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Autumn...the year's last, loveliest smile.
~ William Cullen Bryant

Vol2025:21 -
October 17, 2025

Bats----Are They Migrating?



By Marilyn Shy,
Kalkaska Conservation District

Tis the season, that spooky ghoulish time of year. The animal that’s on our minds: Bats, of course!

Sometimes this animal gets a bad rap. But our local bats are an important part of the ecosystem. Fun Fact: Bats can eat up to 1,200 mosquitoes per hour. Most humans would feel this is a distinctively useful trait! So it is worthwhile to understand their life cycle, and keep them around if we can.

Although there are over 1400 species of bats in the world, there are only 9 bat species in Michigan, and 7 that have been documented in the northern lower peninsula. One common species for our area is the Little Brown Bat. Like some of the other bats in our area, the Little Brown Bat (LBB) is a hibernator. But did you know that the LBB is also a migrator?

It’s true! Interestingly, not all LBB’s travel the same distance on their migration. They can travel hundreds of miles, some up to 300 miles, looking for a suitable place to hibernate, a cave, a mine, or a cave-like structure.

The Hoary Bat is another bat that occurs in our area, but you may not ever see one, as they are solitary bats that are well camouflaged during the day, looking like a dead leaf hanging from a tree branch. Like the Little Brown Bat, they migrate, but longer distances. They occur in many parts of the US, and have been documented flying 600 miles and even farther, although their migratory paths are not well understood. They migrate from parts of the northern and central U.S. and Canada, to winter habitats in the southern U.S. and Mexico. Some hibernate when they reach their winter location.

The Big Brown Bat, Northern Long-eared Bat, Eastern Red Bat, and Silver-haired Bat are all migratory. However, the Tri-colored Bat, one of the smallest in the U.S., is a hibernator, and does not migrate. It is more common in the U.P., but has been documented near Manistee, Michigan.

More than half of the species of bats in the U.S. are in severe decline. In our area, the Northern Long-eared Bat is a federally threatened species.

What can you do to help? One thing would be to provide additional habitat for bats by installing a bat house. The Kalkaska Conservation District (KCD) can help you with how to do this including plans for building one, plus advising on the best location for it.

Bats are an important component of our natural world, and not at all as scary as they are made out to be in the movies. They help to keep the insect population in check, and are truly fascinating to observe and learn about. For more information about bats and bat house building call the KCD at (231)258-3307.



KALKASKA CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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KALKASKA, MI 49646

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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 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 or 616-581-4668. Sponsored by Alden District Library and the Antrim County Bridge Club.

When: Tue 10 am - noon

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

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: taartisansguild@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: Thu 10 to noon

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

STEAM Club - Central Lake District Library, 7900 Maple St., Central Lake. For Elementary age kids 8 years old and up. Class size is limited, registration required. Contact 231-544-2517

When: Mon, 3:15 to 4 pm

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

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

LEGO Club, Central Lake District Library, 7900 Maple St, Central Lake, available to children ages 5+, drop-in club, registration required, call 231 544-2517

When: Wed, 3:15 to 4:00 pm

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/EHSKaRegistration>

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 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

O&A - continues on page 11

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OBITUARIES

Marilyn Ethel Beaver

December 20, 1938 ~ September 28, 2025

Marilyn Ethel Beaver, 86, a life-long resident of Fife Lake passed away on Sunday Sept. 28, 2025 at Kalkaska Memorial Health Center. She was born on December 20, 1938, the second of seven children raised by Derwood and Ethel Birgy.



stepchildren; Kathy Beaver, Kevin (Bobbie) Beaver, Kirk (Jocelyn) Beaver, Kim (Gordy) Chappell, Charlotte (Jose) Aumentado; 21 grandchildren; siblings, Harold (Marlene) Birgy, Janet Stephens, Larry Birgy, Terry (Judy) Birgy, Tim (Debbie) Birgy and Tammy (Andy) Runkel. and many nieces and nephews.

Marilyn was preceded in death by her sister-in-law, Sharon Birgy and brother-in-law, Doug Stephens.

A funeral mass was held on Saturday, October 4, 2025, 11:00am, at St. Aloysius Catholic Church in Fife Lake . A private burial will take place in St. Aloysius Cemetery.

Memorials may be made in Marilyn's honor to the Alzheimer's Association at alz.org.

Arrangements were made by Wolfe O'Neill Funeral Home our family serving yours.

Marilyn graduated from Kalkaska High School before attending the nursing program at Sparrow Hospital in Lansing. She was a well-respected nurse for 35 years.

Marilyn married Richard Beaver, the love of her life, on February 16, 1991. She loved her family, career, hunting and fishing and many creative crafts including quilting. She had a strong faith and was a long-time member of St. Aloysius Catholic Church.

Marilyn is survived by her husband of 34 years, Richard Beaver, as well as four daughters; Marsha (Dan) Edson, Angela (Trevor) Stone, Lisa (Lee) Newman, Cheryl (David) Plews;

Roberta Ann Graff

June 9, 1953 ~ September 25, 2025

Roberta "Bobbi" Graff, 72 of Kalkaska passed away suddenly on September 25, 2025. She was called upon by her Savior to spend eternal life with Him. Roberta was born on June 9, 1953 in Toledo, OH to the late Albert Fredrick and Mary Lou (McGlenn) Schmidt.



Thursday nights with her friends of the women's auxiliary.

Roberta cherished her children, grandchildren, as well as her great grandchildren. She enjoyed family gatherings, traveling along the east coast, and

playing the penny slots and dominoes with her best friend Cleta Hunt.

Our hearts are torn at the passing of our wonderful and caring wife, mother, grandmother, sister, and dear friend of so many. She was and will forever be loved dearly by all.

May God bless her and give us strength to continue our journeys until we all meet again on those golden shores.

