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As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them.

~ John Fitzgerald Kennedy

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Vol2025:23 -
November 14, 2025

Crawford School celebrates 150 years

By Brent Miller

On the last Saturday of September 2025, six members of the Strong family crossed the Canadian border to celebrate Crawford School's 150th year. They were joined by dozens of former students and family members. Some folks, like Norm Groner, remember school days back in the 1940s. Groner recounted the chores of fueling the school's wood stove and getting water from a farm down the road when the well was frozen. Other alumni gave detailed descriptions of baseball games, the arrival of a Commodore 64 computer, and Halloween pranks (yes, I have been assured, by personal confessions, that delinquency isn't something new). Darrel Boger and his cousin Randy kept the energy up with some great music and volunteers blessed us with a fantastic way to end September.

Regardless of the decade, it was a day of happy memories, good food, games, and wonderful conversations. It was humbling to consider all the families, teachers, and students that have helped this school stay alive and thriving. Let's do our part and keep things going strong for at least another 50 years!



This is Norm Groner. We're about 50 years apart, so he was my age at the 100th celebration. He attended the school during WWII

Heather and Tre Bromley. Tre graduated from Crawford in 2022



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 Ladies 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

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, 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 231 922-4911
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

OUT & ABOUT

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 jkuijper@learnsselfcompassion.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 ljslslyker@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 Center 303 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. 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, 1 To 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

Wrigglers 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/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 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

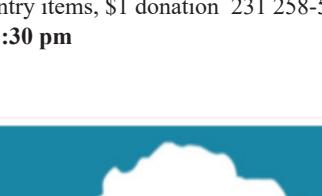
5toOne Playgroup, Mancelona School's Early Childhood Space, 203 Grove St, child-led playtime, healthy snack, and story, registration is encouraged, <https://bit.ly/PlayMancelona>

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_scrap1960@sbcglobal.net

When: 3rd Sat, 9am - 5pm

O&A - continues on page 11



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508 N. Birch Street, Kalkaska

Northwest Michigan Voice

Vol2025:23 - November 14, 2025

OBITUARIES

Wendy Sue Cherette Timmons

December 3, 1968 ~ October 17, 2025

Wendy Sue Cherette Timmons gained her wings and went home to heaven on October 17, 2025 at Munson Medical Center in Traverse City, surrounded by her family and friends. She was born to Lavern and Sandra Cherette on December 3, 1968 in South Haven.

Wendy is survived by her parents, Sandra (Edward "Al") Krumlauf and Lavern (Jean Mott) Cherette; siblings, Christopher (Joel) Cherette, Karna (Matt) Cherette, Johnathon (Lauren) Cherette, Michael (Nikki) Cherette, Rachelle (Roy) Cherette and Theresa



(Ryan) Cherette; many nieces and nephews, her partner Eric Tracy.

Wendy was preceded in death by her grandparents, Neva and Leo Powers and Eva and Leo Cherette; her niece, Kristina Lee Cherette.

Wendy enjoyed many things in life, music, dancing, two tracking and fishing. She had many friends that she was loved by.

Her celebration of life was at Evergreen Bible Baptist Church on Saturday, November 1st at 3:00 pm with a luncheon following.

Clarence Louis Lesert Jr.

December 20, 1952 ~ October 25, 2025

Clarence "Bud" L. Lesert Jr., 72, passed away unexpectedly at home on October 25, 2025. Born December 20, 1952, in Battle Creek to Clarence Lesert Sr. and Imo (Seymour) Andrews-Shutz.



siblings Richard Lesert and Deborah Titus.

Bud cherished time with his family, especially his grandchildren who were the "apple of his eye." He had an appreciation for crime dramas as well as television programs

from the 1970s.

A memorial will be held at a future date to honor and celebrate him.

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

Tracy Lee McCain

August 10, 1963 ~ October 31, 2025

Tracy Lee McCain, age 62 of Kalkaska passed away on October 31, 2025 at Munson Medical Center in Traverse City. He was born August 10, 1963 in Flint to the late Burke and Elaine (Davis) McCain. Tracy worked as a Mortgage Officer until he relocated to Northern Michigan where he started college at Northwestern. He was always ready to help those who were less fortunate. Tracy had a great zest for camping and fishing. The family was truly blessed to have him.



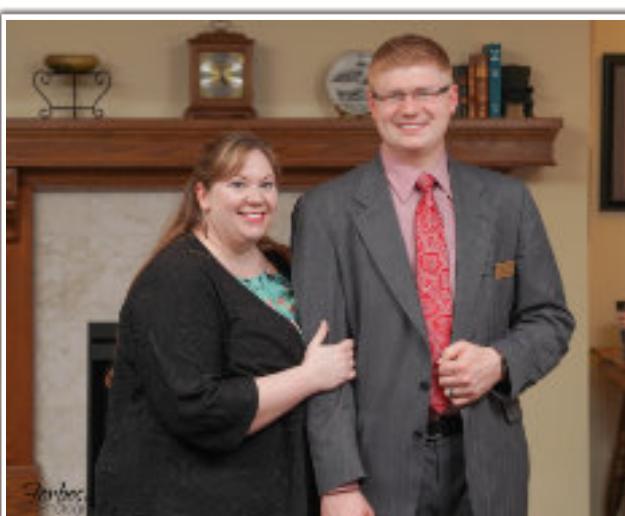
He was preceded in death by his oldest brother, Robert McCain.

Tracy is survived by stepsons, Gorden (Janell) McCain and Brian McCain; siblings, JoDee Gondol, Earl McCain, Marlene (Bob) Wilcox, Bryan McCain

and Tracy's twin brother Trent (Bernie) McCain.

A Celebration of Life service will be announced at a later time.

