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You are never too old to set another goal  
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~ C.S. Lewis

Vol2026:  
May 1, 2026

## Kalkaska Citizen and Business of the Year

By Tina Norris Fields

Kalkaska – It’s not every day that the good things in our community get acknowledged and celebrated. So, when the opportunity comes along to attend the annual celebration of Kalkaska’s Citizen of the Year and Business of the Year, I jump at it. Hosted since 2019 by the Grand Traverse Regional Community Foundation, and housed in Kalkaska’s Railroad Square Pavilion, this luncheon event is a refreshing change from the gloom and doom that so often seems to cloud our mental skies.

This year’s festivities were on Tuesday, April 21. The luncheon was prepared by the Twin Birch Golf Club Restaurant and served smoothly and seamlessly. The program was neatly organized and stayed on schedule. The sponsors were all properly thanked for their support. But, what made it wonderful was why we all were there.

We came to hear about the ways the Grand Traverse Regional Community Foundation is working to lift up the people of the five counties it serves (Antrim, Benzie, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska, and Leelanau), and the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians.

We came to learn how our hospital, Kalkaska Memorial Health Center, has matured into a top-notch facility, providing the lifesaving and affirming care needed every day. The nearest other hospital is about 35 miles away. So, we are absolutely blessed to have KMHC right here to take the immediate action needed to provide the best outcomes, especially when time is of the essence. Three of my family members have been well cared for by KMHC in the past couple of years, and I am deeply grateful.

We came to thank Kim Cotton for being the kind of science teacher everybody wishes they had when they were in high school.

We came to cheer on Leah Cox whose inspiration led to the delightful Sunday Morning Flowers shop that has grown into a true community treasure.

And we came to hear how the young people of our high school are serving in the Youth Advisor Council, helping to decide on grants to benefit our community.

When it was over, I know I wasn’t the only one who left feeling lighter, prouder, and more ready to take on whatever the challenges of the day might be.



L-R: 2026 Kalkaska Citizen of the Year, Kimberly Cotton, Miss Kalkaska 2026 Caylee Carr, and the 2026 Kalkaska Business of the Year owner, Leah Cox.



L-R: Rob Carson (AICP Community Development Regional Director of Networks Northwest), Alison Metiva (President & CEO of the Grand Traverse Regional Community Foundation), and Andrew Raymond (CEO of Kalkaska Memorial Health Center)



The Kalkaska YAC members.

L-R: Jaylea Erickson, Dixon Guggemos, Anna Martin, Coltrane Paryani (also a Community Foundation Board Director), Abigail Minion, Tré Bromley, Caylee Carr (also Miss Kalkaska 2026), Xavier Simpson, and Marissa Manchester.



The Kitchen Crew from Twin Birch Golf Club and Restaurant

## DEAL ME IN

By Mark Pilarski (reprinted with permission of the author)

### Slot nostalgia

24 November 2003

Dear Mark,

My first day gambling was in Reno the day President Kennedy was killed. An unlucky day to say the very least. I remember which casino I was in, Harold's Club, but I'm not quite certain what type of slot machine I was playing on when I heard the grim news. I believe, though not 100% sure, it was a triple-line machine by Bally's. The maximum jackpot was \$7.50, which I hit, and I remember it having an owl near the top. Surprising what you remember the day Kennedy was shot? Does any of this help?

I am asking about this machine because I am in a position to purchase (for sentimental reasons) a Bally's triple-line, sight unseen from a friend of a friend. Would this be the machine I played 40 years ago? Clark R.

You gave me three nice clues, Clark, and they absolutely rule out Bally's triple-line slot machine. The leads were, the timeline, the \$7.50 jackpot and the owl, which tell me that it was a Mills Hightop, manufactured by a Reno company called Mills Bell-O-Matic.

Bally's possibly did have a machine on the casino floor that day, (though I believe its debut was more like somewhere in 1964 than in November of '63), that model was the Money Honey, the first slot machine to have a hopper as part of its innards. This machine was the first to have electronic circuitry to read the reels, a hopper, relays for protection against slot cheating, and a brightly lit front end. The latter, mind you, was not for esthetics but for inducing play. Who'd a thunk it?

