Life in Mason, Michigan, was not quite what Patty Grace had in mind as ideal. After many years of traveling north for vacations at Higgins Lake, Patty and Mark, her husband of 50 years, decided that it was time for a permanent move. When both her kids, Christy and Thomas, left them as empty nesters, they jumped on the opportunity and headed north.

Patty had always envisioned her new empty nest as a time to fill life with golf, boating, and enjoying everything outdoors. While Patty loved her recreation-time, she quickly realized that a job would enrich her life in a new community by helping her meet people and by becoming more entrenched in her town. When a part-time job opened up at Petoskey's Carnegie Library, Patty applied. This decision would change the course of her life in ways she never expected.

Patty had worked with the Capital Area District Library in the past where she learned about the diversity of public library services. She always loved being a part of the library system and has fond childhood memories of the Bookmobile stopping in her neighborhood. Later, she loved watching her children at the library in Mason, enjoying toys, puppets and books. And then, after moving north, she had found her dream job. Patty had landed a position that was perfect for her, and it offered her the opportunity to transform this new chapter in her life. She recalls the vibrant connections she’s made, and how her Library job has helped her gain a better understanding of her community.

The Carnegie Library offered her a great place to meet people. It was small and the staff was generous with their time in teaching her the ropes of the job, as well as introducing her to the patrons. Her work life was where she connected with some of her dearest friends, who she may never have met otherwise.

Patty’s dream job not only connected her with people, but also helped her stay current with technology. In her role, she was constantly exposed to the latest developments in digital resources, social media, and other technology. The staff, the majority of whom are younger, were always willing to spend the extra time to help her learn new gadgets and software. She continues to attend the monthly Apple Users Group to keep learning. Her children loved this bonus of her Library job. Patty’s savviness has helped her stay connected with her kids and to her five grandchildren, bridging that generation gap.

Another added benefit of Patty’s library job was encountering situations that reminded her to be less judgmental and more empathetic. “Working with the public can sometimes be challenging,” stated Patty. “Our job is to try and understand and answer questions and provide service.” Patty has a better understanding of humanity, and that “everyone has a story and those stories are all unique.”

Patty is proud of working at the Library. The staff welcomes everyone, serves all patrons equally, and provides a plethora of programs and activities, helping to ensure the Library is vital for years to come. What Patty loves most about the Library is her co-workers and...
Petoskey Ukulele Players
Performing Sing-along
on Monday, December 11

Every Thursday afternoon, staff and patrons in the lower level of the Library have their spirits lifted with the sounds of our Petoskey Ukulele Players, or PUPs as we often refer to them, as they practice various songs.

We were thrilled when the group agreed to perform at the Carnegie Building to share their talents with the public and to encourage others to learn to play, especially since you can borrow a ukulele from our Library of Things!

**FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!**
We hope you’ll join us and the PUPs for a SING-ALONG on Monday, December 11, at 7:00pm at the Carnegie Building.

In addition to some holiday songs, the PUPs will be playing other well-known songs with the lyrics displayed so everyone can sing along. There will be a few old-timey songs, a few from 50 or so years ago and a few more contemporary songs. Their setlist has a big variety and there’s sure to be a lot of smiles while we enjoy an evening together, singing and getting in a festive mood!

---

**ALL DURING FEBRUARY**
Mystery month in the Children’s Department! Sleuth for fake books in the stacks and you might reveal a treat!

---

- Continued from page 1 -

the patrons the Library serves. She loves talking with the kids who visit. She loves Baby Storytime and seeing moms with their little ones and she loves hearing children read to Ladybug, our “Paws to Read” dog.

“It’s hard to believe I have been here 23 years and that at 70, I still want to work here,” exclaimed Patty. “I guess that says a lot for the Petoskey District Library.”

Patty’s journey at the Petoskey District Library has been inspiring. Through her work, she discovered a deeper sense of purpose, and a thriving community. She serves as a reminder that retirement can be the perfect time to rediscover passions, and connect with a positive impact on the community around you.

