

# KALEIDOSCOPE

Kent District Library // Information. Ideas. *Excitement!* | Summer 2020



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**Donor Spotlight**, pg. 9  
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Hello and welcome to summer!

Summer is probably our very favorite time of the year at KDL. It gives us the chance to help kids and adults grow, learn and have fun all summer long. Though our summer program will look a bit different this year due to all that has been happening in our world, you can still expect all the excitement you've grown to love... plus more!

This year we introduce Summer Wonder, a STEAM-powered program that focuses on science, technology, engineering, art and math. It's an at-home program of reading, learning and discovery for all ages. While KDL summer programs are enjoyed by people of all ages, we are placing a significant focus on school-age kids, to offset the summer slide that comes from being away from school. With all the closings and difficulties that happened as a result of COVID-19, summer library programs are more important than ever!

We hope you love Summer Wonder as much as we do.

Lance Werner  
Executive Director



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### About the cover:

KDL Creative Services Coordinator **Brad Baker** created this issue's cover art. Seymour supervised.



Information  
Ideas  
Excitement!



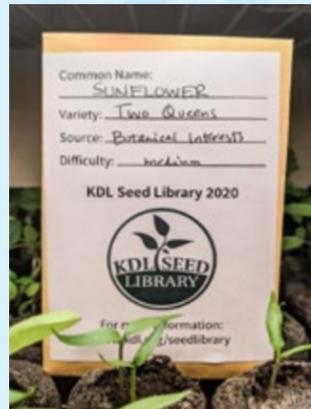
KDL librarians use Facebook Live to reach their patrons as they **Stay Home** and **Stay Safe** in early 2020!

# KDL updates

**Katie Lawrence**, a librarian at our Grandville Branch, has been elected to the 2022 **Newbery Award Selection Committee**. The committee members discuss books that have been published during the year and vote for the Newbery award winners. **Congratulations, Katie!** We are so proud of you.



Branch closings didn't stop our **Seed Library** service! Over 250 Kent County households were mailed more than 5,000 seeds. We also partnered with **H.O.P.E. Gardens**, to make sure 500 students had seeds to plant as they learn about growing their own food. We hope the seeds were a tangible and inspiring gift to our community during this time.



Kent District Library has been recognized on the national level as a **Best and Brightest Company to Work For** by the National Association for Business Resources. This award follows being named one of West Michigan's Best and Brightest Companies to Work For in 2019.



We want to send out a heartfelt congratulations to **Danielle**, our most recent graduate from **Career Online High School**. We are so proud of her hard work and accomplishment!



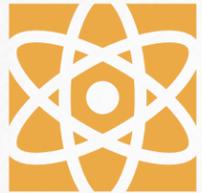
Though delayed a bit due to the coronavirus pandemic, we anxiously await the opening of the **Amy Van Andel Library and Community Center** in Ada in 2021. Dawn Lewis will be managing the branch.



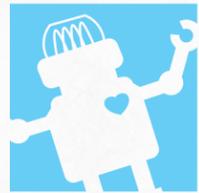
## Read. Learn. Explore. Create.

Take this exciting, **STEAM-Powered Summer Wonder** journey with us and see where it takes you. Be ready! Learning will happen anytime, anywhere and sometimes when you least expect it.

**It's easy. It's fun. It's for all ages and you can participate from anywhere! Flip this booklet over or visit [kdl.org/summer](http://kdl.org/summer) to check it out.**



