

Advanced

OFFICE SUPPLY & PRINTING



EZ Online Ordering!

www.aoskalkaska.com

231-258-2810

332 S Cedar • Kalkaska

Northwest Michigan

FREE!

Voice

Celebrating the good news below the bridge

VOICE

MOTOR SALES

www.voicemotors.com

Since 1921

Chevrolet

302 W Mile Rd, Kalkaska

231-258-9178

Since 2014

It is much easier to become a father than to be one.  
~ Kent Nerburn

Vol2025:12 -  
June 13, 2025

# Kalkaska Students Participate in National Poster Contest

KALKASKA - You know what they say: Home is Where the Habitat Is. Well, that's what Kalkaska Upper Elementary (KUE) and Birch Street Elementary (BSE) students have been saying over the past few weeks while gearing up for a friendly competition.

A collaboration between the Kalkaska Conservation District (KCD), Art, and Science & Technology at the K-5 schools in Kalkaska has everyone excited about conservation and the importance of protecting habitats.

The National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) hosts an annual Poster Contest where students can showcase their creativity and love of nature through art. Once the theme is released (this year's theme is "Home is Where the Habitat Is"), students receive a lesson on the topic then portray what they learned on poster paper.

Sarah Schroeder, Community Engagement Specialist with the KCD, enjoys all things nature and art, so she decided this competition was a perfect way to get the kids involved in something school-, state-, and nation-wide. The contest began during National Stewardship Week, April 27-May 4, in Mr. Tom Burkam's Science & Technology class. Sarah taught students about all things habitats: what they are, what they provide, and the importance of protecting them. Following this lesson, every student from Kindergarten through 5th grade, and every staff member, took home a red pine tree seedling to plant. This further encouraged an appreciation for nature, conservation, and ultimately contributing to creating a habitat for the future. The red pine seedlings were a generous donation from the non-profit group Friends of the Kalkaska Conservation District, whose mission is to support the KCD.

"Ms. Sarah's passion and dedication is what transformed learning about habitats into something unforgettable for every single student here at Kalkaska," Tom Burkam explained. "I have been teaching for 17 years and this is the first time I've done something to this level."

The week following the lesson, Sarah was a guest in Mrs. Katie Zemsta's Art class. Students were given the creative freedom to showcase what "Home is Where the Habitat Is" means to them using colored pencils, crayons, markers, chalk, and more.

"I was thrilled to offer my art students this opportunity to apply their skills in creating a poster; a project that uniquely integrated



Collaborating educators with winners of the 2025 Poster Contest. Back left: Mrs. Katie Zemsta; 1st Place Winners Aria, Andrew, & Paisley; Sarah Schroeder & Mr. Tom Burkam. Front: 2nd Place Winners Morgan, Evie, & Lauren

Science, Art, and conservation for an enriching educational experience," shared Katie Zemsta.

After two weeks of work, all completed posters were uploaded to the KCD Facebook page for voting. Three first-place winners and three second-place winners were chosen across each age division (1st grade, 2nd-3rd grade, 4th-5th grade). Prize money for the winners was also donated by the Friends of the KCD. Our local first-place winners in each division had their posters sent to the Tuscola Conservation District in Caro, where state-wide winners will be chosen. From there, state winners will be sent to the national level.

"We are all really proud of what the kids have accomplished. It would be amazing for a Kalkaskian to win the state-wide contest, but we are all rooting for one of our own to win nationals," said Sarah.

While this competition has been happening at the state and national levels for years, this is the first time it has been brought to Kalkaska. It is also the first time we've seen a collaboration between the three educators (Burkam, Schroeder, and Zemsta), but it definitely will not be the last.

"We all work very well together," said Sarah. "It's really fun for me to come into their

established classrooms, learn different teaching styles, and build relationships with the students. There's nothing better than seeing kids get excited about nature."

For more information on the Kalkaska Conservation District, visit [KalkaskaConservation.org](http://KalkaskaConservation.org) . To get involved with the Friends of the KCD to help support programs like this and more, email [KCDFriends@gmail.com](mailto:KCDFriends@gmail.com) .



**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.



# OUT & ABOUT

**Editor’s note:** *This space is free to community organizations to promote events which are of benefit to the residents in and around Kalkaska County. Email your information to [tina.fieldsmedia@gmail.com](mailto:tina.fieldsmedia@gmail.com) Please include date and time of the event, a contact number or email address. We prefer that you not include prices.*

## SENIOR & COMMUNITY MEALS

**Senior Lunch** Kalkaska Senior Center/COA, 303 S. Coral St, no reservation required for dine-in, carry out meal (w/o salad bar), all ages welcome, contact 231 258-5030  
**When: Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Salad bar at 11:30 am, Meal served at 12:00 pm**

**Senior Lunch** Antrim County COA, 308 E. Cayuga St, Bellaire, dine-in or carry out, 231 533-8703  
**When: Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, 11:30 am to 12:30 pm for dine-in, 11:30 to 12:00 pm for carry out (site is open 8:30 am to 4:00 pm)**

**Senior Lunch**, Mancelona Senior Ctr, 122 E State St, dine-in available, RSVP the day before to Marianne at 231 587-9131  
**When: Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Salad Bar 11 to 11:45 am, Lunch served 12:00 to 12:30 pm (site is open 9:00 am to 1:30 pm)**

**Senior Lunch**, Central Lake Meal Site, 1622 N. M-88, Central Lake, dine-in available, RSVP the day before to Lois at 231 544-6687  
**When: Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri 11:30 to 12:00 pm (site is open 10:00 am to 12:30 pm)**

**KAIR’s Ladles of Love**, 107 W. Third St, free community meal, everyone is welcome, contact 231 258-7836  
**When: Mon, 11:00 am to 1:00 pm**

**Senior Lunch** (Kalkaska COA), Garfield Township Hall, 0466 W. Sharon Rd, Fife Lake, dine-in or pick-up, RSVP by 9 am to Marci at 231 360-7697  
**When: Mon, 12 noon to 12:30 pm**

**Senior Meal**, Fife Lake Public Library, 77 Lakecrest Lane, Fife Lake, reservations must be made at the previous meal or 24 hours in advance, contact 231-922-4911  
**When: Tue, 11:45 am**

**Community Meal**, Mancelona United Methodist Church, 117 W. Hinman, Mancelona, canceled if Mancelona schools are closed for inclement weather, 231 587- 8461  
**When: Tue, except holidays, 5 to 6 pm**

**Senior Lunch** (Kalkaska COA), Bear Lake Township Hall, 198 E. Bear Lake Rd, dine-in or pick-up, RSVP between 8:30 and 9 am to Iola at 941 270-1549  
**When: Tue, Thu, 12 noon to 12:30 pm**

**Senior Lunch** (Kalkaska COA), South Boardman Senior Center, 5503 Boardman Rd SW, dine-in or pick-up, RSVP by 9 am to Marci at 231 360-7697  
**When: Tue, Thu, 12:30 to 1:00 pm**

**Kalkaska Baptist Community Meal**, Kalkaska Baptist Church, 1151 CR 612, open to everyone, 217 871-5700  
**When: 2nd and last Tue, 5 to 7 pm**

**Senior Meal**, The Rock, 115 E. Blair St, Kingsley, reservations must be made at the previous meal or 24 hours in advance contact 231 922-4911  
**When: Wed, 11:30 am**

**Senior Lunch** (Kalkaska COA) Clearwater Township Hall, 5440 River St NW, Rapid City, dine-in or pick-up, RSVP by 8:30 am to Pam at 231 564-2794  
**When: Wed, 12 to 12:30 pm**

**Community Meal**, Kalkaska United Ministries for Christ, 2525 Beebe Rd, curbside pick-up or dine in, donations accepted, contact 231 258-2820  
**When: Wed, except holidays, 5 to 6 pm**

**Community Meal**, Kingsley United Methodist Church, 113 Blair St, Kingsley, contact 231 263-5278  
**When: 3rd Wed, 5 to 6:30 pm**

**Easy Meals Fundraiser for American Legion**, Dale H Wheeler American Legion Post 219, 10283 M-113, Fife Lake, dine-in or drive-thru, contact 231 879-4475  
**When: Thu, 5-6 pm**

**Veterans Dinner**, South Torch Lake Fire Department, 8765 Helena Rd, Alden, free dinner for Veterans and their families, contact 231 331-4204  
**When: 3rd Thu, 5:00 to 7:00 pm**

**Red Apron Community Dinner**, Bellaire Community United Methodist Church, 401 N. Bridge St, Bellaire, everyone is welcome to this free meal, 231 533-8133  
**When: Last Thur, 5:00 to 6:00 pm**

**Senior Omelet Breakfast**, Kalkaska Senior Center/COA, 303 S. Coral St, build your own omelet, alternate available each week, no reservation required, all ages welcome (may not be served on certain holidays or if special luncheons are scheduled), contact 231 258-5030  
**When: Fri, 8:00 to 9:00 am**

**Senior Breakfast**, Antrim County COA/Meal Site, 308 E. Cayuga St, Bellaire, menu changes weekly, 231 533-8703  
**When: Fri, 8:00 to 9:00 am**

**Pasties & Pot Pies for Sale**, Coldsprings Excelsior Township Area (CETA) Hall, 6615 County Rd 612, (to confirm dates and availability, call 231 258-9912)  
**When: Fri, 1 to 3 pm**

**Fish Fry**, Dale H. Wheeler American Legion Post 219, 10283 M-113, Fife Lake, dine-in, \$15 all-you-can-eat, age 5 and under is free, contact 231 879-4475  
**When: 1st Fri, 4:30 to 7:00 pm (or until sold out)**

**Free Breakfast**, Bear Lake Christian Church, 221 E. Bear Lake Rd SE, Kalkaska, sausage, eggs, and pancakes breakfast, open to the community, contact 231-258-6107  
**When: 3rd Sat, 8:00 to 10:00 am**

**Pancake Breakfast**, Bellaire Masonic Lodge, 4905 Stover Rd, Bellaire, pancakes, eggs, sausage, biscuits & gravy, coffee, and orange juice, \$10 plate, contact 713 665-4100  
**When: last Sat, 7:00 to 11:00 am**

**VFW & Central Lake AmVets Monthly Breakfast**, Central Lake AmVets, 1840 S. Main St, Central Lake, serving pancakes, sausage, scrambled eggs, sausage gravy & biscuits, hash browns, toast, beverages, 231 544-6455  
**When: 1st Sun, 9:00 am to 12:00 pm**

**Family Meal Distribution**, The Orchard Church, 3903 Voice Rd, Kingsley, drive thru pick-up of a day’s worth of meals for a day (breakfast, lunch, dinner) for a family of six, open to all, contact 231 263-8267  
**When: Last Sun, 4:30 to 6:00 pm**

**Swiss Steak Dinner**, Bellaire Masonic Lodge, 4905 Stover Rd, Bellaire, includes dessert and beverages, proceeds to help with the Masons scholarship activities and help within the community, contact 231 377-7156  
**When: Last Sun, 4:30 to 7:00 pm**

## FARMERS’ MARKET

**Bellaire Winter Farmers’ Market**, 102 Maple St, Bellaire, inside the ASI Community Center, 231 350-8835  
**When: Fri., 9:00 am to 12:00 pm (through May ’25)**

## FOOD PANTRIES

**Little Free Pantry**, Alden United Methodist Church, 9015 Helena Rd, Alden, located in front yard of the church  
**When: available anytime**

**Fife Lake Community Church**, 206 Boyd St, call 231 879-4270  
**When: hours by appointment only**

**Love Locker Project**, Fife Lake Public Library, 77 Lakecrest Lane, Fife Lake, seasonal clothing for the community as needed, contact 231 879-4101  
**When: available anytime**

**Share Shack Free Food Pantry**, Bear Lake Christian Church, 221 E. Bear Lake Rd SE, Kalkaska, located in the parking lot, 231-258-6107  
**When: available anytime**

**KAIR Food Pantry/Thrift Store**, 324 S. Cedar St, Kalkaska, available to Kalkaska and Antrim County residents, curbside pickup only, call 231 258-0060 ext 4 by 2:45 pm to make an appointment  
**When: Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri, 10:00 am to 3:00 pm**

**Bellaire Food Pantry**, 205 E. Broad St, 231-533-8600  
**When: Mon & Thu 10 am - 4 pm, Sat 10 am - 12 pm**

**ACTS (Acme Christian Thrift Store & Pantry)**, 8925 M-72 East, Williamsburg, serving Grand Traverse, Kalkaska, & Antrim counties, by appt, 231 267-3002  
**When: Tues 5 - 7 pm, Wed 1 - 4 pm, Sat 10 am - 1 pm**

**Mancelona Food Pantry & Resale**, 201 N. Maple St, Mancelona, 231-676-1686  
**When: Tues, Wed, Thu, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm**

**Central Lake Community Food Pantry**, 1875 Main St, Central Lake, 231-544-6878  
**When: Tue 5:00 to 7:00 pm, Fri 3:00 to 5:00 pm**

**Kingsley United Methodist Church**, 113 Blair St, Kingsley, call 231 263-5278 for appt if you are unable to come during open hours  
**When: Wed & Fri, 9 am to 12 pm**

