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Those who have long enjoyed such privileges as we enjoy forget in time that men have died to win them. ~ Franklin D. Roosevelt

Vol2026:  
May 15, 2026

## Memorial Day - Time to Remember



Photo credit" Barbara Rich / Getty Images



The Kalkaska American Legion Post 480 Honor Guard, and the Auxiliary from VFW Post 8684, will be honoring the deceased Veterans of Kalkaska County in the following ceremonies Memorial Day weekend:

Sunday, May 24, 2026: Ceremonies at the following Township Cemeteries will include prayer, the reading of the names of Veterans who have passed away since Memorial Day 2025, rifle volley, and the playing of Taps:

1:30 p.m. Coldsprings Township Cemetery  
2:00 p.m. Excelsior Township Cemetery  
3:00 p.m. Oliver Township Cemetery

Monday, May 25, 2026:

10:00 a.m. Flag Raising at Senior Haven in Kalkaska  
11:00 a.m. Ceremony at the Veterans Memorial on Cedar Street. This ceremony will include a prayer, rifle volley, and the playing of Taps.  
12:00 Noon Ceremony at the Veterans Memorial at Evergreen Cemetery in Kalkaska. This ceremony will include a moment of silence, the reading of the names of Veterans who have passed away since Memorial Day 2025, a ceremonial wreath laying, rifle volley, and will conclude with the playing of Taps.

# OUT & ABOUT

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

## SENIOR & COMMUNITY MEALS

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## FARMERS' MARKET

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

## FOOD PANTRIES

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

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

**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 Cheresse 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**

**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**

**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: Sat, 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@learnsselfcompassion.com](mailto:jkuiper@learnsselfcompassion.com) or 616-581-4668. Sponsored by Alden District Library and the Antrim County Bridge Club.

**When: Tue 10 am - noon (Beginning May 5)**

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

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

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

**When: Tue, 1 pm**

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

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

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

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

**199er Bridge Game & Free Lessons:** Free lessons at 11:30am. Lunch (bring your own) and bridge talk at Noon. ACBL-sanctioned bridge game for \$5.00 at 12:30pm. For more details, contact Lou Slyker at 248-770-6152 or [ljslyker@gmail.com](mailto:ljslyker@gmail.com). Sponsored by Alden District Library and held at Helena Township Community Center, 8751 Helena Rd, Alden, 231-331-4318.

**When: Wed 11:30 am except 3rd Wed each month and July 29 -(May 6 - Oct 28)**

**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 (TAAG):** This artisans' group has been creating art and contributing to the community for over 40 years. Newcomers are always welcome! For more info, email [taartisansguild@gmail.com](mailto:taartisansguild@gmail.com). 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**

**Letterpress printing.** Learn how to set type and print your own scratch pads, business cards, and other items in an old-fashion print shop. Vintage Printing Company, 113 Merrett Street, Fife Lake.

**When: Sat, 3:00 to 5:00 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**

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

**When: 3rd Sat, 9am - 5pm**

## 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/EHSKRegistration>

**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. Contact Library at (231) 258-9411 or [info@kalkaskalibrary.org](mailto:info@kalkaskalibrary.org) for info.

**When: Fri 10:30 am**

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

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

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

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

O&A - continues on page 11



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508 N. Birch Street, Kalkaska

# OBITUARIES

## Robert Paul Kuhn

November 12, 1930 ~ April 24, 2026

It is with deep sorrow and much love that we mourn the passing of Robert "Bob" Kuhn of Interlochen, Michigan, on Friday, April 24, 2026, at the age of 95 years. Bob was born on November 12, 1930, in Detroit, Michigan, to Frank Kuhn and Mary



Jung. He grew up in Detroit, where he attended St. Vincent High School and developed a fondness for playing lighthearted pranks, a playful spirit that remained with him for the rest of his life. A proud veteran, Bob served in the United States Army during the Korean War, earning the rank of Corporal with a special skills designation. Following his military service, he pursued his education in Business Administration from the University of Detroit. In 1952, Bob married the love of his life, Helen Smith. Together they shared 65 wonderful years of marriage, building a life rooted in devotion and joy. Bob spent much of his career working as an Instrument Technician at Marathon and a Men's Wear Salesman at Sears. Outside of his professional life, Bob enjoyed spending time with his family and friends. He was a man of immense kindness and open heartedness, known for his support,

his unconditional love, and a quick wit and sense of humor that could light up any room. Many regarded him as a role model, an extraordinary man who led by example. Bob was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Helen, his grandson, John Eric, and his sisters Francie, and Mary "Menchie" Fye. His legacy lives on through his eight children: Paul (Vicki), David (Holly), Anne (Don) Swartz, Larry (Sue), Brian (Kris), John (Jackie), James, and Robert (Kelley); his seventeen grandchildren; and his twenty-two great-grandchildren. Arrangements were made by Wolfe-O'Neill Funeral Home, our family serving yours.

## Daniel J. Britton

October 8, 1929 ~ May 8, 2026

Duane J. "Tony" Britton, 96, passed away at 05:47 AM on 8 May 2026 in New Port Richey, Florida. The cause was congestive heart failure.

Duane was born on 8 October 1929, in Sturgis, Michigan to Oral and Mable Britton. He graduated from Sturgis High School in 1948 and studied engineering at Western Michigan University.

In 1952, he joined the Kirsch Company as chief draftsman of the Condenser Division, worked for the Engineering Department in plant layout, and later became the Purchasing Agent within the Maintenance Department.

He retired after 40 years of service in 1991 and moved from Sturgis to Kalkaska, MI in 2000 where he lived at 2374 Timber Trail off CR 612 east of town until 2021, when he moved to Zephyrhills, Florida.

In 1969, Duane married Doris Jean Nusbaum who preceded him in death in 1996. He was also

preceded in death by his father Oral Britton, his mother Mable Britton, his sister Donna Woods all of Sturgis, MI, and his first wife Joan (Britton) Knachel.

He is survived by his daughter, Linda Kay Cutler Geerts of Hendersonville, TN and his son, Michael Britton of Houston, TX, 4 grandchildren, 11 great grandchildren and 1 great-great grandchild.

Duane enjoyed boating, hunting, trail biking and jeeping, snowmobiling and motorcycling as he actively rode a Harley Davidson up to within 6 months of his passing. He also stayed busy with building projects and maintaining and showing antique cars. He enjoyed travelling to Europe and South America. Duane will especially be remembered for his energy and his love of outdoor activities with his family and friends.

Duane will be cremated and eventually laid to rest with his mother and father in Sturgis, MI.

