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**Since 2014** 

It's hard to beat a person who never gives up. ~ George Herman "Babe" Ruth

Vol2025:18 -September 5, 2025

# Aarwood Bridge Walk 2025

## By Tina Norris Fields

RAPID CITY, MI - We couldn't agree on exactly how many years the Aarwood Bridge Walk had been taking place. So, this reporter went back into the archives to find out.

In May of 2012, the old, no longer safe, Aarwood Bridge was taken out so it could be replaced with a new, safer bridge. That whole summer traffic that would normally go down Aarwwod Road to get to the shore of Torch Lake had to be rerouted down West Plum Valley Road. And what was normally a two-mile ride to Torch Lake for Aarwood Road and Aarwood Trail residents, living just south of Rapid River, became a five-mile annoyance driving down Aarwood to Rapid City Road, then north to either West Plum Valley Road or Crystal Beach Road, grumbling all the way.

The work was completed in August, and our beautiful new bridge just seemed to beg for something to commemorate its rebirth, so to speak. Fortuitously, the always thwarted desire of several local residents to journey up to make the Labor Day Mackinac Bridge Walk, revealed the perfect way for us to celebrate our new bridge. With the leadership of Nora and Joe Mariage, the annual Aarwood Bridge Walk was launched, christening our freshly rebuilt bridge with the first walk on Labor Day, Monday, September 3, 2012.

So, Norma, you were right, this was the fourteenth time we held our Aarwood Bridge Walk!

Early to the bridge, Monday morning, this group who come from Bay City every year to be part of the Aarwood Bridge Walk.

They warmed up here as the official marching kazoo ban with a rendition of the famous chorus from Sousa's famous Stars



May 2012, the Aarwood Road Bridge was completely removed, to be replaced with a new, safe bridge that would meet code. The work went on through that summer, being completed in August, just in time to inspire a fitting way for the community to celebrate our new, modern, bridge.

The summer traffic ordeal was finally over and the new bridge was a welcome addition to the community.



September 1, 2025 - those who have been part of this bridge walk every year, as well as those who just learned about it this year, gathered for a celebratory group photo- with smiles, dogs, a bicycle, and lots of smiles. There followed a number of different holiday traditions, including breakfast pizzas and some creative Bloody Mary creations.

News flash for our online friends: The Voice website is about to undergo some changes. You will notice some design changes, but we will do our best to keep the site at least as easy to navigate as it is now, and we hope to actually improve it. We are still working on developing the new look for the website. Things always take a bit longer than we expect, but the secret to success is to never, ever, give up.

# COMMUNITY

## **DEAL ME IN**

By Mark Pilarski (reprinted with permission of the author) OOPS! Boss, I gotta go

21 July 2003

Dear Mark,

boss come over and deal a hand hit your 15 or 16. until last year. I was playing with my family on a low-risk table (\$5 minimum), when after about 40 For every one million hands of 18 minutes, the female dealer at you receive, you will lose 280 more our table motioned to the pit hands than you would win. That boss, talked to him for a second, tells you, Caroline, that 18 is a then finished her hand. She losing hand over the long haul. spread out the cards, thanked us, and left urgently. The pit boss she talked to stepped up and started to deal. Another pit boss watched his shuffling from the pit area.

You have to believe me that we were a little nervous and Can you tell me how multi-deck friendly while he dealt the cards, blackjack? Tom P. joking with us, etc. After several sets of cards, a different female dealer came back.

all amateurs when it comes to with the smallest number of decks. playing 21, and we were not cheating. Aaron S.

And neither was the pit boss, Aaron. There was absolutely, positively no cheatin' going on. No need to be so suspicious.

When a dealer comes off the game and is replaced by a pit boss, it is most likely Mother Nature's cell phone just rang; or, possibly, the dealer had called in sick on a busy weekend and needed a tongue lashing; or maybe there was an emergency at the dealer's home [they all have homes, these days] or; the sexist jokes she's hearing on the game are so God-awful that she would give you your blackjack. needs to upchuck the batch.

Besides, once you become a floor supervisor, you lose your dexterity bottom of the deck.

right?

## Dear Mark,

Should you always hit your 15s and 16s against a 17? Also, should you always stand on a soft 18? Caroline S.

