

Freedom Fest blasts off

East Jordan's signature event kicks off today with fun for all

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EAST JORDAN — Games, fireworks, carnival rides and musical entertainment are just a few of the events that will take place during the Jordan Valley Freedom Festival, which kicks off today, Wednesday, June 17.

The Freedom Festival, which runs through Sunday, June 21, brings with it a host of activities and is the community's signature event of the year.

"The festival is the pride and joy of the community," East Jordan Area Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Mary Faculak.

A main event on Wednesday is a tournament involving the video game Rock Band at 5 p.m. at the East Jordan Civic Center.

On Thursday, June 18, the carnival will start at 5 p.m. This is also Breezeway Cruise Night, where visitors are encouraged to travel the "Breezeway" between East Jordan and Atwood.

Friday, June 19, is one of the most eventful days throughout the festival.

Gretchen Bender, chairperson for the festival's organizing committee, said, "Friday is going to be our biggest night. We have so many events going on, it'll be a blast."

Some of those events include a flea market starting at 9 a.m., and both a block party and youth parade at 6 p.m. on Main Street. The parade will be starting on Main Street and ending in the marina parking lot.

Faculak said for many people, the block party is the highlight of the entire festival.

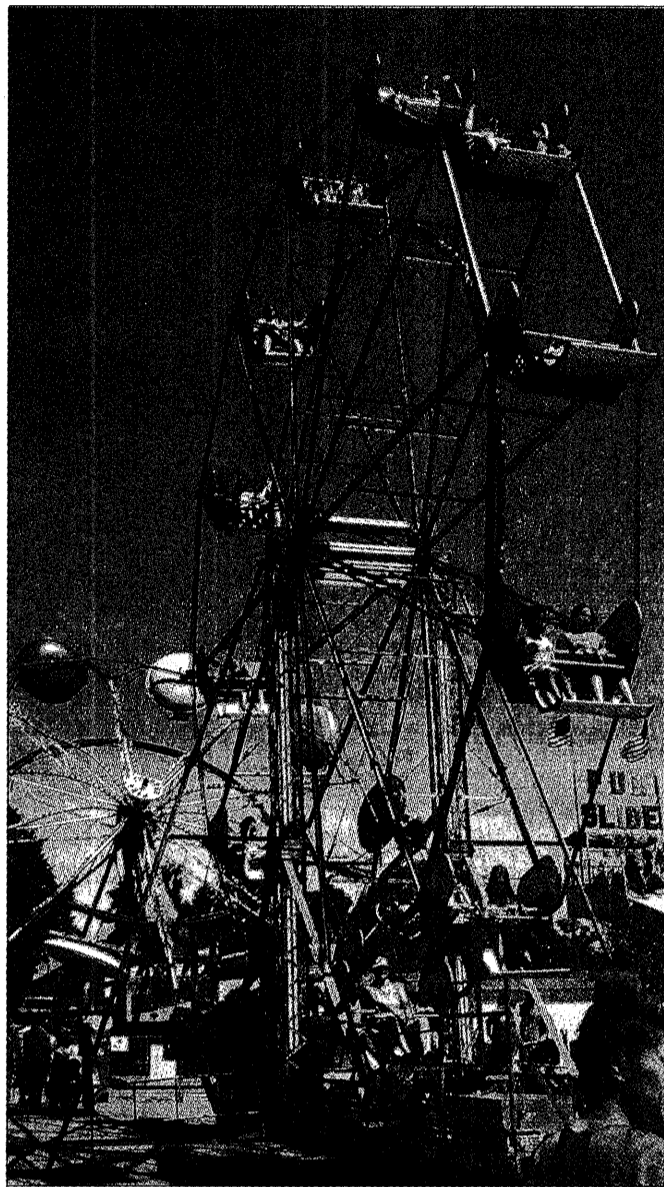
"It really becomes almost a homecoming party — a town reunion for the whole community," Faculak said. "Many people make a point of coming back to East Jordan for the block party each year."

Bender said the best event of the evening on Friday is the silent auction, which will begin at 6:30 p.m. on Main Street.

"We are giving away lots of items. All the benefits will go toward nonprofit organizations," she added.

On Saturday, June 20, there are many events scheduled as well. Boat rides will take place at 10 a.m. at the city docks. The E.J. Sno-Mobilers Club will host family games at 10 a.m. Later in the day, at 3:30 p.m. there will be a bed race downtown on Main Street. Registration and rules are available at the chamber.

The grand parade will be at 4 p.m., starting on the west side of the bridge heading



FILE PHOTO

Festival-goers ride a ferris wheel at the 2008 Jordan Valley Freedom Festival. This year the carnival rides, by Schmidt Amusements, will begin operating at 5 p.m. on Thursday, June 18. The rides will open for the day at noon on Friday, June 19 and Saturday, June 20.

toward Main Street. The parade will end at Watson Field. One final event on Saturday will be a lip-sync contest at 6 p.m. in Memorial Park. The fireworks will take place downtown at about 10:15 p.m. that night.

On Sunday, June 21, there will be both a Freedom Lovers' breakfast from 7-11 a.m. and the eighth annual flea market at 9 a.m. Both events will take place at the E.J. Sno-Mobilers Club.

Another notable milestone at this year's festival will be the 100th birthday of the landmark EJ&S train engine that resides in Memorial Park.

Members of the East Jordan Lions Club have recently been working on repainting Engine No. 6 in preparation for the festival.

According to festival organizers, the East Jordan & Southern Railroad was originally a logging railroad hauling lumber to the mill on Lake Charlevoix in East Jordan. In 1901 it was incorporated as a common carrier and connected to the Pere Marquette in Bellaire.

When most of the area's tree stands had been logged-out the EJ&S converted into a passenger and freight railroad.

