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THE SENIOR

SCOOP

Be connected. Be supported. Be home.

L to R: BSR Board Chair, Beverly Holbrook, BSR Board Member, Barb Johnson, BACN Executive Director Gerri VanAntwerp (2017 award recipient), BSR Executive Director, Douglas Durand and BSR Board Member and Treasurer, Jane Elzerman

We recently received the Benzie County Chamber of Commerce's Non-Profit Member Community Impact Award during their Annual Dinner Event at Crystal Mountain.

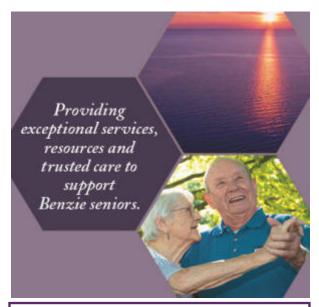
December is...

Birthdays/ Utilities

- National Read a New Book Month
- National Stress-Free Family Holiday Month
- National Fruit Cake Month
- National Human Rights Month
- Safe Toys and Gift month
- Write a Friend Month
- National Drunk and Drugged Driving Prevention Month

- An almanac prediction states that if snow falls on Christmas Day, Easter will be warm, green and sunny.
- 2. The term Yuletide comes from a Norse tradition of cutting and burning a tree to bring in the Winter Solstice. This was to last through 12 days later known as the 12 days of Christmas.
- 3. "Jingle bells" was composed in 1857, and not for Christmas it was meant to be a Thanksgiving song!
- 4. Rudolph's red nose is probably the result of a parasitic infection of his respiratory system.

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DIRECTORY

Phone: 231-525-0600 or Toll Free: 888-893-1102 Fax: 231-325-4855

Email: info@BenzieSeniorResources.org Website: www.BenzieSeniorResources.org facebook: @benzieseniorresources.org

Benzie Senior Resources Office Hours Monday – Friday: 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

The Gathering Place Senior Center Hours Monday—Friday 8:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m. with exception to special events and inclement weather.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS BENZIE SENIOR RESOURCES

Beverly Holbrook, *President*Ned Edwards, *Vice President*Denise Favreau, *Secretary*Jane Elzerman, *Treasurer*Ann Dawe
Nancy Mullen Call

Ronald Dykstra Shirley Robert Barbara Johnson Rosemary Russell

Benzie Senior Resources is funded by Benzie County residents through a property tax millage, federal and state funds through the Aging & Adult Services Agency, Area Agency on Aging of Northwest Michigan and private donations and grants from GT Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians 2% Allocation; Delta Dental Foundation, GT Regional Community Foundation, Rotary Charities of Traverse City & Benzie County Community Chest.

Benzie Senior Resources will not discriminate against any individual or group because of race, sex, religion, age, national origin, marital status, disability, or political beliefs.

THE SENIOR SCOOP IS A MONTHLY PUBLICATION BROUGHT TO YOU BY:

Benzie Senior Resources 10542 Main Street Honor, MI 49640

Douglas Durand, Executive Director

Dawn Bousamra, Editor

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emailed to you each month, 2 Main St, Honor, MI 49640. For er printing and mailing costs.				

newsletter on our website at www.benzieseniorresources.org under the NEWS tab.



From our Director

Season's Greetings!

I hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving Holiday. It's hard to believe that Christmas is fast approaching. Winter has come early this year with snow on the ground, and Crystal Mountain was able to open for the ski season over Thanksgiving.

I wish you all a safe, joyful and spirited holiday season. I also want to thank those of you who have contributed to Benzie Senior Resources. Without your support we couldn't offer so many services and programs.

The Christmas Holiday Season can be lonely for many of our clients due to limited contact with family and/or friends. Their health can also prevent them from traveling to see loved ones, therefore they are bound to their homes during the holidays. For several years we have been providing Christmas Holiday Gift Bags to those older adults who have limited means and family support this time of year.

This year our goal is to provide at least 200 gift bags, and we are grateful to have the assistance of the following churches: Trinity Lutheran; Blaine Christian; Frankfort & Elberta United Methodist; St. Andrews Presbyterian; First Congregational Church of Frankfort; First Congregational UCC of Benzonia; Cornerstone Assembly of God; and Lake Ann United Methodist Church.

