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"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights..."
Thomas Jefferson, July 4, 1776

Vol2026:
June 26, 2026

Antrim County Community Choir Summer Concert



By Tina Norris Fields

Bellaire, June 14, 2026

Twice a year, the Antrim County Community Choir offers a concert to the community – once in June and once in December. The June concert generally has a patriotic flavor to it. The December concert, which is now done jointly with the Elk Lake Community Choir, has a Christmas theme.

The Antrim County Community Choir supports the Susie Hutchings Memorial Music Scholarship Fund to assist local rea music students financially as they pursue their musical training. And each concert features those scholarship winners.

This year’s summer concert began with a beautiful arrangement of America, the Beautiful. The featured musical scholars were Hazel Pierce (piano), Jacob Stephens (Saxophone), Milo Joyce (French Horn), Louis Tulpa (piano), and Padraig Hollandsworth (piano).

The Bellaire High School graciously provided its Performing Arts Center for the June 14, 2026, concert. The following day, the choir visited Meadowbrook Medical Care Facility and gave the choral part of the concert for the residents. It’s a joy to sing for them ; they welcome the choir so warmly.

**ANTRIM COUNTY
COMMUNITY CHOIR**

Presents

**The Annual Jubilee Concert:
STRONGER TOGETHER**

Featuring

Scholarship Winners of 2026

Director: Dorothy Clore
Accompanist: John Dickinson

**Bellaire High School
Performing Arts Center
Bellaire, Michigan 49615**

**Sunday, June 14, 2026
4:00 p.m.**

*A freewill offering will be received to benefit
the Susie Hutchings Memorial Scholarship Fund.*

Three Lakes Association Invites you to our education event at the Summit Village Beach Clubhouse
5597 Northlakes Rd.
Bellaire, MI 49615
Tuesday, July 14th, 4:30pm to 6:30pm with presentations at 5:00
Adult refreshments and a meal of hors d'oeuvres will be provided!
Get the latest news about Eurasian Water Milfoil, Aquatic Plant Surveys, Quagga Mussels impacts
And meet our 2026 interns!
There will also be a silent auction in support of the Science Education Outreach Program (SEOP) promoting stewardship in our local schools!

**THREE LAKES
ASSOCIATION**
Call: 231.412.7551
email: 3lakes.info@gmail.com

We have gift cards for golf, local eateries, guided boat tours, unique one of a kind items and much more!
This event is for the general public as well as members! Bring your family and friends!

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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508 N. Birch Street, Kalkaska

OBITUARIES

Alvin G. McShane

February 1, 1940 ~ June 17, 2026

Alvin G. McShane, 86, of Rapid City passed peacefully on June 17, 2026. Born in Detroit, Michigan to Alvin and Florine McShane, he was a man of infinite kindness, brilliant intellect, and service.

A proud veteran of the United States Army, he served as an elite paratrooper and reconnaissance scout with the 101st Airborne Division ‘Screaming Eagles’ — (Headquarters Company, 2d ABG, 187th Infantry ‘Rakkasans’). Serving as the ‘tip of the spear’ at Fort Campbell, Kentucky, his enlistment was extended by presidential order during the Berlin Crisis to ensure critical national defense readiness.

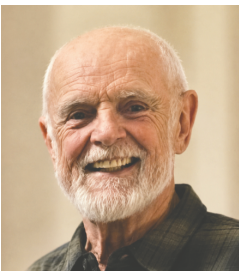
Following his honorable discharge, Al McShane became a lifetime member with Local 98 and was a master plumber and certified welder working in multiple disciplines, including boilermakers, steamfitters, sprinkler fitters, and iron

workers. He also served as plumbing inspector for the City of Detroit ensuring the safety and integrity of the city’s infrastructure.

Later in life he brought his years of expertise up north, serving the community as an Antrim County plumbing inspector until his retirement.

Beyond his career and military service, Al was a devoted Mason and served honorably as Worshipful Master of Davis Lodge 64 and Detroit Lodge 2. Known for his vibrant enthusiasm, he was pivotal in revitalizing the lodge and infusing it with new life, energy and purpose. He also became a member of the Shriners, supporting their mission of care and community.

He walked through life with a servant’s heart, leaving a lasting



impact across the Detroit community, not only through his involvement with Lodge 2 and the Shriners, but also volunteering with the Knights of Columbus, St. Matthew Catholic Church, and the Dominican Literacy Center.

A man of many talents, he was an artist, a wood carver, poet, and will be remembered as a dedicated volunteer, mentor and ‘teacher.’ As an avid lifelong learner with an insatiable curiosity, Al was deeply knowledgeable about world history, geopolitics, astronomy, and nature — nurturing a rich wildlife sanctuary and pond in his own backyard.

He leaves behind his beloved wife and best friend, Linda McShane, with whom he shared a beautiful life of partnership, laughter, and deep devotion, as well as his

children; stepson, William (Deborah) Foy, daughters, Barbara (William Milhem) McShane, and Debra (Christopher) Reynolds; brothers, Stephen (Kathy) McShane, Patrick (Diane) McShane, Bruce (Patty) McShane, and sister, Roseanne (Marvin) DeBuck; along with 9 grandchildren, 8 greatgrandchildren and many nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Al McShane is preceded in death by his parents Alvin and Florine McShane, brother James (Karen) McShane, and his stepson Steven and daughter-in-law Diane Foy.

A Memorial Mass will be held later this summer on Saturday, August 1st at 11:00 AM at: SS. John and Paul Catholic Church, 7777 28 Mile Road, Washington, Michigan 48094

Alan George Seeley

November 28, 1936 ~ June 17, 2026

Alan George Seeley passed away on June 17, 2026, peacefully at his home. Born on their farm on Seeley Road on November 28th, 1936, to Donald and Bernadine (Steve) Seeley, he was the oldest of six children.

Alan grew up on his family’s farm, attending Kalkaska schools and graduating in 1954. He loved playing baseball, so much so that he would keep playing even after his mother called him to dinner and hoped his brother didn’t hear her. He would rather play baseball than eat.

Joining the Army in 1958, Alan traveled to Europe during his service. He would take the train on his weekends and leaves to explore from his base in Germany. I can only imagine this involved a

lot of dancing, he loved dancing as much as baseball. After his honorable discharge, he returned home but not for long; he then joined the Merchant Marines and worked on the Great Lakes for the next nine years. Alan enjoyed this time so much that after his retirement he returned to the boats for four summers in his sixties. Finally settling down, he began his career at the Kalkaska County Road Commission, retiring after 28 years in 1999. A dedicated employee, he would wait by the phone early in the morning during snowstorms for the call to plow the roads. When not working he loved to be outside, attending auctions,



tinkering around his land and operating his hobby sawmill.