So, why is this important? Because the older slots like the Hightop could only pay as much as their stacked coin tubes could hold. A Mills slot could only guarantee a \$7.50 jackpot on a nickel machine. But with a hopper, jackpots could be increased a hundredfold. Besides, Clark, it was not until 1968 — your 10th trip to Reno? — that Bally's introduced their first machine that paid on more than one line. Bally's three-line pay machine had a three-coin option. The first coin activated the middle line, the second the top line and the third brought the bottom line to life.

So, no, your friend's friend's machine was not the one that painted your young palm with

nickels, but it might go nicely in your den, anyhow, and help out with party costs.

Dear Mark,

I have a question regarding the history of slot machines in Vegas and Nevada. I am working on a story for the Travel Channel called Made In America, and am doing a short piece on Vintage Vegas and gambling. Do you know where the first slot machines were manufactured? L. L.

Ja wohl! A Bavarian immigrant named Charles Fey, a San Francisco mechanic, invented the first mechanical slot machine, which he astutely named the Liberty Bell, in 1895. Fey linked the three reels to the slide payout mechanism, creating the first, exclusive, reeled gambling machine, and as the saying goes, "'twas the clang heard around the world."

His reel symbols were playing-card spots, and each spinning reel was decorated with diamonds, spades, hearts and one cracked Liberty Bell. When the bells lined up, they produced the mightiest payoff: 10 nickels. WOW!

The original Liberty Bell is on display in Reno at the Liberty Belle Saloon & Restaurant, on 4250 S. Virginia. I believe Fey's family still runs the Saloon. If I'm wrong, well, some reader is bound to correct me.

Fey eventually made a deal with the Mills Novelty Company of Chicago to manufacturer his machine. Mills re-engineered the game as its own Liberty Bell in 1909, which was quickly copied by Caille Brothers Company, then by Watling Manufacturing Company. By 1925, a whole slather of companies had sniffed the wind and begun making similar-type slot machines.

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**Gambling quote of the week:** "Every time I see someone writing down past numbers at a roulette table, I want to grab his pen and notebook and yell in his face, 'It don't mean diddly squat!'" -VP Pappy



## Sudoku Puzzle May 1, 2026

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

Solution on page 15



## Traverse City Uncorked Starts Friday, May 1, 2026

### Events Highlight Distinct Local Wines

TRAVERSE CITY, Mich. — Local wines take center stage starting Friday, May 1, 2026, with the ten-day Traverse City Uncorked. More than two dozen special events, wine tastings, and experiences take place from May 1st through May 10th at various locations.

A free digital passport unlocks a self-guided wine tour and offers discounts, experiences, and the opportunity for wine prizes. Those who check into at least five wineries can redeem the passport for a pair of Traverse City Uncorked drink coasters at the Traverse City Tourism Welcome Center. Guests who stay at Traverse City area lodging partners are eligible to win a wine-themed vacation.

Some of the special events include:

- A lunch and parade honoring the patron saint of wine, St. Vincent.
- Wine events themed to the Kentucky Derby
- Cooking classes
- A Cabernet Franc wine school
- Live musical performances
- Winery tours with the owners
- Mother's Day brunch

More events are being added to the schedule. The complete lineup can be viewed at [www.TraverseCity.com](http://www.TraverseCity.com).

"It doesn't matter if you are a seasoned wine enthusiast or someone just starting to explore the remarkable flavors of the

region. Traverse City Uncorked opens a surprising world of the local beverage scene," said Traverse City Tourism President, Trevor Tkach (tah-KACH).

Traverse City has two wine-growing regions on the Leelanau and Old Mission peninsulas. Together they produce about 60 percent of Michigan wines. They are renowned for cool-climate wines that are nurtured by a micro-climate created by Lake Michigan and a sandy soil courtesy of receding glaciers.