Science



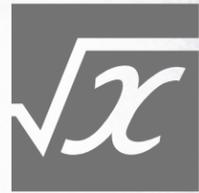
Technology



Engineering



Arts



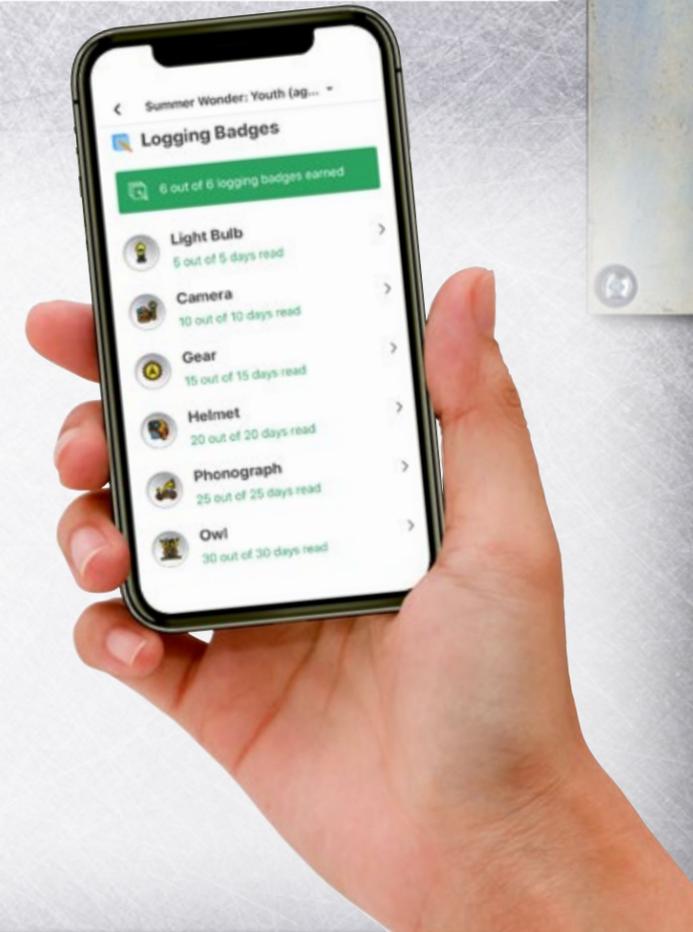
Mathematics



## Join the **30-DAY CHALLENGE** for the Whole Family!

JUNE 1 - AUGUST 8, 2020

Take the 30-Day Challenge! An at-home, self-guided program of reading, learning and discovery for all ages. Participate using the enclosed paper tracking log or online at [kdl.beanstack.org](http://kdl.beanstack.org).



MEET YOUR GUIDE ON THIS JOURNEY

Name: **Curi** [*kyōō-rē*]

**Primary Function:** Helping people to learn about and enjoy Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math!

**Birthplace:** Whitehall, MI

Curi loves to learn about new things, and every day is an opportunity to find something wonderful. She shares her knowledge with anyone who will listen.



We'd like to thank our generous sponsors for their support of **Summer Wonder**.



Title sponsor of Summer Wonder



Title sponsor of the STEAM Lab Kits

Friends of the **Alto Library**  
 Friends of the **Englehardt Library of Lowell**  
 Friends of the **Gaines Township Library**  
 Friends of the **Grandville Library**  
 Friends of the **Kentwood Library**

**The Alliance of Friends**

Friends of the **Krause Memorial (Rockford) Library**  
 Friends of the **Plainfield Township Library**  
 Friends of the **Spencer Township Library**  
 Friends of the **Walker Library**  
 Friends of the **Wyoming Library**



# No Fines / No Barriers

Since eliminating fines for overdue items a year ago, we're seeing nothing but upside and more smiling faces

**97% of billed items are returned**  
Up from 48% for patrons under age 18.

Historically, when minors received a bill for an unreturned item, more than half of them stopped using the library instead of returning the item and settling their bill. Since going fine free and forgiving late fees, the number of minors returning to the library has doubled. This is a win/win because expensive materials are being returned to the collection for others to check out and young people are using the library again.

**When Carol recently found out that KDL went fine-free, she was thrilled.**



"I was like, 'Hallelujah!'" Carol said. "KDL became my shining star."

