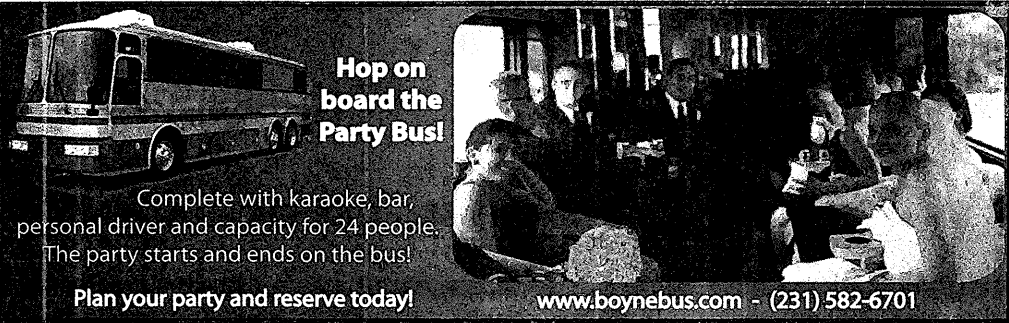


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Charlevoix **County News**

Thursday, June 18, 2009 **75¢**

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Boyne City Suspects Arrested on Embezzlement Charges

by Jason Crum

BOYNE CITY- Michigan State Police have arrested three suspects, charging them with alleged embezzlement of an estimated \$2 million from the Boyne City based electric cooperative, Great Lakes Energy.

The suspects are, former Great Lakes Energy Vegetation Management Supervisor Robin Stewart, his wife Shelly, and George Edwin Reed with G&J Tree Inc. Stewart and his wife reside in Gaylord. Reed currently resides in Florida.

An investigation, along with a review of documents and bank records, led to the three suspects arrest. The investigation indicates that Stewart authorized fraudulent payment to G&J Tree Inc. Great Lakes Energy terminated Stewart's

continued on page 4



B.C. PIZZA

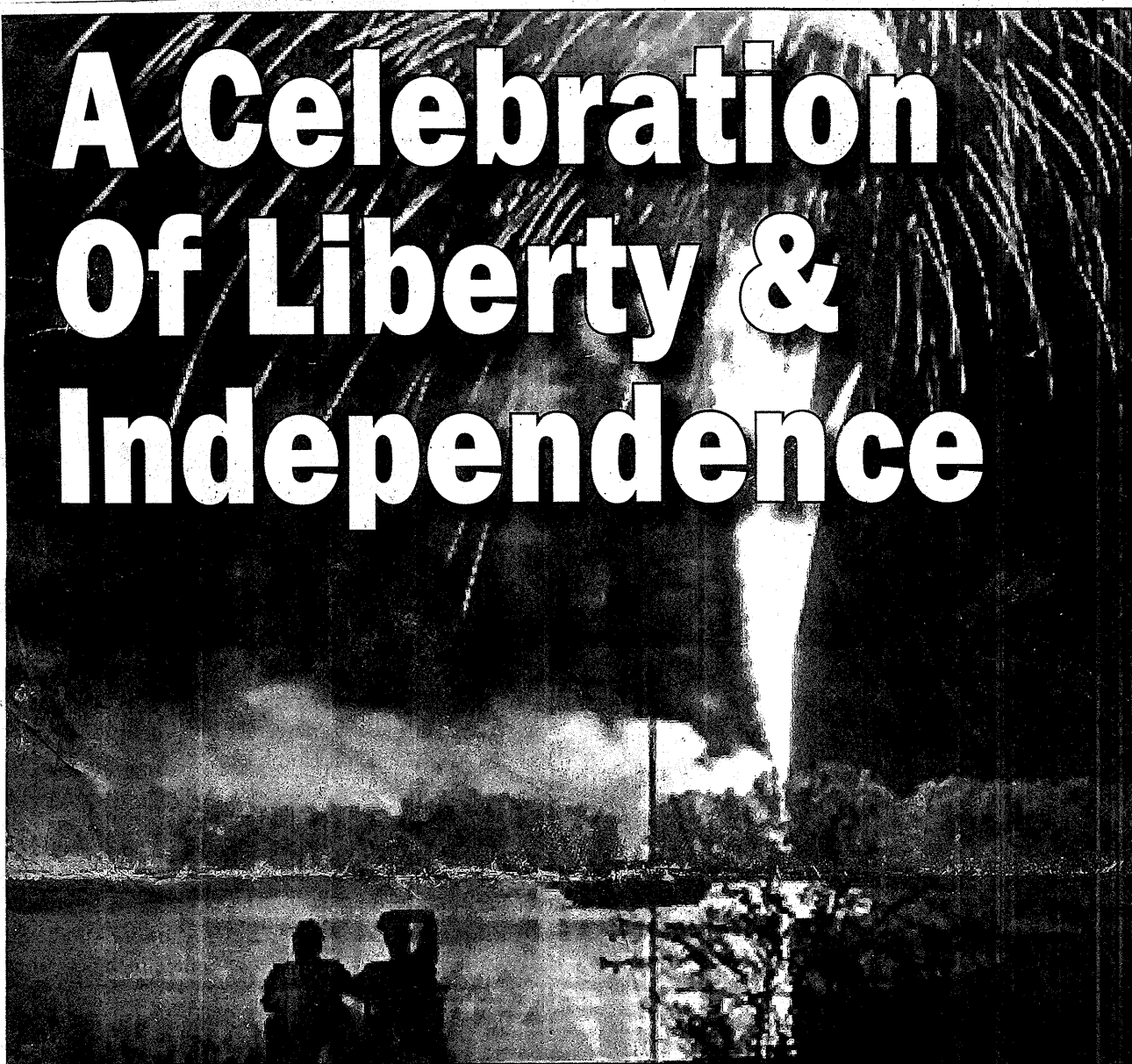
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A Celebration of Liberty & Independence

Jordan Valley Freedom Festival Begins June 18th

By Jim Akans

American's take great pride in celebrating the wonderful freedoms and hard-fought independence we so dearly respect and enjoy. The annual Jordan Valley Freedom Festival is truly a benchmark of those celebrations. It is a grand community event that beckons residents and visitors

"We are a small community and this is a very family-friendly celebration," states Gretchen Bender, president of the Jordan Valley Freedom Festival Committee. "We work hard to make sure there is something for everyone to enjoy."

ChxCo. News 6-18-2009

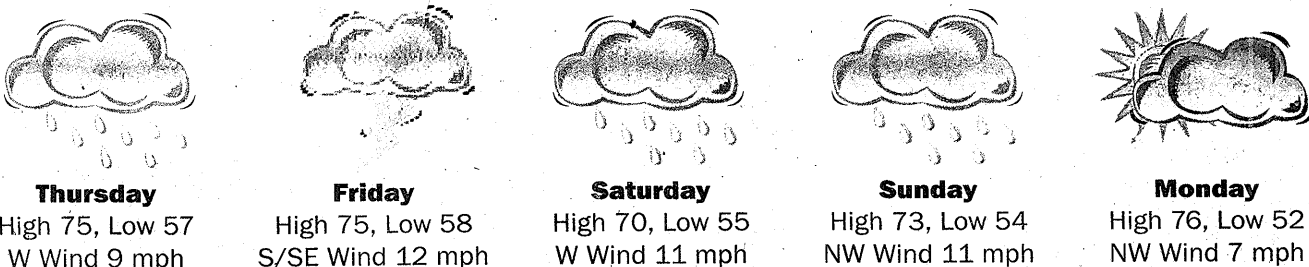
alike to join together in the gorgeous northern village of East Jordan each year to commemorate our most cherished birthright; American freedom.

"We are a small community and this is a very family-friendly celebration," states Gretchen Bender, president of the Jordan Valley Freedom Festival Committee. "We work hard to make sure there is something for everyone to enjoy. This is an event that has taken place each year for as long as I remember,"

Each year, a highlight of the festival is the Youth Parade, with this year's theme being "Planes, Trains and Automobiles" in honor of the 100 year anniversary of the vintage locomotive on display at Memorial Park.

continued on page 6

WEATHER:



Thursday High 75, Low 57 W Wind 9 mph	Friday High 75, Low 58 S/SE Wind 12 mph	Saturday High 70, Low 55 W Wind 11 mph	Sunday High 73, Low 54 NW Wind 11 mph	Monday High 76, Low 52 NW Wind 7 mph
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Boyne City Charlevoix Road Slighted Again

B. J. Conley-Hetler

CHARLEVOIX — Throughout the state of Michigan most county road commissions are in a tight

Continued on page 7...