## Robert Moyer

October 5, 1951 ~ May 4, 2026

Robert Moyer, of Mancelona, Michigan (Kalkaska County), passed away at home on May 4, 2026, at the age of 74. He was born on October 5, 1951, in Grayling, Michigan to Norman and Bernice Moyer. He graduated from Kalkaska High School in 1969 and primarily worked in the oil and gas industry for more than 30 years before retiring in 2007. In 1976, he met the love of his life, Teri, and they were married for nearly 49 wonderful years. Bob enjoyed spending time with his family and friends, reading, gardening, working crosswords, and jigsaw puzzles. He was also an avid fisherman, successful hunter, and a very accomplished woodworker.



He is survived by his wife, his two daughters, Rebecca (Jeremiah) Lelito and Carissa (Quinton) Wolgamott, his grandchildren, Madeleine and Adrian Lelito, his two sisters, Cathy (Craig) Edlund and Sue (Tom)

Kalenberg, sister-in-law, Lauri (Rick) Krumlauf, his aunt, Carole (John) Ornatowski, and many dear nieces, nephews, and cousins.

If you wish to honor his memory, donations may be made to his favorite charity, St. Jude's Children's Hospital. Arrangements were made by Wolfe-O'Neill Funeral Home, our family serving yours.

## Rosalie Anne Ehl

November 15, 1940 ~ April 29, 2026

Rosalie Ehl, 85, of Kalkaska, went to be with her Jesus on April 29th, 2026. She was born on November 15, 1940, in Endicott, New York, to Olive (Transue) and Albert Dyson. Rosalie came to Kalkaska in 1976, single with 3 children. She bought a small cabin with no running water, plumbing, insulation, or electricity and worked hard to make it a home. She fell in love and married Terry Ehl, and together they had 2 more children. She was known as a Christian who loved her heavenly Father and spoke of him boldly. Her generosity and servant attitude were obvious to anyone who knew her. She loved to garden, fish, cook and spend time with her friends and family. You would see her often driving around town in her blue PT Cruiser. She is survived by her children: Keven Holland, Gayle (Mike) Anderson, Lynaia (James) Jackson, and Heather Ehl;



grandchildren: Daniel (Joanna) Holland, Jacob (Sarah) Martindale, Sarah Martindale, Christopher (Shannon) Tracy, Amy (Christopher) Gorman, Zachary (Adrianne) Brown, Joleanne Jackson, Maria

(Brandon) George, Nuno (Emily) Casas, and Jeshua Ehl; 8 grandchildren and 1 great-grandchild, all of whom she adored. She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband Terry, and beloved son Heath Ehl. She called Spencer Church of Christ her home and loved and was loved by them. Her memorial service was there on Saturday, May 9, 2026. A family visitation began at 9 am, public visitation at 10:00 am and the funeral service at 11:00 am, with a luncheon following. Burial took place at Lodi Cemetery. Arrangements have been entrusted to Kalkaska Funeral Home and Cremation Services.

## Mary "Dar" Darlene Dunn

March 20, 1936 ~ May 5, 2026

Mary "Dar" Darlene Dunn, 91, of Kingsley, passed away on Tuesday, May 5, 2026. She was born on March 20, 1936, in Kingsley, Michigan, to the late Donald and Ethel (Ockert) Nickerson.



Dar's first passion was horses, and she carried that same adventurous spirit throughout her life. She was brave, strong-willed, and always ready for the next chapter. Dar eventually moved to California, where she found love and married Jack Dunn. They shared 30 wonderful years of marriage together. Dar worked as a nurse for the Veterans Administration for many years and dedicated herself to helping others.

Dar had a special love for animals, especially dogs, and enjoyed raising Yorkies. She and Jack loved spending time fishing together. In her quieter moments, she enjoyed playing cards, especially Pennies and Aggravation, along with gardening and reading.

A memorial service was held at St. Mary of Hannah Catholic Church on Wednesday, May 13, 2026 at 11:00 AM with visitation beginning one hour prior to the service. Memorial contributions may be made in Dar's memory to St. Jude's or Cherryland Humane Society. Arrangements have been entrusted to Kalkaska Funeral Home and Cremation Services.

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AND CREMATION SERVICES  
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MANAGER:  
BRUCE A. ZENNER II

**231-258-3346**

152 S. Cedar St.,  
Kalkaska

## Norma Jane Dunlap

May 10, 1935 ~ May 3, 2026

Norma Jane Bruder Dunlap passed away peacefully surrounded by her family on May 3, 2026, just seven days short of her 91 st birthday.



Born in Detroit, Michigan, she was the daughter of Marshall Augustus Bruder and Isobel Cameron (Kelsey) Bruder. She was preceded in death by her beloved husband, Gordon Grice Dunlap, and her sister, Carol (Bruder) Miller.

Norma devoted her life to serving others in many roles, including as a schoolteacher, occupational therapist, and farmer. She also gave generously of her time as a volunteer with Roving Volunteers in Christ Service (RVICS). Alongside her husband, she cherished traveling the world and embraced life's simple joys— watching wildlife, daily prayer, solving Sudoku puzzles, and sharing good food with loved ones.

She is lovingly remembered by her four children: Gilbert Gordon Dunlap; Marsha Mae (Dunlap)

Brown; Rodney Earl Dunlap; and Kelsey Belle (Dunlap) Mull; her thirteen grandchildren, Marshall, Josh, Aaron, Daniel, Sarah, Esther, Timothy, Matthew, Paul, Benjamin, Ruth, Susanna Dunlap, and Chris Cavanaugh; and her two great-grandchildren, CJ and Christina. Norma will be remembered for her generosity, steadfast faith, deep devotion to family, and adventurous spirit.

Visitation was held at 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday, May 6, at Wolfe-O'Neill Funeral Home, 106 S. Cherry Street, Kalkaska, Michigan 49646. Funeral services followed at 1:00 p.m., with graveside burial at Excelsior Township Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Heritage Preparatory School (HPS), a ministry of Tabernacle Baptist Church at 6000 West Colonial Drive, Orlando FL 32808. Make the check payable to Tabernacle Baptist Church with a note "In memory of Norma Dunlap for HPS" or text tbc6000 to 73256.

