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MEETINGS THIS WEEK

The following is a list of meetings scheduled by our local municipalities in the coming week:

School boards

The Grand Haven Area Public Schools Board of Education will hold a special meeting on Monday, Aug. 18, at 6:30 p.m. to consider a proposed anti-bullying policy, which would rescind the district's current policy. The meeting will be held at the Duneside Discovery Center at Mary A. White, 1400 Wisconsin Ave., with the purpose of hearing public comment on the policy.

The school board's regular meeting will be held in the same location at 7 p.m. The meeting will begin with a board recognition of Girls State, a week-long program through the American Legion Auxiliary simulating state government, and an update on the Duneside Discovery Center following public comment. Later, the board will be asked to consider approving the recommendations for meal prices for the 2025-26 school year, allowing the White Pines Intermediate School kitchen renovation to increase the project contingency by \$30,000, and adopting the new anti-bullying policy.

The Spring Lake Public Schools Board of Education will meet for a regular meeting on Monday, Aug. 18, at 6 p.m. in the Spring Lake Intermediate/Middle School library, 345 Hammond St. The meeting includes action items on two bid approvals, one for the high school's theater fixture upgrades and one for the high school's media center/collaboration audio video security, as well as the purchase of instruction staff laptops at the high school and middle school.

The Fruitport Community Schools Board of Education will also hold its regular meeting on Monday, Aug. 18, at 7 p.m. in the Central Office board room, 3255 E. Pontaluna Road. The meeting will include a discussion of the district's Nov. 4 bond proposal, including talks about the newest edition of the district's Focus Newsletter providing information about the updated proposal and updates to the bond proposal website.

Spring Lake Village

The Spring Lake Village Council will meet on Monday, Aug. 18, at 6 p.m. in Barber School, 102 W. Exchange St. The agenda for the meeting was not released before the Tribune's print deadline. The full agenda will be posted on the village's website at springlakevillage.org/boards/village-council.

Ottawa County

Many Ottawa County boards and committees will be meeting throughout the coming week.

On Monday, Aug. 18, the county's Insurance Authority Board will meet at 9 a.m. in Conference Room F of the Administration Building, located at 12220 Fillmore St. Among other action items, the board will be asked to "approve and appropriate with the Fiscal Year 2026 Budget the recommended Risk Prevention Grants as presented" and approve the 2026 budget. At the end of the meeting, the Insurance Authority Board will go into closed session to consult with attorneys regarding pending litigation.

The Community Mental Health Finance Committee will also meet on Monday at 3 p.m. in the Community Mental Health Board Room, located at 12265 James St. in Holland Township.

On Wednesday, Aug. 20, the county's Parks and Recreation Commission will meet at 3 p.m. in the Administration Building board room. Commissioners will be asked to accept the draft 2026 Ottawa County Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan, and approve a request for the annual grant distribution Nature Education Center (NEC) Endowment Fund at Grand Haven Area Community Foundation (GHACF) in the amount of \$4,630 to the Ottawa County Parks Foundation.

Also on Wednesday, the Groundwater Board will meet at 9 a.m. in Conference Room H of the Administration Building; and the Community Action Agency Advisory Board will meet at 10 a.m. in the Community

Action Agency main conference room, located at 12551 James St.

The Brownfield Redevelopment Authority is scheduled to meet on Thursday, Aug. 21, at 3:30 p.m. in Conference Room H of the Administration Building.

Closing out the week, the Community Mental Health Board of Directors is scheduled to meet on Friday, Aug. 22, at 9 a.m. in the Administration Building board room.

City of Grand Haven

The Grand Haven City Council is expected to hold two public hearings and a special work session at its meeting on Monday night at City Hall, 519 Washington Ave.

At 6:30 p.m., the council will meet for a work session to hear a presentation from the Sustainability and Energy Commission. Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) wildlife biologist Nik Kalejs will discuss updates on forest management.