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



MANAGER:
BRUCE A. ZENNER II

231-258-3346
152 S. Cedar St.,
Kalkaska



KALKASKA
FUNERAL HOME
AND CREMATION SERVICES
KalkaskaFuneralHome.com

Timothy James Laukhart

June 18, 1962 ~ October 24, 2025

Tim passed away unexpectedly at home with two of his daughters the evening of October 24, 2025. Tim was born June 18, 1962 to James and Rosie Marie (Richie) Laukhart in Rantoul, IL.



his family Tim has always been extremely loyal, loving, dedicated and dependable. He was more than the rock of the family, he was an unmovable mountain. He is greatly loved and deeply missed.

Timothy is survived by his four daughters, Heather LaBelle, Kimberly Laukhart, Christin Laukhart, Cierra Laukhart; one granddaughter, Rosie Laukhart; and his beloved St. Bernard, Casey.

A Celebration of Life will be planned at a later date. Arrangements were made by Wolfe-O'Neill Funeral Home, our family serving yours.

Kathryn F. Nofsinger

April 10, 1941 ~ October 25, 2025

Kathryn F. Nofsinger of Kalkaska Michigan entered into God's care peacefully the morning of Saturday, October 25th, 2025 with family by her side at the Eden Center in Kalkaska.



Kathryn was born on April 10, 1941 in Franklin Township (Beartown) Ohio to Adam and Nellie (Robinette) Mann. She married Gerald Leland Nofsinger on November 3rd, 1963 in Navarre, Ohio. They moved to Kalkaska in 1975 where she worked as an aide for Kalkaska Public Schools, was cook at a couple restaurants near Manistee Lake, cashier at a local grocery store and then worked at McDonalds until she retired to take care of her husband, who had fallen into poor health. At that point she learned to run a chainsaw and change the oil in her cars among other things, which she did into her 70s. In her earlier years she enjoyed cooking, canning, sewing, baking and decorating cakes for school holiday parties, birthdays and weddings; eventually passing that talent to a couple of her granddaughters. She also enjoyed family get-togethers, watching and feeding the birds, especially Hummingbirds and Orioles, sitting out in the sunshine, meeting with her TOPS group, reading, flower gardening, working with artificial flowers, and watching old TV shows, especially The Andy Griffith Show. However, Kathryn's absolute favorite thing to do was spend time with her grandchildren and great grandchildren!

Kathryn is survived by her children, Susan (Dennis) Hunt,

Victor Duane Carson

May 22, 1969 ~ November 1, 2025

Victor Duane Carson, 56, passed away peacefully on Saturday, November 1, 2025 at Arborlight AFC Home in Kalkaska. He was born on May 22, 1969 in Kalkaska to Victor and Janet (Johnson) Carson.

Victor was preceded in death by his father Victor Paul.

A special thanks for the care given to Victor over the last 40 years at Arborlight AFC Home.

A private family burial will take place at Evergreen Cemetery.

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

Floyd E. Porter III

November 4, 1947 ~ November 7, 2025

Floyd E. Porter, III, 78 of Kalkaska passed away on November 7, 2025, at his son's home in Linden MI. He was born on November 4, 1947, to the late Floyd E. Porter II and Joyce (Millage) Porter in Wayne MI.



daughter, Alyssa N. (Matt) Farinella of Fall City, WA; his grandchildren, Courtney, Nathan (Beth), Matthew, Olivia, Caleb, Elijah, Grant, Ethan, Jackson and Audrey; and one great-grandchild on the way.

Floyd served honorably in the US Navy and was a proud veteran. He worked at the Ford Motor Company at the Rawsonville Plant in Ypsilanti for 36 1/2 years upon retirement.

Floyd was a devoted member and friend at Evergreen Bible Baptist Church where he served and sang at church. He also enjoyed golfing and being a member of the local UAW.

Floyd is survived by his son, Jason E. (Angie) Porter of Linden; step-

Preceding Floyd in death was his wife, Donna, his siblings, Skip, Brian and Sue.

The funeral service was held on Tuesday, November 11th at 11:00 am Evergreen Bible Baptist Church with visitation beginning at 10:00 am until the time of service. Burial will be at Evergreen Cemetery.

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

Cole Edward Schavey

July 3, 1982 ~ October 25, 2025

be carrying on his legacy.

Cole took great care of his niece and nephews as he could relate to them in so many ways. Cole was a kid at heart. Cole was very proud of his nephew, Remington, and his pursuit of engineering.

Cole's love was felt by everyone who came in contact with him. He was open to everyone no matter their situation.

Remaining to cherish, Tina Schavey; daughter Kristen; son Noah; sister Raven Schavey (Tom O'Rourke), Naomi Schavey; niece Abbigail; nephew Remington, Sheamus, and Cruz.

He was preceded in death by parents Lee and Kim Schavey; grandparents Lewis and Edith Schavey, Frank and Naomi Kashenider; brothers Rebel and Joshua Schavey.

Arrangements for a celebration of life will be held in the spring per his wishes.

Additional Obituaries on page 10

Northwest MI

V O I C E

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Donald Frederick Bellinger

November 28, 1934 ~ November 4, 2025



Donald F. Bellinger, age 90, of Kalkaska, Michigan went home to be with the Lord on November 4, 2025, at Kalkaska Memorial Long Term Memory Care. He was born at home on November 28, 1934, to Orrin and Rena (Byers) Bellinger in Kalkaska, Michigan. Don was never one to sit for too long. Even as a young boy, he found ways to work, use his hands, and learn from those around him. He graduated from Kalkaska High School in 1953. His academic achievements earned him a full-ride scholarship to the University of Michigan. Knowing in his heart that the classroom environment was not where he flourished, he tossed his scholarship papers over the bow of the Great Lakes ore freighter, J. Peirpont Morgan, and never looked back.

Don began work as a road and bridge surveyor for the Michigan Department of Transportation in 1953. He loved the outdoors, so this job suited him well. In 1955, Don was drafted into the Army where he proudly served his country for two years. He rejoined his surveying crew in 1957. Traveling all over the state in his 35-year career, he helped blaze the way for many of the roads we drive on today and made countless lifelong memories and friends along the way.

