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You miss 100 percent of the shots you don't take.

~ Wayne Gretzky

Vol2026:

June 12, 2026

8th Annual Torch Lake Whitefish Fest

ALDEN, MICHIGAN, 05/08/26 The highly anticipated Torch Lake Whitefish Fest returns for its 8th year on the second weekend of June at beautiful Depot Park in downtown Alden. Presented by Blue Ribbon Events, this beloved summertime tradition marks the unofficial start of the season, drawing locals and visitors alike to shop, socialize, and celebrate the lakeside lifestyle.

Set against the stunning backdrop of Torch Lake, this two-day lakeside market is the perfect opportunity to SHOP Local, SHOP Handmade, and SUPPORT a Dream. More than just a festival, Whitefish Fest is a celebration of artisan craftsmanship and community spirit. Open Saturday & Sunday 10am to 5pm.

This year's event features an eclectic mix of handmade art, home décor, jewelry, and unique gift items perfect for Father's Day and graduation season. Expect to see returning favorites like:

- **Sara Sturtevant** with her colorful drawings & paintings.
- **Local master herbalist & forager, Witch of Woods** will have body supporting tinctures, soothing salves, local culinary foraged salts, simple syrups and infused vinegars.
- **A. Clark Designs**, showcasing stunning resin art, clocks, furniture, and charcuterie trays



A Taste of the Great Lakes

Don't miss the highlight of the festival—fresh, flash-frozen, smoked fish from Massey Fish of St. Ignace, brought to you by Adrianna the Fishmonger. Try crowd favorites like:

- Smoked salmon
- Laker chunks
- Smoked fish pâtés and spreads
- And NEW this year—Claudies Fresh Flaves will have dogs, mac & cheese classics and tacos,



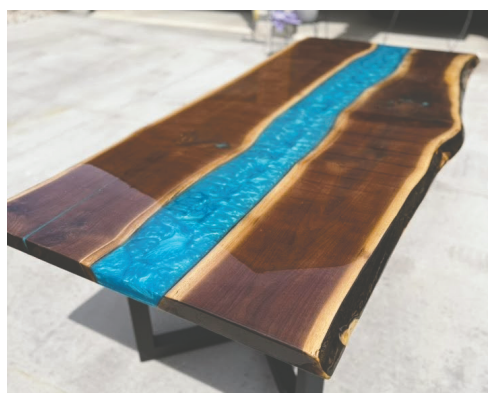
Kid-Friendly Fun

The festival also features the annual Free Kids' Wooden Fish Art Project—a hands-on, make-and-take experience that encourages children to decorate their own wooden fish while learning about the importance of Torch Lake and preserving Michigan's waterways.

This free activity sparks creativity and conversation about local ecology, blending fun with education in a relaxed, family-friendly

TORCH LAKE

Whitefish Festival



setting.

Join us at Torch Lake Whitefish Fest and help us kick off summer in style. Whether you're coming for the smoked fish, the artisan goods, or the lakefront vibes, there's something for everyone at this uniquely Michigan event!

Location:

Depot Park – Downtown Alden, MI

Dates:

Saturday & Sunday, Second Weekend of June

Admission: FREE

Please stop by the second weekend in June (June 13-14), grab your fish and Shop Local, Shop Handmade, Support a Dream...or two!

Applications for future art & craft show events may be found at www.blueribbonevent.com

About Blue Ribbon Events

Blue Ribbon Events, LLC. is your best solution for your art/craft event planning, coordination and management needs. We have more than 50 years of combined management experience in retail, marketing, and art/craft show industry. Our team of highly skilled professional event managers will make the proposed events memorable and make sure that shoppers can interact with artists, creators and makers in an intimate, boutique setting while promoting



safe social distancing and a hygienic conscious event.

Today, in this ever-changing world, with dozens of annual events, we understand what makes a successful art/craft show event from all perspectives: a patron, artist and event planner. When we partner with a township, city or municipality; we actively promote "heads in beds" and are constantly looking how we can positively impact the area with economic growth for both local businesses and the artists we feature.

Media Contact:

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Website: www.blueribbonevent.com

OUT & ABOUT

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

SENIOR & COMMUNITY MEALS

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

FARMERS' MARKET

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

FOOD PANTRIES

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

HEALTH AND FITNESS

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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 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????

299er 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. 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 Center303 S. Coral St, all are welcome, play for pantry items, \$1 donation 231 258-5030
When: Fri, 1:30 to 3:30 pm

Bingo, American Legion Hall, 9850 S. Front St, Mancelona community welcome, must be 18+, 231 499-2364
When: Sat, doors open at 4 pm, play begins at 6 pm

Pool, Kalkaska Senior Center/COA, 303 S. Coral St, open to anyone who wants to play, must contact 231 258-5030 with your name and number
When: Sat, 6 pm

Crafts & Hobbies

Small Crafts Groups, Kalkaska Senior Center/COA, 303 S. Coral St, bring a personal small craft to work on while socializing, many are willing to teach basics of crochet, knitting, embroidery, etc, 231 258-5030
When: Mon, 9:00 to 11:00 am

Wood Carvers, Kalkaska Senior Center 303 S. Coral St, all levels of skill, teaching available, 231 258-5030
When: Mon, 6 pm

Torch Area Artisans Guild (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. 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
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- We read stories, do a craft, and have a snack together. The Bellaire Public Library is located at 111 S. Bridge St., Bellaire. For details call the Library at 231-533-881414
When: Tue, 10:00 - 11:00 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/EHSKa1Registration>
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 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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231 - 258 - 5395

508 N. Birch Street, Kalkaska

OBITUARIES

Carol Jean Tanner

January 24, 1943 ~ March 8, 2026

Carol Jean Tanner, 83, of Kalkaska, passed away peacefully on March 9, 2026. Carol was born January 24, 1943, in Kalkaska to the late Thaddeus and Irene (Angell) Tanner. She grew up on the Tanner family farm on Sharon Road, where she spent most of her life and where she remained until the day she left her earthly life to join her parents, her sister Sharon, brother-in-law Ed Bandlow, and other loved ones in heaven. The Tanner Farm was the original homestead of Thaddeus Tanner's grandfather and continues to remain in the Tanner family's name today.

Carol was raised alongside her siblings, Audrey (Harry) King, Alta (Wesley) Beasley, Sharon (Larry) Birgy, Thaddeus John (Martha) Tanner, and Ann (Ed) Bandlow. Growing up in Kalkaska, Carol was crowned Homecoming Queen and was known for her joyful spirit and love of life.

Carol was a woman of faith. She was baptized on December 16, 1956, along with her three older sisters at the Kalkaska Church of Christ, which today is the location of the Kalkaska Funeral Home.

More than anything, Carol loved her family. Her children, Valerie (Dale) Thornburg, Carla (David Avery) Waite, Danny (Tammy) Woodin, and Ryan Woodin, were the center of her world. She was a proud and devoted grandmother to Dustin (Nanci) Dimon, Celsey (Logan) Kline, Cody (Megan) Waite, Dylan Woodin, Emma Woodin, Wyatt Woodin, and Tanner Woodin. She was also blessed with great-grandchildren Adrian, Melany, Ian, Corey, Parker, and Cooper, who brought her endless joy. Simply put, her family was her life.

Carol will also be remembered for her famous peanut butter fudge.



Friends, neighbors, and family eagerly awaited every batch she made, and her fudge became a beloved tradition at the annual Tanner family reunion.

Throughout her life, Carol was known as an incredibly hard worker.

She worked at Iott's Potato Farm, Cooley's, and Traverse Bay Woolen Company, and later served the community through her work at the Kalkaska County Equalization Department until her retirement in 2013.

Carol was also gifted at organizing and decorating. She lovingly planned celebrations and created decorations for weddings, birthday parties, and many special events. She enjoyed decorating seasonally at Spencer Church of Christ and spent many years decorating the Christmas tree at the Kalkaska Governmental Center, sharing her festive spirit with the community.