During the regular meeting at 7:30 p.m., council is expected to hold two public hearings regarding the property at 224 Washington Ave., which has been vacant since Grand Haven Jewelry closed its doors in 2017. The first hearing looks at approving a 20-year Brownfield Plan for the property, while the second has to do with a resolution to establish an Obsolete Property Rehabilitation District at the site.

Council will also revisit the preliminary zoning ordinance passed at its last meeting, which would permit short-term rentals by special land use in the Centertown Overlay of the Neighborhood Mixed-Use district. The change would go into effect with the passing of a final resolution on Monday night.

In new business, council will discuss an amendment to the Board of Light & Power's purchasing policy, and a bid proposal to replace three variable frequency units at the Northwest Ottawa Water Systems (NOWS) Lake Michigan Pump Station.

Other city groups meeting next week include the Duncan Park Commission on Tuesday, Aug. 19, at 6 p.m.; the Historic Conservation District Commission on Wednesday, Aug. 20, at 5 p.m.; and the Human Relations Commission on Thursday, Aug. 21, at 5:30 p.m. All meetings are set to take place at City Hall.

The Zoning Board of Appeals meeting originally scheduled for Aug. 20 has been canceled.

Spring Lake Township

The Spring Lake Township Planning Commission is scheduled to meet on Wednesday, Aug. 20, at the Barber School, 102 W. Exchange St. The commission is expected to hold a public hearing to consider a private road special land use at 18953 N. Fruitport Road, as well as hold a discussion on wetland banking.

The Spring Lake Township and Village Hall will be closed on Tuesday, Aug. 19, for staff training.

City of Ferrysburg

Ferrysburg's City Council will meet Monday, Aug. 18, at 7 a.m. at City Hall, 17520 Ridge Ave. According to the agenda, the council will consider a request to approve a one-year special land use from The Gateway Church at 700 Maple St.

The council will have a second chance to consider a proposal from Prein & Newhof for \$99,000 for design and construction engineering for Pine Street from Ridge Avenue to Third Street. At a previous meeting, the council failed to approve the proposal.

Work sessions will be held to consider lights on Smith's Bridge, 168th Avenue speed concerns, playground equipment at William Ferry Park and the First Impression Tourism Program through MSU Extension.

Also in Ferrysburg, the Kitchel Lindquist Hartger Dunes Board will meet Tuesday, Aug. 19, at 6:30 p.m. at City Hall; and the city's Recreation Commission will meet Thursday, Aug. 21, at 5:30 p.m. at City Hall.

Grand Haven Township

The township's Planning Commission will meet Monday, Aug. 18, at 6 p.m. at the township's administrative offices, 13300 168th Ave.

OBITUARIES

Elizabeth 'Betty' A. Thompson

1939 - 2025



Elizabeth "Betty" Thompson, age 86, passed away peacefully in Grand Haven, Michigan, on Wednesday, March 5, 2025, following a long illness.

Betty was a resident of Grand Haven since 1976, where she was an active and beloved member of the community who will be greatly missed by her family and friends. Betty moved to Grand Haven with her husband, Terry ("TJ") Thompson, then a member of the U.S. Coast Guard serving as officer-in-charge of Coast Guard Station Grand Haven.

Betty was a registered nurse at North Ottawa Community Hospital for almost four decades and was recognized as "Nurse of the Year" in 2001. Over her career at North Ottawa Community Hospital, she worked as a MedSurg nurse, an OB nurse, an Emergency Room nurse, and ultimately finished her career as an Operating Room nurse.

Betty was born on January 19, 1939, to James and Frances (Bettes) McMillan in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan. She grew up in Wyandotte and St. Ignace, Michigan, and went on to receive her nursing degree from Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit. She married Terry "TJ" Thompson in 1960, and the two of them had two children and spent many wonderful years building a life together until he preceded her in death in 2013.