**Rapid City Area Food Pantry**, 9456 Valley Rd NW, Rapid City, donations accepted, contact Christine at 231 331-6246  
**When: Fri, except holidays, 11 am to 1:30 pm**

**Kingsley Baptist Church**, 7511 Blackman Rd, Kingsley, call Jessica at 231-263-5650 for apt if you are unable to come during open hours  
**When: 2nd & 4th Fri, 1:00 to 3:00 pm**

## HEALTH AND FITNESS

**Yoga**, Fife Lake Library, 77 Lakecrest Lane, with Peggy Williams, restorative yoga, suggested donation of \$5-10 per class, contact lakesidetherapeutics@gmail.com, to register, email kspratt@tadl.org  
**When: Mon, 11:30 am to 12:30 pm**

**Yoga**, ASI Community Center & Park, 102 Maple St, Bellaire, with Daryl Allison-Busch, licensed instructor, contact 231 564-0010  
**When: Mon, 12:30 pm (Gentle) and 2 pm (Hatha)**

**Bootcamp Class**, Kaliseum Recreation Complex, 1900 Fairgrounds Rd, included in Kaliseum membership or \$10 drop-in fee, Instructor Nickey Torrey, 231 258-5913  
**When: Mon, 7:00 to 7:45 pm**

**Yoga**, Helena Township Community Center, 8751 Helena Rd, Alden, contact 231 331-4643  
**When: Mon, Wed, Fri 8:30 to 9:30 am**

**Let’s Get Moving**, Bellaire Community United Methodist Church, 401 N. Bridge St, Bellaire, 30-minute “Body Groove” video for all levels (can be done in a chair, too) lead by Cherese Villareal, contact 580 471-7778  
**When: Mon, Wed, 11:00 to 11:30 am**

**Chair Exercise**, Antrim County COA/Sr Meal Site, 308 E. Cayuga St, Bellaire, contact 231 533-8703  
**When: Mon, Wed, Thu. 10 to 10:45 am**

**Aerobic Exercise with Weights**, (Kalkaska COA) Senior Center, 303 S. Coral St, bring small hand weights or two cans of soup, contact 231 258-5030  
**When: Mon, Fri, 10:30 to 11:30 am**

**Lyrical/Contemporary Dance for Adults**, ASI Community Center, 102 S. Maple St, Bellaire, \$10 cost, contact 231 572-2518  
**When: 1st Tues, 5:45 to 6:45 pm**

**Wii Bowling**, Antrim County COA/Sr Meal Site, 308 E. Cayuga St, Bellaire, contact 231 533-8703  
**When: Tue, 12:30 to 1:30 pm**

**Line Dance**, Kalkaska Senior Center/COA, 303 S. Coral St, all skill levels welcome, contact 231 258-5030  
**When: Tue, 1:00 pm**

**Table Tennis**, Kalkaska Senior Center/COA, 303 S. Coral St, contact 231 258-5030  
**When: Tue, 2:00 pm**

**Line Dancing**, Fife Lake Library, 77 Lakecrest Lane, equipment provided, focused on seniors, contact to register 231 922-4911  
**When: Tue, Thu, 10:00 am**

**Yoga for Seniors**, Kalkaska Senior Center/COA, 303 S. Coral St, contact 231 258-5030  
**When: Tue, Thu, 10:00 am**

**Cardio Drumming**, Fife Lake Library, 77 Lakecrest Lane, equipment provided, focused on seniors, contact to register 231 922-4911  
**When: Tue, Thu, 10:00 am**

**Fitness Over Fifty**, Fife Lake Library, 77 Lakecrest Lane, contact to register 231 922-491  
**When: Tue, Thu, 10:30 to 11:30 am**

**Chair Yoga**, The Rock, 115 E. Blair St, Kingsley, class size is limited, advance registration is required, 231 922-4911  
**When: Wed, Fri, 9:15 am**

**Senior Exercise Class**, Bear Lake Township Hall, 198 E. Bear Lake Rd NE, open for all seniors, mixing yoga, light impact aerobics, strength training, contact 989 330-7538  
**When: Wed, 9:00 to 10:00 am**

**Taekwondo**, Kaliseum Recreation Complex, 1900 Fairgrounds Rd, included in Kaliseum membership or \$10 adults/\$5 child or senior drop-in fee, ages 6 years +, Instructor Mr. Allan, 231 258-5913  
**When: Wed, 4:30 to 5:30 pm**

**Strong Nation Class**, Kaliseum Recreation Complex, 1900 Fairgrounds Rd, included in Kaliseum membership or \$10 drop-in fee, Instructor Lanae Bump, contact 231 258-5913  
**When: Wed, 6:00 to 6:45 pm**

**Hand & Foot**, CETA Hall, 6615 CR612 NE, 231 587-9475  
**When: Thu, 10 am - noon**

**Wii Bowling**, Kalkaska Senior Center/COA, 303 S. Coral St, COVID guidelines observed. contact 231 258-5030  
**When: Thu, 1:00 pm**

**Pound Class**, Kaliseum Recreation Complex, 1900 Fairgrounds Rd, included in Kaliseum membership or \$10 drop-in fee, Instructor Nickey Torrey, contact 231 258-5913  
**When: Thu, 6:00 to 6:45 pm**

**Video-Lead Yoga**, Fife Lake Library, 77 Lakecrest Lane, adult/senior video lead beginner friendly, low impact yoga, no registration needed, yoga mats available to borrow, contact 231 879-4101  
**When: Fri, 9:00 to 10:00 am**

**Bootcamp Class**, Kaliseum Recreation Complex, 1900 Fairgrounds Rd, included in Kaliseum membership or \$10 drop-in fee, Instructor Nickey Torrey, contact 231 258-5913  
**When: Fri, 9:00 to 10:00 am**

## BINGO, CARDS & BOARD GAMES

**Antrim County Duplicate Bridge Club**, ASI Community Center & Park, 102 Maple St, Bellaire, 231 590-7293  
**When: Mon, 12:45 pm**



**Penny Bingo**, Kalkaska Senior Center/COA, 303 S. Coral St, all are welcome, \$1 donation, play with pennies, win pennies, bring lots of pennies or purchase from COA, contact 231 258-5030

**When: Mon, 1:30 to 3:30 pm**

**Euchre**, CETA Hall, 6615 CR612 NE, 231 587-9475

**When: Mon, 6 pm**

**Beginning Bridge:** Sign-up is now occurring for this ten-week course that is being held at Helena Township Community Center in Alden. Cost: \$10 for book and \$5 suggested donation per lesson. Come, have fun, and meet some bridge players! Lessons, taught by Judy Kuiper, an ACBL Best Practices certified bridge teacher. To sign up, contact Judy at [jkuiper@learnselfcompassion.com](mailto:jkuiper@learnselfcompassion.com) or 616-581-4668. Sponsored by Alden District Library and the Antrim County Bridge Club.

**When: Tue 10 am - noon (begins May 6)**

**Mah-Jongg,** People of all skill levels are invited to play. Free Event. Sponsored by Alden District Library and held at Helena Township Community Center, 8751 Helena Rd, Alden, 231-331-4318.

**When: Tue, 1 to 4 pm**

**Euchre**, (Kalkaska COA) 303 S. Coral St, \$5.00 buy-in, 231 258-5030

**When: Tue, 1 pm**

**Euchre**, Antrim County COA/Sr Meal Site, 308 E. Cayuga St, Bellaire, \$5.00 buy-in, contact 231 533-8703

**When: Tues, 6:00 pm**

**Piggit Hoggit**, The Rock, 115 E. Blair St, Kingsley, euchre taken to the next level, \$1, contact 231 922-4911

**When: Wed, 9:15 am OR 12:00 pm????**

**199er Bridge Game & Free Lessons:** Free lessons at 11:30am. Lunch (bring your own) and bridge talk at Noon. ACBL-sanctioned bridge game for \$5.00 at 12:30pm. For more details, contact Lou Slyker at 248-770-6152 or [ljslyker@gmail.com](mailto:ljslyker@gmail.com)

**When: Wed 11:30 am except 3rd Wed each month (May 7 - Oct 29)**

**Jackpot Bingo**, (Kalkaska COA) Senior Center, 303 S Coral St, fundraiser for the Senior Center, community welcome, must be 18+, contact 231 258-5030

**When: Wed, seating begins 4 pm, warm ups at 5 pm, regular games at 6 pm**

**Bingo**, The Rock, 115 E. Blair St, Kingsley, \$1, contact 231 922-4911

**When: Wed, Fri 10:15 to 11:15 am**

**Billiards**, The Rock, 115 E. Blair St, Kingsley, enjoy a game on a first-come, first-served basis, all equipment provided, contact 231 922-4911

**When: Wed, Fri 9:15 am to 12:15 pm**

**Pinochle**, CETA Hall, 6615 CR612 NE, 231 587-9475

**When: Wed, 6 pm**

**Mah-jongg**, Antrim County COA/Sr Meal Site, 308 E. Cayuga St, Bellaire, contact 231 533-8703

**When: Thu, 12:45 pm**

**Euchre**, Rapid City Community Center (Red School House), 5407 River St, Rapid City, 231 331-6249

**When: Thu, 1 pm**

**Bingo**, Antrim County COA/Sr Meal Site, 308 E. Cayuga St, Bellaire, contact 231 533-8703

**When: 3rd Thu, during Birthday Dinner at 11:30 am**

**Bingo**, ASI, 102 S. Maple St, Bellaire, community welcome must be 18+, contact 231 350-8835

**When: 2nd & 4th Thu, Doors open 4 pm, play 5 pm**

**Euchre**, The Rock, 115 E. Blair St, Kingsley, single player with individual scoring, experience is necessary for team play, lessons available, contact 231 922-4911

**When: Fri 10:15 am to 12:15 pm**

**Pantry Bingo**, Kalkaska Sr Center303 S. Coral St, all are welcome, play for pantry items, \$1 donation 231 258-5030

**When: Fri, 1:30 to 3:30 pm**

**Bingo**, American Legion Hall, 9850 S. Front St, Mancelona community welcome, must be 18+, 231 499-2364

**When: Sat, doors open at 4 pm, play begins at 6 pm**

**Pool**, Kalkaska Senior Center/COA, 303 S. Coral St, open to anyone who wants to play, must contact 231 258-5030 with your name and number

**When: Sat, 6 pm**

Crafts & Hobbies

**Small Crafts Groups**, Kalkaska Senior Center/COA, 303 S. Coral St, bring a personal small craft to work on while socializing, many are willing to teach basics of crochet, knitting, embroidery, etc, 231 258-5030

**When: Mon, 9:00 to 11:00 am**

**Wood Carvers**, Kalkaska Senior Center 303 S. Coral St, all levels of skill, teaching available, 231 258-5030

**When: Mon, 6 pm**

**Torch Area Artisans Guild**, Creating art and contributing to the community for over 40 years. For more info, email: [taartisanguild@gmail.com](mailto:taartisanguild@gmail.com) or Facebook: [facebook.com/TorchAreaArtisansGuild](https://www.facebook.com/TorchAreaArtisansGuild). Sponsored by Alden District Library and held at Helena Township Community Center, 8751 Helena Rd, Alden, 231-331-4318

**When: Tue, 10:00 am to 12:00 pm**

**Quilters Corner**, Antrim County COA, 308 E. Cayuga St, Bellaire, bring your own project, 231 533-8703

**When: Tue, 12:30 to 2:20 pm;**

**Juniper Garden Club**, Clearwater Township Community Center, 5407 River St, Rapid City, contact 231 629-2498, new members welcome

**When: 1st Tue, 1:00 pm**

**Alden Knitters & Crocheters**, All skill levels welcome! For info, contact Sue Archer at 231-944-0013. Sponsored by Alden District Library, held at Helena Township Community Center & Library, 8751 Helena Rd, Alden, 231-331-4318.

