

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Personal History Writing Workshops**

HANCOCK, MI – Have you often wanted to write your personal history?

Starting February 21, a series of free Life and Personal History Writing workshops, led by Finlandia University professor and Paloheimo Scholar Beth Virtanen, Ph.D., will help participants write their own personal narratives. The writings may be poems, descriptions of people or places, beginnings of short stories, personal histories, or memoirs.

“I am hoping people from high school age to senior citizens will attend one or more of the writing workshops,” said Virtanen. “Participants will be invited to explore the many perspectives of their personal stories as part of a collaborative experience to enrich what they write.”

The series of six workshops take place Saturday afternoons from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. at various locations in the western Upper Peninsula.

The first workshop will take place February 21 at the South Range VFW on M 26, South Range.

Virtanen requests that participants bring pencils and paper, photographs, and vivid memories of the times they wish to write about. Laptops are welcome, but not required. Participants will leave each workshop with something they have written.

Subsequent workshops will take place at the following locations:

February 28, Ontonagon Historical Museum, River Street, Ontonagon

March 7, Toivola Recreation Center, Church Road, Toivola

March 14, Calumet VFW, US 41, one mile North of M 203, Calumet

March 21, Ojibway Community College, Room 111, Beartown Rd., Baraga

March 28, Covington Multipurpose Building, Covington

The workshops are free and pre-registration is not required. For additional information, please contact Beth Virtanen at 906-483-0274 or beth.virtanen@finlandia.edu.