Carol will be remembered for her kindness, generosity, creativity, and her heart of gold.

A memorial service celebrating Carol's life was held on June 6, 2026, at 11:00 a.m., with a visitation prior beginning at 10:00AM at the Kalkaska Funeral Home. A private graveside service followed at Oliver Township Cemetery.

In place of a luncheon, Carol's family shared a parting memorial gift with those who attended in honor of her life. Carol's love, warmth, and the many memories she created will remain in the hearts of all who knew her. Her family finds comfort in knowing she is now at peace in the presence of the Lord she loved. Arrangements have been entrusted to Kalkaska Funeral Home.

Howard "Butch" John Comai

October 12, 1953 ~ May 30, 2026

It is with heavy hearts that we share the news of the passing of our beloved husband/father Howard "Butch" John Comai on May 30, 2026. He peacefully passed away at home surrounded by his loving wife and all his kids and grandchildren.



Butch was born to Howard Sr. and Carol Comai on October 12, 1953, in Taylor, Michigan. He grew up in Garden City. He met the love of his life, Hazel Ann Farr and the two were married on June 24, 1972. They moved to Kalkaska where they built a life, raised their family and created countless cherished memories together. Hazel remained by his side faithfully until his last breath.

He is survived by his loving wife Hazel; three kids Bobble Jo (Glenn) Hunter, Brian (Angela) Comai, and Joey (Alicia) Comai all of Kalkaska; bonus son Charles (Stephanie) Potter of Westland; grandchildren Lane (Hailey) Jones, Ty (Ally) Jones and their sweet baby girl due in October, Meghan (Mercedes) Jones, Corey Comai and Montana Comai; great-granddaughter Charlotte Comai; sisters Linda (Ricky) McDowell, Carolann Comai, Laura (Jim)

McLean; brothers Mike (Janie) Comai, Larry (Cheri) Comai, David (Marsha) Comai; and Bill (Anna) Comai.

Butch loved his family more than anything. He was always up for a family BBQ. He loved to take his kids and grandkids out fishing and hunting. He also loved going to the casino with his boys.

Butch retired from Silence Trucking Service in Detroit. He also spent 9 years in Iraq working with KBR. He was awarded multiple medals while he was over there for heroism and bravery.

He was preceded in death by his parents Howard Sr. and Carol Comai; his sister Cathy Zech; his brothers-in-law and sister-in-law Sonny (Sandy) Farr and Ron Richardson.

A celebration of life will be held at Kalkaska Unified Ministries for Christ, 2525 Beebe Road, Kalkaska, MI on Saturday, June 13, 2026 at 1:00 pm with a visitation one hour prior to the service. Arrangements have been entrusted to Kalkaska Funeral Home and Cremation Services.

Lawrence E. Ryan

August 29, 1948 ~ May 22, 2026

Lawrence Edward Ryan, 77, of Grayling, passed away on May 22, 2026 at his home. He was born to the late Edward and Florence (Fruedenthal) Ryan in Detroit on August 29, 1948.



Larry married his devoted partner Vicki Bundrick on November 11, 2006 in Spartanburg, SC. He was a truck driver and later worked as a sales clerk in the steel industry. Upon retiring Larry and Vicki decided to move from South Carolina to the favorite vacation spot for Larry's family in northern Michigan, Grayling.

Larry will be remembered for his kind and loving spirit, his love of all animals, especially Boston Terriers. Surviving is Larry's wife,

Vicki; his daughter, Kelley (Eddie) Tyer of Crawfordville, FL; step-children, William Humphreys and Christina Humphreys both of Spartanburg, SC; two grandsons, Gavin and Chase Tyer; his siblings, Tim and Mark from the Detroit area, Mike from Grayling and Erin from Fredrick.

Larry was preceded in death by his sisters, Carol, Sharon and Denise.

Cremation has taken place per Larry's wishes and a Celebration of Life will take place at a later time.

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

Jerry Jacob Hejnal

May 18, 1962 ~ April 22, 2026

Jerry Jacob Hejnal, 63, of Fife Lake, passed away on April 22, 2026, at Munson Hospice House. He was born on May 18, 1962, in Kalkaska, Michigan, to Anthony and Vivian (Ingersoll) Hejnal. Jerry lived his entire life in the area and graduated from Forest Area Community School. He took great pride in his work as a logger and was a true steward of the forests. An outdoorsman at heart, Jerry enjoyed fishing, hunting, and helping his children with 4-H when they were younger. More recently, he had developed an interest in rockhounding. Jerry



will be remembered for his gift of gab and his ability to strike up a conversation with just about anyone. He is survived by his mother, Vivian Hejnal; daughter, Brianna Hejnal; son, Anton Hejnal; and former partner, Julie Tuck. He

was preceded in death by his father, Anthony Hejnal. No memorial service will be held. Jerry's remains were interred at Garfield Township Cemetery. Arrangements have been entrusted to Kalkaska Funeral Home and Cremation Services.

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

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Kalkaska

Carl "Matt" Burke

August 26, 1952 ~ May 28, 2026

Burke, Carl M, "Matt" of Rapid City, formerly of Davison, died May 28, 2026, at his residence. Matt was born in Flint, MI on August 26, 1952, to Cordia Shiflett and Carl Milton Burke. Matt was a 1972 graduate of Davison High School. He earned a Bachelor's Degree at Ferris State University. Matt went on to make a life-long career at Goyette Mechanical, serving over 40 years - first in estimating, sales and project management, then rising to Vice President, a position he held for over 20 years. He later retired from his Vice President role but continued estimating for the company until the time of his passing.

Matt married Pamela Thompson on March 19, 1994. Together, Matt and Pam shared a love that most people would dream of experiencing. They spent much of their time together boating, vacationing, playing cards with friends, playing Yahtzee and just enjoying each other. Matt was a friend to everyone he met. He was a wonderful husband, an excellent father, and an exceptional grandfather. He loved spending time with his family.

Matt was an avid outdoorsman. He enjoyed hunting and fishing with family and friends. He was a lover of Detroit sports and a die-hard U of M fan. He spent many Saturdays attending Michigan



Football games. Every other available moment of his life was devoted to his yard! He lived every day with a "Why put off until tomorrow what you can do today" kind of work ethic. His presence will be missed everywhere that he existed in this life.

Matt is survived by his wife, Pam, his children Chad (Lori) Burke, Ryan (Jennifer) Burke, Katie Domby, Ron (Nikki) Harris and Rachael Harris. His grandchildren Alex (Taylor) Brouillet, Samuel and Cole Burke, Alyssa, Morgan and Leo Domby, and Brody, Brennan and Brady Smith. His brothers Greg (Jackie) Goyette, Gerry Goyette, and Andy (Jennifer) Goyette. Many special nieces and nephews.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Carl Milton Burke, John and Cordia Goyette, his sister Roxanne Harrington, brother-in-law Michael Harrington and his grandson Burke Smith.

Cremation has taken place. A celebration of life will be held in Matt's honor at MD's Sports Tavern, 3040 N. State Rd, Davison, June 24th from 4-8pm. In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to the Alzheimer's Association.

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

Alan Wayne Miller

August 29, 1948 ~ May 22, 2026

Alan Wayne Miller, 77, of Kalkaska, passed away on May 25, 2026, at Munson Medical Center in Traverse City. Alan was born on January 22, 1949, in Benton Harbor, the son of the late Albert and Marguerite (Spletzer) Miller.



Moffitt; grandchildren, Jordon Moffitt and Maylynn Moffitt; 2 great-grandchildren; his siblings, Richard Miller and Nancy Worthing; and many friends and family downstate and up north.

Alan was preceded in death by his parents; and stepson, Chadwick E. Moffitt.

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

Alan loved hunting, fishing, snowmobiling and being Up North.

Surviving are his wife, Debra Dee Nichols; stepson, Christopher C.

