130 Years of Elkdom

PORT HURON ELKS LODGE 343

EXPOSITOR

PHONE: (810) 982-8531 • FAX: (810) 982-8743 • PRO SHOP: (810) 984-1204

ISSUE NO. 368 NOVEMBER 2026 MONTHLY PUBLICATION

NOVEMBER HAPPENINGS

QUEEN of HEARTS PROGRESSIVE RAFFLE

PH Elks Lodge 343

STARTING BACK UP FRIDAY, NOV. 6TH!

TICKETS $1 EACH

WILL RUN FOR 40 WEEKS
Excluding Christmas Day & New Year's Day.

Come early and have dinner with us before the drawing!

Elks Lodge 343

Port Huron Elks Lodge 343 — 13th Annual Christmas ARTS & CRAFT SHOW

FUNDRAISER

Saturday, November 21, 2026
9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

- $1 Admission at the door
- Lunch Available in the lower level
- Proceeds support local disabled adults and community services

Golfing

CHILI OPEN

Sunday November 8th

90th + Blood Drive

Monday, November 16th from 12:00 noon to 5:45 p.m.

Blanket Making

Every Wednesday 1-3 pm

Diamond Art

Every Wednesdays 3-5 pm & 6-8 pm

THE FUTURE OF COMEDY SHOW — PORT HURON, MI

DAVE CLICKNER · MIKE BALL · BIG JUICY · STEVE KAZ

$25 11/6/26 8 PM

THE ELKS LODGE

TICKETS AT WWW.MIKEBALLDOTCOM.COM

CLUB 343

WEAR YOUR DETROIT LIONS APPAREL!

Thank You to everyone that joined us for our first Club 343 event on October 10th.

We had a great turnout and fun for all (including a costume contest, golf raffle, candy guessing jar raffle, lots of cash prizes, gift certificates, rounds of golf and more).

We have a few tickets remaining, so join in the fun and reach out to one of us (numbers listed below).

We look forward to seeing all of you at the NOVEMBER CLUB 343 EVENT NOVEMBER 14, 2026 AT 5 PM

As we celebrate Veteran's Day this month, let's all remember what our veterans have sacrificed for all of us. Thank them for their service to our great country!

This is a great month to also give "thanks" for all the blessings we are all fortunate to have. Let's all reach out to someone we know that needs a blessing this holiday season.

Have a blessed Thanksgiving with family and friends!

Lynn Bowman (810) 531-0650 and Laura Nesbitt (810) 531-1531



Exalted Ruler Message

Dear members all.

November is upon us and as I wrote this message a frost advisory was announced, and it was early October. But then it warms right back up for the rest of the week for more golf. November means it's Thanksgiving and I know we all have a lot to be thankful for.

Speaking of golf, I would like to give a huge shout out and thank you to Brandon Archibald and his staff for another wonderful golf season. His ideas and enthusiasm are infectious. We just played the October Couple, Clubs, and Cocktails Halloween Edition. What a blast it was and the creativity of games by Brandon was outstanding. Now that the season is winding down, soon the Pro Shop will be closed. Remember to use up your shop credit. There is plenty of inventory and it is never to early to start Christmas shopping. Don't see something, talk to Brandon and he can see what he can do.

We had great visits with the District Vice Chairman and President, the DDGER, District Auditor and District Esquire. It is nice to get other perspectives and hear what other lodges are doing. Fall State Convention was at Shanty Creek this year on October 16th-18th. Feedback from convention will be updated in a future Expositor.

Have you seen the Ring of Honor yet? Oh my, is it looking good. Come out to the Lodge and see it lit up. Pictures can only show so much. Thanks to Jerry Thibodeau, Joe Miller and the rest of the Wild Game Committee along with the Veterans Committee for spearheading this project and making a vision become reality.

Being on this year's couples league has been so much fun. Meeting a lot of new faces and having great conversations. On one particular evening, Tami and I were discussing worldly matters and the subject turned to "what has happened to being kind to one another?" Being kind makes the world a happier place. Being kind is helping a friend or a fellow Elk and can make someone's day. Listen actively. If someone feels sad, listen to them. They just might need a friend to talk to. Include others, invite people to join you. Even a small act of kindness can bring a big smile. As Smokey the Bear used to say, "Only YOU can prevent forest fires." YOU can make someone's day better. What do you say? READY ELKS? LET'S GO. Give it a try and I know you will feel better after.

Safe travels to all those members who will be heading south or southwest soon. We will miss you. For those of us staying here in Michigan, keep your eye on the Expositor and Clubster for upcoming events and continue to support the Lodge. November will be busy with Queen of Hearts starting, Comedy Show, Club 343, Christmas Arts and Crafts Show to name a few.

