



801 E. Front Street, Traverse City, Michigan 49686

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Lori Wells, Manager
Phone/Email: 231-922-4911/lwells@grandtraverse.org

Subject: The Glory of Having a Railroad

Traverse City – When railroad tracks were first laid into Northwest Michigan in the early 1870s, the people in the region felt civilization had finally reached their doorstep. The only real contact the region had experienced with the outside world was by Great Lakes steamers or schooners sailing the waters of Lake Michigan. Historically, roads had been dusty or muddy, full of potholes and ruts or basically nonexistent.

The coming of the railroad changed the lives of the settlers for good and marked the opening up of the region to worldly commodities that were unavailable to them before the railroad came. Another benefit to the arrival of the railroad was the advent of new settlers to the area.

Join Wexford County Historical Society Docent Richard Kraemer on Tuesday, March 13, 4 p.m., at the Traverse City Senior Center, 801 E. Front Street, as he discusses the differences among communities built because of railroad lines. In addition, he will talk about established cities with railroad lines built later and communities bypassed by railroad lines. He also will share specific histories of railroads and communities in the area.

Kraemer's presentation will also be given in the following Senior Center Network locations: in Fife Lake, 77 Lakecrest Lane, on Wednesday, March 21, at 12:30; in Kingsley, 115 E. Blair Street, on Wednesday, March 28, at 12:30; and in Interlochen, 9700 Riley Road, Thursday, March 29, at 12:30.

The railroad presentation is free, but advance registration is required

For more information and to register, email dmikowski@grandtraverse.org or call 231-922-4911.

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The Senior Center Network, part of the Grand Traverse County Parks and Recreation Department, offers diverse programs to older adults in Grand Traverse County. Thousands each year enjoy dozens of activities on a daily basis at locations in Traverse City, Acme, Fife Lake, Interlochen, and Kingsley. Business hours are Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, call 231-922-4911, or visit www.grandtraverse.org/scn or our Facebook page.