

A benchmark of service

Belford family will honor 16 family members in granite

Steve Zucker
439-9346 -szucker@petoskeynews.com

BOYNE CITY — When Eugene Belford looks at the newly constructed veterans memorial in Boyne City's Veterans Park he is filled with a sense of pride.

As well he should. The 90-year-old Boyne City resident served in the U.S. Army's military police in Europe during World War II — including the Battle of the Bulge.

But in the coming weeks the memorial will come to have about 16 times more meaning to Belford and his family when his and 15 family members' names are engraved in a black granite bench to be placed at the memorial site.

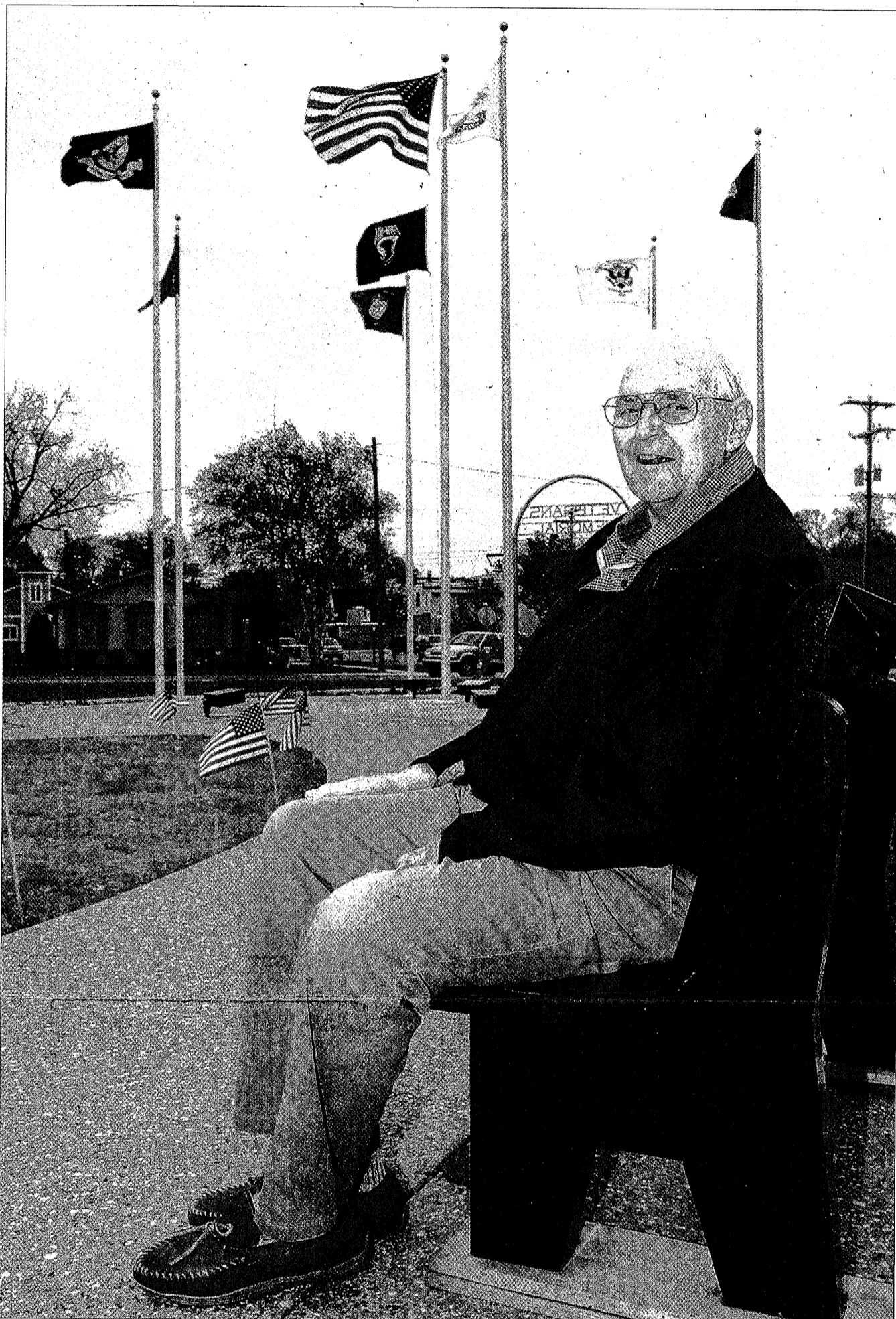
The committee who organized and raised money for the construction of the memorial is offering a program whereby people may honor friends and family who have served in the armed forces. Part of the memorial's design calls for 10 black granite benches to be placed around the perimeter of the memorial's oval shape. For a cost of \$150 each, people may honor a veteran by having his or her name engraved in the back of the benches. Each bench can hold 24 names.

