



Welcome Aboard
**U.S. Coast Guard Air Station
Traverse City, Michigan**



1175 Airport Access Road
Traverse City, Michigan 49686



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Restaurants

Italian/Pizza

- Mancino’s Pizz & Grinders - 110 Munson Ave, TVC, 929-4415
- Pangea’s Pizza Pub - 135 E Front St, TVC, 946-9800
- Papa John’s - 1338 W. S. Airport Rd, TVC, 941-7272

Steaks/Seafood

- Apache Trout Grill - 13671 S West Bay Shore Dr, TVC, 947-7079
- Boone’s Long Lake Inn - 7208 Secor Rd, TVC, 946-3991
- Freshwater Lodge - 13890 S West Bay Shore Drive, TVC, 932-4694
- Mackinaw Brewing Co - 161 E Front Street, TVC, 933-1100
- Mode’s Bum Steer - 125 E State Street, TVC, 947-9832
- North Peak Brewing Co - 400 W Front Street, TVC, 941-7325
- Outback Steakhouse - 3501 Market Place Cir, TVC, 935-4329

Eclectic Cuisine

- Amical - 229 E Front Street, Traverse City, 941-8888
- Firefly Cafe - 310 Cass St, Traverse City, 932-1310
- Poppycock’s - 128 E Front Street, Traverse City, 941-7632
- Trattoria Stella - 1200 W 11th Street, TVC, 929-8989

Burgers & Sandwiches

- Bubba’s - 428 E Front St, Traverse City, 995-0570
- Sleder’s Tavern - 717 Randolph St, TVC, 947-9213

Mexican

- Agave Mexican Grill - 851 S. Garfield Rd, TVC, 929-4408
- La Senorita - 2455 U.S. 31, Traverse City, 946-4545
1026 Hannah Avenue, TVC, 947-8889

Fast Food

- Arby’s - 1106 E Front Street, TVC, 946-6491
- Big Apple Bagels - 1133 S Airport Rd, TVC, 929-9866
- Quizno’s Subs - 1696 S Garfield Ave, TVC, 941-7827
- Taco Bell - 1447 S Airport Rd, TVC, 933-0350



Disclaimer—This is not an official publication. Therefore, the views expressed in this pamphlet do not reflect the official position of the U.S. Coast Guard, this Command, or the Federal Government. Furthermore, inclusion of an organization in this pamphlet in no way indicates endorsement.

Shopping & Services

Grocery

Meijer's - 3955 US 31 Hwy S, Traverse City, 941-1543
Oleson's - 1100 Hammond Rd E, TVC, 941-9000
Oryana Natural Foods Market - 260 E 10th Street, TVC, 947-0191
Tom's Food Market - 1201 S Division St, Traverse City, 946-4115
6353 N US Hwy 31, N Acme Twp, 938-2400
738 Munson Avenue, TVC, 947-7175

Clothing

Grand Traverse Mall - 3200 S Airport Rd, Traverse City, 922-0077
Cherryland Center - 1148 S Airport Rd, Traverse City, 946-1500
Horizon Outlet Center - 3939 Marketplace Circle, TVC, 941-9211
Kohls - 3333 N US 31 Hwy, Traverse City, 947-3713

Haircut

Bo Tangles - 1779 S. Garfield, TVC, 941-7722
Mastercuts - Grand Traverse Mall, 941-7744
Supercuts - 2556 Crossing Circle, 932-0000

Sporting Goods

Dunhams Discount Sports - 736 Munson Ave, TVC, 935-1414
MC Sports - 3450 W South Airport Rd, TVC, 933-6158
Play It Again Sports - 1251 S Airport Rd, TVC, 929-1870
Gander Mountain - 3500 Market Place Circle, TVC, 929-5590

Major Retailers

Autozone - 703 Garfield Rd, Traverse City, 941-5512
Home Depot - 2522 Crossing Circle, Traverse City, 922-9440
Lowe's - 3150 N US Hwy 31, Traverse City, 534-9008
Menards - 4155 US Hwy 31 S, TVC, 943-0607
K-Mart - 1712 S Garfield Rd, Traverse City, 941-0600
Target - 3100 S Airport Rd W, Traverse City, 947-2992
Walmart - 2640 Crossing Cir, Traverse City, 933-8800

Area Code is 231 unless otherwise stated

History of Traverse City, Michigan

Founded - 1870

Incorporated 1895

Natural beauty and vital economies have, in different ways, always drawn people to this part of the Great Lakes Basin. At the same time, they symbolize a rich life to be had here and make it possible.