Carol had stopped her regular visits to the Kentwood Branch of KDL due to fines she accrued during a health challenge. Now that her fines are no longer an issue, Carol and her granddaughters are back. They check out books, hang out on rainy and snowy days, use the printer to print school projects, attend programs and the farmers market and chat with other patrons.

"KDL is more than just books," Carol said. "It's a great place to explore your life and interests."

# The Reach of the KDL BOOKMOBILE



“As a preschool teacher, I love having the bookmobile come and read to our students, offering them a variety of books to select and showing them that reading can be fun! It's so important to show our preschoolers literacy early to help them connect the letters with words. This is preparing them for kindergarten as they begin to learn how to read.”

*Celeny, teacher at the Hispanic Center's La Escuelita preschool program*



Since the bookmobile hit the road a year and a half ago, its travels have included:

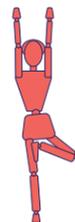
- **516** visits to schools, community centers and attractions
- **31,619** visitors
- **13,157** miles
- **46,260** items borrowed

For a schedule of visits or to learn about having the bookmobile visit you, go to [kdl.org/bookmobile](http://kdl.org/bookmobile).

# June 21 is International Yoga Day, which celebrates the physical and spiritual prowess that yoga has brought to the world stage.



Cobra Pose



Tree Pose



Cat-Cow Pose



Butterfly Pose



Downward Facing Dog



Seated Forward Fold

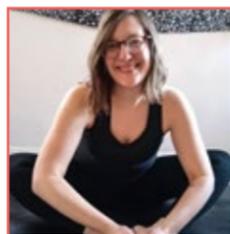


Standing Forward Bend  
(a great variation is to cross one ankle over the other)

## Why is yoga important to our physical and mental health?

“As we practice moving our bodies, each pose is linked to a breath that gives us something to come back to. Every time we notice or observe any discomfort, tight spaces, or metaphorical cobwebs in the body, this is where the practice truly begins. By simply breathing and noticing, we have the opportunity to practice letting the discomfort and thoughts be there without holding on so tight. And as we get curious about this process on the mat, we start to see changes off the mat too. That’s why it’s called yoga – to unite. To connect. To come back to you, without all the external noise around you.”

– Ashten, Wyoming Branch



“Why is yoga important to our physical and mental health? Yoga links our breath to movement, which brings us into a state of mindfulness. Mindfulness helps to slow down the pace of our everyday lives and gives our brain a break from the hustle and bustle. The breathing in your yoga practice helps to calm your parasympathetic nervous system. This can lead to better focus, better rest at night and an overall feeling of zen. What do you have to lose?!”

– Morgan, Plainfield Twp. Branch



You can check out our yoga-related videos anytime! Go to [facebook.com/kentdistrictlibrary/videos](https://facebook.com/kentdistrictlibrary/videos) and click on the "yoga" playlist.

## DONOR SPOTLIGHT

# Randy Hansen, Centennial Securities

Centennial Securities Company has been a sponsor of the Literary Libations Gala since its inception in 2015 and has been the Presenting Sponsor since 2016. Their generous and faithful partnership has provided the foundation for the success of this annual gala and directly supported KDL’s programming and outreach.



*Randy Hansen is President, CEO and CFO of Centennial Securities, an independent financial services firm. He took a few minutes to answer some of our questions about the causes he supports and his latest recommended read.*

### Why do you support KDL?

A better educated society should be everyone’s goal. What better way is there to get educated than with the materials available through KDL? Whether it’s an adult having their mind broadened or a child learning the building blocks of reading, we will all benefit.

### What other causes are also important to you and why?

Centennial is involved with several different community events/charitable organizations including most notably the Grand Rapids Griffins Youth Foundation, Pursuing a Dream Foundation, Blandford Nature Center, Grand Rapids Civic Theatre, Kids Food Basket and Equest Center for Therapeutic Riding. All of these organizations fill a need or gap in our community and we’re proud to be associated with their missions.

