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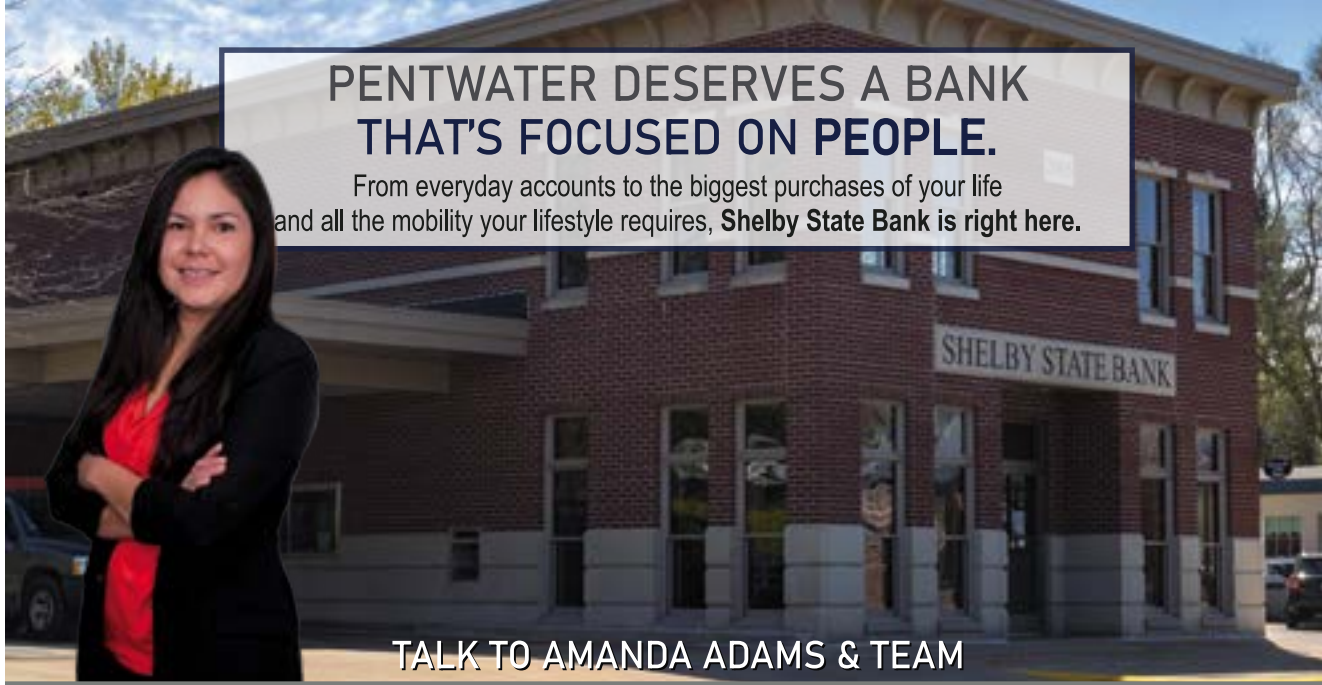

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Cover photo
courtesy
Jilly Barnes

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to make
Christmas in
the Village fun
for young and
old, alike.

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Village seeking out consultant to verify study

BY DAVID BOSSICK

The Village of Pentwater was looking into hiring a consultant to review a citizens' group study that underlines the reasons the village resident's could consider in becoming a city.

Following the Village Council's October meeting, Village Manager Chris Brown said in late October that the village is aiming at hiring a consultant to review the village's city feasibility study.

"We'd like to have ours to be vetted through a consultant," Brown said. "We're looking for one. We've reached out to the Michigan Municipal League."

He said what the village is looking for is an individual or organization with a good knowledge of government finance and municipal law.

"We're working on that," he said.

The village began in June 2022 with a committee appointed to look into the issue of whether or not the village could become a city. The study was charged with learning about the pro-

cess of becoming a city, develop a list of benefits and detriments to it, learn the effects of the changes to the village, review the changes in taxes and develop a question-and-answer forum for the public.

Roughly a year later, the study was completed and submitted to the village. The Village Council, last July, decided to pursue a ballot measure to put it before the voters of the village to decide.

At the same time, Pentwater Township — which would be affected by the change because of the potential loss of taxes from landowners in the village — hosted question-and-answer sessions itself. The township worked with Citizens Research Council of Michigan on a study of its own, the subject of which was in two question-and-answer sessions in the late summer.

Since the summer, the village hired Mary Marshall as its outreach and education director on an interim basis while the City Feasibility Study Committee worked on a request for propos-

al for the position. Brown said recently that Marshall's job wasn't "trying to sell this (becoming a city)."

Brown reiterated that there are distinct differences between the village and the city in terms of structure of government and responsibilities, too. Should the village become a city, some of the responsibilities would shift to the newly created city. Brown said many services — such as police protection as an example — are already provided by the village without becoming a city.