Access to the Traverse City Uncorked Passport is available at: <https://www.traverscity.com/traverse-city-uncorked/uncorked-app/>

###

### About Traverse City Tourism

Traverse City Tourism is an independent, not-for-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](http://www.TraverseCity.com)

Mike Kent | Public Relations Mgr  
231.995.3927 | [mikek@traverscity.com](mailto:mikek@traverscity.com)

= MENTAL HEALTH CORNER =

Understanding the Seasons of Life Part 3

This is the third and final part of the series on understanding our mental health in the different seasons of our lives.

I often emphasize being intentional about life, and moving through the seasons of our lives is no different. While some seasons of life pass by naturally, others can leave us feeling trapped. We end up worrying "What if I am stuck here?" It turns out that passing through the seasons of life is yet another aspect of our lives where it's better to be active than passive.

As we pass through seasons in life, we can unintentionally prolong them by resisting the process. While we cannot force a season to end, we can start with acceptance and move into intentional action. Each is as important as the other.

There are several reasons that we can find ourselves stuck in a season:

1. Avoidance: When we resist and refuse natural and necessary endings (Fall) or needed rest (Winter) our resistance drags it on.
2. Over-Identification: When we say to ourselves, "This is just who I am now"

(especially in Winter Seasons/Depression) we tend to stay there.

3. Control Dramas: When we try to force growth before we are ready, this can lead to burnout.
4. Loss of Meaning: When we walk through life without intentional purpose, the seasons can feel random instead of intentional.

So, how do we move forward?

1. Accept and Even Embrace the Season: This reduces the resistance and internal conflict that unintentionally prolongs seasons.
2. Do the "Work" for the Season: Rest in Winter, Release in Fall, Build in Spring and Execute in Summer
3. Hold a Long-Term View: Tell yourself that this is a chapter...not the whole story.

I would like to end this 3-part series with a personal example. My wife and I had quite a last 6 months of 2017. During that time, we were married, had a child and bought a house. I also had three different professional jobs during that time. There were many overlapping seasons: Getting Married (Summer), Birth of our Child (Spring), Buying a House (Summer-

Maintaining/Moving our Horse Ranch) and Three Different Professional Jobs (Fall at the end of each and Spring at the beginning of each). We are rarely in a single season of our lives.

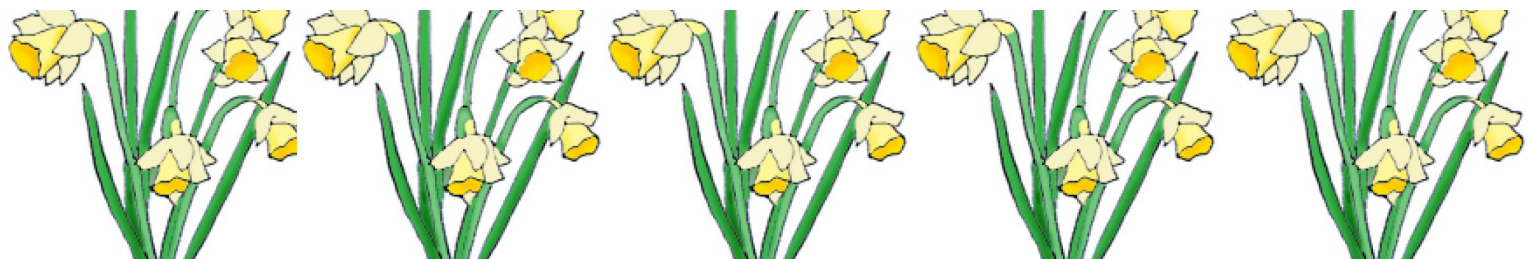
The best mental health advice I can give you on the Seasons is this: "Name it. Work with it. Move through it."

Our lives are not defined by the Seasons of our life but rather by how we move through them. Understanding this is just another way that we win at life.