The idea to honor all of the Belford service veterans in granite came recently from Claudette "Cookie" (Belford) Elder, Gene's daughter, and her husband Earl who live in the Denver area and were in town to visit the family recently.

During their visit, they saw the new memorial at Veterans Park for the first time, learned of the name engraving program and thought it would be a nice way to honor Gene.

"We came back to the house and we looked at the (photos on) the wall and then we thought, 'Wouldn't it be nice to have all nine of the Belfords who have served listed there,'" Earl said. "Then we started thinking about Gene's sons-in-law and grand-sons-in-law and we ended up with 15 names."

(When he spoke with the News-Review, Earl, who served in the U.S. Army in Vietnam, was not planning to include



Boyerne City resident Eugene Belford sits on a granite bench recently delivered to the Boyne City Veterans Memorial. In a few months a similar bench engraved with his name and the names of 15 of his family members who are also veterans will be delivered to the site.

his own name along Gene's other veteran sons-in-law. But in a follow-up conversation, Cookie said she is planning to add Earl's name as well, bringing the total to 16 names.)

Gene and Ruby, his wife of 69 years, had 10 children in all. Cookie said their decedents now number about 100.

Joining Gene's name on the bench will be:

— His sons: Gerald, who served in the Air Force in New York and Terry who was a Marine in Vietnam.

— His grandsons: Gerald Belford II, Army, Korea; Brett Belford, Marines, Japan; Preston Belford, Marines and Army, Iraq and Germany;

— His great-grandchildren: Michael Belford, Marines, Iraq and Carrie Belford, Air Force, Iraq. Also to be listed are

four sons-in-law: Dale Looze, Navy, U.S.-East Coast and Guantanamo Bay, Cuba; Larry Peck, Army, North Carolina; Tony Lamacchia, Air Force, U.S., Philippines, Taiwan and Earl Elder, Army, Vietnam; and three grand sons-in-law, Mark Harris, Air Force, North Dakota; Scott Matthews, Marines, South Carolina; Anthony DeNike, Air Force, Arizona.

Two family members are still on active duty. Jesse Belford is stationed in Germany and Preston who was honorably discharged after completing his service in the Marines recently re-enlisted in the Army. He is currently stationed in Washington, D.C., where he is awaiting deployment to Iraq and then Afghanistan.

"My mom and dad have lived in this house for 69 years and they have always flown a flag with a light on it at night," Cookie said referring to flag-flying protocol that calls U.S. flags flying at night to be illuminated.

Earl Elder, who along with his brother served in the U.S. Army in Vietnam said, as a veteran himself, he's proud to be part of a family with such a long history of service to their country.

"To think of this family and how many people have served ... it really does something to me," he said.

The first bench was delivered to the memorial site earlier this month and two more are on order. The bench with the Belford family member names will be ordered when the remaining eight spaces are filled, likely in the coming weeks.

Anyone wishing to have a name placed on a bench should contact Dean Kleinschrodt, 549-8000; George T. Lasater, 582-7001; Gene Farley, 582-2424; or Cheryl Young, 582-5988.

Dr McMillian's Mental Health Corner



Anger Revisited

The universal trigger for anger has long been coined as a perceived threat of loss. Loss is generated internally or externally and commonly associated with self-esteem, self-image, and sense of well being. External losses are closely tied to death of a loved one, loss of job, or decline in health. **Myth:** let it out, you'll feel less angry. **Reality:** talking about **anger** fuels people's **anger**, encourages ruminating about the internal and external triggers. It is better to count to 10 or 100! **Myth:** aggression is instinctive and cathartic. **Reality:** aggression is learned behavior (watch small children play together). People do it because they have been able to get away with it. An expression of anger is only effective if it restores your sense of control and does not harm. When is the last time you demonstrated anger, felt in control returning to homeostasis? Anger fuels Anger... Tammy McMillian, Ph.D. 582-0553



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STEVE ZUCKER/NEWS-REVIEW

Boyne City High School drama department choreographer Jody Adgate (front row, in pink) and several Boyne City drama students teach a dance to students from other districts in the Lake Michigan Conference who came to a conference-wide workshop hosted by Boyne City High School last week. The students performed the dance as part of a show later the same day.