Surviving Roberta is her loving husband, Robert; four sons, Richard Fall, Ronald Fall, Sr., Joseph Graff, Joshua (Carla) Graff; many grandchildren and great-grandchildren; siblings, Sherri R. Stephens and Keith A. Schmidt.

Roberta was preceded in death by her parents; her loving and precious grandson, Ronald Albert Fall Jr.; brothers, Albert Schmidt Jr, and Richard Schmidt.

A Celebration of Life was held on Saturday, October 4, 2025 at 1:00 pm at the VFW Post 8684 in Kalkaska with refreshments provided.

Memorials may be given to the Ronald Fall Jr. Scholarship Fund (on memo line), checks made payable to Joshua Graff, 106 S. Cherry St., Kalkaska, MI 49646.

Arrangements were made by Wolfe-O'Neill Funeral Home, our family serving yours.

Roberta and Robert Graff were married on December 7, 1974 in Atlanta spending 50 plus years together as husband and wife. Together they cheerfully and proudly raised their sons, experiencing the ups and downs of parenting with passion and love.

After all this, Roberta decided to turn her attention to helping others. She became a para pro for Kalkaska Public Schools, caring for and looking after special needs children on their school bus ride to Traverse City for several years. Wanting to do more, she entered into Nursing School at Northwestern Michigan College in Traverse City. In 2001, Roberta graduated with honors at the young age of 47 and soon began her new career as a Registered Nurse with Kalkaska Memorial Hospital.

Years later, Roberta and Robert moved to South Carolina where Roberta continued her career as a nurse with Spartanburg's Regional Hospital. She remained there until her retirement in 2019. After retirement, Roberta and Robert became Snowbirds, splitting their time between Kalkaska and South Carolina.

Roberta was a member of the Kalkaska VFW Post 8684, serving with the women's auxiliary and enjoyed playing bunko on

Robert Davis

April 22, 1940 ~ October 4, 2025

Robert Graham "Bob" Davis, 85, passed away peacefully at home on October 4, 2025, in Boyne City. Born on April 22, 1940, in Pontiac. Bob lived a full and vibrant life rooted in love for his family, and a passion for the game of golf.



Beyond his devotion to family and country, Bob found joy in many pursuits. He was an avid bowler and hunter but found his greatest passion on the golf course. Known by many as a golf legend, Bob's

love for the sport was unmatched. Whether playing competitively or simply enjoying a round with friends or family, golf brought him immense happiness and camaraderie.

Bob's presence will be deeply missed by all who knew him. His unwavering support and steadfast love created a strong foundation for those around him. May his memory bring comfort to those who loved him and serve as a guiding light for generations to come. A Service was held on October 10, 2025, at 11:00 AM at Walloon Lake Community Church, 4320 M-75. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to help cover end of life costs. Venmo under Rose Davis @Rosaria-Davis-1

Arrangements made by Wolfe-O'Neill Funeral Home, our family serving yours.

Bob proudly served his country in the United States Army during the Vietnam era. Stationed in France.

A devoted husband to Rosaria "Rosie" Davis, Bob cherished their time together — especially their shared breakfasts, which became a treasured daily ritual. Their bond was one of enduring love and mutual respect.

Bob was the proud father of eight children: Andrea Schovey, Erika Davis, Rachel Kenwabikisie, Randi Davis, Regina Sweet, Ashley Davis, Andrew Davis, and Kristen Davis. His role as a father was central to his identity; he was the rock and foundation of his family.

His legacy continues through 22 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren who will carry forward the values he instilled — resilience, loyalty, and love for family.

John 14:2 - In my Father's house, there are many mansions.
If it were not so, I would have told you.
I go to prepare a place for you.

Northwest MI

VOICE

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James William Amstadt

March 21, 1934 ~ September 21, 2025

James “Jim” William Amstadt, 91, of Traverse City, passed away peacefully on September 21, 2025, surrounded by his loving family.



Born on March 21, 1934, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Jim was the son of the late Frank Anton and Harriet Ruth (Lemanczyk) Amstadt. He graduated from Marquette University and went on to enjoy a distinguished 35-year career with General Motors, retiring in 1991.

On August 14, 1953, Jim married the love of his life, Roberta Mary Behm. Together they shared 72 wonderful years of marriage and raised a beautiful family filled with love, laughter, and lifelong memories.

Jim had a passion for learning and a deep sense of curiosity that fueled his love of travel. Throughout his life, he visited 58 countries, with cherished trips to Scotland, South Africa, and Egypt. It was during his business trips to Scotland that he discovered his lasting appreciation for Scotch whiskey.

Jim gave generously of his time to his community, serving as a proud member of the Knights of Columbus, where he served as Grand Knight for five years. Jim also served as the President of his neighborhood condo association for 10 years and as a longtime

Little League umpire. He also developed and mentored the local youth umpire program. In his younger days, Jim was known to delight friends and family with his accordion playing.

A dedicated engineer, Jim was part of the guidance systems department that supported the historic Apollo space missions. His contributions were so significant that his name is commemorated on the moon.

He is survived by his beloved wife, Roberta, and their children: James Amstadt, Robert Amstadt, Mary (John) Kelsey, Kristine (Robert) Holder, Steven (Jaime) Amstadt, and Susan (Rodney) Prater. He also leaves behind 15 grandchildren: Joseph, Robert, John, Samantha, Amanda, Ashley, Coryell, Allison, Michael, Alex, Nicholas, Tate, Tobyn, Teagan, Chelsea, and Stefanie; 16 great-grandchildren; and his brother-in-law, Alex (Nancy) Behm.

A Memorial Mass was celebrated on Friday, September 26, 2025, at 11:00 a.m. at St. Joseph Catholic Church, with visitation beginning at 10:30 a.m. A luncheon followed at Sleder’s Family Tavern.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy, an organization close to Jim’s heart.

Gregory M. Hillman

May 20, 1954 ~ October 8, 2025

Gregory Maurice Hillman, age 71, of Michigan, passed away peacefully surrounded by family. He was born on May 20, 1954 in Pontiac, Michigan, to Maurice Conrad Hillman and Donna Lucille Haines.