-Adam DeVaney, LCSW, CECF

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*Adam DeVaney is a clinical social worker and therapist with over a decade of experience working with clients with a diversity of challenges from addiction and anxiety to overcoming trauma and helping people to learn what it takes to live their best lives. Along with his wife, Mandi, he founded Life's Work Clinic in Kalkaska, Michigan, and Life's Work Coaching with a local and global footprint. Adam has dedicated his life to serving others and walking with them on their healing journeys.*



God Doesn't Make Junk

God doesn't make junk! I tell the kids in my life this all the time. What do I mean by this? Well, we are created in God's image. So therefore, He doesn't make junk. We are created by a loving Heavenly Father who created us with purpose.

We are created for the purpose of serving God and loving others, including ourselves. God doesn't want us to talk bad about anyone, including ourselves. We tend to be our own worst critics. We tear ourselves down better than anyone else ever could. We as God's creation need to know our value.

The world tells us how we should value ourselves. We are seen as important by how many followers we have on social media. We are seen as important by how we dress or if we are following the current trends.

God sees our hearts. He sees who we are on the inside. You can be beautiful according to the world on the inside but have an ugly heart. I tell

my kiddos all the time they are beautiful inside and out, because God made them.

What we all need to understand, kids and adults, is we are enough just as we are. God created us in His image and likeness. We are called to love others as much as we love ourselves.

God didn't call us to be perfect. The only one who was perfect was Jesus. We are human and make mistakes. He called us to love others and care for those around us. God loves us just as we are, mistakes and all.

When we talk about ourselves or others remember we are all created and loved by God. So, treating others by loving them the way God would is being created in God's image.

How do we love others the way Jesus would? We serve, we encourage, we step alongside and help when the opportunity presents itself. We need to start placing our value on godly things.

We tend to place our value on things in this world. If we don't have these things then we feel like we have failed. We feel like we are not good enough. That is the biggest lie that has ever been told. Our value is not placed on things like stuff, looks, and money. Our value is placed in who are in Christ Jesus.

In Him, we are children of God, who loved us so much He sent His son to die on a cross for us and our sins so we can spend eternity with Him in Heaven. We need to be storing up treasures in Heaven, not here on earth. People are the most important treasure, including you!

Alison Neihardt, LPC, NCC

=====

*Alison Neihardt is a local child therapist at her private practice Helping Kids Counseling Services, LLC located in Kalkaska, MI. Reached at 231-590-4812 or email hkupnorth@gmail.com*

## Impact100 Traverse City Announces 2026 Grant Funding at Annual Big Reveal Event

Traverse City, MI — Impact100 Traverse City announced 360 members for its 2026 giving cycle at its annual Big Reveal event, generating a total grant pool of \$360,000 to support local nonprofits. Built on a simple but powerful model, each member contributes \$1,000 annually, pooling resources to fund large-scale grants that meaningfully expand nonprofit capacity, reach, and impact.

Based on this year's membership, Impact100 TC will award 3 grants of \$120,000 each, continuing its mission to provide transformational funding to organizations across the five-county region. Impact100 TC also announced that, as part of this grant cycle, each of the two finalists not selected for a full-scale grant at the Annual Meeting on September 23 will receive a \$3,000 award in recognition of their impactful work and strong proposals.

This year's announcement marks a major milestone for the organization, as Impact100 TC celebrates 10 years of collective giving and surpasses \$3 million invested in Northern Michigan nonprofits.

"Celebrating 10 years of awarding grants to local nonprofits is a major milestone for Impact100," said Amy Devey, President of Impact100 TC. "And in honor of this milestone, we are striving to grow our organization so that we can continue to meet the vital needs of our communities for the next decade. And, thanks to our members and the power of

collective giving, we have done just that! This year we have increased our membership, and ultimately, increased the amount we can award local nonprofits."

In 2025, Impact100 TC awarded \$348,000 in grants, funding three nonprofits with \$116,000 each to support initiatives ranging from housing and food rescue to teaching kitchens.

Since its founding in 2016, Impact100 TC has funded more than 25 nonprofit projects across focus areas including Arts & Culture, Education, Environment & Recreation, Family, and Health & Wellness. These investments have supported initiatives such as rural outreach programs, workforce development, and innovative housing solutions—demonstrating the long-term ripple effect of collective giving.