The dealer's chances of having a 17 or more when he shows a 7, 8, 9, 10 or ace are between 74% and 83%. In my short years playing For that reason, correct basic blackjack, I have never seen a pit strategy dictates that you always

Bringing us to that soft-18 query:

This is why basic strategy cards advise hitting a soft 18 against the dealer's 9, face (10) card and an ace, but doubling when the dealer shows a 3, 4, 5 or 6.

#### Dear Mark,

wondering what was going on. blackjack alters the odds, The pit boss was extremely compared with single deck

Compared to a single deck game, the two-decker handicaps your play by 0.35%, (with four decks My question to you is, what 0.48%, six decks 0.54%, and eight would cause a pit boss to come decks 0.58%.). So, given the choice, over and do such a thing? We are I recommend playing on a game

#### Dear Mark,

Do you get more blackjacks on a single or multiple deck game? Jay H.

Blackjacks, which pay 3 for 2, occur more frequently on a single deck versus multi-deck games. Allow me, Jay, to illustrate. Let's say your first card is an ace. On a single deck game, 16 of the remaining 51 cards, or 31.37%, are the face or 10-value cards that would complete your blackjack.

On a six-deck game, 96 of the remaining 311 cards, or 30.87%,

Gambling quote of the week: "Wander through a modern casino for dealing seconds or off the and gaze upon the squadrons of machines, sitting like idols to some Ya know I'm jiving you Aaron, neon God." — The book, Gambling For Dummies





# Sudoku Puzzle September 5, 2025

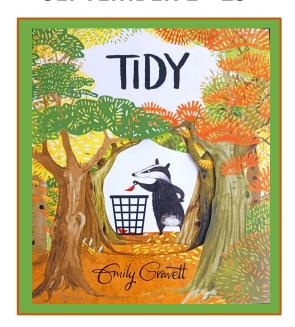
	6		1	5	9		4	8
5	4			8			9	7
	1		7					6
	8	6	2					3
	9	5			1	6		
	3			4				
		1						2
						5	6	1
				1			8	9

Solution on page 15

# StoryWalk®

presented by Alden District Library

## SEPTEMBER 1<sup>st</sup>-29<sup>th</sup>



Hours: Sunrise to Sunset

Location: Coy Mountain, 9011 Valley St, Alden

A special request for quilts has been made by the Chemewa Indian Boarding School in Oregon. This school is supported by the National Society of Daughters of the American Revolution (NSDAR) and the Job Winslow chapter of Traverse City. These quilts welcome the new students into their housing as school starts. It wraps them in warmth and love as they start the new school year. The quilt size needs to be 66" x 86" (to fit a Twin XL size bed). And must be made using all cotton quilt pieces and cotton batting.

We are also collecting Baby blankets for young active military families. These may be knit or crochet - minimum size 36"X 36" Please contact Kathy Wilson, Job Winslow NSDAR chapter at kathyqx@sbcglobal.net if you are making a cotton quilt or baby quilt to donate.

# COMMUNITY

# Dear Northealmpact 100 Traverse City Announces 2025 Grant Finalists

TRAVERSE CITY – The women of Impact100 Traverse City, during a membership event Wednesday evening, named the local nonprofit finalists that will compete for three \$116,000 grants this September.

After an application and review process, the finalists selected by the Impact100 TC Focus Committees (Arts & Culture; Education; Environment, Preservation & Recreation; Family; and Health & Wellness) are: Bay Community Theatre; Groundwork Center for Resilient Communities; Paddle Antrim; Women's Resource Center; and Goodwill Northern Michigan Food Center.

The three nonprofits receiving the most member votes at the Impact100 TC annual meeting on

September 23 will equally share the \$348,000 raised this year.

Impact100 TC President Lindsay Raymond said the organization's grant process has continued to attract a variety of strong candidates with impactful proposals.

"It is a true accomplishment to be named as an Impact100 Traverse City Finalist!" Raymond said. "These organizations are chosen after a detailed assessment of their initiatives' transformational impact, sustainability, and financial viability. This year our finalists were selected from our largest pool of grant applicants ever! The honor is not only impressive, but also serves as an announcement to our community that these organizations are doing great things and worthy of funding!"