LOCAL NEWS IN BRIEF

CHARLEVOIX, EAST JORDAN, BOYNE CITY, HARBOR SPRINGS, PETOSKEY

BUSINESS PEOPLE INVITED TO REGIONAL BUSINESS AFTER HOURS

Five area Chambers of Commerce are collaborating to co-sponsor a Regional

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**LOCAL NEWS
IN BRIEF**
continued from front page...

Business After Hours networking extravaganza at Castle Farms, from 5 to 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.

BOYNE CITY

Boyne City Rubbish Collection Begins June 17-18

The City of Boyne City's 13-week curbside rubbish collection program is slated to begin June 17. The first pickups will take place in areas on and south of Main Street on Wednesdays beginning June 17 and north of Main Street on Thursdays beginning June 18. Pickups

Continued on page 3...

Community funds sought for city cemetery fence



by B. J. Conley-Hetler

BOYNE CITY — A community fundraiser is moving ahead to complete the new fence at Boyne City's Maple Lawn Cemetery.

Approximately 75 sections of the fence await the funds needed before they will be installed. The length of a section is eight feet and the cost is \$275, which includes the post, the section and installation, Mayor Eleanor

Stackus said at a city commission meeting on June 9. Stackus is a member of the committee to raise the money for completion of the fence. Others on the committee are Phil Johnson, Todd Hager, Chuck Vondra, Cindy Grice and Jim Hornback.

Besides the sections, several gates will be installed and the committee is working on raising the \$2,500 needed for each gate.

Maple Lawn Cemetery is located on M-75, across from the Boyne City Middle School. To donate call any one of the committee members or call city hall at 231-582-6597.

E-Mail BJ at reporterbjh@charter.net



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Published Weekly on Thursday.

Distributed to Boyne City, East Jordan, Charlevoix, Boyne Falls, Walloon Lake, Ellsworth and Atwood

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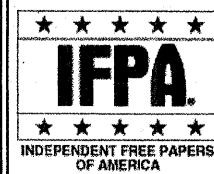
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LOCAL NEWS

On-line at www.CharlevoixCountyNews.com

Top Honors For 2009 Class Valedictorians

Applauding Outstanding Charlevoix County High School Seniors' Academic Accomplishments

By Jim Akans

For high school seniors across Northern Michigan, this is a time for reminiscing over those long, grueling, wonderful years of schooling where lifelong friends have been made, and a lifetime journey has begun.

The Charlevoix County News congratulates and commends each of these graduating students, from public, private and home schooling educational avenues, and their many achievements, academically and spiritually, as they embark on the next chapter in their lives. We wish them continued success in the pursuit of their unique dreams, and all the best in their lifetime journeys.

Following are those students in the Charlevoix County area who have earned the distinction of being named Class Valedictorian and Salutatorians, may you and your classmates find your true passions in life.

BOYNE CITY HIGH SCHOOL

Valedictorian; Jesse Place from Boyne City, GPA - 4.025. Jesse plans to attend Saginaw Valley State University to study secondary education chemistry.



Jesse Place

Salutatorian; Lindsey J. Herrington from Boyne City, GPA - 4.0. Lindsey plans to attend Michigan State University, taking part in the Lyman Briggs College pro-



Lindsey Herrington

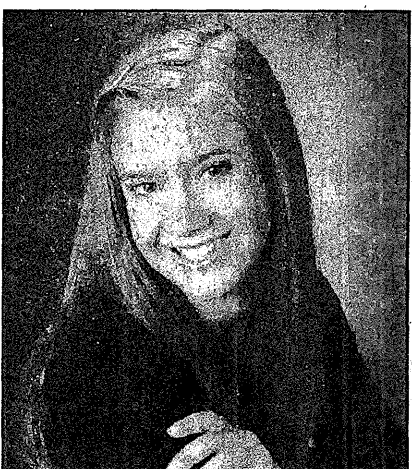
gram. She will be studying mathematics and science. Lindsey also hopes to study abroad to help expand her Spanish culture.

BOYNE FALLS HIGH SCHOOL



Amber Lee Simon

Valedictorian; Amber Lee Simon from Boyne Falls, GPA - 3.79. Plans to attend North Central Michigan College for 2 years and transfer to Michigan State University or Spring Arbor University to pursue a career in journalism or education. Amber cites Jeremiah 29:11 "For I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord. They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope."



Roslyn Fiel

Salutatorian; Roslyn Fiel from Boyne Falls, GPA - 3.48. She plans to move to Alaska where

she will be attending college to study early childhood education or pediatric nursing.

CHARLEVOIX HIGH SCHOOL



Weston Bryan

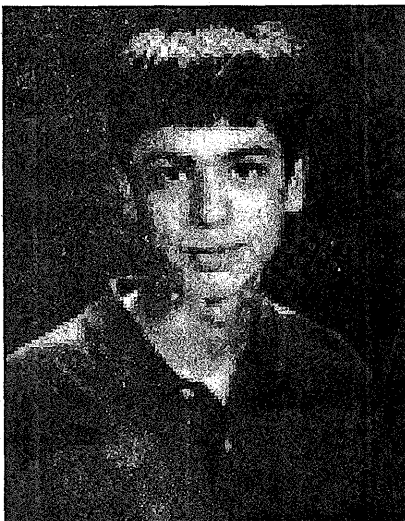
Valedictorian; Weston Bryan from Charlevoix, GPA - 4.0. Bryan plans to attend Alma College to study pre-law. Nichole Cyr is also the Charlevoix High School Valedictorian this year with a 4.0 GPA, and plans to attend Michigan State University.



Katie Withrow

Salutatorian; Katie Withrow from Charlevoix, GPA 3.993. She plans to attend Michigan State University to study nursing.

EAST JORDAN HIGH SCHOOL



Joe Hidakatsu

Valedictorian; Joe Hidakatsu from East Jordan, GPA - 4.02. He plans to attend the University of Michigan to study engineering. Joe quotes Alvin Toffler; "Change is not merely neces-



Kayla Mousseau

sary to life - it is life."

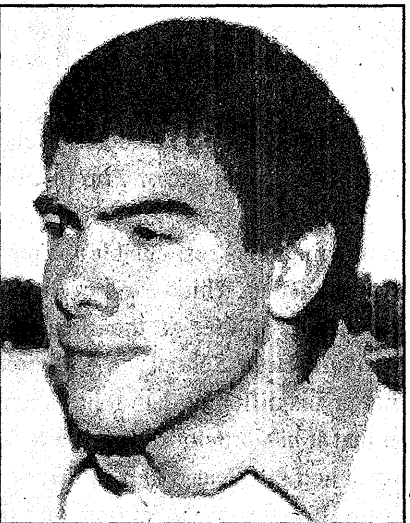
Salutatorian; Kayla Mousseau of East Jordan, GPA 3.98. Kayla plans to attend the Kendell School of Art and Design to study interior design. She cites Anna Quindlen; "If your success is not on your own terms, if it looks good to the world but does not feel good in your heart, it is not a success at all."

ELLSWORTH HIGH SCHOOL



Caleb Veenstra

Valedictorian; Caleb Veenstra from Ellsworth, GPA; 3.97. Caleb plans to attend Michigan Tech to study computer science. He notes, "Scholarships are given out to those who can write essays and play sports; if you're good at math and science your future paycheck is your scholarship."



Nicholas Cook

Salutatorian; Nicholas Cook from Ellsworth, GPA; 3.96. He plans to attend Northern Michigan University to study pre-med. He notes, "It's difficult to think that with twelve years of education we still need more before we can get a good job."

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LOCAL NEWS IN BRIEF

continued from page 2...

will continue on this weekly schedule through Sept. 9 and 10. Items that may be left for collection include furniture, appliances, clothing and construction waste. The total each week may not exceed two cubic yards. Items that will not be picked up include garbage, recyclable materials and lawn and garden waste. For details, call Andy Kovolski at 582-6597 or visit the city's website at www.boynecity.com.

