

801 E. Front Street, Traverse City, Michigan 49686

231-922-4911

www.grandtraverse.org/scn

## Making longer lives, better lives.

Week of June 8, 2020

Dear Senior Center Friends – Curbside Meals Week Twelve:

New this week: Stay at Home Order Lifted! Or is it?

Last week, Governor Whitmer lifted the Stay at Home order for Grand Traverse County and paved the way for many more businesses to open and provide services. For many, this was a welcomed announcement and has given hope to many who have been struggling. Rather than looking at this as "green" light for the Senior Center, I'm approaching it as though the "red" light has changed to "yellow." Although our county has remained healthy and relatively safe, there is still great concern for older adults and vulnerable populations, so we need to proceed cautiously. If you need to leave your home, do so, safely. Be sure to have a mask with you. Wash your hands or use hand sanitizer, frequently. Don't linger among others, remain at least six feet away from all others, to minimize your exposure.

It is our hope to keep you safe, when it's time to venture out to the senior center. Staff is working with Administration, the health department and the State Office on Aging and Adult Services, to comply with recommended guidelines. We have a lot of work to do. Our hope is to open first for income tax appointments and Project Fresh distribution. We have over 400 people to get set up with these services. Once taxes are done, by the end of June, we will look at expanding our outside activities and other one on one or small groups. We will need to monitor the number of people in our buildings, clean surfaces in between uses, screen visitors prior to entry, provide proper personal protection equipment and sanitizing stations. We will work ourselves back into operations, gradually, thoughtfully, and with purposeful intent. Please be patient and continue to be vigilant in keeping yourself and your loved ones safe.

We will continue to provide virtual exercise classes, music programs, and curbside meal service. We're also working on additional virtual services including telehealth assistance, livestreaming classes, and educational programs. As always, if you have a need, please call us, we are HERE FOR YOU!

Our thanks to Meals on Wheels for collaborating with us to prepare the Curbside Meal Services during COVID 19. If you are unable to get out or know someone who can't, please contact Meals on Wheels at 231-947-3780 to see about being put on the delivery route. Monthly, Meals on Wheels will send out statements indicating how many meals were given to you with instructions on how to make a donation to cover cost, if you are inclined to do so. No obligation.

Lori Wells

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Commission on Aging 231-922-4688it

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