Even with the assistance of these eight churches, we still need help from you! The more items we get the more we can help. We need large print crossword/word search puzzles; Kleenex; socks; lotion; protein bars; lip balm; fleece lap blankets; and toilet paper. Please drop off these items by December 10th to The Gathering Place Senior Center or the Benzie Senior Resources Administration office. Please consider helping us meet our goal!

Speaking of giving, The Gathering Place once again has a <u>Toys for Tots</u> box for anyone who is interested in dropping off new, unwrapped toys. These toys will stay in Benzie County, and be distributed to families who do not have the means to purchase gifts for their children. I challenge everyone to be a SANTA this year for our children and older adults.

I'm sure many of you know by now that Benzie Senior Resources was the recipient of the Non-Profit Member Community Impact Award from the Benzie County Chamber of Commerce during their Annual Dinner Event held on Tuesday, November 13th at Crystal Mountain Resort.

We were humbled by the Chamber of Commerce for the recognition and spotlight reception from the Chamber Members and guests. It was an honor to share the stage with Rick, Brian and the staff from Stormcloud Brewing Company as they were awarded the Outstanding Business of the Year Award.

Thank you to Senator Darwin Booher and Representative Curt VanderWall and his wife, Diane for making the trek up North for this occasion!

Thank you to Crystal Mountain and their staff for doing what they do best, making it a magical night!

I am so proud of my staff, Board of Directors and volunteers. Without your passion and dedication to serving the seniors and their families of Benzie county, this award would not have been possible.

Take Care, Doug



December Menu

Lunch is served Monday thru Friday at The Gathering Place from 11:30 a.m. — 1:30 p.m.

Menu is subject to change without notice

Meal cost is \$4.00 suggested donation for those age 60 and older

Under 60 is \$7.50 and \$5.00 for Caregivers under 60

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	_	-		
3 Deluxe Chicken Sandwich California Blend Sweet Potato Tots Apricots	4 Smoked Sausage with Kraut Green Beans Carrots Bread Banana	5 Pizza! Broccoli Pesto Cauliflower Breadsticks Peaches	6 Citrus Chicken over Rice Roasted Brussel Sprouts Malibu Blend Bread Mandarins	7 Slow Roasted Beef Herb Mashed Potatoes Italian Beans Bread Tropical Fruit
10 Tangerine Chicken over Rice Green Beans Far East Blend Fortune Cookie	11 Hot Beef Sandwich Herb Mashed Potatoes Cauliflower Pear	12 Cabbage Rolls Spinach Italian Beans Garlic Toast Applesauce	13 Cassoulet Corn Green Peas Bread Pineapple	14 Oven Roasted Chicken Baked Potato California Blend Bread Apricots
17 Maple Glazed Pork Chops Stuffing California Blend Bread Baked Pears	18 Pollock Almondine Roasted Potatoes Broccoli Bread Banana	19 Beef Stroganoff Green Peas Corn Bread Pineapple	20 Chicken 'N Dumplings Italian Beans Malibu Blend Bread Fruit Cocktail	21 Ham Dinner Sweet Potato Spinach Bread Plum
24 Closed	25 Closed	26 Homestyle Beef Stew Cauliflower Mixed Vegetables Biscuits Tropical Fruit	27 Sweet Potato Encrusted Pollock Roasted Potatoes Normandy Blend Bread Peaches	28 Shepard's Pie Green Peas Carrots Bread Applesauce
Closed NEW - YEAR'S EVE	HAPPY NEW YEAR	We are closed on January 1st, 2019, New Year's Day	We appreciate small bills when paying for lunch. We have limited cash on site and it's tricky for us to change larger bills.	