On February 22, 1969, Alan married Bonnie Tucker. A marriage that lasted over thirty years until Bonnie’s passing in 1999. Alan is survived by his daughter Cassie (Brian) Allen of Big Rapids, granddaughter Kelsey Allen of Grand Haven and grandson Nathan (Angelleya Rose) of Greenville, He is also survived by his brothers Buck (Diane) Seeley, Gary Seeley, Bernard (Debbie) Seeley, his sister Michaeline Crawford and his special friend Shirley Bourne, all of Kalkaska.

He was predeceased by his parents, wife Bonnie, brother Kelly

Seeley, sister-in-law Diane Seeley, brother-in-law Marvin Crawford and close friend Bonnie Ferrell.

Always quick with a smile, was willing to do virtually anything for just anybody. He will be missed deeply by his family, his friends at the senior center and all the dance halls across Northern Michigan.

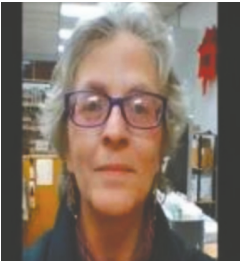
The memorial service will be held at St. Mary of the Woods Catholic Church on Wednesday, July 1, 2026, at 11:00 am with a visitation one hour prior. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Kalkaska Senior Center. Arrangements have been entrusted to Kalkaska Funeral Home and Cremation 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.

Kathleen Ann Pintcke

November 11, 1959 ~ May 31, 2026

Kathleen (Goodwin) Pintcke, 66, of Mancelona, passed away peacefully on Sunday, May 31, 2026, surrounded by family and friends. Kathleen worked at the Mancelona Township Library and will be lovingly remembered by her husband, Anthony Pintcke. A



memorial service was held at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, June 13, 2026, at Redeemer Presbyterian Church, 402 W. Ninth Street, Traverse City. Arrangements have been entrusted to Kalkaska Funeral Home and Cremation Services.

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V O I C E

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Donald A. Ryder

June 4, 1937 ~ June 16, 2026

Donald A. Ryder, age 89, passed away on June 16, 2026, at Medilodge of GTC in Traverse City, Michigan. He was born on June 4, 1937, in Chesterfield, MI to the late Alma (Al) and Shirley Ryder.



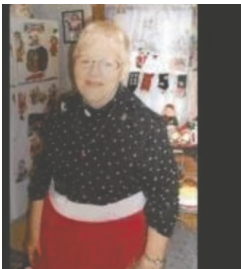
Don served in the US Army for 6 years; 2 years in active duty and 4 years as a reserve soldier, where he received medals as a Marksman and Sharpshooter, as well as a Good Conduct Award. He then worked with his dad as a carpenter, and then on his own, before retiring from the maintenance department at Mancelona Schools. Don enjoyed fishing for panfish, a ripe tomato fresh from the garden, a good game of euchre and pinochle and a good Tiger's game. He was very active in the community as a part of the Liar's Club, Mancelona Fire Department, American Legion, and loved the Mancelona Bass Festival.

He is survived by his first wife Sharon Brooks and their children: Diane (Don) Kiessel, Deborah Ryder, Patricia (Scott) Spires, Rebecca (Rod) Ridgeway, and Michael Ryder. He is also survived by his wife Barbara and her children: Brenda (Jeff) Robinson, Chris (Jodie) Nieporte, Craig Nieporte, Pamela Nieporte and Lisa (Ben) Morgan. Don also has 9 grandchildren, 8 great-grandchildren, as well as 6 step-grandchildren and 6 step-great-grandchildren. Services will be held on Saturday, June 27, 2026 at Kalkaska Funeral Home at 152 S. Cedar St., Kalkaska, MI. Visitation begins at 9:00 am with the funeral service at 11:00 am. Interment will be at noon at Evergreen Cemetery in Kalkaska, with a luncheon to follow at Twin Birch Restaurant. Arrangements have been entrusted to Kalkaska Funeral Home and Cremation Services.

Edna Mae Wahl

November 17, 1934 ~ June 12, 2026

Edna Mae Wahl, age 91, of Kalkaska, passed away Friday, June 12th at Munson Hospital in Traverse City. She was born at the Bourne homestead near Fife Lake on November 17th, 1934. Edna spent her life taking great care of her family. She worked in many places as a cook and was widely known for her great cooking at her home for many family, friends, and events. She also donated much of her time to service work for the town of Kalkaska. Edna was well known in the town for a huge Santa Clause display at her home.



She was preceded in death by her parents, Archie and Viola Bourne, her husband Lyle Wahl, a sister Edith Ingersoll, brother Raymond Bourne, sons-in-laws Jay LePert and Mike McCauley and special friend Jerry Hernandez.

Surviving are her children Darlene LePert of Kalamazoo, Gary and Dawn Wahl of Rapid City, SD, Karen and Gary Gunnink of Grand Rapids, Sue McCauley of Kalkaska, Diana and Rod Hazen of Rock Hill, SC, and 20 grandchildren, several great grandchildren, and several great great grandchildren. Also surviving are her siblings DeVere and Darlene Bourne, Elaine and Harold Scribner and Wayne Bourne. A graveside service was held at 11:00 AM Friday, June 19th at Winchester Cemetery with Pastor Gary Wahl officiating. A memorial service and potluck dinner will be held for friends and family on July 18th at 12:00 PM at Springfield Township Park near Fife Lake. Arrangements have been entrusted to Kalkaska Funeral Home and Cremation Services.

Judith E. Spires

July 29, 1939 ~ June 11, 2026

Judith E. Spires, 86, passed away comfortably on June 11, 2026, at Eden Care. She was born on July 29, 1939, in Knoxville, Tennessee, to Murphy and Evelyn (Johnson) Clark. She moved to Michigan in her teenage years, but she never lost her beloved southern accent. She was a talented and creative woman who enjoyed cooking, sewing, quilting, crafting, and working in her flower beds. Over the years, she made everything from clothing and quilts to handmade crafts, many of which she sold at local craft shows. Most of all, she cherished time spent with her family. She is survived by her children, Rickey C. (Marguerite) Spires and Brenda G. Smith; grandchildren, Stacy (Adam) Larsen, Nan (Andrew) Crowe, and



Evan C. (Carly) Smith; five great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents; sister, Shirley Shepard; and son-in-law, Richard "Rick" Smith. The family would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to Jerry for being such a special part of their family. They would also like to thank the wonderful staff at Memory Care for their kindness, patience, support, and assistance with her daily needs, appointments, and care. The family is also grateful to Heartland Hospice for their compassionate care. She will be laid to rest at Coldsprings Township Cemetery. Arrangements have been entrusted to Kalkaska Funeral Home and Cremation Services.

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Suzanne Ambrose

July 4, 1947 ~ June 8, 2026

Suzanne Ambrose, 78, of Houghton Lake, passed away on June 8th, 2026, at her home with her loving husband at her side, after months of declining health. There will be a celebration of life later this summer here in Houghton Lake.



elections with Roscommon Township & loved volunteering for Tip-Up-Town at the Chamber. You may have also seen her mowing the runway with her husband Chris.