Greg proudly served his country in the United States Army from 1974 for six years, during which he was stationed in Korea, Germany, Arizona, and Georgia. He earned the National Defense Service Medal for his honorable service.

Greg lived for his own amusement and for the joy of making others laugh. Known for his off-the-wall comments and even wilder contraptions built just to entertain his grandkids, he had a way of bringing humor into every moment. He was never one to sit still unless he was watching MASH or Wheel of Fortune and he filled his days with the simple things that made him happiest.

He loved quilting, took pride in growing his poppies, selling rhubarb from the garden, working in the yard, and tending to his plants. Some of his favorite times were camping with his grandkids, playing games, taking photos and celebrating birthdays with his famous homemade chocolate cake.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Maurice and Donna Hillman; his sister, Patty Hillman;

his brother-in-law Jr. Demars; his mother-in-law, Betty Lou Haller; sister-in-law, Marsha Haller; grandson, Kenneth P. Keller III.; and his beloved dogs Buddy, Sheba, and Princess.

Greg’s memory will live on through his loving family. He is survived by his devoted wife of 35 years Betty C. Hillman and stepchildren: Betty (Ken) Keller; Marie (Tim) Birgy, C.J. Rapoza, and Jennifer (Gary) Clem. His cherished grandchildren include Emilea (David) Udell, Andrew Keller, Tristan Hart, Thomas (Emily) Keller, Ajuana Kewaygoshkum, Jori Keller, Justin Clem, Tapanga Clem, Paul Birgy, Austin Rapoza, Jericho & Skyler.

Greg is also survived by his sister Geraldine Demars, brother Ken (Gyongyver) Hillman; his father-in-law, Victor Haller; brothers-in-law Gary Haller, Terry Haller, Kerry (Jodi) Haller and Victor (Debbie) Haller; sisters-in-law Laurie (Steve) Leposki and Nancy Haller; along with many loving cousins, nieces, and nephews.

Greg will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved him. His legacy of love, laughter, and family will remain in the hearts of those he leaves behind.

Memorial service information will be posted when available. Arrangements have been entrusted to Kalkaska Funeral Home and Cremation Services.

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Michael Erwin Birgy

August 20, 1939 ~ October 4, 2025

Michael Erwin Birgy, 86, of Fife Lake, passed away on October 4, 2025 at Kalkaska Memorial Health Center. He was born on August 20, 1939 at home in Fife Lake to the late Leo and Elsie (Haskins) Birgy. He lived and loved a quiet, simple, unpretentious life. He was a man of deep faith and a strong work ethic. His joy was his family, especially his “little people.” He loved the outdoor life; hunting and fishing with his sons, grandsons, and brothers. He also loved watching and reading westerns, especially Louis L’Amour. He enjoyed morning coffee with his cronies at the Loon’s Nest. Mike was a veteran, honorably serving in the Army from 1958-1962. He was a member of the Forest Area School Board for 12 years and helped coach his son’s baseball team. He did prison ministry work and was a member of Fife Lake Community Church. He is survived by his wife of 63 years Margaret; sons Michael (Kelly), Eric (Lisa), and Todd (Aimee); brother Alan (Kay) Birgy; grandchildren: Megan (Hank) Kleeves, Christopher (Janay) Birgy, Nicholas (April)



Birgy, Kourtnei Birgy, Travis (Ashta) Birgy, Maggie Little, Sarah Little, Scott, Marissa, and Payton Sedwick; great-grandchildren: Ella Mae, Kyrin, Bailee, Leighlyn, Addison, Walter, Kayci, Evelyn, Veronica and special kids Aiden and Gavin. Brother-in-law William (Diane) Harwood; sisters-in-law Bonnie (David) Gonyer and Sheree (Mark) Stein. Also many nieces and nephews. The family wishes to express their gratitude to the wonderful staff at Kalkaska Long Term Care Memory Unity. We never doubted he was being professionally and kindly cared for; they would like to also thank Heartland Hospice. Donations in Mike’s memory can be made to the Fife Lake Community Church Food Pantry or to Heartland Hospice. A memorial service was held at 11:00am, friends began gathering at 10am, on Saturday, October 11, 2025 at Kalkaska Funeral Home. Burial followed in Clark Cemetery in Fife Lake. Arrangements have been entrusted to Kalkaska Funeral Home and Cremation Services.

Janet Kay Julian

September 24, 1957 ~ September 25, 2025

Janet Kay Julian, 68, of Frederic Township, passed away Thursday, September 25, 2025, at Munson Medical Center in Traverse City. She was born in Atlanta on September 24, 1957 to the late Joe and Donna (McKenzie) Brown.



Janet married Larry Julian on February 8, 1996, in Pinconning. Janet loved flowers, gardening and mushroom hunting. She also enjoyed visiting her local rivers, Manistee and AuSable. Janet was an outdoorsy kind of gal.

Janet is survived by her husband Larry; her sons, Robert (Shanna) Reed and Forrest (Naomi) Reed

all of Grayling; grandchildren, Mckinley Reed and Grace Reed; her sisters Judy Brown of Frederic and Jennifer Brown of Indiana.

Cremation has taken place and Celebration of Life will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers, Janet’s family requests that memorials in her honor be directed to the AuSable Valley Animal Shelter, 5786 Fairground Ln, Grayling MI 49738.

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Munson Healthcare Board Approves Construction of a New Neonatal Critical Care Unit in Traverse City

The project is part of a \$40 million investment in women’s and children’s services.

Traverse City - Munson Healthcare is excited to announce board approval for construction of a new 22,000 square-foot, 24-bed Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) at Munson Medical Center (MMC) to begin this coming spring.