The railroad became well-known for the free rides it offered on Independence Day during which "bandits" would rob the train. The train made its final run on Aug. 12, 1961.

For more information or a complete schedule of Freedom Festival activities visit the East Jordan Area Chamber of Commerce at www.ejchamber.org or 536-7351.



FILE PHOTO

One of the highlights of each year's Freedom Festival is the fireworks display. This year's display is slated to light up the sky over the south arm of Lake Charlevoix beginning at about 10:15 p.m. Saturday, June 20.



FILE PHOTO

The Jordan Valley Freedom Festival's Grand Parade brings all kinds of entries, such as this group of supporters of now-Charlevoix County Sheriff Don Schneider who walked in last year's parade. This year's parade will begin at 4 p.m. on Saturday, June 20.

Dr. McMillian's Mental Health Corner



Depression & Summer

Depression is a common but serious illness. Sun and increased physical activity can bring about a greater sense of well being. However, the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) emphasizes that only half of those suffering from Seasonal Affect Disorder (SAD) are treated effectively by light therapy or sun exposure. The more common symptoms of depression are persistent sadness, anxious or empty feelings, irritability, and restlessness. There is a loss of interest in activities or hobbies once enjoyed. Fatigue and decreased energy, difficulty concentrating can signal depression. Insomnia, early morning wakefulness, excessive sleeping, over-eating or appetite loss can be warning signs of depression. Sun does not mean stop taking medication for depression. Rule of Thumb: Check with your doctor first!

Tammy McMillian, Ph.D.
582-0553

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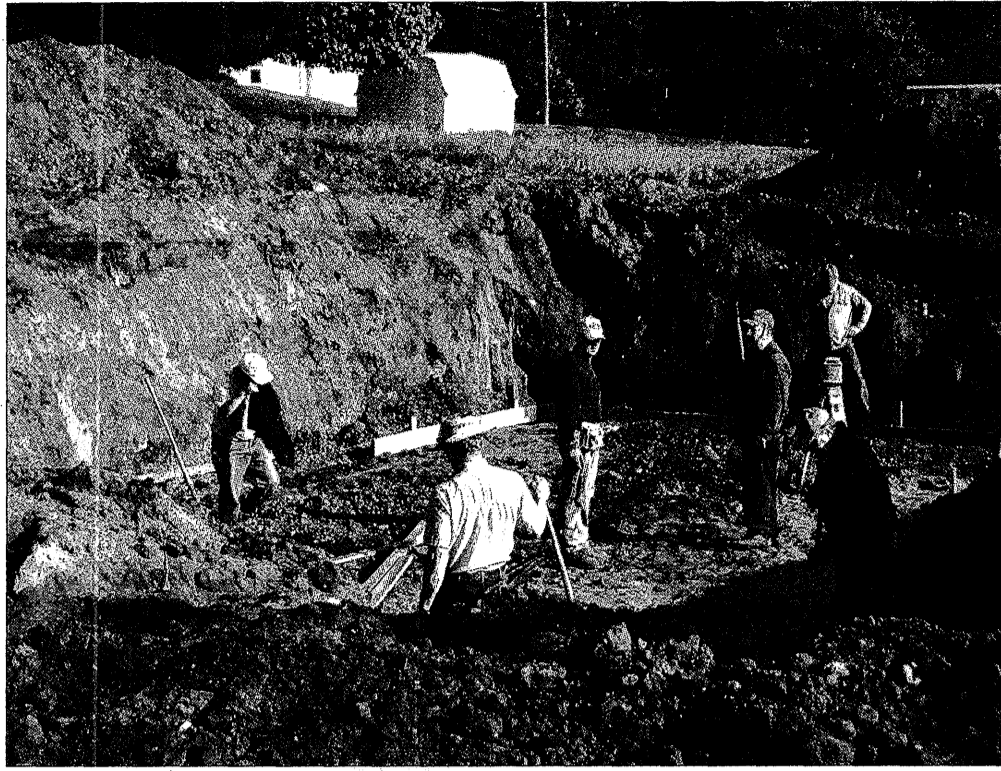


PHOTO BY HAYLEE TIEBER

Volunteers prepare to pour footings for a Habitat for Humanity house, located on Erie Street in East Jordan.

Habitat for Humanity in East Jordan Local family to be given a "hand up, not a hand out"

By Hannah Oliver

Extreme Home Makeover may do it in a week, but it will take Habitat for Humanity volunteers an approximate eight to 10 months to build a house for a needy local family.

The house will be located on Erie Street in East Jordan, where construction began on May 29. Footings have been dug (thanks to six local volunteers) and cement was poured May 30. Charlevoix High School's construction class, under the direction of Brian Certa, contributed interior wall sections. A family has not yet been chosen

for this specific home, but the selection process is coming to a close.

The Northwest Michigan chapter of Habitat for Humanity strives to build five homes for needy local families each year. All of the funding for these projects comes from donations by individuals, churches and corporate and foundation grants.

Currently, \$11,760 has been donated. The organization does not, however, simply give the family the house; they advocate the idea of a "hand up, not a hand out."

Habitat houses are for purchase, but at a greatly reduced price. Families must

also be willing to invest 250 hours of "sweat equity" (assisting in the construction of their future home) and be able to pay the mortgage.

Several community events are scheduled to further fundraise for this cause. Crooked Tree Arts Center in Petoskey will premiere the film *Ambition to Meaning* on June 24. All proceeds from the \$10 tickets will go directly to Habitat for Humanity.

On Aug. 8 the East Jordan Evangelical Lutheran Church will host a community yard sale with live music, and is again donating all proceeds.

Evenings at the Gazebo concerts set

The schedule for this summer's Evenings at the Gazebo concerts has been announced by the Boyne Area Chamber and event chairman Cindy Kujawski.