STEVE ZUCKER/NEWS-REVIEW

Local entertainer Tommy Tropic (wearing flowered shirt at right) does a balance exercise with students who attended a Lake Michigan Conference arts workshop hosted by Boyne City High School last week.



COURTESY PHOTO

Friends of the Jordan River Watershed partnered with East Jordan High School National Honor Society students on Sunday, April 19, to clean up a 4 mile section of the Jordan River Pathway/North Country Trail. The group removed downed trees and branches along the trail and picked up litter. Pictured (from left) are: Dennis Choate, Friends of the Jordan board member; Kaitlin Keane, Monica Capelin, Mari-beth Poindexter, Kayla Mousseau and Chris Berish.

Dedication slated for Memorial Day

BOYNE CITY — The Boyne City American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars posts along with the Boyne City Area Veterans Memorial Committee will host a dedication and unveiling ceremony as part of this year's memorial day observance in Boyne City's Veterans Park.

The day's activities begin at 8 a.m. with a ceremony at Memorial Park in Boyne Falls; 8:15 a.m. at Memorial Park in Walloon Lake; 8:35 a.m. at the Evangeline Cemetery in Evangeline Township; 8:55 a.m. at Dyer Cemetery in Bay Township; 9:20 a.m. at Advance Cemetery in Eveline Township; 9:35 a.m. at Wilson Cemetery in Wilson Township and 9:50 a.m. at Maple Lawn Cemetery in Boyne City.

Park, pausing at the Boyne River bridge for a "lost at sea" remembrance.

The main Memorial Day ceremony, which will include the dedication of the new memorial at the southeast corner of Veterans Park and the unveiling of the recently-delivered World War II memorial monument will begin at noon.

The ceremony will also include music provided by the Boyne City High School Band and other performers.

Write a letter to the Editor at petoskeynews.com

At 11 a.m. the Memorial Day procession will leave the Boyne City American Legion post at the corner of Front and Lake streets. The procession will proceed north on Lake Street toward Veterans

Local students participate in Foreign Language Day at CMU

On May 1, the Spanish 1 and 2 students at East Jordan High School participated in the 37th annual Foreign Language Day at Central Michigan University. This year's theme was "Bridge the Gap."

Accompanied by Merri-Sue Cardwell, their foreign language teacher, the 40 students entered competitions, toured campus and the Language Learning Center, which houses audio and video labs and a foreign language computer lab, and attended an awards ceremony. Lunch in a dormitory commons was provided at a reduced cost by the admissions office.

They were among nearly 1,200 high school students from around Michigan who took part in dance, song, skits, interpretive reading, poster design and cultural displays in French, German and Spanish. East Jordan's students Kayla Mousseau and Alissa Huckle entered a competition for next year's theme poster.

One Spanish 1 class created a display called "How Kisses are Made" which allowed the steps involved in harvesting and processing chocolate. The other Spanish 1 class created the twin

volcanoes Popocatepetl and Iztaccihuatl and modeled the legendary story of how a warrior and a princess died of sadness and were immortalized by the gods.

Winning first place for their Spanish version of "Goldilocks and the Three Bears" called "Los Tres Campesinos" (The Three Farmers) was Lila Gee as narrator, Brittani McCully as Goldilocks and Jeri Brooks, Sarah Jordan and Chris Berish as the three farmers.

The Spanish 2 class: April Wakeham, Briana Sladick, Abbie Hawley, Sara Robinson, Brianna Balogh, Rachel Mumich, Sarah Byce, Amber Barnum and Kara Moses, assisted by Ecuadorian exchange student Felipe Naranjo, sang and danced their way to a third place win with the song "Ritmo Vuelta."

The classes and their teacher would like to offer a special thank you to Shirley Vollbach for her assistance with costumes, and to the East Jordan Learning Alliance for a grant which allowed for the purchase of a CD/mp3 player and an mp3 flash player for use in the song competition.