Preceding her in death were her father Stanley Jakubielski, mother Amelia Jakubielski, her sister Patricia Szynkowski, and brother-in-law Steven Szynkowski.

She is survived by her loving husband Chris Ambrose of 43 years, her daughter Jennifer (Steve Sochanec), her son David (Jennifer), her sister-in-law Barbara Ambrose, her grandchildren, Tyler and Madison Ambrose, Calvin and Felix Sochanec.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Mel Trotter Ministries or St. Judes Children Hospital.

She was born in Grand Rapids, MI, on July 4th, 1947, the daughter of Stanley & Amelia Jakubielski. She graduated from Union High School before working at KCTC. She and Chris Ambrose were united in marriage March 27th, 1982, in Grand Rapids. She always told everybody she picked him up in a bar, fell in love, and they were married a year later. As a child, she loved going to Houghton Lake & retired there in 2006 with her husband Chris. Suzanne retired from Kent County Friend of Court, after 27 years. She also worked at St. Adelbert Catholic Church in Grand Rapids. She worked

Douglas Eugene Carpenter

May 7, 1952 ~ May 7, 2026

Douglas Eugene Carpenter 73 of Kingsley passed away peacefully at home. He was born to the late Marcel and Bonnie (Russell) Carpenter in Weaver, South Dakota on May 7, 1952.



Doug grew up in Elk Rapids before joining the US Army at 17. He proudly served 3 years including one tour in Vietnam from 1970-1971. After his honorable discharge Doug traveled to and worked in many states across the country. He worked in construction and masonry. Doug's countless experiences and incredible stories were nearly endless. In the late 70's he moved back to the Elk Rapids area and married Cindy Coyne and together they had his only child, Lee who is his pride and joy.

In 2001 Doug married the love of his life, Lynda Burtch. They settled down in Kingsley. Doug was an avid fisherman. He enjoyed the outdoors and greatly respected it.

He was also a R/C car and CB radio enthusiast along with a deep knowledge of classic cars and military history.

Doug made many, many, friends throughout his life. Sharing his wisdom, showing compassion and was always willing to help someone in need. Doug had so many struggles in life but fought through them, put those most important to him before himself. His honesty, dedication and sense of humor will be missed and never forgotten.

Doug is survived by his son, Lee Carpenter; siblings, Patricia Glandon, Lydia (Jerry) Annis, Barbara (Tim) Bachi, Russel (Sue) Carpenter and Bob and Sandra Dusseau.

A memorial service will be held on June 27, 2026, at the Elk Rapids Veterans Memorial Village Park.

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

Additional Obituaries on pages 8, 9 & 10

Munson Healthcare Honors National Cancer Survivor Month by Celebrating Oncology Caregivers Who Are Survivors

Traverse City, Mich. — In recognition of National Cancer Survivor Month, Munson Healthcare is honoring the strength, resilience, and dedication of cancer survivors across northern Michigan—including two team members who bring a uniquely powerful perspective to their roles in oncology care.

At the heart of this recognition are Jenn Busick, RN, and Rachel Weatherwax, RN, both cancer survivors who now care for patients facing similar diagnoses within Munson Healthcare’s oncology services.

For Jenn Busick, an RN at Cowell Family Cancer Center (CFCC) in the infusion clinic in Traverse City, the cancer journey has become a source of connection and compassion. After finding a lump in her breast while breastfeeding her son and being diagnosed with breast cancer in 2015, she understands firsthand the emotional and physical challenges patients face.

“I am thankful and grateful to help others on the same journey that I myself have traveled,” said Busick. “It was a difficult year but I had a lot of support which helped me and my family. I know what it feels like to sit in their chair, to wait for results, to navigate the unknown. That perspective helps me provide not just care—but comfort, understanding, and hope.”

Similarly, Rachel Weatherwax, also an RN in the infusion clinic at CFCC channels her own survivorship into advocacy and encouragement for patients and families. Diagnosed with Lymphoma and Castleman's Disease in December of 2015 while in college, Weatherwax credits early detection, expert care, and a strong support system for her recovery.

“Survivorship is a journey that doesn’t end with treatment,” Weatherwax shared. “It’s something I carry with me every day—and it’s what drives me to be there for others as they begin their own journey.”

While their stories are powerful, they are not unique. Across Munson Healthcare, many team members are cancer survivors themselves—individuals who bring a deeply personal understanding of the patient journey to their roles. These two team members represent just a small glimpse of that broader community within Munson’s workforce.

This year’s National Cancer Survivor Month is particularly meaningful as Munson Healthcare’s Cowell Family Cancer Center celebrates its 10th anniversary, marking a decade of advanced, patient-centered cancer care in northern Michigan.

To commemorate both the anniversary and survivors throughout the region, Munson Healthcare is inviting the community to attend the Traverse City Pit Spitters’ “Spit on Cancer Night” on June 20. The event will honor cancer survivors, raise awareness, and bring the community together in support of

those impacted by cancer.

“Celebrating our survivors—especially those who now serve as caregivers—highlights the heart of our mission,” said Kathy LaRaia, VP Oncology Services. “As we mark 10 years of the Cowell Family Cancer Center, we’re reminded of the lives touched, the progress made, and the hope that continues to drive us forward.”

Observed each June, National Cancer Survivor Month recognizes the millions of cancer survivors nationwide while raising awareness of the ongoing challenges faced after diagnosis and treatment.

Munson Healthcare remains committed to delivering high-quality cancer care, advancing early detection, and supporting patients and families through every stage of their journey.

To meet our care team and learn more about prevention, screenings, and treatments, visit www.munsonhealthcare.org/cancer/meet-our-cancer-team.



Jenn Busick, RN



Rachel Weatherwax, RN

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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. 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. Located at 8751 Helena Rd, Alden, 231-331-4318. Free Event.

June 27, 9 am - 5 pm - Annual Antique & Cottage Decor Sale at the Alden Depot. Antiques, collectibles, books, furniture, nicer home decor, plants and much more! 10670 Coy Street, Alden. If interested in being a seller for the sale come to the Depot from 10-12pm on June 25th or 26th to register.

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.

June 30, 2 pm - Patriotic Sing-along Celebrate America at 250! Peter & Leslee will lead us in an outdoor sing-along of favorite patriotic songs! Free family event at the Bellaire Public Library, 111 S. Bridge St., Bellaire. For details call the Library at 231-533-8814.

JULY 2026

July 2, 10 am - Summer Reading Program: Discovering America’s Past Enjoy a special presentation to celebrate America’s 250th anniversary! Bellaire Public Library, 111 S. Bridge St., Bellaire. For details call the Library at 231-533-8814.