## Michale Bernard Bonner

January 21, 1965 ~ April 25, 2026

Michale Bernard Bonner, 61, passed away suddenly on April 25, 2026, in Traverse City. Born in Pontiac, January 21, 1965, to Jeannie (Schultz) and Donald Greer, Michale lived the majority of his life in Traverse City. He



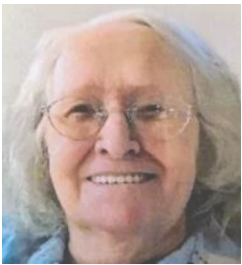
loved the water and was an avid scuba diver in his youth. He adored animals and birds and had 2 macaws that he referred to as his kids. Friendly, easy-going, and generous to a fault, he leaves behind many friends who will miss him greatly. He is survived by his nephews Jared & Ivan Bonner of Traverse City, his Aunt Lois & Uncle Fil Jimenez of Lake

Leelanau, who grew up like siblings to him & their children Rafael & Raquel, his brothers Paul (Molly) Greer & their son Gavin, and David (Stacy) Greer & their daughters Sophie, Stella & Sadie, step-mother Susan Greer, and countless cousins. He was preceded in death by his parents, his brother Don, his maternal & paternal grandparents, and his uncles Jack & Butch Greer. A memorial service is being planned for a future date. Cremation services by Wolfe-O'Neil Funeral Home. Donations can be made in Michale's name to Jubilee House or Father Fred Foundation.

## Evelyn Avis Blaisdell

October 17, 1931 ~ April 28, 2026

Evelyn A. Blaisdell, 94, passed away Tuesday, April 28, 2026, surrounded by her loving family. She is survived by 2 sons, Wayne (Deann) Motz, of Clifton, IL, and Randy Motz, of Kalkaska, and 2 daughters, Janice (Gary) Draper, of South Boardman and Karen Simmering of Albania. She also has several grandchildren and great grandchildren.



Evelyn enjoyed birds and flowers, always able to identify most species of both. She loved wintering in Florida with her husband, Arvid Blaisdell, who preceded her in death.

Evelyn was a happy person who was looking forward to her eternal home in heaven. People she dealt with loved her, would describe her as pleasant, happy and occasionally a bit stubborn. She will be greatly missed.

Graveside services will be on Saturday, June 6th at 11:00 am at Maple Grove Cemetery on Wood Road in Kalkaska. Arrangements were made by Wolfe-O'Neill Funeral Home, our family serving yours.

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David W. O'Neill, Licensed Manager

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Northwest MI

## VOICE

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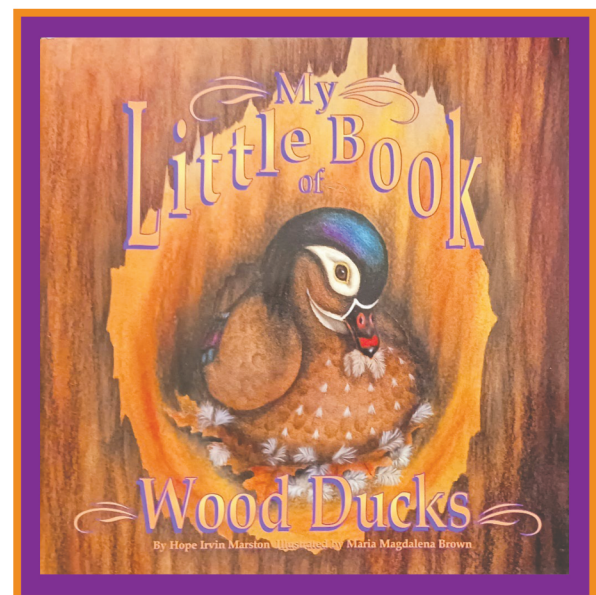
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## StoryWalk®

presented by Alden District Library

MAY 1<sup>st</sup>-30<sup>th</sup>



Time & Location

Daily, Dawn to Dusk

Coy Mountain, 9011 Valley St, Alden

## Munson Healthcare Gift Strengthens Youth Mental Health Support Across Northern Michigan

TRAVERSE CITY, Mich. — Munson Healthcare today announced a gift of \$10,000 to the Behavioral Health Initiative (BHI) to strengthen youth mental health services in the area. The gift will bolster two community-based solutions within the Northern Michigan Community Health Innovation Region (CHIR): MI Family Resources Network (<https://mifamilyresourcesnetwork.org/>) and Therapy Corps (<https://mitherapycorps.org/>).

“As a nonprofit healthcare system, Munson is committed to reinvesting in our community with trusted partners who are directly addressing the needs – including

mental health – identified through our Community Health Needs Assessment,” said Laura Glenn, Chief Operating Officer for Munson Healthcare. “Munson has a long history of working alongside the Behavioral Health Initiative and this gift builds on that partnership to expand access, close gaps in care, and better support youth and families across northern Michigan.”

- **MIFamily Resources Network**, developed in collaboration with over 30 partners, connects families to local resources from prenatal through age 17—through an easy-to-navigate, curated

website. Built from parent-led focus groups, the platform pairs local resource listings with practical, trustworthy guidance, including developmental milestones, early signs of mental health concerns, pathways to assessments, home visiting, parenting support, and more.


- Munson’s support will also advance **Therapy Corps**, a new program the BHI plans to launch later this year that helps train clinicians to obtain required hours while expanding mental health support for local youth. Too few clinicians are accepting

Medicaid and a training pipeline to meet the required clinical hours will help.


“Our work is focused on building community-based solutions that make it easier for families to find the support they need,” said Pennie Foster Fishman, Ph.D., lead of the Behavioral Health Initiative. “With this contribution from Munson Healthcare, we can strengthen tools like MIFamily Resources Network and Therapy Corps, helping ensure that children and families have access to meaningful, effective support well before a crisis arises.”



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## MAY 2026

May 1 – 29, Jaw Harp Display: Come visit Alden District Library and see Dave Varga's collection of Jaw Harps. The display can be viewed during normal library hours. The library is located at 8751 Helena Rd, Alden, 231-331-4318. Free Event.

May 1 – 30, StoryWalk®: Round up the family and head out to Coy Mountain, located at 9011 Valley St. in Alden, to enjoy a romp in the woods and reading a good book along the way. A new story will be placed each month and covers about a 1/2-mile portion of the trail. The storybook for the month of May is "My Little Book of Wood Ducks" by Hope Irvin Marston.

May 11 – 22, Friends of the Library Silent Art Auction: Visit the Kalkaska County Library to view a silent art auction! Featuring biddable lots of donated pieces made by local artists and artisans right here in Kalkaska County. Works to bid on may include water colors, oil paints, acrylics, stained glass, wood carving, quilts, photography, jewelry, needle art, gift baskets, and more! Bidding ends on Friday, May 22nd at 3:00pm. All proceeds to benefit the New Library Building Fund. Kalkaska County Library. Contact (231) 258-9411 or info@kalkaskalibrary.org for more information.

May 14, 3 pm, Books 'n Brie Book Club. Enjoy the company of fellow book lovers while discussing "Crow Mary" by Kathleen Grissom. Free Event. Sponsored by Alden District Library and held at Helena Township Community Center, 8751 Helena Rd, Alden, 231-331-4318.