Brown said it may reach December before a consultant or consultants are brought on to review the study the village completed.

"We've been working on trying to figure out who can do it," Brown said. "We want somebody comprehensive to do it."

He thought, at the time, that perhaps a municipal bonding attorney could assist with the task of looking through the study.

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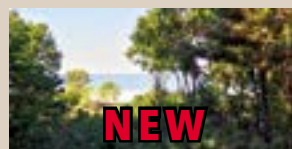
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Winter and Spring EVENTS CALENDAR

NOV. 25 Small Business Saturday, Downtown

NOV. 25 Santa Celebrates Christmas in the Village, Pentwater Village Green, 5-6:30 p.m.

DEC. 2 Pentwater Christmas in the Village - Pentwater Band Holiday Craft Fair, Pentwater Public Schools, 600 E. Park St., 9 a.m.-3 p.m.,

DEC. 9 Pentwater Christmas in the Village

DEC. 10 COVE Afternoon Tea, Oceana Council on Aging, 4250 W. Tyler Road, Hart, 1:30-4 p.m.

DEC. 10 Pentwater Christmas in the Village

DEC. 23 Pentwater Christmas in the Village

FEB. 10 Winterfest in Pentwater, Downtown. Corks and Canvas, galleries on Hancock Street, 2-5 p.m.

FEB. 10 Winterfest in Pentwater, Downtown

MAR. 30 Colleen Plummer's Easter on the Green, Pentwater Village Green, 12-1 p.m.

MAY 4 Brews & Beats craft beer, wine and cider festival, Pentwater Village Green, 12-5 p.m.

MAY 4 Wine Art on the Water, Park Place, 750 Run St., 2-5 p.m.

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SANTA TO RIDE IN HORSE-DRAWN SLEIGH DURING CHRISTMAS IN THE VILLAGE

BY DAVID L. BARBER
PTW COLUMNIST

Santa Claus and his beautiful bride have danced in Pentwater. I know, I saw them – in the mirror.

He's listened to the whispers and pleas of area children, and of their parents, too. Afterall, their Wish Lists are his To-Do List.

Santa has strolled arm-in-arm with Mrs. Claus down the sidewalks of this enchanting village – stopping, of course, to talk with the youngsters – and sure as the bell tower will strike midnight on Christmas Eve, he will again deliver toys, candies and other wondrous gifts to those same children he'll have met with only a few days earlier during the Christmas in the Village celebration.

Oh yeah, he's back alright, by popular demand he-e-e's ba-a-ack! And just when you think you've seen the jolly ole' elf everywhere, visiting with everyone, and doing everything he possibly could to make the holiday season a joyous one, he has something new and special planned for the children of Pentwater this year – he's going to ride with those kids in a horse-drawn wagon during the month-long festival that is Christmas in the Village of Pentwater.

"This is our first year where Santa will be on that horse-drawn wagon," local artist and business owner Jilly "Jilly" Barnes told me. "There is no charge to ride in a wagon drawn by draft horses and to see the town of Pentwater and see all

of its beautifully decorated windows."

Jolly Jilly, as everyone including Santa knows her to be, told me to tell the children of Pentwater that Santa will ride on that very special wagon on Saturday, Dec. 16, and that he will welcome them with open arms, just as he always does. Can you imagine a more beautiful scenario, especially if it snows.

Such moments become memories that can last for a long, long time – forever, to be quite honest.

My wife and I have been blessed to have been asked by Santa to fill in for him and Mr. Claus a few times when other commitments prevented them from appearing at certain holiday functions. He's in such demand that he does that, you know, he will deputize a person to don his red coat, shiny black boots and long red cap, and he'll ask them to meet with youngsters, young and old, on his behalf.

"Be jolly," he said. "Be kind. Talk with them. Laugh with them. Dance with them, too. But most of all, listen to the children and report back to me."

And so that is what my wife and I did, including the dancing, which I otherwise don't do – ever. How's that for a little Christmas magic? That dance became one of our favorite photos.

Let me say that if I hadn't been a reporter all my life and challenged every day to write only the truth, I could see myself being challenged to write about another truth that would speak of a child's right to dream about all the great and wonderful things – seen and unseen – such

as Santa Claus; because of all the truths that matter most in this world the greatest truth lies in the latter, in what a child sees and believes in.