Around 1400 A.D., native peoples settled here and teepees lined the Lake Michigan shore for hundreds and hundreds of miles. They appreciated the blessing of the land and water, but they were nomadic, following the cycle of growth from the coast of Lake Michigan in the spring, summer and fall south to Southern Michigan and the area south of Chicago. Fish, game and sufficiently rich soil enabled them to raise large gardens creating their prosperity. Although the Native Americans hunted and trapped, they made their living as crafts people and excellent traders, using these skills with a progression of European nationalities of people.

Pioneers began to involve themselves and their fortunes in the Traverse City area at a rapid pace. Missionaries began settling here first. Later, from the 1840's to the early 1900's, lumber was dwarfed by all other industries in Traverse City as a small clique of pioneers and entrepreneurs raised it from a muddy village near a lumber camp to a spirited town yielding stylish lifestyles for some and a good living for many. Lumbering stripped the land of most of its timber before World War I, and at that point, cleared fields began to be used for growing cherries.

Agriculture has continued to be important in the area's economy, but the beauty of its clear water, rolling golf courses, sand dunes and quaint towns has brought tourism to the fore in the overall economic picture. Residents and visitors continue to love this area for its natural attributes and seek a balance between ecology and economy.

Traverse City Facts

Traverse City Population = 14,172

Grand Traverse County Population = 86,333

- Michigan is on Eastern Standard Time, sharing that time zone with cities and states on the east coast of the United States. With the rest of Michigan, Traverse City moves to Eastern Daylight Time from March through October each year. Thanks to Traverse City's northern position on the 45th parallel and its location on the western edge of the Eastern time zone, it enjoys daylight well into the evening hours throughout the spring and summer.
- Traverse City's location near Lake Michigan and on the 45th Parallel (midway between the North Pole and the equator) also provides it with four distinct seasons. Its proximity to Lake Michigan moderates temperature extremes (average low / high = 15°F / 30°F) while providing average annual snowfall of 125 to 145 inches, making for excellent winter recreation. Summer provides warm temperatures (average low / high = 51°F / 75°F) for lake activities, golf, hiking and sightseeing.
- Appreciation of the cherry has a long history in Traverse City. Peter Dougherty, a Presbyterian missionary and the first European settler in the Traverse City area, also became the first cherry grower when he planted a cherry orchard on Old Mission Peninsula in 1852. Today over 3.8 million tart cherry trees in the Traverse City area produce 75 percent of the annual tart cherries grown in the United States. In 1924, the Traverse City area held a spring ceremony known as the "Blessing of the Blossoms" to celebrate the cherry and the region's affinity for it. The event eventually became the National Cherry Festival held in Traverse City each July and attended by over 500,000 people over the eight days.

Arts and Entertainment

Interlochen Center for the Arts - Art lovers, lifelong learners and the world's most talented and motivated young people are drawn to Interlochen from all over the country and all over the world to celebrate and create excellence in creative writing, dance, motion picture and music, theatre, visual arts and academics. Tickets for the various performances are available through the Interlochen Box Office at (800) 681-5920 or tickets.interlochen.org.

Old Town Playhouse - The Old Town Playhouse season runs annually from fall through summer with a variety of productions. Performance areas include a 358-seat mainstage auditorium and an 80-seat studio theatre. For more information, including shows and events, visit www.oldtownplayhouse.com or call 231-947-2210.

Traverse City Children's Theatre - The youth arm of Old Town Playhouse, it provides an innovative blend of theatre performance and educational activities for youth age 3 through 21. For more information, visit www.tcctheatre.org.

Dennos Museum Center - The Dennos Museum Center hosts a series of programs throughout the year, including a concert series each year from September through May with offerings in a variety of musical genres. Dennos Museum Center's more than 25 annual concert offerings feature national, regional, and local talent. For ticket information, call the Box Office at 231-995-1553, or visit www.dennosmuseum.org.

Traverse Symphony Orchestra - The Traverse Symphony Orchestra (TSO) has evolved to become Northwestern Lower Michigan's largest resident performing arts organization and only professional orchestra. Based in Traverse City, the organization's regular season from September through April includes a seven-concert subscription series. For more information, visit www.tso-online.org.

