



# KALAMAZOO COUNTY GOVERNMENT

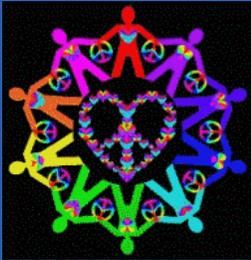
In the Pursuit of Extraordinary Governance...

April 2018



## COUNTY COMMUNICATOR

We Are Kalamazoo County Government!



### Inside This Issue

- [National Association of Counties Conference](#)
- [Kalamazoo County Board of Commissioners](#)
- [Kalamazoo County Holiday Closings](#)
- [Employment Opportunities](#)
- [National County Government Month](#)
- [Summer Camps for Kids](#)
- [Pack A Child For Camp](#)
- [Public Health Week](#)
- [Family Fun In Kalamazoo County!](#)
- [Autism Awareness Month](#)
- [Important Dates to Remember](#)
- [Annual Park Passes](#)



### National Association of Counties

Legislative Conference, March 3-7, 2018

The NACo Legislative Conference, held annually in Washington, D.C., brings together over 1,500 elected and appointed county officials to focus on federal policy issues that impact counties and our residents. The 2018 Legislative Conference is an opportunity to elevate the county voice at the national level. Commissioners Chair Stephanie Moore, Julie Rogers, and Michael Seals were in attendance at the conference on behalf of Kalamazoo County Government. The event draws on the local experience and expertise of commissioners from all fifty states to shape policy initiatives for Congress and federal regulators.



*Commissioners Julie Rogers and Michael Seals with Congressman Fred Upton at NACo 2018*

Kalamazoo County also spent time on Capitol Hill, meeting with members of Michigan's congressional delegation, including U.S. Senators Debbie Stabenow and Gary Peters, and Congressman Fred Upton to discuss federal priorities for the year, including pertinent topics of infrastructure, the opioids crisis, Medicaid and PILT.

[Article cont'd Page 3](#)

### Flood Relief Assistance & Resources

Call 2-1-1 Gryphon Place for help to get new furnace, water heater, and other repairs with wet basements. There is financial help available for replacement. The regularly scheduled bulk trash pick-up has begun. Any flood damaged items can be put at the curb. To check for pickup days at your location go to:

<https://www.kalamazoocity.org/bulktrash>

Help is available. Contact [2-1-1Gryphon Place](#) or get the new, completely free MI211 app. It connects users to thousands of resources & services including food, shelter, childcare, mediation services, and more. This app helps users quickly locate what is available around them for their friends and family.



Follow Kalamazoo County Government



**Your Kalamazoo County Board Of Commissioners**

**Your Kalamazoo County Elected Officials:**



Contact your District Commissioner

[Stephanie Moore](#), Chair  
[District 1](#)

[Kevin Wordelman](#)  
[District 2](#)

[Tracy Hall](#)  
[District 3](#)

[Michael Seals](#)  
[District 4](#)

[Julie Rogers](#)  
[District 5](#)

[Ron Kendall](#)  
[District 6](#)

[Roger Tuinier](#)  
[District 7](#)

[John Gisler](#)  
[District 8](#)

[Dale Shugars](#), Vice Chair  
[District 9](#)

[Mike Quinn](#)  
[District 10](#)

[Scott McGraw](#)  
[District 11](#)

County Clerk/ROD:  
Timothy Snow (269) 383-8840

Sheriff:  
Rick Fuller (269) 383-8821

Treasurer:  
Mary Balkema (269) 384-8124

Prosecuting Attorney:  
Jeff Getting (269) 383-8900

Drain Commissioner:  
Pat Crowley (269) 384-8117

**Board of Commissioners**

**Meeting Dates:**

Meetings start at 7:00pm

-  April 3, 2018
-  April 17, 2018
-  May 1, 2018
-  May 15, 2018



Not sure what district you're in?  
Click on the District links above  
for a detailed map.