BOYNE FALLS

C-48 BREEZEWAY CRUISE
THURS., JUNE 18, 2009
5:30 PM-7:00PM

Meet and Greet Reception at Boyne Mountain. Snacks, chairlift rides, etc. Sponsored by Boyne Mountain. 7pm leave Boyne for cruise on C-48 to East Jordan - Ellsworth- Atwood ending at Antrim Dells. Burger buffet- \$10.00 per person. Announcement of Banks Twp. Citizen of the Year. If you would like to join us on the cruise please RSVP at 231-536-7351 or email info@ejchamber.org.

GAYLORD

BIG TICKET FESTIVAL

The Big Ticket Festival is one of Michigan's largest concerts. The 3-day event begins June 18 at the Otsego County Fairgrounds and features 60 artists performing on 6 stages. Some of the best Christian bands in the nation perform at this huge event that expects more than 30,000 people to attend. Other entertainment also includes nationally renowned speakers, action sports and a Kid's zone. The family friendly event is draws people from all over the Midwest. The theme is "Live God Loud"

PELLSTON

PELLSTON SUMMERFEST '09

Enjoy Pellston's Summerfest June 17 - 21. Food, Music, Carnival Rides, Games and a ton of fun for adults and children.

PETOSKEY

AN ART LOVER'S NIGHT OUT ON THE TOWN

The Petoskey Regional Chamber of Commerce is hosting the Tenth Annual Gallery Walk on Thursday, June 18, 2009, beginning at

Continued on page 4.

LOCAL NEWS

On-line at www.CharlevoixCountyNews.com

LOCAL NEWS IN BRIEF

continued from page 3...

6:00 p.m. This year there will be a full dozen wonderful galleries to visit. You are invited to feast your eyes on their newest works of art while sampling gourmet treats and refreshments. As you stroll from gallery to gallery, you can delight in the music of street entertainers, arranged for by Blissfest Music Organization. The evening ends at the After Glow in the Rose Garden of the historic, Stafford's Perry Hotel, where there will also be live musical entertainment. Each gallery donates one or more original works of art to the event and a prize drawing is scheduled to start at 9:00 pm at the afterglow. The entire event is free of charge and will proceed rain or shine.

ELLSWORTH

BENEFIT CONCERT

The Back Porch Coffeehouse is hosting a benefit concert for Ellsworth Charities - The Front Porch Cafe, The Good Samaritan and The Mom's and Tots Center - on Friday, June 19 at 6:30pm at the Banks Township Hall on Center Street in downtown Ellsworth. The family friendly concert features area musicians Michael Lee Seiler, Dwain Martin, Gordon Howie, Kelly Shively and Robin and Pam Luce playing family favorites and stories on guitar, harmonica, dulcimer, harp, fiddle, ukulele and more. Admission is by donation. Plan to attend the 50's Drive-in Dinner and Ice Cream Social earlier in the evening. The concert is part of the Ellsworth Pig Roast Festival events. For complete details, see www.ellsworthpigroast.com.

BOYNE CITY

CHARLEVOIX-EMMET PINK RIBBON RIDE FROM BOYNE CITY

Take part in this charity ride June 20. Pink Ribbon Ride, Charlevoix and Emmet Counties, start at Boyne City Veterans' Park, 7, 20, 42, 55 mile courses, \$30 individual, \$50 family, \$35/\$60 after 6/19. DOE, raises money to benefit cancer programs offered through Charlevoix Area and Northern Michigan Regional Hospitals including tests for un-insured and underinsured women, Sue Morris (231) 536-7066, penbryn@charter.net, www.bike4breastcancer.org

CHARLEVOIX

AREA EMPLOYEES MAY BE ELIGIBLE FOR FREE HEALTH DEPT. TESTS

If you are not covered by health insurance or your health insurance does not include mammogram or Pap tests in your benefit package you may be eligible for a free mammogram and Pap test at the Health Department (<http://www.nwhealth.org/>).

Continued on page 5...

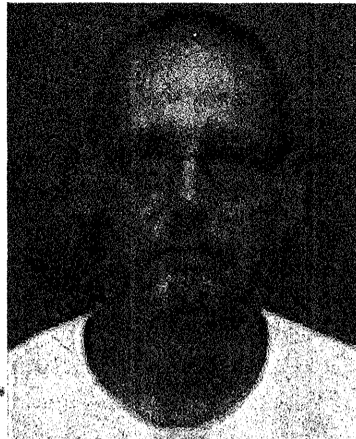
Embezzlement Arrests

Continued from front page...

employment when an internal investigation discovered the alleged embezzlement.

Great Lakes Energy has an independent auditor annually review accounting and invoicing procedures. The annual audits consistently show cooperative's internal controls to be sound and all member records to be secure.

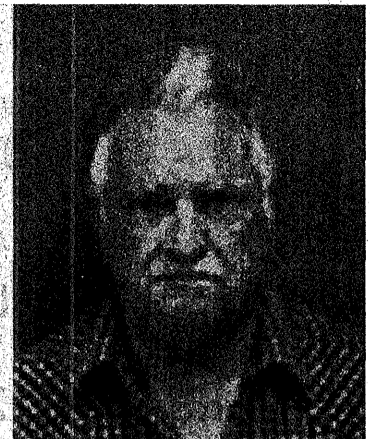
Great Lakes Energy Communications Director in Boyne City, Dave Guzniczak, says he is not able to comment on the investigation at this time because it is ongoing. Guzniczak did go on to say that he is confident that the audit process worked, and would like to ensure members of the cooperative that Great Lakes Energy will continue its vigorous audit process, but that Great Lakes Energy is open to exploring new ways to protect the cooperative. He also reiterated that the co-op's member rates and service would not be impacted by this incident.



ROBIN STEWART



SHELLY STEWART



GEORGE REED

Michigan State Police said that Great Lakes Energy have been cooperating with the state police and the Charlevoix County Prosecutor's office in the case and will continue to do so as it moves through the court system. Great Lakes Energy officials will seek full restitution from the defendants.

Great Lakes Energy, with headquarters in Boyne City, is a member-owned electric cooperative serving more than 120,000 members in 26 counties in Michigan.

By Dave Baragrey 1

UP-BEAT

The Charlevoix County News makes it a point every week to publish the positive side of news in Charlevoix County. We are surrounded by negative news, but readers find the Charlevoix County News will find a refreshing change especially in today's climate. If you have something positive to share, let us know. E-Mail us at Office@CharlevoixCountyNews.com.

The Rumors of My Death Have Been Greatly Exaggerated

By Dave Baragrey 1

The pending death of the newspaper industry is spreading like a wildfire throughout the nation. Daily newspapers throughout the country are experiencing drastic drops in revenue and are struggling to remain open. Newspapers in metropolitan markets like Denver, Seattle, Chicago and Ann Arbor have closed their doors on their print editions. In Michigan cities like Detroit, Bay City, Saginaw and Flint the newspapers have cut home delivery to just a few days a week. In Northern Michigan we have even seen newspapers in smaller communities like Boyne City/East Jordan and Elk Rapids shut down their operations. This is a scary time for many newspapers.

When a newspaper shuts down in a community it leaves a huge void. This is often the main source of local news and events as it was in Boyne City and East Jordan with the Citizen Journal. A local newspaper is more than a news source. It is a tie that binds the community together. It not only shares the information about what is going on around town. It also

publicizes the achievements of the people in the community.

As a small business owner in Northern Michigan we too have seen our business change. Some traditional market segments that were once strong advertisers like Real Estate and Auto Dealers have also struggled resulting in a significant cutback in advertising expenditures.

It definitely is no longer business as usual. We have had to adapt. We have worked with other market segments to help them develop their business through the use of our print products and we have had some success.

Despite the difficult economic times we have watched our business grow. Our positive approach to local news has been a refreshing change from the typical news media. This has allowed us the opportunity to expand our business to fill the void in Charlevoix County by developing this new newspaper, The Charlevoix County News.