Betty was passionate about life and giving back to the community. An avid and voracious reader, she spent many years as a volunteer at the Loutit District Library in Grand Haven. She was a regular volunteer supporting the American Legion in Grand Haven and was a longtime congregant at the United Methodist Church of the Dunes, where she was a Stephen minister.

Betty will be best remembered for her commitment to her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Any interest or hobby of her children or grandchildren instantly became her interest. She passed her love of learning, education, music and the arts to them and took tremendous pride in their accomplishments. She was committed to her many friends in the community, who will remember her for always being available in their times of need, many of

whom reciprocated her love and support during her time of illness.

Betty is survived by her children and their spouses: James Thompson (Sandra), a corporate and international attorney now residing in Ann Arbor, Michigan; and Michael Thompson (Maren), an orthopedic hand surgeon at Scripps Clinic and a U.S. Navy veteran, in San Diego, California; five grandsons: Ryan, Alexander, Christopher, Matthew and Michael; and one great-granddaughter and great-grandson; five siblings and their families: James McMillan, Miriam Champion, Laurel Lannen, Marcia Murray and Duncan McMillan; close friend Cathy Bingham; and countless other friends and extended relatives.

We would also like to thank the dedicated and compassionate staff of Lakeshore Assisted Living Homes in Grand Haven and Julia Parker of Coastal Connect.

A Celebration of Life will be held to commemorate her life at 11 a.m. Saturday, August 23, at the United Methodist Church of the Dunes, 717 Sheldon Road, Grand Haven, MI 49417. Following the service there will be a time of fellowship and refreshments.

For those unable to attend the service in person, you can watch the livestream of the service here: www.youtube.com/@duneschurchgrandhaven/streams.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Loutit District Library in Grand Haven or the United Methodist Church of the Dunes.

Arrangements entrusted to The Vanzantwick Chapel of Sytsema Funeral & Cremation Services, 620 Washington Ave., Grand Haven, MI 49417.



Lois M. McAllister

Lois Marilynne (Meyer) McAllister, age 94, of Corvallis, Oregon (formerly of Grand Haven), passed away on August 7, 2025, in Corvallis. A private family Celebration of Life for Lois will be held. Ash Scattering will be at Lake Forest Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to a children's charity of the donor's choice. Please visit www.klaassenfuneralhome.com for full obituary.



Obituary policy

We publish obituaries submitted by the funeral home in charge of arrangements. For information, news@grandhaventribune.com.

GHHS

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time into the Human Rights Coalition.

After graduating, Veach attended the culturally diverse Macalester College in St. Paul, Minnesota, where they continued to dance alongside academic pursuits, performing and choreographing for the Macalester Showcase Dance Theater. Veach graduated cum laude with a major in international studies and concentration in African studies, human rights and French.

After studying abroad in Cameroon and working with an immigration attorney in Minnesota, Veach joined the Peace Corps and was assigned to the Francophone country of Niger in Africa, working as a community liaison to help families access government services. While there, Veach learned the local language of Zarma and assisted with translations between French, Zarma and English. Later, Veach was

assigned as a health worker in Botswana, studied the language of Setswana, and taught dance to the nurses and local children.

After the Peace Corps, Veach attended City University of New York School of Law, where they published an article on restorative justice, worked to help immigrants and non-citizens to understand their rights, and also worked on the National Lawyers Guild legal observer and an attorney in New York. Later relocating to Michigan, Veach became a member of the NLG Michigan Chapter and briefly aided the law firm at Lighthouse Immigration Advocates in Holland, providing legal services for immigrants and refugees, and advocating to help develop a more inclusive and diverse community in West Michigan. Veach is currently the administrator of Fountain Street Church in Grand Rapids.

Kaye M. Nedderman

1942 - 2025



Kaye Marilyn Nedderman, age 83, of Grand Haven, passed away on Friday, August 1, 2025, at Grand Pines Assisted Living. She was born on March 19, 1942, in Muskegon, Michigan, to the late Walter and Doris (Bauch) Galimore. Kaye married John Nedderman on June 29, 1963, in Grand Haven.