Following the Big Reveal, eligible nonprofits in Antrim, Benzie, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska, and Leelanau counties will be invited to apply for funding in the 2026 grant cycle. Applications opened April 24, 2026 and will close May 15, 2026.

Grant recipients will be selected by Impact100 TC members through a collaborative review and voting process, culminating at the organization's Annual Meeting in September.

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Impact100 Traverse City is an all-women, all-volunteer 501(c)(3) nonprofit serving Antrim,

Benzie, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska, and Leelanau counties and has granted over \$2.8 million since its inception in 2017. Guided by the mission of women transforming our communities through collective giving, each member provides an annual \$1,000 donation that is combined and awarded in \$100,000 increments to regional nonprofits doing meaningful work. Through these transformational grants, Impact100 Traverse City strives to achieve its vision of ensuring the vital needs of our region are met year after year. 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.

###

Media Contact:  
Maria Purvis  
504-214-8022  
purvism@gmail.com  
or info@impactTC.org





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**O&A - cont. from page 11**

**Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting (AA),** St Anthony Catholic Church, 209 Jefferson Ave, Mancelona  
**When: Mon, Wed, Fri 7:00 pm**

**Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting (AA),** Forrest Home Township Hall, 351 Bridge St, Bellaire  
**When: Mon, Wed, 12:00 pm**

**Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting (AA),** Forrest Home Township Hall, 351 Bridge St, Bellaire  
**When: Mon, Thu, 12:00 pm**

**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 for Families & Friends of Alcoholics,** (Kalkaska COA) Senior Center, 303 S Coral St, contact Linda 231 384-3227  
**When: Tue, 7:00 pm (except 5th Tue in a month)**

**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**

**Weight Management Support Group,** Kalkaska Memorial Health Center, 419 S. Coral St, Classroom A, contact Ashley Snyder, 231 258-3613  
**When: 2nd Tue, 1:00 to 2:00 pm**

**Diabetes Support Group,** Kalkaska Memorial Health Center, 419 S. Coral St, Classroom A, contact Ashley Snyder, 231 258-3613  
**When: 4th Tue, 1:00 to 2:00 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: 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> 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 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,** Ursula 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**

**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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## Gov. Whitmer Announces 40 New Jobs Coming to Adrian

*Investment from Adrian Steel Company marks the company's largest investment in Michigan since 1953*

LANSING, Mich.- Today, April 28, Governor Gretchen Whitmer announced the Michigan Strategic Fund (MSF) Board approval for Adrian Steel Company's expansion in Adrian (Lenawee County) that will create at least 40 new jobs and result in \$43.4 million in capital investment to grow the economy.

"Michigan is on the move and open for business, competing for and winning big projects in industries like steel manufacturing," said Governor Whitmer. "Today's announcement will create 40 good-paying jobs and cement Michigan as the best place to build the future. Let's keep working together to create good-paying jobs, bring supply chains home from overseas, and tell Michigan's story."

"Today's approved project underscores the continued votes of confidence that industry-leading companies in manufacturing give our state," said Quentin L. Messer, Jr., CEO of the MEDC and MSF Board Chair. "This industry is at the core of our state's heritage and future competitiveness. I congratulate Adrian Steel

Company for choosing to 'Make It in Michigan' and thank Governor Whitmer, the members of the Michigan Strategic Fund Board, the Michigan Legislature and our economic development partners for the collaboration that made today happen."

Adrian Steel Company investing \$43.4 million, adding at least 40 jobs to expand operations in Lenawee County

**OVERVIEW:** Adrian Steel Company is making a \$43.4 million investment to significantly expand its operations in Adrian, reinforcing its long-standing commitment to Lenawee County and the state of Michigan. The MSF Board approved a \$320,000 performance-based Michigan Business Development Program (MBDP) performance-based grant to support the company's expansion, which includes a 112,000-square-foot addition to its existing Adrian facility.