The new one-story building is part of a \$40 million investment in women’s and children’s services that includes renovation of the maternity and pediatric units at MMC. Prior to the global pandemic in 2020, Munson Healthcare had unveiled a proposal to build a Family Birth and Children’s Center in Traverse City. Since that time, design of the project has been adapted to account for declining birth rates projected to continue in our region, state, and across the country, as well as a shifting regulatory and economic landscape.

“This investment reflects our commitment to enhancing the care, safety, and patient experience we provide our babies, moms and their families across Northern Michigan.” said Joe Hurshe, Munson Medical Center President and CEO. “We are grateful for the incredible support our providers, staff, donors, and the entire community have shown in moving this project forward to serve future generations of our region.”

Some key facts about the new plan include the following details:

- It’s anticipated that construction of the new NICU will take 18 months to complete with an opening targeted for late-2027.
- Renovations to nearly two-thirds of MMC’s 19-bed maternity unit are complete. We’ve invested \$4 million since 2023 to enhance our OB unit with a safe, modern and aesthetically pleasing design.
- The planning phase for upgrades and enhancements to the pediatric unit is getting underway with a target of early-2026 to begin that project.
- Munson Medical Center is home to the only NICU in Northern Michigan which provides care to more than 325 babies each year from across the region.
- The new facility will be connected to MMC and located between the hospital and Cowell Family Cancer Center.

“Our clinical leaders and administration have put a great deal of time and thought into the design of this project,” added Hurshe. “The result of this tremendous work ensures our most vulnerable newborns will receive exceptional care with state-of-the-art technology in the years and decades to come.”



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OCTOBER 2025

October 1-31, 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. The storybook is “Acorn Was A Little Wild” by Jen Arena, and covers about a 1/2-mile portion of the trail. Free Event. Sponsored by Alden District Library and Friends, 8751 Helena Rd, Alden, 231-331-4318..

October 2-31, Whimsical Halloween Witches Display. Come visit Alden District Library and see Carolyn Buxenstein’s collection of Whimsical Halloween Witch Figurines. The display can be viewed during normal library hours. Mon, Wed, Th, F 9:30a-5p, Tu 9:30a-6p, Sat 9:30a-2p. The library is located at 8751 Helena Rd, Alden, 231-331-4318. Free Event. At a later date, a video of the display can be viewed on the library's website, aldenlib.info and look for "On Display" link at left. Sponsored by Alden District Library, 8751 Helena Rd, Alden.

October 16, Friends of Alden District Library Monthly Meeting: 9:30am social time with regular meeting beginning at 10:00am. Topics of discussion will be plans for upcoming programs and activities, as well as volunteer opportunities. Anyone interested in supporting the library is always welcome. Held at Helena Township Community Center, 8751 Helena Rd, Alden. 231-331-4318.

October 18, 12-2pm, Trunk or Treat in Alden. Alden United Methodist Church is hosting this Trunk or Treat event at the church parking lot. Also, they will have a list of participating Alden businesses, including the library, that you can go visit for more treats! Make sure to wear your favorite costume and we hope to see you at the library.

October 24, 10am, Homeschool Discoveries. Lesson: Magnets. Bellaire Public Library, 111 S Bridge St, Bellaire.

October 26, 2pm, When History Rhymes: Survival and Mystery at White Shoal Lighthouse. Presented by Lighthouse Keeper, Historian and Author Jill Ore. Jill explores the contrasting fates of ice fishermen Lewis Sweet and George Kruskie, who found themselves adrift on ice floes in 1929 and 1931, respectively, seeking refuge at White Shoal Light for survival. She also highlights the legacy of George Keller, White Shoal’s longest serving keeper, and examines how history’s patterns echo in the lives of those who braved the ice against the backdrop of Lake Michigan’s unforgiving waters. Free Event. Held at Helena Township Community Center, 8751 Helena Rd, Alden and sponsored by Alden District Library and Friends, 231-331-4318.

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Trunk or Treat Alden Community United Methodist Church 2024
Coming again, Saturday, September 18, 2025, 12-2pm

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

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

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

If you would like your church to be listed, please send an email to tina.fieldsmedia@gmail.com

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

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

Williamsburg United Methodist Church
5750 Williamsburg Rd, Williamsburg
Sunday morning:
9:00 am - Worship Service

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DEAL ME IN

By Mark Pilarski (reprinted with permission of the author)
Have screwdriver, will gamble

11 August 2003
Dear Mark,

When I'm at a video poker machine, I sometimes hear people say that these particular machines are looser (sometimes tighter) than some of the other video poker machines they have played. If every game uses a 52-card deck, how can a video poker game be any different than any other machine? Shouldn't the odds all be the same at every machine? Tom T.

Youbetcha. Random is random, but sneaky is also sneaky. You identify tightness or looseness of a video poker machine by standing tall in front of it, introducing yourself with a smiling hello, and INSPECTING THE MACHINE'S PAY TABLE. The sneaky-peeky, that's called. Memorize that. The pay table reveals what the casino pays for a pair of jacks or better, two pairs, threes-of-a-kind, flushes, a full house, etc. Math laws set the odds, but the accountant sets the price.

Take your standard jacks or better machines, for instance. A 6/5 pay table (6 coins returned for a full house, 5 for a flush, with one coin inserted) would be considered tight, no, very tight; whereas a 9/6 machine (9 for a full house, 6 for a flush, with one coin inserted) would be considered loose.

If you were playing on an 8/5 machine (8 coins returned for a full house, 5 for a flush with one coin inserted) you'd be giving the house an additional 3% edge over what they'd get from a 9/6 machine. You see, Tom, random surely is random, but a slight alteration on the pay table brings that sharp grin to the face of the casino owner.

Another example — the key to evaluating the potential return on the very popular Deuces Wild machine is the payoff on four-of-a-kind. If that hand is paid out at 20 for 5, with one coin inserted, rather than 25 for 5, the machine is considered tight. Why? Well, fours-of-a-kind occur frequently, and this lower payoff drops your percentage return by well over 6%. Ouch!