We are excited to be a growing part of the Northern Michigan landscape. The Charlevoix County News along with its sister paper, The Weekly Choice now service readers and advertisers in 48 towns in Northern Michigan. Our family owned business has been innovative and quick to adapt to the changing need of readers and advertisers. We are not tied down by red tape that entangles many corporate owned newspapers.

We always hope to hear from our readers and are anxious to hear from our new readers in Charlevoix County. We also hope to hear from businesses to help them distribute their advertising message through our newspapers. Please e-mail me anytime at Office@CharlevoixCountyNews.com or Office@WeeklyChoice.com.

Here is a quote to keep in mind

"It's not what you know or who you know. It's what you are that finally counts."

~Zig Ziglar

American Cancer Society Real for Life of Antrim County Introduces Committee Members

The American Cancer Society Relay For Life of Antrim County is gearing up for another exciting year thanks to the efforts of the volunteer committee members responsible for putting the 2009 event together. This year's event will be held on June 26-27, 2009 at the Shaun Davies Track (Bellaire High School) in Bellaire. Please note that this is different than it has been in past years in that it has previously been a Saturday/Sunday event and this year will be a Friday and Saturday event. It will begin at 3:00pm on Friday and continue through 3:00pm on Saturday.

During Relay For Life, participants and visitors will have a chance to celebrate the victory of area cancer survivors during the Survivors Lap at 10:00 am on Saturday, June 27, 2009; remember those we have lost to the disease during the poignant Luminaria Ceremony beginning at 9:00pm, Friday, June 26th; and participate in the new Fight Back Ceremony at noon on Saturday, that will give everyone a chance to proclaim his or her way of taking action against the disease.

But before any ceremony there are community volunteers behind the scenes who are responsible for all aspects of the Relay event, from set-up to tear-down and everything in-between. Volunteer committee members enlist local businesses, civic groups, organizations and anyone with an interest in the fight against cancer to get involved with Relay For Life through sponsorship, donations or participation in the event.

"Volunteers are truly the backbone of Relay For Life," said Diane Jorgensen, community representative, American Cancer Society. "The committee members, team captains and participants are the ones that make this event happen every year and without their countless hours of volunteered time, the American Cancer Society Relay For Life of Antrim County would not be the memorable event it is each year."

This year's Relay For Life of Antrim County committee members are:

Leadership: Stephanie Becmer & Bobbi Lukins
Survivorship: Michelle Gaylord & Sandy Hill

Team Development: Justine Campbell, Janet Jennings, Mary Manville, & Shannon Patton
Entertainment: Janet Jennings
PR/Media: Bobbi Lukins & Syrina Dawson
Fundraising/Concessions: Don Lukins
Fundraising/Online: Shannon Patton

As the Society's signature event, Relay For Life celebrates 25 years of bringing cancer survivors and anyone touched by the disease together. Held overnight in honor of the fact that cancer never sleeps, Relay For Life has grown from a single event in Tacoma, Wash. that raised \$27,000 to the largest grassroots movement nationwide. More than 5,000 communities throughout the U.S. now host an American Cancer Society Relay For Life event and have raised more than \$3 billion for the fight against cancer.

For more information about your local Relay For Life event or to get involved as a Relay For Life volunteer, contact your American Cancer Society at 1.800.ACS.2345 or visit www.relayforlife.org.

Pig Roast Festival this Weekend

LOCAL NEWS
IN BRIEF
continued from page 4...

by Alana Haley

The Ellsworth Pig Roast Festival, June 18 through 21, is serving up not just a delicious pork dinner, but loads of entertainment for youth and adults alike in keeping with this year's theme; Linking Generations. Kids can enter the Purdiest Pig Contest at the Banks Township Hall on Friday evening during the Ice Cream Social. Dinner may be enjoyed at the 50's style drive in at the Front Porch before attending the Linking Generations Benefit Concert or visiting the Banks Township Historical Society Museum.

Saturday morning brings the 5K Fun Run and Walk and a Pancake breakfast. Pre-parade, enjoy the Ellsworth Farm Market, Big Country 102.9 Radio Remote and Historical Trolley Tour. The Grand Parade begins at 11:00. Kids are welcome to enter their decorated bikes in the parade. Following the parade is a demonstration by the Banks Township Fire Department.

Immediately following the parade the kid's games and entertainment begin featuring free games and prizes, a petting zoo and mini tractor pull. Twister Joe, Northern Michigan's favorite balloon artist makes his creative balloon creations, Presto Lee Malone, the strolling magician amazes and Drum Master Andrew Barger performs. Two inflatable obstacle courses offer fun for kids of all ages until 4:00.

At noon, the renowned Roast Pork Lunch is



Ellsworth High School Band marches in the Grand Parade

served accompanied by A Bit of Brass Quintet. Don't miss the chance to record your generations in pictures and words by scheduling a photo shoot with one of our local professional photographers or by having your stories of living in Ellsworth /Atwood past and present digitally recorded.

At 2:00 the Horse Pull and 3-Point Shoot out begin. Saturday evening, enjoy a night out at the

Gold Nugget featuring dinner and drink specials as well as a live band. Sunday evening closes the festival with a contemporary worship service featuring a live band.

All Pig Roast events take place in downtown Ellsworth or on the School Grounds. Full details can be found at www.ellsworthpigroast.com.

Pig Roast Schedule of Events

29TH ANNUAL ELLSWORTH PIG ROAST

"Linking Generations"

THURSDAY

5:30pm BREEZEWAY CRUISE NIGHT

The Breezeway from Boyne Falls to Atwood

CITIZEN OF THE YEAR AWARD

Antrim Dells Golf Course

Tour the C-48 Breezeway in your cool convertible or vintage vehicle from Boyne Mountain through East Jordan, Ellsworth and Atwood to Antrim Dells Golf Course. Citizen of the Year Awards Ceremony follows.

Sponsored Breezeway Task Force Committee and Ellsworth Pig Roast Committee. Hosted by Ellsworth Lioness Club

FRIDAY

5:00pm 50'S DRIVE-IN DINNER - Front Porch Cafe

What's for dinner? Drive right up to the Front Porch for a 50's-style drive-in. Served until 7:00. Benefits Ellsworth Wesleyan Church Youth Group. Hosted by the Ellsworth Wesleyan Church Youth

6:00pm ICE CREAM SOCIAL - Banks Township Hall on Center St. Enjoy ice cream with all the toppings at this fundraiser benefiting Ellsworth Community Schools. Until 8:00pm. Hosted by the Ellsworth PTO - Sponsored by Charlevoix State Bank

6:00pm PURDIEST PIG CONTEST - Banks Township Hall on Center St. Hey kids! Dress up as a pig and pick up your snout at the ice cream social. We'll take your photo to enter. Cash prizes. Winners announced Saturday. Sponsored by East Jordan Rite Aid

6:00pm BANKS TWP. HISTORICAL SOCIETY - Next to Banks Township Hall on Center St. Museum open for viewing until 8:00pm. Sponsored by Banks Township Historical Society

6:30pm LINKING GENERATIONS CONCERT - Banks Township Hall on Center St. Join us for a family-friendly concert by area musicians Michael Lee Seiler, Dwain Martin, Gordon

Howie, Kelly Shively, Robin & Pam Luce, and Jim Ribbey featuring family favorites & stories on guitar, harmonica, dulcimer, harp, fiddle, ukulele and more!

Benefits local charities. Sponsored by the Back Porch Coffee House

SATURDAY

8:00am 5K FUN RUN - Elementary School Parking Lot on Church St. Registration 8:00. Race 9:00. \$20 entry fee. T-shirts for all entrants. Prizes all age groups. Proceeds benefit Ellsworth High School Track Program. Hosted by Ellsworth H.S. Track Program

8:00am ELLSWORTH FARMERS MARKET - Bob's Used Car Lot Stock up on fresh local produce until 12:00.

9:00am PANCAKE BREAKFAST - Banks Township Hall on Center St. Fill up post-run or pre-parade! Benefits the Belltower Reformed Church Youth mission trip. Until 11:00. Hosted by Bell Tower Reformed Church

9:00am BIG COUNTRY 102.9 RADIO REMOTE - In Front of Bob's Used Car Lot Enjoy this live radio remote leading up to the parade. Until 11:00am. Sponsored by JTE Plumbing and Heating

10:00am HISTORICAL TROLLEY TOUR - Leaves from Elementary Parking Lot Hop aboard the Mackinac Trolley to hear the past come alive! Tours 10:00, 11:45, 12:30 and 1:15. Sponsored by Banks Twp Historical Society

10:00am PARADE LINE UP - Community Park behind the Ellsworth Farmers Exchange on Center St.