Kaye graduated from Grand Rapids Creston High School and went on to receive her bachelor's and master's degrees in education from Western Michigan University. She began her teaching career working for a year at Oshtemo Public Schools and then spent the next 30 years as a ninth-grade biology teacher and taught and created the curriculum for seventh-grade sex education for Grand Haven Area Public Schools (GHAPS) before her retirement in 1994. Kaye was a long-time member of St. John's Lutheran Church. During her teaching career, she coached Grand Haven student teams to prepare for the State and National Science Olympiad competitions and received awards for excellence in teaching from multiple students. After retiring from teaching, she also served as science consultant for GHAPS, speaking at various civic organizations. Kaye was also the original founder of C.O.R.E. (Clean-up Our River Environment), beginning the movement on March 17, 2006, and serving as president in 2010, improving water quality of the Grand River entering Lake Michigan and increasing public awareness.

Some of Kaye's favorite activities were traveling to Chicago for shopping excursions with friends, attending sporting events with her family, coordinating social

activities with her neighborhood, watching the cinema and predicting Oscar winner competition in the Grand Haven Tribune, and spending time with her grandkids. She also enjoyed photography, walking, reading, crossword puzzles, Sudoku, and being a member of her local book club.

Kaye will be lovingly remembered and missed by her loving husband of 62 years, John; and their two sons: Todd (Monika) Nedderman, along with their daughter, Kamila, and Troy (Jamie) Nedderman, along with their children, Bryce and Livia; and her sister, Debra (Timothy) McDowell, along with their son, Emil.

The Memorial Service for Kaye will take place at 11 a.m. Saturday, September 27, 2025, at Klaassen Family Funeral Home, and will be officiated by the family's dear friend, Judy Mosterd. Visitation will be held one hour prior to the service at the funeral home. Memorial contributions may be made to the Student Scholarship for Environmental Science, c/o GHACF; or St. John's Lutheran Church or School. Please visit www.klaassenfuneralhome.com to sign Kaye's online guestbook.



Robert Dale Hayes

1968 - 2025



Robert Dale Hayes, age 56, of Grand Haven, passed away unexpectedly on Wednesday, August 6, 2025, at home. He was born on August 20, 1968, in Grand Haven to Robert Earl and Rose Mary (Stearns) Hayes.

Robert worked at Federal Mogul until a shoulder injury forced him to retire. He was a lifelong resident of Grand Haven. Robert loved tubing down the Muskegon River with family and friends. He prided himself on being able to repair cars, bikes, literally all things mechanical.

He is lovingly remembered by his daughter, Desirae (Chaise) Hayes-Balcom; stepdaughter, Christina Potter; stepson, Robert Potter; two sisters, Peggy (Randy) Goodin and Mary Rose Rhineburger; his aunt, Celeste Engale-LaForest; and many friends. He was preceded in death by his parents; and his sister, Sue Ann Hayes.

A celebration of Robert's life will be from 2-6 p.m.

Friday, August 22, 2025, at the Grand Haven Community Center – Mackinaw Room, 422 Columbus Ave., Grand Haven, MI 49417. Please bring a dish to pass.

Arrangements entrusted to The VanZantwick Chapel of Sytsema Funeral & Cremation Services, 620 Washington Ave., Grand Haven, MI 49417. Share memories with the family at their online guestbook at www.sytsemafh.com.



2012 Girls Varsity Basketball Team Athletic Achievement

The 2012 GHHS girls varsity basketball team finished the season with a 27-1 record and mounted one of the greatest comebacks of all time in a state championship game, defeating Grosse Pointe South, 54-53. It was the program's first Class A state title.

The Buccaneers were down as many as 18 points with just under two minutes remaining in the third quarter, finding themselves on the losing end of a 44-26 score. However, a Shar'Rae Davis 3-pointer spurred a 6-0 run, closing the gap to 44-32 going into the fourth. Momentum switched, and Grosse Pointe South,

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GHHS

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under pressure, committed 19 turnovers. Grand Haven capitalized, making its way back into the game and eventually taking the lead.