**When: Tue, 2:00 to 4:00 pm**

**Knitting** - Bellaire Public Library, 111 S Bridge St,

**When: Tue 10 am**

**Group Painting**, Antrim County COA/Sr Meal Site, 308 E. Cayuga St, Bellaire, 231 533-8703

**When: Thu, 10:30 am**

**Fiber Arts Group**, Fife Lake Public Library, 77 Lakecrest Ln, Fife Lake, bring your own lap project and craft with others by our warm fireplace, not lessons, contact 231 879-4101

**When: Thu, 3:00 to 4:30 pm**

**Kasky Kwilters**, (Kalkaska COA) Senior Center, 303 S Coral St, come see what we are doing! 231-384-0595

**When: 1st Thu, 4:00 pm**

**Great Lakes Scale Modelers**, Traverse City Area District Library, 610 Woodmere Avenue, Thirlby Room. Plastic models, any scale, trains, planes, automobiles. Whatever floats your boat. Contact Bruce, 231-620-1767 or Frank, 231-228-3474

**When: 2nd Sat, 1To 4 pm**

Children’s Activities

**Tot Time**, Fife Lake Public Library, 77 Lakecrest Ln, Fife Lake, contact 231 879-4101

**When: 1st Mon 10 am**

**Story Time with Miss Diane-** Bellaire Public Library, 111 S Bridge St, Bellaire, open to children ages 0-5 and their caretakers, stories, crafts, snacks, 231 533-8814

**When: Tue, 10:00 am**

**LEGO Club**, Central Lake District Library, 7900 Maple St, Central Lake, available to children ages 5+, drop-in club but parents filling out a registration is strongly recommended, contact 231 544-2517

**When: Tue OR Wed, 3:15 to 4:00 pm**

**Story Time**, Mancelona Township Library, 202 W. State St, Mancelona, stories and crafts, 231 587-9451

**When: Tue, 10:30 am**

**Wigglers Preschool Story Time**, Kingsley Branch Library, 213 S. Brownson, Kingsley, children from birth to pre-kindergarten are welcome, stories, music, and movement, contact 231 263-5484

**When: Tue and Wed, 10:30 am**

**Story Time with Miss Diana**, Central Lake District Library, 7900 Maple St., Central Lake, with crafts, songs, stories, songs, and snacks, contact 231-544-2517

**When: Wed, 10:30 am**

**5toOne Playgroup**, Kalkaska Early Head Start Classroom, 424 S. Cedar St, activities for children, resources for parents, music & movement, registration is encouraged, <https://bit.ly/EHSKalRegistration>

**When: 2nd and 4th Wed, 10:30 am to 12:00 pm**

**Teen Dungeons & Dragons**, Kingsley Branch Library, 213 S. Brownson Ave, Kingsley, teen-led D&D campaign, everything needed is provided, refreshments, too, free activity and open to teens ages 13-19 years, parents are welcome, contact 231 263-5484

**When: 1st and 3rd Thu, 3:30 to 6:45 pm**

**5toOne Playgroup**, Rapid City Elementary, 5258 River St, Rapid City, child-led playtime, healthy snack, and story, registration is encouraged, <https://bit.ly/PlayinRapidCity>

**When: 2nd Thur, 8:45 to 10:00 am**

**Teen Challenge Board Games**, Central Lake District Library, 7900 Maple St, board games galore for teens age 12 and older, free with snacks provided, 231 54343-2517

**When: 4th Thur, 3:15 to 4:00 pm (**

**Central Lake Community Playgroup**, First Congregation Church, 8066 W. State St, fun activities and lunch provided, meet in lower level. 231 347-0067

**When: Fri, 10:00 to 11:30 pm**

**Baby & Toddler Storytime:** Kalkaska County Library. Stories, music, movement, & crafts to promote literacy from birth to kindergarten. FREE. Includes 5toOne playgroup. Contact Kalkaska County Library at (231) 258-9411 or [info@kalkaskalibrary.org](mailto:info@kalkaskalibrary.org) for info.

**When: Fri 10:30 am**

**Story Time**, Mancelona Township Library, 202 W. State St, Mancelona, contact 231 587-9451

**When: Fri, 3:30 pm**

**5toOne Playgroup**, Mancelona School’s Early Childhood Space, 203 Grove St, child-led playtime, healthy snack, and story, registration is encouraged, <https://bit.ly/PlayMancelona>

**When: 3rd Fri, 12:00 to 1:30 pm**

**Antrim/Kalkaska Paper Crafters**, First Presbyterian Church in Elk Rapids. Soup and Salad Potluck lunch. Bring any handheld craft and work on your own project. Contact Beth Shuster at [beth\\_scraps1960@sbcglobal.net](mailto:beth_scraps1960@sbcglobal.net)

O&A - continues on page 11

*All Phases of Treatment including Extractions, Root Canals, Implants & IV Sedation.*

**www.birchstreetdental.com**

- Same day service available
- Accepting new patients
- IV sedation

*Sleep while getting your dental treatment completed*

- Payment plans available
- Ask about our in house membership program
- Extended hours 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.

**231 - 258 - 5395**

508 N. Birch Street, Kalkaska



# OBITUARIES

## Sue Ann Casto

September 20, 1954 ~ May 24, 2025

Sue Ann Casto, 70, of Traverse City passed away at Munson Medical Center on Saturday May 24, 2025, with her family by her side. She was born on September 20, 1954, in Benton Harbor to the late Dale L. and Alice N. (Brightbill) Casto. Sue graduated from Grand Blanc High School in 1973. Sue proudly served the Michigan State Police as a radio dispatcher for nearly 40 years. She retired from the MSP Gaylord post and relocated to Traverse City to be closer to family. Family and friends meant so much to Sue. She will be remembered and missed by her sister Gale A. (Dan) Bristol; sister-in-law Kathy Casto; nieces and nephews: Amy (Jason) Nagley, Travis (Heather) Horn, Amanda (Dallas) Horn, Charles (Becky) Horn, Angela (Calvin) Houghton, Jennifer Casto, and Charles A. Casto; great nieces and nephews: Faith, Katelyn, Matthew, Kendrick, Charlotte,



Barrett, Keaton (Adam), DJ, Calvin, Josephine, James, Devon (Julia), and Cole; and one great-great nephew Benji. Sue was preceded in death by her parents Dale and Alice, and her brother Dale "Duke" Casto. A funeral service for Sue was held at 11:00am on Monday, June 2, 2025, with final visitation from 10am-11am at Kalkaska Funeral Home. A graveside service was held at 2:00pm at Linwood Cemetery in Long Lake Township. In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to the Michigan State Police Troopers Association or to the American Diabetes Association. Arrangements have been entrusted to Kalkaska Funeral Home and Cremation Services. The family of Sue Casto would like to send a heartfelt thank you to the exceptional team of Doctors, nurses, lab techs, and aides at MMC Dialysis Center, A2, and Cath Lab.

## Sally Ann DeWitt

October 30, 1957 ~ May 28, 2025

Sally Ann DeWitt, age 67 of Roscommon, passed away peacefully on Wednesday, May 28, 2025. She was born on October 30, 1957, in Jackson, Michigan to Thaddeus and Janet (Russell) Parzych. Sally married Charles A. DeWitt on September 8, 2007, and then they enjoyed life together watching nature from their home, dinners at their favorite restaurant MJ's in Houghton Lake and bingo nights at the local bingo halls. He preceded her in passing on October 24, 2024. She lived her life for others, helping anyone in need. Her love and care were known by her family, friends and everyone she cared for. Sally owned and operated an adult foster care home for many years, and she was a Realtor and then a home health care provider. Her passions included family gatherings, fishing, and swimming with grandchildren and caring for her pets.



Sally is survived by her children Luke (Jess) Sanford, Angela Sanford, Rose Sanford, Larry Sanford, and Josh (Emily) Sanford; grandchildren Kelsey, Bryanne, Aria, Nathaniel, and Elliot, Lexi, Caleb; Charles's children Kristine (Bruce) Robere II, Shaun (Barbara) DeWitt, Carl DeWitt, Rebecca DeWitt; her siblings Paul Parzych, Ted Parzych, Ed Parzych, Sam Parzych, Adam Parzych, and Mark Parzych. A funeral service was held on Thursday, June 12, 2025, at Wolfe-O'Neill Funeral Home at 12:00 p.m. with the family receiving friends beginning at 10:00 a.m. until the time of the service. Interment followed in Clearwater Township Cemetery. Memorials may be made to Arbor Day Foundation. Arrangements provided by Wolfe-O'Neill Funeral Home.

## Stevan J. VanWestenburg

December 8, 1953 ~ May 24, 2025

Stevan J. VanWestenburg, age 71, passed away unexpectedly May 24, 2025. He was born December 8, 1953 in Hancock, Michigan to John A. and Joyce E. VanWestenburg (Timmer). Steve is survived by his wife, Liz; his father John; three sisters, Laura (Pete Simmons) Palmer, Glenna (Tom) Sprague and Claire (Steve) Murchie, and his nephew Dale (Heather) Sprague. He was predeceased by his mother, Joyce, his grandparents and his aunt.



At the RV park, Steve enjoyed making breakfasts for a crowd. People often found him at the outdoor kitchen grill, flipping pancakes or French toast and scrambling eggs. He had many terrific friends there and always offered to help with holiday meals and parties, repair a water heater or troubleshoot an electrical issue.

After growing up in Houghton, in the Upper Peninsula, the family moved to Midland, Michigan. There Steve met Liz during their junior year of high school. He claimed it was love at first sight. After graduating from H.H. Dow High School in Midland in 1971, he earned his degree at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. He and Liz were married in August of 1974. After living in Ann Arbor for six years, they moved to Canton, Michigan. They made their home there until 2010 but spent summers up north.

Steve spent most of his working years as a science teacher in Livonia Public Schools, teaching primarily Chemistry and Biology. He taught at Franklin High School, Churchill High School and then moved to Stevenson High School. He finished his career at Churchill. He loved instructing students, helping them understand and appreciate science and working with the other staff. He retired in 2010, and he and Liz began spending much of their time at their home on the lake in Kalkaska, Michigan. It was the perfect place for summer and winter recreation: boating and swimming, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, and snowmobiling, and they made many wonderful friends. Steve loved the outdoors, and spent time fishing, hunting, walking in the woods, and traveling with Liz in their motorhome. They attended many "Barth" (the make of their motorhome) get-togethers across the country and visited Barth friends in Kentucky, Georgia, Florida, Ohio and Minnesota. They eventually found a winter home near Port Charlotte, Florida. After living in Michigan for so long, Steve was ready to leave snow behind for the warmth and sunshine of Florida. He said he had had enough practice shoveling snow!

He had so many different interests and skills. His father taught him so much, Steve could fix or engineer and build almost anything. He loved reading and researching, spending time with friends and family and helping other people. He was friends with everyone he met, and always offered to help with any project, big or small. He wrote detailed technical postings on Barthmobile.com, explaining how to replace an engine, fix a generator, a transmission, or a plumbing issue. He was a pretty accomplished engine mechanic, built unique folding bicycles from parts, repaired circuit boards and could fix anything around the house or in RVs. He was a pilot and flew his Cessna 172 back and forth from Canton to Kalkaska, making over one hundred round trips. Steve boated Lake Superior with his father, making many trips to Isle Royale National Park. He loved fireworks and gave quite a show on Log Lake each 4th of July. His conversations and discussions were often long and full of detail, but he knew almost everything about almost everything. The only really troublesome Jeopardy categories for him were "Opera" and "Sports"!

Steve shared kind words and encouragement with others, and he was a mentor to many. He was an honorable, kindhearted man with a great sense of humor. Steve loved his family and kept them close to his heart, and he counted many people as friends.

We will have a casual neighborhood gathering on July 5 and a private family celebration of Steve's life in Chassell, Michigan, later in the summer.

Please visit [www.kalkaskafuneralhome.com](http://www.kalkaskafuneralhome.com) to visit Steve's tribute page and share a memory with his family. Memorial contributions may be made to The Friends of the Kalkaska County Library, Kalkaska Area Interfaith Resources and the Gift of Life Michigan. All may be found online and offer online donations.

## Bernard "Bernie" Joseph Senske Jr.

March 2, 1932 ~ June 5, 2025

Bernard "Bernie" Senske, a loving husband, father, grandfather, and dear friend passed away peacefully at home surrounded by family on Thursday, June 5, 2025.



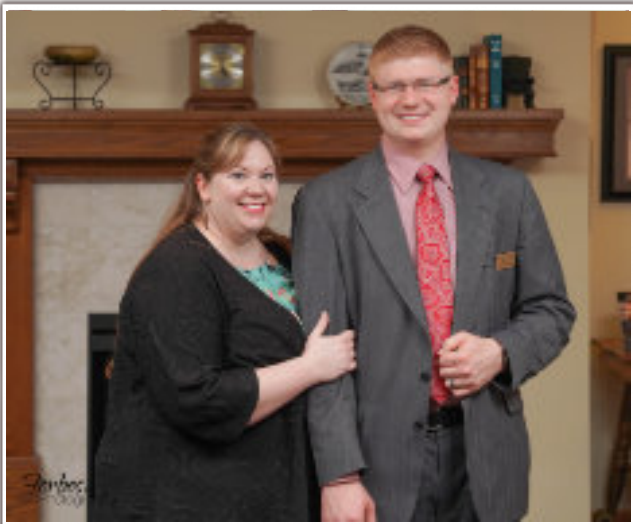
The obituary will be posted when it is available. Arrangements are pending at this time.

To place a classified ad, or a display ad,

Email: [tina.fieldsmedia@gmail.com](mailto:tina.fieldsmedia@gmail.com)

or call: 231-322-2787 or 231-645-0244

Guiding Families Through Difficult Times with Genuine Care and Compassion



**KALKASKA FUNERAL HOME**  
AND CREMATION SERVICES  
[KalkaskaFuneralHome.com](http://KalkaskaFuneralHome.com)

MANAGER:  
BRUCE A. ZENNER II  
**231-258-3346**  
152 S. Cedar St.,  
Kalkaska



John E. Mapes

September 6, 1958 ~ May 24, 2025

John Edward Mapes, a devoted son, brother, uncle, and friend, passed away on May 24, 2025, at the age of 66.



Born on September 6, 1958, John was the beloved son of John Mapes and Theresa Wilson. He spent his early years in South Lyon, Michigan, where he developed a love for the outdoors and a spirit of adventure that stayed with him throughout his life.