11:00am THE GRAND PARADE - Up Center St., then down Main St. to School Senior Citizen King and Queen: Bob and Noreen Jolliffe. Featuring: Ellsworth H.S. Marching Band, Floats galore, Queens and more! Antique Cars, Tractors, Twister Joe and Kids on Bikes! Prizes for all bike entries.

12:00pm FIRE DEPARTMENT DEMO - Grandstand on Main Street Banks Township Fire & Rescue will demonstrate their new Rescue Jacks vehicle stabilizing tools.

12:00pm KIDS GAMES & ENTERTAINMENT - School Grounds Free Games and Prizes, Petting Zoo and Mini Tractor pull. Until 2:00. Twister Joe Northern Michigan's favorite balloon artist makes creative balloon creations until 2:00 Sponsored by Pig Roast Committee

Kids Inflatables Two inflatable obstacle courses mean big fun for kids of all sizes! Until 4:00.

Sponsored by Banks Township.

Concession stand selling kids' lunches. Hosted by the Ellsworth PTO

Presto Lee Malone, the strolling magician amazes all afternoon and with two shows at 1:30 and 2:30. Sponsored by East Jordan Iron Works

12:00pm ROAST PORK LUNCH - Elementary School Cafeteria

Delicious roast pork, bun, potato salad, baked beans and applesauce, beverage and choice of homemade dessert for just \$7. Seniors and children under twelve \$6. Served until 2:30 or we run out!

12:00pm LIVE BAND - Elementary School Under the Tent Music by A Bit of Brass Brass Quintet until 2:00. Sponsored by Village of Ellsworth

12:00pm RECORDING GENERATIONS - Elementary School Under the Tents Don't miss this opportunity to record your families generations in pictures and words. Until 2:00

Schedule a PhotoShoot Local professional photographers, Jodell Danbert, Tammy Meadows and Don Frosty will be offering special Linking Generations rates. Digitally record your stories of living in Ellsworth/Atwood past and present. Stories to be archived in the Banks Twp. Historical Society. Sponsored by Pam Luce, Legacies

2:00pm HORSE PULL - Grandstand on Main St. Featuring magnificent teams from around the state. Entry fee \$3 per person. Sponsored by Ellsworth Farmers Exchange, Charlevoix State Bank and Drenth Plumbing and Heating

2:00pm 3 POINT SHOOT OUT - Lions Club Court on West Hill Dr. Registration 2:00. Tournament begins 2:30. Prizes awarded in Boys and Girls divisions. Sponsored by the Village of Ellsworth

10:00pm TNT LIVE BAND - Gold Nugget on Center Street Downtown Prime Rib Dinner Special, drink specials for anyone dressed like a pig all day. Prizes for best pig costume.

SUNDAY

6:00pm CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP SERVICE - Ellsworth River Park Pavilion

Featuring live music. Bring your own blanket or chairs.

PIG ROAST RAFFLE

Tickets available at Charlevoix State Bank Ellsworth and East Jordan Branches, East Jordan Chamber of Commerce and Pig Roast Committee Members. 1st prize, half a processed pig, 2nd prize, 15 lbs bacon, 3rd prize, gourmet gift basket featuring items from local specialty food producers. \$1 per ticket or 6 for \$5

PIG ROAST APPAREL

Be sure to get yours! Available at Charlevoix State Bank Ellsworth Branch and the Pig Roast. 2009. Logo designed by Jessica Nagel.

A BIG THANK YOU! To the individuals and organizations whose contributions and support make the Pig Roast possible each year. This event is truly a community-wide collaboration and celebration!

Special thanks to our sponsors: who keep events free or at low cost to you Banks Township, Banks Township Historical Society, Charlevoix State Bank, Cherry Capitol Connection, East Jordan Iron Works, East Jordan Rite Aid, Ellsworth Farmers Exchange, JTE Plumbing & Heating, Legacies, Village of Ellsworth.

Many thanks also to: Ellsworth Community Schools, Ellsworth PTO, Work'n Play Shop, Howes & Howes, Drenth Plumbing & Heating, our Brochure Advertisers and the invaluable volunteers who make this event possible.

Double your Fun at the EAST JORDAN FREEDOM FESTIVAL

FRIDAY

6:00PM Youth Parade followed by the Block Party on Main St. featuring live entertainment by Northern Michigan's own David Sisco

SATURDAY

4:00PM Grand Parade down Main Street 6:00PM Lip Sync Contests in Memorial Park

8:00PM Live entertainment by Broken Road a tribute to Rascal Flatts. Captain Fantastic a tribute to Elton John

DARK Fabulous Fireworks Show by Great Lakes Fireworks!

Free mammograms and Pap test appointments are open at the Health Department for women age 40-64 who have no health insurance or no mammogram coverage and meet certain income guidelines. For example, women from a family of three with an annual family income of \$44,000 qualify for the program. For a limited time, eligible women who make and keep their mammogram appointment will receive a \$25 gas card. June appointments are open now. Those interested can call 800-432-4121 for additional information or to schedule an appointment.

BOYNE CITY

BIKEFIX HOSTS A FREE COMMUNITY BIKE SWAP

John McClorey and BikeFix Cycling Center will host BikeFest, a free community bike swap from 1 to 5 p.m. Saturday, June 20, following the Pink Ribbon Ride. Anyone may bring bikes and parts to swap and sell. Free table space and racks will be provided to display bikes and parts. Get rid of that box of parts or find a really nice used bike. For more information, contact BikeFix at 114 State Street, phone 582-6622 or go to www.bikefixcyclingcenter.com.

PETOSKEY

RESORT BLUFFS SEGMENT DEDICATION AND BICYCLE RIDE

June 20, Resort Bluffs Segment Dedication and Bicycle Ride on the Little Traverse Wheelway, Emmet and Charlevoix Counties, ride through the Resort Bluffs segment to Petoskey and then anywhere you wish from East Park in Bay Harbor, ride follows trail dedication and East Park Re-dedication, breakfast from 9 to 10 am, Petoskey Steel Drum Band ensemble performs from 9 to 10 am, distances from East Park are Petoskey Clock Tower; 2.5 miles, Spring Lake Park 5.5 miles, Harbor Springs downtown 11.5 miles, Bay Harbor Drive .5 miles, Bay Shore 5.5 miles, Charlevoix Township Park 12 miles, Charlevoix bridge 14.5 miles, all-asphalt trail, many events including a (two) bicycle raffle, drive your car, walk, or ride your bike to East Park, a project of the Top of Michigan Trails Council, Consumers Energy, Resort Township, City of Petoskey. Ceremonies at East Park start at 10 am.

BOYNE CITY

ARTSY BENCHES APPEAR AROUND BOYNE CITY DOWNTOWN

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

LOCAL NEWS

On-line at www.CharlevoixCountyNews.com

LOCAL NEWS IN BRIEF

continued from page 5...

hand-painted and will be auctioned off this summer as part of the "Garden Party - Benches Take Root," fundraiser for the Northern Michigan chapter 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 Boyne City artists, Chris Knight, Anne Thurston and Jerry Douglas. Other benches and chairs are on display throughout Charlevoix, Antrim, Cheboygan and Emmet Counties until August 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, August 5 at the college. If you are interested in sponsoring a bench, the Red Cross invites you to contact Bess Bleyaert at 231-348-7666 or via email at bess@arcnlm.org.

HARBOR SPRINGS

ANNUAL WINE FESTIVAL

Tickets are now on sale for the 4th Annual Wine Festival in Harbor Springs, on June 26. Buy tickets in advance and save on your admission price. Tickets can be purchased in person at Symon's General Store, Petoskey Regional Chamber of Commerce and Harbor Springs Area Chamber of Commerce. Tickets are also available online at www.sce-nicmichigan.org. The 4th Annual Waterfront Wine Festival will be held June 26 from 5pm - 8pm on the waterfront in downtown Harbor Springs. Enjoy tastings by local purveyors, music and a fabulous raffle event. Tickets are \$18 in advance and \$20 at the event.