Northwest MI

VOICE

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Jean Ellen Long

February 27, 1938 ~ May 25, 2026

Jean Ellen Long, 88, of Kalkaska, passed away peacefully at home on May 25, 2026, surrounded by her loving husband and five children. Jean was born on February 27, 1938, in Trenton, Michigan, to Paul and Zelma Angel. She met and married her first love, the late Henry Joseph "Jack" Minder, Sr. Together they moved to Kalkaska in 1966, where they built a life, raised their family, and created countless cherished memories. Their time together was cut short when Jack passed away in 1984. Several years later, Jean found love again when she met Isiah "John" Long. They were married on June 9, 1990, and John remained faithfully by her side for the rest of her days, sharing a life filled with love, laughs, and companionship.



Jean is survived by her devoted husband, John Long; her five children, Jack (Kathy) Minder, Tim Minder, Lorie (Scott) Losee, Shirley (Todd) Harger, and Dan Minder, all of Kalkaska; her grandchildren, Jessica Minder, Jack Minder, Nichol Minder, Ashley Minder, Lacey Laforest, and McAylan Minder; several great-grandchildren; and her siblings, David Angel, Judy Wiegand, William Angel, and Charles Angel, along with their spouses. After dedicating many years to being a homemaker and raising her children, Jean began a career as a radiology technician. She later retired from Kalkaska Memorial Health Center, where she was known for her caring nature and strong work ethic. Jean was a sweet but undeniably sassy woman with a wonderful sense of humor who was loved by everyone fortunate enough to

know her. She never hesitated to stand her ground, and if someone crossed the line, she was known to warn that she would "jerk a knot in your tail." Her family will forever smile when remembering her quick wit, sharp tongue, and loving heart. She found

joy in cooking for those she loved, trying her luck at the casino, watching the birds that visited her backyard, gathering with family, cruising, and spending hours fascinated by the fish in her aquarium. Jean also dearly loved her dogs throughout the years. She leaves behind her sweet grand dog, Benny, and her family takes comfort in imagining her being welcomed at the Rainbow Bridge by the many beloved companions who went before her. Jean was preceded in death by her parents, Paul and Zelma Angel; her first husband, Henry "Jack" Joseph Minder, Sr. and her siblings, Donna, Paul, Larry, Jack, Parris, and Loretta. A visitation was held on Tuesday, June 2, 2026, at St. Mary's of the Woods Church in Kalkaska beginning at 10:00 a.m., followed by a funeral service at 11:00 a.m. There was a rosary prayer at 9:45 for those who wished to attend. Memorial contributions in Jean's honor may be made to St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital. Jean's legacy lives on through the family she cherished, the friends she touched, and the countless memories she created. Her love, laughter, strength, and sass will be deeply missed and forever remembered. Arrangements have been entrusted to Kalkaska Funeral Home and Cremation Services.



Munson Healthcare Breaks Ground on New Neonatal Intensive Care Unit in Traverse City

\$40 Million Investment Expands Women’s and Children’s Services

TRAVERSE CITY, Mich. - Munson Healthcare today announced it broke ground earlier this week on a new Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) at Munson Medical Center (MMC), marking a major step forward in a broader \$40 million investment in women’s and children’s services across Northern Michigan.

The new NICU will be a 22,000-square-foot, one-story facility featuring 24 beds and designed to deliver state-of-the-art care for the region’s most vulnerable patients. Construction is expected to take approximately 18 months, with completion targeted for late 2027.

“Every family deserves the highest level of care during life’s most critical moments,” said Ed Ness, President & CEO of Munson Healthcare. “This new NICU represents our commitment to providing a healing environment, leading-edge technology, and the

support families need—right here in our community.”

Munson Medical Center is home to the only NICU in Northern Michigan and provides specialized care to more than 325 newborns each year from across the region. The new NICU will be connected to the existing hospital and located between Munson Medical Center and the Cowell Family Cancer Center, improving access and continuity of care for patients and families.

“As the region’s only NICU, we care for some of the most fragile infants and their families during incredibly critical moments,” said Dr. Matthew Arnold, Neonatologist & Medical Director at Munson Medical Center’s NICU. “The design of this new unit reflects the future of neonatal care, with enhanced technology, private spaces, and a strong focus on family involvement. This investment

ensures we can continue delivering advanced, high-quality care close to home while expanding our ability to serve families across Northern Michigan.”

In addition to the new NICU, Munson Healthcare has made significant progress in enhancing its maternity and pediatric services:

Nearly two-thirds of the hospital’s 19-bed maternity unit has been renovated, with a \$4 million investment since 2023 to create a safe, modern, and welcoming environment for patients and families

Planning is underway for upgrades to the pediatric unit, with construction expected to begin in early 2026

Together, these investments reflect Munson Healthcare’s ongoing commitment to delivering high-

quality, patient-centered care close to home.

“We are profoundly grateful to our community for their steadfast patience and support for this project while we navigated the financial headwinds of recent years,” said Debra Henderson, Chief Development Officer, Munson Healthcare. “This project is such a powerful testament to the impact of charitable giving, as donors have contributed \$10 million to enhance women’s and children’s services here in Northern Michigan. We are thrilled to be taking this next step in delivering top-quality care to Munson’s littlest patients and look forward to sharing more updates as construction progresses.”

Additional updates will be shared as construction progresses.



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JUNE 2026

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

June 2 – 29, Rubber Duck Display. Come visit Alden District Library and see a collection of rubber ducks. The display can be viewed during normal library hours. The library is located at 8751 Helena Rd, Alden, 231-331-4318. Free Event.

June 13, 10 am, Story Time with Miss Lona. Miss Lona will be reading stories with a Father’s Day theme and making Father’s Day cards with the kids. This program will be held in the library located at 8751 Helena Rd, Alden, 231-331-4318.

June 18 – August 1, Unearth a Story Summer Reading Program. Kids and teens sign up & receive their reading logs from June 18th to June 30th. Starting August 1st, reading logs can be turned in to collect prizes.

June 18, 9:30am social time & 10am meeting . Friends of the Library Monthly Meeting & Spring Luncheon. Anyone interested in supporting the library is always welcome. Meeting is being held at Helena Township Community Center, 8751. Luncheon is 11:30am held at the Dockside, 6340 Old Torch Lake Dr, Bellaire. Contact the library at 231-331-4318 to RSVP by June 16th.

June 18, 10:00am - 11:00am. Summer Reading Program: K-9 Officer Bricko with Sgt. Skrobecki. K-9 Officer Bricko will show us his skills and how he sticks with our Summer Reading Program theme "Unearth a Story" as he and Sgt. Skrobecki conduct an article search. Bellaire Public Library, 111 S. Bridge St., Bellaire. For details call the Library at 231-533-8814.

June 18, 12 pm -TT Nooners Book Club. The TT Nooners Book Club and discussion group meets on the Third Thursday of every month at 12:00 noon at the Kalkaska Commission on Aging, 303 S. Coral St. Contact the Kalkaska County Library at (231) 258-9411 or at info@kalkaskalibrary.org for more information.

June 18, 2:30pm. Joel’s Jurassic Magic Show. Joel will stomp, chomp, and roar into the summer reading program with Dinosaur-themed books of all sorts that he brings to life with amazing magic, wacky stunts, and lots of audience participation. You do not want to miss out! Free Event. Sponsored by Alden District Library and Held at Helena Township Community Center, 8751.

June 23, 4 pm - Friends of the Kalkaska County Library Meeting. Located at the Kalkaska Commission on Aging, 303 S. Coral St.The public is welcome. Contact the library at (231) 258-9411 or at info@kalkaskalibrary.org for more information.

June 25th, 1000 - 1100 am. Summer Reading Program: Archaeologists Dig for Clues and What They Found at the Samels Farm! . We’ll learn about how to do archaeology and what it looks like in our local area.We’ll also get hands-on with an archaeological adventure screening for artifacts. Bellaire Public Library, 111 S. Bridge St., Bellaire. For details call the Library at 231-533-8814.