The expansion will enhance Adrian Steel's manufacturing capabilities with additional

space dedicated to raw material storage, cutting, forming, welding, painting, assembly, office functions, and shipping operations — further strengthening the company's ability to serve customers across North America. Over the next five years, the project is expected to create at least 40 new jobs and bring Adrian Steel's total capital investment to \$43,453,278.

In support of this investment, the MSF Board also approved a five-year, 100% State Essential Services Assessment (SESA) with an estimated value of up to \$228,751 for \$25,791,240 in eligible personal property. Additional support includes an anticipated real property tax abatement from the City of Adrian, along with a State Education Tax abatement authorized by the MEDC.



## 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**

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**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, 231 263-7778

**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**

**DDA- 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: 3rd 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

**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**  
Habitat for Humanity ReStore  
Iron Skillet  
KMH - Mancelona Campus  
Mancelona Public Library  
NAPA Auto Parts  
The Hen's Den

**Rapid City**  
Absolute Shear Shack  
Johnny's Torch Riviera  
Township Hall  
Village Market

**South Boardman**  
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*It is also delivered to several of the local churches, to the schools (during the school year), and the Emergency Department of KMH, as well as to select senior living facilities.*

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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 May 1, 2026

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

Puzzle on page 8

## DAR - New Members & Young Winners

By Tina Norris Fields

Traverse City - It's a wonderful tradition of the Job Winslow Chapter, NSDAR (National Society Daughters of the American Revolution), to dedicate its April meeting to honoring the winners of DAR student competitions. This year, on Saturday, April 25, 2026, chapter members had the privilege of enjoying the essays written by local students for the American History essay contest and the Good Citizen contest.

From Elk Rapids Cherryland Middle School, eighth grader Adriana Smith read her winning composition on which signer of the United States Constitution she would like to have lunch with and why. She chose Benjamin Franklin and noted that he was the only one who had signed all four of our essential foundational documents: the Declaration of Independence (1776), the Treaty of Alliance, Amity, and Commerce with France (1778), the Treaty of Peace between England, France, and the United States (1782), and the United States Constitution (1787).

The competition for the Good Citizen award was so close that although the chapter can have only one winner, three high school students were recognized. They were Desiree Wetherbee from Northport, Landen Brandt from Pellston, and Gabriel Bouton from Boyne Falls. Landen was unable to attend, but both Desiree and Gabriel were able to come and read their essays on the necessary traits of a good citizen and the role that good citizenship will continue to play in securing the future of the noble American experiment in self-governance. Of note in this particular competition are the conditions under which the candidate must write his or her essay. The candidate has two hours in which to write the essay and receives the topic just before beginning. So, no time to prepare. No reference materials are available to the candidate during the writing time. The essay has to come entirely from the mind and understanding the young candidate brings to the effort. Desiree Wetherbee is the Job Winslow chapter winner. The three were so close that if we had the ability to do so, we would have gladly named the trio our winners.

At this same meeting, the Job Winslow chapter welcomed two new members, Rosemary Hagan and Stephanie Walker. The chapter is blessed to have twenty-eight prospective members working on documenting their lineage back to patriots of the American Revolution. The continued interest in an all-woman organization dedicated to service, historic preservation, education, and patriotism remains an uplifting bright spot in our community.



L-R: Jeanne Cotanch, First Vice Regent and Membership Chair; new members Rosemary Hagan and Stephanie Walker; Janet Scheiwe, Regent



L-R: Joy Garwold, Chaplain and Good Citizen Chair; Desiree Wetherbee, Job Winslow Good Citizen 2026; Corrine Wetherbee, Mother; Janet Scheiwe, Regent



L-R: Joy Garwold, Chaplain and Good Citizen Chair; Shane Bouton, father; Gabriel Bouton, Job Winslow Good Citizen Runner-Up 2026; Janet Scheiwe, Regent



L-R: Janet Scheiwe, Regent; Adriana Smith, American History Essay Contest Winner 2026 (grade 8); Sebastian Smith, brother; Jessi Smith, mother; Tina Norris Fields, Registrar and American History Chair



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