But with your own mental screwdriver, you can tinker even that machine into the loosest cow in the casino. With maximum coin play and perfect strategy, a five-coin return for four-of-a-kind gives you a slight edge against the house — a 100.76% return versus 94.34% if the machine returns just four coins.

As illustrated above, Tom, with a modest mental toolkit, you can create your own loose and tight machines.

Dear Mark,
Since you love to slam my favorite game of keno all the time, how's about your views on bingo, especially as played in casinos. Ray D.

When you are down to your last fiver, trying to score free hooch, perhaps even needing a place to sleep, the keno parlor can seem a gambler's oasis. But, when you need a calculator zapping out exponential notations just to figure out the payoffs, even you might get a bit crusty on good old keno.

But, when it comes to playing bingo, Ray, bingo can be sound gambling. Yep, you're reading it right; that was no misprint.

Bingo is one game the casino offers that generally operates as a loss-leader for the house. Casinos can actually show a net loss for bingo by paying out more in guaranteed prizes than they take in. If you think \$5 is a hefty price for a buy-in, try any special non-cash game — yes, FREE — that some casinos occasionally advertise.

Yo, keno players, are you hearing this? Bingo does offer a great return and is a nice, relaxing change of pace when you're on a losing streak and need to slow your losses.

=====

Gambling quote of the week:
"Video poker is here to stay, and if it is here to stay then it is taking in far more money than it's giving out." — Rob Singer, gaming author.



Sudoku Puzzle
October 17, 2025

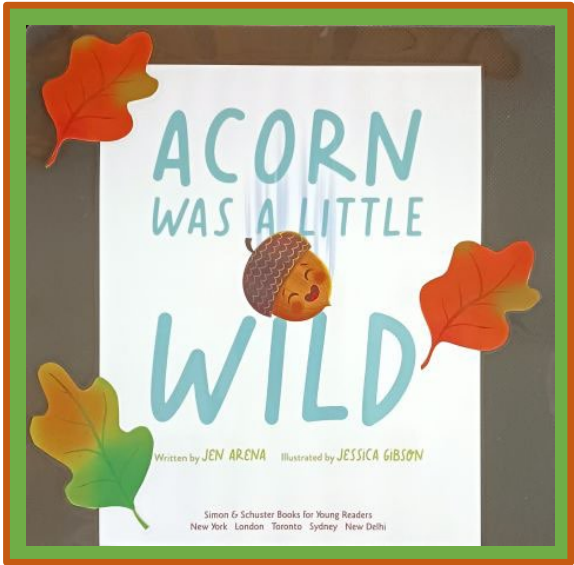
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Solution on page 15

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= MENTAL HEALTH CORNER =

Cultivating Resilience in our Mindsets

Resilience is a mindset, a direction we turn toward when we are faced with obstacles and roadblocks in life. This mindset is a key factor in cultivating our ability to withstand life's challenges.

One of my favorite people, the late Dr. Gladys McGarey, called this mindset "The Juice." In my last column, I spoke of how we can feel this "Juice" when we turn towards life, when we turn towards our challenges and all that life can throw at us. We cultivate "The Juice" when we cease running away from or trying to self-soothe our way out of our problems.

In this second column on Resilience, we will look at two of the characteristics of people who are Resilient:

1. **Definiteness of Purpose:** Resilient people have a clear set of goals and outcomes in mind for their lives and continuously work towards achieving them. They are able to break these down into smaller goals that all contribute to their overall purpose in life. This is going to be different for everyone, but just having a

mindset of definiteness of purpose increases resilience in the face of life's challenges. These goals and a person's purpose in life drive them forward and provide a bulwark against drifting off into poor habits or distractibility especially when life gets challenging. This requires #2.

2. **Self-Mastery/Self-Discipline:** Resilient people have control over their thoughts, habits, emotions and appetites. They are able to resist drifting into impulses and procrastination, and they avoid negative influences entirely.

When it comes to cultivating resilience, our habits and associations play an outsized role in how we are able to pick ourselves back up when life inevitably knocks us down. It's been said that if you take the 5 people you spend the most time with, you will find that your income, lifestyle and habits are pretty close to theirs. Are these people and habits creating an inspiration to overcome life's challenges, or are they complaining, criticizing or gossiping? Given that statistically your results will be similar,

it's worth asking what that actually looks like.

This is the second in a series on Resilience. Life is challenging, and when it comes to maintaining good mental health, your purpose, goals, habits and associations are way more important than we are told. I'll see you next edition with more practical steps to creating Resilience in your life.

-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

Stellantis announced a \$13 billion investment nationwide including huge expansions at two plants in Michigan.

Gov. Whitmer Statement on Stellantis' \$230 Million Investment to Add 900 Good-Paying Jobs, Bring Manufacturing Home to Michigan

LANSING, Mich. — Governor Gretchen Whitmer issued the following statement after Stellantis announced major investments in Michigan that will create and protect hundreds of good-paying, union auto jobs and help Michigan continue to build the future of the auto industry. During the governor's first term, Stellantis announced and built a new state-of-the-art automobile assembly complex in Detroit – the first auto plant to open in the city in nearly 30 years – which will be home to this new investment.

Governor Whitmer Statement

"This evening's announcement from Stellantis will create 900 hundred good-paying union auto jobs in Michigan and help us continue to make cars and trucks that people rely on every day.

"I am grateful to Stellantis for betting on Michigan once again, building on our work to bring more manufacturing back home. Over the last few years, Stellantis has expanded in Michigan, and we will continue working with them to make it easier to manufacture in Michigan by investing in workforce development, cutting red tape, incentivizing R&D, and increasing government efficiency.

"Since I took office, we've worked across the aisle to win every possible auto project, securing more than 36,000 auto jobs. Thanks to partners like Stellantis and our massive network of auto suppliers, we will continue to dominate the auto industry and bring supply chains home even as we face national economic uncertainty.