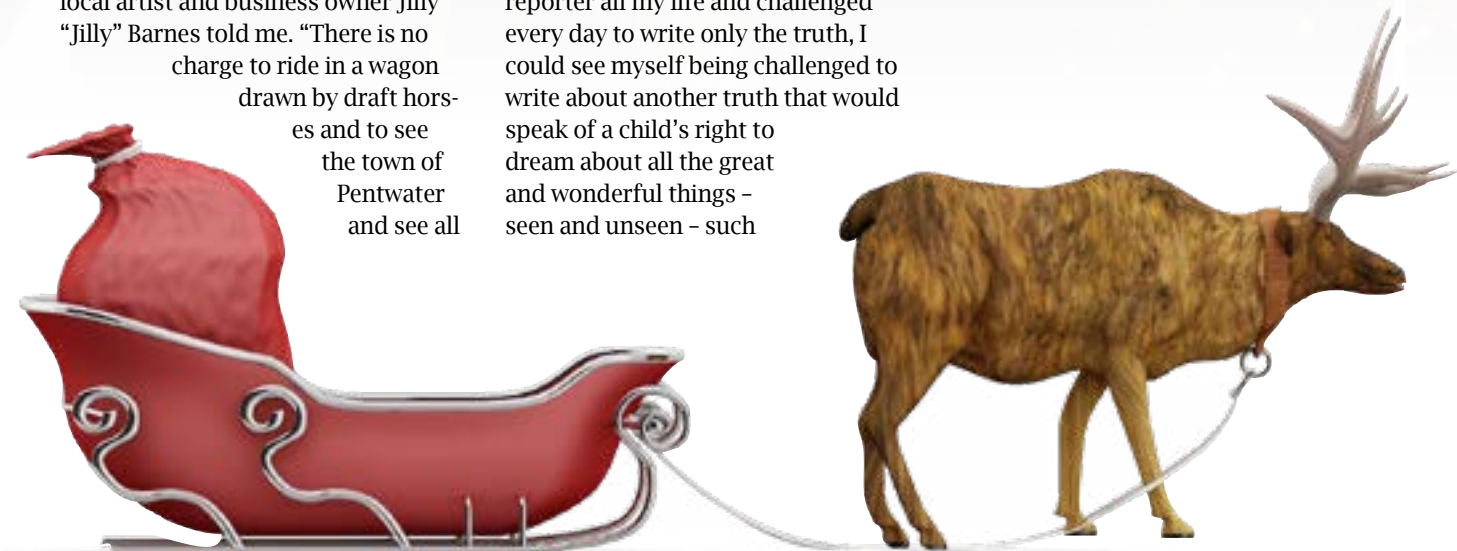
Gosh knows that in time – all-too-soon, really – their world will become blurred and blinded by other truths.

So this Christmas my wife, Jeanne, and I are planning to travel to Pentwater to rekindle our friendships with Santa and Mrs. Claus. We want to watch Santa as he rides on the horse-drawn wagon and as he visits with the children of Pentwater. We want to revisit our youth, and a time when truth really mattered the most.

IAnd to you children out there who might be reading this might I just say "thank you for helping us grown-ups to see the truth when it matters most," because sometimes we tend to lose our focus on what's really important – you.

Merry Christmas, everyone. And thank you Santa, thank you.

Editor's note: David L. Barber is a retired journalist living in Manistee. He will provide occasional feature stories and columns for various Shoreline Media publications, including the Ludington Daily News, Oceana Herald-Journal, LakeStyle Magazine and PTW Magazine. He can be reached at dibarber1006@gmail.com

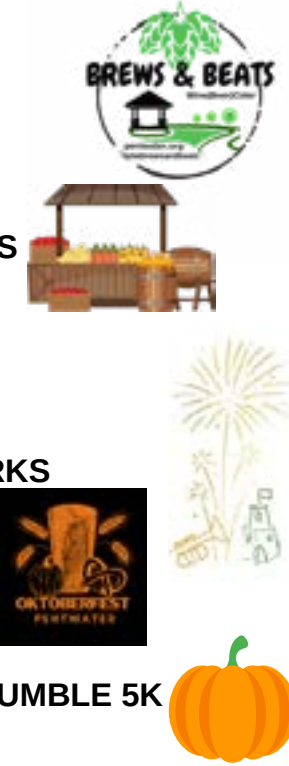


DISCOVER THE MAGIC OF PENTWATER IN 2024

PENTWATER.ORG



- FEBRUARY 10 & 17 WINTERFEST
- MARCH 30 EASTER ON THE GREEN
- MAY 4 BREWS & BEATS
- JUNE 2 FARMERS MARKET BEGINS
- JUNE 8 PENTWATER GARAGE SALES
- JUNE 15 & 16 SPRING FEST
- JUNE TBD CHAMBER GOLF OUTING
- JULY 3 FIREWORKS
- AUGUST 8-11 HOMECOMING
- AUGUST 10 HOMECOMING FIREWORKS
- AUGUST 23 & 24 SIDEWALK SALES
- SEPTEMBER 19 HARVEST DAY
- SEPTEMBER 21 & 22 FALL FEST
- OCTOBER 12 OKTOBERFEST
- OCTOBER 12 CAR SHOW, STOUT STUMBLE 5K
- OCTOBER 26 SPOOKTACULAR



Photos by
MATTHEW SCHEIDEL

PENTWATER HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS marched for the first time in a long time in their uniforms as a part of a massive performance at Mason County Central in Scottdale on Oct. 20. In past years, when Ludington or Mason County Central visited each other for football, the two bands would combine to play music together. This year, band students from Pentwater and Baldwin — complete in their respective school's band uniforms — played in the combined band.



from the Pentwater Historical Society

We had a great 2023 year and appreciate all your support. Thank You!

