BENZIE SENIOR RESOURCES

December 2024

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The full moon is 12/15 is known as the cold Moon or Long Nights Moon or the Moon Before Yule. The Geminid meteor showers peak 12/13-12/14. It's Read a New Book Month, Stress-Free Family Holiday Month, Universal Human Rights Month, Seasonal Affective Disorder Awareness Month, Write A Friend Month, and National Cat Herders Day is the 15th. Festivus is the 23rd. The 30th is National Bacon Day!

SENIOR SCOOP

Be connected. Be supported. Be home.

Wishing you love, joy, and peace this Christmas and every day from all of us at Benzie Senior Resources and The Gathering Place Senior Center



A special shout out to Family Fare—Benzonia store for all of their continued support to keep our seniors from being at nutritional risk, for their thoughtfulness & spirit of giving in community-mindedness. Thank you so very much!



DIRECTORY

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

BENZIE SENIOR RESOURC

info@BenzieSeniorResources.org Website: https://BenzieSeniorResources.org Facebook: @benzieseniorresources.org The Gathering Place: 231-525-0601

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

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

BENZIE SENIOR RESOURCES BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Nancy Mullen Call, *President* Leo Hughes, *Secretary* Rev. Dinah Haag Rosemary Russell Ingrid Turner Paul Turner, *Vice President* Victor Dinsmoore, *Treasurer* Robert Manilla

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, private donations and grants from GT Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians 2% Allocation, Benzie County Community Chest, Oleson Foundation, Grand Traverse Regional Community Foundation, Benzie County Sunrise Rotary Foundation, Cherryland Cares, Meals on Wheels of America, The Herbert H. and Barbara C. Dow Foundation, Rotary Charities of Traverse City, The Wayne & Joan Webber Foundation, The Father Lovett Foundation, The Allen Foundation, The Willoughby Rotary Foundation, The Seabury Foundation, and the generous support of community businesses, churches, service clubs, and individuals. Benzie Senior Resources will not discriminate against any individual or group because of race, sex, religion, age, national origin, sexual orientation, marital status, disability, or political beliefs.

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

Douglas Durand, Executive Director **Angela Haase**, Issue Editor

> Benzie Senior Resources 10542 Main Street Honor, MI 49640

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From our Director

Reflections...

Greetings,

I admit to having many mixed emotions as I write because this will be my last article for the Senior Scoop Newsletter. As many already know, I will be entering a new life chapter upon my December 31st retirement from Benzie Senior Resources.

It is hard to believe that the desire to focus on support and care for our greatest generation led to a work life of over 40 years. Each of those years brought new lessons, changes and opportunity for growth—both my own and the agency's. It's been more rewarding than I could have ever imagined.

One of the largest changes came about through letting those lessons guide me in spearheading the 2016 merger when we officially became Benzie Senior Resources. By bringing together what was formerly Benzie County Council on Aging and Benzie Home Healthcare, the "NEW" agency grew operations by substantially increasing programs and services. To date, Benzie Senior Resources has helped countless seniors continue to live safely and independently in their own homes.

Over the past 11 years, we have continued to implement new programs based on our senior needs assessments surveys and community outreach discussions. In other words, we listen to you! Our outreach is designed around your critical needs in nutrition, home healthcare, advocacy, and socialization activities at The Gathering Place. Through it all, my goal has always been to find ways to enhance individual well-being and bring peace of mind to each of our seniors and their families.

My time here has been shared with an excellent staff, group of volunteers and independent contractors. Together we worked through the challenges of the merger, and together we weathered the Covid-19 pandemic. During a time of great stress, uncertainty and sadness in the senior population, I'm proud to say that the way Benzie Senior Resources stepped up and continued to serve was second to none.

As director, I've also been blessed by the support of Benzie County, our past and current Board of Directors, countless individual donors, foundations and local businesses who put their trust and faith in our work. Their financial support has allowed us to keep eyes fixed firmly on our mission while continuing to meet the needs of an ever-growing senior population.

