “I mean, where else can you go and be surrounded by European antiques and a gourmet kitchen, and be served a three-course breakfast that’s fit for a king? It’s just—it’s fabulous.” Worsley’s former pastry shop and deli Thyme Out is now Inn & Trail Gourmet and owned by sisters Corinne Cochran and Annabel Moore. She was featured in Emita Brady Hill’s 2020 book *Northern Harvest: Twenty Michigan Women in Food and Farming* (Wayne State University Press). Carol Worsley boasts another, more dubious claim to fame in Glen Arbor. She was almost the town’s only fatality during the infamous August 2, 2015, windstorm.

On that memorable Sunday afternoon, Worsley was in her office above the detached garage at Thyme Inn when the air suddenly changed. “I noticed that the wind stopped, and it got almost pitch black, so I decided to finish my paperwork in the kitchen,” she told the *Sun*. As she was gathering up her items “I thought I heard someone yell ‘GO!’ like my mother when she was mad. I dashed to the stairs, got part-way down, and then the tree crashed and the wind blew and I was thrown down the stairs.” Worsley struck her head but did not break anything, and she got out of the garage only to see that it was cut in half by a century-old oak tree that landed right where her desk stood. Battered and bruised, Carol was grateful that she was not—what she joked—“Glen Arbor’s only fatality. I feel very lucky!” Days later, she still had a headache and went to Traverse City for an MRI to make sure she sustained no hidden damage. On the Fourth of July, this acclaimed chef and storm survivor will ride in the front of the parade.

DECLARATION

continues from page 2

the county, and in 2016 he was able to round up five like-minded citizens for the eastern side of the county, and his friend gathered four more for the west side towns. Which brings us to 2026. “It’s the 11th year for all nine,” Smith says. The audiences have grown each year. Some now make it an annual tradition; others may not even realize what is happening until they join the crowd to find out what’s going on. They soon learn. “When I yell the first time it gets their attention,” says Tina Greene, who reads at the Suttons Bay post office. She became part of the group of readers in 2018. She says she was drawn to it because of her love of country and her love of history. “I love the way the Declaration of Independence is so well organized by stating explicitly the grievances and trying to be reasonable in their way with the British government. Each one of their grievances could be a history lesson,” Greene says. Smith says reading it aloud on Independence Day is a way to help people remember why that day is a holiday. “It’s frustrating more people don’t understand the precise reason for the Fourth of July,” he says. “The precise reason is the Declaration was signed on the Fourth of July in 1776.” So why the post office? In the days when the country was fighting for independence, events, activities and announcements typically took place in the town square. In fact, the first such reading took place on July 8, 1776, in Philadelphia. Colonel John Nixon, a financier and official from Philadelphia

who served as a militia officer in the American Revolutionary War, read the document to the public in Independence Square. Similar simultaneous readings took place on that day in Easton, Pennsylvania, and Trenton, New Jersey. Today, while many cities and villages don’t have an actual town square, the post office often serves as an unofficial gathering place. It’s typically located near the center of the town, and as it is closed for the holiday, people can gather without interrupting any business. “It’s a known public entity,” says Smith. He says the audiences have grown over the years. Where there were once five—the family and Smith’s wife—he says there are now 70 or so at both Omena and Northport, maybe 50 in Leland—200-plus altogether, he estimates. “I hope to approach 300 or better for the 250th. I’d like to get to 400 or 500.” More than just the numbers, it’s the impact of the words. “It’s a living document,” says Greene. “I read it slowly and meaningfully.” Smith says over the years he’s had some 30 people read. Some last for a couple years, others are long-timers. This year’s readers and their post offices include: Norm Wheeler in Empire; Elizabeth Blondia in Glen Arbor; Greg Julien in Maple City; Steve Yoder in Cedar; Patricia Soutas-Little in Leland; Sheila Bartle in Lake Leelanau; Tina Greene in Suttons Bay; Doug Whitley in Northport (subbing for regular reader Paul Sloan), and Rink Smith in Omena. Smith says the reading is important and meaningful for both the readers and those who listen. “It’s a wonderful experience to hear this document read out loud. It’s a tradition.”

ShareCare

We support and enhance the well-being of seniors in Leelanau County through a network of volunteers and community partners.

SHARECARE PROGRAMS INCLUDE:

- Medical and Wellness Rides
- Respite
- Spring and Fall Clean up
- Prescription, Mail and Grocery Delivery
- Friendly Phone Calls
- Friendly Visits
- Wellness Programs
- Library Item Delivery
- Caregiver Support
- Memory Cafe

DONATE NOW to support Leelanau seniors!

www.ShareCareLeelanau.org (click on DONATE)

OR MAIL A CHECK TO:

ShareCare, PO Box 157, Suttons Bay, MI 49682

For more information:

p: 231-256-0221 ext. 304 e: info@sharecareleelanau.org

sharecareleelanau.org

Summer Wellness Programming

Leelanau County Senior Services & ShareCare of Leelanau

— THURSDAY, JULY 16, 2026 —

ADVANCED CARE PLANNING & UNDERSTANDING CPR IN THE OLDER ADULT

with Nicole Hastings, RN Advisor with Hospice of Michigan

11:00am - 12:00pm at ShareCare, 99 Fourth St., Suttons Bay

Discussing values and goals for medical care. Identifying a health care decision maker. Ensuring medical choices match patients’ wishes Learning more about what DNR means.

— WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12, 2026 —

ADVANCED CARE PLANNING & UNDERSTANDING CPR IN THE OLDER ADULT

with Nicole Hastings, RN Advisor with Hospice of Michigan

11:00am - 12:00pm at ShareCare 99 Fourth St. Suttons Bay

To better serve residents throughout the county, this program is being offered again in August at a different location, making participation more convenient and accessible for community members.

— TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2026 —

ESTATE PLANNING & MEDICAID

with Ryan Hulst, Founder of Grand Traverse Elder Law

11:00am - 12:00pm at ShareCare 99 Fourth St. Suttons Bay

Unravel the complexities of estate planning. Discover the power of Powers of Attorney. Learn the intricacies of Wills and Trusts. Gain invaluable insights into Medicaid and its role in long-term care planning.

CONTACT ERIN AT SHARECARE TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT TODAY!

PROGRAMS ARE FREE TO ATTEND, SPACE IS LIMITED.

CALL: 231-256-0221 EXT. 305 or EMAIL: Erin@ShareCareLeelanau.org

Leelanau County Senior Services

ShareCare
sharecareleelanau.org

WORLD CUP

continues from page 1

goalkeeper at Northport who is now recreational director of Traverse Bay Area Youth Soccer, followed the U.S. 4-1 victory against Paraguay on June 12 on a laptop computer while he simultaneously DJed a party.

Soccer may not (yet) pulse through the veins of American children as much as it does in Rio de Janeiro, Barcelona, or Accra. Nevertheless, domestic viewership of this World Cup is breaking records and eclipsing interest in the NBA Finals, the World Series and Sunday Night Football. More than 18 million viewers watched the U.S. beat Paraguay on Fox and Tubi. Another nine million Americans watched the broadcast *en español*. And that was just the opening round group stage, before the knockout games began.

“Everyone watches soccer,” said Graetz, who splits his time between Traverse City and Glen Arbor. “It gets tiresome hearing the American vocal minority chiming in with anti-soccer sentiment. In reality, lots of people care a great deal about it.”

Sheldon was pulled into the sport by his son Cameron, who roots for Liverpool in the English Premier League.

“There’s a discernible difference between the crowd at a soccer match and any other sport,” he said. “The collective passion, enthusiasm and camaraderie is palpable. When the U.S. scored in the first five minutes (of their group stage match against Turkey) I found myself hugging people I’ve never met. It’s indescribable.”

River Club, on the banks of the Crystal River where it arrives in Glen Arbor, carries all the matches until the tournament ends on July 19.

“We don’t care if you spend a dime or just want to watch and hang out,” Sheldon said. “There’s nothing cooler than a northern Michigan crowd enjoying sports together.”

Jonas described watching Argentinian star Lionel Messi on the pitch in Dallas together with his son and dad as a once-in-a-lifetime experience.

“In a meaningless game for both Argentina and Jordan (the former had already reached the knockout round; the latter was already eliminated), both fan bases still brought all their energy,” said Jonas. “To see them dance and chant and show such pride for their country was inspiring. The mood was joyous and celebratory.”

The Little Fleet in Traverse City, which Jonas owns, has been the place to watch World Cup games since 2014. This year they added an outdoor televi-

sion screen, just for the tournament.

“We are not really a sports bar, but we are a soccer bar,” he said. “The USA games have been packed with enthusiastic fans. People are more into it this year than ever.”

Soccer’s antidote to racism

At a time of caustic nationalism in this country—with the occupant of The White House openly using xenophobic language and pushing American imperialism—this North American World Cup has at times felt like a healing balm. It is a celebration of global diversity and joy between strangers as Americans welcome visitors from around the world to their cities, big and small. There are notable exceptions, of course. A Somali referee assigned to officiate a match was denied entry at Miami International Airport despite holding a valid visa.

The Iranian team, whose government is at war with the United States, faced strict restrictions and hostilities from U.S. authorities, contrasting sharply with the hospitality they received in Mexico. Their base camp was moved from Arizona to Tijuana, Mexico. During their matches in the United States, they were restricted from staying overnight and were forced to return to Mexico immediately.