May 21, 9:30 am social time & 10am meeting time, Friends of the Library Monthly Meeting, held at Helena Township Community Center, 8751 Helena Rd, Alden. Topics of discussion will be plans for upcoming programs, book sales and activities. Anyone interested in supporting the library is always welcome. Held at Helena Township Community Center, 8751 Helena Rd, Alden. 231-331-4318.

May 21, 12 pm, TT Nooners Book Club: The TT Nooners Book Club and discussion group meets on the third Thursday of every month at the Kalkaska County Library. Contact t (231) 258-9411 or info@kalkaskalibrary.org for more information.

May 23, 9 am – 2 pm, Book Sale. Friends of Alden District Library are having a book sale to raise funds for Children & Adult Enrichment Programs. Available items: books, audio books, DVDs, music CDs, games and puzzles. Sponsored by Friends of the Alden District Library and held at Helena Township Community Center, 8751 Helena Rd, Alden, 231-331-4318.

May 26, 4 pm, Friends of the Kalkaska County Library Meeting. Located at the Kalkaska County Library. Public is welcome. Contact (231) 258-9411 or info@kalkaskalibrary.org for more information.



The Kalkaska American Legion Post 480 Honor Guard, and the Auxiliary from VFW Post 8684, will be honoring the deceased Veterans of Kalkaska County in the following ceremonies Memorial Day weekend:

**Sunday, May 24, 2026:** Ceremonies at the following Township Cemeteries will include prayer, the reading of the names of Veterans who have passed away since Memorial Day 2025, rifle volley, and the playing of Taps:

1:30 p.m. Coldsprings Township Cemetery  
2:00 p.m. Excelsior Township Cemetery  
3:00 p.m. Oliver Township Cemetery

**Monday, May 25, 2026:**

10:00 a.m. Flag Raising at Senior Haven in Kalkaska  
11:00 a.m. Ceremony at the Veterans Memorial on Cedar Street. This ceremony will include a prayer, rifle volley, and the playing of Taps.  
12:00 Noon Ceremony at the Veterans Memorial at Evergreen Cemetery in Kalkaska. This ceremony will include a moment of silence, the reading of the names of Veterans who have passed away since Memorial Day 2025, a ceremonial wreath laying, rifle volley, and will conclude with the playing of Taps.

**To place a classified ad, or a display ad,**

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

### 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

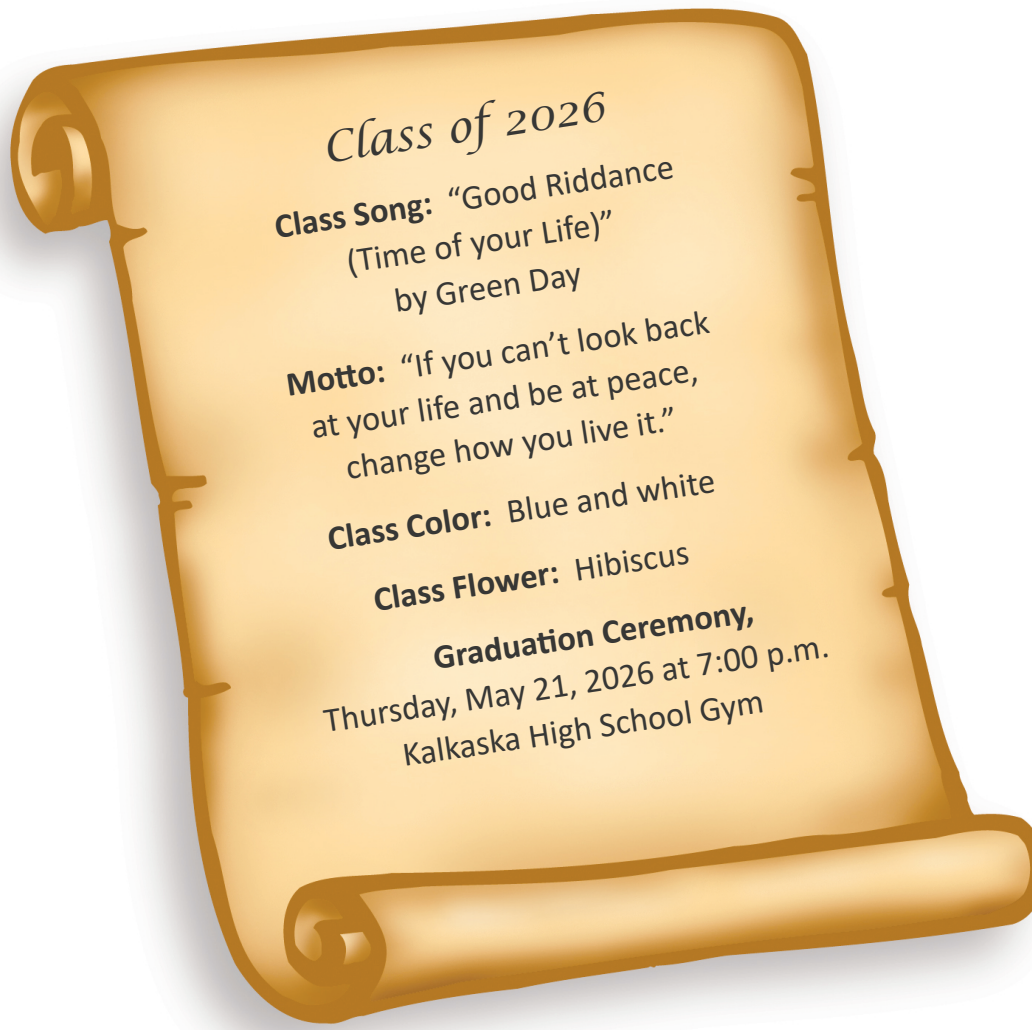
### Williamsburg

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:**  
9:30 am - Worship Service

*If you would like your church to be listed, please send an email to [tina.fieldsmedia@gmail.com](mailto:tina.fieldsmedia@gmail.com)*