"We are so proud of them!" she said.

Impact100 TC selects five finalists each year, one from each focus area. This year's rigorous review process identified exceptional nonprofits that embody our commitment to funding organizations with strong impact, capacity, and sustainability, ensuring our members' investment creates lasting change.

Impact100 Traverse City is an all-women, all-volunteer 501(c)(3) nonprofit serving Antrim, Benzie, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska, and Leelanau counties that has granted over \$2.4 million since its inception in 2017. Each member provides an annual \$1,000 donation that is collectively granted in \$100,000 increments to support regional nonprofits with transformational funding. Impact100 has over 70 chapters across the United States and beyond that have awarded more than \$160 million to nonprofits in their communities since 2002.

Impact100 TC invites new and returning members to support the nonprofit community by committing to

2026 membership by year-end. To join Impact100 TC or for more information, go to w w w.impactTC.org, email info@impactTC.org.

Impact100 Traverse City 2025 Finalists/ Initiatives by Focus Area

## ARTS & CULTURE

Organization: BAY COMMUNITY THEATRE Initiative: Staying Alive! At The Bay.

Description in Organization's Words: For more than 75 years, The Bay Community Theatre in

Suttons Bay has been a gathering place where audiences connect and culture thrives. Serving the community as the only movie venue on the Leelanau Peninsula, the Bay is advancing a bold transformational initiative: to equip for full, live event capabilities in order to expand its reach to new audiences. This will deepen its impact and ensure this treasured venue's long-term sustainability.

Like many theaters, The Bay faces challenges. But recent forays into live programming show that music concerts, comedy shows, and even lectures can fill seats, strengthen downtown vitality, and even bring joy.

This initiative will provide professional lighting, sound, and streaming tools to enable The Bay to host more frequent, higher quality events. The aim is to expand live programming by 50% annually, offering diverse cultural experiences, while also being mindful of audiences unable to access the theatre. Live events at The Bay are more than entertainment – they foster shared experiences, build bonds, and amplify new voices.

#### **EDUCATION**

Organization: Groundwork Center for Resilient Communities

Initiative: Connecting Farms, Food & Heath in a Teaching Kitchen

Description in Organization's Words: Groundwork Center for Resilient Communities is advancing Phase II

of the Esperance Community Teaching Kitchen with a transformative initiative: expanding access to food-as-medicine education across Northwest Lower Michigan. With support from Impact100 Traverse City, the Esperance Community Teaching Kitchen will livestream, record, and distribute high-quality culinary medicine and nutrition training to underserved communities in the five-county region.

The initiative will establish the Esperance Community Teaching Kitchen as a regional broadcast hub and technical assistance center. It will deliver live and recorded classes, create an on-demand resource library, and provide continuing medical education for healthcare professionals. Partnerships with media outlets will further broaden access, reaching schools, food pantries, and households across the region.

# ENVIRONMENT, RECREATION & PRESERVATION

Organization: Paddle Antrim

Initiative: Igniting Community, Nature & Play in Central Lake

Description in Organization's Words: Paddle Antrim, in partnership with the Village of Central Lake, is leading a transformative initiative to expand accessibility, connectivity, and stewardship at Thurston Park along Michigan's Chain of Lakes Water Trail. With support from Impact100 Traverse City, this initiative will create inclusive recreation opportunities, strengthen community connections, and safeguard natural assets for the future.

The centerpiece is a universally accessible

kayak and canoe launch, enabling safe, independent water access for individuals of all abilities. Additional features—paddlecraft storage and invasive species removal tools will enhance safety and environmental stewardship while easing congestion at the motorized launch and swimming beach. Broader park improvements include extending sidewalks to connect downtown Central Lake with both sides of the waterfront, building continuous accessible pathways, upgrading restrooms to ADA standards, adding inclusive picnic seating and benches, and designating accessible parking. Together, enhancements will make Thurston Park a welcoming, fully inclusive community space.