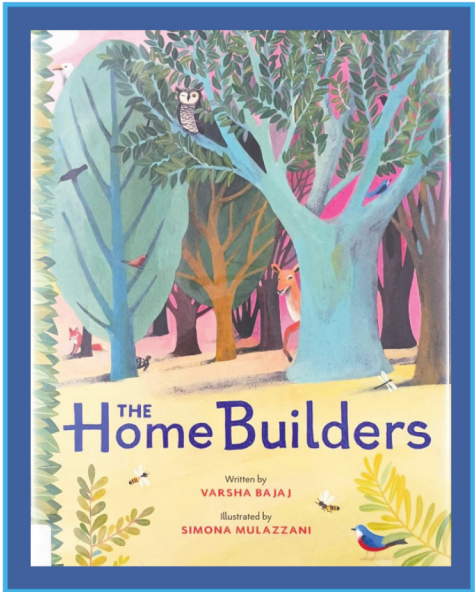
July 7, 11 am - Guided Family Hike with the Kalkaska Conservation District. Meet at the North Country Trail parking area in Kalkaska for a family-friendly hike, guided by the Kalkaska Conservation District! We will hike rain or shine, so dress for the weather. Contact the library at (231) 258-9411 or at info@kalkaskalibrary.org for more information.

July 8, 5 pm - Knitting Club at the Kalkaska County Library. Kalkaska Area Knitters is a free, come-as-you-are group for knitters (and crocheters) of any confidence level. Bring your own project. Contact the library at (231) 258-9411 or at info@kalkaskalibrary.org for more information.

StoryWalk®

presented by Alden District Library

JUNE 1st-29th



Time & Location

Daily, Dawn to Dusk

Coy Mountain, 9011 Valley St, Alden

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 Baptist Church
449 W State St, Fife Lake
Sunday morning:
10:00 am - Sunday School
11:00 am - Worship Service
Wednesday
6:00 pm - Bible Study

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

DEAL ME IN

By Mark Pilarski (reprinted with permission of the author)
The no seven shooter

15 December 2003

Dear Mark,

In a your May 15, 2001 column in Casino Guide online, you wrote the longest roll without a seven being rolled was 3 hours, 6 minutes. I was at the Golden Phoenix in Reno, NV this weekend, and the roll lasted 3 hours, 10 minutes without a seven.

Since I watched the first hour of the roll, I only scored \$2,200 off a \$100 buy-in, playing only place and come bets with max odds. However, those who were betting the table max (\$500 plus 3-4-5 odds) by the end of the third hour scored \$3,500 on a couple points, totaling about \$15,000 for the roll. It was funny to watch the casino reload the table with chips four times, as they didn't have enough originally on the table to keep paying everyone. Perhaps the best part was this was not a "high-roller" table. Everyone there started betting the table \$5 minimums. Nice to see the little guy get a break. Chris C.

Craps offers players gambling immortality if ever a "long roll" should happen when they are bellied up to a craps table. Your roll, Chris, might even get you a mention in the figurative Craps Hall of Fame, and it certainly is worthy of mention in this column, especially since you made some ka-ching.

Breaking the bank, where jittery pit bosses keep calling for chip refills, does not necessarily drape everyone with gaming glory. Your good fortune leads me to this important point: A long, extended roll doesn't necessarily boost you from nada to nirvana. It is the "quality" of the roll that dictates whether you will have a celestial moment. If your numbers are rolling, your game is spread out on the layout (example: additional come bets with odds), and you are progressively betting more, you are looking at the potential for the roll of a lifetime. Otherwise, the experience is nothing more than a tantalizing also-ran, that first-class stimulant for the imagination.

The longest roll I was ever involved with was 73 no-seven throws, but it was simulated on a home computer while I was watching an episode of Seinfeld. Though I have participated in many 30-minute rolls, I have once witnessed a run of the dice that lasted just under an hour and a half.

For those wanting to know, before your undocumented score (no disrespect; I just hadn't heard about it until you wrote me), the hottest hand of all time belonged to Stanley Fujitake of Honolulu. Stanley held the dice for three hours and six minutes at the California Hotel and Casino before cinco dos, adios (the 7) appeared.

If anyone of you was ever involved in a killer hand, or if you have met unusual characters or witnessed strange occurrences, preferably in a casino, I would love to hear from you.

Dear Mark,

How does a casino decide where to put the different slot machines on the casino floor? Danny B.

Finding a home for each one-armed bandit is called "slot mix." Slot mix is casino nomenclature describing the physical placement of machines on the casino floor. Slot management places its machines strategically to maximize customer appeal and potential casino earnings.

Slot mix is composed of five basic variables: floor location, coin denominations, payoff schedules, casino advantage and payoff frequency. These variables can be blended into the casino floor in infinite variations, with no two casinos doing it exactly the same, but all striving to separate you from your hard-earned money.

=====

Gambling quote of the week:
"Gamblers come in all shapes and sizes. You've got your master strategist, your aggressive pot chaser, your pensive contemplator, and every casino's favorite, the impulsive idiot, to name a few."
Mark Balestra, *The Complete Idiot's Guide to Gambling*



Sudoku Puzzle
June 26, 2026

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

Solution on page 15

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Terry Kay Barton

February 27, 1958 ~ June 16, 2026

Terry Kay (Heit) Barton, of Kalkaska, MI, passed away peacefully at home on June 16th, with her two daughters and her husband by her side. Terry was a woman of remarkable creativity, quiet strength, and a generous heart. Art lived in everything she touched — she loved drawing, painting, and bringing beauty into the world with her hands. She began sewing by making clothes and dresses for her girls, a passion that grew into a long and respected career as a professional commercial seamstress. Even after retirement, she continued to craft handmade gifts, each one marked with her unique artistic style and deep love. She found her greatest peace on canoeing and on horseback, spending countless hours on the trails with her beloved horses, Joe and Junior. Their bond was profound, and the time they shared in nature brought her comfort, joy, and freedom. Junior's passing shortly after the loss of her parents was a heartbreak she carried with grace.

Terry was preceded in death by her parents, Harold Leroy Heit and Beverly Joyce (Stephens) Heit.

She leaves behind her husband, Thomas Patrick Licavoli; her daughters, Erika Marie Morley



and Andria Ann (Suttle) Smith; and her stepchildren, Kirk Allen Licavoli, Catherine Louise Licavoli, Thomas Leonard Licavoli, and Johanna (Ellsworth) Licavoli. She cherished the blended family they created together, along with the spouses and partners who became part of that family. She was a devoted grandmother to her cherished grandchildren, all of whom she loved deeply. Terry is also survived by her siblings: Cathy Beagle and her husband, Larry; her twin brothers, Dan Heit and his wife, Kim; and Dave Heit and his wife, Becky.

Terry's life was defined by creativity, devotion, and the quiet, meaningful ways she showed love. Her family will forever carry her artistry, her strength, and her spirit in their hearts.

"I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith." — 2 Timothy 4:7 "And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who hath enabled me, for that he counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry;" ---1 Timothy 1:12

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

= MENTAL HEALTH CORNER =

Help for the Strongest Among Us

We all know that one person. They are always there to help, and they are as dependable as the rising sun. They might be in our family, workplace, church or in our community. They are the person everyone calls when something goes wrong or if you just need something done right. That person might even be you!