John had a deep appreciation for nature and animals, especially his loyal dog, EZ. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, and simply being outdoors. His passion for life led him to travel and pursue a career training racehorses—a path that reflected both his love for animals and his hard-working nature.

A man of faith, John was a cherished member of the Kalkaska Baptist Church, where he found community and spiritual strength.

John was a loving brother to Becky Mapes (Jeff Johnston), Lori

Zammit (Dan Zammit), and Kathy Henderson (Eddie Henderson). He was a proud uncle to Brandy Mapes, Ashley Nieman (Nick Nieman), Dan Mapes, Jacob Henderson, and Zachary Henderson. He was also blessed with great-nieces and nephews: Alexis Mapes, Elaine Bowman, Leland Bowman, Levon Bowman, and Maddilynn Henderson.

John will be remembered for his gentle soul, his love for family, and his enduring kindness. He leaves behind many who loved him deeply and will miss him dearly.

A memorial service will be held at 12:00pm on Saturday, June 14, 2025 at Kalkaska Baptist Church, with Pastor John Cotton officiating the service.

In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to Kalkaska Baptist Church.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Kalkaska Funeral Home and Cremation Services.

WOLFE-O'NEILL FUNERAL HOME

Our Family Serving Yours



106 S. Cherry  
Kalkaska  
David W. O'Neill, Licensed Manager

231-258-5121

- Pre-Paid Funeral Arrangements
- Family Owned & Operated
- Marker & Monument Sales
- Cremation & Traditional Services



To place a classified ad, or a display ad,

Email: [tina.fieldsmedia@gmail.com](mailto:tina.fieldsmedia@gmail.com)  
or call: 231-322-2787 or 231-645-0244

Kalkaska volunteer recognized

Kalkaska resident Kat Byers has recently earned a Volunteer Community Action Award for her extraordinary commitment and service. She exemplifies the spirit of neighbor helping neighbor and the mission of Community Action to fight poverty and strengthen communities. She was nominated by the Northwest Michigan Community Action Agency (NMCAA).

Kat exemplifies the heart of Community Action. A former program participant turned leader, Kat began her journey in 2019 with the Head Start Policy Council. Over five

years, she contributed more than 300 volunteer hours while serving in various leadership roles, including Policy Council Chair and NMCAA Board Member. Kat's commitment to family engagement and parent empowerment continues to make a lasting impact.

If you'd like to hear more about her story and the important work that NMCAA does, please feel free to reach out to the undersigned or to the Michigan Community Action Agency ([www.nmcaa.net](http://www.nmcaa.net)).

Article submitted by JesseMae Rayer ([jraye@bellwetherpr.com](mailto:jraye@bellwetherpr.com))

Northwest MI

VOICE

Fields Media, PO Box 28, Rapid City, MI 49676

Editor in Chief  
Tina Norris Fields  
231-322-2787 or 231-645-0244  
[tina.fieldsmedia@gmail.com](mailto:tina.fieldsmedia@gmail.com)

Contributing Writers:  
Dominic Fortuna  
Alison Neihardt  
& Adam DeVaney

Out & About and Calendar:  
Tina Norris Fields - [tina.fieldsmedia@gmail.com](mailto:tina.fieldsmedia@gmail.com)

Locally owned, managed, and staffed.





# Munson Healthcare Shares New Community Health Needs Assessment Priorities from Triennial Assessment

*Access to care, economic security, and mental health identified as top focus areas – system to build on momentum of last three years.*

Traverse City, Mich. - After 18 months of data research and gathering input from communities across 31 Northern Michigan counties, Munson Healthcare, in partnership with MiThrive, is announcing new priorities identified through the 2025 Community Health Needs Assessment. The Community Health Needs Assessment is conducted every three years.

As part of its role as a non-profit health system, Munson collaborates with health departments, community organizations, and residents in this triennial study with the most recent citing three key areas of focus: Access to Care, Mental Health, and Economic Security, which includes supporting access to basic needs such as transportation, health insurance, housing, and food.

“What this data tells us is that meeting basic human needs as well as access to healthcare and mental healthcare services is impacting our neighbors and our community’s health every day in Northern Michigan,” said Dr. Joe Santangelo, Chief Medical Officer for Munson Healthcare. “Munson Healthcare looks forward to working with our community partners and internal stakeholders to now build a plan that meets these needs and improves our communities’ collective wellbeing.”

The priorities in the past three years have been: Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders; Access to Healthcare; Safe, Accessible and Affordable Housing; and Chronic Disease. This focus has been illustrated through Munson Healthcare’s Regional Care Transformation Plan; Support for the Street Medicine Program; the establishment of the Grand Traverse Mental Health Crisis and Access Center; and \$171 million of reinvestment in community benefit programs and initiatives.

Launched in 2023, the goal of the Regional Care Transformation Plan is to expand access to primary care, specialty care, and outpatient services across the region. In Traverse City, specialty care has been elevated significantly with the launch of The Witham Family Comprehensive Stroke Center (CSC), Northern Michigan’s first and only CSC, and Munson Neurosciences. Cowell Family Cancer Center is keeping more patients closer to home with the addition of treatments like Bi-specific T-cell Engager Therapy, Theranostics, and investment in an ION Surgical Robot that helps in the early detection and treatment of lung cancer.

Munson has been actively engaged in supporting the unhoused through its Street Medicine partnership with Traverse Health Clinic and Goodwill. The American Hospital Association recognized this collaboration with the 2024 NOVA Award for the thousands of people who have received care through the outreach via a mobile health unit. In addition, Munson provided a \$100,000 commitment to Safe Harbor over two years. Over the last two years, Munson Healthcare has invested \$400,000 in programs supporting those experiencing homelessness.

The Grand Traverse Mental Health Crisis and Access Center opened this past January, bringing a long needed mental health resource to the region. The project is the result of a community-wide collaboration between Munson, Northern Lakes Community Mental Health, Grand Traverse County, and an engaged community advisory group. The Center currently operates Sunday-Thursday, 8:00am to 5:00pm and in July, will move to 24/7 with psychiatric urgent care services available five days a week. Adult and pediatric crisis residential units will open as licensing, staffing, and funding is completed.

“What we see in these findings is how the needs of our community continue to evolve based on many factors including the meaningful work that has been done since the last assessment in 2022,” added Santangelo. “We are carrying tremendous momentum into these into these three priorities which is encouraging because it means our focus has been in the right place.”

Taking a regional approach to this assessment maximizes resources, helps Munson Healthcare understand local and regional patterns, assists in strengthening partnerships, and aligns priorities for a greater impact on community health.

Munson Healthcare will now develop a plan by November 2025 to address these new priorities. Then, the process to implement strategies and initiatives to address CHNA priorities will continue over the next three years.

“Although we’ve created a stable base for many of these initiatives, we have more work to do, and we are committed to our communities through our dedicated healthcare team and community partners.”

Learn more about the Community Health Needs Assessment. (<https://www.munsonhealthcare.org/services/community-health/community-health-needs-assessment>)



# BUSINESS DIRECTORY

FOR SALE

PARADISE PROPERTIES USA

www.ppusa.com

Cell - (231)-633-2323

Fax - (800)-531-6503

Toll Free - (800)-977-3386

Email- GaryScheitler@Gmail.com

www.PPUSA.com

Gary R. Scheitler

Owner, Principal Associate Broker

CRS, RSPS, IARP, Realtor®

5-STAR

PREMIER AGENT

This space

could be your ad

FOR SALE

PARADISE PROPERTIES USA

www.ppusa.com

Cell - (231)-409-1924

Fax - (800)-531-6503

Toll Free - (800)-977-3386

Email- Laurie@TorchLake.com

www.PPUSA.com

Laurie Olson

Realtor/Consultant

Licensed Assistant to Gary Scheitler

Tall Pines Computer Training

Helping grown-ups to get along with their computers

For tech help, call: 231-322-2787

GREEN ENERGY HOME SOLUTIONS, LLC

Solving Energy For Our Kids' Future

KEN OEDER

President Lic & Ins

8924 Helena Rd

P.O. Box 145

Alden, MI 49612

- Home Improvements -

- Siding - Decks -

- Garages -

kgogreen@hotmail.com

231-676-7444

WADE LOGGING

Buyer of Standing Timber

HARDWOODS • SOFTWOODS • RED PINES

231-463-0363 • 231-492-3959

jimwade1965@yahoo.com

WOODSPLITTER FOR RENT \$25/day



CALENDAR

HOUSES OF WORSHIP

JUNE 2025

- June 1-29 - StoryWalk®. Round up the family and head out to Coy Mountain, located at 9011 Valley St. in Alden, to enjoy a romp in the woods and reading a good book along the way. A new story will be placed each month and covers about a 1/2-mile portion of the trail. The storybook for the month of June is “The Tale of Peter Rabbit” by Beatrix Potter.

June 2 - 28 - Vintage Lighter Display. Come see Dave Varga’s collection of vintage lighters on display at Alden District Library during the month of June. Free Event. At a later date, a video of the display can be viewed on the library's website. Look for "On Display". Sponsored by Alden District Library, 8751 Helena Rd, Alden, 231-331-4318

June 16 - July 31 - MiLibraryQuest. Teens in Michigan are invited to participate in MiLibraryQuest this summer. Alden District Library is involved, and you can be, too! Paintings have been stolen from museums across Michigan! The subjects of the paintings have come to life and left clues to where they’ve been taken and who might have done it. Can you catch the thief? Solve the puzzles and follow the clues to find the paintings and the thief by July 31, 2025 for your chance to win a prize from your library. Start your Quest here: <https://milibraryquest.wixsite.com/quest1>

June 19 - 9:30 am social time & 10am meeting - Friends of the Library Monthly Meeting & Spring Luncheon. Meeting is being held at Helena Township Community Center, 8751. 12p luncheon held at the Dockside, 6340 Old Torch Lake Dr, Bellaire. Anyone interested in supporting the library is always welcome. Contact the library at 231-331-4318 to RSVP by June 17th.

June 19 – August 4. Color Our World! Summer Reading Program. Kids and teens can sign up & pick up their program packets starting June 19th. Sign-up ends June 30th. Program ends on August 4th, when reading logs can be turned in to collect prizes.
- June 19, 3:30 pm - Teen Book Club at the Kalkaska County Library. Join us for the inaugural meeting of our teen book club! Teens ages 14-18 are welcome to attend to discuss books with their friends. Snacks will be provided! The teen book club will meet on the Third Thursday of every month at 3:30pm. Contact the Kalkaska County Library at (231) 258-9411 or at [info@kalkaskalibrary.org](mailto:info@kalkaskalibrary.org) for more information.

June 23, 11 am - Summer Reading Kickoff with Classic K9’s. Are you ready to start Summer Reading? Come get your backpack and badge, then watch some trained and talented pups perform all kinds of awesome tricks and stunts. All families are welcome. Located on the Kalkaska Senior Center Lawn, 303 S. Coral St, Kalkaska, MI. Contact the Kalkaska County Library at (231) 258-9411 or at [info@kalkaskalibrary.org](mailto:info@kalkaskalibrary.org) for more information.

June 24, 4 pm - Friends of the Kalkaska County Library Meeting. Public is welcome. Contact the Kalkaska County Library at (231) 258-9411 or at [info@kalkaskalibrary.org](mailto:info@kalkaskalibrary.org) for more information.

June 26, 10 am - K9 Team Demonstration. Come meet Antrim County K9 Lieutenant Bricko and his handler Sgt. Skyler Skrobecki. This team will be demonstrating Bricko’s obedience, agility, detection and article searching skills. This is an outdoor event, bring a chair, and will held on the lawn of the South Torch Lake Fire Station, 8765 Helena Rd, Alden. In the event of rain, this program will be held in the gym at Helena Twp. Community Center, next door to the Fire Station. This is a family friendly program. NO PETS.

June 26, 5 pm \_ Author Talk: Tim Mulherin’s This Magnetic North. Join us for a discussion by Northern Michigan author Tim Mulherin about his new book: This Magnetic North, a close look at some of the human trends that affect our own beautiful Great Lakes. Q&A session and book signing included. Located at the Coldsprings Branch Library 6515 County Rd 571, Mancelona, MI. Contact the Kalkaska County Library at (231) 258-9411 or at [info@kalkaskalibrary.org](mailto:info@kalkaskalibrary.org) for more information.

QUILTS NEEDED

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](mailto:kathyqx@sbcglobal.net) if you are making a cotton quilt or baby quilt to donate.