As in the past, the free concerts will be presented on summer Wednesday evenings beginning at 6:30 p.m. in Old City Park at the corner of Park and River streets in Boyne City. Bring your lawn chairs and join us; remember that dogs are not allowed during concerts.

The chamber is able to present these free concerts because of the generosity of a number of local business sponsors and donations accepted at each concert. Any

business or individual that would like to help sponsor Evenings at the Gazebo may contact the chamber at 582-6222; donations can be mailed to Boyne Chamber, 28 South Lake St., Boyne City, Mich. 49712. Sponsors are recognized on fliers distributed in the community, the chamber Web site and announcements at the concerts.

At some point in late July or August, the concerts will be moved to Sunset Park, behind the chamber office, because of a major construction project involving improvements to the park, Park Street and River Street.

The 2009 schedule includes:

June 24 — Dennis Palmer, Allison Palmer and Bob Westie — Dennis is a Northern Michigan songwriter. This group will be sharing songs of life, love, and all the experiences along the way.

July 1 — Big Band and Wind Orchestra from Angelaschule, Osnabruck - 51 young people from ages 12 to 20.

July 8 — Judy Harrison and High Impact — High energy country music with an attitude.

July 15 — Switchback — Duo plays American roots/Celtic soul with an edge.

July 22 — Rob Johnson

Blues Band - A Stroll the Streets favorite.

July 29 — Brett Mitchell & the giant GHOST - Award winners, family entertainment, pop to rock.

Aug. 5 — Trombones Plus - Easy listening jazz ensemble performing a wide variety of popular, patriotic and jazz standards. All arrangements feature that mellow, smooth and soulful Trombone sound.

Aug. 12 — Petoskey Steel Drum Band - Caribbean beat performed by Petoskey High School students.

Aug. 19 — The Kowalskes - Boyne's hometown family band, first time on the Gazebo stage.

Benches to be auctioned off this summer to help support local Red Cross programs

Three new benches from the American Red Cross have been placed in downtown Boyne City.

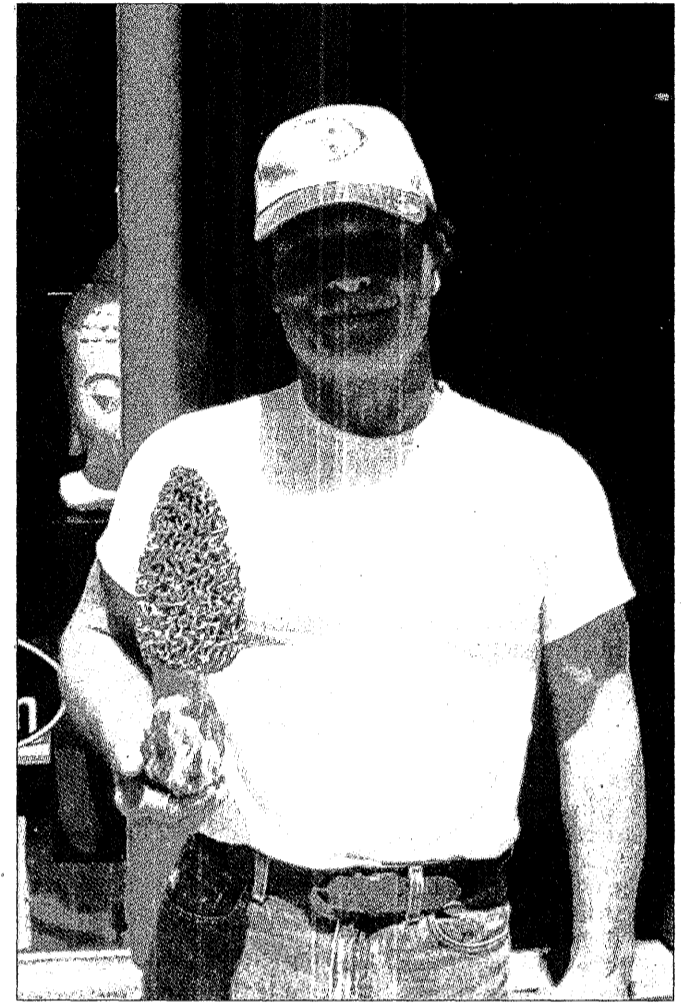
The benches are hand-painted and will be auctioned off this summer as part of the "Garden Party - Benches Take Root," fundraiser for the Northern Michigan chap-

ter of the Red Cross. The benches are located at Pat O'Brien Real Estate, 128 Water St.; Boyne Arts Collective, 210 Lake St.; and the Boyne Chamber, 28 S. Lake St.

The benches were painted by Chris Knight, Anne Thurston and Jerry Douglas, all Boyne City artists.