In closing, reconsider your obligation and continue to support our cardinal principles of Charity, Justice, Brotherly Love, and Fidelity. Happy Thanksgiving to you and your family.

Fraternally Yours,
John C. Cuthbertson, PER
Exalted Ruler

"Be PROUD to be a member and show your Elks Membership Card"

In Remembrance of our Departed Members

Adam Hoffman
Initiated April 13, 2026
December 17, 1974 - September 26, 2026

SPEEDY RECOVERY

We wish a speedy recovery for our members who have been either home ill or hospitalized.

PER Marv Ohrling
John Stewart
Theresa Conroy
PER Joe Barbe
Tom Erd
Larry Allison
John Chambless
Jeff Blashill
Pat Hudgens
Tom Coleman
PER David Marquis
PER GeraldGoodwin
Patricia Bennett

A Time to Give Thanks

Thanksgiving is a special time to reflect on the many blessings in our lives and express gratitude for the people who make each day meaningful. It is a time to appreciate family, cherish friendships, remember those less fortunate, and extend kindness to those around us. As we gather around our tables, may we be thankful not only for what we have, but also for the opportunities we have to help others. Wishing everyone a Thanksgiving filled with love, peace, happiness, and grateful hearts!



88th Blood Drive meets 300 gallon goal

The Port Huron Elks Lodge 343 held our 88th blood drive, on Monday, September 21st as we continue to help us close the gap on blood shortages! (38) donors arrived to provide the "Gift of Life". (29) whole blood pints, and (6 Power reds = 12 pints) were collected, for a total of (41) total units. We had ONE first time donor. Working together, the Port Huron Elks Lodge 343, and the American Red Cross we have collected over 3,028 units (pints) which equals over 378.5 gallons of blood since our 1st drive on January 7, 2013. **With this drive we met our goal of 3,000 pints!** We are now onto our next goal 3,200 pints (400 gallons). Our 89h drive was scheduled for Monday, October 19th, 10 donors have already scheduled appointments by September 23rd, thank you! Please consider registering today at https://www.redcross.org for an upcoming blood drive.

Annual District Review held recently



Port Huron Elks Lodge #343 welcomed District Vice President Grant Smith, PER, of Pontiac-Waterford Lodge #810, and District Vice Chairman Jason Judkins, PER, of Rochester-North Oakland Lodge #2225, for the Lodge's annual district review. The review was conducted during the regular Lodge Business Meeting held Monday, September 28.

Lodge #343 was well represented as Exalted Ruler John Cuthbertson, PER, and the Lodge Officers were well prepared, providing the visiting district officials with all required documents, records, and information. Their preparation and cooperation helped ensure a thorough and successful review and reflected the Lodge's continued commitment to maintaining the high standards of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.

Elks win Interclub Tourney



Congratulations to Port Huron Elks Lodge #343, this year's Interclub Golf Tournament Champions! This long-standing annual competition between Port Huron Elks Lodge #343, Saint Clair Golf Club, and Port Huron Golf Club has brought friendly rivalry and great sportsmanship to the course for many years. After an exciting final day of competition, the Elks came through to claim this year's championship! Congratulations to all three clubs for another great tournament, and a special salute to our winning Elks golfers!

4th Annual Wild Game Dinner Set for Saturday, January 16

Plans are underway for the 4th Annual Wild Game Dinner at Port Huron Elks Lodge 343, and organizers are looking forward to another outstanding evening of great food, camaraderie and stories from the field.

This year's Wild Game Dinner will be held on Saturday, January 16, 2027, at Port Huron Elks Lodge 343, located at 3292 Beach Road, Port Huron. Doors will open at 4:00 p.m., with dinner served at 6:00 p.m.

The Wild Game Dinner has enjoyed tremendous support over the past several years, and organizers are hoping to make the 2027 event another great success.

Tickets are $65 per person, or a table of eight may be reserved for $520. Table Captains are being offered the first opportunity to reserve their tables during the Early Bird Presale, October 1–31, 2026. Tables may be reserved by credit card or check, with tickets available for pickup beginning December 1.

As a special Early Bird incentive, qualifying Table Captains will be entered into an exclusive drawing for a Henry Big Boy Golden Receiver .44 Magnum Lever Action Rifle, separate from the other raffles and silent auction activities taking place during the evening.

Most importantly, proceeds from the Wild Game Dinner will help support local veterans and provide one deserving veteran with the opportunity to participate in a Whitetail gun hunt. Every ticket purchased, sponsorship received and donation made helps continue this special effort on behalf of area veterans.