# KALKASKA BLAZERS



*Class of 2026 Information*

*Valedictorian and Class President*  
 - Coltrane Paryani -

*Salutatorian and Student Council President*  
 - Abigail Minion -

*Class Vice-President*  
 - Kayla Alexander -

*Class Secretary*  
 - Brooke Meredith -

*Class Treasurer*  
 - Tre Bromley

*Foreign Exchange Student*  
 - Matteo Bruni -



Kayla Alexander



Ryley Allen



Kali Anderson



Jackson Arnold



Devon Bachelor



Jerzie Barkovich



Melanie Barrett



Alex Bishop



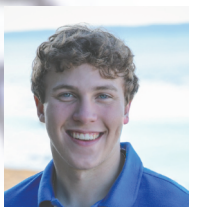
Sebastian Bogart



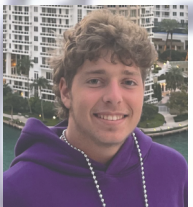
Alex Bontrager



Zikiyah Brammer



Tre Bromley



Matteo Bruni



Spencer Burke



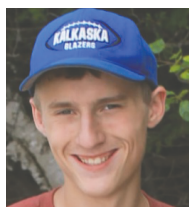
Ashlyn Coates-Conway



Donovan Cole



Michael Corbello



Matthew Cox



Grace Crawford



Keira Curry



Miles Deaton



Jacob Dingee



Kailey Dougherty



Austin Douglas



Aiden Flory



Camron Fukino



Ellie Garcia



Madison Gothrup



Abigail Grames



Carly Griffith



Morgan Gustafson



Abigail Hampton



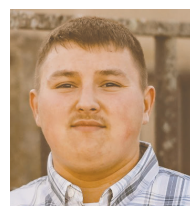
Joshua Hartsoe



Max Holka



Lily Jenema

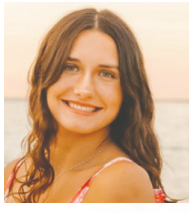


Daniel Jenkins

# KALKASKA BLAZERS



Cohl Jennings



Samantha Kelly



Ciera Laukhart



Myah Little



Willow Lund



Anna Martin



Elizabeth Marvin



Elijah Matley



Isaac May



Thomas McKee



Brooke Meredith



Jenna Mexico



Damien Miller



Kole Miller



Abigail Minion



Danielle Mitchell



Devin Mitchell



Anastasia Morris



Carlos Morton-Clark



Jason Neubecker



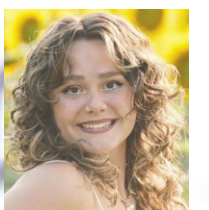
Hunter Newell



Jack Ngirarsao



James Nichols



Addison Novath



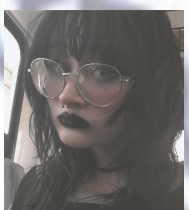
Madeline Palacios



Coltrane Paryani



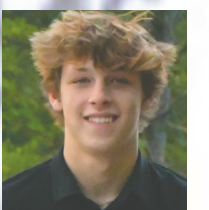
Lacy Patnode



Mathis Patterson



Autumn Peck



Brendan Piechocki



Sophia Plumb



Cade Ponstein



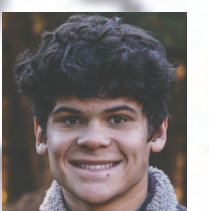
Zachary Porter



Aubrey Redman



Kylie Robinson



Charlie Sanchez



Emily Sanchez



Stephen Saunders



Ava Schoech



Morgan Schoech



Kaylynn Sebright



Jackson Shetler



Curtis Skaggs



Tyler Smith



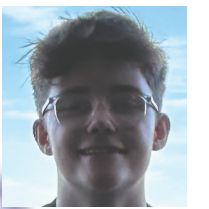
Maya Snyder



Bradley Sparks-Boone



Kaitlyn Stoops



Jaykob Strait



Samantha Tack



Carmen Tillman



Lillian Trumble



Domanic Underwood



Alyssa Vanduzen



Jonah Weaver



Addison White



Hunter Wilkinson

Not pictured:  
Olivia Keller



**DEAL ME IN**

By Mark Pilarski (reprinted with permission of the author)

**Airport machines are a tough beat**

17 November 2003

Dear Mark,

**You mentioned to avoid playing slots in airports but didn't say why. An explanation would be appreciated. Levi R.**

I've known a few players, though they'd never admit it, who when they arrived home from their carefree gambling trip, didn't have money in hand (careless) to get their car out of long-term parking. They blew their remaining dough on an airport slot machine. That pell-mell disappearance is because an airport slot machine payback is notoriously low. With low paybacks, airport machines will gobble up your money in a hurry. Players should always distance themselves from poor paying machines, but in an airport, you are a captive audience for a short time, waiting to board a plane and get the hell out of there, and they know you ain't coming back.

Dear Mark,

**On my pre-drawn video poker hand, I received four cards to a royal flush, but also a pair of jacks. I decided to keep the jacks. The player next to me said I played the hand wrong. In the future, should I discard a high pair in favor of four cards to a royal? Shirley G.**

Always, repeat ALWAYS, break a high pair (Js, Qs, Ks, or Aces) not only for a four-card royal, but also for any four-card straight flush. As for when to discard a low pair, follow this strategy: Break your low pairs (2s-10s) against any four-card flush or straight flush, or any three-card royal flush. Read that back to me. OK, by George, you've got it.

Dear Mark,

**Could you tell me the year that craps was legalized in Canada? I know it was sometime in the late '90s, but not sure exactly when. Miguel G.**

Like dates, do you, Miguel? In 1999, Bob K. of Wolverine Lake, Michigan tossed the first legal dice at a craps table in Canada in 611 years. Rolling dice was outlawed in England and all her colonies centuries ago when His Royal Majesty discovered one of his trusted guards indulging in the art of throwing bones. A prohibition was promptly written and finally rescinded in 1999. And you might as well know that Eight was the first point and Bob-on-the-spot made it.

Dear Mark,

**I enjoy your columns, which appear in our local paper. A number of months ago, when the Travel Channel was showing**

**Sudoku Puzzle  
May 15, 2026**

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

Solution on page 15

**the poker finals, someone wrote to you about the best PC software for practicing Texas Hold'em. You suggested one and named a store in Las Vegas where it can be purchased. Could you please send me the name of the software and store since I have not been able to find my question in your online articles. Richard R.**

The software I recommended, Richard, was Turbo Texas Hold'em by Wilson Software. It retails for \$89.95. A steep price, yes I would say, but the opponents you have to read on your computer screen will be more troublesome than the rascals you call friends at your

Friday-night kitchen-table encounters. You can purchase Turbo Texas Hold'em from the Gambler's Bookshop. Their toll free number is 800-522-1777. As for where to find my column online, head over to my website: <http://markpilarski.com>. Not only are my most recent columns there, but both of my books are also online. Have at 'em, Richard, and please, if you catch any typos in More Deal Me In, let me know before I go to print.

[Editor's note: This column is from November 2003. Since then Mark Pilarski has retired and his website is no longer active.]

**= MENTAL HEALTH CORNER =**

**Emotional Obesity**

These days, we live in the "Information Age". It is safe to say that we can easily consume more information in a day than most of our ancestors might have consumed in years or an entire lifetime.