December Calendar of Events

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
3 11:30 Lunch 12:00 CARDS 2:30 Zumba—\$3	4 Cookie Day 10:30 Music by The Melody Makers 11:30 Lunch 3:30 Chair Yoga—\$5 5:15 Zumba—\$3	5 8:30 Zumba—\$3 9:00 Foot Clinic at Admin. Office by Appointment only 10:00 Stretch w/Doris 11:30 Lunch 12:30 Bingo 1:15 PLARN	6 9:00 Hearing Clinic at Admin. Office by Appointment only 11:30 Lunch 1:00 BUNCO	7 Pearl Harbor Day 9:30 BUNCO 10:30 Thompsonville Lunch, Bingo and Music 11:30 Lunch 1:00 Wii Bowling 1:00 Tech Support
10 Nobel Prize Day 11:30 Lunch 12:00 CARDS 2:30 Zumba—\$3	11 10:30 Music by The Melody Makers 11:30 Lunch 3:30 Chair Yoga—\$5 5:15 Zumba—\$3	12 8:30 Zumba—\$3 9:00 Foot Clinic at Admin. Office by Appointment only 10:00 Stretch w/Doris 11:30 Lunch 12:30 Bingo 1:15 PLARN 4:30 Board of Directors Meeting	13 8:30 Little River Casino 11:30 Lunch—The Maples Blood Pressure Clinic 1:00 BUNCO	14 Deck the Halls Day 9:30 BUNCO 11:30 Lunch— December Birthday Party 1:00 Wii Bowling 1:00 Tech Support
17 11:30 Lunch 12:00 CARDS NO MORE ZUMBA UNTIL SPRING!	18 9:00 Estate Planning at Administration Office by Appointment only 10:30 Music by The Melody Makers 11:30 Lunch NO CHAIR YOGA	19 Build a Snowman Day 9:00 Foot Clinic at Admin. Office by Appointment only 10:00 Stretch w/Doris 11:30 Lunch 12:30 Bingo 1:15 PLARN	20 Go Caroling Day 11:30 Lunch— Blood Pressure and Blood Sugar Clinic with Kate 1:00 BUNCO	21 Winter Solstice 9:30 BUNCO 11:30 Lunch— Christmas Dinner 1:00 Wii Bowling 1:00 Tech Support
24	25 Closed	26 9:00 Foot Clinic at Admin. Office by Appointment only 10:00 Stretch w/Doris 11:30 Lunch 12:30 Bingo 1:15 PLARN	27 11:30 Lunch 1:00 BUNCO	28 9:30 BUNCO 11:30 Lunch 1:00 Wii Bowling 1:00 Tech Support 6:00 Ol' Time Gathering/ New Year's Eve Party
Closed HAPPY NEW YEAR 2019	We are closed on January 1st	BIBLE STUDY IS OFF UNTIL SPRING	HO HO HO	MONDAY YOGA IS OFF UNTIL SPRING



Dawn's Dish

From all of us here at The Gathering Place and across the street at Benzie Senior Resources Administration Office, we wish you a happy, safe holiday season and a very Happy New Year!

We have adjusted the time we serve lunch to give you an extra half hour to get here! As of November 1st, our lunch is served from 11:30 a.m.—1:30 p.m.

All participants in the Congregate Meal Program (The Gathering Place) must fill out a <u>NEW NAPIS</u> form. Our new fiscal year started October 1st. We are REQUIRED to have updated forms, so please don't give my fabulous front desk volunteers a hard time. This form is part of guidelines set in place by Michigan Department of Aging & Adult Services Agency.

Tech Support with Robert is on Fridays by appointment only until further notice. Call 231.525.0601 for scheduling. Robert will not be at The Gathering Place unless he has scheduled appointments. Dustin also does Tech Support at the Benzonia Library on Mondays from 11 a.m.—1 p.m. Please call 231-882-4111 for more information. There is no charge for either Tech Support.

Bible Study, Yoga and Zumba are all off until April 2019. This means we have a little wiggle room in our schedule to try out a new activity. Something to get us through the winter! Please give me your suggestions and we'll see what we can make happen. New Activity Suggestion Box will be at the front desk.

<u>Wednesdays, December 5, 12, 19, 26</u>—Foot Clinic at Benzie Senior Resources Administration Office. Call 231-525-0600 for your appointment. While we don't charge a fee, we really appreciate donations toward this service by those who use it.

<u>Wednesdays</u>, <u>December 5</u>, <u>12</u>, <u>19</u>, <u>26</u>—1:15 p.m. PLARN. Crochet plastic mats to donate for the homeless. No experience is necessary.