WANTED  
OLD MOTORCYCLES  
BICYCLES & GO KARTS  
1970's and Older  
CALL OR TEXT 616-617-2579

- Alden**  
Alden United Methodist Church  
9015 Helena Rd, Alden  
**Sunday morning:**  
9:00 am - Worship Service  
10:30 am - ACE (Adult Christian Education)  
**Thursday morning:**  
10:00 am - Prayer Group

**Boardman Township**  
East Boardman Community Bible Church  
2080 Boardman Rd,S Boardman  
**Sunday morning:**  
9:15 am - Sunday School  
10:00 am - Worship Service  
10:30 am Junior Church

**Central Lake**  
Central Lake United Methodist Church  
8117 W Old State Rd, Central Lake  
**Sunday morning:**  
11:00 am - Worship Service

**East Jordan**  
Grace Bible Church  
999 W Old State Rd, East Jordan  
**Sunday morning:**  
11:00 am - Worship Service

**Fife Lake**  
Fife Lake Community Church  
206 Boyd St, Fife Lake  
**Sunday morning:**  
10:00 am - Worship Service

St. Aloysius of Fife Lake  
403 East Merritt St  
**Sunday morning:**  
9:00 am - Mass

**Kalkaska**  
Calvary Baptist Church  
815 W Dresden St, Kalkaska  
**Sunday morning:**  
9:45 am - Sunday School & Adult Bible Class  
10:45 am - Worship Service

Cornerstone Community Bible Church  
6821 Co Rd 612 NE, Kalkaska  
**Sunday morning:**  
10:00 am - Worship Service

Kalkaska Church of Christ  
1725 W Kalkaska Rd, Kalkaska  
**Sunday morning:**  
9:00 & 10:30 am  
- Worship Service  
9:00 &10:30 am  
- Kids’ programs, birth - 5th grade  
10:30 am - Faith Training  
- Middle & High School

Kalkaska Church of the Nazarene  
1367 W Kalkaska Rd, Kalkaska  
**Sunday morning:**  
9:45 am - Sunday School all ages  
10:45 am - Worship Service

Kalkaska Peoples Church Bible Based  
216 S Cherry St, Kalkaska  
**Sunday morning:**  
11:00 am - Worship Service

Kalkaska United Ministries for Christ  
2525 Beebe Rd, Kalkaska  
**Sunday morning:**  
10:00 am - Worship Service
- Many Rivers Church  
2305 N 131, Kalkaska  
**Saturday evening:**  
6:00 pm - Worship Service  
**Tuesday evening:**  
6:00 pm - Worship Service

St Mary of the Woods of Kalkaska  
438 Co Rd 612, Kalkaska  
**Saturday afternoon:**  
4:00 pm - Mass  
**Sunday morning:**  
11:00 am - Mass

St Paul Lutheran Church  
2470 Beebe Rd, Kalkaska  
**Sunday morning:**  
11:00 am - Worship Service

Seventh-day Adventist Church  
2004 Birch N Birch St, Kalkaska  
**Saturday morning**  
9:30 am - Bible Study Time: Children & Adults  
11:00 am - Worship Service  
**Tuesday evening**  
6:30 pm - Prayer Meeting

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints  
1128 N Cedar St, Kalkaska  
**Sunday morning:**  
10:00 am - Sacrament meeting

Church Alive Church of God  
2305 US 131 North, Kalkaska  
**Sunday morning**  
10:30 am - Worship Service  
**Wednesday night**  
5:30 pm - Prayer Meeting  
6:00 pm - Bible Study

Church of Christ at Spencer  
4761 Western Ave SE, Kalkaska  
**Sunday**  
9:30 am - Sunday School, all ages  
10:30 am - Assembly Hour  
6:00 pm - Evening Assembly  
**Wednesday**  
7:00 pm - Bible study - all ages

**Mancelona**  
Antrim Church of Christ  
10228 South US 131, Mancelona  
**Sunday morning worship**  
11:00 am - Sept - May  
10:00 am - Jun - Aug

Mancelona Baptist Church  
609 N Jefferson ST, Mancelona  
**Sunday**  
10:00 am - Sunday School  
11:00 am - worship service  
6:00 pm - Bible Preaching  
**Wednesday**  
7:00 pm - Bible Preaching & Teen Group

**Rapid City**  
Rapid City Church of Christ  
7964 Rapid City Rd, Rapid City  
**Sunday morning:**  
10:30 am - Worship Service

Torch Lake Assembly of God  
9456 Valley Rd, Rapid City  
**Sunday morning:**  
11:00 am - Worship Service

**Williamsburg**  
True North Vineyard Church  
6517 Bates Rd, Williamsburg  
**Sunday evening:**  
5:00 pm - Worship Service
- If you would like your church to be listed, please send an email to [tina.fieldsmedia@gmail.com](mailto:tina.fieldsmedia@gmail.com)*

To place a classified ad, or a display ad,

Email: [tina.fieldsmedia@gmail.com](mailto:tina.fieldsmedia@gmail.com)  
or call: 231-322-2787 or 231-645-0244



DEAL ME IN

By Mark Pilarski (reprinted with permission of the author)  
*How those gambling gizmos work*

9 June 2003  
Dear Mark,

I am hoping you will elaborate a bit on the slot machine RNG (random number generator). I am very familiar with how it works. I know those people that say, "I JUST got up from that machine, and that lady sat down, and BAAM! She hits the jackpot! I could have won that if I stayed a bit longer!" I know this is a totally false statement (well, not totally as it COULD have randomly happened to him had he been there) but the fact that the one lady hit it and he didn't is because the RNG came up with the winning jackpot combo at that precise moment in time.

The thing that I was always confused about is WHEN the RNG stops and displays the predetermined outcome. Meaning: If I put 1 coin in a 3-coin machine, then wait a second and put in 2 more coins, THEN hit "spin" ...was the RNG continuously changing until I hit the "Spin" button? Did it stop the second the first coin was plopped in? Did it stop changing when the third and final coin was plopped in but before the "Spin" button was hit? I have always been curious at what point does the RNG stop...with the coins being dropped (if so, which one? first or third?) or with the pressing of the "Spin" button. Tim H.

Tim, meet Tom.  
Dear Mark,

Something I have wondered about: When is the result of a spin on a machine determined? Is it when the first, second or third coin is inserted or when the "maximum bet" button is pushed? Tom M.

Tom meet Tim - oh, you've met.  
North America quarters (talk about your puns!) some 700,000 plus slot machines. More than two-thirds of the market for these one-armed bandits is under the control of International Gaming Technology (NYSE: IGT) In view of their dominance, I will have their machines in mind as I answer your questions.

(Taking a lesson about full disclosure from current events, I did once weasel my way into an IGT party at a gaming convention, where I drank my fair share and hit the chow middling hard. But you see, judge, it's just a wash my mentioning them.) But also note, Tim and Tom, IGT is not the only manufacturer of slot machines.

Other manufacturers could have their thingamajigs designed to operate differently.  
Back to the main question: The RGN is constantly — well, every millisecond — spitting out random numbers, literally thousands of random number sets per second.

The particular set selected by the RGN determines the outcome of each spin. It does this at the precise moment when the first coin taps the whoozis inside the slot. (Forgive the technical language.) This is not dependent on any factors of game play, such as how many coins are bet, whether the player is winning too much money, or using Cajun voodoo or psychic trembles to decide when to hit the draw button.

With all IGT games, when the "start deal" or "bet" button is pushed while playing credits, or the FIRST coin is inserted, the randomly selected outcome has already been determined, and the machine just sits around for the next bunch of milliseconds waiting for you, Tim and Tom, to decide what you'll do next.

Regarding the boom-or-bust aftermath, it's all the same whether you deposit one coin or the maximum number of coins. I get a letter a week touting the notion that the number of coins slotted somehow influences the result. Tain't so, friends. The outcome has been established before that first coin stops jingling. If you put in one coin and get a royal flush or a mega-jackpot, you would have gotten that same royal flush or those three centerline treasure chests if you had put in three or five coins.

Finally, gaming regulations at places where you're likely to play — Nevada, New Jersey, Mississippi and other gaming jurisdictions that pattern after those states — the law requires that all slot machines have random outcomes.

But be aware — there are casinos operating in places that do not have such high-minded gaming regulations. Some Indian casinos and cruise ships operating in international waters are examples of casinos not bound by stateside regulations.

=====

*Gambling quote of the week: A wise player ought to accept his throws and score them, not bewail his luck. — Sophocles (496-406 B.C.)*



Sudoku Puzzle  
June 13, 2025


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

Solution on page 15

Cherry Capital Men’s Chorus in Concert

Church in the Hills is pleased to present the **Cherry Capital Men's Chorus** in concert **Thursday, June 19th, at 7 pm** for an evening of entertaining music that will be enjoyed by all. The \$20 tickets for adults, \$10 for students, will be available at the door, **6401 Shanty Creek Rd, Bellaire.**

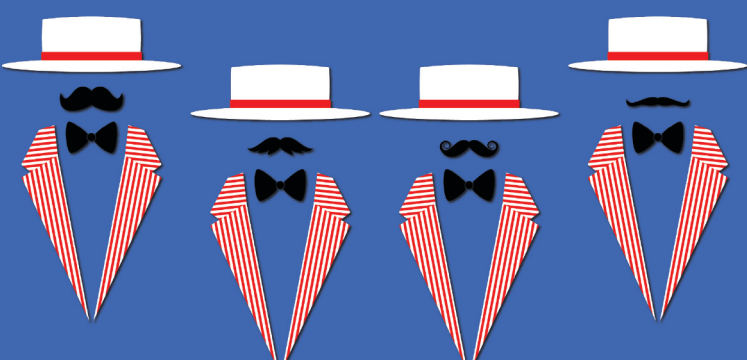
**Cherry Capital Men's Chorus** is a men's singing group based here in Northern Michigan, drawing singers from 7 northern Michigan counties. The group has been singing together since 1966 and is a proud member of Barbershop Harmony Society - an international organization devoted to promoting, preserving and enjoying a special form of harmony known as barbershop singing. Much of the repertoire focuses on familiar ballads, jazz and blues numbers, and romantic love songs. Musical Director, Chad Hall, joined the chorus in 2000 and has arranged pieces for choruses, including this one. He has been a Director for the Rotary Chorus and vocal director at the Old Town Playhouse.



Cherry


Capital

M E N ' S C H O R U S



THURSDAY

JUNE 19TH



7:00 PM

ADULT \$20

STUDENT \$10

PRESENTED BY

Church in the Hills

6401 SHANTY CREEK RD • BELLAIRE, MI



# = MENTAL HEALTH CORNER =

## Naming Our Emotions

There are times when life can feel overwhelming. Our emotions can sometimes get the best of us, and at times we don't even know why. To manage our stress, it is helpful to actually take a moment to name the emotions we are feeling that led us to being overwhelmed. When we name our emotions, they lose some of their intensity, and this helps us to reduce our overall stress. I like to say all the time that when we name an emotion, we own it...instead of it owning us.

How does naming an emotion help reduce stress? Well, when we are in a stress response, we tense up, thinking gets muddled and the frontal cortex becomes a hindrance instead of our friend. When we get into our fight, flight, or freeze mode, as we often do in times of stress or overwhelm, our amygdala has taken over our brain short-circuiting our ability to see life clearly. In short, naming the emotion(s) helps us become grounded in the present, and when we do this we can get this clarity back and take some real steps in reducing our tendencies towards impulsivity, anxiety and reactivity.

There are real costs to unnamed emotions.

When we are not able to identify what emotions we are feeling in the moment, the emotions can fester and misdirect. We end up snapping at someone when what we might actually be feeling is fear, worry, betrayal or helplessness. There is a level of clarity that we experience when we name the emotions we are feeling.

Here is a simple, three step process for naming emotions:

- Pause and Notice: "What am I actually feeling right now?"
- Name it Precisely: Go beyond "bad" or "stressed" — Is it Disappointment? Shame? Loneliness?
- Validate it Without Judgment: "It makes sense I feel this way."

You can also ask these questions:

- "Right now, I feel..."
- "What happened just before this feeling started?"
- "Is there something I actually need right now?"

If you decide to make this change, remember that this is not a process of changing the feeling. Resistance to any emotion only makes it more intense and makes it last longer...the exact opposite of what we really want. However, when we name the emotion, we are taking the first and vitally important step to reclaiming our calm.

**-Adam DeVaney, LCSW, CECF**

*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.*

**LIFE'S WORK CLINIC**

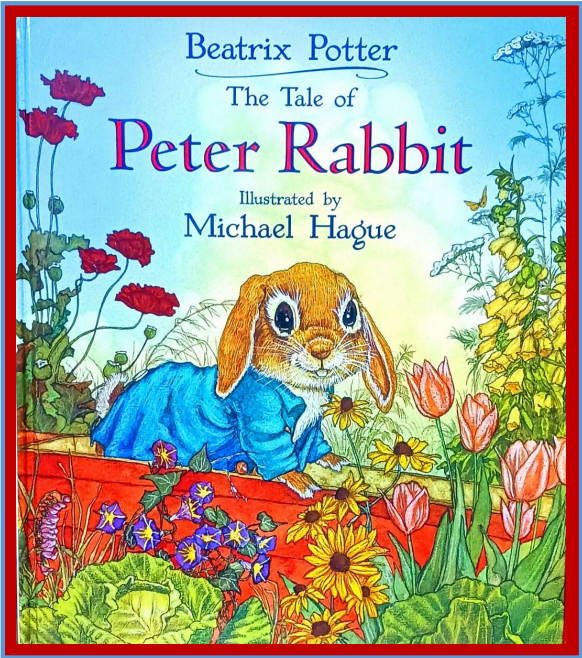
**Yes, you CAN subscribe!,**

First Class Mail delivery of the Northwest Michigan Voice, to your home is available for \$26 per year. If you are interested, please contact us.  
email: [tina.fieldsmedia@gmail.com](mailto:tina.fieldsmedia@gmail.com),  
or call: 231-322-2787 or 231-645-0244

# StoryWalk®

presented by Alden District Library

**JUNE 1<sup>st</sup>-29<sup>th</sup>**



**Location:**

**Coy Mountain, 9011 Valley St, Alden**

# Job Winslow Chapter NSDAR

## Upcoming events of the Job Winslow Chapter NSDAR

June 21, 2025 - Field Trip to Butterfly Museum

July 19, 2025 - 111<sup>th</sup> Chapter Anniversary.  
North Flight Aero Med.

