



# Kent's Wizardly Weekend

On July 28 & 29, Main Street Kent will bring Wizardly Weekend back to downtown Kent! There are several fun events happening throughout the weekend for the whole family.

Stop by our building at 155 N Water Street on Saturday between 12:00 - 5:00PM and learn what house you belong to with our sorting hat! Take some pictures at our photo booth and grab some lightening bolt tattoos and pencil wands!

## Friday, July 28th:

- The Run That Shall Not Be Named 5K
- The Wobbly Wizard Bar Crawl

## Saturday, July 29th:

- Par for the Curse - Putt Putt
- Vendor Village



[Click here for more information.](#)

*"You can't stop the waves, but you can learn to swim."*

**Jon Kabat Zinn**



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# 988 Celebrates 1 Year!

988 launched in July last year and the number of calls and texts are consistently increasing. 988 is the National Suicide & Crisis Lifeline and we are proud to be a part of it! Anyone can call, text, or chat with a crisis counselor any time of day.

Summer time can leave a lot of down time for teens and suicide is a leading cause of death among young people. Nearly 900,000 youth attempted suicide in 2021. It is important that we learn the signs when someone is thinking about suicide. Here are some warnings:

- Talking about or making plans for suicide
- Expressing hopelessness about the future
- Displaying severe or overwhelming emotional pain or distress
- Worrisome changes in behavior

If you or someone you know is struggling or in crisis, help is available 24/7. Often times people are afraid that someone answering the 988 line will call the police and send them out. The statistics show that only 2% of calls require emergency services to be dispatched to the callers location.

## What happens when you call?

A trained crisis intervention specialist:

- answers the phone
- listens to the caller
- understands how their problem is affecting them
- provides support
- shares resources if needed

**You can dial 988, text 988 or go to [988lifeline.org](https://988lifeline.org) to chat with a crisis intervention specialist.**



# KUDOS KORNER

**Kudos to Barb Wensel! Barb has kept this agency a float since she started in 1999. Barb knows every program inside and out and works with our Mental Health and Recovery Board to make sure that we are able to provide the best services possible to the community. We are very lucky to have her as a team leader here.**

**"Shout out to Tracy Jobst and Sandy Brown. There was a period of time when we had no billing staff and they stepped up and made things work. From doing intakes and financial interviews, to covering the front desk, to training. And they are still doing the training for the new staff. I don't know what we would have done without them!"**  
- Barb W



## HAPPENINGS OF THE MONTH

### July 4th

*Happy Independence Day*



### July 10th

*National Kitten Day*

What better way to spend today than adopting a kitten or a cat?! Check some out [here](#).

Did you know these fun cats facts?

- A group of kittens is called a "kindle."
- Each cat's nose print is unique.
- The first known cat video was recorded in 1894.

### July 15th

*National Give Something Away Day*

Giving does not always have to be something tangible. Think about giving some of your time to a shelter or helping with a fundraiser. Maybe you can teach someone something new or help someone mow their yard. Let's all try to make the world a little better today by giving something away.



# EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

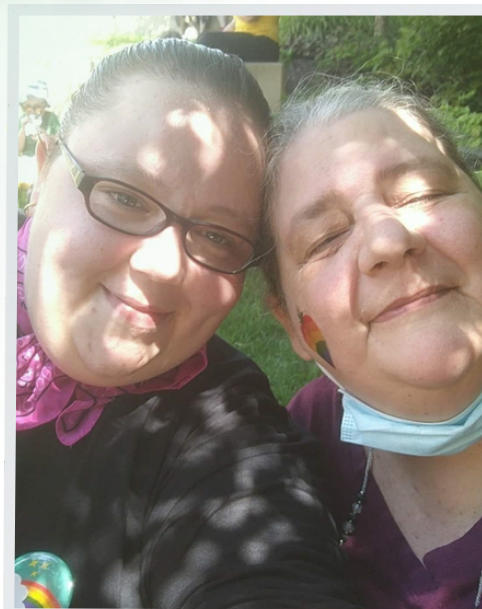
**Start Date:** March 2022

**Current Title:** Crisis Intervention Specialist

**Background into the field:** "I have a GED and no other degrees, but I feel this does not hinder me in any way. My Daughter Lisa has worked for Townhall II for a few years now. Lisa is the one that pulled me into this field of work. Lisa told me about Townhall II and encouraged me to apply given my personal experience that could help me relate to some of our callers. I was hesitant about whether I could do the job and mulled it over for a little over a year but then finally took the plunge and was hired. This job has opened my eyes and taught me a lot of things. I am so grateful that I have the privilege to work on the helpline because it has taught me so many different things."

**Fun facts about Helen:** She used to (team) drive a semi with her husband until his heart attack. She enjoys her grandchildren and family when she can. She loves doing all kinds of crafts and is in process of crocheting her 3 children a blanket each using a shell stitch. She loves all music, especially the 60's and 70's era. The louder the music is the better she feels.

**Helen's favorite quote:** "We are all a bit broken in some way but remember... even broken crayons can fill a page with glorious color." Unknown



**Helen Jones**

## NEW STAFF

**Sarah Vaughan**  
Victim Of Crime Advocate

**Kurt Ruehr**  
Chief Financial Officer



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