Traverse City State Theatre - Downtown on Front Street, the grand reopening of the theater was in the fall of 2007. The State Theatre is the host to the Traverse City Film Festival and offers a wide variety of movies and events. For more information, visit www.traversacityfilmfestival.org.

Misc. Recreation

Traverse City Beach Bums - A member of the twelve team Frontier Independent Professional Baseball League, the Beach Bums play at Wuerfel Park from May through September. For more information, visit www.traversecitybeachbums.com/

Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore - In spring, summer and fall, swim and picnic at sugar sand beaches, canoe, kayak or tube on crystal-clear streams or simply let the day slip away with a late summer sunset. Wintertime provides a much different view. Snowshoe, cross country or downhill ski, snowboard or venture into the wilderness. Your only company will be the Dunes' year-round residents - its natural wildlife. For more information, visit www.sleepingbeardunes.com.

Geocaching - Geocaching is an adventure game for people with GPS devices. Individuals and organizations all over the world have set up caches and put the coordinates on a website www.geocaching.com for others to find. There are over 555 caches hidden in the Traverse City area.

Casinos

Leelanau Sands Casino - Located 20 miles north of Traverse City on M-22, the Leelanau Sands offers 32,000 square feet of blackjack, poker, slots, roulette, and several other games. Visit www.casino2win.com.

Turtle Creek Casino - Located 10 miles northeast of Traverse City on M-72, the Turtle Creek offers 6,000 square feet of slots, roulette, blackjack, craps, and several other games. Visit www.casino2win.com.

Odawa Casino Resort - Located in nearby Petoskey, Michigan, the casino offers over 1,100 slots and video poker machines, a variety of table games, a full service restaurant, a deli and lounge featuring live entertainment by some of the best acts around. The casino offers shuttle service to the hotel. Visit www.odawacasino.com

Little River Casino - Located 55 miles from Traverse City in Manistee. Good times will be rolling at Little River Casino Resort located in the heart of Michigan's four seasons wonderland. New spacious 44,000 square foot casino featuring 1,100 slot machines, 30 table games and a 6-table poker room. Northern Lodge Hotel and 3 restaurants on site.

Air Station Traverse City

Our Air Station is situated at Cherry Capital Airport on the east side of Traverse City. The station's physical plant consists of a spacious hangar; facilities engineering building; supply offices and warehouse; a small Coast Guard Exchange; a medical clinic; an ID card office and Smith Hall, which houses a galley, lounges, sleeping areas for 24-hour duty crews, and a new Education Center. There are also several athletic fields, two tennis courts, and a small picnic area and playground.

Originally established as a one plane detachment to provide a search and rescue service to the Great Lakes, Air Station Traverse City was commissioned in 1946. Over the years, the station has grown from its original small compliment to its present staff size of 24 officers, 2 warrant officers, 1 Public Health Service officer, and 100 enlisted personnel. In 1980, the air station also increased its building space when a new maintenance and administrative hangar was completed, providing over 50,000 square feet of work space, including the hangar deck, work shops, and offices.

The types of aircraft assigned to the Air Station have also changed over the years. The original HU-16 "Albatross" seaplanes and HU-19 Sikorsky helicopters gave way to HH-52 helicopters and HU-25A "Falcons". In 1986, the rescue capabilities of the helicopter and the patrol capabilities of the Falcon were combined in the HH-3F "Pelican" helicopter. At that time, Traverse City became an HH-3F only unit operating 3 helicopters. With the modernization of the aircraft fleet, 3 HH-60J "Jayhawk" helicopters were brought in to replace the aging Pelicans in September 1991. In the spring of 1995, 5 HH-65A "Dolphin" helicopters replaced the 3 "Jayhawks", and in January 2003, 5 HH-65B "Dolphins" were placed into service. In October 2006, these aircraft were replaced with the HH-65 "Charlie" model. More recently, in 2014, all four aircraft have been replaced with the Coast Guard's newest helicopter, the MH-65D.

In May of 2000, Air Station Traverse City gained operational responsibility for Air Facility Waukegan, located in Illinois, just north of Chicago. Air Facility Waukegan stages one of Air Station Traverse City's MH-65D helicopters with two full crews during the busy search and rescue season from Memorial Day through Labor Day.

Housing Information

Air Station Traverse City has no government housing facilities. Grand Traverse, Leelanau, and Benzie counties form the region around the Air Station and are dotted with rural communities that together house roughly 125,500 people, including the 120+ Air Station members. Housing costs can be high and availability varies with the season. Popular communities include Traverse City, Lake Ann, Spider Lake, and Chum's Corners. Contact the unit Housing Officer for more information.