He is survived by his devoted wife and love of his life, Peggy Ann (Jacobson). They were married on January 21, 1956, at Peoples Church in Kalkaska. They enjoyed 69 wonderful years of marriage and raised four beautiful children in the house that his grandparents built. In addition to Peggy, Don is

survived by his three daughters Kathy (Keith) Campbell, Cheryl (Dale) Dorvinen, Pam (Steven) Hinds, and son, Dan (Julie); 12 grandchildren, Ian, Courtney (Matt), Jordan, Aaron (Christa), Zach (Whitney), Cody (April), Tate, Christian (Lydia), Jack (Isabelle), William (Emily), Elizabeth, and Aidan; seven great-grandchildren Kora, Haley, Orrin, Norah, Addie, Amélie, and Joe; sister, Mary Bigelow; sister-in-law, Nancy Johnson and brother-in-law, Bernie Jacobson; and many nieces & nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents; in-laws Clarence Jacobson, Ethel (Jacobson) McKee, and Marshall McKee; brother David Bellinger; brothers-in-law Ron Johnson and Patrick Bigelow; and sister-in-law Hilda Jacobson.

Don loved history, doing things for others, tinkering on his Model A, sharing a cup of coffee with friends, deer hunting, but most of all he loved his family. He was a proud member of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, a local historian, and Director of the Kalkaska Historical Museum.

Visitation will be at noon followed by a funeral service at 1:00 pm Saturday, November 15, 2025, at the Kalkaska Funeral Home, 152 S Cedar St, Kalkaska, MI 49646. Graveside service with military honors at Kalkaska Evergreen Cemetery with a luncheon to follow at Peoples Church.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Peoples Church, 216 S Cherry St, Kalkaska, MI 49646 or Heartland Hospice, 400 Eastern Sky Dr STE 2, Traverse City, MI 48684.



Munson's New High-Risk Breast Cancer Clinic Takes a Proactive Approach and Provides Personalized Guidance

New service is expected to benefit approximately 6,000 patients across the region.

Munson Healthcare's (MHC) High-Risk Breast Cancer Clinic at the Cowell Family Cancer Center in Traverse City is bringing a new resource to Northern Michigan focused on earlier detection and intervention for those with an elevated risk for developing breast cancer.

As part of this initiative, MHC radiology reports now include a personalized lifetime breast cancer risk score - based on personal, medical, and family history factors - for every patient following a screening mammogram. Standing conditional orders have now been added to mammograms for any patient identified as high-risk - with calculated score that indicates a risk of 20% or higher - to simplify the referral process for advanced imaging or further testing, like MRIs.

"Historically, Northern Michigan has had a higher-than-average rate of breast cancer in some cases 20% higher than the national average," said Kathy LaRaia, Munson Healthcare Vice President of Oncology and Professional Services. "We estimate that there are approximately 6,000 patients in our region who would be considered high-risk and could benefit from this program." When a patient is identified as high-risk, the HRBCC will reach out to the patient directly to coordinate an appointment. For patients who self-refer for a mammogram, Munson's team will share their risk score with them and help establish care with a primary care provider to initiate a referral to the clinic.

Munson's High-Risk Breast Cancer Clinic provides a number of specialized and tailored services including:

- Personalized Risk Assessment: Patients receive a detailed review of their risk score along with expert guidance on next steps.
- Ongoing Surveillance: Annual breast cancer screenings, which may include MRI, for continued monitoring.
- Risk Reduction Education: Information on lifestyle and medical strategies to lower risk, plus access to genetic counseling when appropriate.
- Surgical Consultation: Coordinated referrals for surgical evaluation if clinically indicated.

The clinic's team will also obtain insurance authorization for any recommended imaging. "Early detection and intervention are key to better outcomes," added LaRaia. "Munson's High Risk Breast Cancer Clinic is committed to helping our high-risk patients work through any barriers to ensure they receive enhanced and proactive care to reduce their risk." To learn more about Munson's new High-Risk Breast Cancer Clinic, visit munsonhealthcare.org/breastcancerclinic.

Emily Levin, MD, FAANS, Joins Munson Healthcare Neurosurgery

Munson Healthcare is pleased to welcome Emily Levin, MD, FAANS, to the Neurosurgery team.

Dr. Levin originally gravitated toward a career in engineering before deciding to continue her education to pursue a career in neurosurgery. She calls on her engineering background when determining a plan of action for her patients, including finding the best way to use technology to improve outcomes—whether that's less invasive surgical techniques or using devices to improve a patient's function.

Ultimately, it's helping people that Dr. Levin likes the most about her career in medicine.

"I love having the opportunity to make people feel better, whether that's with a smile, an open ear, or with my medical and surgical training," she says.

Her treatment approach includes working with each patient to

determine the best plan for them, which can include operative or non-operative treatment.

Dr. Levin attended medical school at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine. She completed an internship in general surgery and her residency in neurological surgery at University of Michigan Hospitals and Health Centers. She completed a fellowship in neurosurgery at the University of California, San Francisco School of Medicine and is board certified by the American Board of Neurological Surgery.

Dr. Levin is married with two children. In her free time, she enjoys cooking, strength training, and spending time outdoors with her family.



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CALENDAR

NOVEMBER 2025

November 3-29, Pottery Display. Come visit Alden District Library and see Debbie Northrup's unique up-north pottery. The display can be viewed during normal library hours. Mon, Wed, Thu, Fri 9:30a-5p, Tue 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.