---

**LEGO Challenge**

LEGO challenges will be given to builders with a time limit to create a masterpiece. We supply the LEGO's, kids supply the imagination! Children ages 8-11 are invited to come build with us in the Children’s Program Room.

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12 • 4:00PM**
**TUESDAY, JANUARY 9 • 4:00PM**
**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13 • 4:00PM**

**Code Club**

Does your child love video games? Would you love to have them learn useful skills and exercise their mind? Try Code Club! Kids love being able to create their own video games and websites, and in the process, they will gain useful technology skills.

**TUESDAYS • 4:00PM-5:00PM**
**JANUARY 9—FEBRUARY 13**
**Lower Level Classroom**

---

**‘Little Waves’ - A Musical Journey for Young Minds!**

Dive into the enchanting world of music with ‘Little Waves’, a free children’s program presented by the Great Lakes Chamber Orchestra (GLCO). Designed for curious minds aged 4 to 10, this innovative initiative invites young explorers to discover the wonders of music and instruments in a relaxed and informal setting. Led by the talented GLCO percussionist, Tim Mocny, ‘Little Waves’ offers an extraordinary opportunity for children to explore various musical instruments and genres.

---

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 13**
**10:30AM-11:30AM**

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10**
**10:30AM-11:30AM**
FROM THE DIRECTOR
VAL MEYERSON
231.758.3120

In the past, I’ve highlighted how partnerships are an important part of the Library’s service model. Our newest partnership with the Little Traverse Civic Theatre (LTCT) evolved in the summer and I’m so excited about how it’s developed.

Both of our organizations are supportive of our individual missions and we work together towards our organizations’ success. A balanced commitment from each of us will ensure the longevity of the relationship.

The Civic Theater and the Library are now hosting the Petoskey Film Series, offering the community a free movie viewing every Wednesday evening at the Carnegie Building.

A committee of LTCT and Library staff selects the films with the Library providing a copy of the film, the licensing, and the space. Staff from LTCT set up, run the film, and facilitate a discussion after the film, which has become quite popular. The Library is able to increase its services to more people with little staff time and the Civic Theatre is able to promote its other services to an expanded audience.

With the success of the Film Series, we are expanding our partnership with LTCT to include another series. This winter, keep your eye out for the new Reader’s Theatre to begin in early February.

Reader’s Theatre is a program for people ages 10 and older that combines reading aloud with performing. Not only does a Reader’s Theatre strengthen reading skills and confidence, but it is also a fun entrance into performing.

The Civic Theatre is looking forward to this new venture as it will offer an introduction to performing and theatre for many community members. The Library is thrilled to have another opportunity to strengthen our goals of supporting the path for students to become more confident readers, providing a unique recreational activity for adults, and strengthening our community partnerships.

This partnership has been a win–win–win, for the Library, for Little Traverse Civic Theatre, and best of all, for the community.

Baby Storytime

Learning begins at birth and you are your baby’s first teacher! Join Miss Lisa for music, movement, and playtime with your baby. We help little ones build early literacy skills while bouncing, singing, exploring board books, and playing. This storytime is for babies 3–24 months and their grown-ups.

TUESDAYS • 11:00AM-11:30AM
JANUARY 9–FEBRUARY 27
(No Storytime on February 13)

Storytime

Read, talk, sing, write, play! Storytime models these five practices to support development of early literacy skills. And, parents and caregivers are encouraged to participate! Storytime is for toddlers, preschoolers, and their grown-ups.

THURSDAYS • 11:00AM-11:30AM
JANUARY 4–FEBRUARY 29

All programs take place in the Children’s department, unless otherwise noted.
**Teen Maker Thursday**

We meet the **third Thursday of the month at 4:00pm** in the Makerspace for a fun maker project! For ages 11–18.

- **DECEMBER 21**: Candy Cane Sleighs
- **JANUARY 18**: Colorful Votive Holders
- **FEBRUARY 15**: Make a Tote with our new Heat Press

**Winter Teen Book Bundle**

Sign up to get a book bundle, complete with a Young Adult book, craft kit, and snack. You can sign up on the Library website, or call 231.758.3113. This winter’s book bundle is *Let It Snow* by John Green, Maureen Johnson, and Lauren Myracle.