#### **FAMILY**

Organization: Women's Resource Center

Initiative: Safe Housing for Survivors of Domestic Violence

Description in Organization's Words: The Women's Resource Center mission is to protect, shelter and empower people impacted by domestic and sexual violence. Since 1999, we have operated our transitional house, offering stability for survivors rebuilding their lives. With support from Impact100 Traverse City, we will advance a transformational initiative: creating a survivor-centered studio apartment within the Women's Resource Center's transitional home. Residing in an apartment where the environmental stressors of communal living have been removed gives survivors the foundation to build emotional and financial security free from the fears of homelessness or returning to a violent home.

This initiative is designed to meet survivors' immediate housing needs while supporting long-term healing and independence. Residents have access to the Women's Resource Center services including one-on-one advocacy and emotional support, court advocacy, safety planning and access to community resources that reduce barriers to recovery and foster resilience.

## HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Organization: Goodwill Northern Michigan Food Rescue

Initiative: Healthy Produce Cooler: 100% Access

Description in Organization's Words: Goodwill Northern Michigan's Food Rescue program is

transforming food access across the region. Since 2008, the program has recovered and redistributed 2.2 million pounds of food annually—enough for 6,500 meals each day—to 78 pantries, meal sites, and baby pantries across five counties. In 2014, only 13% of partners could reliably offer fresh produce. Today, 80% can. With Impact100 Traverse City's support, we can achieve 100% by 2027.

The barrier is cold storage. Throughout the year, and in particular during harvest season, thousands of pounds of produce are lost due to limited capacity, restricting access for the 20% of pantries that cannot consistently provide fresh food. A new walk-in cooler at our Traverse City warehouse will more than double storage, extend shelf life, reduce waste, and ensure healthy food reaches families.

# COMMUNITY OUT & ABOUT



County of Kalkaska
Department of Veterans Affairs
In the Kalkaska County Senior Center
303 S Coral St, P.O. Box 1204, Kalkaska, MI 49646
veterans@kalkaskacounty.org
phone: 231-258-3370

Our office is available to assist Veterans, their spouses and dependents in obtaining any and all Federal, State and County benefits they may be eligible to receive.

Monday - Thursday, 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

This project funded by the Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency



### **COFFEE TIME for VETERANS**

Free coffee & donuts
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303 S. Coral St
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Contact-Darel at 258-9445

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## **Steak Dinner GRILLED STEAK, BAKED** POTATO, SALAD, DINNER ROLL, TEA/COFFEE/WATER AND HOMEMADE DESSERT **SEPTEMBER 20, 2025** 5:00 - 9:00 PM **DALE H WHEELER AMERICAN I FGION POST 219** PER PERSON 10283 M-186, FIFE LAKE FOR THIS EVENT: CASH BAR OPEN TO NON-MEMBERS FEATURING LIVE MUSIC BY **SCOTT WEATHERS** 5:00 - 7:30 PM SPONSORED BY THE AMERICAN LEGION POST 219 AND THE FIFE LAKE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE TO RAISE FUNDS FOR TWO PROJECTS: THE LEGION SERVES AS A COMMUNITY EMERGENCY SHELTER AND IS RAISING MONEY TO BUILD STORAGE SPACE FOR THE EMERGENCY ITEMS. THE CHAMBER IS RAISING FUNDS TO COVER THE COST OF THE PA SYSTEM FOR **PUBLIC SAFETY AND COMMUNITY EVENTS.** THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THESE COMMUNITY PROJECTS!

## O&A - continued from page 11

TOPS #1304 Meeting, Kalkaska United Ministries for Christ, 2525 Beebe Rd, Kalkaska, contact 231 384-2154

When: Tue, 9:00 am weigh ins, 10:00 am meeting

Al-Anon Family Group, Stepping Toward Serenity,

on ZOOM:

login information on meeting list at Alanon-d39.org

When: Tues, at noon.