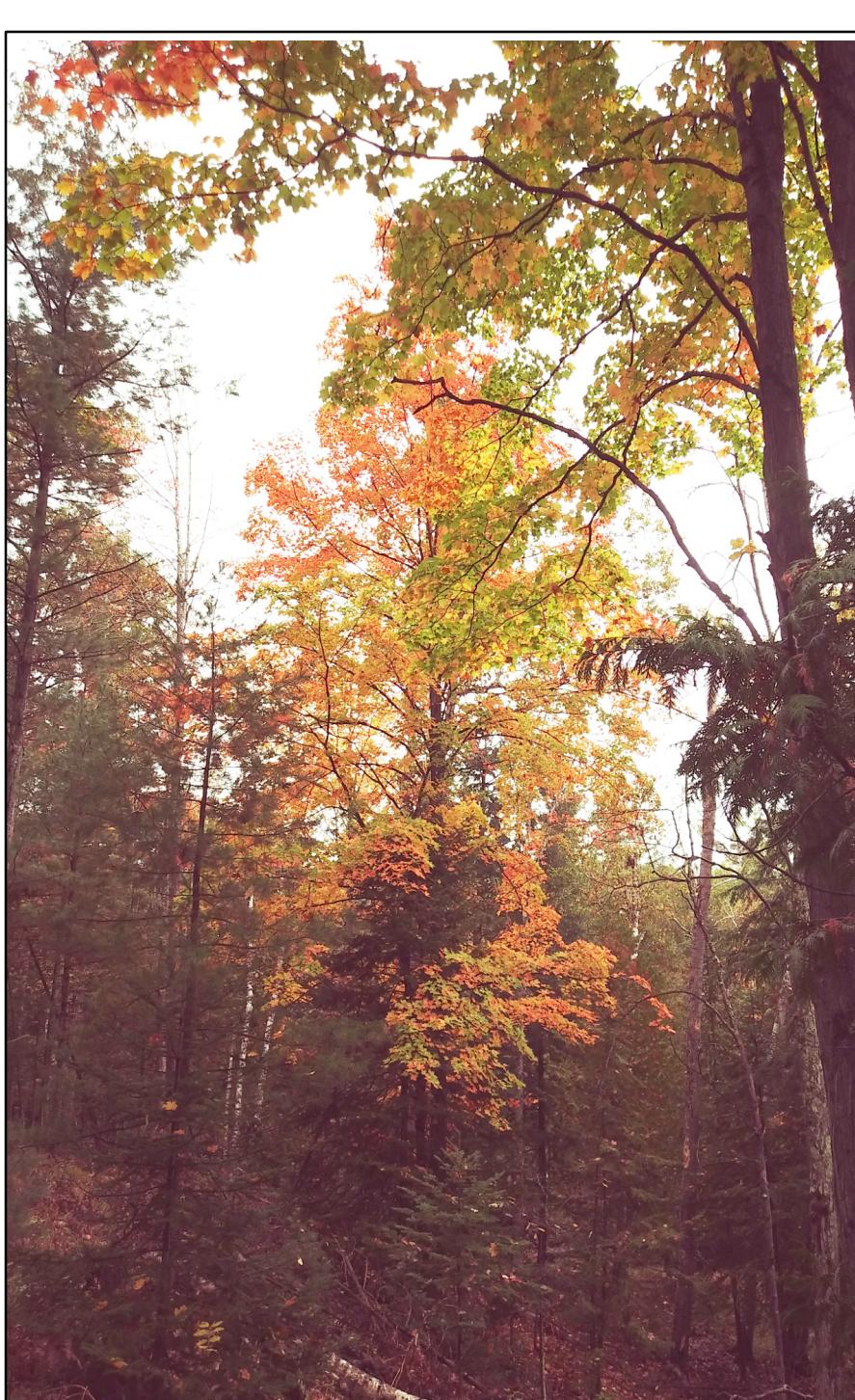
November 16, 2 pm, Bad Treaties and Broken Promises. Presented by award winning author, Robert Downes. This program is based on his latest non-fiction book "Raw Deal – The Indians of the Midwest and the Theft of Native Lands". Robert will discuss the five major treaties signed with Michigan's Indians which deprived them of their ancestral homeland and the events that led up to those treaties. Copies of his book will be available for purchase, \$20 cash or credit card. Free Event. Held at Helena Township Community Center, 8751 Helena Rd, Alden and sponsored by Alden District Library and Friends, 231-331-4318.

November 20, Friends of the 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. Immediately following the meeting there will be 45 minutes of book sale prep work. Anyone interested in supporting the library is always welcome. Held at Helena Township Community Center, 8751 Helena Rd, Alden. 231-331-4318.

November 22, 9am - 3pm, Torch Area Artisans Guild Craft Show. Enjoy quality arts and crafts from many local vendors. There will be a bake sale, quilt raffle, door prizes, and lunch is available. Free Admission. Held at Helena Township Community Center, 8751 Helena Rd, Alden. Sponsored by Alden District Library, 231-331-4318.

November 22, 9am - 3pm, Book Sale. Held in the Library, and the TAAG Craft Show is in the gym. Available items will be: Books, DVDs, CDs, Games & Puzzles. Proceeds will benefit Enrichment Programs for Adults and Children. Sponsored by Friends of the Alden District Library. Located at 8751 Helena Rd, Alden. 231-331-4318.

November 25, 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 for more information.



HOUSES OF WORSHIP

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

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

St. Matthew Lutheran Church
211 E. Hinman, Mancelona
Sunday morning:
9:00 am - Worship Service

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

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

To place a classified ad, or a display ad,

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

COMMUNITY

DEAL ME IN

By Mark Pilarski (reprinted with permission of the author)

Stalking the willy craps vipers

25 August 2003

Dear Mark,

I have been told the Stratosphere, in Las Vegas, has a crapless craps game. So if the button is OFF and a 2, 3 or 12 are rolled, these numbers do not lose, but they are established as points. Is this correct? This seems too good to be true. How does the casino offset this to its advantage? Should I stay away from this game? Ryan D.

Sentence number 4 above — dead on, Ryan. Sentence number 6 — yeah, big time. Crapless craps, or ruse craps, is exceptionally good for the shareholders of any casino that can sell it to their customers.

Also known as never ever craps, crapless craps is another example of a casino offering designed to cost you dearly when you belly up to the crapless craps table, deciding how many Jaguars you'll buy with your sure-shot winnings.

In this modified variation of a regular craps game, you do not lose on the come-out roll when the shooter tosses a 2, 3 or 12. Instead, it automatically becomes the point, just as 4, 5, 6, 8, 9 and 10 do on a standard game. You also do not win if the shooter throws a natural 11. It too becomes the point. With these additional frowzy rules, the house holds a 5.4% edge on your pass line bet versus the 1.4% edge in a typical craps game. Prudent readers of this column consider crapless craps as also playless craps.