EAST JORDAN

JORDAN VALLEY TRIATHLON

24th Year for the Triathlon. June 27, 2009. Sponsored by the East Jordan Ambulance Association. Applications are available on our web site at info@ejchamber.org or on the Chamber office rack.

ELLSWORTH

WINNER, WINNER, CHICKEN DINNER

The non-profit Front Porch Café in Ellsworth announces its 4th Saturday Summer Benefit Dinners! Please join us for a "Spring Chicken" Dinner on Saturday, June 27 from 6:00 to 8:00pm featuring a mixed greens salad bar, honey dipped chicken, red potatoes, seasonal vegetables, strawberry shortcake and a beverage for just \$9.99. Our summer fundraising dinners proudly feature local produce. Can't make it this

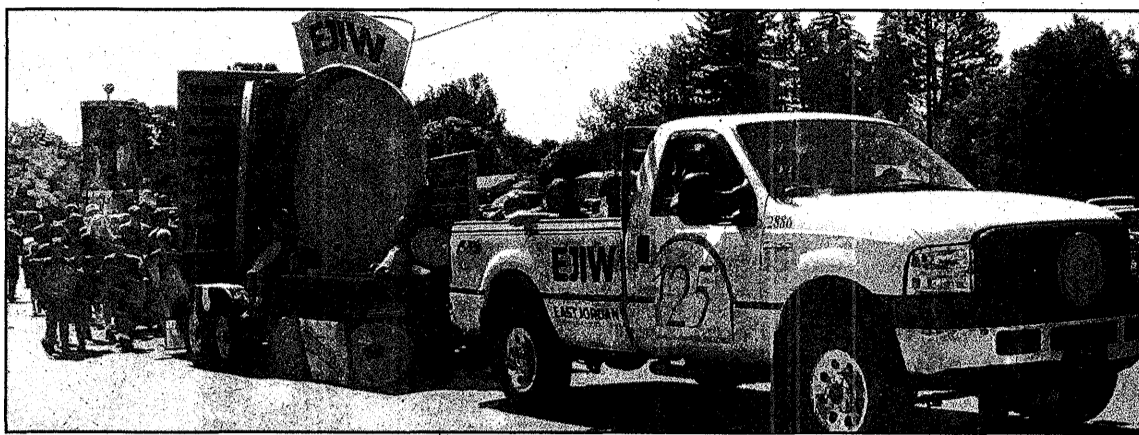
Continued on page 7...

Celebration of Liberty ...

Continued from Front Page...

Saturday, a Grand Parade will be followed by a "lip-sync" contest, an often hilarious competition where participants dress up as their favorite musical act and "perform" one of those artist's songs. To show these aspiring contestants how it's really done, one of the festival's main events will be a professional impersonator who specializes in recreating the experience of seeing 70's superstar Elton John and current country chart-topper Rascal Flatts in concert.

The crowning event each year is the stunning fireworks display on Saturday evening. Set against the twilight sky over the peaceful Jordan



Valley, the festival's finale is a breathtaking reminder of the generations of American determination and sacrifice that make a glorious cel-

bration like the Jordan Valley Freedom festival possible.

One Water Street seeks tax credits for contamination cleanup

B. J. Conley-Hetler

BOYNE CITY — The new One Water Street redevelopment project includes the cleanup of contaminated soil that was contaminated decades ago by other users of the property, such as the location of a railroad roundhouse, a shingle mill and a commercial boat dock.

The new owner of the property, Glen Catt, said the contamination is not considered hazardous by the state of Michigan, but it does need to be removed and taken to a landfill. He spoke to the city commission at its meeting on June 9.

"The main source of contamination is heavy metals that exceed background levels and/or drinking water criteria," Catt said. "The property was expanded into Lake Charlevoix by using fill material to increase the land area. The fill contains coal, metals, slag, sawdust and many other materials that have to be removed for redevelopment."

Although the contamination occurred many years ago under different ownership, the state requires the new owner to clean it up. However, because the cost of cleanup is high, the state provides incentives so that people will buy the property. The state program is known as "Brownfield" and if the state designates a site as a Brownfield

site, the current owner may apply for tax credits.

The tax credits are reimbursed after the developer has completed the project. Both state and local new taxes are used. Catt explained further:

"It's important to note that the current assessed value and taxes are untouched, and the credits only come from the new taxes created by the value of the redevelopment," he said.

An estimated \$1,728,000 would be eligible for cleanup cost reimbursement. The tax credits would be reimbursed on a proposed six-year schedule.

Anne Jamieson-Urena is the director of Brownfield and Redevelopment Incentives at AKTPeerless environmental services, based in Farmington.

"The major contaminant is heavy metals," she said. "The water quality needs to be protected."

Jamieson-Urena said the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality would be involved in decisions on managing the site.

"We've all been working together to make sure this project is done right," she said. "Brownfield



redevelopment is a popular thing now. This is what we really like to see is this kind of project. We do want to make sure the city residents and the public support the project."

A public hearing is expected in July. The Boyne City Main Street board is reviewing the matter and then it goes before city commissioners again.

E-Mail BJ at reporterbjh@charter.net

Churches Merge

East Jordan: For 25 years pastors Tim and Cindi Markham of Jordan River Rising Church, and Dave and Cindy Crumbaugh, of Lakeshore Community Church, have been close friends. They began their training together under the same minister, Rev. John Spohn, and have kept in communication with each other over the years as both couples pastored different churches.

Recently, the Crumbaughs felt that God was moving them to start a ministry in Alabama. After much prayer, they contacted the Markhams and asked if they would be willing to pas-



Pictured from left are, Pastor Cindi Markham and Pastor Tim Markham of Jordan River Rising Church, and Pastor Dave Crumbaugh and Cindy Crumbaugh of Lakeshore Community Church. Dave and Cindy have relocated to Alabama, and the two churches have merged.

in the northern region. Both operate in the "gifts and five-fold ministry," encouraging believers in the body of Christ to grow, restore, and minister to others.

Similar to the early-day-church in which Peter and Paul oversaw and ministered to many small gatherings of believers, they travel weekly between churches and oversee the operations of Spirit and Power Ministries which includes, Light of the North in Traverse City, Living Waters in Frankfort, and Jordan Rivers in East Jordan.

The resident pastor of Jordan Rivers is the Rev. John Spohn, who ministers bi-weekly in the region and oversees hospital and jail ministry. Minister Deneille Moes also speaks monthly and is a children's pastor and worship leader.

Additional ministers from Spirit and Power Ministries will also travel between churches using their five-fold ministry gifts. Jordan Rivers Rising Church is now located at 457 Water Street with services beginning at 10:00 am Sunday Morning. Beginning this fall a Bible school is scheduled to begin ministry for all ages.

for their small congregation, with both churches merging into one. Lakeshore Community would then merge into Jordan Rivers, with both congregations meeting at the Lakeshore Community church building, located on Water Street in East Jordan.

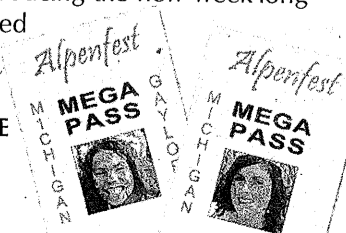
Pastors Tim and Cindi Markham are in association with Church Builders International and Harvest Fire Ministries. They have been in ministry for 30 years and oversee and pastor three churches

Alpenfest 45th on the 45th Introducing the MEGA PASS!

Skerbeck Carnival is introducing the new week-long MEGA pass! Get unlimited rides for the entire week for one low price. AVAILABLE FOR ADVANCE PURCHASE ONLY.

Mega Pass will be issued by Skerbeck Bros. Carnival.

To Purchase the MEGA pass, go online to www.Alpenfest.net



LOCAL NEWS

On-line at www.CharlevoixCountyNews.com

B.C. Bookstore reborn as Local Flavor

By Christine Gwidt

BOYNE CITY - When Boyne Country Books closed earlier this year, the community lamented the loss of the friendly bookstore/coffee shop on Water Street. The popular business had served for years as a gathering place for local patrons and visitors looking for a good read and a freshly brewed cup of coffee.