Book sale to benefit library

BOYNE CITY — Friends of the Boyne District Library, in Boyne City, will sponsor a used book sale in conjunction with the Mushroom Festival from 9

a.m.-4 p.m. Friday, May 15, and 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday, May 16 in the community room of the library. Proceeds from the sale will be used for library programs.

To live is so startling, it leaves little time for anything else.

— Emily Dickenson



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Morel Dilemma

I found 21 morels yesterday. You count them, you count them, you know, just like you count your baby's months for the first two years.



Jane Booze

Of Lions and Lambs

Joey's 18 and a half months, you say. Similarly: I found 21 morels. Not merely a handful. Not a couple of ounces. Not a nice meals-worth. Twenty-one.

And by the way, in case you think this is only true of we non-experts, it's not. I have heard seasoned pickers say things like, "I found about 300 whites last night." Can you imagine saying you picked 300 strawberries or string beans? No – but there is something about morels that demand to be counted.

And mine were grays. Not blacks, not whites, and certainly not caps. Twenty-one grays.

I had to pick a slug off one, which is another thing about harvesting morels. I love them, but if I pick them, I can't eat them. My husband, Neil, gets them all. I literally took a slug off with my ungloved fingers, but then, even after the mushrooms were washed, they reminded me of slugs and I couldn't eat them. I think Neil likes them a little sluggy. More for him.

When my children were little, they loved poring over the book "Where's Waldo?"

They also loved those crazy, mind-altering, eyesight-destroying, posters ("Magic Eyes," remember?) that you had to squint at just right and all of a sudden a picture would pop out at you, only to be lost when you moved your head or blinked – perhaps never to be recovered. (I never did see anything, I am just taking peoples' word for it.)

Well, hunting for morels are where Waldo and those wild Magic Eyes got their start. Here's what it's like for the novice. You are moving slowly through the woods, thinking about ash trees and south slopes and where moss grows and dead elms and ancient orchards and all the other tips real mushroom hunters have filled your gullible brain with. You are bent at the waist, and your hands are flying unconsciously around your head batting away the battalion of black flies that have found you, but your eyes are trained Rambo-like, unflinching, on the ground. You haven't seen a thing.

Suddenly, there is a mushroom, poking out like a tiny gnome's hat among the forest litter. But shoot! It was so unexpected to see that little cone-shaped gray sponge, your head never stopped its pendulous searching, your eyes forgot to focus. Like one of those Magic Eyes, the morel you saw so clearly one split second ago is gone!

For a second so clear – you can't believe you have lost it.

But now you have an advantage. Like Waldo, you know the morel is in this

frame. And it isn't a huge frame. It's not like you took another step or anything. It's right here. There! – but no, merely a leaf, cone-shaped. Or there! – but no, a shadow-flecked gray stone. Over and over, Waldo look-alikes appear, but still the real Waldo eludes. You may never see it again.

But maybe you will. And you'll breathe, "One," and move on – or at least you'll move on eventually. The tipsters have told you where you find one, you are bound to find many more, so you spend a lot of valuable time in that frame, hunting diligently, square centimeter by square centimeter, making no sudden moves.

My daughter, Katie, and I went mushroom hunting with a real expert one time. She could spot a mushroom growing under a decade of fallen leaves at 50 yards. She'd tell us exactly where to look, pointing, and describing landmarks so that we could see the morel for ourselves. We rarely could.

After a fruitless and buggy hour and a half or so, our guide had picked dozens (and was kind enough to count silently), and Katie and I had found none, when Katie made a most astute observation.

"Hunting for mushrooms is sort of like playing a game I'm no good at," she said.

But afterwards we had dinner with our friend, and she cleaned and cooked the morels, so as far as I know they were slugless. And delicious.

I ate 12.



STEVE ZUCKER/OBSERVER

Kevin Coon (right) hands a letter "e" to co-worker Tim Shulick as the two employees of The Wood Shop prepare to install a new sign on the Boyne City Performing Arts Center last week. The sign, which was designed by Boyne City High School graduate Aaron Place, is being paid for by the Boyne City School Boosters Foundation. Premiere Construction donated the use of the lift to install the sign.

Host families needed for band

BOYNE CITY — The organizer of an international youth band concert slated for July is asking for the community's help in finding host families to house the band members while in Northern Michigan.

Kathy Sutton, who is organizing her third such concert for the Blue Lake International Tour Band, said she has already found housing for 21 members and still needs housing for about 30 more.