Dear Mark,

When playing craps, I pretty much stick to your recommended pass line wager with odds, or placing the 6 and 8. But on my last outing before I started playing, I saw two players making a killing betting both an "any craps" and the

"horn" bet. Please describe the differences between an "any craps" bet and a "horn" bet, and, which, if any, of those two bets should I have played alongside those lucky players? Brian K.

Just because the dice were sizzling in the short term with 2s, 3s, 11s and 12s before you jumped in, doesn't mean they will still radiate BTUs when you decide to tackle wagers with a house edge over 11%. Your dice-game timeline — the period you are on the game — will always be different from that of the earlier (and, in this case lucky) players. When you join a game in progress, you initiate your own personal sequence of rolls, the randomness of nature likely returning it to a more normal pattern. (A flipped fair coin can come down the same face up many, many times. But would you bet that all your buddy's pocket change, dumped on your kitchen table, would all show heads on the first try? Well...)

This column, Brian, proselytizes for making wagers with a reduced casino advantage, and an "any craps" or "horn" wager ain't one of them. An "any craps" bet is wagering that 2, 3 or 12 will be the result of the next roll. With a payoff of 7 to 1, the house edge is 11.1%. A "craps-eleven," or "horn" bet as it's typically called, is a bet that the next roll will turn a 2, 3, 11 or 12. If any other number rolls, you lose. Though the payoff varies from casino to casino, the house edge on a "horn" bet is always more than 12%. Bucking, Brian, for the top 10 sucker bets list, both of 'em.

=====

Gambling quote of the week:
"Whenever you switch from Deuces Wild to Jacks or Better, the first four of a kind will be deuces." -Skip Hughes



Sudoku Puzzle November 14, 2025

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

Solution on page 15

On Corn

Years ago
corn was planted
in hills, not rows.

This required
marking the earth
before the planting

"Marking Poles",
poles with small chains
attached to the pole

equally
along its length
were used to do this.

Two men would
carry the pole
across the tilled land
length and breadth.
Where the lines crossed
we would plant the seeds.

Men did this
with "corn planters"
walking across fields.

We children
helped as we could
planting with our hands.

"One for the
cut worm one for
the crow. One for the
blackbird and
one to grow." We
chanted and planted.

From each hill
green shoots appeared
eager to grow tall.
Waiting for
spring rains to come.
Waiting and waiting.

Michigan Farm Boy

= MENTAL HEALTH CORNER =

The 3 Questions to Win at Life

This is the first in a 3-part series on the questions and answers that inform our lives.

The first question is: Where Do I Come From?

When we look at our own mental health, understanding our origins can influence how we see ourselves and the world around us. When we understand our cultural background, our family structures and our formative experiences, we start to form a picture of the forces that shaped us in becoming the person we are.

Our identity is shaped by both nature and nurture: genetics, childhood experiences, community, belief systems, and early models of what made us feel safe and what we considered to be a threat. These forces and environments also inform our psychological attachment patterns, survival responses, inherited trauma and the emotional templates we use to respond to the world.

A common mistake that people fall into is believing that "where I come from is who I must remain." We are told to "never forget where you

come from." The truth is that our origins can help explain how we became the person we are, but they do not define, constrain or confine us to any foreclosed identity. We are, after all, our own unique person regardless of our past experiences or origins, and we can learn about ourselves through our past but still create a life and state of mental well-being that is as individualized as we are. Our past is not our destiny.

Here are three practical ways to understand how our origins have helped inform the person we eventually became:

- Take time to reflect on your early lessons about safety, love and how to handle conflict.
- Identify any patterns that you inherited or learned from your family and culture that may no longer serve you.
- Use curiosity while looking at your past. This is a journey of learning and growing not of judgements about yourself or others.

Answering the question: "Where Do I Come From?" is a journey of self-discovery. When we understand where we came from, how this influenced our views of ourselves and our world and what we might want to do differently without falling into harsh judgments, we add a new level of clarity to our lives, and this will go a long way towards better mental health.

-Adam DeVaney, LCSW, CECP

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



When Bad Things Happen

What do I tell my child when bad things happen? This is a question I get on a regular basis. Whether it is something in the world, the nation, or closer to home, what do we tell children when things happen?

First, it depends on their age. If they are young, you tell them only what is appropriate for their age. They don't need to know every detail of what has happened. This can be hard because if it is a newsworthy event you may have to shield them from the constant newsfeed that is happening around you.

Kids have great hearing when you don't want them to know what you are talking about. So, you may need to censor the news or not have it on with them around. If it is an event closer to home, then you have conversations with adults when the kids are not around. This means you may have to be creative.

Kids can sense tension. They can tell when something is wrong even when you don't tell them. When you are talking to others try not to do it with kids around. This just increases their anxiety. They will need reassurance during scary times. Be their safe space.

If your kids go to school, they could hear things about nationwide or worldwide events from their peers. They will ask questions. Try to

answer their questions on an age-appropriate level. When bad things happen, kids get scared. They want to know what is happening. They are also curious and so therefore are trying to figure things out just like everyone else. Keep an open dialogue with your kids to help them understand what is happening around them.

If there are things happening in your home, try to address them as you are able. Kids want to know, or need to know, what is happening. But if there is something like a divorce, they don't need to know the reasons or details. It is hard enough for them to process the divorce itself, let alone the reasons. Just tell them it is between adults, or it is a grown-up issue.

If there is a death in the family, kids need to know, but telling details isn't necessary. Children are very concrete in their thinking. They have a hard time understanding the permanency of death. When telling a young child someone has died, telling them something like, their body stopped working and they died.

Do not tell them things like they went on a vacation. This gives the idea that the person will be back. Telling them the person went to Heaven to live with Jesus is okay, as long as you tell them their body stopped working as well. Kids will want to go visit someone in Heaven. (I wish.)