Register between December 13 and January 3; Pick up bundles January 12 at the Teen Desk.

**Top It! Cookie Challenge**

What’s better than an afternoon adding yummy toppings to our snacks? This month, we will be topping cookies.

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 11 • 4:00PM**

Lower Level - Makerspace

---

**High School Study Labs**

Finals are coming! The Library has you covered with plenty of study space, brain snacks, and stress-busting activities.

**AFTER SCHOOL • LOWER LEVEL TEEN AREA**

- **JANUARY 16**
- **JANUARY 17**
- **JANUARY 18**

**Fantasy Forge**

Join librarian (and D&D aficionado) Nikki as they guide your journey into the world of Dungeons and Dragons. Create characters, build worlds and maps, learn how to run a campaign as a Dungeon Master, and above all, have fun!

- **DECEMBER 28 • 4:00PM-6:00PM • MAKERSPACE**
- **JANUARY 25 • 4:00PM-6:00PM • MAKERSPACE**

---

**Anti-Valentine’s Party**

Romance? Who needs it?! If you’re sick of the lovey-dovey, we’re here for you! We’ll decorate and snack on broken hearts, listen to anti-love songs, and throw (magnetic) darts at Cupid!

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13 • 4:00PM • TEEN AREA**

---

**Super Smash Bros. Tournament**

Join us in the Lower Level Teen Area ... We’ll have the Switch set up for the ultimate smack down.

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22 • 5:00PM**

---

**Anime Club**

Calling all tween/teen fans of anime and manga! Anime club is for fans in 7th-12th grades and features activities, snacks, and anime (of course).

**IN CLASSROOM EVERY FRIDAY WHEN SCHOOL IS IN SESSION • 3:30PM**

---

**teen STEM Grab and Go Kits**

*Activities from NASA@MyLibrary and STARnet Libraries*

All kits are put together by members of the Teen Advisory Board and will be available while supplies last at the Teen Desk. Kits are intended for ages 11–18 and are available on the following dates:

- **TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19**: Hexaflexagons
- **TUESDAY, JANUARY 16**: Snowflakes Challenges
- **TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20**: Star Clocks

---

**DON’T FORGET THE LYRICS TRIVIA NIGHT**

Music lovers! Come and show off your memory for lyrics! The winner gets a golden microphone and bragging rights ... everyone gets a fun evening and cool stickers. (All ages welcome!)

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 30 • 5:30PM • CLASSROOM**

---

**Movie Time: Back to the Future**

We’re going back in time! Join us for a fun-filled interactive viewing of the 1980s classic “Back to the Future”, complete with popcorn and prop bags.

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1 • 4:00PM • CLASSROOM**

---

**Teen Advisory Board Meets Dec. 5**

The PDL Teen Advisory Board is your opportunity to join with other teens to help plan and create the services, programs, and collections that you want in the Library! Newcomers are always welcome. Meeting starts at 4:00pm in the Lower Level Classroom and on the Discord server.

---

**COMING UP THIS WINTER**

---
ADULT PROGRAMS

RECURRING PROGRAMS

Mah Jongg Open Play
We have a lively group getting together every Tuesday to play the popular game of Mah Jongg! If you like to play too, join other players every Tuesday from 1:00pm to 3:00pm in the Lower Level Classroom. Though most games follow the National Mah Jongg League rules, the players at each table decide on rules at the outset.

French Conversation Group
Join us for an opportunity to converse in French in a casual and friendly environment. This group is for anyone wishing to practice speaking French, from debutants to fluent francophones – all are welcome.
EVERY FRIDAY • 5:00PM
Lower Level Classroom

Petoskey Ukulele Players
Join the Petoskey Ukulele Players, a group of amateur, self-taught musicians open to new members of all skill levels. Enjoy a play-as-you-learn experience while sharing advice and resources.
EVERY THURSDAY
12:30PM–3:00PM
Check Website Calendar for Location

Creative Card Making with Chris
Want to learn techniques so you could make your own greeting cards? At each class, you will create three cards that focus on a variety of techniques from coloring, generational stamping, die cutting, embossing and a variety of elements to inspire you. There are plenty of options for individual creativity and sentiment choices. No experience is necessary and all supplies will be provided to help you make beautiful cards! Registration required.