The teams themselves are more diverse than ever before. Behold the German national squad, not white like the newsreel archives would suggest, but nearly one-third of whom have African roots. One of Germany’s best players, Jamal Musiala, who wears number 10, has a Nigerian British father. France’s exciting star Kylian



(l-r) Gina, Mike, Cameron and Evan Sheldon watch the U.S.-Turkey match on June 25 in Los Angeles.

Mbappé, born in Paris, has Cameroonian and Algerian roots. The rising *wunderkind* Lamine Yamal was born in Spain to parents from Morocco and Equatorial Guinea. Of course, the diversity of these squads owes to centuries of European colonialism as well as recent migration.

At a birthday dinner party recently, I talked about the World Cup with a fellow Trump opponent and explained why I wholeheartedly root for the U.S. national team during this tournament, despite our government’s attacks and threats against Venezuela, Cuba, Colombia, Mexico, Canada, Greenland, Iran and the entire NATO alliance. The success of American soccer, its players and fans, its embrace of the world’s sport, are a direct reproach to Trump, I opined.

I’ll root for Team USA, and I’ll root for globalism and diversity both on and off the pitch.



Soccer fans at River Club watch the US team beat Australia, 2-0, in a World Cup match played in Seattle on June 19.

Glen Lake Woman's Club

ART FAIR



Glen Arbor Town Hall
Wednesday, July 15, 2026, 10-4

Sponsored by **Art's Tavern**



Exceptional Living.

Expertly crafted environments for the Northern Michigan lifestyle.



231-922-0087
trunorthlandscaping.com
info@trunorthlandscaping.com

TRUNORTH LANDSCAPING

Award-Winning Landscape Design, Build, and Care

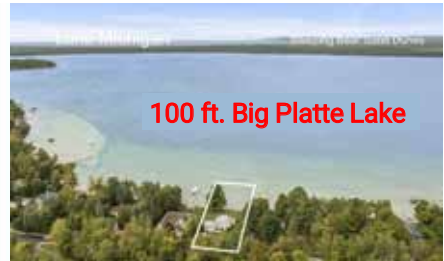
Proudly serving Grand Traverse, Leelanau and Benzie Counties

Your home shouldn't be a part-time job.

From precision weekly mowing and edging to detailed horticultural garden care, our specialized teams protect your curb appeal and your time.

Stapleton Realty

Near Nat'l Lakeshore



100 ft. Big Platte Lake



Views, Sandy bottom, All sports lake, Benzie County 3BR, 2BA, two garages. Big sunroom, firepl. insert, cable/WiFi, new kitchen & windows. 2nd kitchen in garage. Deck, lake ramp, grassy lawns. \$1,200,000

1946128

Christine Stapleton
CALL/TEXT 231.499.2698

cdstapleton.com



A SUMMER PROGRAM FOR LEELANAU COUNTY TEENS WITH NO PRICE TAG?

YEP, THAT'S Lift.

And it's majority funded by community members who give what they can. Sponsor a local teen this summer with a \$90 donation to LIFT.



Help keep LIFT free for every teen!
← Scan to give.

Contact us:
info@liftteencenter.com
www.liftteencenter.com



LEELANAU INVESTING FOR TEENS

CHERRY REPUBLIC®

GLEN ARBOR | EST. 1989 | MICHIGAN

LIVE MUSIC ALL SUMMER LONG!

Join us for live shows every Tuesday and Thursday 5-8pm in the Cherry Republic Beer Garden



No Music | July 2

Dan Bracken & John Warstler | July 7

Loose Change | July 9

Blake & Joe | July 14

A-Z | July 16

Kirby | July 23

Monica James | July 28

Emily Nott & Her Dream Band | July 30

Eat, Drink, and Be Cherry

Visit our Glen Arbor campus for wine tastings, new menu items at the Cherry Public House, just-released sweet and savory cherry treats, and bountiful samples all summer long!

6026 S. Lake Street, Glen Arbor | CherryRepublic.com

PARK THE BOAT. STASH THE TOYS.

Clean, secure, drive-up storage
Best prices in Leelanau County.
We'll match or beat any advertised rate.



Lock In Leelanau County's Best Rates
Your rate stays locked for the full term of your contract.



NEED ROOM FOR THE BIG STUFF?

12x40 & 14x40 drive-up units fit boats, RVs, campers, trailers & the whole garage.

Renting 12 months or longer?
Call for special long-term pricing.



CALL TODAY (231) 944-0312

WWW.SLEEPINGBEARSTORAGELLC.COM

Unit Size	Price
5 x 10	\$70 \$50
10 x 10	\$95 \$80
10 x 15	\$115 \$95
10 x 20	\$140 \$100
10 x 25	\$160 \$135
10 x 30	\$200 \$170
10 x 40	\$240 \$220
12 x 10	\$110 \$95
12 x 20	\$150 \$140
12 x 30	\$215 \$200
12 x 40	\$290
14 x 40	\$320

drive through

10 x 14 Door

12 x 14 Door