If you are telling a child someone they love is in jail or prison, tell them they made a mistake and they are going to jail, which is adult timeout. They may want to know what they did to get in trouble. Answer the best you can, as long as it is something age appropriate.

Kids will want to express their emotions and need help doing so in a safe environment. Find them a child therapist who can help them do this in their own way. The therapist can give them coping skills and help them express their feelings in a healthy manner.

We can't prevent many tragic things in life. We need to learn how to deal with them as they come. Kids are no different. We live in a sinful world so therefore bad things happen. We can help, however, help kids process things as they happen to the best of our ability.

. Alison Neihardt, LPC, NCC

Alison Neihardt is a local child therapist at her private practice Helping Kids Counseling Services, LLC located in Kalkaska, MI. If you would like to reach out to her she can be contacted via email at hkupnorth@gmail.com

ADDITIONAL OBITUARIES

Charles Lee Clark

January 9, 1935 ~ October 27, 2025

Charles Lee Clark, 90, "Chuck" of East Jordan, passed away on October 27, 2025, in the presence of loving family and friends at the Munson Medical Center in Traverse City. He was born in 1935 to Archer and Olive (Peck) Clark in his grandparents' Cherry Street home in Kalkaska. Chuck attended the Kalkaska Rural Agricultural School and became a life-long learner and mentor, sharing his diverse knowledge and skills with others. As a 56-year Kalkaska resident, he was very active in the community and knew almost everyone by name. Chuck was a rich repository of the past and known as an interesting storyteller. He was a cheerful and optimistic friend, an encourager to all. At age 19 he became the Village of Kalkaska Superintendent, serving in that position for 19 years. He was subsequently recruited for the position of Director of Building and Grounds for the Kalkaska Public Schools from which he retired with 15 years of service. Chuck also founded his business as home builder and electrician. Over the years he built 5 personal homes for his family and drew the plans for the construction of the Kalkaska Seventh-Day Adventist Church which was dedicated in 1965. Chuck was a former Chair of the Kalkaska County Board of Commissioners and was honored as the East Jordan Family Health Center's 2023 Community Health Champion where he served on the board for ten years. Chuck is a member of the Boyne City Seventh-Day Adventist Church where he served as an Elder, filling pulpits in northern Michigan, teaching Bible classes and supporting pastors. His favorite Bible verses were John 3:16 "For God so Loved the World that He gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish but have everlasting life" and Revelation 14:12 "Here is the patience of the



saints; here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus". KJV Chuck recently said that the very best things that ever happened to him in his life were his acceptance of Jesus Christ as his personal Lord and Savior, his two loving and caring wives, and wonderful children to love. He acknowledged God's loving care for him over all these many decades and gives God all the credit for everything. Preceding him in death were his wife of 37 years, Roberta (Brooks) Clark, father Archer Clark, stepmother Dorothy Clark, mother Olive Stoops, stepfather Claude Stoops, brother Percy Clark, daughter Pamela Clark, granddaughter Crystal Hershberger, and stepdaughter Barbara Pluister. Chuck is survived by his wife of 34 years, Beverly J. (Dell) Clark, daughters Thelma Caldwell, Karen (Chet) Leatherman, Carla (John) Miller, Debra (Scott) Mortimer, Rona (Leo) Kreiser, Julie (Pete) Wood, stepson Lee (Debby) Chapaw, and stepdaughter Betty (Don) Adama. Twenty grandchildren, 41 great grandchildren, one great-great grandchild, and six step-siblings Donna (Clark) Schriner, Sharon (Pflum) Johnson, Lance Clark, Ronald Stoops, David Stoops and Marilyn (Stoops) McCool. In lieu of a funeral, Chuck requested a Graveside Service which was held for family and friends on Friday, November 7, 2025, at 2:00 PM at the Kalkaska Evergreen Cemetery. Pastor Chris Ames, of the Seventh-Day Adventist officiated. All were invited to join a fellowship time and light refreshments following at the Kalkaska Seventh-Day Adventist Church, 2004 N. Birch Street. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations in his name may be directed to a charity of choice. The Kalkaska Funeral Home is serving the family and has been entrusted with arrangements.

Ronald Lee Watson

October 15, 1942 ~ October 24, 2025

Ronald L Watson, 83, of Williamsburg, passed away after a brief illness on October 24, 2025 at Munson Medical Center in Traverse City with his beloved family with him. He was born on October 15, 1942 in Marshall to the late Everitt and Virginia (Cross) Watson.



Stites of Rapid City; stepchildren, Mark Lee Root of Albion, Valinda Root of Menden and Donna Root of Three Rivers; grandchildren, Cody Adair of Lansing, Amber Harris and Charlie Harris both of Colon; 11 great-grandchildren.

Ron is part-owner of Actron Steel Fabrication in Traverse City since 1977. His last day of work was in October 2025. His hobbies included farming, yard work, the 'great outdoors,' reading and traveling on weekends to Amish events.

Surviving Ron are his wife, Judith; children, Matt (Paula) Watson of Traverse City, Stephanie (Arnold)

Ron was preceded in death by his first wife, Rosemarie K; his second wife, Kendra; his siblings, Everitt Watson, Jr., Sharon Bottle and Karen Watson.

Private graveside services will be held at Excelsior Twp. Cemetery.

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

Anyway

People are often unreasonable, irrational, and self-centered.

Forgive them anyway.

If you are kind, people may accuse you of selfish, ulterior motives.

Be kind anyway.

If you are successful, you will win some unfaithful friends and some genuine enemies.

Succeed anyway.

If you are honest and sincere, people may deceive you.

Be honest and sincere anyway.

What you spend years creating, others could destroy overnight.

Create anyway.

If you find serenity and happiness, some may be jealous.

Be happy anyway.

The good you do today, will often be forgotten.

Do good anyway.

Give the best you have, and it will never be enough.

Give your best anyway.

In the final analysis, it is between you and God.

It was never between you and them, anyway.