The band, comprised of members from Germany ranging in age from 12-18, will be arriving in the Boyne City area on June 30. The band will perform a concert at the gazebo

in Old City Park on July 1 and depart on July 2. The band members, who speak some English, will require food, housing for two nights and transportation to and from the concert.

Sutton's 17-year-old

daughter Paulina participated in a similar program last summer during which she traveled around portions of Europe.

Anyone wishing to be a host family for the band should call Sutton at 622-2721.



COURTESY PHOTO

Boyer City's Eta Nu Women's Club recently donated \$6,000 to Hospice of Northwest Michigan from funds the group raised during their Lights of Love event in December. Pictured here decorating a tree in December are members (from left) Barb Schultz, Kathy Henricks, Char Wehner and Anne Van Zandt. Over the years, Eta Nu has raised more than \$80,000 for Hospice of Northwest Michigan.

Wagbo Farm and Education Center hosting ramp event

EAST JORDAN — The Martha Wagbo Farm and Education Center is hosting a "diggin' and picklin'" workshop and wildflower hike from 2-4:30 p.m. Saturdays through June 6.

The events will include digging for ramps (also known as wild leeks). Following the

harvest and wildflower walk will be ramp pickling in the center's outdoor kitchen. Participants will each receive their own pint of pickled ramps. The cost of the event is \$5 per person. Those wishing to attend may register by calling 536-0333 or e-mail wagbo@torchlake.com.



STEVE ZUCKER/NEWS-REVIEW

A field of daffodils lines the sidewalk along the Boyne River in Old City Park as a fisherman tries his luck on a recent sunny afternoon. The park and the area around it will see many improvements in the coming months thanks to grants from the state.

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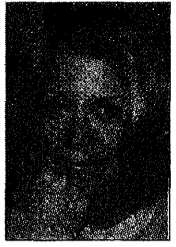
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Where is Rose City? (Part Two)

Synopsis: Returning home from Florida, an unlucky traveler and her dogs have run out of gas and find themselves stranded on I-75.



Christine Gwidt

The 9-1-1 operator was a helpful-sounding woman. "Do you have money?" she asked.

"Yes!" I was sure that this was the right answer.

"Oh. Because if you didn't have any money, I could send an officer out with a gallon of gas to get you off the freeway, and a voucher from the Salvation Army to fill your tank." She seemed truly sorry for my perceived affluence.

"I don't need a voucher, and I'd pay for a gallon of gas," I said, demonstrating my willingness to cooperate.

"I guess you could call a tow truck."

"I don't have that much money," I said, thinking of the \$41 in my wallet. "And I'm in the middle of nowhere. I'm at least 90 miles from home and I don't know anyone in or around Rose City."

"Where is Rose City?" she asked me.

"Exactly." I slapped the dashboard. "That's my point." I could tell that she was holding out on me. She had a backup plan somewhere in her manual. An emergency-only last resort that I was sure I qualified for. I lost my mind completely and began to sob as I envisioned what my life would be like, living in a compact car on a freeway.

"Well..." This was it. I sniffled and listened. "I might be able to..."

I noticed the flashing light in my rear-view mirror. It was the cavalry riding over the ridge to my rescue.

"Wait," I told my friend on the phone. "There's a guy here. He's got a... He has a..." I couldn't think of the name for tow truck. "He's driving a truck with a hook on the back."

"Oh, that's good. I'm so glad. Good luck to you, dear." She hung up and probably went home early.

The driver appeared at my window. He was a beefy young guy, no older than 25. His pink scalp was visible beneath an eighth-of-an-inch of blond hair atop a round head that sat directly on his shoulders, like a snowman. I told him I was out of gas.

"I figured. I've got a gallon right here on the truck," he said, and went to retrieve it.

I took \$20 from my purse and folded it in half. I was going to give him the whole thing. He deserved it, along with my eternal gratitude. He would probably demure, but I would insist because he was a saint.

I stepped outside and stood by while the gas drained into my tank. "I'm so lucky that you came along," I told him.

"Not really," my saint sniggered. "I saw you trying to hitchhike about 20 minutes ago. I passed you on the southbound side."

The unsavory implication registered, and then receded. He was here for whatever reason and if it wasn't providence, it was still fine with me.