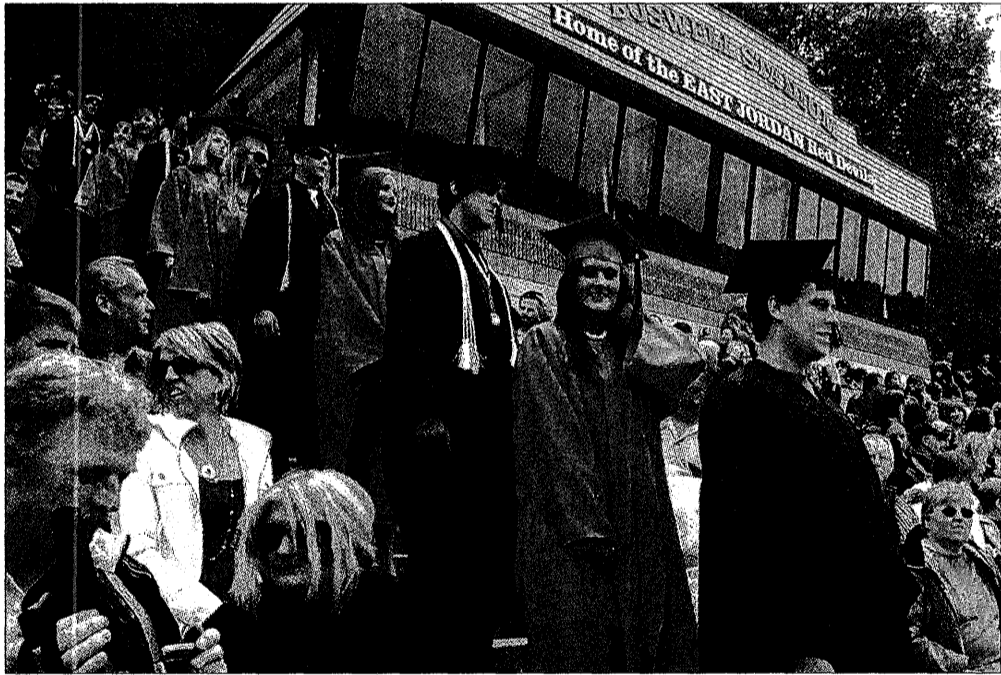
Other benches and chairs are on display throughout Charlevoix, Antrim, Cheboygan and Emmet counties until Aug. 1, when they will be moved to North Central Michigan College in Petoskey where they will all be displayed for the days leading up to the auction.

The auction event, supporting local Red Cross programs, will be held Wednesday, Aug. 5 at the college. If you are interested in sponsoring a bench, the Red Cross invites you to contact Bess Bleyaert at 348-7666 or via e-mail at bess@arcnlm.org.



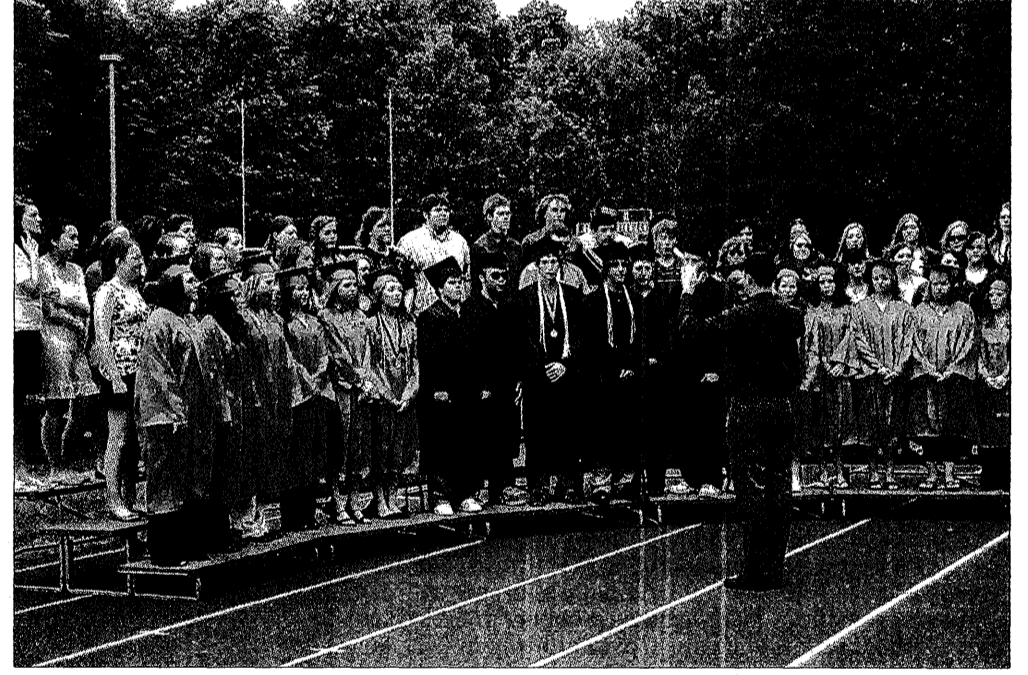
COURTESY PHOTO

Boyne City resident Mac Smith picked this 11 3/4 inch, approximately 12 ounce morel mushroom in the Boyne City area (he would not give out the specific location for obvious reasons) on Wednesday, June 10.



STEVE ZUCKER/NEWS-REVIEW

Members of the East Jordan High School Class of 2009 walk down the steps of Boswell Stadium at the beginning of their graduation ceremony which took place May 31.



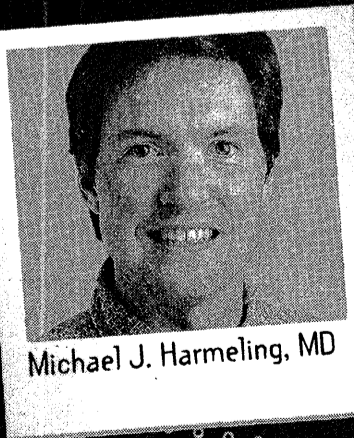
STEVE ZUCKER/NEWS-REVIEW

The East Jordan High School choir, including members of the Class of 2009, sing during the school's recent commencement ceremony at Boswell Stadium.

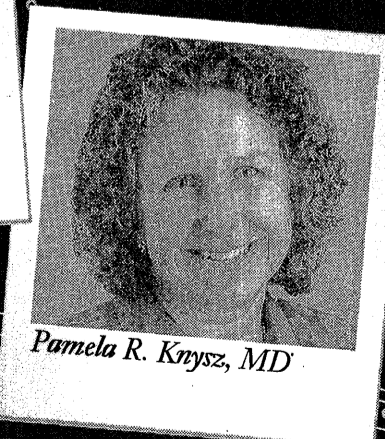
The doctors are in.

(evenings and Saturdays too!)