5:00PM-7:00PM • CARNEGIE BUILDING
DECEMBER 7 • JANUARY 11 • FEBRUARY 8

Exploring Creativity with Betsy
We’ve been having a ton of fun the past few months getting the creative juices flowing with local artist and illustrator Betsy Petersen! In each class, we explore creativity through art-based projects inspired by famous artists. Supplies provided. (Registration is required through the Library’s website calendar.)
7:00PM-8:30PM • CARNEGIE BUILDING
FRIDAY, JANUARY 19 • FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9

In-Person 3D Printer Certification
Online training not your style? Join Nikki on Wednesday, February 21 at 4:00pm in the Makerspace for training on how to use the 3D printer!

We’re Looking for Volunteers!
If you’re interested in helping out in the Library (and earning community service hours for National Honor Society or Key Club), come to the Teen Desk and learn more! We have opportunities to help out with book reviews, social media content creation, & setting up programs. We’re open to hearing your ideas!

BIBLIOBAG
Bibliobag is a delivery service for homebound residents of the Petoskey District Library. Most items can be mailed to your home at no cost. To qualify, you must be a resident within the Library’s service area. For more information about the helpful Bibliobag service, call Jodi at 231.758.3121.

Page Turners Book Club
Our book club titles are selected quarterly by the participants. Join us in the Large Meeting Room (upper level) for a discussion and refreshments inspired by the story! New members welcome!
THIRD TUESDAY OF THE MONTH • 5:30PM

DECEMBER 19: The Secret Life of Sunflowers by Dana Marton
JANUARY 16: This Other Eden by Paul Harding
FEBRUARY 20: Heaven and Earth Grocery Store by James McBride
Garment Sewing
Bring your sewing machine and all of its accessories and join instructor Tina VanDenburg for one or both of these all-day workshops. Bring your own lunch; all other supplies will be provided. Class is limited and registration is required.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2: Sew a Fit and Flare Knit Dress
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9: Sew Yoga-style Knit Pants w/ Pockets
10:00AM-5:00PM • LOWER LEVEL CLASSROOM

Writing at Happy Hour
Join Petoskey’s Stewart James as he pours wine and embarks with you on a creative pathway to better writing. Enjoy the quiet of the early evening and conversing with fellow writers. Class limited and registration is required. Program sponsored by the Little Traverse Literary Guild.

5:30PM-6:30PM • CARNEGIE BUILDING, 451 E. MITCHELL ST. TUESDAYS: DECEMBER 5, DECEMBER 12, DECEMBER 19

AARP Driver Safety Class
Learn the current rules of the road, defensive driving techniques, and how to operate your vehicle more safely in today’s challenging driving environment. This course is designed for drivers age 50 and older and you may be eligible to receive an insurance discount upon completing. Registration is required.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 20 • 10:30AM-5:00PM • CLASSROOM

Compassion and Choices
Join Dorothy Hughes Engelman, co-leader of Compassion & Choices Michigan Volunteer Action Team, as she describes the mission, values, and vision of Compassion & Choices, a national nonprofit organization. C&C works to improve care, expand options and empower everyone to chart their end-of-life journey. It envisions a society that affirms life and accepts the inevitability of death, embraces expanded options for compassionate dying, and empowers everyone to choose end-of-life care that reflects their values, priorities, and beliefs. This presentation, offered at two different days/times, will provide suggestions on how to have those difficult conversations with loved ones, discuss Medical Aid in Dying (MAiD), and explore options for a peaceful death.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 30 • 7:00PM
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31 • 10:30AM
Carnegie Building, 451 E Mitchell St.