Kalamazoo County Government, City of Kalamazoo, Portage, Township and Public School meetings can be viewed on demand at: [Public Media Network](#)

[Board of Commissioners Community Update Videos](#)



Board of Commissioners Community Update videos are posted each Monday prior to the Tuesday Board of Commissioners meetings. Chair Stephanie Moore, along with fellow commissioners, highlight agenda items and discuss current County topics. The Community Updates can be seen on the [Kalcounty.com](#) website at [News and Events](#) or see them on [Kalamazoo County Government's Facebook](#).

[2018 Kalamazoo County Courts/County Office closings](#)

~No Court or County Office closings in April

[Employment Opportunities at Kalamazoo County Government](#)

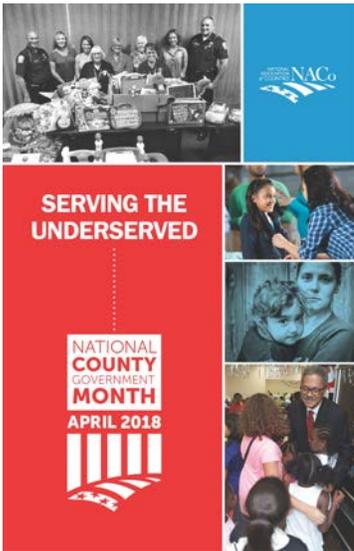
The most recent listing of open positions available within the County can be found at <http://www.kalcounty.com/hrd>. - Veterans Encouraged to Apply!

[Visit Kalamazoo County at this Job Fair in April:](#)

[St Joseph County Job Fair](#)

Glen Oaks Community College  
62249 Shimmel Road, Centreville MI 49032  
April 19, 2017 from 3:00pm to 6:00pm





*In the Pursuit of Extraordinary Governance ...*



National Association of Counties

April is [National County Government Month](#)

(cont'd from Page 1)

**Counties' History**

Counties are one of America's oldest forms of government, dating back to 1634 when the first county governments (shires) were established in Virginia. The organization and structure of today's 3,069 county governments are chartered under state constitutions or laws and are tailored to fit the needs and characteristics of states, local areas, and their communities. Though organizational structures vary, all county governments are on the front lines of delivering vital services to residents.

**Counties Build**

All around us, counties build and maintain the communities in which we live, work and play. Counties deliver on the critical infrastructure we depend on, including our roads and bridges, airports, waterways and ports, transit, passenger rail, water and sewer systems, hospitals, libraries and other public facilities. Counties keep us moving, keep us connected, keep our communities clean, and keep us safe and healthy.

**Counties Manage**

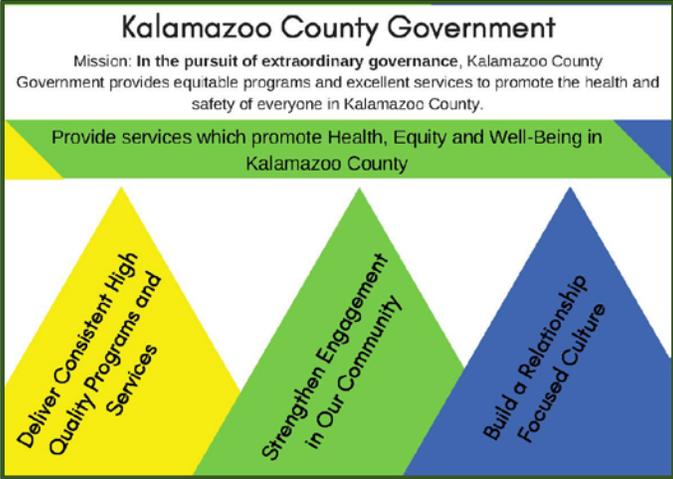
Counties provide vital services to all Americans, from issuing birth certificates and marriage licenses to operating and consolidating 911 call centers. Counties build and maintain parks. Counties are responsible for managing elections, from presidential to local. While balancing numerous administrative responsibilities, counties deliver essential services to ensure healthy, vibrant and safe communities across the United States.

**County Role in Justice & Public Safety**

Counties play a major role in two distinct areas of justice and public safety: emergency response preparedness and the criminal justice system. Counties keep communities safe by providing law enforcement and preventing crime. From patrolling the streets, to operating and maintaining county detention facilities, to serving as the arm of the county courts, county sheriffs and other law enforcement departments are on the front lines of public safety and the criminal justice system. Other key county players are judges, district attorneys, public defenders, court clerks, jail directors, 911 operators and coroners.