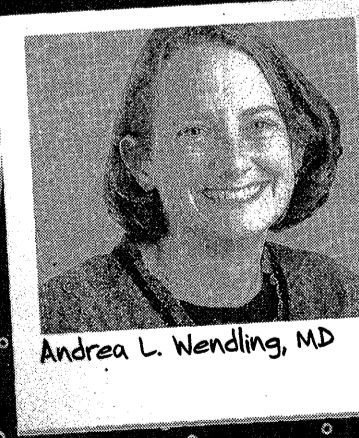
Mon-Thurs 8.30am to 7pm
Friday 8.30am to 5pm
Saturday 9am to Noon



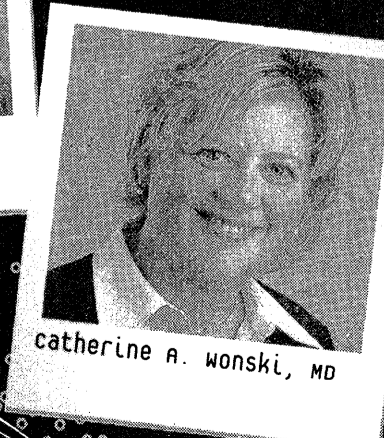
Michael J. Harmeling, MD



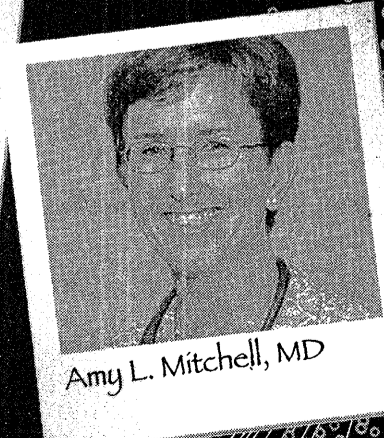
Pamela R. Krnysz, MD



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Girl Ranch

Every time my occasionally single friend Lily is stabbed in the eye by love, she brings up the Girl Ranch.



Christine Gwidt

"Wouldn't it be great to live in the middle of nowhere on a ranch with all of our friends?" Her eyes slip into dreamy soft focus, looking at something far, far away. "We'd have packs of cats and dogs and we'd ride horses and have a big garden. Guys could visit, but only for 24 hours and then they'd have to go home."

Over the years, Lily has elaborated on her vision, adding details regarding the minutia of daily life. The entire place is powered by wind and solar energy. The garden is organic and prolific, providing yearlong sustenance. We will raise chickens for eggs and take turns cooking and cleaning and tending to the chores. There will be a cluster of little houses — one for each of us — and a great hall/kitchen combo to serve as a gathering place and dining room. Eventually we could add a greenhouse and a spa.

"You're describing a utopian commune," I tell her. "Sounds good to me."

I'm reasonably confident that I'll never be in a position to actually have to put up or shut up in regard to the Girl Ranch. I doubt that the day will come when I'll be summoned to pack my bags, grab my dogs and tell my husband that it's been nice knowing him, but I'm outta here. And it's for this reason that I am mute regarding what I envision as the ultimate demise of this paradise. Although we wouldn't break each other's hearts, we would be at each other's throats within a week. Just because we remove testosterone from the equation, it doesn't mean that we're in for smooth sailing.

When Lily talks about sharing the chores, I picture her bedroom — The unmade bed covered with

cat hair, the closet overflowing onto the floor with a conglomeration of black, brown and dark gray clothing and the piles of books and magazines that have to be relocated in order to clear a place to sit down. Yes, she is a scintillating conversationalist with a brilliant, wicked wit and I love her, but if we had to share a refrigerator, I'd lose my mind.

And I'm not exactly benevolence personified. If I were objective, I'd have to concede that some might find me, at times, supercilious, fussy, opinionated and bossy. They'd be wrong, of course, but the premise might have a whiff of validity.

In fact, most of our friends are strong-minded women with their own ideas about the right way to do things. When Lily waxes poetic about the Girl Ranch, I envision the inevitable tumble into chaos and ruin detailed so graphically in George Orwell's "Animal Farm." But that's just me. Add pessimistic to my list of foibles.

When I consider my flaws (And I don't very often. Add smug to the list.), and those of my irreplaceable friends, I can only surmise that we have been darn lucky to fool one person into sharing a life with us. Undoubtedly we were once more malleable and accommodating, but we've developed a lumpy bumptiousness over the years. Are our spouses and significant others akin to lobsters set into a pot of cold water over a high flame? Have they been brought to a boil so slowly that they haven't noticed?

This seems to me to be a real possibility and it raises the question of how feasible it would be to assimilate into a micro-society of pals with their own bubbling cauldrons. Would it all atrophy into a field full of know-it-alls, clashing over the preferred method for staking tomatoes, or would it indeed be the heaven on earth that Lily describes in her daydreams?

It would be fun to find out, but I know I'd miss my lobster. And I'd want a return ticket, just in case.

Email Christine Gwidt at moreorlesschristine@gmail.com.

MORE OR LESS

"Test Drive for Cash" program to benefit schools

The Boyne City Booster Foundation has been given the opportunity to raise a substantial amount of funds by the Fox-Charlevoix auto dealership through its "Test Drive for Cash" program.

For each individual over

the age of 21 who takes a test drive, Fox-Charlevoix will donate \$40. East Jordan schools brought in \$3,000 and Central Lake and Ellsworth brought in \$7000.

There will be 20 cars, including a Corvette, that will

be available to drive. Students will register you, sales people will be available if needed, snacks and beverages are provided.

The "Test Drive for Cash" will take place 4-7 p.m. Friday, June 12, and 10 a.m.-2

p.m. Saturday, June 13. If you are unable to make these times, Fox-Charlevoix is willing to make appointments over the following week.

Fox-Charlevoix is located at 06684 U.S. 31 South.