"We don't care what you drive—gas, diesel, hybrid, or electric—as long as it's made in Michigan. Together, let's keep bringing manufacturing home, growing the middle class, and putting the world on wheels."

Stellantis' Major Investment in Michigan

Stellantis announced a \$13 billion investment nationwide including huge expansions at two plants in Michigan.

At the Warren Truck Assembly, Stellantis invest nearly \$100 million to add more than 900 jobs and develop a brand-new, range-extended electric vehicle and internal combustion engine SUV. Production will begin in 2028.

At Detroit Assembly Complex – Jefferson, Stellantis will invest \$130 million to prepare the plant to produce the next generation Dodge Durango, doubling down on their commitment from January 2025. Production will begin in 2029.



Thank You

2025 Kalkaska County 4-H Livestock Auction Buyers

Abigail Pyle
Ace Hardware-Kalkaska
Brent's Oil Field Services
Cooke Sheet Metal
Dean Boiler Inc.
Dillon Henderson
Enhanced Field Services-(EFS)
Ellsworth Farmer's Exchange
Forest Area Federal Credit Union
Family Farm & Home-Kalkaska
Freedom Green Farms

Grandview Golf Course
Great Lakes Contracting
Iott Seed Farms
Jim Crothers
Kalkaska Animal Hospital
Biggby-Kalkaska
Kalkaska Window & Glass
KEO Rental and Service
KEO Sand and Gravel
KEO Welding Fab
Kniss Girls Cattle Co.
Lodi Trading Co.
Lynn Adams
Maintenance Contracting

Matt's Underground
Moose & Stella Cafe
Muffler Shop & Auto
North Coast Jewelry
Northern Winn Services
NW Michigan County Farm Bureau
Old Bros. Maple Syrup
Pine Ridge Farms
PJ Steel Supply
RL Morris & Sons
Tim Little
Timber Trax
Trout Town
Voice Motors

Congratulations

2025 Kalkaska County 4-H Market Grand Champions



Maddie Birgy - Market Boiler Chicken
Buyer - Grandview Golf Course



Amelia Erickson - Market Roaster Rabbits
Buyer - Abigail Pyle



Sam Belongia - Market Feeder Steer
Buyer - Matt's Underground



Annabell Lobb - Market Turkey Pen
Buyer - Ellsworth Farmer's Exchange



Wyatt Gondol - Market Goat
Buyer - Kniss Girls Cattle Co.



Vanessa Hoppe - Market Steer
Buyer - RL Morris & Sons



Sam Belongia - Market Geese Pen
Buyer - NW Michigan Farm Bureau and Timber Trax



Joel Rosin - Market Lamb
Buyer - Timber Trax



Charlene Erickson - Market Swine
Buyer - Voice Motors



Kalkaska County 4-H Leader's Association

O&A - continued from page 3

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
When: 3rd 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: 3rd 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 6th 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: 2nd & 4th 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: 1st and 3rd 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: 1st 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

Teen Book Club - at the Kalkaska County Library. Teens ages 14-18 are welcome to join us to read and discuss books with friends. Snacks will be provided! Contact (231) 258-9411 or info@kalkaskalibrary.org for more info.
When: 3rd Thu, 3:30pm

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

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, or send it via the USPS to Editor, Northwest Michigan Voice, PO Box 28, Rapid City, MI 49676

Rights and Boundaries

October 17, 2025

The thing about rights is that they are not unlimited. They end where they bump into another person’s rights. I remember learning about that characteristic of rights back during the arguments about smoking in public places.

I read a headline that said “Rights in conflict!” Those who smoked were claiming they had the right to smoke wherever they wanted to. After all, it was their freedom tho choose to smoke. Nonsmokers were arguing that they had the right to breathe clean air. I went to talk with my father about the situation, since it did seem that these rights were in conflict.

Dad said that rights could not actually be in conflict, because they were limited by coming into contact with one another. I was working with a counselor on relationships who gave me this phrase: “my right to spin around with my fist extend ends where your nose begins.” Since then, I’ve seen three variations on that very same idea, attributed to three different men. Here are the three quotes:

- 1) The right to swing my fist ends where the other man’s nose begins. Attributed to Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr.
- 2) The right to swing my arms in any direction ends where your nose begins. Attributed to John Stuart Mill
- 3) My right to swing my fist ends where your nose begins. Attributed to Abraham Lincoln.

The slight variation in words doesn’t change the meaning at all.

So, for the smoking controversy, it comes down to this: you do have the right to choose to smoke and I have the right to choose not to smoke; you have the right to breathe in the smoke yourself, but you do not have the right to impose the smoke on me. Conversely, if you are in a designated smoking area and I come in, I do not have the right to demand that you stop smoking, since I chose to enter your reserved space.

The image I get of what a right looks like is a bubble. My bubble is limited by touching your bubble. So, if I really want to just be able to do whatever I feel like whenever I want to, I would have to live absolutely alone and a long way from anybody else. But, if I am going to live in a relationship, I have to recognize and respect the boundaries – the places where our bubbles touch – and so does that other person. Learning to set and agree upon boundaries is an important adventure of adulthood. Mastering the boundaries in an intimate relationship is probably very helpful in learning how to recognize and respect boundaries in community life as well (and vice versa, I suppose).

I do try to use the bit of wisdom my dad gave me with that discussion about the rights of smokers and nonsmokers whenever I am trying to sort out a dispute of any kind. Within my community, there arise differences of opinion on how things should be. Should a

homeowner be allowed to rent out his or her home when the family is not using it? Should property owners be vigilant to not let yard lights interfere with the neighbor’s comfort? Should there be a limit on how late loud noise or music is permitted in a community? Should vehicular traffic abide by speed limits inside the community?

These and other rules place limits on what a property owner can do with his or her own property, out of consideration for those who live in the same community. If we choose to live in community rather than in solitude, we agree to some limits on our freedoms.