Thursday, December 13—Blood Pressure and Blood Sugar Checks with Sharon from The Maples during lunch.

<u>Thursday, December 13</u>—Little River Casino Trip. <u>Please note the change in departure time</u>. Leave The Gathering Place at 8:30 a.m. and Shop-n-Save at 8:45 a.m. Trip fee \$10. You will still receive a \$5 food voucher but now guests have to earn 10 points on their card before earning the \$20 in River credits. The credits will download automatically on their card. Return by 3:00 p.m. Space is limited so call now to reserve a seat. 231-525-0601 or toll free at 877-277-1306. <u>Cancel within 24 hours of trip or pay trip fee.</u>

Friday, December 14—Birthday Party! Join us during lunch for cake to celebrate those born in December!

<u>Thursday, December 20</u>—Blood Pressure and Blood Sugar Checks with Kate from Paul Oliver Living & Rehabilitation Center during lunch.

<u>Friday, December 21</u>—Christmas Lunch. Please join us to celebrate the season! Ham dinner, candy canes and most likely a visit from a jolly man in a red suit! Lunch is served 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Friday, December 28—OI' Time Gathering and New Year's Eve party! music, dancing and potluck. Please bring a dish to pass. All ages are welcome. No charge to attend and donations are accepted. Music starts at 6:00 p.m. with a potluck dinner at 7:00 p.m. We'll ring in the New Year at 9pm.





Santa Claus

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Ι	P	В	P	Α	D	С	L	Ε	N	0	S	S	Н
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BELLY CLAUS MILK COOKIES BLITZEN DANCER SACK DASHER CHIMNEY SLEIGH NORTH POLE REINDEER WORKSHOP SANTA RUDOLPH CUPID VIXEN DONNER **ELVES**

Play this puzzle online at : http://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/125/









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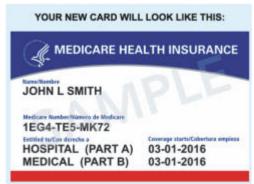
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munsonhealthcare.org/polar



New Medicare Cards Are in the Mail



Mailing of Medicare cards to Michigan residents has begun but, as of November 13, 2108 is not yet finished, according to the website Medicare.gov/NewCard. If you haven't yet received a new card, you should be getting one soon. Your new card will automatically come to you. You don't need to do anything as long as your address is up to date with Social Security. Your new Medicare Number is a unique combination of numbers and letters. Your new number uses numbers 0 thru 9. The letters S.L.O.I.B and Z are never used.

If you haven't yet received your new Medicare card, you can visit <u>medicare.gov/NewCard</u> and check the map for the status of card mailings in

Michigan. If that map shows that card mailings in Michigan are finished and you haven't yet received a new card, you can call 1-800-633-4227 for help. There might be a problem that needs to be corrected, like updating your mailing address. In the meantime, you can use your current Medicare card to get health services.

Medigap Subsidy to Decrease as of April 1, 2019

The Michigan Medigap Subsidy is a program that helps pay for Medigap coverage for people with incomes at or below 225% of the Federal Poverty level. Blue Cross Blue Shield of

Michigan, Blue Care Network, Priority Health and United Health Care/AARP participate with the subsidy program. If you are already receiving the subsidy, you do not need to reapply. You will stay in the program as long as the subsidy is offered and you maintain Medigap coverage with one of the four participating insurers.

The subsidy rates, which have not changed since the program began in 2017, will decrease on April 1, 2019, in order to assure that the subsidy will be available through 2021. If you currently receive the Medigap subsidy, starting in April the monthly bill from your Medigap carrier will cost \$5 to \$15 more, depending on your age. If you are age 65 to 74, your bill will go up by \$5 per month. If you are 75 or over, your bill will increase by \$9 per month. If you are under 65 with a disability, you monthly bill will go up by \$15.

If you have questions about the subsidy, you can call 1-866-824-7002, Monday to Friday, 8am to 6 pm.



How To Stay Safe During A Winter Storm

Stay off roads if at all possible. If trapped in your car, stay inside.

Limit your time outside. If you need to go outside, wear layers of warm clothing. Watch for signs of frostbite and hypothermia.