STEVE ZUCKER/NEWS-REVIEW

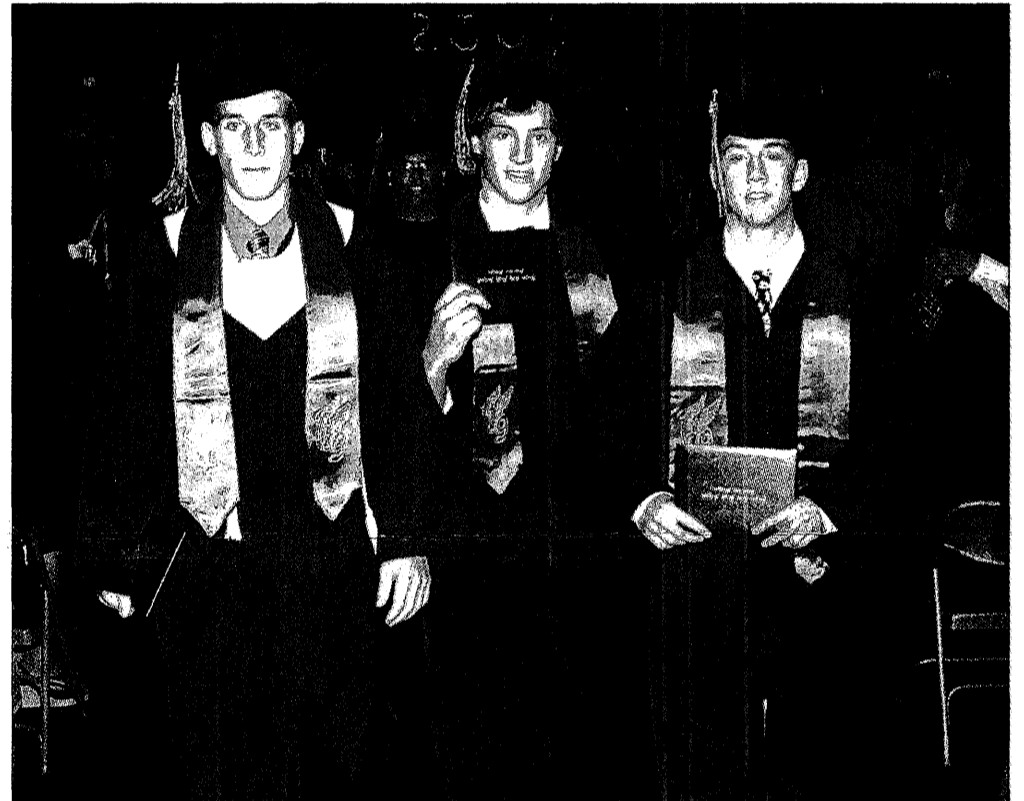
The members of the Boyne City High School Class of 2009 let their caps fly in celebration as district superintendent Bob Alger pronounces them officially graduated near the end of their recent commencement ceremony.

Registrations for Boyne Area 4-H Swim School being accepted

BOYNE CITY — MSU Extension Center in Boyne City is currently accepting registrations for Boyne Area 4-H Swim School.

Swim school begins on June 22 and goes through Aug. 12. Classes are being offered on Monday/Wednesdays and Tuesday/Thursdays. Lap swim for levels 5, 6, and 7 and fitness swim will be from 10 a.m.-noon on Fridays.

There will be a special registration at the city hall auditorium on Tuesday, June 16, from 9 a.m.-6 p.m. For more information call 582-6232 or visit the MSU Extension Center, 319 N. Lake St., Boyne City.



STEVE ZUCKER/NEWS-REVIEW

Boyne City High School Class of 2009 members (from left) Tyler Urman, Trever Kruzal and Ethen Mapes show off their diplomas as they exit the school's gym at the end of their class' graduation ceremony.

Boyne rubbish program returning

BOYNE CITY — After a successful first year in 2008, the city will begin another 13-week residential rubbish collection program starting on Wednesday, June 17.

The program will serve all three-unit or fewer residential properties in the city. It does not serve commercial properties.

For addresses on Main Street and the areas south of Main Street, pickup service will take place on Wednesdays beginning June 17. For addresses north of Main Street, pickup service will take place on Thursdays beginning June 18.

Items to be picked up should be placed at the curb after 5 p.m. on the day before pickup and before 7 a.m. on the day of pickup.

The program will continue through Sept. 11.

City officials note that the rubbish collection program is in addition to, and not a replacement of, residents' existing residential house-

hold garbage collection.

Materials for pickup must originate from the residence, and not from elsewhere or from residents' contractors. Materials for collection must be placed within curb-lawn areas of right-of-way that is between curbs and sidewalks; or just behind curbs where there are no sidewalks; or at street shoulders where there are no curbs.

The total volume of all items that may be placed out for collection per house each week is limited to two cubic yards (about the size of a short bed pick-up truck).

City officials remind residents they need not try to dispose of all of their items at once because of the 13-week duration of the program.

For more information, including a complete list of the types of items that will be picked up, visit the city's Web site at www.boynecity.com or call city hall at 582-6597.

Tours available at Boyne City Historical Museum

The Boyne City Historical Museum is now staffed with volunteers every Saturday from noon-4 p.m. at the south end of City

Hall, 319 Water St. Historical society volunteers are available to give tours and information about Boyne City's

local history.