### Why do you enjoy attending the Literary Libations Gala?

The Gala is a great opportunity to entertain clients and friends while supporting a great cause. It’s a nice, relaxed atmosphere that feels focused on fun rather than fundraising. The featured authors are always entertaining and the night seems to fly by. Additionally, the opportunity to mingle with the authors throughout the night is something my guests and I have enjoyed.

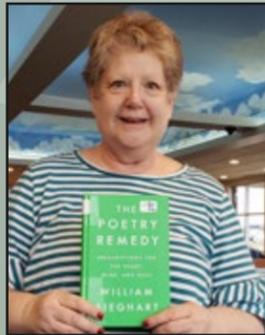
“  
**A better educated society should be everyone’s goal.**

– Randy Hansen

### What are you reading right now?

I just finished a book by Mitch Albom entitled *The Magic Strings of Frankie Presto*. I thought it was amazing since I listen to the audio version of books because of my commute time. It had a full cast of characters and was truly entertaining... plus the journey it took me on was wonderful. Most of my books are spy/ crime thrillers like Vince Flynn’s *Mitch Rapp* series or John Sandford’s *Prey* series.

# Staff Picks



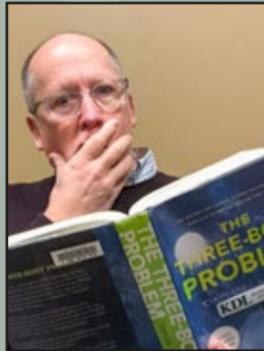
## The Poetry Remedy: Prescriptions for the Heart, Mind, and Soul edited by William Sieghart

“This is an amazing book of literature and poetry. Everyone will find a passage that appeals to them! My favorite poem is “Thinking,” which says in part, “ If you think you are beaten, you are. If you think you dare not, you don’t.” This compilation will warm your soul!” – Robin, Information Substitute

## The Three-Body Problem

by Liu Cixin

“This is pretty hard-core science fiction, except that it’s not completely apparent until the last hundred pages. The Cultural Revolution in China is woven throughout the book, with groups rising up in dissent over theories of astrophysics. Say what? Right. The way that the story unfolds plays with concepts of time, with a breadcrumb trail that converges at the end. All we know for sure is that someone is coming to Earth. Even though the story resolves, it sets the stage for two more books in the series, which I’m anxious to check out.” – Randy at the KDL Service Center



## One Day at HorrorLand by R.L. Stine

“A favorite from my days in elementary school, this classic R.L. Stine title was not as terrifying as I had remembered. The plus side is that I didn’t have to sleep in my parents’ bed for an entire week after reading it this time around.” – David at the KDL Service Center

## Betty Ford: First Lady, Women’s Advocate, Survivor, Trailblazer

by Lisa McCubbin

“This in an encouraging and interesting biography of a woman who was unexpectedly thrust onto the national stage. It openly shares her struggles and what she went through to overcome them.” – MaryBeth, Information Substitute

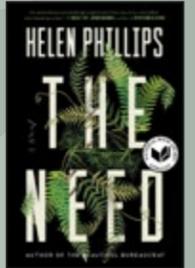


## Lovely War by Julie Berry

“I couldn’t put this book down! First of all, the cover is beautiful, and I always judge a book by its cover. It is a mix of two different love stories, set in WWI. There is a fun twist in which the goddess Aphrodite is telling the story of the young couples. This book is warm and charming but handles difficult topics like war and prejudice in a poignant way.” – Jill at Wyoming

## The Need by Helen Phillips

“This story is sort of a blend of horror, thriller and musing on the mundane joy of caring for small children. As a parent of a toddler and a baby, I read it at the perfect time because her language and descriptions of parenting ring so true. But even if you aren’t a parent, the tension around the plot is also very compelling and makes it a fascinating, creepy ride.” – Anna at East Grand Rapids