June 25, 5:00 - 7:00 pm. Summer Reading Program: Crack the Code Time Capsule Challenge. Designed for our Tween Friends! Bring your small team for this fun way to Unearth the Stories in America’s history. Snacks and prizes will be offered. Families Welcome. Registration required. Bellaire Public Library, 111 S. Bridge St., Bellaire. For details call the Library at 231-533-8814.

June 30, 10 am - John Ball Travelling Zoo. Kick off Summer with a visit from the John Ball Zoo! Get an up-close look at several live (small) zoo animals, and learn how they grow up wild! Summer Reading programs are free, and all families are welcome to attend. Located at the Birch Street Elementary Gymnasium, 309 N. Birch St. Contact the library at (231) 258-9411 or at info@kalkaskalibrary.org for more information.

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

Antrim County 9th Annual M88 Outdoor Market Tour

When: Saturday, June 20th, 2026 9am-3pm

Bellaire, MI - Antrim County communities have come together to organize a M88 Outdoor Market Tour on Saturday June 20th, 2026. This 26-mile county wide community outdoor market sale will feature the villages of Mancelona, Bellaire, Central Lake and Eastport as well as homes and farms along the M88 route.

Participants will offer sidewalk sales, garage sales, arts & crafts, antiques, farm market produce and more. Various locations will offer pop-up booth venues for local vendors to setup for the day. Market shoppers can drive M88 from any direction to shop, eat and explore Antrim County. Market maps will be available at designated locations in each village and a grand prize drawing will be held for those completing the entry form.

Booth space for vendors, artisans, crafters, antiques etc. will BE available at the following business locations.

Mancelona: Contact Joanie Moore at moore@torchlake.com
Applesauce Inn B&B: Contact Jamie info@applesauceinn.com 231-533-6448
The Flying Pig: Contact Shelly at shellyjodayton@yahoo.com 231-313-1517
The Bird Gallery (Eastport): Contact Mira Bell at mirabellbc@aol.com

Please contact one of the above businesses for more information!!
Deadline for vendor booth rental is 6/03/26

SET-UP TIME FOR EVENTS -7am to 9am
A M88 Outdoor Market Tour map will be printed and distributed to visitors. Participants are encouraged to add their businesses and/or sale locations for only \$10.00. Please contact Shelly Dayton at 231-313-1517 for more details. Deadline for entries in 5/30/26

DEAL ME IN

By Mark Pilarski (reprinted with permission of the author)
An odds way of looking at things

8 December 2003

Dear Mark, Please pardon this simple question, but could you explain what you meant when you stated in a column being paid "less than true odds." Stan B.

True odds, Stan, is the ratio of the number of times a favorable event will occur as compared to the number of times an unfavorable event will happen. As for "less than true odds," here-tiz in common talk with an example: Suppose you and I flip a coin, a dollar a pop. If you lose, you pay me a buck. If you win, I pay you only 95¢. Sound fair to you, Stan? Even though the odds of winning are a 50-50 proposition, the game becomes inequitable when instead of your getting paid \$1 when you win, you're only getting 95¢. Though getting shortchanged a measly nickel doesn't seem like much, it adds up as the number of coin flips increases.

Casinos use this same concept, being paid less then true odds, when you win a bet at most casino games. Note any casino pay table (roulette, many craps bets, video poker, slots, etc.) and you'll see that their every payout is for a reduced payoff, or "less than true odds."

This difference between true odds and less than true odds is called the house edge, a percentage of each bet you make that the house takes in. The reason you are not paid true odds when you gamble is that you need to make a payment, an entertainment tax if you will, for the casino letting you play in their joint.

Dear Mark, I had a friend who told me he made a few thousand dollars a year just by walking around in casinos and looking for slot machines that had money left in the tray or in credits. Sounds like a way to make some extra cash. Is this

legal? Who owns that money anyway? Laurie J.

Whose money is it? T'aint your friend's, 'tiz the casino owners. I've done this question before, and normally I wouldn't repeat it, but just this last week I personally observed two elderly gents trying to get buffet funds by circling the casino floor looking for credits and loose change, so it has earned a repetition.

"Sea gulling," as it's called in gamblese, is illegal. It means purposely circumnavigating the casino floor looking for orphan coins or credits on a slot machine, or even change on the floor.

If your friend continues to make a full-time occupation of cruising the casino on the lookout for easy pickings, he will eventually be caught and asked never to come back, or "permanently 86ed" in casino-ese. Luckily, if your pal Sticky-finger is caught, there is no soundproof room with a glove-vice waiting.

But that doesn't mean there are not those like your friend who seek to make a living scavenging the millions lost each year by gamblers who forget their stored credits (winnings). Of course, I know, Laurie, that you are not a casino conniver looking for an easy score. But a tip to you and other slot-playing patrons: before you walk away from any slot machine, don't forget to press the cash-out button.

=====

Gambling quote of the week:
"Some people lose their heads cold sober. Cards, dice pool; it makes no difference. You want to make a living that way, you want to be a winner, you got to keep your head. And you got to remember that there's a loser somewhere in you, whining at you, and you got to learn to cut his water off." — Bert, *The Hustler* (1959)



Sudoku Puzzle
June 12, 2026

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

Solution on page 15

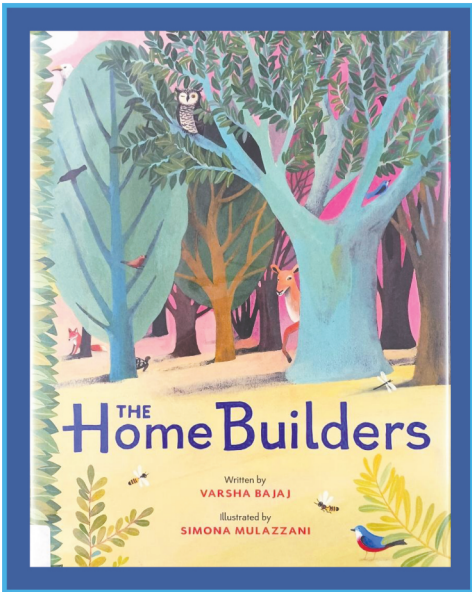
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Embracing Discomfort

Our modern world is full of comforts. Why, then, have we seen the single largest increase in mental health diagnoses in our country's history? Why are more and more people seeking therapy?

It turns out, we are living our lives in a way that seeks to escape or avoid discomfort altogether, never realizing that it is in our discomfort that we grow and improve. In seeking comfort, we have lost our connection to the one thing that makes us strong: discomfort itself. When we avoid things like boredom, hunger, silence, sadness, uncertainty and having to wait for things, we develop an intolerance to life's struggles. We begin to see struggle itself as a mental illness.

We end up responding to life in ways that seek to fill us with feelings of satisfaction. We reach for our phone instead of sitting with boredom. We eat all day long to avoid hunger when we are actually designed to go days without food. We stay busy doing things to avoid reflecting on our lives.

Essentially, we are using distraction to avoid difficult emotions or physical sensations. When we do this, we teach ourselves that discomfort is dangerous and somehow to be avoided at all costs to the detriment of our mental and

physical health.

There are real costs when we avoid discomfort:

1. We reduce our emotional resilience.
2. We increase our sense of anxiety as we teach ourselves to fear future discomfort.
3. We become dependent on external sources of comfort instead of sitting with ourselves and our feelings.
4. We lose confidence in our ability to handle life's challenges.

There is a term called "Hormesis". It is that act of deliberately exposing yourself to discomfort. Some great examples are when people do ice baths or long-form fasting. Lifting heavy weights or running are other ways that we can deliberately experience discomfort.

The overall philosophy of Hormesis is that when we do things that are simple to recover from and do not actually overwhelm us, we learn how to adapt and grow. Through this process, we can learn to:

1. Sit with discomfort and even boredom.
2. Allow difficult emotions to be felt without immediately trying to fix or distract ourselves from them.