Lynne and Kirk Jabara and their daughter, Rachel, heard that the bookstore was closing and they decided to make it their business to continue the tradition.

"I'm not exactly sure who talked who into it," Kirk said, smiling at his wife and daughter and pushing back the brim of his baseball cap. "People were just so sad to see the bookstore go." And for Rachel, it was also an opportunity for an internship. "This is really Rachel's store. She's the manager and she's worked really hard on it."

Rachel is a senior at Albion College and a participant in the Gerstacker Institute program, an honors curriculum for business and management majors.

The new owners expressed their indebtedness to Kathy and Steve Anderson, who owned and operated Boyne Country Books and were instrumental in facilitating the transition to Local Flavor.

"Kathy (Anderson) did such a great job here," Kirk said. "The risk for us went way down. She had something like 15 years here in Boyne City and she built up a great customer base. We had customers waiting to come back in

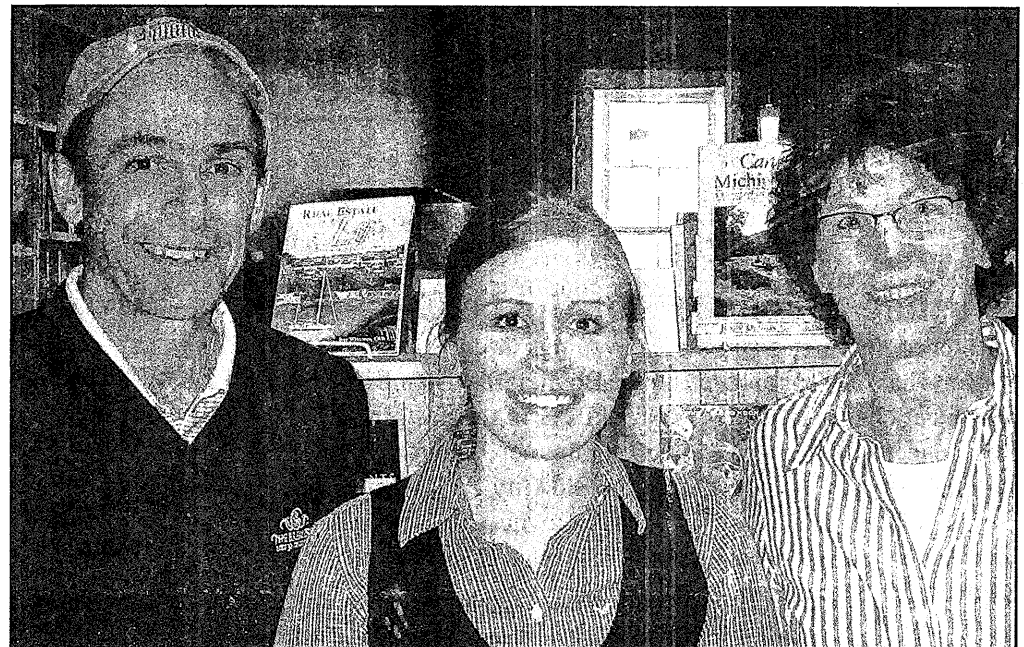
when we opened."

The Jabara family may be genetically predisposed for business. Kirk's grandfather owned four drugstores in Michigan and his grandfather's father had a general store and grocery in Mancelona. Lynne and Kirk owned and operated the Boyne Co-op True Value from 1999-2006.

On March 19, Local Flavor opened their doors. Offering a wide selection of coffees and coffee drinks, fruit smoothies and a variety of teas and soft drinks, the new owners have also installed equipment with plans to add fresh baked goods to the menu. The Local Flavor used book policy is similar to their predecessor's, trading store credit for gently used volumes.

The aptly named Local Flavor describes the feeling that the new owners hope to impart to their clientele. Regional artists are invited to display their work on a rotating basis and jewelry as well as other creations by local artisans will be offered for sale. Along with their inventory of bargain-priced books, Local Flavor carries new releases, bestsellers and works by Northern Michigan authors. Special orders are always welcome. There's also an in-house computer and free Wi-Fi service for Internet access.

"It's a book store/art gallery/coffee shop/toy store," Rachel said, adding that there are plans to involve book clubs, host book signings and bring in musical entertainment. "We also have a nice children's section. Kids that come in are really respectful of the books. They'll pick out a book and sit down and start reading. The store is



Welcoming new friends and old to Local Flavor in Boyne City are owners (L-R) Kirk Jabara, Rachel Jabara and Lynne Jabara.

very kid-friendly."

And inviting. The back of the store has been opened up with comfortable seating and windows overlooking the Boyne River. Old customers, friends and volunteers contributed their time and talent to the renovation, loaned scaffolding and pitched in during the ten-week project before Local Flavor opened.

"It's hard to convey, but when the community is behind you, it's pretty amazing," Kirk said. "And we have great assistant managers - Chris Bandy and Vicky Wolvin - They've worked hard and really want to see the store succeed."

Rachel believes that books offer great value at an affordable price. She hopes that Local Flavor will be the place that

people think of when they want to buy a gift for a friend. And while they're browsing the new and gently used inventory, they can enjoy a snack or a drink and do something nice for themselves.

Local Flavor will host its grand opening on June 27. Everyone is invited to stop by the store, located at 125 Water Street, to help celebrate with store specials, including drawings for books and gift certificates.

Store hours are: Monday-Thursday, 7am-8 pm, Friday and Saturday, 7am-9pm and Sunday, 8am-3pm.

Describing the new enterprise that has become a labor of love for her family, Rachel smiled and said, "It's been an adventure, so far."

Can't wait for next year

By Jane Booze

So what do you do when the economy's bad, and everyone's feelings are low?

Pack up the kids and head to the school, for the Rotarian's Variety Show!

The East Jordan Rotary Club's 3rd Annual Variety Show can't be summed up in a line of (bad) verse. It was a delight that sucked the grim of recent headlines right out of East Jordan, and reminded us that the world is filled with simple pleasures and much to be thankful for.

The first good thing: A full house.

The second good thing: The accompanying big band. Wow. And they continued to wow through the whole program - a finer, more talented group of musicians would be difficult to find.

While people found their seats, a nearly unrecognizable Jen Aenis pinned comical item after whimsical item of clothing on a clothesline that stretched across the auditorium on pulleys. The first big laugh came when the loaded clothesline malfunctioned, leaving members of the audience in a

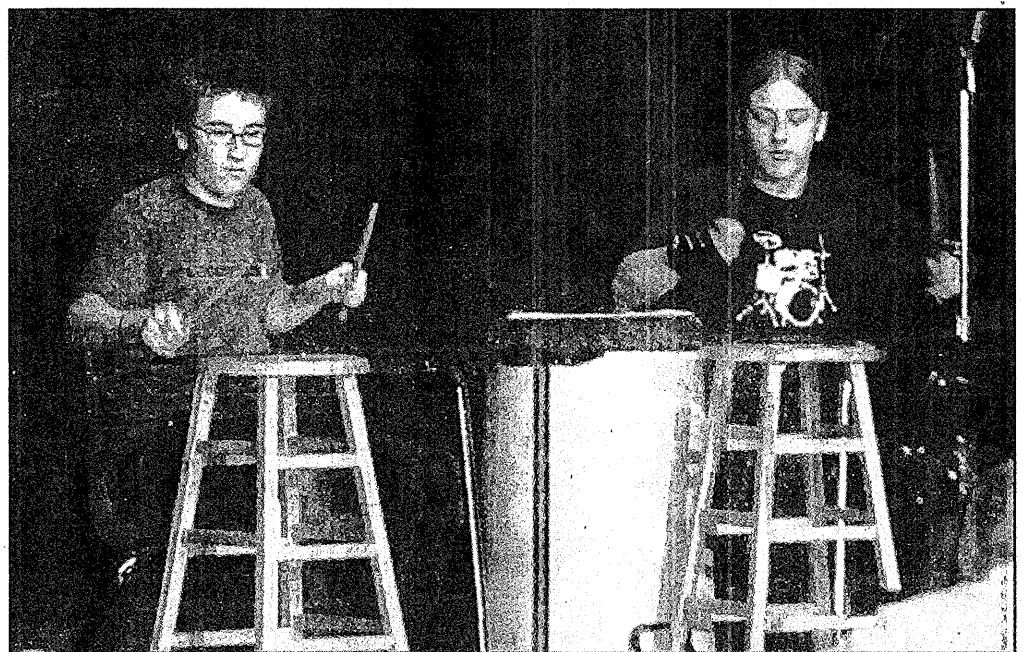
wardrobe they hadn't accessorized for.