In closing, you all have been instrumental in my life journey and growth as a person. I have shared many laughs with you along the way, and also many times of sadness and tears. I will forever hold all of this close to my heart.

Take care,

Douglas



Menu Our meals meet 1/3 of the recommended daily allowance nutrition requirements (RDA)							
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday			
2 Chicken 'N Dumplings, Southern Style Succotash, Stoneground Wheat Bread, Diced Peaches	3 Potato Encrusted Tilapia, Crispy Smashed Potatoes, Normandy Vegetable Blend, Stoneground Wheat Bread, Fresh Plums	4 Grand Rapids Style Wet Burrito, Authentic Refried Beans, Tortilla Chips w/ Fire Roasted Salsa, Oven Baked	5 Smoked Sausage & Sauerkraut, Italian Vegetable Blend, Warm Diced Beets, Stoneground Wheat Bread, Classic Applesauce	6 Homemade Meatloaf w/ Gravy, Herbed Mashed Potatoes, Sicilian Vegetable Blend, Stoneground Wheat Bread, Fresh Cut Oranges			
9 Chicago Style Italian Beef Sandwich, Oven Baked Tater Tots, Malibu Vegetable Blend, Diced Pears	10 NO meal at TGP Citrus Chicken over Rice/Caribbean Vegetable Blend, Steamed Sweet Peas, Stoneground Wheat Bread, Fresh Banana	11 Cornmeal Dusted Catfish, Oven Baked Potato, Steamed Spinach, Stoneground Wheat Bread, Diced Peaches	12 New Orleans Bourbon Chicken 'N Rice, Japanese Vegetable blend, Green Bean Blend, Lucky Fortune Cookie, Mandarin Oranges	13 Slow Roasted Beef, Herbed Mashed Potatoes, Steamed Broccoli Florets, Stoneground Wheat Bread, Apricot Halves			
16 Savory Sausage Cassoulet, Capri Vegetable Blend, Green Bean Blend, Stoneground Wheat Bread, Fresh Grapes	17 Classic Chicken Parmesan, Italian Vegetable Blend, Steamed Parisian Carrots, Soft Baked Breadsticks, Fresh Cut Oranges	18 Whole Wheat Blueberry Pancakes, Freshly Scrambled Eggs, Savory Sausage Links, Fresh Veggie Sticks, Oven Baked Pears	19 Homestyle Beef Stew, California Vegetable Blend, Steamed Sweet Corn, Fresh Baked Biscuits, Apricot Halves	20 Chicken Tenders w/ House Dip Sauce, Parmesan Garlic Mashed Potatoes, Malibu Vegetable Blend, Stoneground Wheat Bread, Fresh Banana			
23 <i>Christmas Meal</i> Pineapple Dijon Baked Ham, Whipped Sweet Potatoes, Caribbean Vegetable Blend, Sweet Hawaiian Rolls, Fresh Cut Oranges	24 Closed for Christmas	for Closed for Smothered OBreas		27 Roasted Turkey w/ Stuffing, Herbed Mashed Potatoes, Venetian Vegetable Blend, Multi-Grain Dinner Roll, Bonnie's Famous Cranberry Sauce			
30 Classic Liver & Onions w/ Bacon/or Salisbury Steak, Herbed Mashed Potatoes, Steamed Broccoli Florets, Stoneground Wheat Bread, Diced Pears	31 Closed for New Year's	January 1st Closed for New Year's	\$4.00 suggested donation for age 60 and older. Under 60 is <u>\$8.00</u> Caregivers under 60 are \$4.00	We accept cash, Visa, Mastercard, & Discover. Personal Checks also accepted —made out to BSR Lunch is served 11:30am –130pm			