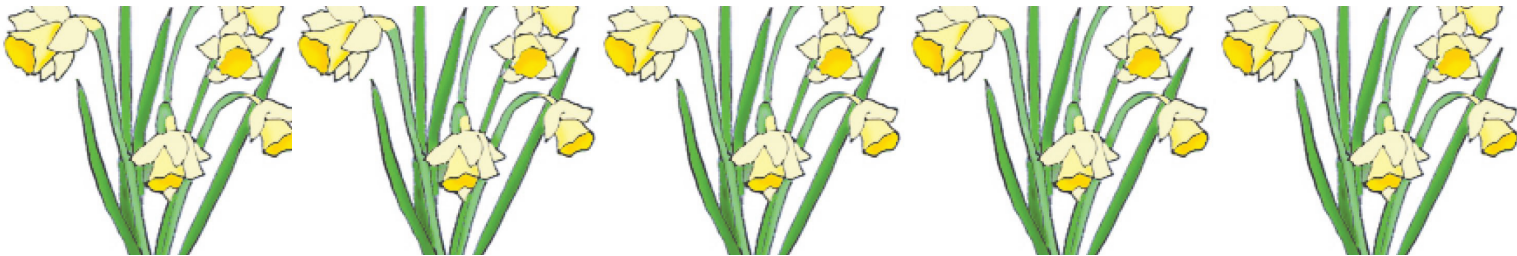
3. Learn to stay present with uncertainty.
4. Learn that discomfort is temporary.

Our character grows when we learn to handle discomfort. If the goal in life is not comfort but to become a capable person, then when we learn to sit with discomfort, we discover that we are stronger than we could have imagined. This is another way that we win at life.

-Adam DeVaney, LCSW, CECF

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



Eighteen Summers

Time is a very precious thing, especially when you have children. Time can go so fast that you have no idea where it went or what even happened. You only have so much time with your children before they are no longer children. You have eighteen short summers to spend with them.

You only have eighteen summers of fun and adventures, so use them wisely. Instead of letting your kids sit around and play video games, do things together as a family. Go play as a family. Have adventures and create memories that will last a lifetime.

Take them to do things together. It doesn't have to cost much or anything. Take them fishing or camping. Go to the beach. Plan a much-needed vacation. Kids like to be busy. They like to have fun. Let them choose some activities to do each day or week. Give them options that will work with your family budget.

Let your kids be kids. Let them play baseball. Send them to church camp. Sign them up for Vacation Bible School. There are so many activities they can do that are positive to keep

them busy, because let's face it, parents have to work.

Let them play with friends or make new ones. Let them hang out with family or friends who are like family. There are so many things they can do to keep busy. There are many places that have low cost or free activities kids can do in the area.

Yes, I believe it is healthy for teens to work and earn money, but they need to be kids too. Let them get a job that is flexible so they can still enjoy their summer. For many summers I babysat to earn money. Working a part time job is part of growing up, but only part.

Now, letting kids just have free rein isn't good either. There needs to be structure of some kind. Even if they are home all day with you, there still needs to be some kind of structure so they don't sit on the couch and rot all summer. Have some kind of schedule for your day so they have a guide.

Have them do simple chores around the house. They can read or do something creative. They can play with siblings or friends. Let them make

crafts. They for sure need to get outside to play. Soak up as much fresh air as possible.

You can stock up on craft supplies or go to the library for activities. Have some things on hand in case of a rainy day. You can have an indoor picnic and movie day if it is raining.

Make a summer bucket list of things your kids would like to do this summer, within reason. Then try to cross off as many of those things as possible. Many things are simple day trips that are reasonably priced. Let them include a friend or two if you are able. The more the merrier.

No matter what you do with your kids this summer, make it fun. Create memories that will last a lifetime. Kids deserve to have a fun summer too. You will not regret it!

Alison Neihardt, LPC, NCC

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

COMMUNITY

South Boardman to Celebrate 150 Years with Historic Sesquicentennial Celebration on June 20, 2026



SOUTH BOARDMAN, MI — South Boardman will celebrate a once-in-a-generation milestone on **Saturday, June 20, 2026**, as residents, families, former community members, and visitors from across Northern Michigan gather to commemorate the community's **150th Anniversary (Sesquicentennial Celebration)**.

The all-day event will feature activities, exhibits, entertainment, historical displays, family attractions, and community gatherings from **9:00 AM through 10:00 PM**, honoring the people, businesses, farms, railroad heritage, and traditions that helped shape South Boardman since its founding in 1874.

Organizers have spent months planning a celebration designed to welcome all ages and interests while showcasing the rich history and strong community spirit that continue to define South Boardman today.

Featured attractions and activities will include:

- 1st Annual Car, Truck & Motorcycle Show
- Classic Tractor Show
- Historical Exhibits & Pioneer Displays
- Live Music Throughout the Day
- Street Dance featuring an 8-Piece Country & Western Band
- Food Trucks, Ice Cream & Local Favorites
- Pig Roast
- Petting Zoo
- Corn Hole & Family Activities
- Guided Historical Tours
- Community Exhibits
- Fire Department Open House
- Historic Scavenger Hunt
- WKLT's Big Red Fleet Broadcasting Live On Site

The celebration will highlight South Boardman's unique history, including its railroad roots, agricultural heritage, local businesses, community organizations, and the generations of families who have contributed to the area's growth and success.

"This celebration is about more than marking 150 years on a calendar," organizers stated. "It is an opportunity to bring people together, reconnect with old friends and neighbors, honor those who came before us, and celebrate the community spirit that continues to make South Boardman such a special place."

Organizers anticipate visitors from throughout Kalkaska, Grand Traverse and other surrounding counties; making the event one of the largest community celebrations held in the area in recent years.

The event is open to the public, and attendees are encouraged to bring family members, lawn chairs, classic vehicles, and community pride as South Boardman celebrates this historic milestone.

Additional event information can be found through the official Facebook Event Page:

Facebook Event: <https://fb.me/e/9iKwP14L4>

Car, Truck & Motorcycle Show Registration:

<https://runsignup.com/TicketEvent/22SBCarShow>

About the South Boardman Sesquicentennial Celebration

The South Boardman Sesquicentennial Celebration was organized to commemorate the community's 150th Anniversary and preserve the stories, traditions, history, and community spirit that have helped shape South Boardman for generations. The event is being supported by local volunteers, organizations, businesses, sponsors, and community members committed to honoring the past while celebrating the future.

Media Contact:

Paul Birgy

South Boardman Sesquicentennial Committee

231.313.4505

O&A - continued from page 3
Kids’ Coding Club, Bellaire Public Library, 111 S. Bridge, Bellaire, an opportunity for kids to explore the world of computer coding at their level, ages 8-13 welcome, registration required, call 231 533-8814
When: 3rd Sat, 10:00 to 11:00 am
Meet and Eat, Youth Event, Mancelona United Methodist Church, 117 W. Hinman, Mancelona, planned by youth for youth including a meal, music, pastor’s message, games & fun, grades 7-12, 231 587-8461
When: 4th Sunday (3rd if 4th is a holiday weekend) 7:00 to 8:30 pm