We look forward to your participation and continued support in 2024 and beyond.

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The Clutch

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The Knuckle Sandwich

Turkey Pastrami, bacon, pineapple-jalapeno sauce, cheddar, mozzarella, French fried onions, Clutch sauce, lettuce, tomato & onion on ciabatta bread. \$15

The Greek

Pita bread, beef-lamb gyro meat, feta cheese, tomato, onion, cucumber & Clutch tzatziki. \$13

The TKO

Boar's Head ham w/ pineapple-jalapeno glaze, cheddar cheese & Clutch sauce on ciabatta bread. \$15

The Contender

Cheddar, mozzarella & Clutch sauce baked on Helen's whole wheat. \$11

The Greek Veggie

Pita bread, beets, feta cheese, tomato, Kalamata olives, onion, cucumber & Clutch tzatziki. \$12

Clutch Hoagies

W/ Naan or potato chips & a Clutch dip of choice.

The Italian

Boar's Head ham, salami, pepperoni, provolone, mayo, lettuce, tomato, onion & Clutch Vinaigrette. \$14

Undisputed Champ

Boar's Head roast beef & havarti, Clutch sauce, BBQ sauce, French fried onions & pickled red cabbage. \$15

Unanimous Decision

Boar's Head ovengold turkey, creamy havarti, mayo, lettuce, pickle, banana peppers & onion. \$14

Left Hook

Boar's Head beef pastrami, Swiss, Clutch thousand island & house-made coleslaw. \$14

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Apple & Greens

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Romaine, Boar's Head ovengold turkey, Boar's Head ham, Vermont Cheddar, provolone, tomato, cucumber, onion and hard boiled egg. Large \$14 Small \$9

Greek

Romaine, beef-lamb gyro meat, hummus, feta cheese, beets, tomato, kalamata olives, onion, cucumber & Clutch tzatziki.

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House-made dressings: Ranch, Bleu Cheese, Clutch Vinaigrette, Apple Cider Vinaigrette & Thousand Isl.

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Nachos

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Meat

Taco meat & cheese. \$11

Meat & Veggies

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Loaded Nachos

Meat, refried beans, cheese, lettuce, tomato, onion, and black olives. \$15

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Baked pita filled with beef, lettuce, tomato, cheese, and sour cream. \$10

Clutch Pizza

Meat Toppings: Ham, Sausage, Pepperoni, Bacon, Ground Beef, Chicken.

Additional toppings:

Onion, Green Pepper, Fresh Mushrooms, Black Olives, Green Olives, Fresh Jalapeños, Tomato, Banana Peppers, Pineapple, Feta.

16" Clutch Signature Crust

w/ 100% Real Mozzarella Cheese \$12

Add Meat or Cheese \$3/each

Additional Toppings \$2/each

7" Pita Pizza

w/ 100% Real Mozzarella \$7

Add Meat or Cheese \$1.25/each

Additional Toppings \$0.50/each

12" Gluten Free

Cauliflower

W/ 100% Real Mozzarella \$15

Add Meat or Cheese \$2.50/each

Additional Toppings \$1.25/each

Specialty Pizza

Loaded Pepperoni

16" Signature Crust \$18

7" Pita Pizza \$8

12" Gluten Free Cauliflower \$19

Sweet & Spicy Hawaiian

Ham, pineapple, feta, Clutch jalapeno-pineapple sauce.

16" Signature Crust \$22

7" Pita Pizza \$9

12" Gluten Free Cauliflower \$21

Meatzza

Sausage, pepperoni, ham and bacon

16" Signature Crust \$24

7" Pita Pizza \$12

12" Gluten Free Cauliflower \$25

Veggie Supreme

Onion, Mushroom, Green Pepper, Black & Green Olives, Banana Peppers & Feta.

16" Signature Crust \$24

7" Pita Pizza \$11

12" Gluten Free Cauliflower \$25

The Big Mac

Special sauce, ground beef, lettuce, onion, pickle, Cheddar and mozzarella.

16" Signature Crust \$20

7" Pita Pizza \$10

12" Gluten Free Cauliflower \$21

Supreme

Sausage, pepperoni, ham, onion, green peppers & mushrooms.

16" Signature Crust \$27

7" Pita Pizza \$12

12" Gluten Free Cauliflower \$26

Deluxe

Ham, sausage, bacon, pepperoni, onion, green peppers, mushrooms, green & black olives.