Avoid carbon monoxide poisoning.
Only use generators and grills
outdoors and away from windows.
Never heat your home with a gas
stovetop or oven.

Reduce the risk of a heart attack. Avoid overexertion when shoveling snow.

Watch for signs of frostbite and hypothermia and begin treatment right away.

Check on neighbors. Older adults and young children are more at risk in extreme cold. Frostbite causes loss of feeling and color around the face, fingers, and toes.

- Signs: Numbness, white or grayish-yellow skin, and firm or waxy skin.
- Actions: Go to a warm room.
 Soak in warm water. Use body heat to warm. Do not massage or use a heating pad.

Hypothermia is an unusually low body temperature. A temperature below 95 degrees is an emergency.

- Signs: Shivering, exhaustion, confusion, fumbling hands, memory loss, slurred speech, and drowsiness.
- Actions: Go to a warm room.
 Warm the center of the body
 first—chest, neck, head, and
 groin. Keep dry and wrapped up
 in warm blankets, including the
 head and neck.



Bulletin Board





Grace Blood and Tammy Jenkins-Finney have both provided dedicated and excellent Home Health services through Benzie Senior Resources since 2011. Both of them accepted

the challenge to achieve their Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) certifications this past summer and fall, dedicating many hours to this common goal.

On October 26th, Grace and Tammy graduated from their class through Agape Health Care School and are now CNA certified!

CONGRATULATIONS GRACE and TAMMY!!

Sherrie A. Moseler, BSN, RN Benzie Senior Resources Director of Home Health Services

Social Security Benefits to Increase in 2019 By Bob Simpson Social Security District Manager in Traverse City

Each year we announce the annual cost-of-living adjustment (COLA). Usually, there is an increase in the Social Security and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefit amount people receive each month, starting the following January. Law requires that federal benefit rates increase when the cost of living rises, as measured by the Department of Labor's Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W). The CPI-W rises when prices increase for the things the average consumer buys. This means that when prices for goods and services we purchase become more expensive, on average, the COLA increases benefits and helps beneficiaries keep up with the changing cost of living.

More than 67 million Americans will see a 2.8 percent increase in their Social Security and SSI benefits in 2019. January 2019 marks other changes based on the increase in the national average wage index. For example, the maximum amount of earnings subject to Social Security payroll tax, as well as the retirement earnings test exempt amount, will change in 2019.

Want to know your new benefit amount as soon as possible? In December 2018, we will post Social Security COLA notices online for retirement, survivors, and disability beneficiaries who have a *my Social Security* account. You will be able to view and save these COLA notices securely via the Message Center inside *my Social Security*.

Be the first to know! Sign up for or log in to your personal *my Social Security* account today at www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount. Choose email or text under "Message Center Preferences" to receive courtesy notifications so you won't miss your electronic COLA notice! This year, even if you access your COLA notice online, you will still receive your COLA notice by mail. In the future, you will be able to choose whether you receive your notice online instead of on paper. Online notices will not be available to representative payees, individuals with foreign mailing addresses, or those who pay higher Medicare premiums due to their income. We plan to expand the availability of COLA notices to additional online customers in the future.

More information about the 2019 COLA is available at www.socialsecurity.gov/cola. You can also read our publication about the annual cost-of-living adjustment at www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/EN-05-10526.pdf.

Bulletin Board



We are making the season extra special by assembling and delivering gift bags to our homebound seniors. Each bag is filled with a variety of items,

such as: protein bars, crossword/word search puzzles, Kleenex, socks and lotion. Please help us gather any of the above items. You can drop them off at either The Gathering Place Senior Center or at the Benzie Senior Resources Administration Office by December 11th. Please help us spread some Christmas Cheer!



We are collecting unwrapped, new toys for Toys for Tots until Friday, December 5th. The collection box is inside at The Gathering Place Senior Center. Please help us make a child's Christmas just a little brighter!

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so, please start out at smile.amazon.com and choose Benzie Senior Resources as your charity. Then shop as usual. The only thing that will change is that Amazon will donate 0.5% of your order dollars to our agency! Please let your friends know this great news. Remember, always start at smile.amazon.com and Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible purchases to Benzie Senior Resources.