Miscellaneous

Monday Tech Help 1-on-1 Kalkaska County Library, 247 S. Cedar St, If you need some help setting up your new phone or laptop, troubleshooting tech problems, or just want to learn more about using the internet safely, then contact us to get 30 minutes of personalized support from our tech services librarian! Contact (231) 258-9411 or info@kalkaskalibrary.org to sign up!
When: by appointment Mon 10am-4pm & Thu 1-5pm
Love Locker Project, 449 W. State St at Fife Lake, Baptist, 49633 Free seasonal clothing, hygiene products, and blankets available 24/7
When: available anytime
Love Locker Project - Kalkaska 1972 Saunders Rd SE at Evergreen Bible Baptist, Free seasonal clothing, hygiene products, and blankets available 24/7
When: available anytime
Love Locker Project- Rapid City 7964 Rapid City Rd at North Light Ministry Free seasonal clothing, hygiene products, and blankets available 24/7
When: available anytime
Stroke Recovery Group, Antrim County COA/Sr Meal Site, 308 E. Cayuga, Bellaire, must register prior to each session, please call 231 533-8703
When: 3rd Mon, 3:00 to 4:00 pm
Tech Tuesdays with Gabe, Gabe is here to answer any technology related questions you have. Bellaire Public Library, 111 S. Bridge St, contact 231 533-8814
When: Tue, 11 am to 3 pm
Kalkaska County Breastfeeding Support Group, Blue Fish Early Learning Center, 405 E. Dresden St, contact District Health Department 10 at 231 258-8669
When: 1st & 3rd Tue, 10:00 to 11:00 am
Kalkaska Baby Pantry, Kalkaska Church of Christ, 1725 W Kalkaska Rd, Clothing, diapers, wipes available (donations of such are accepted), serving children to size 4T, contact 231 258-9441
When: 2nd & 4th Tue, 9:30 am to 1 pm.
Girlfriends Social Hour, Kalkaska Senior Center/COA, 303 S. Coral St, grab a friend and enjoy a coffee or juice, and time with other ladies, senior and nearly senior women are welcome, contact 231 258-5030
When: Wed 10 am
Tech Tuesdays with Gabe! Bellaire Public Library, 111 S. Bridge St, 231 533-8814
When: Wed, 11 am to 3 pm
Spanish Speaking Cohort, Bellaire Public Library, 111 s. Bridge St, 231-533-8814
When: Wed, 4 pm
Thursday Tech Help 1-on-1 Kalkaska County Library, 247 S. Cedar St, If you need some help setting up your new phone or laptop, troubleshooting tech problems, or just want to learn more about using the internet safely, then contact us to get 30 minutes of personalized support from our tech services librarian! Contact (231) 258-9411 or info@kalkaskalibrary.org to sign up!
When: Thu, 1:00 to 5:00 pm
Everyone Has a Story, Kingsley Branch Library, 213 S. Brownson Ave, join with the library and the Kingsley Folk School for a storytelling community circle, you are welcome to share your personal stories with others to create connections in our community, 231 263-5484
When: 2nd Thur, 5:30 to 7:00 pm
Antrim County Baby Pantry, St. Anthony’s Church, 209 Jefferson Ave, Mancelona, providing food, clothing, diapers, and other items for children from birth until their 6th birthday (donations accepted), masks optional, one shopper per family and children are welcome but must remain with their parent, new families, please arrive by 2 pm for paperwork and bring valid ID, 231 492-7426
When: 2nd & 4th Thu, 11:00 am to 3:00 pm
Dance, Mancelona Senior Center, 122 E. State St, Mancelona, \$7 admission, bring a dish to pass, contact Cheryl at 231 587-9131
When: 1st and 3rd Fri, 6:00 to 9:00 pm
Fruit of the Womb Baby Pantry, Kalkaska Baptist Church, 1651 County Rd 612, contact 231 258-5409
When: Sat, 9:00 to 11:00 am

Rock n’ Jam, The Rock of Kingsley, local musicians are welcome to come jam and the public is welcome to come listen, tap their toes, dance, contact 231 263-7000
When: 2nd Sat, (through Oct) 5:00 to 8:00 pm
Simply Delicious with Chef Tom, Kingsley Branch Library, 213 S. Brownson Ave, a quick and inspiring cooking class, learning tips and techniques while exploring global cuisine and spices, contact 231 263-5484
When: Last Saturday of the month, 10 - 11 am
Veterans/Active Duty
MWR (Morale, Welfare, & Recreation), Belay My Last Barracks, 5210 E. Boardman Rd, South Boardman, veterans are welcome to hang out and enjoy a meal, use the rec room, gym, or theater, peer support specialist is also available, contact 231 631-5372
When: Mondays, 6:30 pm
Kalkaska VFW Land-O-Lakes Post 8684, VFW Post 408 Hyde St, Quartermaster: Joe Graff, Commander: Luke TenHopen
When: 1st Mon, 6:00 pm
Mancelona American Legion Post #0264, 9850 S. Front St, Commander: Benjamin Zerod, Adjutant: Tamara Hunt
When: 1st Mon, 6:00 pm
Antrim County Veteran Coffee Talks, 118 Bridge St, Elk Rapids, contact 231 533-8499
When: 3rd Mon, 9 am
Vets Coffee Time, Kalkaska Senior Center/COA, 303 S. Coral St, free coffee and donuts, hosted by American Legion Post #480, contact Darel at 231 258-9445
When: 2nd Wed, 9:00 to 11:00 am
American Legion Post 219, 10283 M-186, Fife Lake, Commander: Cameron Wojoie, Adjutant: Craig Heckert, contact 231 879-4475
When: 2nd Wed, 6:30 pm
Coffee Talk for Veterans, M88 Morning Grind, presented by Antrim Co Veterans Affairs, contact 231 533-8499
When: 3rd Wed, 8:30 am
South Boardman American Legion #463 and Auxiliary Meeting, South Boardman Legion Hall, 5479 Boardman Rd (at the tank), South Boardman, Commander: Lindarae Radtke, Adjutant: Elwin Hall, contact 231 369-2944
When: 1st Thu, 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: 3rd Thu, 1:00 pm
M88 Monthly Muster, M-88 Morning Grind, 614 Cayuga St, Bellaire, coffee talk for Antrim County Veterans and their families to connect and share in much needed military camaraderie, contact 231 632-9155
When: 1st Sunday, 12:00 pm
BOOK CLUBS
The Bookies Book Club, at host’s home, contact 231 879-4101 or flpl@tadl.org for location and details
When: 3rd Tue, 7:00 pm
The Last Tuesday Book Group- Bellaire Public Library, 111 S Bridge St, Bellaire, contact 231 533-8814
When: last Tue, 1:00 pm
Monthly Book Club, Kalkaska Senior Center/COA, 303 S. Coral St, new book each month to be announced at previous meeting or contact 231 258-5030 for info
When: 2nd Wed, 1:00 [m
The Page Turners Book Club- Bellaire Public Library, 111 S Bridge St, Bellaire, registration appreciated, contact 231 533-8814
When: 2nd Wed, 7:00 pm
Kingsley Afternoon Book Club- Kingsley Branch Library, 213 Brownson Ave, Kingsley, does not meet in Dec, June, July, or Aug, contact 231 263-5484
When: 4th Wed, 2:00 to 3:00 pm
Fife Lake Library Book Club-Take 2, Fife Lake Public Library, 77 Lakecrest Lane, Fife Lake, 231 879-4101
When: 4th Wed, 2:30 pm
Mindfulness Book Club- Bellaire Public Library, 111 S Bridge St, Bellaire, contact 231 533-8814
When: last Wed, 4:00 pm
Nature Book Club, Bellaire Public Library, 111 S Bridge St, Bellaire, led by members of the Antrim Conservation District, contact 231 533-8814
When: 1st Thu, 9:30 am
Books ‘n Brie Book Club, Presented by Alden District Library, Helena Township Community Center, 8751 Helena Rd, Alden, enjoy snacks and beverages while discussing the month’s book, free of charge, sponsored by the Alden District Library, contact 231 331-4318
When: 2nd Thu, 3:30 pm
T.T. Nooners Book Club, Kalkaska County Library, 247 S. Cedar St, 231 258-9411
When: 3rd Thu, 12 to 1 pm