**County Role in Community Health**

Counties invest heavily in local residents' health and well-being, often serving as a safety net for low-income and indigent residents. County health departments protect our residents and communities by offering a wide range of services like administering flu shots, providing health information and preventing and responding to public health emergencies.



## Summer Camps for Kids

It's not summer yet but it's never too early to think about summer camp for kids. Whether you are looking for adventure, sports, skill building, arts, technology or just plain fun; day camps, week camps, spring break camps, it's time to make reservations.

### [Air Zoo - Spring Break](#) and [Summer Camps](#)

Apr 2<sup>nd</sup> thru April 5<sup>th</sup> is spring break at the Air Zoo. Make it unforgettable with the Air Zoo's "hands-on" science camps for kids in preschool through 5<sup>th</sup> grade. The Air Zoo's affordable, science based day camps have become the "go to" activities for innovative parents and families. Campers are immersed in the world of science and accelerate their learning by participating in interactive and exciting activities. Air Zoo offers plenty of [summer camps](#) too. Taking reservations now.

[Sherman Lake YMCA](#) offers a summer of growth for your child and memories that will last a lifetime! Through discovery of the great outdoors, skill development, and the building of healthy relationships, campers leave with a renewed sense of belonging, confidence and courage to try new things. That's what keeps campers coming back to Sherman Lake YMCA Summer Camp!

[Van Buren Youth Camp](#) (VBYC) is a non-profit, co-ed, residential summer camp specializing in leadership training and recreation. VBYC honors traditional summer camp activities like canoeing, crafts, nature, archery/riflery, low ropes and swimming. Campers participate in the upkeep of the grounds and their living quarters, KP before and after each meal, and strive to be a good friend to all. VBYC is the longest continuously running leadership training program in the state of Michigan, located on Great Bear Lake, just 40 minutes west of Kalamazoo.



[Kamp Kzoo](#) Are you looking for something for your kids to do all summer? Check out Kamp Kzoo! With nine different weeks of special activities and trips to fit each theme, your child is sure to have a blast. Onsite activities include sports, martial arts training, culinary experiences, musical instruments and more. Frequent offsite field trips! Registration fee covers the cost to all Kik Pool, Rollerworld, Continental Lanes, & K-10 Movie Theater trips. Early Morning Drop-Off is available for Kamp Kzoo Campers and will be transported to their site in a City vehicle after breakfast, if needed. Breakfast and lunch provided daily.

[Western Michigan University Summer Camps](#) During the summer, Western Michigan University offers a wide variety of camps geared toward students of all ages. Our camps range from academic to sports, with a little bit of everything in between. Camps vary in cost based on requirements. This year, [Academically Talented Youth Program's \(ATYP\) camps](#) will offer scholarships; see [their website](#) for details.

[YMCA of Greater Kalamazoo](#) The Y's summer day camps for youth provide an array of options to interest every child. Day camp creates an environment where kids can be themselves, explore exciting new things, cultivate friendships, and create lasting memories. The experiences they enjoy will have a lasting impact on their lives as they begin to imagine and explore life around them. Our four core values of caring, honesty, respect, and responsibility are essential parts of all our programs. We follow the YMCA mission of providing programs that build healthy spirit, mind, and body for all.

[Pretty Lake Camp](#) a non-profit community organization, has provided a cost-free summer camp experience to over 60,000 youth from Kalamazoo County who can benefit most from the experience. Throughout the years, we have enriched the lives of thousands of youth by offering a safe, structured and encouraging environment in a natural setting. Many of the children who attend Pretty Lake Camp face significant challenges at home, in school, and in their community. We strive to remove all barriers that prevent a child from being able to come to camp. Through the financial support of generous individuals and organizations, everything that campers need during their session at camp – clothes, toiletries, bedding, towels, food, transportation to and from camp, and activities – are provided at no cost to the camper or their family or caregiver.



Each year, because of your generosity, we are able to send over 100 children to area summer camps. Camps are selected based on the individual needs of each child. You can provide a scholarship through a gift to [HANDLE WITH CARE](#), or you can provide essentials for their time at camp. The Agency will fund camp for over 100 children this summer, however many families will not be able to afford the camp related items. See below for the “PACK A CHILD FOR CAMP” wish list.

