

News from the Road – April 2023



Join Us for TADL MakerFest!

The annual celebration of Making and all things STEAM is back for an in-person, outdoor event at the Grand Traverse Civic Center on April 29th from 10am - 2pm. Rain date will be April 30th from 12pm-4pm. We'll take over the amphitheater and pavilion area with other STEAM/Maker friends to create an unforgettable experience. Check out the full list of who will be in attendance on the TADL website.

Learn More→

Northern Michigan Startup Week

Northern Michigan Startup Week is back this year, May 5-11, with the theme Water Innovation. Come join on us for the Newton's Road High School Pitch Finale on Monday, May 8 starting at 5:30pm at the Traverse City Opera House. Cheer on our student stars from local schools on the TC New Tech stage pitching their inventions to judges and the public. High Schoolers and adults might also enjoy the University Pitch Showdown the following night, May 9 at 5:30pm also at the Opera House.

Summer Camps in Northern Michigan

Traverse City and the surrounding area has a growing need of Summer Camps for all ages. Local programs in the community heard the need, took action and are ready to greet your child with a smile. All camps make every day an adventure in beautiful Northern Michigan. Use our STEM Finder and filter camps to view local offerings. Also, see the related article in Families First Monthly.

Pitch Finale RSVP Here→



Search Camps On Our STEM Finder→



STEM Kits for Pre-K Professional Development

Our first professional development session on inquiry learning for Pre-K teachers was a success so we are partnering with Great Start to Quality to offer another session! This additional session will be offered to Pre-K teachers on April 25th at 6:30pm. STEM Kits will be offered to all participants!

Planet Earth Craft

Celebrate Earth Day and pick up a craft to take home from one of our STEAM Stations! Crafts are available at the Great Lakes Children's Museum, The Salvation Army, and the Mancelona Family Resource Center STEAM Stations.

At Home Activity →

Register Here ->

Career Investigator Success Story

"After a regular young male patron mentioned video games as a career we spent a good half an hour playing with the Career Investigator, looking at all sorts of careers. It helped him consider things like industry growth, and quality of life issues like salary and being able to stay in Northern Michigan. It led him to think about how he should be preparing for college, and what types of classes he should be taking now. It was a perfect use of this tool, and I was amazed at how this patron was able to navigate and use the Career Investigator to its fullest potential with very little assistance. Total win!"

Amy Barritt, Branch Manager Kingsley Branch Library





Young Eagles Day

Young Eagles welcomes youth age 8-17 for a free flight in a general aviation airplane from Cherry Capitol Airport over the Traverse City Area on May 13th, 9 AM -12:00 PM.

In addition to the Young Eagles Flights, Chapter 234 holds monthly Young Eagles Club meetings for those who are interested in learning more about aviation and handson activities that will enhance their knowledge of the principles of flight, navigation, aircraft and airport terminology, airspace and traffic control. Learn more about the Young Eagles Club here.

Challenge Island Summer Camp

When school is out, STEAM is in! These exciting camps feel like vacations in their own right. Try out different camps for grades K-5 such as Super STEAM Hero Camp, Shark Camp, Xtreme STEAM Sports Camp, or CI Road Trip USA Camp. All camps take place at the Grand Traverse Area Children's Garden.

Register For a Camp→





Register Here for a Free Flight →



Downtown TC Flower Planters for Pollinators

Help the Downtown Development Authority, MSU Extension Master Gardener Program, and the Master Gardener Association of Northwest Michigan beautify Traverse City and provide flowers for our pollinators. On May 26th volunteers from the community and MSU Extension Master Gardener Volunteers will be meeting downtown to plant annual flowers in the flower planters along E Front and Union St. in downtown TC. For more information or to RSVP contact MSU Extension Horticulture Educator Nate Walton (waltonn2@msu.edu).

RSVP Here→



COGNITION Planetarium Experiences

Come experience the galaxy in COGNITION's new inflatable planetarium where you can explore solar systems and the planets. Available the second full week of each month (Sunday-Sunday). Their Planetarium is also available as a Mobile Lab experience, where they bring it to your school or organization!

4-H Junior Master Gardener Spin Club

Register for the Spin Club: Junior Master Gardener! This program takes place at the Botanic Gardens at Historic Barns Park. There is no cost to participate. Summer club dates are Tuesdays and Thursdays starting June 20 through July 13 from 10am-12pm for 2nd-4th grade and 1pm-3pm for 5th-7th grade.

Register Here →



GT Butterfly House Season Opening May 1st

Join the GT Butterfly House & Bug Zoo for their 10th season! They are open daily, 10am to 5pm through September. The tropical garden is in full bloom and hundreds of butterflies are waiting to meet you!

Discover More Here →



Oliver Art Center Free Kid's Drop-In Day

Stop by the Oliver Art Center in Frankfort, MI on April 15th from 10AM to Noon and join them for fun crafting projects with a Spring theme! Kids of all ages are invited to drop in to their Creative Space and participate in fun arts and crafts projects! Admission is free and no registration needed, just drop in!

See Schedule and Info Here→

More Event Info Here→

Newton's Road Column

Read our bimonthly Newton's Road column in Families First Monthly! Each column introduces a topic and includes ideas for related home- and community-based activities for different-aged kids. View our article, AI and Learning, in this April/May issue!



Read our Newton's Road column →

Visit newtonsroad.org for more STEM Ideas or to learn how to volunteer with STEM in the area.



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