16" Signature Crust \$33

7" Pita Pizza \$15

12" Gluten Free Cauliflower \$30

Cheese Breadsticks

16" w/ Ranch or Marinara \$12

Pasta

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Bacon Mac-n-Cheese

Chicken Alfredo

Sausage & Marinara

Boneless

Wings

 BBQ  Buffalo  Plain

 Pineapple-Jalapeno

6- \$9 12- \$16 18- \$24 24- \$30

W/ Ranch or Bleu cheese.

Sides

Mary's onion bread \$6

Naan w/ Hummus & Tzatziki \$7

Veggies w/ dip \$6

Side Salad \$6

(w/lettuce, tomato, onion & Croutons)

Beverages

Hot Coffee \$3

Hot tea \$3

Fresh Brewed Iced tea \$3

Lemonade \$3

Slushies

Bottled water

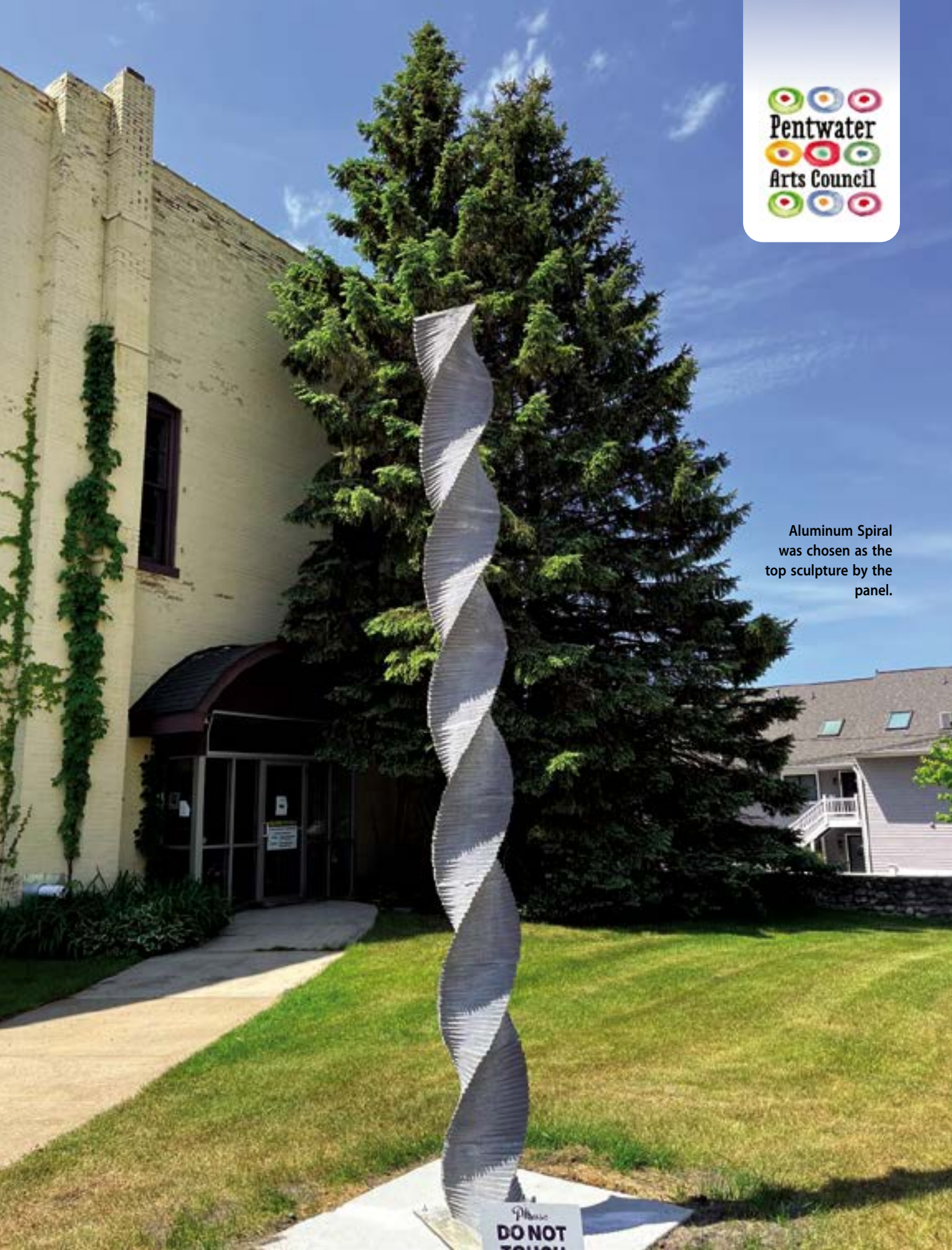
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Aluminum Spiral was chosen as the top sculpture by the panel.

PENTWATER ARTS COUNCIL CELEBRATES SECOND YEAR OF SCULPTURE WALK

BY DAVID BOSSICK

The Pentwater Arts Council celebrated its second of three years of its Sculpture Walk in October at Park Place in Pentwater.