"Thank you so much. You saved me. Will this cover

it?" I magnanimously proffered the \$20 and he drew back like it was on fire.

"That'll be \$65, ma'am." Sixty-five dollars? Ma'am? I stared at him.

"I have to charge you for a service call."

"But I didn't call you and the only service you've performed is to pour \$2 worth of gas into my tank. I don't have \$65. I have a box of CDs. You can pick out whatever you want."

"No, ma'am. I'll need \$65." This didn't even make sense. Was he simple?

"If you have to have \$65," I explained slowly, "you're going to have to siphon the gas back out, because I've only got \$41 and a couple of quarters in the console."

I held out my arms to show him I had nothing up my sleeve. I mugged despair. I did everything but turn my pockets inside out and sing "Swanee," while he gazed impassively into my red-rimmed eyes and waited for me to shut up.

Eventually, he relented and took \$40 in cash and a check for the balance. He didn't want to take that check any more than I wanted to give it to him. The fact that he left me one dollar was almost the worst part.

But that prohibitive dollop of gas did get me to a station that accepted my credit card. I did finally get home, so it all worked out. But I think about that boy. I think about how he spotted me stumbling along I-75 and saw, not just a mud-spattered sideshow, but an opportunity. I have to admire his initiative.

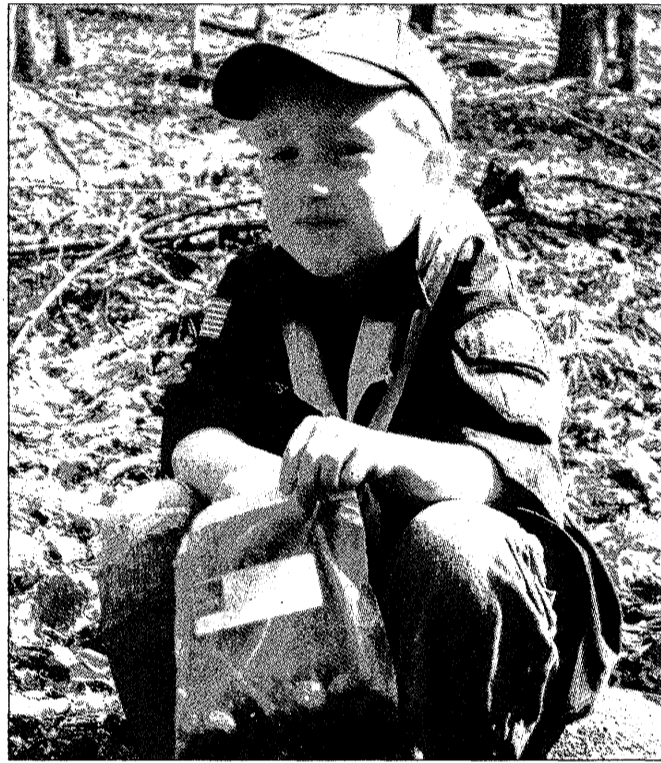
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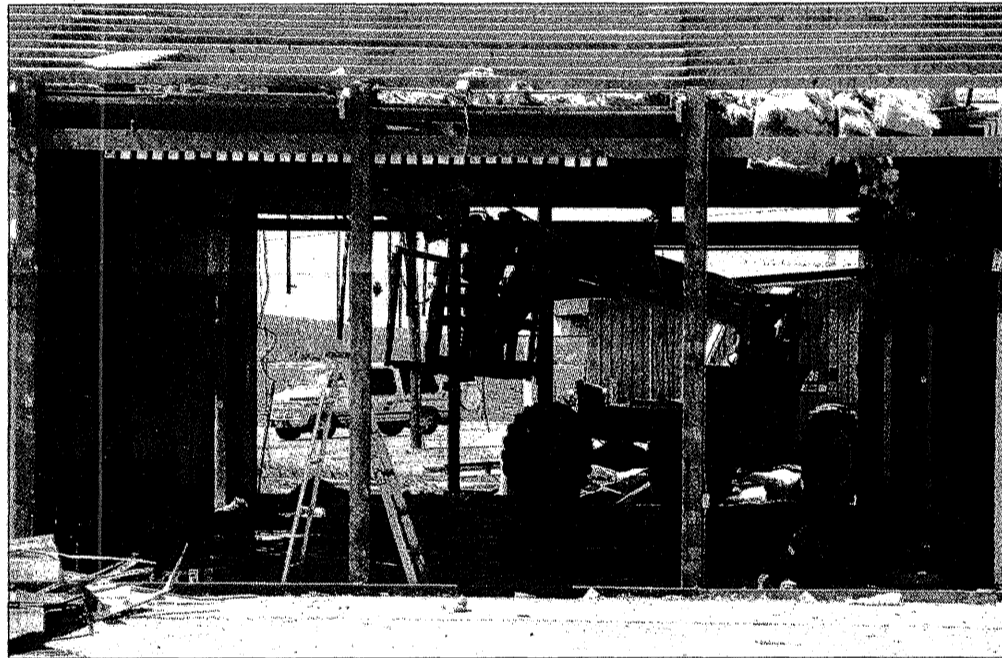
Friends of the Jordan River National Fish Hatchery teamed with East Jordan Cub Scout Pack 17 to clean up a 2.5 mile section of the Jordan River Pathway/North Country Trail recently. Scouts, parents and friends picked up litter and removed downed trees and branches from the trail. By doing their good deed, the Cub Scouts earned credit for a 5 mile hike, clearing trail and Leave No Trace awareness. Following the hike, the group was treated to a cookout at the Jordan River National Fish Hatchery.