Teen Book Club - at the Kalkaska County Library. Teens ages 14-18 are welcome to join us to read and discuss books with friends. Snacks will be provided! Contact (231) 258-9411 or info@kalkaskalibrary.org for more info.
When: 3rd Thu, 3:30pm
The Rory Gilmore Book Club, Fife Lake Public Library, 77 Lakecrest Lane, Fife Lake, contact 231 879-4101
When: Last Sat, 4:00 pm
Organization Meetings
Kalkaska Democrats, contact Gary at 231 590-3397 for current meeting location
When: 1st Mon, 6:00 pm
Kingsley Friends of the Library, Kingsley Branch Library, 213 S. Brownson, Kingsley, open for ages 0-5 years, contact 231 263-5484
When: 3rd Mon, 5:00 to 6:00 pm
Kalkaska Conservation District Board of Directors, District Office, 406 S. Cedar St, Suite A, Kalkaska, contact Mark, 231 258-3307
When: 3rd Mon, 5:00 pm
National Trout Festival, Trout Town Tavern & Eatery, 306 Elm St, 231 384-1509
When: 4th Mon, 5:30 pm
Kalkaska Republicans, Kalkaska COA/Senior Center, 303 S. Coral St
When: Last Mon., 7:00 pm
Kalkaska Kiwanis Meeting, Kalkaska Senior Center/COA, 303 S. Coral St
When: 2nd and 4th Tue, 12:00 pm
Friends of the Central Lake District Library, Central Lake District Library, Conference Room, 7900 Maple St, contact 231 544-1144
When: 3rd Tue, 10:00 to 11:00 am
Friends of the Kalkaska County Library, Kalkaska County Library 247 S. Cedar St, downstairs
When: 4th 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: 1st Wed, 10 am.
Friends of the Fife Lake Public Library, 77 Lakecrest Lane, Fife Lake, contact Denise, 734 444-2484
When: 2nd Wed., 11:00 am
Chain of Lakes Genealogy Club, Central Lake Library, 7900 Maple St, 231 544-2517
When: 3rd Wed, 6:00 pm
BIGG (Genealogy Group), Bellaire Public Library, 111 S Bridge St, Bellaire, contact 231 533-8814
When: 1st Thu., 10:30 am
South Boardman American Legion #463 and Auxiliary Meeting, South Boardman Legion Hall, 5487 Boardman Rd (at the tank), South Boardman, contact 231 369-2944
When: 1st Thur., 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: 1st Thu, 7 pm
Friends of the Alden District Library, Helena Township Community Center, 8752 Helena Rd, Alden, 231 331-4318
When: 3rd Thu, 9:30 am social time, 10:00 am meeting
Alden Men’s Club, Alden United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall, 9015 Helena Rd, Alden. Come see what we are all about, “Helping others in need,” contact 603 540-3581 or visit www.aldenmensclub.org
When: last Saturday of the month , 8:00 am (except July and November), no meeting in December.
SUPPORT GROUPS
Alcoholics Anonymous (AA), Alden United Methodist Church, 9015 Helena Rd, Alden
When: Sun, 7:00 pm
Alcoholics Anonymous (AA), Central Lake VFW Hall, 1805 S. Main St, Central Lake
When: Sun, 7:00 pm
Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting (AA), Sportsmens Club, 6095 Garfield Rd, Kingsley
When: Sun, Tue, 8:00 pm (Sun only May-Sept Mayfield Pond Park)
Narcotics Anonymous (NA), Living in Harmony, United Methodist Church, 2525 Beebe Rd, Kalkaska
When: Mon, 7:00 pm
Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting (AA), Fife Lake Methodist Church, 206 Boyd St,
When: Mon, 8:00 pm
Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting (AA), Hope Lutheran Church, 2680 S. M-88, Bellaire
When: Mon, 8:00 pm

REFLECTION

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

A more perfect union

June 12, 2026

The preamble of the Constitution lists as its first purpose “to form a more perfect union.” There is a profoundly important understanding lodged in that statement. It recognizes not only that the union originally crafted via the Articles of Confederation was not perfect, but also that the one being created by the new Constitution was also not perfect. It was, indeed, better and stronger than the original union. But perfection remained a goal for the future.

Over the years since the 1787 signing and the 1788 ratification of the Constitution, the document itself has undergone modification from time to time. In fact, during the ratification process, several of the states gave only conditional ratification, insisting that a Bill of Rights must be added to it. The first ten amendments, that we commonly refer to as the Bill of Rights, were enacted in Congress March 4, 1789, and sent out to the states for ratification, which was accomplished December 15, 1791.

Additionally, our founders provided in the Constitution itself, the means for its own remodeling. Article V lays out the methods by which the Constitution may be amended.

It is remarkable that our founders, in spite of whatever character flaws any of them may have

had, had the clarity of vision to point us all in the direction of always striving to improve.

As I reflect upon the wisdom and self-awareness required for the framers of the Constitution to take such care for the future improvement of the government they designed, I am struck by how that same principle can truly apply to one’s personal life.

A year ago, while helping my husband recover from a medical emergency, I became aware that I needed to develop more upper body strength. I began slowly, using 2-lb weights and doing a few arm reps a day. Once I reached the level of daily doing two sets of 200 reps each, I moved up to using 3-lb weights. Today, I am at 300 reps a day with the 3-lb weights. What used to raise my heart rate up to about 125 beats per minute now barely gets me to 100. Pretty soon, I will be switching to 5-lb weights, and setting a daily goal of 500 reps.

The difference in my physical well-being is remarkable. The gradual increase in effort is paying off.

The strength training is just one example of pursuing a more perfect version of self. I am finding many ways to work on bettering myself. I shall not bore you by detailing them all. Just know that I am a lifelong learner, always pursuing more knowledge and working to improve my skills. Although absolute

perfection is an unattainable goal, whether for the nation or for oneself, still pressing toward that goal proves to be worthwhile.

Our founders put into words excellent principles that we hold to be true and valid. Consider one of the finest sentences ever written: “We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal and are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.”

We know that the man who penned that sentence, as well as the men who helped to edit those lines, did not live up to the principle embodied therein. But, we can observe that over time – admittedly with bumps and bruises – the conscience of the nation has edged ever closer to living by that principle. We’re not there, yet, but we are closer.

So, I treasure the special gift of inspiration found in the very first purpose of the Constitution as stated in its preamble: to form a more perfect union. And I am grateful for its ever-present guidance by example.

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

Shalom

Tina Norris Fields
Editor

Citizenship Corner

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

- 1) Where do bills to raise revenue originate?
- 2) When a bill has passed both the House of Representatives and the Senate, is it a law?
- 3) What does Congress do with a vetoed bill?
- 4) What if the President just doesn’t do anything with the bill?



Citizenship Corner

Answers to last issue’s questions

- 1) How many times per year does the Constitution oblige the Congress to assemble?
A. Per Article I, Section 4, at least once.
- 2) When did the Constitution originally declare the Congress had to meet?
A. Per Article I, Section 4, Congress must meet on the first Monday in December, unless by law they select another date.
- 3) Is that still the date on which Congress begins a session?
A. No, now it is January 3.
- 4) When and how did the change get made?
A. Amendment XX, ratified in 1933, set the start of a Congressional session at noon on January 3, unless by law they select another day..

Everything in this paper
is important to somebody



COFFEE TIME for VETERANS

Free coffee & donuts
Second Wednesday Each Month
9 to 11 am
Kalkaska Senior Center
303 S. Coral St
Hosted by American Legion Post 480
Contact-Darel at 258-9445

ALDEN DISTRICT LIBRARY
presents:



Thursday, June 18
2:30 p.m.

8751 Helena Road
Alden, MI 49612

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



Academea Club Wine Auction

MONDAY, JUNE 22, 2026
6:00PM AT VFW POST
8684 HYDE STREET
KALKASKA

PROCEEDS CONTRIBUTE
TO YOUR COMMUNITY.

We support: Kalkaska County Library, KAIR & Festival of the Trees, Kalkaska/Forest Area High School Scholarships, God's Garden, Feed the Kids, Kalkaska Area Animal Shelter, Embracing Imperfections - Suicide Prevention Program for Teens, and other local projects

WALK SLOWLY WITH PURPOSE

A Northern Michigan Morning: Five Minutes Before the Coffee

By Dominic Fortuna

Summertime in northern Michigan has a way of making fools of us all.