Medicare 2019 Open Enrollment

During the Medicare annual open enrollment period, <u>October 15, 2018– December 7, 2018</u>, all Medicare beneficiaries have the option to change their Medicare plans for the coming year to better match their needs. This includes anyone using original Medicare, Medicare Advantage or Part D prescription drug plans.

To make an appointment for a free, unbiased objective plan comparisions, call Benzie Senior Resources at 231-525-0600.

The Big Bear Sportsman's Club in Kaleva has a handicap accessible blind available for any disabled Veteran interested in bow, rifle or muzzleloader deer hunting seasons. The blind is located on 80 acres of prime hunting property and the hunter will have exclusive use of the blind and land. The blind is large enough for a wheelchair and two hunters. There are people who are available to help once there is a deer ready to be moved to a vehicle too. Call Kyle Converse for further information at 269-986-6211. And happy hunting!

Please, share this newsletter!
Thank you!

The Benzie Area Alzheimer's Caregivers
Support Group meets at 2:00 p.m. on
the first Wednesday of each month in the
REMEC room at Paul Oliver Memorial
Hospital in Frankfort. Friends and family
members of those with memory loss,
Alzheimer's or other dementia issues are
welcome. For information, contact Nancy VanderLinde 231-399-0253 or
vanderlinde1233@gmail.com or Jeanette



Emergency Preparedness

Here's What to Keep at Home in an Emergency

from The National Safety Council website



Every home should have an emergency supply kit located in an accessible storage area. It's best if you store the items in plastic containers that are easy to grab and carry. Kits should be checked every six months, and expired items should be replaced to keep the kit up to date.

Emergency kits are meant to help you survive not only during an emergency, but also during the aftermath. According to a study by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, after a tornado in Marion, IL, 50% of the tornado-related injuries were

suffered during rescue attempts, cleanup and other post-tornado activities.

Home emergency supply kits should include:

- One gallon of water per person per day for at least three days
- Enough nonperishable food for at least three days and a can opener; keep protein-packed foods you can cook without electricity, such as tuna, peanut butter and granola bars, and don't forget about food for your pets
- Hand-crank or battery-powered radio with extra batteries to stay up to date on the latest weather alerts
- Flashlight with extra batteries
- First aid kit with gauze, tape, bandages, antibiotic ointment, aspirin, a blanket, nonlatex gloves, scissors, hydrocortisone, thermometer, tweezers and instant cold compress
- Tool kit with basic tools, in case you need to shut off utilities
- Hand sanitizer and garbage bags for sanitation
- Plastic sheeting and duct tape in case of broken windows or a leaky roof
- Whistle to signal for help so rescuers can locate you



BE PREPARED FOR A WINTER STORM

Winter storms create a higher risk of car accidents, hypothermia, frostbite, carbon monoxide poisoning, and heart attacks from overexertion.



December Birthdays

Rick St. Pierre	1	Dan Skurski	9	Ruth DeLong	24
Ed Fay	2	Mary Bishop	10	Tanya Struble	24
Cynthia Ivy	2	Jan Dennis	10	George Hagen	24
Leslie Post	2	Geraldine Thornell	10	Niel Haugen	24
Bernice Sineway	2	Gary Brouwer	12	Sharon Kay	24
Kathleen Crosby	3	Gene Nowak	12	Marjorie Braem	25
Suz McLaughlin	3	Rick Clark	14	Alvin Gray	25
Gerald Schroeder	3	Corliss Mick	15	James Hawkins	27
Cheryl Suppnick	3	Virginia Richey	15	Bernie Killeen	27
Tom Burton	4	Christina Beeler	15	Steve Walton	27
Bill Higman	4	Kay Hammond	17	Doug Dufrane	27
Denis Crosby	5	Gloria Walterhouse	17	Keith Jewell	28
Albert Francik	5	Bill Ward	17	Dan Haswell	28
Dean Gilbert	5	Patricia Matyas	18	Gayle Dixon	28
Dino Kortesis	5	Paul Stiles	18	Diane Thompson	28
Linda Rackow	5	Silvia Bolado	19	Gladys Fletcher	28
Estelle Roelofs	6	Art Gauthier	19	Cindy Boyd	30
Paula Smeltzer	6	Randy Bond	20	Jimmy Davis	30
John Stubbs	6	Rosemary Abbett	20	Janice Miner-Heniser	30
Jim Brownell	8	Robert Kelly	20	Judy Navarre	30
Tom Cone	8	Elizabeth Kimbrough	21	Peggy Nostrandt	31
Phillip Johnson	8	John Wills	21	Daniel Johnson	31
Shelley Fast	9	Robert Courneya	22		

If we forgot your birthday we are truly sorry. If you'd like your name removed from the list, let us know.