Pictured (front, from left) are: Exodus Göcha, Tommy Geere, Hunter Riggs, Tristin Riggs (behind), Michael Stark, Hayden Sweet, Devon Reinhardt, Gus Scheier, Kacie Goodburn, Kaleb Goodburn, Cody Van Volkenburg, (back) Austin Sumner, Oscar Scheier, Cubmaster Jon Sumner, Shawn Van Volkenburg, Michelle Riggs, Mike Goodburn with Logan, hatchery volunteer Dan Sutherland and North Country Trail volunteer Cora Killinger.



Cody Van Volkenburg takes a break while helping clean up the trails April 18 at the Jordan River Pathway.

COURTESY PHOTO



STEVE ZUCKER/NEWS-REVIEW

A worker for C.H. Smith company cuts through some metal on the inside of the Fochtman building at the corner of Park and River streets in Boyne City recently. Crews began dismantling the building last week as the first phase of extensive work planned in and around Old City Park this summer. The rest of the project, including reconstruction work on nearby sections of River and Park streets and upgrades in the park, will begin after July 4.



COURTESY PHOTO

Todd and Lorri Richards, owners of Rustik Wooden Kreations are the winners of the Petoskey News-Review Flat Screen Giveaway for the Boyne City Business Expo on April 30.

Memorial fundraiser

Memorial fundraiser — Boyne City area memorial fundraiser 4 p.m.-1:30 a.m. Sunday, May 24, at 220 Lake Street, Boyne City. A spaghetti dinner will be served 4-7 p.m., \$6 for all you can eat buffet. \$5 cover 7 p.m.-1 a.m. Karaoke with Johnny Love Experience 7-9 p.m. Prizes given for best karaoke (amateur judges). Bloodshot Victory performs 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m. Raffle of T-shirt signed by Kid Rock.

Building trades program hosting open house

Steve Zucker
439-9346 - szucker@petoskeynews.com

BOYNE CITY — The Boyne City High School building trades program will host an open house for the home that the class built during this school year from 4-9 p.m. on Tuesday, June 2.

The home is located at 314 McKinley St.

Building trades instructor Tom Neidhamer said the home is listed with Prudential Preferred Property for \$180,000. The home is a 1,160 square-foot Cape Cod-style home with four bedrooms, 3.5 bathrooms,

a finished basement, and two-car attached garage.

The home was designed to be very energy efficient with features such as a high-efficiency furnace and windows.

Neidhamer said this will mark the program's 20th year of hosting an open house at the year's end. He said the open house serves not only as a sales opportunity for the home, but also offers students in the class an opportunity to show off their work for the year. The event typically draws between 200 to 300 people.

Neidhamer said the building trades program, which

has been in existence for more than 30 years, provides a great hands-on learning experience for students interested in construction trades. The school's drafting class usually designs each year's home.

Each year, the building trades class, which ranges in size from about 15 to 30 students from several school districts, builds a house from the ground up during mornings throughout the school year.

The class is funded primarily through the Char-Em Intermediate School District's vocational education millage.

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