



801 E. Front Street, Traverse City, Michigan 49686

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: February 21, 2018

Contact: Lori Wells, Manager
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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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