When I encounter serious challenges to figuring out where the bubbles meet, I take my time and carefully sort out what rights are in play. These days, I actually do have a couple of such challenges going and I haven’t figured them out yet.

I hope you like the idea of rights as bubbles that are limited by where they touch one another. And I hope you like the idea of recognizing and respecting your own limits and the limits of those around you.

Well, that’s what I’ve been thinking about.
Shalom
Tina Norris Fields
Editor

Citizenship Corner

Answers to last issue’s questions

- 1) Are the rights of citizens granted by the Constitution?
A. No. As stated in the Declaration of Independence, we are endowed by our Creator with rights.
- 2) Are all of our rights laid out in the Constitution?
A. No, as Amendment IX states: The enumeration in the Constitution, of certain rights, shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people.
- 3) Has any Amendment to the Constitution been repealed?
A. Yes, only one.
- 4) What does Amendment XXI do?
A. It repeals Amendment XVIII.

Citizenship Corner

These questions may require some research on your part. Thank you for making that effort. The answers will appear in the next edition of the Voice.

- 1) Where in the Constitution are the duties and powers of the presidency stated?
- 2) Whose duty is it to “take care that the laws be faithfully executed”?
- 3) When does the President become the Commander in Chief of the Militia of the several states (now the National Guard)?
- 4) The President has wide authority of pardon. What are the limits to that authority?

Everything
in this paper
is important to
somebody



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

O&A - cont. from page 11

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

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

Al-Anon Family Group, Stepping Toward Serenity, on ZOOM: login information on meeting list at Alanon-d39.org

When: Tues, at noon.

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

When: Tue, 7:00 pm

Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting (AA), Kalkaska Senior Center, 303 S Coral St

When: Tue, 8:00 pm

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

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

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

When: Tue, Thu, Sat 12:00 pm

Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting (AA), Fife Lake Village Office, 616 Bates Rd

When: Wed, 7:00 pm

Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting (AA), Central Lake VFW Hall, 1805 S. Main St,

When: Wed, 8:00 pm

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

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

Antrim Co Parkinson Support Group, Bellaire Family Health Center, 4955 S M-88, Bellaire, 231 633-1237

When: 3rd Wed, 2 pm

Grief Support, Kalkaska Church of Christ, 1725 W. Kalkaska Rd, faith-based grief support, contact 231 258-9441

When: Thu, 6:00 pm

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

When: Thu, 7:00 pm

All Recovery Meeting, 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

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS This 30th day of September, 2025 notice is given in the Estate of Sonia E. Tubbs, late of South Boardman, Michigan deceased (4/21/35-10/3/24). All claims against the above estate, duly verified by statutory declaration and with particulars and valuation of security held, if any, must be sent to the undersigned before November 10th, 2025. Sonia Tubbs Estate, 6285 N Shippy Rd SW, South Boardman, Michigan 49680

FREE
ADMISSION



2025 FESTIVAL OF TREES

Sponsored in part by Northland Foods

Open Daily

Friday, November 7th – Saturday, November 15th

10:00 AM to 7:00 PM

Northland Foods Plaza, Kalkaska, MI

Find us on

facebook

Kalkaska Festival of Trees

Prize drawing will be streamed live on Facebook

12:00PM on Sunday, November 16th

To become a sponsor, donor or volunteer for the festival events please email: stephanie.festivaloftrees@gmail.com

ALL PROCEEDS DONATED TO KALKASKA AREA INTERFAITH RESOURCES' FOOD PANTRY

Job Winslow Chapter
NSDAR



Upcoming events of the
Job Winslow Chapter NSDAR

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

November 15, 2025 - Linda M. Woods
American Indian Walking Stick

If you have questions about the meetings or about the DAR, please contact Patricia Braun Media Chair at pbraun503@yahoo.com

Northwest Michigan Voice

Vol2025:21 - October 17, 2025

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WALK SLOWLY WITH PURPOSE

Season of endings and beginnings

By Dominic Fortuna

The air is alive with the whispers of change, as autumn's palette paints the landscape with hues of amber, crimson, and gold. The trees, like nature's own cathedral, stand tall and proud, their leaves rustling in the gentle breeze like a chorus of whispering spirits. The scent of wood smoke and damp earth fills the air, as the earthy aroma of fallen leaves and forest floor mingles with the sweet fragrance of ripe fruits and berries.

In this season of endings and beginnings, the harvest is ripe and ready to be gathered. Apple cider mills are abuzz with activity, as families and friends gather to press the juice from the season's bounty. The tangy taste of fresh cider is a taste of autumn itself, with its hints of spice and warmth. Try adding a dash of cinnamon and nutmeg to your cider for a recipe that's sure to become a tradition: combine 2 cups of apple cider, 1 cinnamon stick, and 1/4 teaspoon of ground nutmeg in a pot. Bring to a simmer over medium heat, then reduce heat to low and let steep for 10-15 minutes. Serve warm, garnished with a cinnamon stick and a sprinkle of nutmeg.

As the days grow shorter and the nights grow cooler, the sounds of Oktoberfest fill the air. The beat of traditional German music and the clinking of steins echo through the streets, as friends and

family gather to celebrate the season. Prost! Raise a glass of golden lager and savor the flavors of Bavaria, with its rich, malty notes and crisp finish. Try pairing it with a plate of traditional German cuisine, like schnitzel or sauerbraten, for a truly authentic experience.

But autumn is also a time of transition, as the warmth of summer gives way to the chill of winter. The deer are on the move, and hunters are eager to take to the woods, seeking the thrill of the hunt and the promise of a fresh Venison .

The rustling of leaves and the snap of twigs signal the start of another season, as the great outdoors beckons. Meanwhile, bird hunters are gearing up for a season of sporting clays and upland game birds, with the promise of crisp air and camaraderie. Northern Michigan offers so many opportunities for a companion hunt with your child or a generational hunt with one of your grandparents. But remember to always walk slowly with purpose as you move through the northern Michigan Woods...