Residential Services

American Waste - 1-800-544-2663

AT&T - 1-800-464-7928

Century Link - 1-800-366-8201

Charter Communications - 1-888-438-2427

Cherryland Electric Cooperative - 231-486-9200

Consumers Energy - 1-800-477-5050

DTE Energy - 1-800-477-4747

Grand Traverse County Department of Public Works - 231-995-6039

Great Lakes Energy - 1-888-485-2537

Leelanau County Solid Waste - 1-866-256-9711

Sprint - 1-866-866-7509

Traverse City Light & Power - 231-922-4431

Verizon - 1-800-922-0204

Waste Management of Northern Michigan - 1-866-929-4106

Voting Assistance Information

If you would like to register to vote in the state of Michigan, visit www.fvap.gov and www.michigan.gov/sos. Contact the unit Voting Assistance Officer to register to vote in other states.

Golf

Some golf courses in the Traverse City area offer reduced rates to Coasties. You must mention your Coast Guard affiliation when reserving tee times and show your identification when paying. Here are just a few of the golf courses. Discount rates are offered at each location.

Elmbrook in Traverse City

Mistwood in Lake Ann

Grandview in Kalkaska

Interlochen

Disc Golf (Frisbee) Courses

Hickory Hills

Holiday Hills

Northwestern Michigan College

Fishing

A fishing license is required for all persons who have reached their 17th birthday, and they're easy to get for a day (under \$10), a week, or all season. You can pay for them and print them out online at www.mdnr-elicence.com/welcome.asp or purchase them at Kmart, Walmart, and/or Meijers.

The Boardman River and nearby rivers including the AuSable, the Manistee, and the Cedar provide excellent fishing for brown trout. The lower reaches of the Boardman, where it empties into Grand Traverse Bay at Traverse City, are among the many areas enjoying spring runs of steelhead and salmon. From Glen Lake in Leelanau County east to Antrim County's Lake Bellaire, numerous inland lakes abound with game fish of all sizes, from bluegills to muskies.

The fishing season in Traverse City does not end with the advent of winter, as ice fishing shanties pop up on lakes and bays throughout the region.

Beaches

Clinch Park - The area's most populated if not its most popular beach features over 1500 feet of sand along West Grand Traverse Bay in downtown Traverse City. Clinch Park has picnic tables, lifeguards (mid-June through August) and restrooms. It is adjacent to the Clinch Park Marina, east of Union Street on Grandview Parkway.

Traverse City State Park - This popular beach offers 700 feet of sandy beach on East Bay. Beachgoers enjoy the bathhouse, the picnic area, and ample parking. It is located across the street from the Traverse City State Park campgrounds on US 31 North in Traverse City.

West End Beach - Large, bay-front park and beach features ample parking and restrooms. You will find it overlooking West Grand Traverse Bay at the foot of Division Street, on Grandview Parkway, just west of downtown Traverse City.

Bryant Park - Picnic area, a playground, restrooms, charcoal grills, tall pines, a long stretch of sandy beach. It is located where Garfield and Front Streets intersect at the base of Old Mission Peninsula.

Leelanau State Park - This Lake Michigan beach is at the tip of the Leelanau Peninsula in the Village of Northport. It's 30 miles north of Traverse City on M 22. Besides the beach, it has restrooms, hiking trails, and historic Grand Traverse Lighthouse, which is open to the public.

Canoe, Kayaking, & Tubing

Riverside Canoe Trips - Imagine yourself canoeing, tubing, kayaking, or rafting down the crystal clear Platte River and ending at a beautiful Sugar Sand beach on Lake Michigan. Trips range from 2-4 hours. Great family activity in the Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore. Located 10 miles south of Empire on Highway M 22. 231-325-5622

Alvina's Canoe and Boat Livery - Rent canoes, kayaks, and boats to float the Betsie River for 1-4 hours. Located in nearby Interlochen at 6470 Betsie River Road. 231-276-9514

Vehicle Title & Registration

If a vehicle is titled only to the Active Duty Family Member (ADFM), they must immediately title and register their vehicle(s) and turn in the title from his/her previous home state (unless it is held by a lien holder or leasing company). Applicants must show proof of Michigan no-fault insurance along with documentation of residency.