-this version is attributed to Mother Teresa

Job Winslow Chapter NSDAR



Upcoming events of the Job Winslow Chapter NSDAR

November 15, 2025 - We'll be signing Christmas Cards for Veterans

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

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

Additional Obituaries on pages 4, & 5

OUT & ABOUT

O&A - continued from page 3

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

Love Locker Project, 449 W. State St at Fife Lake, Baptist, 49633 Free seasonal clothing, hygiene products, and blankets available 24/7

When: available anytime

Love Locker Project - Kalkaska 1972 Saunders Rd SE at Evergreen Bible Baptist, Free seasonal clothing, hygiene products, and blankets available 24/7

When: available anytime

Love Locker Project- Rapid City 7964 Rapid City Rd at North Light Ministry Free seasonal clothing, hygiene products, and blankets available 24/7

When: available anytime

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 pm

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</p

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

Birthdays

November 14, 2025

"Always remember," she said, "your birthday is the celebration of your own existence." My grandmother told me that a good half-century ago and I continue to benefit every year from her wisdom. She was probably the age I am now when she made that pronouncement. I have repeated it more times than I can count, since then.

This week in November has many birthdays that are significant to me. Starting with family birthdays, my first child, a precious daughter, was born on November 14, which was also the birthday of my maternal grandmother. Seven years later, my second daughter was also born on November 14. When I remarried, late in life, I gained two bonus daughter, one of whom has a birthday on November 13. Moving on to my country, this year we celebrate the 250th birthdays of both the Navy and the Marine Corps on November 10, just before we take a moment on November 11, to thank all those who have put their own lives on the line for the sake of the United States of America. My husband is a Navy veteran and my stepson is a retired Marine. So, we commemorate the birthdays of both branches of military service.

As I said, this week in November is full of meaning, celebration, and gratitude for me. I rejoice in the lives of my beautiful daughters, my beloved husband and treasured stepson. Inside my head and heart it feels like a wonderful parade with brass bands playing triumphant Sousa marches and all the baton twirlers, formation dancers, decorated floats, and characters tossing out candy and popcorn to the crowd, in great jubilation!

What, though, is the reason to celebrate our own existence? I've come to understand that what we can bring to the world with the gifts and graces we were born with and develop during our existence is the reason for celebration. It is easy to see why we would celebrate the existence of certain people and service organizations. Consider the great gifts to humanity bestowed on us by the minds of great thinkers, the courage of explorers, the expression of beauty by musicians, painters, sculptors, and other artists.

Where would we be without the fundamental shape understanding brought to us by Euclid through geometry? What if Beethoven, though totally deaf at the time, had never composed his Sixth Symphony, the "Pastorale"? Suppose Jefferson, in spite of his own flaws, had never written the Declaration of Independence? I can continue with names and accomplishments that we will recognize as significant. But, what about you and me? We are ordinary people, individuals who take up very little space in the world. Why celebrate our individual existence?

Well, I heard an answer to that question in my pastor's sermon message this past Sunday. It goes a bit like this: what can you do with the gifts, talents, and skills you have, to promote a world where people live in peace, where people are safe from violence, where people have enough food to eat, where people are sheltered from the storm, and where people help each other when hard times come?

It fits right up there with the familiar phrase that nobody can do everything, but everybody can do something. What are you good at? What are the needs in your family, neighborhood, or community that could benefit from what you

are good at? Are you good at seeing the solutions to complex situations? Are you especially good at leading teams? Are you a patient adult who can gently guide a child? Is your passion the tidiness of living space? Are you an inspired cook? Are you the person who can repair virtually anything mechanical? Do you see art in everything including the bare branches of winter trees? Does the wind whisper poetic verses to you or sing melodies for you to capture?

Do you see where I am going with this? Each of us has talents we were born with that we can develop into skills. We can use our talents, our skills, our gifts to make the tiny space we occupy just a little bit better than it was when we first arrived. One of us doesn't make a big difference, but a few hundred of us can, indeed, make a significant positive change in our family, neighborhood, and community. And, who knows, our example may be contagious.

As I watch people band together in a time of difficulty, such as we have had recently with food benefits restricted, I am once again persuaded that most people are good-hearted and generous and wish to help their neighbors. So, bringing what they can to share with one another, they do their part to make life better around them.

There it is, that's why each person's existence should be celebrated, and what better moment than on their birthday!

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

Shalom

Tina Norris Fields

Citizenship Corner

Answers to last issue's questions

1) What does Amendment XXII do?

A. It limits the number of times a person can be elected to the office of President.

2) Before ratification of Amendment XXII, was there any legal limit on how many times a person could be elected President?

A. No. President Franklin Delano Roosevelt was elected to four terms. He died in April 1945, early in his fourth term.

3) When was Amendment XXII passed by Congress and sent out to the states for ratification? And when was it ratified??

A. Passed by Congress March 21, 1947. Ratified February 27, 1951.

4) Can a person who has been twice elected President later be elected Vice President??

A. No. Amendment XII, final sentence states that no person ineligible to the office of President can be eligible to the office of Vice President.

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) Which House of Congress has the sole right of impeachment?

2) Which House of Congress has the sole power to try all impeachments?

3) What penalty does impeachment conviction impose?

4) Can a person who has been impeached and convicted also be tried under the law?



**Everything
in this paper
is important to somebody**

VETERANS COMMUNITY OUT & ABOUT



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

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ANYWHERE AROUND THE GLOBE
231-331-7122

6323 Rapid City Rd. NW, Rapid City, MI 49676
admin@morrisonelectricinc.com
morrisonelectricinc.com

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

O&A - cont. from page 11

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

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

TOPS #1304 Meeting, Kalkaska United Ministries for Christ, 2525 Beebe Rd, Kalkaska, contact 231 384-2154
When: Tue, 9:00 am weigh ins, 10:00 am meeting

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

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

Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting (AA), St Paul's Lutheran Church, 2470 Beebe Rd, Open Meeting
When: Thu, 8:00 pm

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

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

Letter to the Editor

CROP Walk 2025 Dear Editor:

CROP Walk 2025 was a great success, and the memories are still with me. We had twenty-four committed walkers and raised just over \$2500. The money raised will be used to end hunger locally and around the world. Again, a large portion of that total—\$1067—came from the generous donations of Village Market patrons. Kevin Young allowed us to place donation cans in Rapid City Village Market and Elk Rapids Village Market, and we are grateful for his assistance in this mission.