## CORONAVIRUS CHANGES CONNECTIONS, COLLABORATION AND COFFEE

From the desk of **David Specht**, KDL Digital Marketing Strategist

I don’t recall where I last parked my car and I’m not sure I remember how to iron a shirt. This is my... fourth week working from home. Don’t get me wrong; it’s not all bad. In fact, I feel more productive now than I ever have when working at the KDL Service & Meeting Center. Without the hourly walks to the breakroom to refill my coffee (our Fund Development Manager, Claire, would cringe at that sentence; she has more than once expressed shock at the amount of coffee I consume on a daily basis), my regular side conversations with coworkers as I do a lap around the office, and hours spent sitting in conference rooms, I find myself hunkering down at my computer and almost effortlessly knocking out my to-do lists. If I do have a meeting, my least wrinkled sweater and a ball cap to cover my bedhead is the only attire I need to satisfy the folks on the other end of the video conference. Am I barefoot? Are these sweatpants? They’ll never know. Heck, they’re sporting the same uniform. This is our new dress code.

If there’s one person who is absolutely loving this lockdown, it’s my dog, Ripley. She doesn’t know why I’m home and she certainly doesn’t understand what is happening out in the world, but she does know that her daily belly rubs have increased ten-fold and she’s going on more walks than ever. And it helps both my partner and I to have Ripley and also to have one another, for not only belly rubs, but comfort and reassurance.

### Daily Schedule:

- 8:00 AM** – Wake up
- 8:05 AM** – Turn on laptop
- 8:10 AM** – Think about how I should brew coffee
- 8:15 AM** – Respond to the morning’s emails
- 8:45 AM** – Realize I still haven’t brewed coffee
- 9:15 AM** – Hear my partner frantically roll out of bed and ask me why I didn’t wake her up
- 9:30 AM** – Finally brew coffee (mainly because my partner has requested it)
- 10:00 AM** – Take my dog, Ripley, outside
- 10:30 AM** – Realize that it is somehow not 10:30 AM, but is in fact already 5:15 PM. (Where did the day go? Was that large mug of black coffee actually a large black hole?)
- 6:00 PMish** – Switch from my “work stool” at the breakfast bar to my post-work spot on the sofa. (The work stool will be revisited a minimum of three times throughout the evening. It’s tough to leave your “office” when it’s three feet from your couch.)

But as physically comfortable as the home office might be, the first few days weren’t so comfortable mentally. Even though I was waking up with my regular alarm, powering up my laptop and connecting with my team, it made me anxious to not be heading to the office. I truly felt like I was doing something wrong. Perhaps it was the uncertainty. The not knowing what the future held and not having any

*Continued on page 12*

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# NEW STAFF



**Alicia Barnaby** Shelver – Plainfield Twp.  
Favorite book: *Anna Karenina* by Leo Tolstoy



**Noah Hausmann** Shelver – Wyoming  
Favorite book: *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury

"Coronavirus Changes..." continued

control over it. I've been an employee at KDL for over four years now, and the thought of no longer being a part of that family – or worse yet, that family being dissolved completely and all of my teammates losing their jobs – was difficult to shake from my mind. Even with the words of reassurance from management, hearing of so many other organizations furloughing and letting go of their workforce was enough to keep me on edge. And I was concerned for my loved ones – their livelihood, their health, their stress. I still am. You probably are, too.

And while the thought of the entire world battling a pandemic can be stressful and overwhelming, knowing that we're all in this together is comforting. It helps to know that you're not alone. And the work being carried out by my colleagues – from live streaming yoga storytimes to collecting greeting cards to deliver to senior centers – has, I think, helped our patrons know that they aren't alone either.

I think in a way being apart has actually brought us closer. Had you told me a few months back that I would miss meetings, or that I would miss the slightly burnt coffee that I reluctantly dump into my cup each day around 3:30 PM, I would've shot you a look of confusion. But I miss my desk, my team, my home away from home.