Al-Anon, Al-Teen Meeting, (Kalkaska COA) Senior Center, 303 S Coral St, contact Linda 231 384-3227

When: Tue, 7:00 pm

Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting (AA), Kalkaska Senior Center, 303 S Coral St When: Tue, 8:00 pm

**Secular Sobriety Group,** AA of Traverse City, meets on ZOOM, ID#447 584 8945 PW 628608, more info at secularAAinMichigan.org

When: Tues, Thu, 7 pm, Sun, 12 pm (also in person)

**Alcoholics Anonymous Meetings (AA),** Kalkaska United Ministries for Christ, 2525 Beebe Rd

When: Tue, Thu, Sat 12:00 pm

Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting (AA), Fife Lake Village Office, 616 Bates Rd When: Wed, 7:00 pm

Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting (AA), Central Lake VFW Hall, 1805 S. Main St, When: Wed, 8:00 pm

**Grief Support Group,** (Kalkaska COA) Senior Center, 303 S Coral St, all ages welcome, contact 231 258-5030

When: 2nd and 4th Wed, 10:30 am

Antrim Co Parkinson Support Group, Bellaire Family Health Center, 4955 S M-88, Bellaire, 231 633-1237 When: 3<sup>rd</sup> Wed, 2 pm

**Grief Support**, Kalkaska Church of Christ, 1725 W. Kalkaska Rd, faith-based grief support, contact 231 258-9441 **When: Thu, 6:00 pm** 

S-Anon Support Group - Calvary Lutheran Church, 10180 Elk Lake Rd, Elk Rapids. For For family and friends affected by someone else's sex addiction. Contact: miplaceofpeace@gmail.com, 231-714-4099 When: Thu, 7:00 pm

All Recovery Meeting, Ursela House, 8099 West Old State Rd, Central Lake, peer led support group for people in recovery and/or their family members, 231 266-4412 When: Thu, 8:00 pm

**Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting (AA),** St Paul's Lutheran Church, 2470 Beebe Rd, Open Meeting

When: Thu, 8:00 pm

Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting (AA), The Rock Youth Center, 115 E Blair, Kingsley When: Thu, 7:00 pm

Weight Management Support Group, Kalkaska Memorial Health Center, 419 S. Coral St, Classroom A, contact Ashley Snyder, 231 258-3613

When: 2nd Thu, 3:00 to 4:00 pm

**Diabetes Support Group,** Kalkaska Memorial Health Center, 419 S. Coral St, Classroom A, contact Katie Daman, 231 258-3091

When: 4th Thu, 3:00 to 4:00 pm

**Deliverance**, Kalkaska Baptist Church, 1651 Co Rd 612, Kalkaska, faith-based support for all addictions, contact Heath 231 564-3715

When: Fri, 6:00 pm

Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting (AA), Surrender Today Coldsprings Fellowship Church, 532 S. Cedar St, Kalkaska When: Fri, 7:00 pm

Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting (AA), Fife

Lake Village Office, 616 Bates Rd, When: Fri, 8:00 pm

Narcotics Anonymous (NA), Mill Pond Pavilion, Hyde St, Kalkaska When: Sat, 7:00 pm

Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting (AA), Bellaire United Methodist Church, 401 N. Bridge St, Bellaire When: Sat, 8:00 pm



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# **Government Meetings**

### Kalkaska County Townships:

Bear Lake Township,

Bear Lake Twp Hall, 198 E Bear Lake Rd NE, Kalkaska, 231-258-4871 When: 2nd Tue, 7 pm

Blue Lake Township,
Blue Lake Twp Hall, 10599 Twin Lake
Rd, Mancelona, 231-587-8354 When: 1st Wed, 7 pm

**Boardman Township,**Boardman Twp Hall/Fire Dept, 4855 Pine St, South Boardman, 231-369-3336

When: 3rd Wed, 7 pm

Clearwater Township,

Clearwater Twp Community Center, 5407 River St, Rapid City, 231-331-6249

When: 3rd Thu, 7 pm

Coldsprings Township, Coldsprings Twp Hall, 6515 County Road 571 NE, Mancelona, 231-587-8633 When: 2nd Mon, 5 pm

Excelsior Township,
Excelsior Twp Hall, 987 County Road 571 NE, Kalkaska, 231-258-6108 When: 1st Mon, 5 pm (on major holiday the Tue after)

**Garfield Township,**Garfield Twp Hall, 0466 W Sharon Rd, Fife Lake, 231-369-2483 When: 2nd Thur, 7 pm

Kalkaska Township, Kalkaska Twp Hall / Fire Department, 209 Laurel St, 231-258-9305 When: 1st Tue, 7 pm