August 16, 2025 - constitution Week Pep Talk -  
Beth Pack & Tina Fields

September 20, 2025 - America 250!  
Themed program.

October 18, 2025 - Pumpkin decorating  
(pumpkins go to veterans homes)

If you have questions about the meetings or about the DAR, please contact Patricia Braun Media Chair at [pbraun503@yahoo.com](mailto:pbraun503@yahoo.com)





## Dear Northern Michigan Policymakers:

Northern Michigan business, nonprofit, and local government leaders have been closely following recent federal executive orders, funding recessions, tariffs, and proposed congressional spending cuts and share deep concerns that these actions will hurt our region's efforts to create jobs, build housing, support local farmers and veterans, sustain a vibrant arts and culture community, and protect the Great Lakes.

Regardless of where one stands politically, certain facts are undeniable: recent executive orders, the cancellation of congressionally approved federal grants and the administration's tariffs are already having a negative impact on our region. Additional spending cuts and tax policies contained in major legislation pending before Congress are projected to further harm our region's economy, environment and communities. Consider the following:

**Medicaid Cuts:** The Congressional Budget Office projects more than 10.3 million Americans will lose health insurance coverage, and 7.6 million will go uninsured, based on budget legislation pending in Congress. Rural areas like ours will be especially hard hit and the loss in coverage will impact our most vulnerable residents including seniors, children, pregnant women, and individuals with disabilities. In Northern Michigan alone, Medicaid covers nearly 70,000 people and nearly half of births at Munson Healthcare facilities. Rural healthcare systems like ours could face job losses and reduction in patient services.

**SNAP Cuts:** Across the five-county Northern Michigan region, 14% of our neighbors experience food insecurity and 40% of households struggle to make ends meet. In April alone, more than 14,000 people received food assistance. SNAP cuts would be far reaching: children, older adults, veterans, people with disabilities, and families with low incomes would face deeper food insecurity and small grocers, rural economies, and local food systems would suffer.

**USDA Rural Development Cuts:** A proposed \$721 million reduction to the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Development programs would deeply affect funding for health clinics, daycare centers, rural broadband, business grants, and both single-family and rental housing assistance.

**Great Lakes Safety, Management, and Infrastructure Cuts:** The Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI), which has funded thousands of land, air, and water conservation

efforts and economic development projects, is facing severe cuts. An overall 55% cut to the EPA budget would also gut water infrastructure programs that ensure clean drinking water and prevent sewage overflows and flooding. Other key agencies like NOAA, the Interior Department (including the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service, and U.S. Geological Survey, and the United States Department of Agriculture are also slated for major reductions—jeopardizing the health of the Great Lakes and the economies like ours that rely on them; fisheries, agriculture, and tourism to name a few.

**Tariff Impacts:** Tariffs are already harming Northern Michigan businesses. A recent Northern Michigan Chamber Alliance survey found that 52% of over 200 respondents expect a significant negative impact; 44% foresee a major drop in revenue in the next year; and only 1.4% anticipate a positive impact on employment, which would hinder business growth. Rising costs of materials, packaging, and imports are cited as the primary concerns.

**Nonprofit Sector Threatened:** Nearly 5,000 people in our region are employed by nonprofits. A Community Foundation survey found that 55% of local nonprofits rely on federal grants, and 85% say proposed federal spending cuts would disrupt their services. New tax proposals also threaten foundation endowments and their freedom to invest in local communities and local solutions related to housing, veterans services, youth mental health, arts, and education and could allow the IRS to revoke nonprofit status, impacting access to critical services for local individuals and families.

**Federal Program Rescissions:** The federal Department of Government Efficiency's (DOGE) decision to rescind congressionally approved spending is already being felt. Layoffs of federal workers living in the region, halted AmeriCorps service programs, National Endowment for the Arts grant reductions, and the suspension of a three-year rural broadband and workforce development initiative are all impacting Northern Michigan nonprofits and communities.

**Low-Income Home Energy Assistance (LIHEAP):** The president's budget proposes to zero-out funding for the LIHEAP program which provides heating and cooling assistance for low-income households. In Michigan, over 400,000 families depended on this program to help cover their heating bills.

There's an old saying: when Michigan's

economy catches a cold, Northern Michigan gets pneumonia. Lawmakers at all levels—federal, state, and local—must recognize that current policy and funding choices from Washington disproportionately harm rural regions across the country, including communities across our region. The impact of these decisions is not abstract—they are affecting real people and communities, and their consequences will be felt for years to come. We encourage the people and families who call Northern Michigan home to reach out to their elected representatives at all levels of government, ask questions and express your concerns.

Sincerely,

Gina Aranki – Child and Family Services of Northwestern Michigan

Lander Bachert – Traverse Bay Children's Advocacy Center

Jennifer Berkey – Michigan State University (MSU) Extension

Yarrow Brown – Housing North

Harry Burkholder – Traverse City Downtown Development Authority

Dan Buron – Goodwill Northern Michigan

Warren Call – Traverse Connect

Nick Ceglarek - Northwest Education Services

Julie Clark – Traverse Area Recreation and Transportation Trails (TART Trails)

Brandie Ekren – Traverse City Light & Power

Cindy Evans – Grand Traverse Industries

Jessica Forster – Spiritual Activists Leading Together (SALT) Coalition

Ashley Halliday-Schmandt – Northwest Michigan Coalition to End Homelessness

Sara Harding – Cherry Republic

Amanda and Brad Kik – Crosshatch Center for Art & Ecology

David Mengebier – Grand Traverse Regional Community Foundation

Nick Nissley – Northwestern Michigan College

Sarna Salzman – SEEDS Ecology & Education Centers

Tina Schuett - Rare Bird Brewpub/Pour for More

Jill Sill – Norte Youth Cycling

Sakura Takano – Rotary Charities of Traverse City

Elizabeth Vogel – The City of Traverse City

**Working together to achieve transformational change for Northwest Lower Michigan**

**Made up of over 40 business, governmental, and nonprofit partners, the Northwest Michigan Community Development Coalition collaborates to share information, align and leverage resources, and coordinate advocacy actions to drive positive economic, societal, and environmental improvements for our rural communities.**



O&A - continued from page 3

**When:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Sat, 9am - 5pm

**Kids’ Coding Club**, Bellaire Public Library, 111 S. Bridge, Bellaire, an opportunity for kids to explore the world of computer coding at their level, ages 8-13 welcome, registration required, call 231 533-8814  
**When:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Sat, 10:00 to 11:00 am

**Meet and Eat, Youth Event**, Mancelona United Methodist Church, 117 W. Hinman, Mancelona, planned by youth for youth including a meal, music, pastor’s message, games & fun, grades 7-12, 231 587-8461  
**When:** 4th Sunday (3rd if 4th is a holiday weekend) 7:00 to 8:30 pm

Miscellaneous

**Monday Tech Help 1-on-1** Kalkaska County Library, 247 S. Cedar St, If you need some help setting up your new phone or laptop, troubleshooting tech problems, or just want to learn more about using the internet safely, then contact us to get 30 minutes of personalized support from our tech services librarian! Contact (231) 258-9411 or info@kalkaskalibrary.org to sign up!  
**When:** by appointment Mon 10am-4pm & Thu 1-5pm

**Stroke Recovery Group**, Antrim County COA/Sr Meal Site, 308 E. Cayuga, Bellaire, must register prior to each session, please call 231 533-8703  
**When:** 3rd Mon, 3:00 to 4:00 pm

**Tech Tuesdays with Gabe**, Bellaire Public Library, 111 S. Bridge St, contact 231 533-8814  
**When:** Tue, 11 am to 3 pm

**Kalkaska County Breastfeeding Support Group**, Blue Fish Early Learning Center, 405 E. Dresden St, contact District Health Department 10 at 231 258-8669  
**When:** 1st & 3rd Tue, 10:00 to 11:00 am

**Kalkaska Baby Pantry**, Kalkaska Church of Christ, 1725 W Kalkaska Rd, Clothing, diapers, wipes available (donations of such are accepted), serving children to size 4T, contact 231 258-9441  
**When:** 2nd & 4th Tue, 9:30 am to 1 pm.

**Girlfriends Social Hour**, Kalkaska Senior Center/COA, 303 S. Coral St, grab a friend and enjoy a coffee or juice, and time with other ladies, senior and nearly senior women are welcome, contact 231 258-5030  
**When:** Wed 10 am

**Tech Tuesdays with Gabe!** Bellaire Public Library, 111 S. Bridge St, 231 533-8814  
**When:** Wed, 11 am to 3 pm

**Spanish Speaking Cohort**, Bellaire Public Library, 111 s. Bridge St, 231-533-8814  
**When:** Wed, 4 pm

**Thursday Tech Help 1-on-1** Kalkaska County Library, 247 S. Cedar St, If you need some help setting up your new phone or laptop, troubleshooting tech problems, or just want to learn more about using the internet safely, then contact us to get 30 minutes of personalized support from our tech services librarian! Contact (231) 258-9411 or info@kalkaskalibrary.org to sign up!  
**When:** Thu, 1:00 to 5:00 pm

**Everyone Has a Story**, Kingsley Branch Library, 213 S. Brownson Ave, join with the library and the Kingsley Folk School for a storytelling community circle, you are welcome to share your personal stories with others to create connections in our community, 231 263-5484  
**When:** 2nd Thur, 5:30 to 7:00 pm

**Antrim County Baby Pantry**, St. Anthony’s Church, 209 Jefferson Ave, Mancelona, providing food, clothing, diapers, and other items for children from birth until their 6<sup>th</sup> birthday (donations accepted), masks optional, one shopper per family and children are welcome but must remain with their parent, new families, please arrive by 2 pm for paperwork and bring valid ID, 231 492-7426  
**When:** 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Thu, 11:00 am to 3:00 pm

**Dance**, Mancelona Senior Center, 122 E. State St, Mancelona, \$7 admission, bring a dish to pass, contact Cheryl at 231 587-9131  
**When:** 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Fri, 6:00 to 9:00 pm

**Fruit of the Womb Baby Pantry**, Kalkaska Baptist Church, 1651 County Rd 612, contact 231 258-5409  
**When:** Sat, 9:00 to 11:00 am

**Rock n’ Jam**, The Rock of Kingsley, local musicians are welcome to come jam and the public is welcome to come listen, tap their toes, dance, contact 231 263-7000  
**When:** 2nd Sat, (through Oct) 5:00 to 8:00 pm

**Simply Delicious with Chef Tom**, Kingsley Branch Library, 213 S. Brownson Ave, a quick and inspiring cooking class, learning tips and techniques while exploring global cuisine and spices, contact 231 263-5484  
**When:** Last Saturday of the month, 10 - 11 am

Veterans/Active Duty

**MWR (Morale, Welfare, & Recreation)**, Belay My Last Barracks, 5210 E. Boardman Rd, South Boardman, veterans are welcome to hang out and enjoy a meal, use the rec room, gym, or theater, peer support specialist is also available, contact 231 631-5372  
**When:** Mondays, 6:30 pm

**Kalkaska VFW Land-O-Lakes Post 8684, VFW Post 408** Hyde St, Quartermaster: Joe Graff, Commander: Luke TenHopen  
**When:** 1st Mon, 6:00 pm

**Mancelona American Legion Post #0264**, 9850 S. Front St, Commander: Benjamin Zerod, Adjutant: Tamara Hunt  
**When:** 1st Mon, 6:00 pm

**Antrim County Veteran Coffee Talks**, 118 Bridge St, Elk Rapids, contact 231 533-8499  
**When:** 3rd Mon, 9 am

**Vets Coffee Time**, Kalkaska Senior Center/COA, 303 S. Coral St, free coffee and donuts, hosted by American Legion Post #480, contact Darel at 231 258-9445  
**When:** 2nd Wed, 9:00 to 11:00 am

**American Legion Post 219**, 10283 M-186, Fife Lake, Commander: Cameron Wojoie, Adjutant: Craig Heckert, contact 231 879-4475  
**When:** 2nd Wed, 6:30 pm

**Coffee Talk for Veterans**, M88 Morning Grind, presented by Antrim Co Veterans Affairs, contact 231 533-8499  
**When:** 3rd Wed, 8:30 am

**South Boardman American Legion #463 and Auxiliary Meeting, South Boardman Legion Hall**, 5479 Boardman Rd (at the tank), South Boardman, Commander: Lindarae Radtke, Adjutant: Elwin Hall, contact 231 369-2944  
**When:** 1st Thu, 7:00 pm

**Kalkaska American Legion Post 0480**, Kalkaska Senior Center/COA, 303 S Coral St. Commander: Jim Brown, Adjutant: Stephen Bloomfield, contact 231 384-0762  
**When:** 3rd Thu, 1:00 pm