With her team trailing by a point and just seconds left on the clock, Davis drove the length of the court for a layup and a 54-53 lead, allowing Grand Haven to clinch the win and celebrate its first-ever championship.

Head coach Katie Kowalczyk-Fulmer called it the longest game of her life, and also an emotional one.

The team played knowing five students from Grand Haven were hospitalized with serious injuries suffered in a car crash on their way to cheer on the team in the semi-final game.

The team featured Abby Cole, Taylor Craymer, Shar'Rae Davis (first-team All-State), Morgan Hawver, Cassie Holwerda, Jordan Keefe, Grace Kendra, Alex Law (first-team All-State), Megan Newhouse, Angie Schultz, Kaeding Skelton, Courtney Springer, Hannah Wilkerson, head coach Katie Kowalczyk-Fulmer, and assistant coaches Katie Erickson, Gary Hogeboom, Scott Przystas and Korie Schmidt.

2013 Girls Varsity Basketball Team Athletic Achievement

Following a championship season isn't exactly easy, especially if the team graduated seven seniors. However, the 2013 Grand Haven girls basketball team didn't let that get in their way. With six returning players and six newcomers on the squad, they not only proved they were still contenders, but also pushed aside pressure and expectations to finish with a perfect 28-0 record and went on to bring home the state title for the second year in a row.

The state championship game turned out to be a rematch against Grosse Pointe South. The Bucs led most of the game, entering the second half on top 26-17. By the third quarter, their lead had grown



2013 Grand Haven girls basketball team

to double digits, but that's when their 6-foot-5 powerhouse Abby Cole went to the bench in foul trouble. Like a reversal of the previous year, Buccaneer turnovers allowed the Blue Devils to close the gap. The game eventually went into overtime – just the seventh overtime game in state tournament history.

When the extra minutes began, the Bucs wasted no time taking control, immediately going on a 5-0 run. With Cole back on the court, the Bucs shooting 76 percent from the floor and key free throws made down the stretch, Grand Haven became back-to-back champions with a score of 60-54.

The 2013 team champions included Mallory Beswick, Abby Cole (first-team All-State and Class A Player of the Year), Taylor Craymer, Krysteena Davis, Jami Hogeboom, Grace Kendra, Amanda Merz, Angie Schultz, Emily Sexton, Courtney Springer, Bailey TeBeau, Hannah Wilkerson, head coach Katie Kowalczyk-Fulmer, and assistant coaches Katie Erickson, Taylor Nautta, Scott Przystas and Korie Schmidt.

Aaron Cummings Athletic Achievement Class of 2015

As a four-sport athlete at GHHS, Aaron Cummings was known for his work ethic, determination, grit and enthusiasm. He was captain of the football and track and field teams, as well as a two-



CUMMINGS

time captain of the wrestling team. In his senior year of football, he earned all-conference honors and Muskegon all-area recognition.

Cummings started wrestling his sophomore year, becoming a conference champion and state qualifier in both 2014 and 2015. He was named all-district three times, all-region twice, and garnered two honorable mention all-state honors. As a senior, he helped lead the team to a regional championship, earning Grand Haven's wrestling program its first appearance at the team state wrestling finals.

In track, Cummings was a gifted sprinter and middle-distance runner; however, in his senior year he made the switch to rugby, which ultimately became a life-changing decision. In only one season, Cummings led the team to the state championship game, and though he attended Davenport University on a football scholarship, he once again switched to rugby, playing on the university's team, which was third best in the nation.

From there, Cummings began playing rugby professionally and went on to earn a spot on the USA Rugby National Team, representing the USA in more than 28 international tournaments, eventually competing on the world's

largest stage: the 2024 Summer Olympics in Paris. Cummings is Grand Haven's first and only Olympian, playing a game he first learned as a Buccaneer.