The museum is also open (but not staffed) during normal city hall

hours from 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

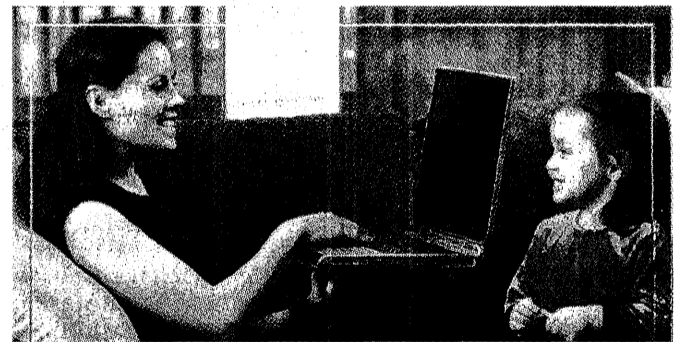
on weekdays. For further information, call 582-6597.

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STEVE ZUCKER/NEWS-REVIEW

Boyer City Elementary School students in Linda McGeorge's second-grade class pull hard on the rope as they participate in a tug-of-war contest with their classmates during their year-end picnic at Veterans Park recently.



STEVE ZUCKER/NEWS-REVIEW

Boyer City Elementary School third-grade teacher Mary Jo Powers walks with her students (from left) Tyler Tolliver, Anna Harmeling, and Jacob Kelts to their waiting school buses as the school year came to an end Thursday. In background fellow third-grade teacher Brad Klooster hugs good-bye to Kendra Kruzel (left) and Makayla Neer.

Business After Hours networking extravaganza scheduled Thursday

Five chambers of commerce are collaborating to cosponsor a regional Business After Hours networking extravaganza at Castle Farms, from 5-8 p.m. Thursday, June 18.

Castle Farms is located at 5052 Highway M-66 North in Charlevoix.

The Business After Hours will feature networking among chamber members from Boyne City,

East Jordan, Charlevoix, Petoskey and Harbor Springs.

More than 600 business people attended the last time this event was held at Castle Farms. Admission is \$5 for members of any participating chamber, or \$10 for non-members.

The Grey Gables restaurant will be providing hors d'oeuvres, and there will be a cash bar.

News around the neighborhood

The Charlevoix County Genealogical Society met on Thursday, June 4, in the lower level conference room at the Boyne District Library.



Nancy Northup

The speaker was Charlevoix County Clerk, Cheryl Potter Browe, who shared information and details on the holdings available to researchers at the county level. The program was free and open to the public and refreshments were served. All attending enjoyed an interesting and friendly evening.

All had a great time at the Betty Hadix home in honor of her birthday. They had dinner out in the yard because the weather was so great on her special day of June 4th. There were 35 family and friends in attendance. All enjoyed a lot of homemade foods and plenty of talk. Everyone seemed to have a wonderful day including the birthday girl. "We won't say how old Betty was this time so we will wait for next year for that," said my caller. Betty really was surprised by two of her sons that came from Illinois for her birthday. They were Everett (Tuffer) Hadix and brother Bill Hadix. Not expecting a big hoopla on her birthday, she was even more surprised when all the other friends and relatives came. She had children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, a great-niece and also a grandson from Florida and one from Harbor Springs that came to share the day.

Bonnie Hiller has three of her grandsons here for a visit with her from Anchorage Alaska. It's a special time, as they hadn't seen grandma for five years. They are dividing their time with their great-aunt Karen Murray and uncle Lynn of Boyne City and their grandfather Tom Kline and Thelma Kline in Petoskey and spending two weeks with grandma Bonnie. Their mother will be coming back in July to take the boys back home. All three boys, Jon, Jeff, and Josh Kline, had attended school here in Boyne City, and are their grandma Bonnie's pride and joy.

Mabel Knapp of Litzinger Place had a wonderful visit with her granddaughter Brandy, who was here visiting from California over the weekend.

Susan Hamilton and her mother, Lillian Cikalo, recently returned from visiting daughters and great-granddaughters and their families. (Total of 10 children, which included a set of month-old twins. (Throw in a few sons-in-law, too) They all live an hour north of Boise.

Scott Miller graduated in May from the University of South Alabama with a 3.9 GPA and a master's degree in science, and plans to pursue

a doctorate in sports medicine. Scott is the grandson of Joann and the late Norm Miller of East Jordan. Kudos to you Scott! Way to go!

