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*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*

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

Subject: Painting in the Park

Traverse City – *En plein air* painting is a phrase borrowed from the French with the equivalent meaning of “open (in full) air”. It is used to describe the act of painting outdoors. Working in natural light became particularly important in the mid-19th century continuing to be popular up to the present day.

Join Connie McLaren, retired art teacher, for Painting in the Park on Thursday, June 15, at 5 p.m. at the Traverse City Senior Center park at 801 East Front Street. If weather conditions are less than favorable, painting will take place inside the senior center.

McLaren will lead participants in creating acrylic-on-canvas paintings. This Painting in the Park is the first of a series McLaren is offering. Majoring in art, McLaren earned a degree from Michigan State University in 1974. She began teaching art for Benzie Schools and taught there for more than 31 years. Her retirement from teaching allowed her to devote more time to her own art.

The cost of the painting class is $25 for those 60 years or older and $35 for all others. The art materials are provided and experience is not necessary. Advanced registration is required.

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

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