We are flooded with information in the form of doomscrolling (bottomless feeds), rage-baiting headlines/news, social media outrage and, of course, the constant exposure to tragedy and conflict from around the world. When we add to this the algorithms that feed us more and more of the content we consume, saying that we can get overwhelmed is a bit of an understatement. It's all about keeping our eyeballs on the screen, and it has been shown that these companies are not concerned about our mental or emotional health.

Our nervous systems were designed to survive the occasional crisis, but we were never designed to absorb possibly hundreds of them before lunch. This repeated exposure to danger (in its many forms) overwhelms our nervous system. At some point, we need to ask if this is healthy...

Let's look at social media. Platforms such as Facebook, Instagram and Tick Tok function as

psychological and emotional junk food. Much like sugar gives us temporary pleasure, outrage over injustice or whatever gets us going in our feeds offers the same type of temporary stimulation/pleasure. Just as junk food leaves our body in an unhealthy state, digital junk food leaves our minds anxious, angry or exhausted.

This can leave us "emotionally over-fed" but "psychologically malnourished". We can become addicted to experiencing outrage, emotionally impulsive and hooked on near-constant emotional consumption without the needed reflection or context that are parts of how we come to understand our world in healthy ways.

Of course, it's not all doom and gloom. Like all areas in our lives, when we become intentional about what we emotionally consume, our overall mental health improves.

Here are some ways to be intentional about our emotional consumption:

- Less Doomscrolling: If the feed is "bottomless", then limit time to a few minutes rather than hours.

- Limit Exposure to "Outrage Media": Turn off the news and take long breaks from social media sources.
- Quiet Time: Take some time to turn off the music or podcasts in the car or during other activities.
- Time in Nature: Take a walk or find a place to sit in nature.

It's helpful for us to understand that if a product like the news or social media is free, then we are the product. Knowing this is another way we win at life.

**-Adam DeVaney, LCSW, CCEP**

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.

## 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: 3<sup>rd</sup> Sat, 10:00 to 11:00 am**

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

## Miscellaneous

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

**When: by appointment Mon 10am-4pm & Thu 1-5pm**

**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: 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 & 3<sup>rd</sup> 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: 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> 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: 2<sup>nd</sup> Thur, 5:30 to 7:00 pm**

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

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

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

**Rock n' Jam**, The Rock of Kingsley, local musicians are welcome to come jam and the public is welcome to come listen, tap their toes, dance, contact 231 263-7000  
**When: 2<sup>nd</sup> 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: 1<sup>st</sup> Mon, 6:00 pm**

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

**Antrim County Veteran Coffee Talks**, 118 Bridge St, Elk Rapids, contact 231 533-8499  
**When: 3<sup>rd</sup> 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: 2<sup>nd</sup> 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: 2<sup>nd</sup> Wed, 6:30 pm**

**Coffee Talk for Veterans**, M88 Morning Grind, presented by Antrim Co Veterans Affairs, contact 231 533-8499  
**When: 3<sup>rd</sup> 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: 1<sup>st</sup> Thu, 6:00 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: 3<sup>rd</sup> 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: 1<sup>st</sup> 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: 3<sup>rd</sup> 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: 2<sup>nd</sup> Wed, 1:00 [m**

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

**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: 4<sup>th</sup> 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: 4<sup>th</sup> 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**

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

**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: 2<sup>nd</sup> Thu, 3:30 pm**

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

**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: 3<sup>rd</sup> 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: 1<sup>st</sup> 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: 3<sup>rd</sup> 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: 3<sup>rd</sup> Mon, 5:00 pm**

**National Trout Festival**, Trout Town Tavern & Eatery, 306 Elm St, 231 384-1509  
**When: 4<sup>th</sup> 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: 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> 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: 3<sup>rd</sup> Tue, 10:00 to 11:00 am**

**Friends of the Kalkaska County Library**, Kalkaska County Library 247 S. Cedar St, downstairs  
**When: 4<sup>th</sup> Tue 4:00 pm**

**Fife Lake Area Genealogy Society**, Fife Lake Public Library. Everyone is welcome.. Any questions, please contact Linda Forwerck at 231-631-1750 or Chris Reamer at 231-263-7656.  
**When: 1<sup>st</sup> Wed, 10 am.**

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

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

**BIGG (Genealogy Group)**, Bellaire Public Library, 111 S Bridge St, Bellaire, contact 231 533-8814  
**When: 1<sup>st</sup> 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: 1<sup>st</sup> Thur., 6:00 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: 1<sup>st</sup> Thu, 7 pm**

**Friends of the Alden District Library**, Helena Township Community Center, 8752 Helena Rd, Alden, 231 331-4318  
**When: 3<sup>rd</sup> 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**

O&A - continues on page 13

# REFLECTION

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

## Say what?

May 15, 2025

I answered the phone with my usual "Good morning, this is Tina, how may I help you?" The caller said, "Good morning, I see here that you have your health insurance in Marketplace, right?" This being not the first time I have received one of these scam calls, I responded, "You do not see any such thing. Goodbye." And hung up. I did not respond positively or negatively to the question, and that is an important thing to remember. It's especially important to never actually say the word "Yes." I'll explain that comment later in the essay.

Another time, the caller cheerfully told me, "I'm looking at your records, and I see we can save you lots of money on your mortgage." I responded, "That's fascinating, how much money can you save me?" To which he asked "Well, how much are you paying per month now?" I challenged him with "You said you were looking at my records, so what do you see there?" Now, I did know that this call was another scam attempt to get me to reveal enough personal financial information that the crooks could use to rob me. This particular day, I had enough time to indulge my desire to make the caller squirm. He responded, "Well, no, I'm not actually looking at your personal records, but rather at the regional records, and there's a good probability that. . ." I cut him off with my coup de grace, saying that this home has not had a mortgage on it in the last half-century,

and that clearly he had done no real market research before calling me. Yes, I know, my snide remarks probably had no effect on him, but I felt good about my small victory.

And just a couple days ago, I got another one. Responding to my "Good morning" greeting, he said, "Hi, this is Stefan, will you make my day?" "How may I help you?" I inquired. He asked again, "Will you make my day?" "How may I help you?" I repeated. A third time he asked, "Will you make my day?" This time I asked "What may I do for you?" At this point, he hung up. Why? Because I did not answer with the word "Yes."

Why will I not say the word "Yes"? Well, here's the story. About thirty years ago, my dad dealt with what had seemed to be a legitimate company doing telemarketing with a product to sell. He had a pleasant conversation with the sales rep, but decided against making the proposed purchase. So, he was amazed when a full order of the product showed up at his door less than a week later. He immediately contacted the company to explain that he had not ordered the product. They insisted that he had and that they had his voice recording agreeing to the transaction. That's right, they recorded the call and spliced in his use of the word "Yes" as his response to the proposed sale.