**M88 Monthly Muster**, M-88 Morning Grind, 614 Cayuga St, Bellaire, coffee talk for Antrim County Veterans and their families to connect and share in much needed military camaraderie, contact 231 632-9155  
**When:** 1st Sunday, 12:00 pm

BOOK CLUBS

**The Bookies Book Club**, at host’s home, contact 231 879-4101 or flpl@tadl.org for location and details  
**When:** 3rd Tue, 7:00 pm

**The Last Tuesday Book Group-** Bellaire Public Library, 111 S Bridge St, Bellaire, contact 231 533-8814  
**When:** last Tue, 1:00 pm

**Monthly Book Club**, Kalkaska Senior Center/COA, 303 S. Coral St, new book each month to be announced at previous meeting or contact 231 258-5030 for info  
**When:** 2nd Wed, 1:00 [m

**The Page Turners Book Club-** Bellaire Public Library, 111 S Bridge St, Bellaire, registration appreciated, contact 231 533-8814  
**When:** 2nd Wed, 7:00 pm

**Nature Book Club**, Bellaire Public Library, 111 S Bridge St, Bellaire, led by members of the Antrim Conservation District, contact 231 533-8814  
**When:** 1<sup>st</sup> Thu, 9:30 am

**Kingsley Afternoon Book Club-** Kingsley Branch Library, 213 Brownson Ave, Kingsley, does not meet in Dec, June, July, or Aug, contact 231 263-5484  
**When:** 4th Wed, 2:00 to 3:00 pm

**Fife Lake Library Book Club-Take 2**, Fife Lake Public Library, 77 Lakecrest Lane, Fife Lake, 231 879-4101  
**When:** 4th Wed, 2:30 pm

**Mindfulness Book Club-** Bellaire Public Library, 111 S Bridge St, Bellaire, contact 231 533-8814  
**When:** last Wed, 4:00 pm

**Books ‘n Brie Book Club**, Presented by Alden District Library, Helena Township Community Center, 8751 Helena Rd, Alden, enjoy snacks and beverages while discussing the month’s book, free of charge, sponsored by the Alden District Library, contact 231 331-4318  
**When:** 2nd Thu, 3:30 pm

**T.T. Nooners Book Club**, Kalkaska County Library, 247 S. Cedar St, 231 258-9411  
**When:** 3rd Thu, 12 to 1 pm, except December

**The Rory Gilmore Book Club**, Fife Lake Public Library, 77 Lakecrest Lane, Fife Lake, contact 231 879-4101  
**When:** Last Sat, 4:00 pm

Organization Meetings

**Kalkaska Democrats**, contact Gary at 231 590-3397 for current meeting location  
**When:** 1st Mon, 6:00 pm

**Kingsley Friends of the Library**, Kingsley Branch Library, 213 S. Brownson, Kingsley, open for ages 0-5 years, contact 231 263-5484  
**When:** 3rd Mon, 5:00 to 6:00 pm

**Kalkaska Conservation District Board of Directors**, District Office, 406 S. Cedar St, Suite A, Kalkaska, contact Mark, 231 258-3307  
**When:** 3rd Mon, 5:00 pm

**National Trout Festival**, Trout Town Tavern & Eatery, 306 Elm St, 231 384-1509  
**When:** 4th Mon, 5:30 pm

**Kalkaska Republicans**, Kalkaska COA/Senior Center, 303 S. Coral St  
**When:** Last Mon., 7:00 pm

**Kalkaska Kiwanis Meeting**, Kalkaska Senior Center/COA, 303 S. Coral St  
**When:** 2nd and 4th Tue, 12:00 pm

**Friends of the Central Lake District Library**, Central Lake District Library, Conference Room, 7900 Maple St, contact 231 544-1144  
**When:** 3rd Tue, 10:00 to 11:00 am

**Friends of the Kalkaska County Library**, Kalkaska County Library 247 S. Cedar St, downstairs  
**When:** 4th Tues., 4:00 pm

**Friends of the Fife Lake Public Library**, 77 Lakecrest Lane, Fife Lake, contact Denise, 734 444-2484  
**When:** 2nd Wed., 11:00 am

**Chain of Lakes Genealogy Club**, Central Lake Library, 7900 Maple St, 231 544-2517  
**When:** 3rd Wed, 6:00 pm

**BIGG (Genealogy Group)**, Bellaire Public Library, 111 S Bridge St, Bellaire, contact 231 533-8814  
**When:** 1st Thu., 10:30 am

**South Boardman American Legion #463 and Auxiliary Meeting**, South Boardman Legion Hall, 5487 Boardman Rd (at the tank), South Boardman, contact 231 369-2944  
**When:** 1st Thur., 7:00 pm

**Knights of Columbus, St Joseph the Worker Council #7419**, St Mary of the Woods Catholic Church, 438 Co Rd 612 NE, Kalkaska, contact Dave at 231 587-4328  
**When:** 1st Thu, 7 pm

**Friends of the Alden District Library**, Helena Township Community Center, 8752 Helena Rd, Alden, 231 331-4318  
**When:** 3rd Thu, 9:30 am social time, 10:00 am meeting

**Alden Men’s Club**, Alden United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall, 9015 Helena Rd, Alden. Come see what we are all about, “Helping others in need,” contact 603 540-3581 or visit www.aldenmensclub.org  
**When:** last Saturday of the month , 8:00 am (except July and November), no meeting in December.

SUPPORT GROUPS

**Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)**, Alden United Methodist Church, 9015 Helena Rd, Alden  
**When:** Sun, 7:00 pm

**Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)**, Central Lake VFW Hall, 1805 S. Main St, Central Lake  
**When:** Sun, 7:00 pm

**Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting (AA)**, Sportsmens Club, 6095 Garfield Rd, Kingsley  
**When:** Sun, Tue, 8:00 pm (Sun only May-Sept Mayfield Pond Park)

**Narcotics Anonymous (NA)**, Living in Harmony, United Methodist Church, 2525 Beebe Rd, Kalkaska  
**When:** Mon, 7:00 pm

**Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting (AA)**, Fife Lake Methodist Church, 206 Boyd St,  
**When:** Mon, 8:00 pm

**Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting (AA)**, Hope Lutheran Church, 2680 S. M-88, Bellaire  
**When:** Mon, 8:00 pm

**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.

O&A - continues on page 13



# REFLECTION

Editor’s note: Op-Ed pieces and Letters to the Editor are welcome. Discussion of ideas and issues is one of our fundamental rights and duties, as well as being essential to the advancement of all people. The main requirement for acceptance is that they maintain civil discourse. Articles or letters that engage in ranting or ad hominem attacks will not be published. An extra long article or letter may be edited for the sake of space. Email your article or letter to [tina.fieldsmedia@gmail.com](mailto:tina.fieldsmedia@gmail.com), or send it via the USPS to Editor, Northwest Michigan Voice, PO Box 28, Rapid City, MI 49676

## We Promised!

June 13, 2025

I’ve been proud to be an American just about my entire life. My family has always been patriotic. The men of the last four generations of my family have proudly worn the military uniforms of our nation – Army, Navy, and Marine. We are honorable and we want our nation to always be honorable.

At the time of Ukraine’s independence from the Soviet Union (August 24, 1991), a few months before the complete dissolution of the Soviet Union (December 26, 1991), Ukraine held the third largest nuclear weapons arsenal in the world.

With approximately 5,000 nuclear warheads, including intercontinental ballistic missiles that carry thermonuclear weapons, the country was a force to be reckoned with. Although it had actual control over the weapons, it was not able to use them effectively since the launch codes were kept in Russia ([economictimes.indiatimes.com](https://www.economictimes.indiatimes.com), 2025).

The global negotiations to limit the proliferation of nuclear weapons was complex and took a long time. A timeline of some of the stops and starts, the never finished, the agreed-on and signed into effect documents, just since Ukraine’s independence is astonishing. For your reference, a timeline can be found on this website: [www.armscontrol.org/factsheets/ukraine-nuclear-weapons-and-security-assurances-glance](https://www.armscontrol.org/factsheets/ukraine-nuclear-weapons-and-security-assurances-glance)

Work on the Non-Proliferation Treaty was struggling while Ukraine held onto its nuclear weapons. The U.S. the U.K. and the Russian Federation were all encouraging Ukraine to simply give its nuclear weapons back to Russia, and to be a non-nuclear participant in the global negotiations. More than one effort at agreement took place over a few years. However, finally, on December 5, 1994, the Budapest Memorandum was signed. It is useful to read what was agreed to in that memorandum. It is No. 52241, found on page 167 of the United Nations Collection of Treaties, Volume 203007. You can find the full document at <https://treaties.un.org/doc/Publication/UNTS/Volume%203007/v3007.pdf>.

In the memorandum, there are six specific promises made, which I will summarize them here and put the more details in the footnotes: 1) to respect the sovereignty of Ukraine and its existing borders; 2) to refrain from the use of force against Ukraine and not to use their own weapons against them; 3) not to take advantage of any kind by exerting economic coercion against Ukraine; 4) to seek immediate United Nations Security Council action if Ukraine is threatened; 5) to not use nuclear weapons against a non-nuclear-weapon-state; 6) to consult together if questions arise about these commitments.

By means of this momentous memorandum, Ukraine became a non-nuclear-weapon-state party to the Treaty on Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, with the assurance of protection provided by the three nuclear-weapon-states: the United States of America, the United Kingdom, and the Russian Federation. By signing this memorandum, all four parties made binding promises.

How well have we all kept our promises? We promised to respect Ukraine’s sovereignty and her borders, as well as not to initiate acts of aggression. Russia has broken those promises, once in seizing Crimea in 2014 and again in February 2022 by launching the current war. We promised not to take undue economic advantage of Ukraine. The United States recently forced an economic agreement on Ukraine regarding rare earth metals – breaking the promise not to use economic coercion for an advantage of any kind. The United States refused to vote for a UN Security Council measure to censure Russia for invading Ukraine. The United States is wavering in its commitment to protect Ukraine from the Russian invasion.

If we continue to violate the solemn promises made and signed on December 5, 1994, why should anyone ever trust our promises again? Why even bother with negotiating treaties if our word is worthless?

Well, that’s what I’ve been thinking about.

Shalom

Tina Norris Fields  
Editor

### References:

Budjeryn, Mariana, and Matthew Bunn. "Budapest Memorandum at 25: Between Past and Future." March 2020. Retrieved from: <https://www.belfercenter.org/publication/budapest-memorandum-25-between-past-and-future>

Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe. Helsinki. 1975. Retrieved from: <https://www.csce.gov/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/Helsinki-Final-Act.pdf>

Ukraine, Nuclear Weapons, and Security Assurances at a Glance. 2022. Arms Control Association. Retrieved from: <https://www.armscontrol.org/factsheets/ukraine-nuclear-weapons-and-security-assurances-glance>

Ukraine once had the world's 3rd largest nuclear arsenal; but gave up its weapons for this reason. March 5, 2025. The Economic Times. Retrieved from: <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/international/us/ukraine-once-had-the-worlds-3rd-largest-nuclear-arsenal-but-gave-up-its-weapons-for-this--reason/articleshow/118765127.cms>

UN Treaties Collection, Volume 303007. Retrieved from: <https://treaties.un.org/doc/Publication/UNTS/Volume%203007/v3007.pdf>

=====

### Footnotes:

Details of the six items in the Budapest Memorandum

1) to respect the independence and sovereignty and the existing borders of Ukraine;

2) to refrain from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of Ukraine, and that none of their weapons will ever be used against Ukraine except in self-defense or otherwise in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations;

3) to refrain from economic coercion designed to subordinate to their own interest the exercise by Ukraine of the rights inherent in its sovereignty and thus to secure advantages of any kind;

4) to seek immediate United Nations Security Council action to provide assistance to Ukraine, as a non-nuclear-weapon-state party to the Treaty on Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, if Ukraine should become a victim of an act of aggression or an object of a threat of aggression in which nuclear weapons are used;

5) to reaffirm commitment not to use nuclear weapons against any non-nuclear-weapon-state party to the Treaty on Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, except in the case of an attack on themselves, their territories or dependent territories, their armed forces, or their allies, by such a state in association or alliance with a nuclear-weapon-state;

6) to consult in the event a situation arises which raises a question concerning these commitments.

In items 1) and 3) the parties reaffirm their commitment to abide by the principles of the CSCE Final Act of 1975 (Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, Helsinki, 1975).



Russian President Boris Yeltsin, left, American President Bill Clinton, Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma, and British Prime Minister John Major sign the Budapest Memorandum on Dec. 5, 1994.

Photo credit: AP





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  
Second Wednesday Each Month  
9 to 11 am

Kalkaska Senior Center  
303 S. Coral St

Hosted by American Legion Post 480  
Contact-Darel at 258-9445



Electrical • Audio/Visual • Networking  
Security • Home Automation



HOME OR BUSINESS



Electrical

Custom homes - Commercial - Industrial  
Generac Generator Stand By Power Systems

Lighting Control and automated Blinds  
Lutron HomeWorks - Lutron RadioRA2

Audio / Visual

Prewire to final hook up  
Installation of TVS and sound equipment  
We provide quality brands of all equipment

Security

Security systems - Camera systems

Networking

Wifi systems - Hardwired systems

A HOME AUTOMATION SYSTEM CAN ALLOW  
YOU TO CONTROL YOUR HOME FROM  
ANYWHERE AROUND THE GLOBE

231-331-7122

6323 Rapid City Rd. NW, Rapid City, MI 49676

admin@morrisonelectricinc.com

morrisonelectricinc.com



Citizenship Corner

Answers to last issue’s questions

1) Which branch of our federal government is established in Article I of the Constitution?  
A. The legislative branch.