It's Getting Colder Every Day...

And we'd like to be able to help with getting you utilities assistance as we have in the past, **but we can't**. The State of Michigan changed the process for all help agencies we have worked with in the past—TrueNorth, NMCAA, Father Fred, & Salvation Army. We cannot access the applications and we can't submit applications for clients from our office. We have no way of contacting the help agencies on your behalf for this sort of assistance.

As of 10/01/018 it is required that those seeking help register online or with a paper application through Michigan Dept. of Health & Human Services.

You may pick up an application for help and an information booklet at the MDHHS office in Beulah at the Benzie County Government Center. If you feel this may be something needed in the near future it is a good idea to get this paperwork soon so you have it on hand and you can become familiar with the new process.

This is how to get help from TrueNorth:

- 1. Complete and be approved for Michigan Department of Health and Human Services' State Emergency Relief (SER) assistance. Apply through MI Bridges.
- 2. Choose **TrueNorth Community Services** as your referral partner
- 3. Get contacted by **emPower** to start your self-sufficiency journey

For more details, visit the <u>emPower information page</u>; visit <u>emPower's website</u> or call 231.355.5880.



Donations

Giving is not just about making a donation. It's about making a difference.

Benzie Senior Resources is an independent 501 c-3 nonprofit organization. We depend on donations to sustain our programs and we need your support to continue providing reliable and professional services to the seniors of Benzie County. Traditional funding sources are failing to keep up with the growing needs of the rapidly increasing population of people over age 60. Your donation will help us continue our important work!

We are dedicated to supporting older adults and the friends, family and community who surround them. No matter the age or situation, we have professional, reliable services to help keep Benzie seniors living independently—with dignity—in their own homes.

You can be assured we will continue to be good stewards of all tax-deductible gifts. If you would like to designate your gift as a Legacy or Memorial Gift, please call or email us with your wishes.

Legacy Giving: Planned gifts are a thoughtful way to remember Benzie seniors. Please consider us in your estate planning or have your attorney add an addendum to your will. Your bequest to Benzie Senior Resources will benefit many seniors and help us to continue vitally needed services for years to come.

Memorial Gifts: Tribute gifts can also be made in memory of a loved one or in honor of an individual to commemorate a birthday, anniversary, end-of-year holiday or special occasion. Benzie Senior Resources will send a card acknowledging your gift to the one you have honored, or to surviving family members of the one you have remembered.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call us at (231)525-0600 or toll free 888-893-1102, or email at info@BenzieSeniorResources.org

DONOR INFORMATION:

Name:		
Check here if you wish to rema	ain ANONYMOUS	
Mailing Address:		
City:	State:	_ Zip:
Phone Number:	_ Amount Enclosed:_	
Type of Donation (please circle): Legac	cy Tribute	Other

Make Checks Payable To: Benzie Senior Resources

Benzie Senior Resources is an independent 501c3 not-for-profit organization.

Gifts to Benzie Senior Resources are tax deductible under appropriate I.R.S. regulations.

Consult your tax or legal advisor for details.

Donor Privacy Policy—Benzie Senior Resources (BSR) does not sell or distribute donor information. Be assured your information is secured and protected and only used by BSR when processing your donation and supplying you with BSR information.





10542 Main Street, Honor, MI 49640

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We were truly honored to have received the Non-Profit Member Community Impact Award from the Benzie County Chamber of Commerce during their Annual Dinner Event. It was an honor to share the stage with Rick, Brian and their staff from Stormcloud Brewing Company as they were awarded the Outstanding Business of the Year Award.

Thank you to Senator Booher and Representative VanderWall for making the trek up North for this occasion!