What few people realize is that these infinitely reliable and capable people sometimes suffer from feeling alone in life. If I am talking directly to you or about someone you know, then keep reading...

Competent people will turn into the default problem-solvers. They include:

- The dependable employee
- The responsible parent
- The default caretaker
- The entrepreneur
- The community volunteer

The truth is that the more competent and capable someone becomes, the less likely it is that they will have people checking in on them. By default, people often assume that these people are carrying the load just fine. This is not always the case.

The truth is that more often than not, at some point highly capable people will stop asking for help if they ever learned to do it in the first place. They do this for a number of reasons that include but are not limited to:

- Fear of burdening others
- A belief that they “should be able to handle this”
- A history that proved that it was not okay for them to show vulnerability
- A mixture of pride and the need to make sure that things are “done right”

Over time, taking on all these extra things can lead to a mixture of exhaustion, building resentment, anxiety or feelings of being taken for granted. Just because a person is capable, does not mean that they are infinitely strong. Everyone has their limits.

Eventually, healthy people must learn how to not only help others but how to receive help themselves. Examples of this include:

- Asking for support when something is simply too big to do alone
- Learning to say “No, I don’t have the time/capacity to do that.”

- Learning to delegate to others who either have the expertise or the time (This is a relationship building approach.)
- Learning to accept encouragement when it is offered

Being strong ironically requires vulnerability. The paradox of competence is that no matter what a person “can” do, nobody can ever be everything to everybody. When we encourage or assist our “strongest” people, we avoid assuming that they don’t need this type of support. This is another way that we all win at life.

-Adam DeVaney, LCSW, CECPP

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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.



Edward Max Langham Jr.

July 28, 1948 ~ June 2, 2026

Edward (Ed) M. Langham was born in New Kensington, PA on July 28, 1948, the son of Edward Max Langham, Sr. and Myrtle Louise Smith. Ed’s father died shortly after the family moved to Michigan in 1964. He attended Albion College and began work in social services in 1970 while living in Lansing, soon moving to Traverse City where he spent many years raising a family.



He obtained his MSW from Michigan State University in 1981, after which, Ed’s career shifted to psychotherapy delivered in nursing home, family service, hospital, and outpatient clinic settings. He and his second partner established a private practice in Saginaw from 1991-2010 and he retired from the Veteran’s Administration in 2017.

Ed was the embodiment of a free spirit, coming of age during the 1960s. He was always game to try something new and spread laughter. Over the years, he explored many hobbies, including photography, travel, camping, hiking, biking, scuba diving, building computers, and home-brewing. He was also an avid fan of the oldies, blues, books, and action movies. Ed was passionate about learning and helping others, specializing in then-emerging

treatments like EMDR and neurofeedback. His work touched the lives of countless adults, children, and Veterans.

Ed was a man of words and knowledge whose spontaneity and wit were enjoyed by all, despite an accident that brought cognitive decline in his final 10 years. He died in Traverse City on June 2, 2026, aged 77. He is survived by two sons, Jason (Angela) Langham and Devin (Samantha) Langham, grandchildren Kendra, Mia, and Leland Langham, siblings Charlene Cooper and Matthew (June) Langham, nephews Nestorio and Alfonso Cooper, and his beloved former partners and caregivers Annie (Harold) Gurian, and Roberta Bidwell. Ed was predeceased by his parents and brother-in-law, Willie Cooper.

A celebration of his life is being held at noon, June 27, 2026, at Bryant Park, 1101 Peninsula Drive, Traverse City, MI 49686. Those wishing to honor his memory are invited to spend time with their loved ones, tell a bawdy joke, and cherish being present together in the moment.

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

Kimberly Elaine Mollitor

January 25, 1968 ~ June 11, 2026

Kimberly Elaine Mollitor passed away on June 11th, 2026, at the age of 58, leaving behind family, friends, and all who knew and loved her. Born on January 25, 1968, Kim had a lifelong love of reading. Books brought her joy, comfort, and adventure, and she could often be found with a novel in her hands. Those who knew her knew how much she enjoyed getting lost in a good story and how quickly she could make her way through a book. Kim also had a special love for animals, especially dogs. She cared deeply for them and found companionship and comfort in their presence throughout her life.



Like many people, Kim faced struggles and challenges during her lifetime. While those challenges were part of her story, they were not the whole of it. She will also be remembered for the things she loved, the memories she shared with others, and the impact she had on the lives she touched. Kim's passing comes far too soon, and her absence will be felt by those who knew and loved her. As family and friends remember her life, they will carry

with them memories of her love of books, her affection for animals, and the moments they shared together. The family hopes that Kim has found the peace that may have eluded her during her lifetime and that her memory will live on in the hearts of those who loved her.

Kim is survived by her sister Kristine Pascarello, and her brothers Kenneth (Cheryl) Kyte Jr and Kevin Kyte; Her children; Angel (Ryan) Green, Alicia (Dan) Clise and AJ (Breanna) Mollitor; and 9 grandchildren; Avery, Emma, Landon and Logan Clise; Addison, Mia, and Miles Mollitor; and Adalynn and Aria Green. She is also survived by her best friend and ex-husband Jeffrey Mollitor.

Kim is preceded in death by both her mother Diana Kyte and her father Kenneth Kyte Sr. A grave site memorial service was held on June 20th at 1pm at Excelsior Township Cemetery in Kalkaska, MI. May she rest in peace.

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

Additional Obituaries on pages 4, 5, 8 & 10

ADDITIONAL OBITUARIES

Allen Claire Richards

February 6, 1953 ~ June 4, 2026

It is with heavy hearts and profound sadness that we announce the passing of Allen Claire Richards, who departed this world peacefully at his home on June 4, 2026, in the loving presence of his cherished wife, Jane. Born on February 6, 1953, in the town of Traverse City, Michigan, Allen was a beacon of light and love, whose warmth touched all who had the privilege of knowing him.

Allen was the beloved son of Jack Allen Richards and Wanda Lou (Ream) Richards. He was predeceased by his first wife, Maxlyn Richards, his son, Allen J. Richards, and his brother, Harold Richards. Despite these profound losses, Allen's life was a testament to resilience and the enduring power of love and family.

On August 7, 1998, Allen married the love of his life, Jane Young, in Traverse City, Michigan. Together, they blended their families, creating a home filled with laughter, love, and countless memories. Allen's legacy lives on in his surviving family: his devoted wife of 27 years, Jane; his children, Tracy (Dwane) Eldridge, Kari Richards, Erin (Chuck) Raschi, Channon (Tom) Durga, Jenny (David) Gale, Bryan Neihardt, and Beckey (Mike) Craven; his sisters, Renee Pickard and Lou Ann Zelenak; his 15 grandchildren, and 10 great-grandchildren. Each of them carries a piece of Allen's boundless love and spirit. A man of many talents and interests,



Allen was known for his quick wit and his gift for making everyone feel welcome. His persistent and affectionate nature, combined with his penchant for humor and pranks, endeared him to all who met him. Allen was passionate about sports and was an avid outdoorsman. His dedication to community was evident through his involvement with organizations like SERTOMA and several bowling associations.