- A Small Daypack or Backpack
- Sunscreen
- Insect Repellant
- Deodorant
- Toothbrushes and Toothpaste
- Flashlights
- Combs and Brushes
- Towels and Washcloths
- Any kind of Travel Size Toiletries or Travel Toiletries Bags



## Public Health Week 2018

April 2<sup>nd</sup> thru April 8<sup>th</sup>



In the pursuit of extraordinary governance, the Kalamazoo County Board of Commissioners resolves that a safe and healthy community is sustained through public health measure such as vaccination, childhood lead poisoning prevention, access to safe and healthy food, and provision of clean drinking water. And that all sectors, public and private, have a role and responsibility in reducing health disparities and to support pre- and post-natal care as well as young people to reach their best academic and health potentials.

Public health, along with many partners, ardently works to create a community where all residents are supported to be successful and where social justice and health equity have become pillars of county works and collaborations.

Kalamazoo County Government celebrates the power of prevention, advocacy for healthy and fair policies for all residents and increased strategies and partnerships for success in building strong public health systems to benefit and improve our overall community health outcomes. And recognizes the importance of good health among its residents as a key factor in building a strong economy and an environment for all people to participate in the opportunities, benefits, and responsibilities of society.

# Family Fun In Kalamazoo County

## [KWings Fan Appreciation Night](#)

Saturday, April 7<sup>th</sup> – 7:00pm.

The Hungry Howie's Friends and Family Deal is now available for Fan Appreciation Night. Ticket package includes:

- 4 tickets to April 7 game
- 4 Kalamazoo Wings promotional items
- \$20 Hungry Howie's voucher
- K-Wings Locker Room Tour on April 7



A huge package at a great price. Bring the whole family!

---

## [The Color Run](#)

Saturday, April 14, 2018 start line at 10:00am

Arcadia Creek Festival Place

145 E Water Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49007

Join **The Color Run**, the world's first COLOR 5K™ and COLOR DASH event. Founded in 2011, the mission is to bring people together and make the world a happier, healthier place. By creating an experience that's more about the memories you make than your mile per minute, makes running feel accessible to a broader demographic. Now the largest running series in the world, "The Happiest 5K on the Planet" has been experienced by over 6 million runners worldwide in 35+ countries, and continues to be a leader in the fun running space.

---



## [Earth Day Celebration](#)

Saturday, April 21, 2018 9:00am - 5:00 pm

Kalamazoo Nature Center

7000 North Westnedge Avenue, Kalamazoo, MI 49009

Join the Kalamazoo Nature Center for the annual Earth Day Celebration! FREE admission day at KNC! Start your day off by taking part in the Earth Day 5K or Kids' Raccoon Run! The event offers special programs for all ages. Learn more and register for the run/walk at [NatureCenter.org](http://NatureCenter.org)

---



## [4H Leaders Benefit Auction](#)

Saturday, April 28, 2018 10:00am – 2:00pm (preview items @ 9:00am)

Kalamazoo County Expo Center

2900 Lake Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49048

Kalamazoo 4-H benefit auction will be having both a silent and live auction. Preview items beginning at 9am. Live auction at 10am. Profits from the auction will go to support youth involved in the Kalamazoo County 4-H program. Admission is free. For more information contact Veronica Bolhuis at 269-383-8867 or [bolhuisv@anr.msu.edu](mailto:bolhuisv@anr.msu.edu). Visit the [Facebook site](#) for more information on auction items and packages available.



**\*\*Important Dates \*\***

*April is:*

**Autism Awareness Month**

*April 1<sup>st</sup>*  
Easter Sunday

*April 2<sup>nd</sup>*  
Autism Awareness Day

*April 3<sup>rd</sup>*  
National Service Recognition Day formerly known as Mayor and County Officials Recognition day is for honoring national service of those who volunteer.  
#ncgm

*April 20<sup>th</sup>*  
Global Youth Service Day (GYSD) is an annual worldwide observance designed to celebrate the contributions of young volunteers to their communities  
#BeFearlessBeKind

*April 21<sup>st</sup>*  
County Health Day Celebrating counties building healthier communities and emphasizing the county role in supporting health and human services.