One minute you're planning to sleep in because the lake's right there and the sun doesn't quit till 10pm. The next minute you're staring at a to-do list that looks longer than M-72 in August: mow the grass before it mows you, fix the dock board that's been "almost fixed" since Memorial Day, weed the tomatoes before the deer do, and somehow get to work without forgetting your lunch.

Or maybe you're one of the lucky ones. Vacation mode. Kayak on the roof, cooler in the trunk, nowhere to be and all day to get there. Sleeping Bear, Torch Lake, or just your own backyard with a hammock and zero cell service.

Either way, life up here moves fast when the weather's good. Too fast. We wake up, we run. Coffee first. Then the scramble. Then we wonder why by 2pm we feel like we've been dragged behind the boat without a rope.

Here's a thought, and it won't cost you a dime. Try five minutes. Ten if you're really into it. Before the coffee. Before you make the bed. Before you even decide what to wear. Before you pack that lunch you'll forget in the car.

Do it at home at the kitchen table while the loons are still arguing on the lake. Do it on your deck with bare feet in the grass and the morning mist still deciding if it wants to lift. Do it on the beach before anyone else claims the good spot. Just do it first.

Call it setting the path. Call it checking your internal compass. Call it whatever you want, as long as you actually do it.

Here's how it works, Northern Michigan style: Sit down. Breathe. The air up here is free and it's better than any essential oil. Look out at the pines, the water, the sky that goes on forever. And ask, quietly, for direction. Not the GPS kind. The other

kind.

Ask for your thinking to be clear today. Clear of the noise. Clear of the petty stuff that steals your morning before you've even had a sip of coffee. Ask to see what the next right step is. Not the ten-year plan. Just the next step. Because up here, the next step is usually "don't forget the bug spray" and "call your mom back."

Ask for what you need to handle the stuff that's coming. The flat tire on US-31. The customer who's "in a hurry." The kid who needs lunch money. The neighbor who needs help lifting something heavy. You won't get a full playbook. You'll get enough for today. That's how northern Michigan works. We don't get the whole summer forecast in April. We get today's weather, and we make do.

Ask to let go of running the whole show yourself. I know, I know. We're Yoopers and Michiganders. We fix things. We figure it out. We're stubborn as a January snowdrift. But some things aren't yours to carry at 6am. Let that go. Ask instead to do what's actually yours to do.

And here's the kicker: don't make it all about you. Ask that you notice someone else today. The cashier who looks tired. The tourist who's lost at the roundabout in Traverse City again. The friend who hasn't called back. Ask that you be useful, not just busy. There's a difference. Busy is mowing the lawn three times because you forgot where you stopped. Useful is stopping to help the guy whose mower won't start.

That's it. Five minutes. Ten if you really lean in.

Do it before the coffee, and I promise the coffee tastes better. Do it before the bed's made, and the whole house feels less chaotic. Do it before you choose your clothes, and you'll pick the shirt that actually fits your day. Do it before you make lunch, and you'll remember to pack it.

Make it part of the routine like checking the weather or feeding the birds. At home. In nature.

Doesn't matter. God, the universe, your better self, whatever word you use up here when the stars come out over the lake—talk to that. First thing.

I've watched people in Kalkaska and Charlevoix and every little town between try this for a week. Their lawns still need mowing. Their inboxes still fill up. The deer still eat the tomatoes. But they move through it differently. Less hurry. More footing. Less "why me," more "what's next."

Summertime here is short. We waste too much of it running on autopilot. Chores, work, errands, repeat. Then it's September and we're wondering where July went.

So try this. Five minutes before you do anything else. Set the path. Ask for clear thinking. Ask for what you need. Ask to be useful.

Your to-do list won't shrink. But you will grow into it. And that, friends, changes everything. It really is about walking slow slowly and with purpose, but before you get up to walk, and before you start calculating your purpose, do this simply for 5 or 10 minutes to your God. Set your priorities for your mind and your emotion just as you would do the same for your body. Your mind needs to be set straight and nourished, just like your body..

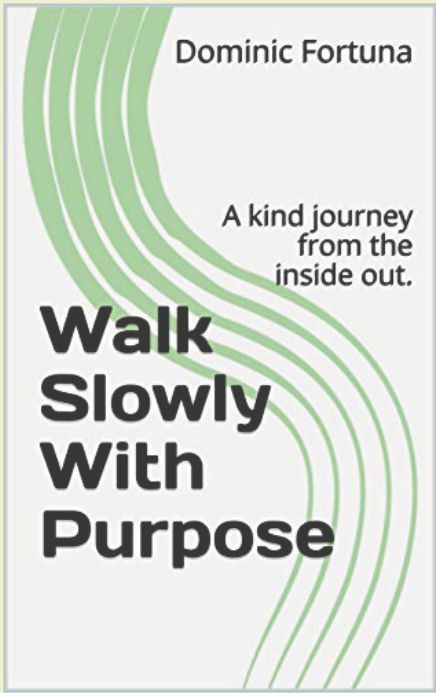
Now go make the coffee. You've earned it.



Now Available from Amazon on Kindle and in Paperback

Dominic Fortuna's book,
"Walk Slowly With Purpose"

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



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 Wed, 5 pm

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Village of Mancelona:
Village Offices, 120 W. State, Mancelona, 231 587-8331
When: 2nd Tue, 6:00 pm

Mancelona DDA, Antrim County Title, 504 S. Williams, Mancelona, 231 58-833
When: 2nd Mon, 5:30 pm

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

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

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

Village of Kingsley:
Village Offices, 207 S. Brownson, 231 263-7778
Village Council- When: 2nd Mon, 6:00 pm
DDA- When: 3rd Tue, 6:00 pm

Paradise Township:
Township Hall, 2300 E. M-113, Kingsley, 231 263-5251
When: 2nd Wed, 6:00 pm

Helena Township:
Helena Township Community Center, 8751 Helena Rd, Alden, 231 331-4643
When: 2nd Thu, 7:00 pm

Village of Kalkaska:
Village Offices, 200 Hyde St, Kalkaska, 231-258-9191
Village Council- When: 2nd Mon, 6 pm
DDA- When: 1st Tue, 5:00 pm

Kalkaska County:
Kalkaska County BOC Chambers, Administration Building, 605 N Birch St, 231-258-3349
Board of Commissioners- When: 3nd Wed, 5 pm

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

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

Alden
Alden Bar & Grille
Alden State Bank
Alden District Library
Legacy Watersports & Marina
Higgins Store
Paradise Properties
TCC Artisan Market
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
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Family Fare
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Kalkaska County Library
Kalkaska Funeral Home
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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

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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 June 12, 2026

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

Puzzle on page 8

Legacy Watersports & Marina now on Torch Lake



Ribbon-cutting ceremony, (L-R) Corey Farr, Brian Quinlan, Katie Hicks, Gavin Rose, Jodi Brooke.

By Tina Norris Fields

Exciting new things keep happening in Alden this year as the summer season begins. Monday, June 8, 2026, was sunny and warm, just perfect for the opening of the third location of Legacy Watersports & Marina. Already well known on Walloon Lake and Lake Charlevoix, manager Corey Farr says they are “thrilled to add a 3rd location in Alden, MI in the space previously known as Alden Outfitters.”

Waterfront specialist Katie Hicks explained that expanding to this location on Torch Lake was a “natural next step for Legacy Watersports & Marina.” Torch Lake, with its crystal-clear water offers unforgettable boating experiences. This

serendipitous expansion allows Legacy Watersports & Marina “to serve guests and residents across Walloon Lake, Lake Charlevoix, and Torch Lake.”

We were curious about the name “Legacy,” which seemed unusual. Legacy was chosen as a reflection of the company’s philosophy that the best memories come from family time spent together on and around the water. Providing the means to make those experiences become part of family legacies is the mission of Legacy Watersports & Marina.

Offering everything from boat rentals to swimwear and casual summer dress, Legacy Watersports & Marina adds one more bright spot to downtown Alden.



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

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

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

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