



From the Office of Administrator

On November 29, 2016, the Kalamazoo County Board of Commissioners appointed Ms. Tracie Moored as the new Kalamazoo County Administrator/Controller. Ms. Moored has previously served Kalamazoo County as the Director of Finance and Internal Services since 2008.

The Kalamazoo County Board of Commissioners, and Administrator Moored joined together in a series of sessions and workshops to formulate and implement a new strategic focus for Kalamazoo County. From these sessions a new mission emerged:

In the pursuit of extraordinary governance, Kalamazoo County Government provides equitable programs and excellent services to promote the health and safety of everyone in Kalamazoo County.

The areas of strategic focus were defined:

- Deliver Consistent High Quality Programs and Services
- Strengthen Engagement in Our Community
- Build a Relationship-Focused Culture

Ms. Moored's successes with the County have resulted in significant benefits for the community and its constituents, including a AA+ bond rating, refinanced county bonds saving taxpayers \$3 million, and multiple new self-funded facilities projects under the foresight of the county's Master Facilities Plan.

We are all looking forward to more extraordinary accomplishments to come for Kalamazoo County Government!

A New Strategic Vision for Kalamazoo County

County Administrator Moored asked the Board to approve and participate in a series of Strategic Planning sessions which were held in early 2017.

A strong strategic direction for the County was mapped and a vision created. A formal Strategic Rollout will begin in late June.

Inside This Issue

- From the Office of Administrator
- New Animal Services & Enforcement Facility
- Kalamazoo County Board of Commissioners
- Fun For the Family In Kalamazoo County!
- Important Dates and Events

How to contact your Kalamazoo County Officials:

County Administrator - Tracie Moored 269-384-8111
Treasurer - Mary Balkema 269-384-8124
County Clerk - Timothy Snow 269-383-8840
Sheriff - Rick Fuller 269-383-8821
Prosecuting Attorney - Jeff Getting 269-383-8900
Drain Commissioner-Pat Crowley 269-384-8117

Follow Kalamazoo County Government



Did you Know..?

Whether a person needs help locating a specific service or is having trouble securing basic needs Gryphon Place can help. Dial 2-1-1 for answers and information 24 hours a day, 365 days a year



A New Kalamazoo County Animal Services & Enforcement Facility



Kalamazoo County will construct a new Animal Services & Enforcement (ASE) Facility on Lamont Street in 2018. The need for a new facility is well established. In February of 2017, the Kalamazoo County Board of Commissioners and County Administration began a process to identify the needs of this mandated service, by soliciting input and participation from the Animal Services Advisory Board. The advisory board, consisting of citizens from Kalamazoo County that offer outstanding experience and knowledge, along with current and potential partners, collaborated to establish the priorities and a plan for the Animal Services Shelter Project.



All of this for me?!

A key step in the process was the gathering and analysis of the statistics related to the current ASE operations. Understanding the operating budget, animal intakes, animal dispositions, and transfers to other rescue organizations offered guidance on the needs for the project. In 2016, Kalamazoo County took in a total of 3,041 animals that included 1,431 dogs, 1,478 cats, and 132 other animals. 500 of these were returned to their owner, 616 were adopted, 438 were transferred to a partnering rescue organization. Others animals, potentially untreatable and those

unadoptable, were euthanized. Review of the ASE budget shows that approximately 25%, or \$244,000, is spent to operate the Kalamazoo County Animal Shelter. This includes staffing and operating supplies. It does not include building maintenance, capital investment, or building operating expenses. The remaining 75% goes towards the law enforcement responsibilities. Kalamazoo County Animal Services & Enforcement is efficiently operating the shelter and providing proficient services for the citizens of

Kalamazoo County is a central thread in the partnership with multiple non-profits and rescue organizations and effectively works with many to provide the greatest impact for the county. It is in the best interest of these organizations and Kalamazoo County to continue this equitable approach. The new shelter will greatly strengthen the engagement of residents and many animal resource partners. In addition to the new facilities, the Animal Services Advisory Board is also evaluating expanding the hours of operation for the new facility to include Saturday, lunch, and evening hours and improving vet services for animal health, spay and neutering. Education and outreach to the community will be improved, and partnerships will expand with volunteers, local non-profits, businesses and corporations.

Construction of the new Kalamazoo County Animal Shelter is anticipated to begin in March of 2018 and project completion is currently scheduled for March of 2019.



Kalamazoo County Communicator

The Kalamazoo County Communicator is a monthly newsletter from Kalamazoo County Government. The purpose of the County Communicator is to make you - the constituents, the businesses, and the community aware of the services and programs the County provides. And to open a dialogue for ideas and feedback on how to make Kalamazoo County a better place to live and do business.

Tell us what you think. What you would like to see in a County newsletter.

Submit your suggestions here



From Kalamazoo County Health & Community Services *Promoting Health for All*

The first West Nile virus activity for Michigan in 2017 has been confirmed in three birds across the state.

Symptoms of West Nile virus include a high fever, confusion, muscle weakness, and a severe headache.

To read more about West Nile and how to protect yourself and your family from the virus, visit the [Center for Disease Control website](#).