Allen's family extends their deepest gratitude to all who touched his life and enriched it with friendship and love. In lieu of flowers, the family kindly requests that donations be made to a charity of your choice, in Allen's

memory. In reflecting on Allen's life, we are reminded of the profound impact one person can have on so many. His legacy is one of love, laughter, and an enduring spirit that will be carried forward by his family and friends. As we say goodbye, we celebrate a life well-lived, knowing that Allen's presence will forever be felt in the hearts of those he loved. We welcome you to come share stories and say a final farewell on August 15th at The United Methodist Church in Kingsley at 11:00 AM, 113 Blair St. Kingsley. An additional Celebration of Life will be held in Florida this fall for family and friends unable to attend the Michigan memorial.

Rest in peace, dear Allen. You are dearly missed, but your spirit will forever shine bright in our lives.

Terry Lee Provost

October 25, 1965 ~ June 10, 2026

Some people pass through life quietly. Terry Lee Provost wasn't one of them. Born on October 25, 1965, in Detroit, Michigan, Terry lived a colorful life, one with passion, personality, and never a dull moment. He passed away, too young, at his home in Fife Lake, Michigan.

For Terry, happiness wasn't complicated; it was sunshine, fresh air, good company, and laughter that carried on long after the day was done. He loved to fish, hunt, snowmobile, float down the river, or take a ride in the Can-m. More than anything though, he was a dedicated disc golfer who loved the game as much as the people he played with. Terry had a

unique ability to turn casual conversation into a friendship. Whether you agreed with him or not, you remembered him. His energy, humor, and larger-than-life presence left an impression everywhere he went. He was deeply passionate about helping people living with chronic pain and openly shared his personal experience and his knowledge of medicinal marijuana. Terry loved intelligent conversation and brought enthusiasm, conviction, and curiosity to every discussion. His animated storytelling and unmistakable personality made



him unforgettable. A gifted builder with a creative mind, Terry spent many of his later years working toward his dream home. While the project remained unfinished, it represented something that mattered deeply to him: always having a vision, always creating, and always pushing forward. Terry lived boldly, fiercely, and made sure there was always a story worth telling. The world feels a little quieter without him in it, but his stories will continue to be told, his jokes will continue to be repeated, and his memory will continue to

bring smiles to those who knew and loved him.

Terry is survived by his parents, Rosemary and Larry Provost, his sister Cindi and her son Brandon, his daughters, Margaret, Laura, and Theresa; and his grandchildren, Jordan, Jacob, and Zoey (Margaret), who will carry forward his stories and adventurous spirit.

In true Terry fashion, there will be no formal service. He was never one for ceremony and would much rather have those who loved him celebrate with connection, swapping stories, laughter, and reminiscing about "the good times".

John L. Sloan

May 26, 1946 ~ June 3, 2026

John Lawrence Sloan, affectionately known to family and friends as "Jack," passed away peacefully, welcomed with open arms by our Lord and Savior on June 3, 2026, at the age of 80.



Born on May 26, 1946, Jack lived a life defined by hard work, service, laughter, and unwavering love for his family. He was the beloved husband of Terrie Lynn Sloan, with whom he shared 60 wonderful years of marriage. Together, they built a life centered on family, love, and lasting memories.

Jack was a proud veteran who served his country during the Vietnam War and was deeply patriotic throughout his life.

For over 50 years, Jack called Rapid City, Michigan, home. A true outdoorsman, he found joy in fishing, hunting, four-wheeling, and spending time in nature. Whether on the water, in the woods, or around a campfire, Jack was happiest when surrounded by the people he loved.

Jack worked as a carpenter for more than 30 years, using his

skilled hands to build and create while earning the respect of everyone who knew him. He was known for his strong work ethic, generous heart, and willingness to help others.

Above all else, Jack treasured his family. He is survived by his loving wife, Terrie Lynn Sloan; his children, Kevin and Leah Sloan, Brian Sloan, and Melissa and Scott Matley; his grandchildren, Chelsea and Dan, Kendra and Blake, Chanee and Desi, and Sven Sloan; and his great-granddaughter, Vera.

Jack had a remarkable sense of humor and a gift for making people laugh. His quick wit, stories, and infectious smile will be remembered by all who had the privilege of knowing him.

Though he will be deeply missed, Jack leaves behind a legacy of love, laughter, hard work, and family that will live on for generations.

"Those we love don't go away; they walk beside us every day."

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

Edward L. Mendenhall

May 15, 1952 ~ June 4, 2026

Edward Lester Mendenhall passed away on June 4, 2026, at the age of 74.

He was a very beloved father to Renee, Chris, and Coty, as well as a devoted grandfather to Pedro, Nick, Shayna, Gio, Eli, Lorenzo, Styles, Anastasia Edie, and Harvey. He was an important family member to many and a lifelong friend to a special few. His big heart, kindness, and relentless sense of humor left a mark on us all.

He was a lover, a deep thinker, and an even deeper feeler. He often had a heavy heart for our troubled world and wished only for peace and love for everyone. He could be described by all three of his children as a safe place, someone to confide in with no judgement, laugh with, and who somehow made the world seem more wonderful with just his presence.

His laugh was unforgettable and could fill a room with joy. His theories on everything were complex, well researched, and eye



opening. His love of music, plants, people, and all living things was genuine and unwavering. He strived for truth, peace, and simplicity. He brought so much love into a family that needed just that and changed the course of all our lives in the best and most powerful way.

He is missed tremendously, but everything will remind us of him for the rest of our lives. He is in the birdsong, the breeze, the bloom of spring flowers, and the silence of winter. He is everywhere and will never be forgotten.

In accordance with his wishes, no traditional memorial service will be held. Instead, family and friends will gather later this year for a Viking-style feast to celebrate his life, share stories, raise a glass in his honor, and remember the remarkable man who brought so much love into the world.

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

Additional Obituaries on pages 4, 5, 8, & 9

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

Establish justice

June 26, 2026

The second purpose of the Constitution, according to the preamble, is to establish justice. So, what does that mean? What is justice? What, in the Constitution, is the means of establishing it? And how does it all come together for us to apply in ordinary everyday life?

Let’s have a look. The online Merriam-Webster dictionary actually gives us three different categories to consider. In the first category, we have:

a: the process or result of using laws to fairly judge cases, redress wrongs, and punish crimes.

b: judge – especially a judge of an appellate court or court of last resort (as a supreme court)

and **c:** the administration of law - especially the establishment or determination of rights according to the rules of law or equity.

The second category offers:

a: the quality of being just, impartial, or fair

b(1): the principle or ideal of fair treatment or right action

and **(2):** conformity to this principle or ideal

And the third category is: conformity to truth, fact, or reason.