The cost of a vehicle title is \$15. Vehicle registrations for vehicle the models 1983 or older are based on the vehicle's weight. For model years 1984 and newer, the vehicle registration is based on manufacturer's suggested retail (or base) price. Trailers and trailer coaches are registered with a permanent, non-expiring trailer plate based on the unit's weight as of October 1, 2003. The new trailer plates are nontransferable. All fees must be paid in cash, check, or money order.

For more information on driver's licensing or vehicle titling or registration, go to www.michigan.gov/ or contact Traverse City's Secretary of State Branch at:

1759 Barlow Street, Traverse City, 49686

Telephone: 1-888-767-6424

Drivers Licensing

Active Duty Family Members (ADFM) new to Michigan who wish to drive must obtain a Michigan driver's license immediately upon establishing a permanent domicile (home) within the state and/or obtaining employment with the intent of remaining in this state. Active Duty members are exempt and may continue to use a current out-of-state license.

If the ADFM is younger than 18, s/he must present only one form of ID. If the ADFM is 18 or older, s/he must present three forms of ID. For a full list of primary and secondary forms of identification, refer to www.michigan.gov/.

Additionally, all applicants must provide documentation demonstrating that s/he resides in Michigan. This may be mortgage documents or a rental lease, a bill (gas, water, sewer, electricity, or cable), or a life, home, auto, or health insurance policy.

Medical Information

The Air Station Traverse City Health Services Clinic (HSC) provides primary care services for Active Duty members by appointment. Appointments may be scheduled by calling 231-922-8282.

Medical sick call is held Mon-Fri from 0730-0830 for active duty only with acute illness. All other care is by appointment only.

The clinic maintains a Duty Health Services Technician (HS) 24 hours a day to treat active duty personnel's urgent care needs. Contact 463-2014.

If the condition is life-threatening, **go to the nearest ER. The Emergency Room Munson Medical Center** - 1105 6th St, TVC, 231-935-6333

A TRICARE Service Center (TSC) is located within the HSC. The TSC will provide information and assistance related to health care benefits. Walk-in services are offered and preferred Mondays and Thursdays from 1130 to 1530.

Dependent beneficiaries shall use their local TRICARE Network options for after hours and urgent care needs. **Go to the nearest ER for emergencies.**

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

EMERGENCY: 911/ x282 (on base)

Appointment / Front Desk: 231-922-8282

After Hours Duty HS: 463-2014

Clinic Administrator: 922-8281

Clinic Supervisor: 922-8280

TRICARE: 1-800-TRICARE

Summer Recreation

For information on summer activities, visit www.visittraversecity.com. Many of the cross country and snowmobile trails are excellent for biking and hiking in the summertime.

Biking, Hiking, & In-Line Skating

TART - A popular cross-town route for cyclists, in-line skaters, walkers and joggers, this 11-mile-long, paved, non-motorized trail runs from Carter Road east to Bunker Hill Road in Acme, passing West End Beach, Clinch Park, and the Traverse City State Park along the way. For more information, contact TART trails at 231-941-4300.

Leelanau Trail - Over 15 miles of trail through Leelanau County. There are three trailheads located off Cherry Bend Road, Fouch Road and 4th Street in Suttons Bay. The trail is paved from Carter Road to Lakeview Road in Elmwood Township and from Suttons Bay Village limits to the depot.

Boardman Lake Trail - A 2.5 mile trail that is paved with parts of crushed limestone and boardwalks along the Boardman Lake.

Lake Ann Pathway - The trails of this pathway are divided into two distinctly different loops. The longer series of loops on the west side of Reynolds Road are the more strenuous. Covering a total of 3.5 miles, with several shortcut options to choose from, you'll pass both Shavenaugh and Mary's Lake and a short section of the Platte River on your way up and down this roller coaster ride of a trail. The eastern portion of the trail is 1.8 miles long and meanders gently along the Platte River and the Lake Ann Shoreline. Take US 31 west from Interlochen and turn left on Reynolds Road.

Peninsula Township Park (Old Mission) - This pretty little park, located at the tip of the Old Mission Peninsula, has several miles of developed trail and about 40 acres of forest and abandoned orchards that can be explored. This trail system has the added benefit of being adjacent to one of the area's most beautiful beaches. The shallow waters off the point warm up faster than the rest of Grand Traverse Bay, so be sure to pack your suit for a refreshing swim after enjoying the trails.