Build Your Business and Design Your Future
Have you been looking to start a new enterprise, grow an existing business, or bring an entrepreneurial influence to a corporate setting? Then this free 11-session course has a curriculum created for you! Course instructor Bob Moore brings decades of business experience to guide you in examining contemporary and innovative business practices, critical financial and risk management strategies, setting goals and tracking progress. Attendees will examine real world small businesses that have prospered, some that have failed, and understand why. Marketing, sales, networking and long-term client retention will help attendees build a sustainable business model. The use of artificial intelligence to aggregate market data, accelerate assimilation of data and assist in business plan development will be addressed. Class size is limited and registration is required with sign up for the entire 11-session course.

ALL SESSIONS ARE 5:00PM- 7:00PM
UPPER LEVEL LARGE MEETING ROOM

JAN 9: An Introduction to Entrepreneurship
JAN 11: Your Value Proposition
JAN 18: Building Your Business Model
JAN 23: The Economics of Opportunity
JAN 25: Financial Forecasting & Resource Management
JAN 30: Managing Growth and Risk
FEB 1: Your Path to Profitability
FEB 6: Competing with Giants
FEB 8: Achieving Success that Lasts
FEB 13: Funding Your Business
FEB 15: Why Some Succeed and Others Fail
Apple User’s Group

If you use Apple tech products (iPhone, iPad, Apple watch, Mac), or have an interest, please join us in the Lower Level Classroom to share and learn from one another in a friendly environment. Mary Jean Meyerson, instructor and Apple enthusiast, will lead the group on various topics and be available for most questions during the hour-long meeting, or as time permits.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17 • 5:00PM
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21 • 5:00PM

Microsoft Word Tutorial

This free four-week tutorial session is a comprehensive guide to Word, the word processing program in the Microsoft Office suite. Learn how to create professional-looking documents and become proficient in Word’s most common features, as well as some advanced features. Class size is limited – registration required.

JANUARY 10 • JANUARY 17 • JANUARY 24 • JANUARY 31
10:30AM-12:15PM • LOWER LEVEL CLASSROOM

‘Great Decisions’ Returns in February

Join fellow foreign affairs hobbyists to discuss the year’s top issues in another “Great Decisions” eight-part series, a program by the Foreign Policy Association (fpa.org). Briefing books, with articles about each topic, are available at the Library. (Series continues on March 6, March 20, April 3, April 17, May 1, and May 15. Check website calendar for Zoom meeting information.)

ALL SESSIONS MEET VIA ZOOM • 6:30PM-8:00PM
Part 1: “Mideast Realignment” by Marc Lynch
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7
Part 2: “Climate Technology and Competition” by Bud Ward
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21

Reader’s Theater

Reader’s Theater is open to people ages 10 and older with the first meeting set for Tuesday, February 6 at 5:00pm in the Classroom. A play and parts will be chosen, then rehearsals will be twice a week, with a performance the final week of each month.

TUESDAYS • 5:00PM
SATURDAYS • 10:00AM

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY BOARD

Sue Moffatt • President
Lori Smith • Vice-President
Ethel Larsen • Secretary
Joyce Hutto-Nolan • Treasurer

NEW MEMBERS WELCOME!

LIBRARIES NEED FRIENDS!
Quick quiz ...True (T) or False (F)?

1. FOPPL stands for Friends of the Petoskey Public Library? ........... T or F
2. There is a bookstore in the lower level that is open during all Library hours? ........... T or F
3. The Friends offer monthly programs of interest to the community at the Carnegie building? ........... T or F
4. The Friends give children’s books away at the Dec. Candy Cane Village and the June summer kickoff? ........... T or F
5. Each July, the friends sponsor a huge book sale during Sidewalk Sales? ........... T or F
6. Everyone is encouraged to join this fun organization by visiting the Library website and signing up online? ........... T or F
7. More volunteers are always welcomed for any FOPPL events? ........... T or F

If you answered TRUE to all 7 questions, then you are a TRUE Library friend. Join today or gift a membership to someone special. Thank you!