From those phrases of definition, I understand that the Constitution, in order to establish justice, must set the rules by which the nation will live and provide the means for administering those rules. So, where do we find the rules and the mechanism for implementing them?

In Article I, the law-making body (Congress) is established.

Article I, Section 1. "All legislative Powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives."

Note the identification of “powers herein **granted**.” As we proceed through the text, we will come to what powers are granted by the people to the Congress by means of this Constitution. It is clear, however, that whatever legislative powers are granted are reserved solely to the Congress.

Article I, Section 8 lays out the specific powers granted to the Congress. There are eighteen

listed. They include such things as taxation, establishing post offices, raising up an army and a navy, declaring war, coining money, establishing courts inferior to the Supreme Court, and making the laws to facilitate the enumerated powers. It’s worth your time to read Section 8 of Article I to gain an understanding of the scope of these powers.

Thus, the legislative powers granted to the Congress are laid out in the original Constitution.

Article II establishes the executive branch of the government, the branch that is to carry out the laws of the country.

Article III creates the judicial branch of the government, that is to ensure that the rules are, indeed, carried out, and to be the arbiter of disputes.

At the time of the signing of the Constitution, September 17, 1787, there was no Bill of Rights. Several states balked at adopting a constitution that did not address the rights of the citizens. In fact, many of the states gave their ratification of the Constitution only on the condition of the prompt creation of a Bill of Rights. The first ten amendments to the Constitution were submitted to the states on March 4, 1789, for ratification as a Bill of Rights. Ratification was achieved on December 15, 1791.

So, in a way, the Constitution wasn’t fully ratified until four years after it was signed.

Looking into those first ten amendments, we see what basic rights were initially recognized and protected. Note that the Constitution does not grant rights; it recognizes and protects rights. In fact, Amendment IX specifically states: “The enumeration in the Constitution, of certain rights, shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people.” Remember that the next time someone challenges you about not finding a particular right in the Constitution. You could point out that the right to eat supper is also not in the Constitution and gently point them to Amendment IX.

Amendment IV provides that people are to be secure in their “persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures.” Also, warrants are to be issued only on probable cause.

Amendment V says that a person shall not be twice put in jeopardy for the same offense. Also, that a person may not be compelled to testify against him- or herself.

Amendment VI says a great deal in a single paragraph: “In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury of the State and district wherein the crime shall have been committed, which district shall have been previously ascertained by law, and to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation; to be confronted with the witnesses against him; to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor, and to have the Assistance of Counsel for his defence.”

Article I, Section 9, declares that “[t]he Privilege of the Writ of Habeas Corpus shall not be suspended, unless when in Cases of Rebellion or Invasion the public Safety may require it” and “[n]o Bill of Attainder or ex post facto Law shall be passed,” among other things.

Furthermore, a plain reading of Amendments IX and X makes it clear that government may do only that which the Constitution permits, while citizens may do whatever is not prohibited by the Constitution.

While it is clearly impossible to write rules that will cover every eventuality, and extremely difficult to even come close, it appears that our forefathers tried really hard to set up a fair system – and they did a pretty good job of it in principle. The one thing that is wholly impossible to legislate is goodwill. That’s the piece that we, the people, must bring to this magnificent and daring social experiment called self-governance.

Bringing this all down to our everyday life, it seems to me that my responsibility is to understand the rules and live by them, to be gracious in dealing with others and merciful to those who struggle, remembering that I, too, sometimes stumble and fall.

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 in the Constitution is it specifically states that the powers of the United States government are limited??
- 2) In the original Constitution, who elected Senators?
- 3) When and how did that change?
- 4) Are amendments to the Constitution really part of the Constitution?



Citizenship Corner

Answers to last issue’s questions

- 1) Where do bills to raise revenue originate?
A. Per Article I, Section 7, All Bills for raising Revenue shall originate in the House of Representatives; but the Senate may propose or concur with Amendments as on other Bills..
- 2) When a bill has passed both the House of Representatives and the Senate, is it a law?
A. Not yet. Article I, Section 7, states that the bill then goes to the President, who will either sign it into law or veto it and return it to Congress with written objections.
- 3) What does Congress do with a vetoed bill?
A. The House in which the bill originated receives the vetoed bill, records the President’s objections, and reconsiders the bill. If two-thirds of that House approve, the bill then goes to the other Hose for consideration. If both Houses, after reconsidering the bill, approve it by a two-thirds vote, the veto is overcome and the bill becomes law.
- 4) What if the President just doesn’t do anything with the bill?
A. Still in Article I, Section 7, we read that if the President fails to sign or return the bill for 10 days, not counting Sundays, and the Congress remains in session, the bill becomes law just as though he had signed it.

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



COFFEE TIME for VETERANS

Free coffee & donuts

Second Wednesday Each Month

9 to 11 am

Kalkaska Senior Center

303 S. Coral St

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

KALKASKA COUNTY LIBRARY

2026

SUMMER READING

JUN 30

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.

Birch St Elementary Gym 11:00am

309 N. Birch St, Kalkaska.

JUL 7

Guided Hike with the Conservation District

Meet us at the North Country Trail parking area for a family-friendly hike, guided by the KCD! We will hike rain or shine, so **dress for the weather!**

North Country Trailhead 11:00am

710 S. Cedar St, Kalkaska.

JUL 14

Community Field Day

Come play outside! Join us for a series of fun outdoor games on the lawn. There will be some water, so **dress to get wet.** Pizza lunch to follow.

Kalkaska Senior Center Lawn 11:00am

303 S. Coral St, Kalkaska.

* In case of rain, Field Day will be rescheduled for July 21st.

JUL 18

LEGO Creature Lab

Use the library's LEGOs to build your own prehistoric creature. Follow a set pattern, or create something totally unique!

Kalkaska Library 10:00am

247 W. Cedar St

JUL 24

Dinosaur Story Time

Join us for a special Summer Story Time, featuring a dinosaur guest! Kids from birth to kindergarten will read, roar, dance, & more!

Kalkaska Library 10:00am

247 S. Cedar St, Kalkaska.

JUL 29

Magic by Cameron Zvara

Watch an exciting performance by magician and comedian, Cameron Zvara! His show is an outrageous, unforgettable event for all ages.

Birch St Elementary Gym 2:00pm

309 N. Birch St, Kalkaska.

AUG 6

Dinosaur Art Day

Celebrate Summer with a family art day! Join us for a series of easy prehistory-inspired crafts. We'll use crayons, clay, paint, ink, and more!

Railroad Square Pavilion 2:00pm

107 Elm St, Kalkaska.

All Summer Reading events are **FREE** to attend, and all families are welcome. We hope to see you there!

For more information, visit:

KALKASKALIBRARY.ORG/CALENDAR

WALK SLOWLY WITH PURPOSE

Freedom in Two Directions

By **Dominic Fortuna**

Byline: Kalkaska County, July 4, 2026

Fireworks over Torch Lake don't start at dark. They start at noon.