Oliver Township, Oliver Twp Hall, 5472 Kniss Rd SE, 262-339-2239

When: 2nd Tue, 6 pm

Orange Township, Orange Twp Hall, 28 Boardman Rd SE, South Boardman, 231-369-3457 When: 2nd Mon, 7 pm

Rapid River Township, Rapid River Twp Hall, 101 Phelps Rd, Kalkaska, 231-258-2943 When: 2nd Tue, 7 pm

Springfield Township,

Springfield Twp Hall, 5253 Ingersoll Rd SW, Fife Lake, 231-879-4541 When: 2nd Tue, 7 pm

Village of Central Lake, Central Lake Governmental Building, 1622 N. M-88, Central Lake, 231 544-6483 When: 2nd Wed, 7:00 pm

Central Lake Township, Central Lake Governmental Building, 1622 N. M-88, Central Lake, 231 544-6687

When: 3rd Wed, 7:00 pm

Village of Bellaire: Village Offices, 202 N. Bridge St, Bellaire, 231 533-8213

Village Council-When: 1st Wed, 7:00 pm DDA- When: last Wed, 8:00 am Village of Mancelona:

Village Offices, 120 W. State, Mancelona, 231 587-8331

When: 2nd Tue, 6:00 pm

Mancelona DDA, Antrim County Title, 504 S. Williams, Mancelona, 231 58-833

When: 2nd Mon, 5:30 pm

Mancelona Township:

Township Offices, 9610 S. M-88, Mancelona, 231 587-8651 When: 3rd Mon, 6:00 pm

Village of Fife Lake:

Village Hall, 616 Bates St, Fife Lake, 231 879-4291

Village Council-

When: 3rd Mon, 6:30 pm DDA-When: 3rd Tues, quarterly Jan, April, July, October, 6:00 pm

Fife Lake Township:

Township Meeting Room, 134 Morgan St, 231 879-3963 When: 4th Thur, Jan-Oct, 6:00 pm

Village of Kingsley:

Village Offices, 207 S. Brownson, 231

Village Council-When: 2nd Mon, 6:00 pm

DDA- When: 3rd Tue, 6:00 pm

Paradise Township:

Township Hall, 2300 E. M-113, Kingsley, 231 263-5251 When: 2nd Wed, 6:00 pm

Helena Township:

Helena Township Community Center, 8751 Helena Rd, Alden, 231 331-4643 When: 2nd Thu, 7:00 pm

Village of Kalkaska:

Village Offices, 200 Hyde St, Kalkaska, 231-258-9191 Village Council-When: 2nd Mon, 6 pm

When: 1st Tue, 5:00 pm

Kalkaska County:

Kalkaska County BOC Chambers, Administration Building, 605 N Birch St, 231-258-3349 **Board of Commissioners-**

When: 3nd Wed, 5 pm

Standing Committees-When: 2nd Wed, times below

Judiciary & Public Health- 9 am

Health & Welfare- 10 am

Public Works- 11 am

Personnel/Interview-1 pm

Budget & Finance- 2 pm (also meets the Tue before, 5 pm)

County Affairs/

IT & Computer- 3 pm

## The Northwest Michigan Voice is delivered to these locations every other week:

## Alden

Alden Bar & Grille Alden State Bank Alden District Library Higgins Store Paradise Properties The Muffin Tin Vista Ridge

#### **Bellaire**

Applesauce Inn Bellaire Public Library

#### **Central Lake**

Central Lake District Library Mary's Market

#### Fife Lake

Fife Lake Public Library Forest Area Federal Credit Union The Upper Bar & Grill Village Market

#### Kalkaska

Advanced Office Supply All Seasons Hotel & Resort Birch Street Dental Care Carter Lumber Earth's Garden Family Fare Forest Area Federal Credit Union North K.A.I.R.