Cross Country Skiing

VASA Trail - Avid cross country skiers flock to this trail just outside of Traverse City in the Pere Marquette State Forest. Groomed course for skating and striding. 3K, 5K, 11K, and 25K loops provide great scenery and plenty of challenge. The main trailhead is located in Acme Township Park on Bartlett Road, off Bunker Hill Road in Acme. A large parking lot and indoor restrooms are available.

Leelanau Trail - A 15-mile trail that runs from Traverse City to Suttons Bay, mostly flat with a few easy grades. Groomed. Three trail head parking areas: off Cherry Bend Road, off Fouch Road in Traverse City and off Fourth Street in Suttons Bay.

Timber Ridge Campground & Nordic Center - Located on Hammond Road East, Timber Ridge's property borders over 60,000 acres of state land and is attached to the popular, scenic VASA Trail. This trail system covers over 50K and runs both hilly and wooded areas. Trails are both beginner and advanced -- lessons available. 2K of trails lighted for night skiing.

Hickory Hills - Beginner to advanced trails on the west side of Traverse City. Three to five miles of groomed trails, and 1K of lighted trail for night skiing.

Ice Skating

1) **Howe Arena** - Public skating, adult skating, parent & tot, and drop-in hockey offered. Skate rental available. Located at 1125 West Civic Center Drive in Traverse City. Call 231-922-4830 for more information.

2) **Traverse City Public Parks** - Public outdoor ice rinks with warming houses at three locations: 14th Street (next to the State Police Post), corner of Carver & Rose Streets, and Woodmere Street (next to the library). Conditions permitting, operating hours are M-F 3-9pm, Sat 1-9pm, and Sun 1-8pm. No admission charge.

For more information on these activities or for information on sleigh rides, snowshoeing, and snowmobiling, visit www.visittraversecity.com

Coast Guard Mutual Assistance

Coast Guard Mutual Assistance (CGMA) is a non-profit organization providing interest-free loans, grants, and financial counseling to the Coast Guard community. Through partnerships with other assistance providers, CGMA delivers financial assistance in response to emerging Coast Guard family needs. These may be, but are not limited to, emergency (i.e. pay problems), educational, medical, or housing needs (i.e. closing cost commitments, utility deposits). Certain eligibility and assistance restrictions do apply. Visit www.cgmahq.org, or contact the unit CGMA Representative.

Morale, Well-Being, & Recreation (MWR)

Air Station Traverse City's MWR Program is first-rate. It uplifts the spirits of the Air Station Family and is an essential element of our readiness and retention. Customer oriented, our MWR programs and services are designed through customer input. Some of them are:

Equipment Rental - watercraft, trailers, power equipment, and miscellaneous sporting goods are available for rent at very reasonable prices.

Events - held year-round, MWR events are a great opportunity to have fun with your family and shipmates. The two big events are the Coast Guard Picnic and Christmas Party but other events include Tubing, Skiing, Bowling, and Golf.

Area Discounts - offered at a variety of stores and recreational locations in and around Traverse City. You must show your military ID.

Gym Partnerships - The Grand Traverse Resort and Grand Traverse Athletic Club allow free use of their facilities and equipment with a USCG ID. YMCA offers a discounted military rate for members and dependents. Daycare is available at the Grand Traverse Resort, and the YMCA offers sport activities for children. There is also a small gym facility on base.

Air Station Traverse City encourages its members to join, participate, and become active members in the MWR program, the Morale Committee has monthly meetings and is open to all members. For much more information, contact the unit Morale Officer.

Education Services

Air Station Traverse City has created a new Education Center to provide Coast Guard personnel and their families a first class venue to further their educations and expand their professional horizons. The Education Center has a professional reading library and various other resources. The Education Services Officer can provide members and their families with degree planning, education assessments, transcript requests, proctor various professional exams to include DANTES, CLEP, and the Service Wide Exams, and assist with applications for Tuition Assistance, G.I. Bill, Foundation Education Grants and SEG Grants. Contact the unit ESO to assist with your educational needs.

Newcomers Welcome Service

The Newcomers Welcome Service is a free get-acquainted presentation given by Sharon Finch, a Traverse City resident. Usually she presents to a small group at a social gathering spot in Traverse City but is available for individual presentations at your home. The presentation includes shopping, religious services, libraries, and college opportunities, as well as coupons, passes and gift certificates for local businesses.

To receive your free Newcomers Welcome Service, call Sharon Finch, at 231-933-4404.