That Guy Who's Been the Best Boss of Us



	Cal	endar of Ever	nts	
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
2 9:30 Stretch & Balance 11:30-1:30 Lunch 1:30 5:30 pm Zumba	3 10:30 The Melody Makers 11:30-1:30 Lunch 3:30 Chair Yoga	4 830 Zumba 11:30-1:30 Lunch 12:30 Bingo 2:00-4:00 Mexican Train Dominoes	5 10:30 Christian Book Club 11:00 Caption Call Presentation 11:30-1:30 Lunch 1:30 Presentation on Pain & Loneliness 1:30 BUNCO	6 9:30 BUNCO 10:30 Line Dancing 11:00 Higgins Hear- ing-clean & screen 11:30-1:30 Lunch 1:00 Wii Bowling 1:30 Crochet, Knit & Sew Circle
9 9:30 Stretch & Balance 11:30-1:30 Lunch NO Afternoon Activities	10 TGP Closed We are packing our Christmas Bags!	11 830 Zumba 11:30-1:30 Lunch 12:30 Bingo 2:00-4:00 Mexican Train Dominoes	12 10:00 Coffee w/ Vets 10:00 Altered Books 10:00 Book Group 11:30-1:30 Lunch 1:30 BUNCO	13 9:30 BUNCO 11:30-1:30 Cookie Decorating 11:30-1:30 Lunch 1:00 Wii Bowling 1:30 Crochet, Knit & Sew Circle
16 9:30 Stretch & Balance 11:30-1:30 Lunch 1:30 Quilt Block Potholder w. Joan #2 5:30 pm LAST Zumba for the year	17 10:30 The Melody Makers 11:30-1:30 Lunch 3:30 Chair Yoga	18 NO ZUMBA 11:30-1:30 Lunch 12:30 Bingo 2:00-4:00 Mexican Train Dominoes 4:30 Board of Director's Meeting	19 10:00 Dementia Support Group 10:00 Infinity Scarf w/ Joan 10:30 BP Clinic 11:30-1:30 Lunch 1:30 BUNCO	20 9:30 BUNCO 11:30-1:30 Lunch 11:30-2:30 Day of Doug—Come see Doug at TGP! 1:00 Wii Bowling 1:30 MITTEN KITTENS Workshop
23 9:30 Stretch & Balance 11:30-1:30 Lunch	24 Closed for Christmas	25 Closed for Christmas	26 11:30-1:30 Lunch 1:30 BUNCO	27 9:30 BUNCO 11:30-1:30 Lunch 1:00 Wii Bowling 1:30 Crochet, Knit & Sew Circle
30 9:30 Stretch & Balance 11:30-1:30 Lunch	31 Closed for New Year's	January 1st Closed for New Year's	On December 5th, Community Connec- tions will present with the University of Michi- gan School of Public Health a focus group for those 60+ w/ chronic pain & who are experiencing loneliness. Earn \$25	NO Produce Bingo in December. Look for us in January! Trivia Night will be back, too!

Bulletin Board

Are you a Veteran? Need benefit help?

Call Karen Korolenko, Director at Benzie County Department of Veterans Affairs. 231.882.0034 or email kkorolenko@benzieco.net.

Our Thompsonville lunch, music, and bingo is <u>cancelled until</u> <u>further notice</u>.

Essential Estate Planning Benzie Senior Resources offers Essential Estate Planning by appointment only. Meet with an estate planning attorney for free to review, update and/or create an estate plan. Call 231-525-0600 to schedule your appointment.

Join us to make wool mittens from wool sweaters and cool buttons at TGP with Joan &

Marleen...check the calendar! This is for fundraising for more activities, so if you learn & join in you can make a difference & have fun! We usually meet at TGP on Friday afternoons.



Come see what else we have for sale at TGP!

FOOT CARE CLINIC BY APPOINTMENT

Wednesdays at Benzie Senior Resources office, for Age 60 and over. Call 231-525-0600 to set yours up. Starting October 1st, each session will be \$20.00/client. Free Computer Help—Darcy Library in Beulah Thursdays 10:00 a.m. until Noon We recommend that you call ahead 231.882.4037 and speak with Carol

List for The Gathering Place Book Club Book Group meets next on <u>at TGP</u> 10:00 a.m.