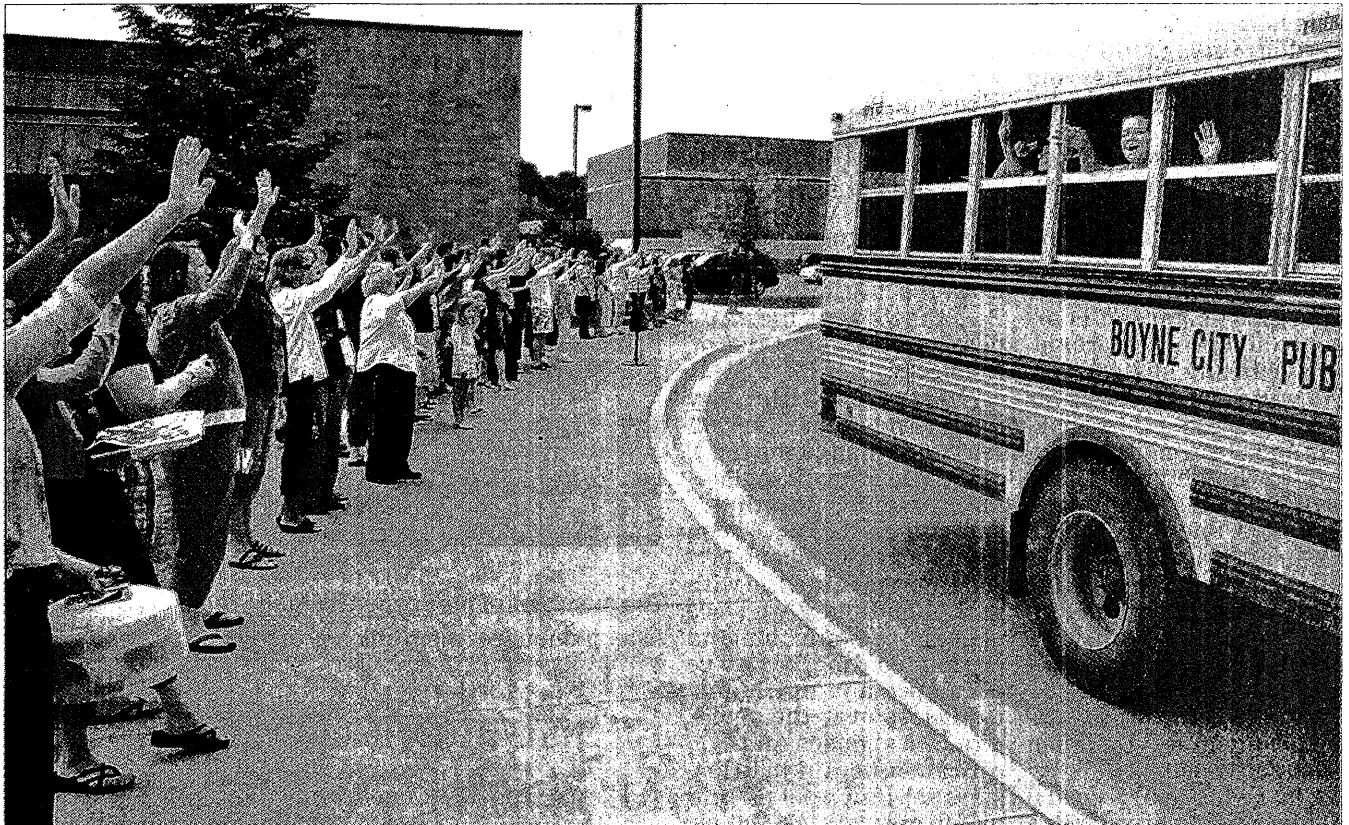
Helen and Cal Deming attended the graduation open house for their great-nephew and great-niece. Daniel Hughey and Allie Cosens. Daniel graduated from Pellston High School, and Allie from Alanson High School. They are both the grandchildren of Carole Schmidt Hughey.

Barb Ostrander Medlin, former-Boyer and Charlevoix resident, and husband, Joe, are here from Florida, visiting friends and relatives here and in the Gaylord area. Like the rest of us, not happy with the cold rainy weather, but they stuck it out to be able to attend the Ostrander family reunion this next week.

The BCHS class of '59 reunion committee held their wrap up meeting for their 50th reunion on Wednesday. Gathering at the busy BC Pizza, they had a fantastic time, eating, looking at pictures and letters from other former classmates who are planning to attend the three-day celebration, which includes Friday night Stroll The Streets of Boyne, July 31, golf and dinner at Boyne Mountain on Saturday, Aug. 1, and a picnic at Veteran's Memorial Park on Sunday, Aug. 2. Attending were George Shiotelis, Mary Bean Carson, Mary Balliet Peters, Nancy Gardner Brown, Janice Keopke Juday, Judy Ward Gerrie, Judy Hartlep Owen and Nancy Northup.

Nancy Steuer former East Jordan/Boyer area resident, who is enjoying her new job of truck driving in Alaska, sent in a nice note and, in part, I quote, "It was a beautiful sunny day 68 degrees in the Dutch Mountains at the southern most foot of Mt. McKinley, the vastness of that country is mind boggling. Ran into a fellow gold panner on the Peters Creek. What a small world it is one of them used to be an electrician at Boyne Mountain Ski Lodge in Boyne Falls, Mich., back when I was 16 years old and worked there. He lived on Deer Lake about a quarter of a mile from where my brother Fred and his wife then lived out there. Larry was originally from Manton. I also ran into three fellows that were originally from Pellston, Mich. area and they remember Bill Lyons and the Bundy Mt. Band that lived in East Jordan, Mich., my home town, and they played at Grange Halls and different bars and dance halls around the country in Northern Michigan."

Items of interest for Nancy's column may be called into Nancy's home phone 582-9174 or send e-mail to neighbors@gtlakes.com before her every other Wednesday deadline for the Boyne Area & East Jordan Observer



STEVE ZUCKER/NEWS-REVIEW

With bus horns blaring to celebrate the last day of school, members of the Boyne City schools staff and their students wave a bitter-sweet good-bye to each other as summer vacation began Thursday, June 11.

Young State Park Hosting Youth Fishing Tournament

Young State Park is hosting a GO-Get Outdoors youth fishing tournament on Saturday, June 20, as part of the 90th anniversary of Michigan State Parks.

At 10:30 a.m., there will be a tournament for children age 14 and younger. At 11:30 a.m., there will be fishing activities and a guided nature hike with

Department of Natural Resources Park Interpreter Maureen Jacobs. Prizes will be donated by local vendors.

Cake will be served at 12:30 p.m. at the day use area near the camp store in celebration of Michigan State Parks' 90th anniversary celebration.

Young State Park is located at 02280 Boyne City

Road in Boyne City. For more information about this event, the park, accessibility, or persons needing accommodations to attend this event, contact the park at 582-7523 or visit www.michigan.gov/young.

The park offers 239 campsites, and camping reservations can be made online at www.midnrreservations.com, or by call-

ing the DNR central reservation system at (800) 447-2757.

All motor vehicles entering a state park or recreation area must display a Motor Vehicle Permit, available for purchase at the entrance. Cost is \$24 for resident annual and \$6 for resident daily. A non-resident annual is \$29 and a non-resident daily is \$8.

Saturday

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- Interesting local people & places
- Self improvement
- Classifieds & puzzles
- Movie reviews
- Local news week in review
- Store flyers & coupons

A weekend paper for your weekend attitude

Saturday

A publication of the Petoskey News-Review

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