Cummings is now captain of the national team and is currently earning his bachelor's degree in sports management from Bellevue University.

Thomas Treutler Service to Society Class of 1986

Thomas Treutler is a multi-talented man whose love of baseball transcends continents.



TREUTLER

After graduating from University of Michigan's engineering school, Treutler studied Vietnamese at Stanford while working in California, volunteering for an immersion program in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. He became fluent in Vietnamese and taught English literature there, later working as a translator and emcee, and appearing in commercials.

He married, returned to America, graduated magna cum laude from Indiana University Law School and had two sons. Relocating to Hanoi, Vietnam, Treutler became managing director and partner of one of the oldest, largest and most prestigious law firms in Southeast Asia. He also founded Vietnam's

first and only organized youth baseball team.

The Hanoi Capitals debuted in 2008 with just six kids, a whiffle ball and bat. Completely new to the sport (besides Tom's son, Ben, who'd played in the U.S.), they lost 34 straight games. However, under Treutler's tutelage and with hard work and determination, the losing streak ended and interest in the game grew. In 2011, they won the Southeast Asia 12U championship of Pony Baseball and in 2015 made it to the Colt World Series.

In their U.S. home, the Treutlers hosted 11 Hanoi players who, with their son, attended Muskegon Catholic Central High School, helping the baseball team to the state championships. Several Hanoi players earned all-district, all-region, and/or all-state honors and later attended college in the U.S.

To date, the Hanoi club has had more than 400 members over the years who've participated in more than 25 international tournaments, including a friendly competition with the Grand Haven Young Bucs. Treutler not only founded but also served as president of Pony Baseball in Vietnam, and his work in youth baseball has made news worldwide, covered by the Wall Street Journal and the Los Angeles Times. All the while, Treutler practices and teaches intellectual property law in Vietnam.

Shirley Lemon Honorary Award for Service to GHAPS

In 1981, GHAPS hired Central Michigan University graduate Shirley Lemon to not only teach vocal music but also build an excellent program. With the support of Assistant Superintendent Dr. Bill Cansfield, Music Department Chair Craig Flahive, as well as music faculty and staff, she knew she was up to the task.

With her contagious upbeat attitude, she encouraged, challenged and empowered her students to work as a team, instilling confidence, commitment, respect and responsibility, and helping them realize their potential



LEMON

for greatness as singers and individuals. Within a year the choir grew not only in numbers, but in quality as well, receiving excellent ratings at their very first festival – the beginning of a 33-year tradition of excellence.

Lemon spread the stellar reputation of Grand Haven across the Midwest and beyond, her choirs performing nationwide in places like Washington, D.C., and Carnegie Hall, and even overseas in Vienna and Salzburg, Austria. Along the way, they collected awards such as Outstanding Choir in Michigan (2000, 2003, 2008) and invitations to prestigious events like the Michigan Music Conference (1993, 1998, 2000, 2006).

Close to home, their exceptional performances were experienced by many businesses, municipalities and organizations, and at special events like the Musical Fountain's 50th Anniversary, the Hospice of Ottawa County Memorial Service and the Tri-Cities Historical Museum Grand Opening ceremonies.

"Songs for Baby", one of seven CDs that Lemon recorded with the high school, was given to every child born at North Ottawa Community Hospital. She was a founding member of the Grand Haven Education Association's Celebration of Learning (1994, 1996, 1998) as well as the Night of 100 Stars (2000, 2004) honoring area volunteers. Lemon collaborated with the Tri-Cities Chautauqua organization to commission and conduct a choral work premiered by a 150-voice community choir and the GHHS Chamber Choir at Waterfront Stadium (2000, 2001).

She served as president elect, president and past president of the Michigan School Music Association (MSV-MA), the American Choral Directors Association-MI secretary, and spent five years as president elect and president of the Grand Rapids Symphony Chorus.





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