December's Book—*Lessons in Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus

January's Book—All Girls Filling Station by Fannie Flagg

<u>February's Book—Hour of the Witch</u> by Chris Bohjalian

IMPORTANT: Call our office to cancel your BSR worker/contractor for Home Healthcare or for your Homemaking Service if you're sick or need to reschedule. Let's keep each other healthy! (231) 525-0600



Have you considered where your volunteer hours might have the most local impact? We'd love to chat with compassionate people who could help us deliver daily meals to Benzie County home-bound seniors. Our Home Delivered Meals Program helps ensure seniors are food secure, and also provides a caring check-in on delivery days--such peace of mind for out of town family members. We have the delivery vehicles, and purchase the gas. <u>Learn more by calling Michelle at 231-525-0601,</u> <u>ext. 202.</u> She may be out delivering meals, so please leave a message!







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Word Search

Christmas

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Play this puzzle online at : https://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/124/

Inclement Weather -

If Benzie Central Schools are closed, Home Delivered Meals will **not** be delivered. The Gathering Place Senior Center will remain open and the meal served at The Gathering Place Senior Center will consist of soup and our salad bar. The scheduled activities may change, or be cancelled. Call The Gathering Place Senior Center at 231.525.0601 to verify if an activity is still scheduled and if we are open. When the Benzie Central Schools are on a 2-hour delay, regular business hours will continue and meal delivery will continue as scheduled. The Executive Director or their designee will monitor weather conditions and if a general alert is issued by the Michigan State Police, Benzie County Sheriff's Office or the Benzie County Road Commission requesting drivers to remain off the roads, then The Gathering Place Senior Center will be closed.

The closure of The Gathering Place will be announced on 9 & 10 News, 7 & 4 News, WTCM 103.5 & WCCW 107.5. Look for updates on our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/BenzieSeniorResources.



December Birthdays

Ed Fay	2	Gary Koenig 11		Gene Nowak	21
James Foote	2	Lisa Clement	12	Scott Wills	21
Tom Hafer	2	Claudia VanBrocklin	12	Patricia Hudson	23
Cindy Ivy	2	Rachel Hopkins	13	Linda Buie	24
Steve Post	2	David Jahr	13	Melborn Chick	24
Jim Buzzell	3	David Kilian	13	Niel Haugen	24
Kathleen Crosby	3	Jeff Stockman	13	Ed Osga	24
Dick Haase	3	Richard Clark	14	Tanya Struble	24
Barb Skurdall	3	Stacy Wagenknecht	14	Chris Brookens	25
Glen Dorshimer	4	David Best	15	Alvin Gray	25
Bill Higman	4	Corliss Mick	15	Lorna Hogue	25
Charles Myers	4	Kyle Converse	16	Carol VanSlambrouck	25
Nicholas Puscas	4	Kim Maginity	16	Kathy Horton	26
Nancy Sheffer	4	Nancy Goerisch	17	Rena Johnston	26
Mary Smeltzer	4	Kay Hammond	17	Karen Packer	26
Jeffrey Bowlby	5	Jean Johnson	17	Lewis Small	27
Al Francik	5	Fred Taylor	17	Steve Walton	27
Luann May	5	Bill Ward	17	Gayle Dixon	28
Flo Moutsatson	5	Mark Ludwig	18	Dan Haswell	28
Linda Rackow	5	Patty Matyas	18	Keith Jewell	28
Jeanette Dunigan	16	Lois Schram	18	Diane Thompson	28
Mary Lou Gass	6	Leonard Sheridan	18	Pattie Rodebush	29
Harley Osborne	6	Paul Stiles	18	Marie Thomason	29
Paula Smeltzer	6	Silvia Bolado	19	Peggy Witzke	29
John Stubbs	6	Art Gauthier	19	Cindy Boyd	30
Shirley Dudinetz	7	Jeanette Huddleston	19	Vera Carmien	30
Ricky Frederick	7	Duncan Ramsay	19	Allen Forrester	30
Jerry Heiman	7	Rosemary Abbett	20	Ruth Larson	30
Craig Jackson	7	Phil Gagliano	20	Janice Misner-Heniser	30
Charlotte Putney	8	Elizabeth Rodgers Hill	20	Nancy Adadow-Gray	31
Delphine Sullivan		Daniel Culp	21	Toni Hillier	31
Shelley Fast	9	Virghinia Daugherty	21	Carol Wagner	31
Gary Witzke	9	Chris Jahr	21	e	
Ed Faltinowski	10	Elizabeth Kimbrough	21		

If we forgot your birthday we are truly sorry. Please remind us for next year. If you prefer your name be removed from the birthday list, please let us know.