Kaliseum

Kalkaska Commission on Aging Kalkaska County Building Kalkaska County Library Kalkaska Funeral Home McLean's Hardware Midas Northland Foods Rodeway Inn The Shopping Basket Trout Town Tavern & Eatery

## Voice Motors Kingsley

Kingsley Branch Library Kingsley Village Offices

## Mancelona

**BP** Station Habitat for Humanity ReStore Iron Skillet Mancelona Public Library NAPA Auto Parts The Hen's Den

#### **Rapid City**

Absolute Shear Shack **BP** Station Johnny's Torch Riviera Township Hall Village Market

## South Boardman

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# **School Board Meetings**

Kalkaska Public Schools,

Board of Education room, 315 S Coral St Kalkaska, 231-258-9100

When: 3rd Mon, 6 pm **Forest Area Community Schools** 

Band Room, Forest Area High School, 7661 Shippy Rd SW, Fife Lake 231-369-4191

When: 2nd Mon, 7:00 pm Crawford School, Excelsior District #1

Crawford School 5621 M-72 NE, Kalkaska 231-258-2934

When: 3rd Wed, 4:00 pm

## **Mancelona Public Schools**

Media Center, Mancelona Middle School, 1122 St Johns Ave, Mancelona 231-587-9764

When: 2nd Tue, 4:30 pm Central Lake Public Schools,

8190 W. State St, Central Lake, 231 544-3341

When: 2nd Mon, 6:30 pm

**Bellaire Public Schools,** 204 W. Forest Home Ave, Bellaire, 231-533-8015

When: 3rd Mon, 6:30 pm Kingsley Area Schools,

High School Library, 7475 Kingsley Rd, Kingsley When: 2nd Mon, 7:00 pm

## Sudoku Puzzle Solution September 5, 2025

7	6	3	1	5	9	2	4	8
5	4	2	6	8	3	1	9	7
8	1	9	7	2	4	3	5	6
4	8	6	2	7	5	9	1	3
2	9	5	8	3	1	6	7	4
1	3	7	9	4	6	8	2	5
9	7	1	5	6	8	4	3	2
3	2	8	4	9	7	5	6	1
6	5	4	3	1	2	7	8	9

Puzzle on page 8

# **COMMUNITY**

# INTERNATIONAL FIREWORKS CHAMPIONSHIP SET TO DAZZLE THIS FRIDAY AND SATURDAY

Traverse City, Mich. — Six fireworks teams from around the world are coming to Traverse City this week to compete in the third-annual International Fireworks Championship at Turtle Creek Stadium. The teams hope to walk away with bragging rights as some of the best fireworks displays in the world. To qualify, the teams had to have won a previous fireworks competition.

While some group and premium seats have been sold out, a limited number of tickets are available for both shows. Teams from Poland, Canada, China, Portugal, Serbia, and the USA will compete.

Interviews and insights into all the teams are available at the International Fireworks Championship website.

The teams will have up to 15 minutes to present a magnificent display choreographed to music. A finale on Friday will be presented

by last year's winners from the UK. Saturday's finale is designed by a panel of pyrotechnic judges.

"This promises to be another unforgettable year for the International Fireworks Championship," said Trevor Tkach, President of Traverse City Tourism. "There is nothing else like this anywhere in the country. You give the best of the best fireworks teams a level playing field and see who comes out on top."

Each night, the audience votes on which team gets the "Best of Show" award. On the final night, a group of pyrotechnic experts uses the choreography, synchronization to music, and the overall experience to present a championship award for the top team.

Tickets are available here: https://traversecityifc.saffire.com/p/tickets.

The presenting sponsor is GFL Environmental. Other sponsors include Priority Health, The

Carrithers Family, Up North Live News, Blast! Events, TVC Airport, Fox Grand Traverse, truenorth Convenience Stores, OAV, 4Front Credit Union, and Showtime FX. The show is organized by Traverse City Tourism.

###

**About Traverse City Tourism** 

Traverse City Tourism is an independent, notfor-profit destination organization that promotes the greater Traverse City area as a leisure and business destination with an excellent quality-of-life. Through the impact of travel, Traverse City Tourism helps strengthen the local economy and supports a thriving entrepreneurial community. Details of the regions lodging, attractions and area events are available at www.TraverseCity.com

Mike Kent | Public Relations Manager, 231.995.3927 | mikek@traversecity.com









Monday 8 am - 8 pm Tues-Fri 8 am - 6 pm Sat 9 am - 3 pm Sun CLOSED Mon - Fri 7:30 am - 5:30 pm Sat & Sun CLOSED

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