CROP Walk could not happen without the use of the Forest Home Township Building, and we are thankful for their support. And CROP Walk would not be the same without the generosity of King Orchards and their wonderful apples that we look forward to enjoying after the walk.

Thank you to the walkers who showed up to walk the route in Bellaire and for the funds donated through them and for the churches they represent.

Last, thank you to The Voice for letting us put articles about the walk in the paper.

It takes many people working together to keep the walk going and make it successful, and I appreciate each person.

Sincerely,
Connie Brigham
Alden
For Chain of Lakes CROP Walk

WALK SLOWLY WITH PURPOSE

Deer Hunt Tradition

By Dominic Fortuna

ALDEN -- The crunch of leaves underfoot, the chill of the pre-dawn air, and the quiet excitement of my dad's voice as he handed me my rifle on that very first hunt. I must've been around 14 years old, and my heart was racing with anticipation. We were going whitetail deer hunting, just the two of us, and I felt like the luckiest kid in the world. That was the start of a tradition that would span decades, one that would weave its way into the fabric of my being, and eventually, into the lives of my own boys.

As I grew older, the roles reversed, and I found myself taking my boys on their first hunts, watching with pride as they grew into skilled hunters, and sharing with them the secrets of the forest. The tradition of deer hunting in Northern Michigan is a long and storied one, dating back to the early 1900s when the state's vast forests and abundant wildlife made it a hunter's paradise.

The regulations have changed over the years, of course. The Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has implemented various measures to ensure the sustainability of the deer herd and the ecosystem as a whole. In Northern Michigan, where we hunt, the season typically starts on November 15th, and runs for several weeks, with specific dates and times varying depending on the zone and the type of hunt.

To hunt deer in Michigan, you need a valid license, which can be obtained online or at local sporting goods stores. The DNR has set specific bag limits, antler requirements, and hunting hours

to ensure the deer population remains healthy. For example, in most of Northern Michigan, hunters are allowed to take one buck with a minimum antler size of 3 inches, and two does or fawns (antlerless deer). The hunting hours are from one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset.

But it's not just about the regulations; it's about the tradition, the camaraderie, and the love for the great outdoors. My boys and I sit around the fire, reliving past hunts, sharing stories, and making plans for the season. The girls, too, are part of the crew now - there are daughters who'd rather hunt than shop, and the others, who've married into our little hunting family. They're just as passionate, just as dedicated, and just as much a part of our tribe.

Uncle Al, a fixture in our hunting group, always has a new story to share, usually involving a giant buck that got away (again). Tom S and Marco, my dad's pals, are always up for a good time, and their laughter echoes through the woods. And then there's Fast Eddie, who'd come up from Detroit every year, just to fall asleep in his blind, claiming he loved getting away from his wife and being with us "hunt buddies."

I miss Fast Eddie, but his memory lives on in our stories and laughter. He was a character, to say the least, but he embodied the spirit of hunting: camaraderie, respect, and a love for the great outdoors. As I settle into my blind, rifle at the ready, I feel my dad's presence beside me, a reminder of the legacy, the bond, and the memories we've shared.

The wait begins, the silence, the anticipation. The sun will rise, the deer will move, and we'll be there, ready to take it all in. We'll be mindful of the regulations, of course, but mostly, we'll be grateful for this time, this place, and the chance to share it with those we love.

To all my fellow hunters out there, whether you're in a condo blind, up a tree, or on an old chair, God bless you. Be safe, be respectful, and cherish every moment. We're not just hunters; we're family, bound by a shared passion, a love for the wild, and a desire to pass it all down to the next generation.

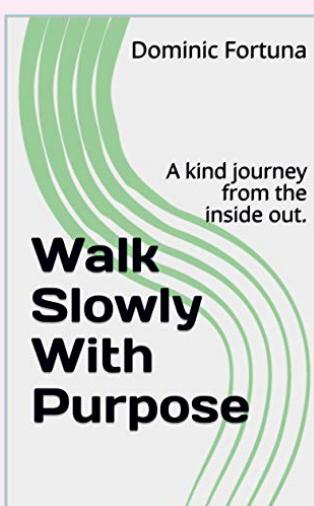
As the day wears on, and the hunt comes to a close, we'll gather around the fire, sharing stories, and reliving the memories. We'll talk about the ones that got away, the ones we took, and the ones we'll never forget. And when the night is over, and the fire is just embers, we'll drift off to sleep, our hearts full, our spirits renewed, and our souls at peace, knowing that we'll do it all again next year, and the year after that, and the year after that.

The stories we tell, the memories we make, and the traditions we uphold will be unforgettable, passed down for another hundred years, a testament to the bond between boys and men, fathers and daughters, and the great outdoors that brings us all together.

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Dad's deer blind, built thirty years ago still stand out in the forest
- the stories it could tell

COMMUNITY

Veterans Day in Kalkaska

The Kalkaska American Legion Post 480 began their Veterans Day with a Flag raising outside Kalkaska Middle School. Then they gathered with students who asked the Veterans questions about their military service, and what classes they recommended the students take to prepare them for the military. There was also the Annual Veterans Recognition Luncheon at the Kalkaska County Commission on Aging, Heartland Hospice and Kalkaska Funeral Home sponsored a pinning ceremony for the Veterans attending the luncheon. An excellent meal and camaraderie was shared by all who attended.



Michigan Heritage & Research Foundation

Area Marines gathered at G's Restaurant in Kalkaska to celebrate the Marine Corps 250th Birthday. The highlights included great camaraderie, a shared meal and the trust and friendship resulting from a common bond. Family Fare donated traditional Birthday Cake, and Rheata Ray Case and Harry Shipp had the honor of cutting the cake. Raffle resulted in \$120 raised for Toys for Tots. A group photo was preceded the singing of the Marine Corps Hymn.



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