That lesson has stayed with me, and I do not speak the word "Yes" to an unknown caller.

That has saved my bacon at least once that I recall. The crooks are recording the calls and splicing up the voice recordings to suit their purposes.

While I have developed a decent skillset and B.S. detector in dealing with these scam calls, I feel serious frustration. This behavior has to be illegal. It's attempted robbery. Why can we not stop it?

My friends say, "Well, just don't answer any calls from numbers you don't recognize."

Really? That's going to interfere with my running a business. New customers and contacts would never get through.

So, why can't we make this stop? What help is available to thwart these crooks? These days most of the fraud calls are computer-generated voices, not even a real person. Doggone it, the crooks have automated their thievery! There has to be a way to rid ourselves of this scourge!

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

Shalom

Tina Norris Fields  
Editor



## Beyond Ready

# THANK YOU



The 2026 Annual 4-H Spaghetti Dinner & Auction was Kalkaska County's largest fundraiser for local 4-H programs. Our heartfelt thanks go out to the individuals and businesses whose support made this event a success and helped create valuable opportunities for youth in our community.



**Kalkaska County 4-H  
Leader's Association**



- Ace Hardware
- Advanced Office Supply
- B.C. Pizza
- Georgia Beaver
- Big Boy Kalkaska
- Biggby Coffee
- Craft Hut
- Jim Crothers
- De Vor Dairy & Creamery
- Ditch Witch of Kalkaska
- Family Farm & Home
- Farmer's Kitchen
- Simon Gondol
- Kalkaska Coffee Co.
- Kalkaska Unified Ministries for Christ
- Keiser Boy's Motorsports
- Lindsey Kimball
- McDonald's Kalkaska
- Northern Sun Tanning Salon
- Northern Winn Services
- Old Brothers Maple Syrup
- Abigail Pyle
- Selah Farms
- Danielle Smith
- Studio 786
- Sween Shannon's
- Voice Motors
- Wildwood Games
- Yankee Boy

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension



**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**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Secular Sobriety Group, AA of Traverse City, meets on ZOOM, ID#447 584 8945 PW 628608, more info at secularAAinMichigan.org**  
**When: Tues, Thu, 7 pm, Sun, 12 pm (also in person)**

**Alcoholics Anonymous Meetings (AA), Kalkaska United Ministries for Christ, 2525 Beebe Rd**  
**When: Tue, Thu, Sat 12:00 pm**

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

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

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

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

**Grief Support Group, (Kalkaska COA) Senior Center, 303 S Coral St, all ages welcome, contact 231 258-5030**  
**When: 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wed, 10:30 am**

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Deliverance, Kalkaska Baptist Church, 1651 Co Rd 612, Kalkaska, faith-based support for all addictions, contact Heath 231 564-3715**  
**When: Fri, 6:00 pm**

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

**Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting (AA), Fife Lake Village Office, 616 Bates Rd,**  
**When: Fri, 8:00 pm**

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

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



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**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) In the Preamble to the Constitution, how many purposes are given for establishing the Constitution?
- 2) What are those purposes?
- 3) Where in the Constitution is the obligation stated for the federal government to protect the states from invasion?
- 4) Does the United States have to assist states when they ask for help in the face of domestic violence?

**Citizenship Corner**

Answers to last issue's questions

- 1) How long is the term of a Supreme Court Justice?  
*A. There is no specific term. Article III, Section 1, tells us that the Justices "shall hold their Offices during good behavior."*
- 2) Can a Supreme Court Justice be removed from Office?  
*A. Yes, as can any civil officer of the United States, by impeachment by the House of Representatives and conviction by the Senate (see Article II, Section 4).*
- 3) What penalties does the Constitution impose on a person who has been impeached and convicted?  
*A. Article I, Section 3, final paragraph says judgment is limited to "removal from Office, and disqualification to hold and enjoy any Office of honor, Trust or Profit under the United States."*
- 4) After removal from office, can there be any other penalty?  
*A. Yes, the remainder of that same paragraph says "but the Party convicted shall nevertheless be liable and subject to Indictment, Trial, Judgment and Punishment, according to Law"*

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

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# WALK SLOWLY WITH PURPOSE

## Morning

By Dominic Fortuna

The light comes in soft. Not blaring. Not demanding. Just there, the way an old friend waits at the kitchen table with coffee already poured.

My eyes open before the alarm. That's new. For years I'd drag myself up after the third snooze, already behind. But purpose changes the morning. It doesn't make it loud. It makes it steady.

First thing: I breathe. One deep inhale that fills my ribs all the way down to my gut. Hold it. Let it go. The window's cracked open because the night air off the Rapid River smells like pine and wet stone, and that's a better alarm than any buzz.

Then I pray. Nothing fancy. No stained glass words. Just me and God and the quiet. "Thank you for yesterday. Thank you for today. Help me see what matters and leave the rest. Help me be useful."

Some mornings it's ten seconds. Some mornings it's ten minutes. The length doesn't count. The honesty does. I'm not asking for a lottery ticket. I'm asking for eyes that work and hands that help. That's enough.

Then I make my bed. It represents structure for me and it gives me a little tiny slice of integrity. It takes ninety seconds. When I walk back through the bedroom at 9 pm, that made bed is the first proof that I kept a promise to myself. Small promise, big echo.

The house is quiet. The artesian spring outside is the only thing talking, that constant bubbling up from the ground that turns into the creek that turns into the river. Same as me. Start small, keep moving, feed something bigger.

Now I sit at the kitchen table. No phone yet. The phone can wait. The world can wait. This is mine.

I make my list. Not a war plan. Not thirty-two items that guarantee I'll fail by lunch. Just three lines on a scrap of paper.

One thing for my body. Walk the creek. Chop wood. Stretch so my back doesn't bark at me.

One thing for my people. Leave a note for my wife.

One thing for my work. Answer the two emails that actually move the job forward.

That's it. Three. If I finish and there's daylight left, I can add. But I never start with more. Overdue lists are how we learn to quit on ourselves. I don't do that anymore.

The list isn't about being busy. It's about being pointed in a direction. A boat without a rudder still floats, but it just spins. I've spun enough years.

I read the list out loud. Quiet, but out loud. Hearing my own voice say it makes it real. "Walk the creek. Call Lisa. Sweep the shop." Now the day has edges.

Coffee's next. I grind the beans myself because the sound is like gravel in a pan, and that reminds me: good things come from grinding. I stand at the window while it brews and watch the mist come off the field. A deer steps out 600 feet north, right where the ground dips. She doesn't know I'm here. She doesn't need to. We're both just doing our morning.