This year's sculpture walk featured six sculptures from six artists from around the country in downtown Pentwater on Second Street and along Hancock Street. All of the sculptures were available to be bought, and that included the People's Choice Winner for the year, Water Maiden, completed by Robert Barnum, announced Pentwater Arts Council Co-President/Vice President Judy Pazol at the council's artist reception.

"It's been quite the attraction for those who have been walking around town," Pazol said. "It was exciting to watch them and see them voting on the QR code."

The Pentwater Arts Council purchased Water Maiden, and it will remain in Pentwater at a location to be determined.

The group also had a jury of in-

dividuals who chose which of the sculptures was the best, and the Aluminum Spiral was chosen as the top sculpture by the panel.

Last year, the council hosted five sculptures and two of those were bought by the council and installed permanently in Pentwater. Next year, there are plans to expand the number of sculptures to eight.

The group is going to work with a different firm to select art work to be shown in the future, Pazol said, and it is hoped to be implemented for the 2024 Sculpture Walk.

"This different company which will help with our selection process for next year is going to be more Midwest in nature," Pazol said. "It will also have a larger selection of sculptures for us to choose from."

The Arts Council will also get more involvement from the community through this new firm in terms of the selection.

"We will have 11 sculptures around Pentwater for the coming year," she

said. "The other exciting part is that will be a yearlong display. We will have, starting in the spring, we will have 11 sculptures around town. And it will be a reflection of the excitement about the appreciation of art."

"People will help create discussion about the meaning of the sculpture medium. It will bring discussion about what people like (and) what they don't like about art."

This year, a booklet was created for students and adults alike to find and learn about the various sculptures. The booklet had images of each of the sculptures on one page and on the accompanying page, a list of questions with space left open for students and others to start those discussions.

"I think it will be our big addition to our project," Pazol said.

Pazol said it is through the donations of many that's made not only the Sculpture Walk successful but also the work of the Pentwater Arts Council overall.





Judy Pazol discusses the Pentwater Art Council's work with the Sculpture Walk this year and next Saturday evening at Park Place in Pentwater.

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wishes you a
wonderful and safe
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OKTOBERFEST CAR SHOW

People check out the car show as a part of the Pentwater Oktoberfest in mid-October in downtown Pentwater. The event included a 5-kilometer run, a home tour to benefit COVE and the traditional celebration at the Pentwater Village Green.

DAVID BOSSICK PHOTO



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cover story by DAVID BARBER

photos by JILLY BARNES



Christmas IN THE VILLAGE



'WE HAVE

Pentwater to celebrate 'Christmas in the Village' all through December

BY DAVID L. BARBER

Mayberry, itself — the jolly, joyful fictional hamlet that causes people to smile to this day — was never as merry as merry ole' Christmas in the Village, in Pentwater.

And anybody who says otherwise can just “nip it in the bud,” as it was often said on the legendary family TV show of the 1960s.

As it has been for the past few years, the real-life Hallmark-like hamlet of Pentwater will host its annual Christmas in the Village celebration throughout the month of December, which will be highlighted by a teasing and tinsel list of events that will be held on the first three Saturdays of the month — Dec. 2, 9 and 16.

And everyone who knows Christmas in the Village, and who doesn't, knows how the spirited spokesperson for the event, Jolly Jilly, can get at this time of the year. The star at the top of the village tree never sparkled so bright as local artist and business owner Jill “Jilly” Barnes sparkles at Christmastime.

The owner of Jilly's Gallery and member of the Pentwater Downtown Development Authority recently shared a message with others in which she cheerfully talked about the “magic that comes alive during Christmas in the Village.”

“We have fun, we definitely do,” said Jolly Jilly, who became known

PHOTO COURTESY JILL BARNES

Known only as “Buddy,” this elf helps to make Christmas in the Village fun for young and old, alike.

FUN'



PHOTO COURTESY JILL BARNES

Horse-drawn wagons carry townsfolk and visitors to and fro through the center of town.

as “‘Jilly Beans’ growing up and that just kind of stuck.”

“It's about giving back to the community and that's what Christmas is about — it's about giving, it's a warm feeling when you give back and so we really, really try to remind people of that and to let them know that Pentwater is a special place all year long, it's not just a resort town. It's a good time to remind people it's a happy time of the year.

We have 27 businesses that will stay open on Saturdays to help build a Christmas feeling in town,” she said. A lot of people assume that Pentwater just closes up after Labor Day weekend, but we actually have businesses

that stay open.

“If you want that fun, festive feeling, you come on a Saturday (in December) when we have a bonfire and Christmas caroling right outside the Village Green and where there's free hot cocoa. Santa will be here on Dec. 16 from 1-4 p.m. and he's going to ride on the horse-drawn wagon and ask children, young and old, what their Christmas wishes are. This is our first year where Santa will be on that horse-drawn wagon. There is no charge to ride in a wagon drawn by draft horses and to see the town of Pentwater and see all of its beautifully decorated windows.”



