

Fruitport District Library: A look back at Winter and Spring Break!

by Matt Lubbers-Moore

During the Winter Break we were so excited to welcome Santa Claus to the library!! With almost 100 people wanting to sit on his lap!! Our staff and Friends of the Fruitport District Library had crafts and treats for the good little boys and girls while they waited to see the Jolly St. Nick!!

During the winter break we also held a winter carnival with lots of fun games and prizes!

During the 2026 Spring Break in April the Fruitport District Library was full of families having a great time with an even larger carnival with even more prizes!!

The Fruitport District Library is grateful to its staff, the Friends of the Fruitport District Library, and the many volunteers it took to plan, set up, run, and clean the many events.

We are also incredibly thankful to the community who showed up to have fun! Almost 400 people came to play! We had little ones less than a year old, lots of toddlers, kids, parents, and grandparents having as much fun as their grandkids!

Ultimately the most rewarding part of our jobs at the library is making people happy and we did just that. Watching kids, parents, and grandparents playing and bonding all the while laughing and smiling was worth all the hours of planning and setting up.

Fruitport can be assured that the staff, Friends of the Library, and volunteers are already planning something big for next year's spring break!!

To get involved with the Friends of the Fruitport District Library you can attend one of their monthly meetings which are usually on the second Wednesday of the month at 5:00 in the community room, by liking their Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/FruitportFOFL>, or emailing them at fruitportfofl@gmail.com. Stay up to date with fun crafts, programs, and events throughout the year with our monthly community calendar available in the library!!

I looked out into the cold falling rain

*The unraked yard was more than I wanted to see;
But there it was,*

*A sign of Spring and Easter's New Life because
of one lonely yellow daffodil
smiling back at me.*

We step to the new journey of time....

by Connie Jarka

Unearth a Story at the Fruitport District Library Summer Reading Program!

by Matt Lubbers-Moore

We have an amazing summer planned at the Fruitport District Library full of events for children, teens, and adults!

Come check out the Kickoff Party on June 12th where you can sign up for the Summer Reading Program, get a bag of goodies for signing up, and attend the Reading Circus!

On Mondays throughout summer we'll have new Take n Makes as well as Crafts and Snacks between 11 and 1. Teens and Adults at 6pm can join us in our community room for Line Dancing!!

The second Tuesday of each month is our adult Book Club from 12:30-1:30! Feel free to bring a lunch!

We'll have lunch for kids and teens provided by Feeding America from 12-1 all week.

Fridays we have Gentle Yoga in our community room from 9:30-10:30 and Family Story Time from 11-12!

In June we will be having a kid's movie, *Land before Time*, with pizza, popcorn and beverages provided, on the 25th at 6pm.

July 8th we're hosting the West Michigan Concert Winds at the bandstand at 7pm to regale Fruitport with songs from Disney! On

Ronald Eugene Sellers

September 14, 1938 - April 29, 2026



Ronald Eugene Sellers, 87, of Grand Haven, Michigan, passed away peacefully on April 29, 2026, leaving behind a life well-lived and a legacy built with his own two hands. Born on September 14, 1938, and raised in the Fruitport area, Ron grew up rooted in community, hard work, and simple joys; values that would define the rest of his life.

After graduating from Muskegon Catholic Central in 1958, Ron answered the call to serve his country in the United States Army during the Vietnam War. When he returned home, he carried that same sense of duty into his everyday life - quietly, steadily, and without fanfare.

Ron was a craftsman in the truest sense of the word. He worked alongside local builders for many years, but his proudest accomplishments weren't just the homes he helped construct, they were the three beautiful homes he built for his own family. Each board, each detail, was a reflection of his care and dedication. Through his custom carpentry and remodeling work, he left his mark on countless homes and, more importantly, in the lives of those he helped.

But Ron's life wasn't only about work, it was about the moments in between. You could find him in the stands at a high school football or hockey game, sharing laughs with his lifelong friends. He found peace in tending to his yard, taking pride in a job well done no matter how small. And by his side through it all was his beloved wife, Linda, with whom he shared 57 years of marriage. Together, they made memories antiquing, treasuring not just the items they found, but the time they spent side by side.

Ron was the kind of man you could count on. A steady presence. A helping hand. A good friend. He didn't need recognition to do what was right, he simply showed up, time and time again, for the people in his life.

He is survived by his loving wife, Linda Kay (Darcy) Sellers; his son, Ronald Brent Sellers (Karrie); his grandchildren, Brandon (Arianna) Herrygers, Britney (Alex) German, and Lia Sellers; and his great-grandchildren, Sylus Herrygers and Olivia German.

Ron's story lives on in the homes he built, the family he cherished, and the countless quiet acts of kindness that defined him. He will be deeply missed, warmly remembered, and forever loved.