Two on the Town

“Two on the Town” is a program designed to advertise the excellent dining and entertainment establishments available in the Traverse City Area. An annual program, it serves as a welcome to new residents or as a motivational tool for current residents to break old habits and try new experiences. Over 135 establishments offer 2-for-1 specials, equivalent to \$4100 in savings. Most are 2-for-1 meal specials (purchase one meal and get the second of same or lesser value free), but some are 2-for-1 bowling, 2-for-1 billiards, and 2-for-1 golf. The program requires the purchase of a card (approximately \$32), and some rules and restrictions apply. The sale usually occurs during October and November. For more information and to purchase a card, visit www.twoonthetown.com or call 231-922-2222.

Winter Recreation

For ski conditions and snow reports for many Michigan resorts, check out www.skimichigan.com

Annual Ski Swap

Touted as “The Biggest Ski and Snowboard Sale”, the Grand Traverse Ski Club’s annual ski swap is a great place to equip yourself and your family for the winter months in and around Traverse City. Whether you’re interested in learning or a seasoned veteran, there’s something there for you - downhill skis, cross country skis, boots, poles, snowboards, and ice skates. Most equipment is used, but some new equipment in last year’s models are also for sale at very reasonable prices. If you bought new skis prior to your arrival and you’d like to sell your old equipment, you can do that there, too. The swap usually takes place during the second weekend (Saturday and Sunday) in November. Contact the Grand Traverse Ski Club at 231-313-6903 or visit www.gtскиclub.org for more information.

Downhill Skiing

Hickory Hills - located on the west side of Traverse City, Hickory Hills is a community run, hometown ski area that offers limited downhill facilities with rope tows only. Slopes are beginner to intermediate, with a 240’ vertical drop. No rental equipment available.

Mt. Holiday & Recreation Area - Located just minutes from the Air Station. Skiing and snowboarding on 16 runs, beginner to advanced, with a 200’ vertical drop. Also snow tubing with express return lift. Lessons from beginner to advanced levels, individuals and groups. Rental equipment available at additional cost. Pre season annual passes offered at discounted rates. Contact 231-938-2500.

Crystal Mountain Resort - Located approximately 45 minutes south of Traverse City, Crystal Mountain is a family ski area that offers 11 beginner runs, 24 intermediate runs, and 10 advanced runs, with a 375’ vertical drop. Ski and snowboard lessons are available for additional cost. Various discounts throughout the season, contact 231-378-2000 for more information.

Snow Policy & Hotline

Accompanying the average snowfall of 125 to 145 inches are slushy roads, icy overpasses, and reduced lanes due to blowing snow. For current road conditions, see www.ohsp.state.mi.us/rw/home.htm. If such conditions exist, Air Station Traverse City may adjust its duty schedule. In most instances, the Air Station's adjusted schedule mirrors the Traverse City Area Public Schools (TCAPS) schedule.

For the most current information on duty schedule delays in the event of inclement weather, contact the Air Station Traverse City Task Line at 231-922-TASK (8275).

Other Helpful Internet Addresses

www.visittraversecity.com - tons of information about Traverse City and local attractions

www.taar.com - easy to navigate website of real estate and realtors

www.record-eagle.com - Traverse City's local newspaper

www.tcaps.net - learn about Traverse City Area Public Schools and their programs

www.nmc.edu - Northwestern Michigan College's official website

www.tchamber.org - more information on Traverse City

www.cherryfestival.org - official website of the National Cherry Festival

www.michiganmenu.com - information on a few of Traverse City's restaurants (not all listed restaurants are in TVC!)

www.cg-exchange.com - Coast Guard Exchange website

Other Helpful Telephone Numbers

1-877-TRICARE - HealthNet Federal Services

1-800-482-7171 - Miss Dig Systems, Inc (Call before you dig to locate underground utilities)

Snow Policy & Hotline

Accompanying the average snowfall of 125 to 145 inches are slushy roads, icy overpasses, and reduced lanes due to blowing snow. For current road conditions, see www.ohsp.state.mi.us/rw/home.htm. If such conditions exist, Air Station Traverse City may adjust its duty schedule. In most instances, the Air Station's adjusted schedule mirrors the Traverse City Area Public Schools (TCAPS) schedule.

For the most current information on duty schedule delays in the event of inclement weather, contact the Air Station Traverse City Task Line at 231-922-TASK (8275).

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