Tom Harmon is all smiles making wreaths.

PHOTO COURTESY JILL BARNES

“It’s about giving back to the community and that’s what Christmas is about — it’s about giving, it’s a warm feeling when you give back and so we really, really try hard to remind people of that and to let them know that Pentwater is a special place all year long, it’s not just a summer resort town. It’s a good time to remind people that it’s a happy time of the year.”

— JILLY BARNES



Jill “Jilly” Barnes





PHOTO COURTESY JILL BARNES

Caroling is always popular during the annual Christmas in the Village celebration.

And while Santa will ride on that very special wagon on Dec. 16, wagon rides through the village will be offered both that day and the Saturday before, Dec. 9.

“Some of our merchants will dress up like a little elf, or whatever or whoever,” said Jolly Jilly. “Occasionally Buddy the Elf, himself, will show up and he likes to ‘sing loud for everyone to hear.’”

A variety of the businesses will offer art-related and craft classes throughout December.

“All sorts of businesses will do different things, there will be some open houses,” she said. “The kids will come in and do some Christmas caroling on one of the Saturdays. Last year they went around to the different stores and sang, it’s really a lot of fun.

“That first weekend we’ll have our Sweet Stroll. We sell bags and the merchants will give out a sweet treat — you’ll get a list of those merchants — and all of the money will go back to the school. This year we’re giving the money to

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T.T. is all smiles, we think, wearing an ugly sweater.

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the band program, which is great. Last year it went to the Student Congress and the year before it went to the student athletes.”

Once again, businesses throughout Pentwater will take part in a friendly competition of decorating their storefronts.

“This year we’ll have a Light It Up theme and if you want to vote for your favorite window (all you have to do is pay a dollar to cast your vote) and all the dollars we raise will go to the food pantry here in town,” she said. “So, the merchant that raises the most money, wins, and it’s all good for the food pantry. Last year we raised over \$300 for the food pantry and last year’s theme was Movie Scenes and this year’s theme is Light It Up — we want to see how bright we can make the town.

“Our town has a tendency to feel like a little Hallmark movie if you come here on a Saturday, but we have merchants who are open throughout the week.

“Another thing we do is have an ugly sweater discount, so if you wear your ugly Christmas sweater a lot of the merchants will give you a little bit of a discount, or a special surprise” said Jolly Jilly, whose own dog T.T. wore one last year.

Ugly sweater?

“If you walk in and ask ‘is this ugly enough for you,’ you’ll be okay, even though it might be an adorable sweater,” she said, laughing. “We had a lady last year who wore a dragon sweater with a Santa on it and an angel up in the air and I thought it was really cute, but she still got her (ugly sweater) discount.

“We have free gift wrapping that we do for the holidays, so if you come in and do your Christmas shopping here then everything will be gift wrapped for when you leave and you’ll be all set – gift tags and everything.”

And so what are some of the reasons to visit Pentwater this holiday season? According to Jolly Jilly:

“Shops will be stocked with home décor, specialty gifts, treats, beverages, candles, toys, books and more, perfect for effortless holiday gift-giving.”

“Galleries and quilt shops will offer classes, kits, one-of-a-kind ornaments, wall art and gift certificates, from festive holiday apparel to cozy casual wear, ‘we’ve got your fashion needs.’”

“Sip coffee, wine and spirits in town, or take some home to share with friends and family.”

“Unique handcrafted creations by local artisans, perfect for thoughtful and unique holiday gifts.”

And more – lots more.

“Spread joy and shop small,” she said. “Giving a gift from a small business is like giving a gift twice.”



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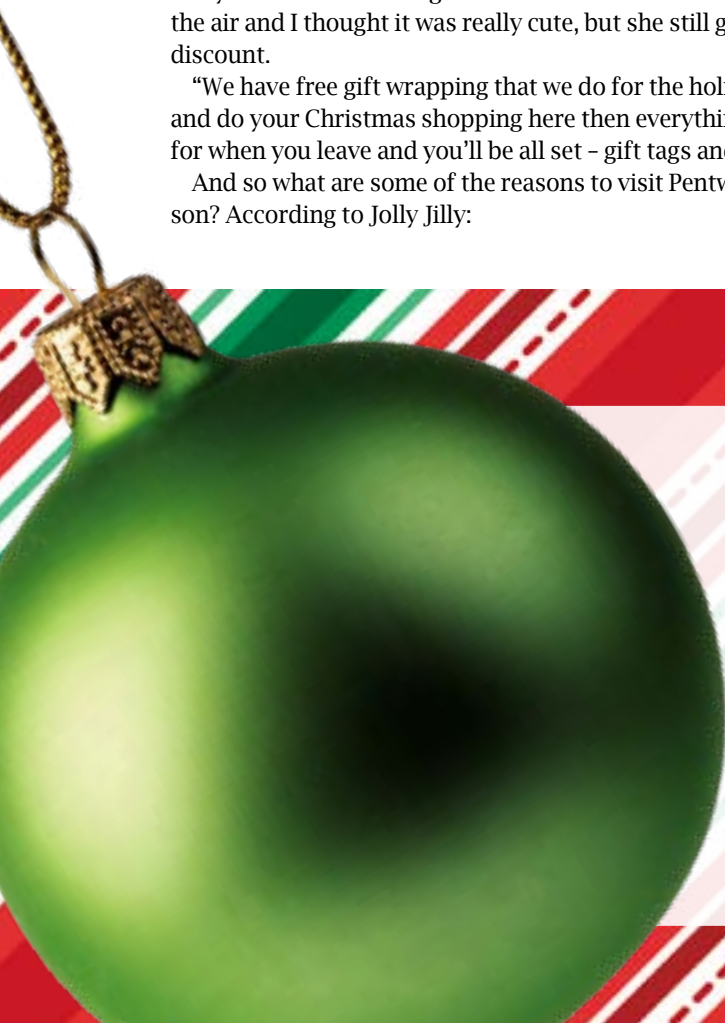
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*“Treat every day
like Christmas”*
— BUDDY