I always remain kind. That's not on the list because it's not a task. It's the way I carry the list. Kind to the clerk who's moving slow because her kid was sick. Kind to the guy in the mirror when he forgets something. Kind to the day itself, even when it goes sideways. Kindness isn't soft. It's structural. It holds the walls up.

By 7:30 I've prayed, made the bed, written the list, and had the coffee. The world hasn't emailed me yet. The news hasn't yelled at me yet. I've won the morning before the morning gets a chance to win me.

The rest of the day will be what it is. Truck might not start. Bill might show up. Back might ache. But I've already done the important things. I've anchored myself.

I walk the creek last, because that's my one for the body. The water's cold and clear. A crow begins her morning Call, I think it's a type of respect. She's quite intelligent. The moss is thick. The log I use as a bridge is solid. This is my place. I'm supposed to be here.

Coming back up to the house, I see the bed through the window, made and tight. It looks like respect. Like I meant it.

Now it's your turn. Tomorrow morning, before the phone, before the scramble, try this. When you wake, don't lunge. Breathe first. One breath just for you. Then talk to whoever you talk to. God, the universe, your own best self. Say thanks. Ask for help. Keep it plain.

Then make your bed. Not for your mom. For you. It's the first win. You can build on a win. Then take a scrap of paper and write three things. Not twenty. Three. One for your body, one for your people, one for your work. Say them out loud so the day knows you're serious. And carry kindness like a tool in your pocket. Use it on everyone, starting with yourself.

You don't need a new life. You need a new morning. Stack enough new mornings and the life changes without a fight. Life with purpose is a life that knows its own name. It answers when called. It doesn't wander off into the weeds because it's bored or scrolling or waiting for a better offer. You don't have to move mountains. You just have to move. Make the bed. Say the prayer. Write the three lines.

Do it tomorrow. Then do it again the next day. Watch what happens when you give your days a direction. Watch how the light comes in. Life with purpose is a life. And it's yours if you want it.

So tonight, set the coffee by the bed. Leave the phone in the other room. Tomorrow, we start.



## Restoring the Heart of Rapid City: A New Kind of School is Taking Root

Rapid City Elementary is entering a bold new chapter, and it's designed with your child in mind. Starting this fall, Rapid City will become a Stewardship Campus, blending strong academics with real-world learning experiences that go beyond the traditional classroom walls. In year one, we will transition to multi-age, family-style classrooms as we secure enrollment to expand into a self-contained middle school setting (grades 6-8).



### Students will learn through:

- Hands-on learning using local woods, water, and local resources.
- Real-world projects that help students learn through problem-solving and critical thinking.
- Connected learning, where reading, writing, math, and science are woven together whenever possible.

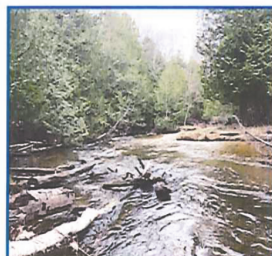
### What this means for your child:

Students who are engaged, confident, and connected to what they're learning. Beyond the classroom, students will build strong connections through outdoor experiences and meaningful community involvement. To strengthen relationships and leadership, classrooms will shift to a multi-age, family-style model, where:

- Younger students are supported
- Older students lead
- Every child is truly known

### This is about more than just a school.

- A place where kids feel connected.
- A place where learning has purpose.
- A place families choose to be a part of.



Have questions or want to learn more? Call Kevin Malbouef at (231) 331-6121

## Rooted in Community Growing for the future

Visit Rapid City Elementary  
on Tuesday, May 19  
at 5:30 PM

to learn more about our vision  
and tour the campus



## 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: 3rd Wed, 5 pm**

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

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

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

**Bellaire**  
Applesauce Inn  
Bellaire Public Library

**Central Lake**  
Central Lake District Library  
Mary's Market

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

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

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

**Kingsley**  
Kingsley Branch Library  
Kingsley Village Offices

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

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

**South Boardman**  
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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## School Board Meetings

**Kalkaska Public Schools,**  
Board of Education room, 315 S Coral St Kalkaska , 231-258-9100  
**When: 3rd Mon, 6 pm**

**Forest Area Community Schools**  
Band Room, Forest Area High School, 7661 Shippy Rd SW, Fife Lake 231-369-4191  
**When: 2nd Mon, 7:00 pm**

**Crawford School, Excelsior District #1**  
Crawford School 5621 M-72 NE, Kalkaska 231-258-2934  
**When: 3rd Wed, 4:00 pm**



**Mancelona Public Schools**  
Media Center, Mancelona Middle School, 1122 St Johns Ave, Mancelona 231-587-9764  
**When: 2nd Tue, 4:30 pm**

**Central Lake Public Schools,**  
8190 W. State St, Central Lake, 231 544-3341  
**When: 2nd Mon, 6:30 pm**

**Bellaire Public Schools,**  
204 W. Forest Home Ave, Bellaire, 231-533-8015  
**When: 3rd Mon, 6:30 pm**

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

## Sudoku Puzzle Solution May 15, 2026

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

Puzzle on page 10

## Passing the Torch



The name's the same..

Photo Jenna Borst

### By Tina Norris Fields

The name stays the same, but some of the faces are new. Or, familiar and back again. Confusing? Well, maybe, but just for a moment.

Kaitlyn Barry used to work for Gary and Jill Scheitler for a few years. As her family and other businesses demanded more of her time, she left their office, but not the friendship.

Now, as Gary and Jill consider preparing to retire, sometime, not necessarily quite yet, their friend and former employee has stepped back into the picture. Bringing her expanded knowledge of both Real Estate and the other aspects of the vacation and tourism industry so prevalent in our region, she and husband Luke have bought the business from Gary and Jill.

The roles reversed now as Gary still works as a Realtor at Paradise Properties and his former employee is now running the place. It takes special people to make such a relationship work. And that is why they represent such a bright spot for our community.



Kaitlyn Barry welcomes you.

Photo Jenna Borst



L-R: Luke Barry, Jill Scheitler, Kaitlyn Barry, Gary Scheitler as the Paradise Properties business changes hands.

Photo Jenna Borst



New owners Luke & Kaitlyn Barry (Center), cut the ribbon with former owners Gary & Jill Scheitler (Center Right) and many friends look on

photo Jenna Borst



Luke & Kaitlyn have also purchased the former Nifty Things building for extra office and conference room space.

photo Jenna Borst



A view of the Paradise Properties and My Torch Lake campus as the ribbon cutting celebration approaches for the new owners, Luke & Kaitlyn Barry, and friends, family, and colleagues gather for the festivities.

photo Becky Norris



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