July 17 at 11am we have the Outdoor Discovery Center stopping by to explore the animals that have been around since the Jurassic era! We have another kid's movie, *Ice Age*, on July 30th with pizza, popcorn, and beverage provided at 6pm.

In August we have our end of summer event where reading logs can be submitted. We'll have another kid's movie, *How to Train Your Dragon*, on the 20th with pizza, popcorn, and beverages provided at 6pm. A teen/adult movie, *Jurassic World*, will be shown on August 27th! Stay tuned for location.

For a full listing of Summer Reading events please stop by the library, follow us on Facebook, or attend the kick-off party on June 12th! We'll also be sending the full list of events home with students of the Fruitport and Calvary schools towards the end of May.

We're also teaming up with the Fruitport Community Schools to offer a Storytime in the Park on Tuesdays from June 23 through August 11th from 10:30-11:30! We'll have story time, a craft, and games!

Stay up to date with fun crafts, programs, and events throughout the year with our monthly community calendar available in the library!!

Angelina Ortega

February 12, 1945 - February 18, 2026



Angelina (Eve) Lares-Ortega, age 81, of Fruitport, MI, passed away peacefully on February 18th, 2026.

Born February 12th in Laredo, Mexico, Eve was the beloved daughter of Carmen and Lucas Lares. She was raised in Robstown, Texas. Eve met the love of her life, Richard Ortega, in 1964 in

Colorado Springs. The two eloped in 1965 and eventually made their home in Michigan. She built a dedicated career, spending 17 years with Meijer. Alongside her husband, she also worked at Ortega Blueberries, devoting her life to agriculture and to caring for her family. Eve was known for her warm smile, her love of cooking, and her exceptional homemade tamales. She had a deep passion for music, delighted in listening to her husband play and sing, and she enjoyed the timeless songs of The Carpenters. She held a deep and abiding love for her grandchildren, and especially her great-grandchildren. Friends and family will always remember her beauty, her kindness, and her unwaveringly positive outlook on life. Above all, Eve cherished her family. She is survived by her husband Richard Ortega Sr, loving brothers and sisters, her children, Richard (Rick) Ortega Junior, Catherine A. Kozal, Lydia A. Wagoner, Susan A. Govea, Dianne A. Banasiak. Along with fifteen grandchildren, four great grandchildren, many nieces, nephews, extended family members, and dear friends. She was preceded in death by her parents Carmen and Lucas Lares and brother Macario Lares. Though Eve is no longer with us in body, the love and memories shared will remain in the hearts of all who knew her.

Alan Brent Wilson Sr.

May 20, 1957 - February 25, 2026



Mr. Alan Brent Wilson Sr., age 68, passed away at his home in Fruitport, Michigan, surrounded by his family, on Wednesday, February 25, 2026 following a year long battle with cancer. He was born in Muskegon, Michigan on May 20, 1957 to James Harold and Barbara (Elliott) Wilson. On April

24, 1976, Al married the former Glenda Carmean and they have enjoyed 49 years of marriage. Al dedicated 18 years of his career to managing Fruitport Foods, worked as a distributor for Tyler Sales, and most recently owned and operated his own business, Bare Bones Auto, where he worked as a self-employed mechanic. He found joy in life's simple pleasures like riding bikes with Glenda, golfing, and woodworking. An avid outdoorsman, he especially enjoyed cutting wood for their wood-burning stove and spending time at the family cabin in Baldwin. Al also expressed his creative spirit through art and never passed up the chance to savor a good cup of coffee. Above all, Al loved his family. He took great pride in attending his grandchildren's events, always cheering them on and treasuring every moment spent together. He is survived by his loving wife, Glenda; four children, Alan (Geneva) Wilson Jr., Lisa Burke, Ryan (Samantha) Wilson, and Amy (Brian) Moore; 11 grandchildren, Brandon (Michelle) Wilson, Miranda (Kyle) Wilson Silcox, Austin Wilson, Jessica (Jared Slenker) Wilson, Taylor Burke, Kyle Burke, Gavin Wilson, Regan Wilson, Addilyn Moore, Braylon Moore, and Mason Moore; two great-grandchildren, Weston and Luca, (and two more on the way); sisters, Rhonda (Norm) Spyke, Karen (Duane) Skinner, Mellan (Mark) Hansen; brother, Douglas (Vicki) Wilson; mother-in-law, Ann Carmean; siblings-in-law, Dawn (Bob Bordeaux) Carlson, Frank (Julie) Carmean Jr., Randy (Sharon) Carmean, Bryan (Laura) Carmean, Scott (Teresa) Carmean, and Mark (Jackie) Carmean; and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents; father-in-law, Frank Carmean Sr.; niece, Shayna Spyke; and nephew, Jarrod Carmean.