2) Which branch of our federal government is established in Article II of the Constitution?  
A. The executive branch.

3) Which branch of our federal government is established in Article III of the Constitution??  
A. The judicial branch.

4) What portion of Article IV was modified by Amendment XII?  
A. Article IV, Section 2, Paragraph 2 was changed by Amendment XIII.

We have a very full issue this time. A new set of questions will appear in the next issue of the Voice

O&A - continued from page 11

**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: 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 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**


To place a classified ad, or a display ad,

Email: tina.fieldsmedia@gmail.com

or call: 231-322-2787 or 231-645-0244



Clearwater Township Parks & Recreation Committee  
Patriot Park Veterans Memorial  
5394 M-72 W.  
Rapid City, Michigan 49676



Returnable Fundraiser & Can Drive


Please Drop Off at the “Little Red School House”  
5407 River St. Rapid City, MI 49676  
Fundraiser Runs Through December 2025  
\* Contact Dave at: (231) 392-1465 or  
email: fourthandgoal21@yahoo.com to arrange pick up.

Pit Spitters Ticket Fundraiser

Join us for Military Appreciation Night  
June 30 7:05 PM vs Battle Creek Battle Jacks  
Use the QR code to purchase tickets online!

Once you select your tickets, you will need to enter in the promo code “PATRIOT” to have the ticket count toward our fundraising total. You can also purchase tickets at the box office before or on the day of the game and mention our Patriot Park Veterans Memorial Ticket Fundraiser and the kind people at the box office can apply the promotion for you.


<https://traverse-city-pit-spitters.nwltickets.com/SingleGame/Tickets/SelectSeats/7657>



Interested in Becoming a Donor?


Please send a check payable to:  
Clearwater Township at 5440 River St. Rapid City MI 49676.  
Please include Patriot Park Veterans Memorial  
in the memo line of the check.





Website in Progress!

Please visit: PPVM.org for updates and information.



Clearwater Township  
5440 River St.  
Rapid City, MI 49676  
(231) 331-6249  
parksandrec@clearwatertwp.com  
www.clearwatertwp.com



# WALK SLOWLY WITH PURPOSE

## The Serenity of Fishing: A Universal Language

By Dominic Fortuna

As I sit by the tranquil waters, rod in hand, I feel the world slow down. The gentle lapping of the waves against the shore, the sweet songs of birds, and the warmth of the sun on my skin all blend together to create a sense of serenity. Fishing has been a timeless tradition that transcends cultures, ages, and backgrounds. It's an activity that not only provides sustenance but also offers a profound connection to nature and ourselves.

### A Therapeutic Escape

In today's fast-paced world, stress and anxiety can be overwhelming. Fishing provides a much-needed escape, allowing us to unplug and reconnect with the natural world. The quiet, meditative moments spent waiting for a bite can be therapeutic, calming the mind and soothing the soul. Studies have shown that fishing can lower cortisol levels, reduce blood pressure, and even alleviate symptoms of depression.

### Family-Oriented Tradition

Fishing is an activity that can be enjoyed by people of all ages, making it an excellent way to spend quality time with family and friends. Passing down fishing skills and stories from one generation to the next creates lasting memories and strengthens bonds. Whether it's a father teaching his child how to cast a line or a group of friends sharing laughter and tales around a campfire, fishing fosters a sense of community and togetherness.

### Universal Language

Fishing is a universal language that bridges cultural divides. From the bustling markets of Asia to the serene lakes of Europe, fishing is a common thread that weaves together diverse communities. It's a shared experience that

transcends linguistic and cultural barriers, allowing people to connect on a deeper level. Whether you're fishing for sustenance or sport, the thrill of reeling in a catch is a universal joy that knows no bounds.

### Spiritual and Mysterious

Fishing has a spiritual quality to it, a sense of mystery that draws us in. The unknown depths of the water, the unpredictable nature of the catch, and the connection to the natural world all contribute to a sense of awe and wonder. As we wait for a bite, we're not just waiting for a fish; we're waiting for a moment of connection with something greater than ourselves.

### Personal Reflections

I've been fortunate enough to fish in many beautiful locations around the world. From the Pacific Ocean off the coast of San Pedro to the Atlantic Ocean as a young boy, and more recently, off the island of Mauritius, each experience has left an indelible mark on my heart. I spent a week fishing in the Hawaiian islands, marveling at the crystal-clear waters and vibrant marine life. However, my favorite fishing spot remains right here in Northern Michigan, where the serene lakes and forests provide a sense of peace and tranquility.

### Memories and Friendships

Fishing has given me the opportunity to create lifelong memories with friends and family. I've shared countless hours on the water with loved ones, laughing, storytelling, and enjoying each other's company. Though some of those friends have passed on, the memories we created together will always live in my heart. Fishing has a way of forging deep connections with others, connections that transcend time and circumstance.

### Timeless Tradition

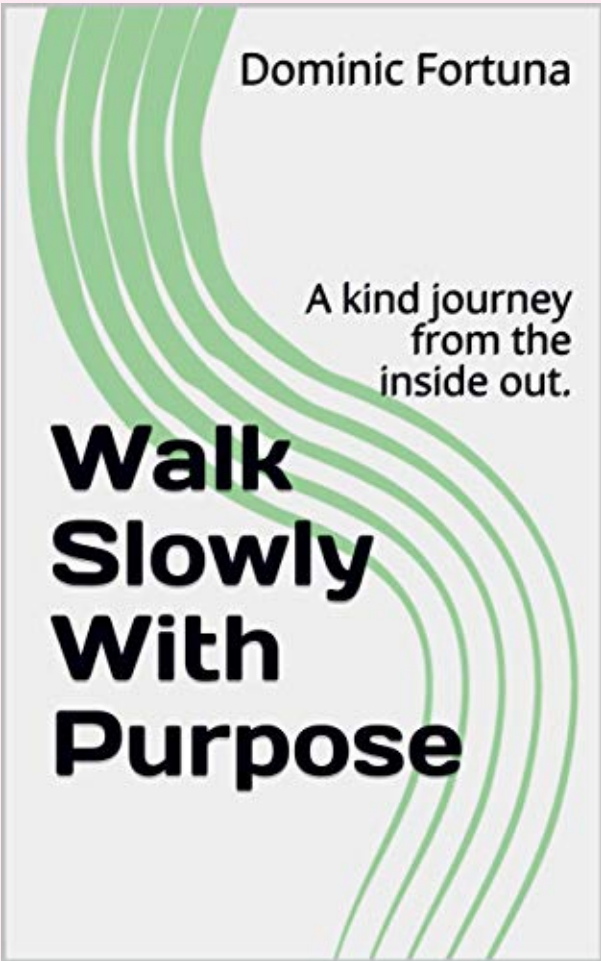
Fishing is one of the oldest traditions known to humanity, with evidence of fishing dating back thousands of years. From ancient civilizations to modern times, fishing has played a vital role in human society, providing sustenance, recreation, and spiritual connection. As we continue to evolve and grow, fishing remains a timeless activity that connects us to our past, our present, and our natural world.

In conclusion, fishing is more than just a hobby or a pastime; it's a way of life. It offers a sense of serenity, community, and connection to the natural world. Whether you're an experienced angler or just starting out, I encourage you to grab a rod, find a beautiful spot, and experience the therapeutic benefits of fishing for yourself.



Vinny with his big bass catch of the day

## Now Available from Amazon on Kindle and in Paperback



Dominic Fortuna’s book,  
“Walk Slowly With Purpose”

Be immersed in a magical journey from tragedy to triumph. Wise and fun characters jump off the page and keep you reading. A great and inspiring read you won’t be able to put down. Let your mind take a journey along with Gary and all of his new friends to a better life with understanding, kindness, and a grateful heart. [www.amazon.com/Walk-Slowly-Purpose-journey-inside/dp/1796373141](http://www.amazon.com/Walk-Slowly-Purpose-journey-inside/dp/1796373141)



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, 7 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, 231 263-7778  
**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: 3nd Wed, 6 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**  
Yankee Boy

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.



**\*NEW\* Indoor Pickleball Courts & Basketball Court**  
**\*Full Gym & Classes \* Ice & Roller Skating**  
**\*Golf Simulator \* Conference Rooms**  
**\*Private parties available**

Call (231) 258-5913 for more information or visit us at [www.kaliseum.org](http://www.kaliseum.org)



NMCAA - Mancelona Early Learning Center is seeking an Assistant Teacher

Qualifications start with a CDA, support provided to further education if needed.

36 hours per week, 38 weeks per year.  
\$15.13 - \$17.02 per hour.

EOE. For details and to apply, visit [www.nmcaa.net](http://www.nmcaa.net) click on Careers/Search Jobs

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 June 13 2025

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

Puzzle on page 8



# COMMUNITY

## PRESIDENTIAL CAREER AWARD FOR SCIENTISTS AND ENGINEERS

The Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers (PECASE) was established in 1996 to recognize scientists and engineers who show exceptional potential for leadership early in their research careers. The award recognizes innovative and far-reaching developments in science and technology, expands awareness of careers in science and engineering, recognizes the scientific missions of participating agencies and highlights the importance of science and technology for the nation's future.

This year's awardees are employed or funded by 14 participating agencies within the Departments of Agriculture, Commerce, Defense, Education, Energy, Health and Human Services, Interior, Transportation, and Veterans Affairs and the Environmental Protection Agency, the intelligence community, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the National Science Foundation, and the Smithsonian Institution.

On January 14, 2025, Dr. Joseph Cannon (formerly of Kalkaska) was awarded this highest honor for his work for the U. S. Army Combat Capabilities Development Command (DEVCOM) which is the Army's organic science, technology and analysis organization dedicated to developing capabilities.

Joseph Cannon serves at the US Army DEVCOM Ground Vehicle System Center (GVSC), in the Detroit Area, as the Chief Scientist for Vehicle Survivability and Protection. Dr. Cannon serves as the Chairman of the NATO Land Capability Group- Land Engagement as well as the Chair for the NATO Team of Experts for Protection Levels for Armored Vehicles

Joseph Cannon has served 21 years as a green tab combat leader at every echelon in a Light Infantry Battalion, to include Battalion Command. LTC Cannon has served two combat tours in support of Operation Enduring Freedom (Afghanistan) and one combat tour in support of Operation Spartan Shield/Freedom Sentinel (Middle East). LTC Cannon is the recipient of numerous awards and decorations to include the Bronze Star Medal, NATO ISAF Medal, Army Valorous Unit Award, Ranger Tab, Master Combat Infantry Badge, Expert Infantry Badge and Basic Parachutist wings.

Dr. Cannon graduated from Kalkaska High School in 1999; he next graduated from Michigan Technological University with honors, earning a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering. Dr. Cannon also holds a Master of Science and Doctorate of Philosophy in Systems Engineering from the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, California, which is the flagship technical graduate school for the Navy and the Department of Defense (DOD).





### KALKASKA COUNTY LIBRARY SUMMER READING EVENTS

In good weather, Summer Reading Events will take place on the Senior Center Lawn.  
**303 S. Coral St, Kalkaska, MI**  
Events are free to attend, and all families are welcome.

<b>June 24 11am</b>	<b>Kickoff with Classic K9s</b> Start Summer Reading 2025 in style with an exciting show by Classic K9s! Get your backpack and badge, then watch these trained and talented pups perform tricks and stunts. in case of rain, this event will be RESCHEDULED.
<b>July 8 11am</b>	<b>Juggling Show with Will Juggle</b> Join us for this entertaining juggling show by Will Juggle! The interactive performance will keep you on the edge of your seat as Will juggles balls, pins, cones, and more! in case of rain, meet in the Birch Street Elementary gym!
<b>July 15 11am</b>	<b>Water Games &amp; Field Day</b> Come and play outside! Participate in a series of fun outdoor games, with a special appearance by the Kalkaska Fire Department! There will be water, so dress to get wet! in case of rain, meet in the Birch Street Elementary gym!
<b>July 22 3pm</b>	<b>Community Art Afternoon</b> End Summer Reading Program with a community art day! Join us to participate in a series of art stations for all ages, including painting, pressing, chalk art, and so much more! in case of rain, meet in the Kalkaska County Library!

For more information, visit: **[kalkaskalibrary.org/calendar](https://kalkaskalibrary.org/calendar)**





302 W Mile Rd, Kalkaska ★★★★★ 231-258-9178

#### Sales:

Monday 8 am - 8 pm  
Tues-Fri 8 am - 6 pm  
Sat 9 am - 3 pm  
Sun CLOSED

#### Service & Parts:

Mon - Fri 7:30 am - 5:30 pm  
Sat & Sun CLOSED

Since 1921  
Chevrolet