As the weather cools, it's time to swap out those summer tires for a set of snow tires. The change is imperative, as the roads can quickly become treacherous with the onset of winter. Don't wait until the first snowflakes start to fall – make the switch now and ensure your safety on the road.

As the temperatures drop, it's time to pull out the sweaters and cozy up with a warm cup of coffee or tea. The fireplace crackles, and the TV screen glows with the bright lights of the football field. The crunch of leaves beneath our feet is music to our ears, as we cheer on our favorite teams and savor the taste of tailgating treats.

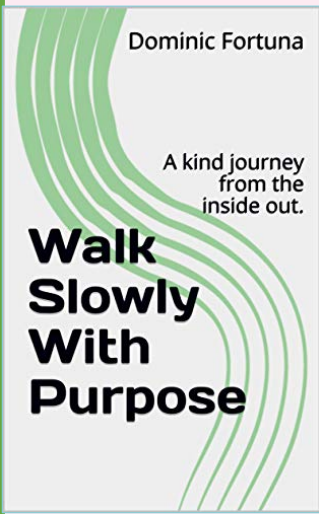
But even as the seasons change, there's still time to get out on the water and enjoy the fall fishing. The fish are biting, and the scenery is breathtaking, with the trees standing tall and the sun shining brightly overhead. Try casting a line into the quiet waters of a lake or river, and wait for the fish to bite.

As the sun sets over the hills, casting a golden glow over the landscape, we can't help but feel a sense of awe and wonder at the beauty of the world around us. The stars are beginning to twinkle in the night sky, and the moon is full, casting a silver glow over the landscape. It's a time of endings and beginnings, of harvests and holidays, of change and celebration. So grab a cup of cider, pull out the sweaters, and let's enjoy the ride. Prost!

And good luck and good Hunting, go get that buck!

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

DHD#10 Announces Upcoming COVID/Flu Walk-in Clinics

DHD#10 COVID-19 and Flu walk-in clinics are added weekly; however, residents can schedule appointments at DHD#10 over the phone (888-217-3904) or online by visiting <https://dhd10.org/residents/immunizations/schedule/>.

DHD#10 is hosting public COVID-19 and Flu walk-in clinics at the following locations:

Kalkaska County

Clearwater Township Fire Department (Collaborative Clinic with Traverse Health Clinic)

8255 Garfield St Rapid City, MI

October 16, 1:30pm-4pm

October 30, 1:30pm-4pm

Government Meetings

Kalkaska County Townships:

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

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

Boardman Township,
Boardman Twp Hall/Fire Dept, 4855 Pine St, South Boardman, 231-369-3336
When: 3rd Wed, 7 pm

Clearwater Township,
Clearwater Twp Community Center, 5407 River St, Rapid City, 231-331-6249
When: 3rd Thu, 7 pm

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

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

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

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

Oliver Township,
Oliver Twp Hall, 5472 Kniss Rd SE, 262-339-2239
When: 2nd Tue, 6 pm

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

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

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

==+++=++==

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

Central Lake Township, Central Lake Governmental Building, 1622 N. M-88, Central Lake, 231 544-6687
When: 3rd Wed, 7:00 pm

Village of Bellaire:
Village Offices, 202 N. Bridge St, Bellaire, 231 533-8213
Village Council-
When: 1st Wed, 7:00 pm
DDA- When: last Wed, 8:00 am

Village of Mancelona:
Village Offices, 120 W. State, Mancelona, 231 587-8331
When: 2nd Tue, 6:00 pm
Mancelona DDA, Antrim County Title, 504 S. Williams, Mancelona, 231 58-833
When: 2nd Mon, 5:30 pm

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

Village of Fife Lake:
Village Hall, 616 Bates St, Fife Lake, 231 879-4291
Village Council-
When: 3rd Mon, 6:30 pm
DDA-When: 3rd Tues, quarterly Jan, April, July, October, 6:00 pm

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

Village of Kingsley:
Village Offices, 207 S. Brownson, 231 263-7778
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, 5 pm

Standing Committees-
When: 2nd Wed, times below
Judiciary & Public Health- 9 am
Health & Welfare- 10 am
Public Works- 11 am
Personnel/Interview- 1 pm
Budget & Finance- 2 pm (also meets the Tue before, 5 pm)
County Affairs/ IT & Computer- 3 pm

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

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

Bellaire
Applesauce Inn
Bellaire Public Library

Central Lake
Central Lake District Library
Mary's Market

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

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

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

Kingsley
Kingsley Branch Library
Kingsley Village Offices

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

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

South Boardman
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.



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email: tina.fieldsmedia@gmail.com,
or call: 231-322-2787 or 231-645-0244

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
October 17, 2025

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

Puzzle on page 8

COMMUNITY

CHAIN OF LAKES CROP WALK 2025



On Sunday, September 28, twenty-three people gathered for this year’s Crop Walk. The walk serves to raise funds and awareness to end hunger locally and around the world. The following churches were represented: Torch Lake Assembly of God, Alden United Methodist Church, Church in the Hills, and Bellaire United Methodist Church. Thank you to all who participated and to King Orchards for their donation of freshly picked apples.



Kalkaska community members, you're invited to a film screening of **MY ASCENSION**

Wednesday, Oct 29 | Kalkaska High School | 5:30pm

Join us for a special screening of My Ascension at Kalkaska High School—a powerful documentary and mental health awareness initiative for students, families, and community members across Kalkaska and surrounding areas. **Scan to RSVP!**

- Resource Tables, Appetizers & Drinks: **5:30 PM**
- Movie Viewing: **6:00 – 7:30 PM**
- Panel Discussion: **7:30 – 8:00 PM**
- Recommended age is 11+ This film contains sensitive material related to mental health and suicide. Viewer discretion is advised.



*High school students viewing during the school day



Did You Know?

The deadline for nominations for the Nobel Peace Prize is January 31? Actions taken after that date cannot be considered until the following year.

