

### **Virtual Travel Club**

Does COVID have you wishing you could take a trip to get away from it all? Now you can relax and learn about other parts of Michigan, the country, or the world. The Charlevoix County Commission on Aging Virtual Travel Club can give you a sample of interesting places in the world and the vacations you can take to visit them all.

Every month over the course of the next year we will take you to a different destination. Each week in a given month we will send you, via email, different parts of your virtual vacation. Week one will be a travel video link along with facts and information about our destination. Week two will be points of interest at our destination. Week three will be the delicious food that our destination has to offer. As with any vacation we will use week four to “unpack” and compare experiences. Week four will have a Zoom meeting to discuss, ask questions and share.

We are very excited to be able to bring this opportunity to you. This may even give you vacation ideas when we are able to travel safely again. Your participation in this club can be as much or little as you would like. The Zoom “unpack” is not required. I would also like to remind everyone that you can call into Zoom and participate by phone.

We hope to send you “mini” travel excursions from time to time. These would include fun and exciting destinations around our great state of Michigan.

To get started, fill out the Charlevoix County Commission on Aging Virtual Travel Club request to participate form. One can be requested through the COA office by calling 231-237-0103 and speak to Sheri Shepard. Don’t have an email address or prefer not to participate virtually? We will send you the monthly packet in the mail to participate. Again, you may call into the “unpacking” session with your phone and this link will come to you via mail. We welcome and support any amount or type of participation.

### **Pals Program**

We know isolation and loneliness are the epidemic behind the COVID-19 Pandemic and we want to help you find ways to battle this as well.

Would you like to connect with other Charlevoix County residents age 60 and over to share your pandemic experiences as well as make a new friend while staying safe? The Charlevoix County Commission on Aging is offering a new Pals Program. The COA will facilitate this program that will help you connect with new people during the pandemic. This is a safe and great way to meet new friends in our new normal of social distancing and staying safe at home.

Have you ever wondered what it is like to live in another community in Charlevoix County? Maybe you don’t realize what unique offerings and opportunities other Charlevoix County communities have to offer. This is not only a great opportunity to make a new friend(s) but learn something new about another community within the County you live in.

The Charlevoix County Commission on Aging will facilitate this program and match those who participate in the program. Only your name and phone number will be shared with your Pal once matched. You will receive your matched Pals name and phone number as well. The remainder of your personal information will not be shared with any other parties including your Pal, we will leave this up to you.

You and your matched Pal will be notified by mail of the match. Once you receive your match the rest is up to you. You and your Pal may communicate as often as you both agree upon. You may decide to video chat, email, text, write letters or communicate in a manner decided by both you and your Pal. You may decide that the match is not for you. You may at any time terminate the Pal match at any time.

Please print our Calendars, “Like” our Facebook Page “Charlevoix County Commission on Aging”, follow us on Instagram “Charlevoixcountycoa” and look all the other goings on either on the Senior Hi-Lites Newsletter page or the Menus / Calendars and Activities pages of our website at [www.charlevoixcounty/Commission\\_on\\_Aging](http://www.charlevoixcounty/Commission_on_Aging) .

The Charlevoix County Commission on Aging also has some new information that will be available at all of our area Chambers of Commerce...Stop in and pick up our 3 new information cards and share them with your friends and family. It's covers just some of the things you never knew the COA and Senior Centers did!

**We are changing what aging looks like and feels like!**