Over the last few weeks, I've had the chance to connect and collaborate with so many members of staff with whom I'd hardly interacted with since starting at KDL. Up until now, there weren't many reasons that our paths would cross. Now, I've had hour-long phone calls to brainstorm a project and left the conversations feeling like I gained a new teammate and a new friend. We're working together to get through this and I think we'll all be better for it in the end. KDL's Executive Director, Lance Werner, will often say that KDL is here to "help people be the best versions of themselves." And I think that is truer now more than ever. Not only for our patrons, as the phrase is traditionally interpreted, but for us employees, too.

# BRANCH HOURS

## ALPINE TOWNSHIP

5255 Alpine Ave. NW, Comstock Park 49321

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
–	12:00 to 8:00	9:30 to 5:00	12:00 to 8:00	9:30 to 5:00	12:00 to 5:00	9:30 to 1:30

## ALTO

6071 Linfield Ave., Alto 49302

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
–	9:30 to 1:30	12:00 to 8:00	12:00 to 8:00	1:00 to 6:00	9:30 to 6:00	9:30 to 1:30

## BYRON TOWNSHIP

8191 Byron Center Ave. SW, Byron Center 49315

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
–	9:30 to 8:00	9:30 to 8:00	9:30 to 8:00	12:00 to 8:00	9:30 to 5:00	9:30 to 5:00

## CALEDONIA TOWNSHIP

6260 92nd St. SE, Caledonia 49316

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
–	9:30 to 8:00	12:00 to 8:00	9:30 to 5:00	12:00 to 8:00	9:30 to 5:00	9:30 to 5:00

## CASCADE TOWNSHIP

2870 Jacksmith Ave. SE, Grand Rapids 49546

SUN*	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1:00 to 5:00	9:30 to 8:00	9:30 to 8:00	9:30 to 8:00	9:30 to 8:00	9:30 to 6:00	9:30 to 5:00

\*Closed Sundays in summer (Memorial Day to Labor Day).

## COMSTOCK PARK

3943 W. River Drive NE, Comstock Park 49321

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
–	9:30 to 8:00	12:00 to 8:00	9:30 to 5:00	12:00 to 8:00	9:30 to 5:00	1:00 to 5:00

## EAST GRAND RAPIDS

746 Lakeside Drive SE, East Grand Rapids 49506

SUN*	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1:00 to 5:00	9:30 to 8:00	9:30 to 8:00	9:30 to 8:00	9:30 to 8:00	9:30 to 6:00	9:30 to 5:00

\*Closed Sundays in summer (Memorial Day to Labor Day).

## ENGLEHARDT

200 N. Monroe St., Lowell 49331

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
–	12:00 to 8:00	12:00 to 8:00	12:00 to 8:00	9:30 to 5:00	9:30 to 5:00	9:30 to 5:00

## GAINES TOWNSHIP

421 68th St. SE, Grand Rapids 49548

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
–	9:30 to 8:00	9:30 to 8:00	9:30 to 5:00	9:30 to 8:00	9:30 to 5:00	9:30 to 5:00

## GRANDVILLE

4055 Maple St. SW, Grandville 49418

SUN*	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1:00 to 5:00	9:30 to 8:00	9:30 to 8:00	9:30 to 8:00	9:30 to 8:00	9:30 to 6:00	9:30 to 5:00

\*Closed Sundays in summer (Memorial Day to Labor Day).

## KELLOGGSVILLE

4787 Division Ave. S, Grand Rapids 49548

SCHOOL YEAR HOURS:

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
–	–	3:00 to 8:00	3:00 to 8:00	3:00 to 8:00	–	9:30 to 1:30**

\*\* First and third Saturday of the month

SUMMER HOURS:

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
–	9:30 to 1:30	12:00 to 8:00	9:30 to 1:30	12:00 to 8:00	9:30 to 1:30	9:30 to 1:30**

\*\* First and third Saturday of the month

## KENTWOOD (RICHARD L. ROOT)

4950 Breton SE, Kentwood 49508

SUN*	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1:00 to 5:00	9:30 to 8:00	9:30 to 8:00	9:30 to 8:00	9:30 to 8:00	9:30 to 6:00	9:30 to 5:00

\*Closed Sundays in summer (Memorial Day to Labor Day).