FUN ACTIVITIES

FOR ALL

BY DAVID L. BARBER

While the year-ending holidays are upon us, it's not too early to start thinking about the annual Winterfest that will come to Pentwater in early February.

Of course, some of what will go on in that festival — as with others across the area during the winter months — will depend on whether or not Mother Nature will cooperate.

“Even if we don't have any snow, there are indoor activities, so that's why we have a mixture of both,” said Eva Gregwer, executive director, Pentwater Chamber of Commerce. “Last year we didn't get any ice for our ice-staking rink and that was a bummer — we had the ice, but then we got rain.

“Weather permitting, the events will include ice skating

— we work with the fire department in creating our ice rink just north of town at the park up there; our basketball court is turned into our skating rink. We have ice skates, all different sizes for adults and children, that people can pick up and use for free. We're never guaranteed we'll have ice on the lake, so this way it's really easier for us to smooth out the ice.

“It's kind of like ‘Get Your Freeze on in Pentwater,’” she said. “We're trying to get rid of those cabin blues. In January, people usually just stay home, so we say ‘hey, come on out and hang out with us in Pentwater, we have things going on — fun activities, for all.’ It is a fun time. People have a good time, a lot of people you haven't seen for a while.”

WINTERFEST 2024 FAST APPROACHING



Gregwer said the 2024 festival will be modeled after ones held — quite successfully — in the past.

“We’ll do bonfires and have s’mores at the Village Green,” she said. “We have a lot of businesses and organizations that step up for that weekend who help make Winterfest happen.

“We always have our winter’s farmers market, too, which is always the third weekend, that is going on its third year and we do that in the basement of the Methodist Church where there’s lots of open space, they’re really generous with us.

“We’ll have a cheese vendor, a bread vendor, someone will have micro greens, so it’s a variety and every year we keep building to it — it’s very popular,” said Gregwer. “It’s so nice to see that it has grown and taken off because our farmers market during our summer season is so popular so it’s become nice to give them the option that if, ‘okay, if you still have products (we’ll have it at Winterfest, too).’

“The school does a Snowman Scram 5K and that’s grown tremendously. We’ve had great participation in that race and it’s a fun route through town — obviously, dress warm, or run fast.”

One of the more popular events, she said, is the annual Ryan Williams fishing tournament that is held on Pentwater Lake — again, weather permitting.





"Of course we have to have safe ice on the lake," she said. "We always try to do the Ryan Williams ice-fishing tournament the third weekend because it's always free fishing weekend in Michigan, so you don't have to have a fishing license to participate."

Gregwer said for the last few years the community's downtown shops have hosted a poker run, "... where you go in these shops and pick up a card and whoever has the best hand at the end of the day wins."

"The second weekend will be Corks and Canvas, with art and wine activities with our local galleries. That's one that people always look forward to because it's indoors and is not weather-dependent and that is hosted by the Pentwater Arts Council. That's been a very popular one that people



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will travel for — people come up for the weekend in Pentwater, or they'll do a day-trip — we've seen a lot of day-trippers come up from the Grand Rapids and other areas."

Also, said Gregwer, the Oceana Ski Club will host a cross-country family ski event.

"They bring out their skis that people can borrow and use — totally recreational," she said. "It's so nice out there and they do a good job on their trails."

As it is with many families in the area, Gregwer, herself, comes "... from a fifth generation on both sides."

To say she loves living and working in the area is an understatement, pointing out that the success of the Winterfest — as with all other festivals and celebrations in the community — begins with the large number of volunteers who help.

"I've enjoyed watching the town evolve over the years and sort of enhance itself has been nice," she said. "If we didn't get support from our volunteers, none of these activities would be possible."

For more information on the Pentwater Winterfest go to travelinfo@pentwater.org



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