



Grand Traverse County Commission on Aging Senior Center Network

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Subject: GT County Team takes First Place at Senior Odyssey of the Mind

This past Saturday, a team of Grand Traverse Commission on Aging Senior Center Network members traveled to Allendale High School to compete in their first Senior Odyssey. Team members Sally Burden, Bob Nice, Joan Dasef, Barbara White and Karen Rath have spent the last three months preparing by attending weekly practice and coaching sessions led by Tina Allen. All the training allowed them to take the top spot, winning Gold Medals, over four other teams from lower Michigan including the returning champions.

Presented by Senior Neighbors, Inc. this is the 4th year of the program which is based on Odyssey of the Mind. The program promotes cognitive health and vitality in adults through creative problem solving activities. Allowing adults to use lifelong experiences, knowledge, and skills in new and innovative ways, participants work together to solve ‘problems’ by creating scenarios that address them, as well as, ‘spontaneous problems’ requiring creative responses within a limited time. Teams present their “long-term problem” by presenting the solution in a skit. Both spontaneous and long term problems are judged and scores are tallied for a winner.

“Good story idea! Love the idea that technology is just too much,” said the judges about the GT County’s team skit based on a family where the grandparents get the members to personally connect again after ditching their tech toys.

The next Senior Odyssey team will form in August. Contact the Senior Center Network at ehovie@grandtraverse.org or 231-922-4911 if interested.

The Senior Center Network is part of the Grand Traverse County Commission on Aging – “Caring for those who cared for you” for 40 years.