Sponsors, Volunteers & Wild Game Donations Needed

Organizers are also seeking sponsors, volunteers and donations of wild game meat for the dinner. Those donating wild game will be entered at the Bronze Level sponsorship and included in a special sponsor drawing. Sponsorship opportunities include Gold Level – $500, with five available; Silver Level – $250, with 20 available; and Bronze Level – $100. Sponsors will have an opportunity to participate in special prize drawings associated with their sponsorship level.

Anyone interested in becoming a sponsor or helping with the event may contact Jerry Thibodeau at 810-531-8671, Joe Miller at 586-822-9476, or Gary Nesbitt at 810-531-0373.

For tickets, table reservations or additional information, contact Port Huron Elks Lodge 343 at 810-982-8531, Business Office Ext. 1 or Events Desk Ext. 4.

Mark your calendar for January 16 and join us for another fantastic Wild Game Dinner. Your participation not only makes for a memorable evening—it helps the Elks continue making a meaningful difference in the lives of our local veterans.

Citation of Merit awarded Lodge #343



Port Huron Elks Lodge #343 has been recognized by the Fraternal Order of Elks Grand Lodge with a Citation of Merit for the 2025–2026 year. This special recognition was presented to the Lodge for its outstanding contribution to the growth of the Order by being among those Lodges achieving a net gain in membership. This accomplishment reflects the continued efforts of our officers and members to welcome new members, encourage participation and share the values of Elkdom within our community. Congratulations to Lodge #343 and to everyone who helped make this achievement possible!

VETERAN'S CORNER 65

Why is November 11, 1918, so important? It is the Armistice for World War I and was signed at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month of the 18th year of 1900 on November 11, 1918, at that moment the guns of World War I went silent. We are the Land of the Free, because of you, the BRAVE and we thank each one of our nations Veterans for their service and the sacrifice. From Valley Forge to Vietnam, from Kuwait to Kandahar, from Berlin to Korea to Baghdad, our Veterans have borne the costs of America's wars, and they have stood watch over America's peace. We are all humbled and grateful to the Veterans and all who have fought for our freedom. Those who live today remember those who do not. Those of us who know freedom, remember this date for those who gave up life for freedom. On Wednesday, November 11, 2026, we will honor our dead, we will conduct ceremonies, we will lay wreaths and dignitaries will speak words of tribute to our fallen Hero's and our Veterans alive today. In our memories, in our hearts, we hold them close to us still. We all have family members who fought bravely to protect us and our nation. Yet we also know, even as their families knew when they last looked upon them, that we can keep them in our thoughts, though they can never be fully ours again, for they now belong to our God and to that for which they so selflessly made a final and eternal act of devotion. Even if they were not our own, we should not forget them. For all time, they are what we can only aspire to be, giving, unselfish, the epitome of human love, to lay down one's life so that others might live. In our mind's eye, we see young Americans going off to war to some foreign land to fight for us. We think of them now, with love, with devotion, and with faith. The certainty that what they fought and may have died for was worthy of their sacrifice, faith in God and in the Nation that has pledged itself to His work and to the dream of human freedom, and for a nation, that today and always pledges itself to their eternal memory. I urge all of you, to go up to those BRAVE men and women and shake a hand, give a hug, and give a word of thanks.

We ask you to consider volunteering at a Veteran's hospital or a nursing home. I encourage you to work with your local Veterans' group to help support our troops in the field and their families here at home. We honor those that followed in a great tradition, a tradition handed down to them by America's Veterans. In public ceremonies and in private prayer, we give thanks to these BRAVE men and women for the freedom we enjoy because of their willingness to serve. We should always honor those who have set such a brave example, our nation's Veterans the TRUE American hero's. May God bless our Veterans, and all who wear the uniform and may God continue to bless all of us.

In honor of Veterans Day and our local Veterans, the Port Huron Elks Lodge 343 in conjunction the Yale VA, & Elks National Veterans Service Commission (ENVSC) will be holding a Free Hot Dog & Brat Roast on Tuesday, November 10th starting at 9:30 am to 2:00 pm in front of the Yale Veterans Clinic. All Veterans, Spouses, active Military and First Responders are invited for free Hot Dogs, Sweet Italian Brats, Condiments, Chips, Cookies, and Beverages. Please feel free to stop in, even without a scheduled appointment, we would enjoy your company.

Upcoming Events: Our next bi-monthly free "Coffee & Donut Days" will be on Thursday, December 10th in the Veterans Wellness room at the Yale. Also, mark your calendars now for the next Veterans Appreciation Day & FREE Luncheon on Wednesday, May 19, 2027, from 9:30 am to 2:30 pm. This event is held annually on the 3rd Wednesday in May. These events are sponsored by Port Huron Elks Lodge 343, the MiElks Association, ENVSC, and McLaren-Port Huron Yale VA.

