



801 E. Front Street, Traverse City, Michigan 49686

231-922-4911

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Contact: Lori Wells, Manager

Phone/Email: 231-922-4911/[lwells@grandtraverse.org](mailto: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, painting what the eye actually sees – where the painter reproduces the actual visual conditions seen at the time of the painting. Working in natural light became particularly important in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century, with outdoor painting from observation 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. in the Medalie Roadside Park, 1910 South Airport Road. The park is located on the southern shores of Boardman Lake and can be accessed at Logan’s Landing. This little park is where the Boardman River enters Boardman Lake and is known for an abundance of waterfowl.

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](mailto:dmikowski@grandtraverse.org) or call 231-922-4911.

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