Benzie Senior Resources 231.525.0600

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Health Notes



Boost Your Energy with Smart Food Choices

Is what you're eating helping you power through your day or putting you in nap mode? Your diet plays a key role in maintaining energy levels. Choosing the right foods can help nourish your body and fight fatigue throughout the day.

- Fast food, frozen dinners, candy, and energy drinks might seem quick and easy, but they don't give your body the good stuff it needs and can slow you down. Choose fresh, unprocessed foods.
- If you're looking for energy-boosting foods, you can't go wrong with fruit and vegetable options. Choose apples, bananas, oranges, blueberries, strawberries, pears, asparagus, broc-coli, sweet potatoes, spinach, and beans.
- Steer clear of sugary stuff like cookies, sweets, and white bread that lack nutrients and can make you tired. Choose whole grain foods for added fiber and steady energy.
- Proteins are slow to digest, which helps fight off fatigue; the key is to choose lean proteins.

Chicken, turkey, and fish provide quality protein without excess saturated fat. Eggs, beans, and yogurt are great protein choices, too.

- Avocado, olive oil, almonds, walnuts, and pistachios offer lasting energy and support brain function.
- Caffeine is okay in moderation and provides a short-term boost, but it doesn't truly energize the body. Skip the soda and energy drinks that can make you crash later. Choose unsweetened tea, coconut water, or a fruit smoothie. Water is also a smart choice. Even mild dehydration can cause fatigue!

Remember, balance is key. Aim for a variety of nutrient-dense foods, drink enough water, and listen to what your body tells you. By making mindful choices, you'll have more energy and be ready to take on the day!

Source: Cleveland Clinic, go.iastate.edu/WWK5OG



Staff Milestones



Traci's birthday is 12/2 and her eighth anniversary is on 12/8. Traci's compassion and care for our clients these past eight years have been immeasurably appreciated. We hope that her birthday and anniversary are special and that she knows how grateful we are for her on our team! Happy birthday & anniversary Traci!







Lori's birthday is 12/3 and we hope she has time with her family with lots of good food & laughter! As one of our Home Health Aides, her motto of always helping those who can't help themselves is a terrific guide.. That with her capacity for kindness are what makes her so very special to us! Happy Birthday Lori!



Bea celebrates her birthday on 12/13. She loves that her birthday is so close to Christmas—her house is already decorated with her advent wreath, nativity scene & Christmas tree, gifts all over the house. She said she will treat herself to an elf puzzle. Happy Birthday Beate!







Ray's first anniversary as Kitchen Crew Leader is 12/13! After 30 years in cooking adventures, his favorite part of it all is making seniors smile. Ray has passions for photography and fishing.. He played drums as a kid and has tattooed proof of it. We're happy you've come to us & that you're staying Ray...Happy Anniversary!







Christmas, my child, is love in action. Every time we love, every time we give, it's Christmas.

— Dale Evans -

AZQUOTES



Upcoming Trip!



freshly made ice cream. This evening, dine at a local restaurant. Day 6: Enjoy a Continental Breakfast before leaving for the 1000 Islands Skydeck in Lansdowne, ON. This evening, relax at your en route hotel.

Day 7: Today after enjoying a Continental Breakfast, you depart for home... A perfect time to chat with your friends about all the fun things you've done, the great sights you've seen and where your next group trip will take you!

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FOR INFORMATION & RESERVATIONS CONTACT:

Lynn Vanderplow @ (231) 944-5463 or Judy Fast @ (248) 425-5849

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Donation Information

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

We Need Your Help!

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. 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:

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.						
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