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The Alpena Community College newspaper, 666 Johnson Street, Alpena, MI 49707

Should we be afraid?

By SHAWN DEMPSEY
POLEMIC EDITOR

Alpena residents are NOT being stalked by a serial rapist, says Thad Taylor, director of public safety, in a recent news release. The news release was issued in response to numerous telephone calls received by the police department from citizens hearing rumors of several rapes being reported in the city.

On two separate occasions, a woman was approached by a male subject late at night in a bar parking lot, and Taylor feels the rumors may have stemmed from these complaints. In both incidents, the male subject made a suggestive comment to the woman, but the woman was able to get into her car and drive away.

Both incidents are under investigation, and the police department is not certain that the same male subject is responsible.

The rumor has made some people throughout the community more safety conscious in recent weeks. According to ACC student Jennifer Weinkauf, who is a sales associate at JC Penney,

employees were told to walk to their cars in groups. On campus, English Instructor Sonya Titus was warned to be careful because she was told there was a rape behind the Natural Resource Center. ACC student Deb Haske even had an instructor leave class to walk her to her car. "I was very uncomfortable walking out alone to my car near the parking lot was not well lit," she explained, "and there was no one around who I knew."

Even Taylor's wife came home and asked him why he had not told her about the police officer turned serial rapist who was terrorizing Alpena.

While Taylor believes Alpena is a relatively safe place, he adds, "You can't say we're immune from anything; anything can happen anywhere, and anything can happen here."

Taylor assures that if these crimes were happening, they would be reported in the local media. Regardless, it is recommended that citizens, especially females, take the following precautions when walking to their vehicles during nighttime hours:

- Park your vehicle in a well lighted, well traveled area.
- Check the interior of your vehicle prior to getting into your vehicle.
- Get your keys in hand before getting to your vehicle.
- Lock all doors once inside your vehicle.
- Be aware of your surroundings as you walk to your vehicle.
- Ask someone to walk with you to your vehicle.



Photo by Jennifer Weinkauf
Julie Smigelski asks the community what it CARES about.

Alpena CARES

By SHAWN DEMPSEY
POLEMIC EDITOR

Alpena citizens have spoken, and they are concerned about jobs, youth activities, and

the environment. Thanks to CARES and a \$65,000 grant, they can do something about it.

The Alpena area was one of six in Michigan chosen to participate in CARES, Communities Accessing Resources to Engage in Service. This is a new project designed to test the effectiveness of a collaborative, community-based planning process for national and community service programs.

The grant is to focus on community needs. The four member committee, Vernie Nethercut, Julie Smigelski, Charles Wison, and Lucas Pfeifenberger, asked different groups how they would like to see the money spent and a total 642 people responded.

Twelve of the 19 groups surveyed named jobs as number one or two on their list of concerns, followed by youth activities with eight votes and environment with seven.

Some of the groups approached include the Alpena Community College Leadership Class, the Alpena High School Wildcat staff, the Alpena Lawyers Auxiliary, and the Senior Citizen's Center. In addition, a public forum was held at ACC and a survey was published in *The Alpena News*.

Other first and second choices on the list of concerns include families, health, early

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Photo by Jennifer Weinkauf
Cathy Rogg, ACC's new Foundation director, is already up to her elbows in work.

One of the things Rogg would like to accomplish with the Foundation is to establish an alumni association so graduates can contribute to ACC.

Rogg named Foundation head

By TODD PRICE
STAFF WRITER

Alpena Community College has a new foundation director, and her name is Catherine Rogg. Rogg, a Central Michigan University graduate, has held such positions as the liaison for the governing board at Oakland University and the executive assistant for the Community Foundation For Northeast Michigan.

While at Oakland University (1986-1993), Rogg served on various committees, one of these being the inaugural committee for the university president. Last year, Rogg handled the day to day activities for the Community Foundation.

Originally from Sault St. Marie, Rogg, her two-year-old son, and her husband, Jeff, who is a clerk in the 26th Circuit Court, decided to move to Alpena because Rogg stated, "It's really beautiful here."

Rogg, whose interests include theatre costume design, has worked for four years at St. Dunstan's Guild of Cranbrook, a community theatre. Some of the plays she's worked on are: *My Fair Lady*, *Death Trap*, and

Dracula.

When asked what she plans to accomplish with the Foundation, Rogg said, "I hope to do four things: first, I want the Foundation to become more visible in the community; second, I want to increase its awareness around the school and the community; thirdly, I would like to raise the endowment so that programs around the college can be enhanced; finally, I want to establish an alumni association so that graduates from ACC who

want to contribute back to the college can."

She is also planning a special event for the spring or summer of '95.

The Foundation is a non-profit organization dedicated to financially supporting the college. "By sound investment of the institution's private gifts, the future programs and services at the college can be enhanced,"

Rogg" continued
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Ground breaking between the Natural Resource Center and Besser Technical Center began before the snow fell.



Photo by Jennifer Weinkauf

ACC second year art student Joan Rings prepares a painting of sunflowers for *An Evening With The Arts* held on Friday, Dec. 16, at EAC. See story on page 9.

Leadership class produces Youth Activity Guide

By KATIE ZBYTOWSKI
STAFF WRITER

Remember all those years when kids complained that there was nothing to do in the area? Now that problem has been solved thanks to the Phi Theta Kappa Leadership Seminar.

After identifying a need for youth activities and a new class format, an Alpena County *Youth Activity Guide* has been the class's semester project. Many hours of vigorous labor on the part of the class has allowed the *Guide* to be ready for distribution in early February.

Within the first several meetings of the Leadership team, better publicity of already existing youth activities was identified as the biggest problem facing the area. Some basic information dealing with youth needs and activities had already been compiled by the Alpena Rotary Club with help from the Alpena Youth Volunteer Corps.

The information, however, was in very rough form.

"[This is] a tough project," said Instructor Dave Eger. "Several other institutions have run up against a wall and become frustrated by it."

For the past 15 weeks, members of the Leadership team have been compiling, editing, verifying, and re-editing the gathered information. The *Youth Activity Guide* is currently comprised of over a hundred activities available to area youth, kindergarten through 12th grade. In addition, inspirational poems, pictures, and quotations will be

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