FRIENDS AT THE CARNEGIE: Spotlight on Local Theater

Join us on Monday, January 22, at 7:00pm in the upper level of the Carnegie Building, to welcome Bob Brill, director of the Little Traverse Civic Theater (LTCT). He will give a brief history of their organization and highlight some of the changes they’ve made in recent years to expand and revitalize its mission. He’ll be discussing the LTCT’s partnership with the Library on the Petoskey Film Series and the relaunch of the Reader’s Theater for teens and adults in February.

FRIENDS AT THE CARNEGIE: Finding Common Ground

Members of the Northern Michigan Interfaith Common Ground, an organization of people of faith working together to support the well-being of our communities, will join us on Monday, February 26, at 7:00pm in the upper Carnegie Building. They will share how they’ve brought people together of various faiths to collaborate and move towards peace, love, and kindness for all. The group strives to empower and inspire others to work towards a more just society. Their gatherings promote self-worth and hope through faith, spirituality, and self-expression while they work to create a safer community.
LIBRARY HOURS
Monday–Thursday
10AM–7PM
Friday
10AM–6PM
Saturday
10AM–5PM
Sunday
12PM–5PM

LIBRARY CLOSED
Christmas
December 24 & 25
New Year's Day
January 1
Staff In-Service Day
February 2

Ph: 231.758.3100
petoskeylibrary.org
Circulation
231.758.3111
Youth Services
231.758.3112
Teen Services
231.758.3113
Adult Services
231.758.3114

Registration for programs can be done by calling the Library or visiting the events calendar at calendar.petoskeylibrary.org/

******ECSRWSSEDDM****
Local Postal Customer

---

Join Friends on December 1 in the Carnegie’s Candy Cane Village!
On Friday, December 1, from 6:00pm to 9:00pm, in conjunction with the Downtown Petoskey Holiday Open House event, the Friends of the Petoskey Public Library will once again be decorating the upper level of the Carnegie Building, turning it into their own Candy Cane Village. There will be music, treats, activities and free books for the kids. Plus, Santa will be there for photos! Mark your calendars and we’ll see you there!

AARP Tax-Aide
The AARP is partnering with the IRS again this year to sponsor free tax-filing preparation and assistance for people over age 50 with its AARP Tax Aide program. The service is available beginning Feb. 7 through April 11 at the Petoskey District Library BY APPOINTMENT ONLY on Wednesdays and Fridays from 10am to 4pm. Call 231.758.3140 after January 8, 2024, for more information or to schedule an appointment.

CHESS TOURNAMENTS
Our monthly Swiss tournaments are now rated by the U.S Chess Federation (USCF). Competitors of all skill levels ages 8-18 are invited to participate, but membership in the USCF is required. For more information, email rjbemben@gmail.com.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14 • 5:30PM-8:00PM
THURSDAY, JANUARY 18 • 5:30PM-8:00PM
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15 • 5:30PM-8:00PM
Tournaments Take Place at the Carnegie Building

New Year’s Eve Celebration
The Crooked Tree Arts Center (CTAC) and Petoskey District Library invite you to celebrate New Year’s Eve with entertainment, refreshments, and more!

Admission buttons for the Arts Center are $10 for adults, $5 for students, and children under 2 are free. Tickets include all food and refreshments, provided at no additional cost, and can be purchased at CTAC or their website. The Library’s events that night are open to the public with no charge for admission. Enjoy music, arts and crafts, roasting your own marshmallow for s’mores, and watching the ball drop outside at 9:00pm.

DECEMBER 31 • 6:00PM-9:00PM

Petoskey Film Series Winter Schedule
(Doors open 6:30PM • Program starts 7:00PM)
December 6 - Seeking a Friend for the End of the World
December 13 - The Prestige
December 20 - The Shop Around the Corner
December 27 - The Grand Budapest Hotel
January 3 - Clue
January 10 - Frank
January 17 - Miller’s Crossing
January 24 - Rosencrantz & Guildenstern Are Dead
January 31 - Groundhog Day
February 7 - In Bruges
February 14 - Her
February 21 - Kiss Kiss Bang Bang
February 28 - The Apartment
(Movies intended for adult audience and contain mature subject matter)