On another note: Lodge 343 continues with our monthly $25.00 free Marathon Gas Gift card "give-a-way" program now in our 4th year. Our most recent drawing took place on Wednesday, September 30th as Michael Weir, US Air Force and Michael Young, US Army were drawn, congratulations! The Yale Veterans Clinic of McLaren/Port Huron Yale Community Health Center is located at 7470 Brockway Road, Yale, MI. 48097. To our Port Huron Elks Lodge 343 Veterans and newly initiated Veterans, your time served is very interesting to us, please consider sharing your Military Service story to Scott R. Harris DDGER, ENVSC VAVS Rep at scottharris55@comcast.net for a future Veterans Corner publication.

Honoring Veterans on Veterans Day, November 11th



Veterans and the Elks

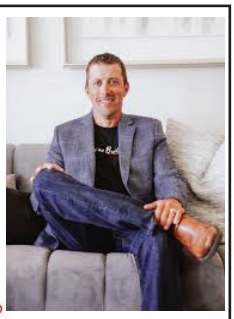
Elks pledge "So long as there are veterans, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks will never forget them." The Elks National Veterans Service Commission takes that pledge one step further, and promises service to our nation's veterans and military members, with a special focus on service to those in need.

Thousands of Elks volunteers give generously of their time, energy and resources to serve veterans and military members each day, to ensure that pledge is not an idle one.



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Name(s)_____

If asterisk behind your name, $20 is due!

❑ **New** ❑ **Renewal**

Mail to: **PH Elks Lodge**
3292 Beach Rd.
Port Huron, MI 48060

Helping Michigan's Special Needs Children for Sixty Years

The Michigan Elks provide assistance to special needs children throughout Michigan, regardless of race, creed or color, whose families cannot afford necessary treatment and are unable to obtain assistance from other agencies or organizations. Children are eligible for assistance from birth through age 17.

Special needs include any disability that restricts a child's ability to function normally. Assistance is provided through grants paid directly to approved vendors, doctors, therapists or camps. Services include specialized therapies, attendance at therapy camps throughout Michigan, medical equipment, communication devices such as iPads, hippotherapy and other treatments designed to improve a child's quality of life.

Families seeking financial assistance work with their local Elks Lodge Major Project Chairman or Exalted Ruler to complete a Request for Assistance form. Each application is individually evaluated by District Commissioners and the Executive Director, with emphasis on how the requested treatment, equipment or therapy will benefit the child. District Commissioners are elected to serve six-year volunteer terms.

Each year, Michigan Elks Lodges conduct numerous fundraisers to support Major Project, including Polar Plunges, themed dinners, contests, golf outings and other creative events. Members also participate in the 365 Bank program, contributing spare change and donations throughout the year. Memorial contributions honoring loved ones and fellow Elks provide additional support, along with the Commission's annual fundraiser.

Established in May 1957, the Michigan Elks Association Major Project Commission has spent nearly 70 years helping children with special needs. Its mission continues through dedicated service, education and compassion, while increasing public awareness of the assistance available to Michigan children and their families.

The Michigan Elks Association Major Project Commission is a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. For additional information, visit michiganelksmajorproject.org, find Michigan Major Project on Facebook, or email majorproject@mielks.org.

You may also contact Diane Dusendang, Executive Director, PO Box 141605, Grand Rapids, MI 49504, or call (616) 723-2763.

Go to Facebook.com for all the latest updates...
• PHElksLodge343
• PortHuronElksBanquets
• phelksloddge343GolfClub

Veterans Day Dinner at P.H. Elks Lodge 343

Join us on Wednesday, November 11th from 5:00–8:00 PM in the Lodge Social Quarters as we recognize and thank our Port Huron Elks Lodge 343 Veterans for their service. Port Huron Elks Lodge 343 Veteran members and their accompanying spouses will eat FREE. All we need you to do is please present your Elks membership ID and Veteran ID when attending.

The five Dinner selections will include Ribeye with mashed potatoes and vegetable medley, Chicken Tortellini, Tilapia with rice and vegetable medley, Berry salad with Chicken, and a Chicken dinner with mashed potatoes and vegetables. Rolls, coffee, and dessert will also be available. DINE-IN ONLY — no carryout orders.

Reservations are required by Tuesday, November 3rd COB. Call 810-982-8531 ext. 5 to reserve your spot.

We look forward to spending the evening honoring the Men and Women who have served our country. Thank you for your service!