## KRAUSE MEMORIAL

140 E. Bridge St., Rockford 49341

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
–	9:30 to 8:00	9:30 to 8:00	9:30 to 8:00	12:00 to 8:00	9:30 to 5:00	9:30 to 5:00

## NELSON TOWNSHIP

88 Eighth St., Sand Lake 49343

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
–	9:30 to 8:00	9:30 to 5:00	12:00 to 8:00	–	9:30 to 6:00	9:30 to 5:00

## PLAINFIELD TOWNSHIP

2650 5-Mile Rd. NE, Grand Rapids 49525

SUN*	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1:00 to 5:00	9:30 to 8:00	9:30 to 8:00	9:30 to 8:00	9:30 to 8:00	9:30 to 6:00	9:30 to 5:00

\*Closed Sundays in summer (Memorial Day to Labor Day).

## SPENCER TOWNSHIP

14960 Meddler Ave., Gowen 49326

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
–	9:30 to 5:00	12:00 to 8:00	9:30 to 5:00	12:00 to 8:00	12:00 to 5:00	9:30 to 1:30

## TYRONE TOWNSHIP

43 S. Main St., Kent City 49330

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
–	9:30 to 1:30	12:00 to 8:00	9:30 to 5:00	12:00 to 8:00	1:00 to 5:00	9:30 to 1:30

## WALKER

4293 Remembrance Road NW, Walker 49534

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
–	9:30 to 8:00	9:30 to 8:00	9:30 to 8:00	9:30 to 8:00	9:30 to 5:00	9:30 to 5:00

## WYOMING AND THE KDL TALKING

BOOK & BRAILLE CENTER

3350 Michael Ave. SW, Wyoming 49509

SUN*	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1:00 to 5:00	9:30 to 8:00	9:30 to 8:00	9:30 to 8:00	9:30 to 8:00	9:30 to 6:00	9:30 to 5:00

\*Closed Sundays in summer (Memorial Day to Labor Day).

## KDL SERVICE CENTER

814 West River Center Dr. NE  
Comstock Park, MI 49321



Information  
Ideas  
Excitement!

616-784-2007

Toll-free: 1-877-243-2466 | kdl.org

# Save the Date

Sixth Annual

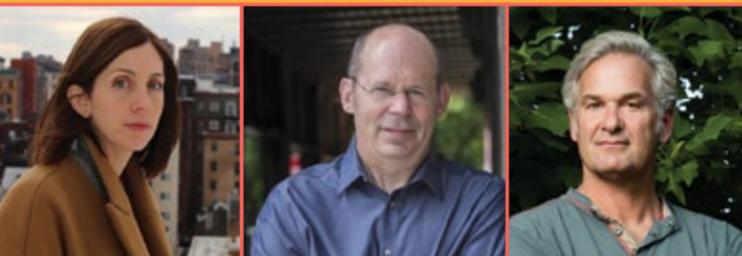
## LITERARY LIBATIONS GALA

Presenting Sponsor:

CENTENNIAL SECURITIES

Investments & Advice

Wednesday, Sept. 16  
6:00 PM to 9:00 PM



Liz Moore

Alex Kotlowitz

Stephen Kiernan

Join us for a virtual cocktail hour, entertainment and presentations from the authors streamed live.

Stay in. Stay safe. Support KDL.

For details, visit [kdl.org/literaryliterations](http://kdl.org/literaryliterations).

Proceeds will support KDL programs and services

#LiteraryLibations