Down in Traverse City the cherries are stacked in crates outside the roadside stands and the air smells like sugar and grill smoke. In Gaylord the parades roll slowly past storefronts that have been there since your granddad's time. Up here in Kalkaska, folks drag coolers to the ballfields, kids chase each other with sparklers, and someone always brings a guitar that's half out of tune and perfect anyway.

This is what we call Independence Day. The freedom our fathers earned. The freedom men and women in uniform still protect for us when they'd rather be home for the cookout. Flags on porches. Boats lined up on the lake. A whole country remembering that we get to choose.

But there's another kind of freedom that doesn't make the headlines. And it's just as loud, if you've lived it.

I was thinking about it standing on M-72 heading into Traverse City last year, traffic backed up for miles, everyone trying to get to the same beach at the same time. We were all free to go. Free to choose the lake. Free to waste an afternoon in a line of cars and still call it a good day. That's the gift of this country.

The harder freedom is the one where you get to choose yourself.

There's a bondage that doesn't need chains. It lives in the self-will that says "one more hand" at the casino in the Soo. It lives in the bottle that talks back at 2am. It lives in the pill, the powder, the food you keep going back to even when your stomach's done and your heart isn't. Gambling, drugs, alcohol, food—doesn't matter which one. When they're running the show, they choose everything. What time you sleep. Who you call back. What kind of father, worker, neighbor you are that day.

We call it "doing what I want." But it's not. It's doing what it wants. You're just along for the ride.

Freedom from that looks different than a parade. No marching band. Nobody throws candy. It's quieter. It's waking up and realizing you made your coffee without negotiating with yourself. It's choosing the scramble with spinach instead of whatever was fastest and easiest. It's walking into a doctor's office in Kalkaska on three hours sleep and hearing "heart and lungs are great" because you didn't pick the fight you used to pick with your own body.

When you break free, you get your choices back. Even the bad ones. That's the point nobody tells you. Freedom isn't about being perfect. It's about the choice being yours again. If you skip the walk, it's your skip. If you eat the whole pie at the Traverse City Cherry Festival, it's your choice, not your compulsion dragging you by the collar. That's a difference you feel in your chest.

To keep that freedom, you have to keep your character. Not in a preachy way. In a citizenship way. The same way you don't litter on US-131 and you hold the door at the gas station in Gaylord.

You learn to watch your anger. Anger will burn a relationship down faster than any addiction will. You learn to check your pride. Pride's the voice that says "I don't need help" when every neighbor around you is mowing your lawn after surgery without being asked. Northern Michigan people understand that. We don't do pity. We do casseroles and snow blowers and showing up.

You learn compassion. Not the Hallmark card kind. The real kind where you listen to your best friend talk about the same problem for the tenth time without fixing him. Where you don't leave a bad wake every day. A bad wake is when you walk through a room and everyone gets quieter. When your wife braces herself. When your kid learns to read your mood before you say a word. Addictions make us leave bad wakes because addictions are just symptoms. Underneath is a personality that got bent out of shape trying to

survive. Freedom is straightening it back out, slow.

That takes humility. Humility isn't thinking less of yourself. It's thinking of yourself less. It's admitting the way you've been doing it isn't working, even if you built your whole identity on it. It takes open-mindedness too. Being willing to try a new way of living even if it feels foreign at first. Walking slow. Listening more.

Walk slowly. That's the last part.

We rush everything. Rush to the lake, rush through dinner, rush past each other. This July 4, try walking slowly with purpose. Down Main Street in Kalkaska. Along the boardwalk in Traverse City. On the dirt road past Torch Lake where the pine trees lean in like they're listening.

You've got two freedoms to celebrate. The one the flag stands for—earned by men and women who gave up their own choices so we could have ours. And the one you earn for yourself, inch by inch, when you refuse to be a slave to your own self-will any longer.

One keeps the country free. The other keeps your life free.

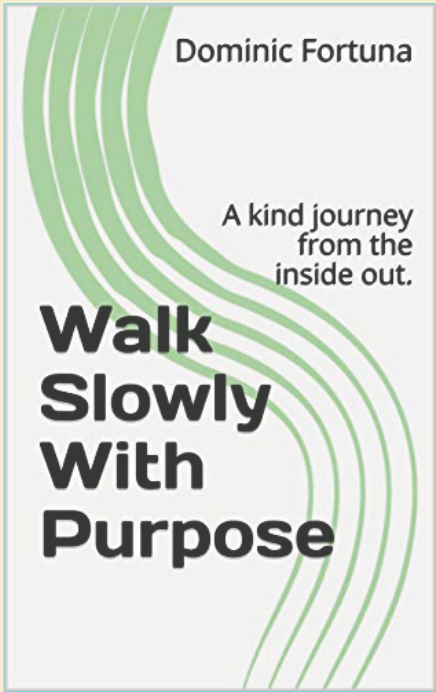
Both matter. Both are worth the work.

And both taste better when you're not doing them alone.

Happy Independence Day, up north.



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

==+=+=+=

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
All Seasons Hotel & Resort
Birch Street Dental Care
Carter Lumber
Earth's Garden
Family Fare
Forest Area Federal Credit Union North
K.A.I.R.
Kaliseum
- Kalkaska Commission on Aging
Kalkaska County Building
Kalkaska County Library
Kalkaska Funeral Home
McLean's Hardware
Midas
Northland Foods
Rodeway Inn
The Shopping Basket
Trout Town Tavern & Eatery
Voice Motors

Kingsley
Kingsley Branch Library
Kingsley Village Offices

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

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

South Boardman
Yankee Boy

It is also delivered to several of the local churches, to the schools (during the school year) , and the Emergency Department of KMH, as well as to select senior living facilities.

Everything in this paper is important to somebody

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 26, 2026

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

Puzzle on page 8

South Boardman celebrates its sesquicentennial!



By Tina Norris Fields

Saturday, June 20, 2026, was a big day in South Boardman, Michigan. The town was celebrating its 150th birthday. A wide variety of events filled the day. Including the first annual Car, Truck & Motorcycle Show, a Classic Tractor Show, Historical Exhibits, Live Music, a Pig Roast, Horse-drawn Wagon rides, and more. This reporter arrived around three in the afternoon, and before the rain started, was treated to a lovely ride through town in a wagon drawn by two beautiful Percheron mares, Mandy and Mindy. The tractors on display were quite an impressive sight – at least a couple dozen parked under the trees and completely lining the road. We met a strolling minstrel playing a joyous melody on his accordion. The youngest person we met was five-month-old Atlas, smiling and snuggled secured to his daddy’s chest. We got a delightful overview of the celebratory goings on in South Boardman before we took our leave. What a fine party! And what a fine bright spot for this week!



Atlas with his father Paul Johnson and his grandpa Alan Zywicki



Minstrel Rick Toles making happy accordion music.



Top Left: the flag bedecked wagon drawn by Mandy and Mindy. Top Right: Dam taking care of all the happy passengers. Bottom: Tractors completely lining the street from end to end.



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