PH Elks 343 Veterans "Ring of Honor" nears completion



Honor a Veteran with a Personalized Memorial Brick

The Port Huron Elks Lodge 343 Veterans "Ring of Honor" is nearing completion! The paver stones, flags, and spotlights are now in place, with the "Boots on the Ground" memorial statue and reflection bench expected to arrive soon.

An important part of this beautiful tribute is the opportunity for individuals, families, and friends to honor a special Veteran through the purchase of a personalized "Memory Brick" to be permanently placed within the memorial ring.

You do not have to be an Elk to purchase a brick, nor does the Veteran being honored need to have been an Elk or related to an Elk. This memorial is an opportunity for our entire community to recognize the brave men and women who have served our country.

Where Can You Get An Order Form?

Brick order forms are available in the Port Huron Elks Lodge 343 Social Quarters. Completed forms, along with payment, may be submitted to the Lodge Secretary's Office during normal business hours.

In addition to creating a lasting tribute to a Veteran, proceeds from brick purchases will help maintain the Ring of Honor, including the replacement of lighting, paver stones, and Armed Services flags as needed.

We encourage everyone to consider honoring a Veteran with a Memory Brick. What better way to preserve their name, recognize their service, and ensure their sacrifice is remembered for generations to come?

"So long as there are Veterans, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks will never forget them."

2026-27 LODGE OFFICERS

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Esteemed Lecturing Knight.....Donald W. Allen II
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Chaplain.....Tracey L. Cameron
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Andrew Kroetsch
Citizen of the Year
TBA
Sweetheart of Elkdom
Kim Collins

Outstanding Service-Commission
Fred Massad
Youth of the Year
Rylee Thompson
Outstanding Citizen of the Year
Daniel McVety

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Larry Allison
Veteran Volunteers of the Year
Penny Mertz & Donna Hazelwood
Couple of the Year
John & Carrie Woolman IV

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Port Huron, MI 48060

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Especially for:

NOVEMBER 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 Bar 12pm-8pm Kitchen Closed	**2** Bar Closed Kitchen Closed	**3** Bar Closed Kitchen Closed	**4** Bar 3pm-10pm Kitchen Closed BLANKET MAKING 1-3 pm DIAMOND ART 3-5 & 6-8	**5** Bar 3pm-12am Kitchen 4pm-9pm	**6** Bar 3pm-11pm Kitchen 4pm-9pm Queen of Hearts 7:30pm Future of Comedy Show	**7** Bar 12pm-11pm Kitchen 12pm-8pm
8 Bar 12pm-8pm Kitchen Closed CHILI OPEN Golf Tourney	**9** Bar Closed Kitchen Closed LODGE MEETING Initiation- 6:30pm	**10** Bar Closed Kitchen Closed	**11** *Veterans Day* Bar 3pm-10pm Kitchen Closed BLANKET MAKING 1-3 pm DIAMOND ART 3-5 & 6-8 Veterans Dinner for Vets	**12** Bar 3pm-12am Kitchen 4pm-9pm	**13** Bar 3pm-11pm Kitchen 4pm-9pm Queen of Hearts 7:30pm	**14** CLUB 343 5pm Bar 12pm-11pm Kitchen 12pm-8pm
15 Bar 12pm-8pm Kitchen Closed	**16** *Columbus Day* Blood Drive-noon to 5:45 Bar Closed Kitchen Closed BOARD of DIRECTORS MEETING 6:30pm	**17** Bar Closed Kitchen Closed	**18** Vets Coffee & Donut Day Yale VA 8am-12 Bar 3pm-10pm Kitchen Closed BLANKET MAKING 1-3 pm DIAMOND ART 3-5 & 6-8	**19** Bar 3pm-12am Kitchen 4pm-9pm	**20** Bar 3pm-11pm Kitchen 4pm-9pm Queen of Hearts 7:30pm	**21** Bar 12pm-11pm Kitchen 12pm-8pm ARTS & CRAFT SHOW
22 Bar 12pm-8pm Kitchen Closed	**23** Bar Closed Kitchen Closed LODGE MEETING 6:30pm	**24** Bar Closed Kitchen Closed	**25** Bar 3pm-10pm Kitchen Closed BLANKET MAKING 1-3 pm DIAMOND ART 3-5 & 6-8	**26** Bar 3pm-12am Kitchen 4pm-9pm	**27** Bar 3pm-11pm Kitchen 4pm-9pm Queen of Hearts 7:30pm	**28** Bar 12pm-11pm Kitchen 12pm-8pm
29 Bar 12pm-8pm Kitchen Closed	**30** Bar Closed Kitchen Closed					

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