*April 22<sup>nd</sup>*  
Earth Day 2018  
*A World Without Plastic Pollution*  
From poisoning and injuring marine life to disrupting human hormones, from littering our beaches and landscapes to clogging our waste streams and landfills, the exponential growth of plastics is now threatening the survival of our planet.  
#EarthDay2018

*April 27<sup>th</sup>*  
Arbor Day  
Celebrate by planting a tree! Take pride in helping to transform our urban landscapes.  
#ParticipateAdvocateDonate

# Autism Awareness Month

Kalamazoo County Government, in the pursuit of extraordinary governance, recognizes and resolves that,

Autism is the fastest growing developmental disability in the United States, affecting more than three million people, and is an urgent public health crisis that demands a national response.

Symptoms and characteristics of autism may present themselves in a variety of combinations and can result in the significant lifelong impairment of an individual's ability to learn, develop healthy interactive behaviors, and understand verbal as well as nonverbal communication.

Kalamazoo County and the community need to ensure that persons living with autism have access to the lifelong care and services needed to pursue the full measure of personal happiness so they may achieve their greatest potential.

Kalamazoo County Government is honored to take part in the annual observance of Autism Awareness Month in the hope that it will lead to a better understanding of the disorder and that the Kalamazoo County Board of Commissioners recognize the leadership in autism treat displayed by the [Great Lakes Center for Autism Treatment and Research](#), a division of Residential Opportunities Inc.

Participate...Advocate...Donate!



Spring cleaning time is near!

Dispose properly!

**RECYCLE not TRASH!**

household hazardous WASTE

Visit [kalcounty.com/hhw](http://kalcounty.com/hhw) or Call **373-5211** for detailed materials accepted and **FREE** recycling participation areas.

HOURS: Tues. & Fri. 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.  
Wed. 12 p.m. - 6 p.m.  
2nd Sat. 8 a.m. - 12 p.m. (closed in Aug. & Sept. on Sat.)

1301 Lamont Ave.  
Next to Fairgrounds  
hhwcenter@kalcounty.com

## Annual Kalamazoo County Park Passes on sale now!



Annual passes can be purchased at any of the parks with cash or check from the gatehouse (if open) or through the self-pay post by following the instructions on the pay envelope. Passes can also be purchased at the Kalamazoo County Parks located inside the Expo Center at 2900 Lake St or over the phone with a credit card by calling (269)383-8778. Annual passes can be used at all five Kalamazoo County Parks and are good for the calendar year.

Fees: \$5.00 daily vehicle admission  
 \$25.00 annual vehicle pass  
 \$20.00 senior/discount annual vehicle pass



### Kids Are Fragile

install, and use your child restraint correctly every time



**Safe Kids Coalition Car Seat Check Up**  
**Saturday April 21, 2018**  
**from 10 am - 2 pm**  
**Kalamazoo Dept. of Public Safety**  
**601 N. Park Street**  
**Kalamazoo, MI**

**For more information, call (269) 341-8830**

Car seats replacement may be recommended for the safety of your child.

- Child **MUST** be present - for seat replacement
- **MUST** have vehicle with lap/shoulder belt available for child needing booster seat.
- We reserve the right to limit the number of car seats per family.
- No appointment necessary; first come, first served.



### Kalamazoo County Communicator

The purpose of the County Communicator is to make you, the constituents, businesses, and community aware of the services and programs Kalamazoo County provides. And to make you aware of how you can make a difference in your community.

Subscribe here! Tell us what you think and what you would like to see.



CONNECT TO ROAD COMMISSION OF KALAMAZOO COUNTY ALERTS

**RCKC CONNECT**  
RCKC ALERTS SIGN UP NOW

**HAVE YOU SIGNED UP?**  
Receive Message Alerts For:

- ◆ Road Construction
- ◆ Road Closures/Detours
- ◆ General Public News

To Sign Up Visit: [www.kalamazoocountyroads.com](http://www.kalamazoocountyroads.com)

Follow Kalamazoo County Government