Your Kalamazoo County Board of Commissioners



Dale Shugars, Chair
District 9

CommissionerShugars@gmail.com



Stephanie Moore, Vice Chair
District 1

Stephanie.Moore@kalamazoo.org



Kevin Wordelman
District 2

TheWordelman@gmail.com



Tracy Hall
District 3

Tracy.Hall@kalamazoo.org



Michael Seals
District 4

Michael.Seals@kalamazoo.org



Julie Rogers
District 5

Julie.Rogers@kalamazoo.org



Ron Kendall
District 6

Ronald.Kendall@kalamazoo.org



Roger Tuinier
District 7

roger@tuinierbrothersgreenhouse.com



John Gisler
District 8

JGisler5@comcast.net



Mike Quinn
District 10

mikedquinn@sbcglobal.net



Scott McGraw
District 11

Scott.McGraw@kalamazoo.org

Your thoughts, opinions and views are important to all Commissioners. Citizen's Time is set aside at the beginning of each Board meeting for citizen's who wish to speak about items that do not appear on the agenda.

Board of Commissioners Meetings

June 20, 2017

July 5, 2017 (Wednesday)

July 18, 2017

August 2, 2017 (Wednesday)

August 15, 2017

Family Fun In Kalamazoo County



Kalamazoo Valley River Trail

TIME: The Trail is open daily from 7:00 a.m. to sunset
COST: FREE!

Currently, there are 22 miles complete of this non-motorized, paved-asphalt trail. One stretch begins at 10th Street, heading east from the Kal-Haven Caboose and stretching 4.8 miles to Westnedge Ave. You can also enjoy a section that connects 35th St. in Galesburg to D Avenue, traveling through River Oaks County Park, Mayors' Riverfront Park, Verburg Park, along Riverview Dr., and heading north along Markin Glen County Park and the Kalamazoo Nature Center. These two segments are connected by a signed-route throughout downtown Kalamazoo, featuring the Arcadia Creek Festival Place as well as many places to eat and shop. As funds and property become available the trail will continue to grow, realizing a vision that has been in the works since 1991.

Operating as a Kalamazoo County Park, the KRV Trail is free to use and offers something for everyone. Whether you're looking for a relaxing family stroll, a journey into nature, an extensive workout or a bike route to work—the KRV Trail awaits your visit.

Visit the Kalamazoo County Park [KVRT page here](#) for safety tips, point to point distances and more!

For a KRV map, [click here](#)

Free Park Day

WHEN: June 21, 2017
COST: FREE!

Check out [Kalamazoo County Parks on the website](#) to get more information and see all the family fun and events going on!



FREE PARK DAY!

FREE ADMISSION AT KALAMAZOO AREA PARKS!



June 21, 2017
Free Goodies
Free Activities
Grand Prize Giveaway!

Comstock Twp Parks
Robert Morris Park
8415 East H Ave

Kalamazoo City Parks
Upjohn Park & Kik Pool
1018 Walter St

Kalamazoo County Parks
River Oaks
9202 East Michigan Ave
(Cold Brook, Markin Glen,
Prairie View, & Scotts Mill
are also free)

Portage Parks & Recreation
Ramona Park
8600 South Sprinkle Rd



Kalamazoo Farmer's Market

WHEN: Every Saturday from 7:00am-2:00pm
WHERE: 1204 Bank Street, Kalamazoo, MI



Explore the [Kalamazoo Farmers Market](#) every Saturday from 7-2pm. Hundreds of local farmers, food producers, and artists come together in one location to offer up goods you will love! In addition there are food trucks, live music, cooking demos and more! The Kalamazoo Farmers Market is now open on Tuesdays and Thursdays starting June 6, from 7-2pm as well. It's a smaller market day with 10 to 15 vendors, but there is a little bit of everything, and it's perfect for those who enjoy a slower market day and plenty of close parking. **And**, take the family for fun and dinner while shopping at the Night Market, every 3rd Thursday from 6-10pm.

Important Dates

June is National:

[National Pride Month](#)

[National Safety Month](#)

June 1- [International Children's Day](#)

June 1-7 [National Volunteers Weeks](#)

June 9-10 [2017 Kalamazoo Pride Event](#)

June 14 – Flag Day

June 18 - Father's Day

June 21 – Summer Begins
County Free Park Day! Free Admission!

June 27 – [National PTSD Awareness Day](#)

June 27 – [Find Your Cause](#)
Be a volunteer!

The Community Foundation & Volunteer Kalamazoo, a program of Gryphon Place, can help you find your cause. Join us at the Community Foundation from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, June 27 to meet people from local nonprofits and learn how you can partner with them to do some good in Kalamazoo.



Have questions about your lawn's soil? Everything you need to know from MSU Extension [click here](#)



Kalamazoo County Board of Commissioners
recognizes
**June 2017 as Pride Month in
Kalamazoo County**

June is National Safety Month

**KEEP
• EACH OTHER •
SAFE**

Join NSC and thousands of organizations across the country as we work to raise awareness of what it takes to Keep Each Other Safe. Observed annually in June, National Safety Month focuses on reducing leading causes of injury and death at work, on the road and in our homes and communities.



celebrate the
difference
volunteers
make to every
community



This year marks Kalamazoo's 10th Annual Pride Event to be held at the Arcadia Creek Festival Site in downtown Kalamazoo.



Follow Kalamazoo County Government