Also before the show, folks were approached by a furtive but enthusiastic Kevin Evans in a Viking hat with an appealing falsetto - appealing them to clap when they saw him, that is (no matter what).

And then in came the Rotary Chorus, singing When the Saints Go Marching In, and marching enthusiastically, sequined vests and top hats glittering in the spot lights, and cheeks ablaze with more than just the heat.

Somehow you don't expect a crowd of business people - people you see at True Value or the EJ Shoppe or an office in the high school; people who check your teeth or eyes - to be so thoroughly transformed into performers.

Debbie Chappuies has incredible sparkle (both real and stuck on). No one could accuse Mike Aenis, Tammy Jackson, Mark Penzien or Rick Johnson of being type-cast. Jack Poindexter, with his straw hat tilted back on his head, looked like "he just strolled out of Mayberry," according to an appreciative audience member. Fred Malpass stepped out of his comfort



Repurposed Percussion:

Morgan Tinney, left, and Adrian Pulley, amazed the audience with a bang-up percussion performance on music stands, chairs and an upturned garbage can.

zone and treated the audience to a solo: "What a Wonderful World."

Highlights included Sheriff Lasater pulling over Tammy Jackson, for speeding, for going the wrong way on a one-way, and for no license (who got the last laugh?); Adrian Pulley and Morgan Tinney rocked on repurposed percussion; Rick and Eric Johnson were joined by a rag-tag team of reindeer and a camel for a special visit from Santa (he's everywhere!); and Kevin Evans - after sneaking onstage half a dozen times - finally made the cut. Bill Lorne's news, intoned with appropriate lack of bias, was edgy and hilarious. 93-year-old John Smith, an East Jordan hero, and the oldest living Rotarian, entertained and educated with his recitation on yummy, yummy love.

What a cast! What a production! The inclusion of a large handful of high school students was a stroke of genius. Dapper, always unflappable Chip Hanson (that's Bobbie to you, Santa), the MC, was a perfect foil for the silliness.

For two nights, the East Jordan community could escape into entertainment and comic relief. But in the end, the Variety Show is about the kids. Rotary International was a leader in the fight to eradicate polio, and has continued to lead with its Strive mentoring programs dedicated to helping students graduate from high school, scholarships, and a student exchange that has enriched students' educational experience in all corners of the globe for decades.

It was an evening filled with fun and frivolity. It was a chance for serious adults not to be. It was a chance for Rick Johnson - the acclaimed "heart" of the show - to spread the wealth of his talent and creativity across the stage. It was a chance for community members to sing old favorites with a new twist ("Old East Jordan," to the tune of "Old Man River," for instance).

But it was also a chance to contribute to the future of East Jordan students.

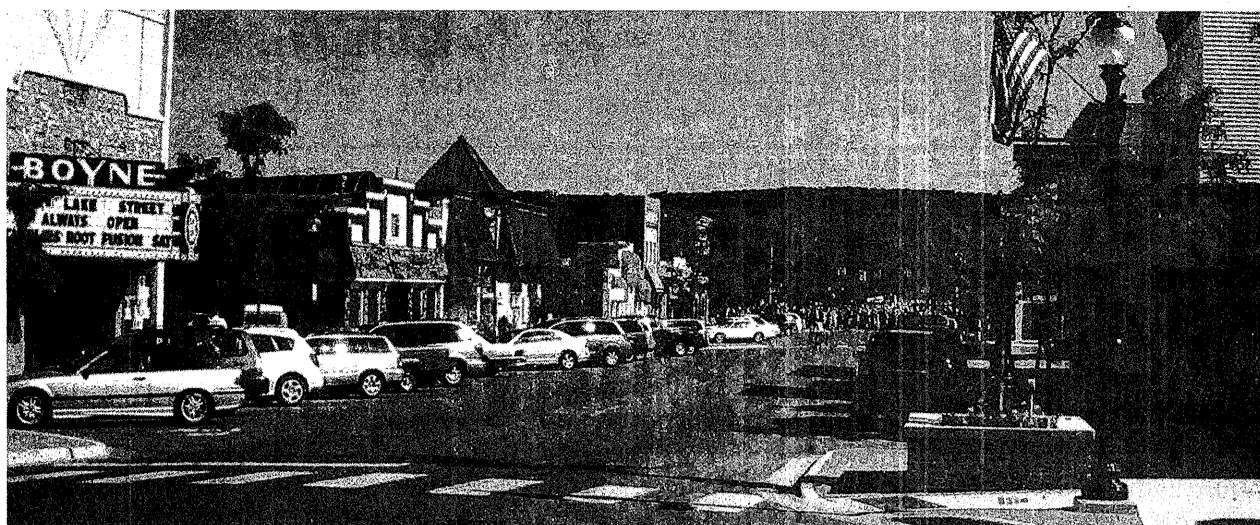
Now that's something to applaud.



If I'd known...

"If I'd known you were a police officer, I never would have pulled you over!" Sheriff Lasater reviews Tammy Jackson's picture ID.

AROUND BOYNE



Evenings at the Gazebo

schedule announced for Boyne City

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 231-582-6222; donations can be mailed to Boyne Chamber, 28 S. Lake St., Boyne City MI 49712. Sponsors are recognized on fliers distributed in the community, the Chamber website 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, due to a major construction project involving improvements to the park, Park Street and River Street.

Here is the 2009 schedule:

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.

August 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.

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

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

Performers announced for Boyne

City's Stroll the Streets

Downtown Boyne City will come alive again this summer with music and fun activities for people of all ages to enjoy during Stroll the Streets of Boyne. Organized by the Boyne City Main Street Program and supported by many Boyne City businesses and individuals, Stroll the Streets begins June 26 and will run every Friday evening from 6 to 9 p.m. through the Labor Day weekend, plus a bonus performance on Saturday, July 4th. The Boyne City Main Street Promotions Committee organizes Stroll the Streets and it is currently recruiting volunteers to help with the event as downtown ambassadors and to work the Main Street booth. Fund-raising is also under way to help pay for the 12 evenings of entertainment. Sponsorships are available beginning at \$100. Businesses and individuals are encouraged to contribute. If you are interested in volunteering or making a contribution, please contact Karen at 582-2355, the Main Street office at 582-9009, or email mainstreet@boynecity.com.

Here is a list of performers that will be featured this summer:

2 Dudes, Acoustic Stew, Allison & Jerry, Barry The Banjo Picker, Bostrom Brothers, Boyne City High School Jazz Band, Boyne River Remedy, David Youngman, Debra Adamcik, Dwain Martin, Ernie Mindel & Cedar Valley, Gail Gerrie, Hipps N Ricco, Horton Creek, In Service, Jania Taylor, Jazzin' It Up with Guitarist Steve Little, The Kowalske Family, Kristen Glasgow, Lake Street Ramblers, Michael Lee Seiler, Off Duty, Pinky Lee, Rob Johnson, Roscoe Jordan Acoustic Trio, Scott & Mary Paquette, Song Weavers, Sunshine Band, Suzanne & Jim, Syzygy, T. N. T., The Vermeers, Tom Monley, Tropical Tom w/ Mikey the Singing Monkey, Twister Joe, and Walloon Lake Community Church.

Boyne Bucks are good all over town

The Boyne Area Chamber continues to offer Boyne Bucks city-wide gift certificates that are redeemable at 30 local businesses. Boyne Bucks can be purchased with cash, check or credit card from the Chamber office in \$10 and \$20 denominations. Additional member businesses that would like to participate in this program are invited to contact the Chamber.

Boyne Historical Museum open for tours on Saturdays

The Boyne City Historical Museum is now staffed with volunteers every Saturday from noon to 4 p.m. at the south end of City Hall, 319 Water St. Historical Society volunteers are available to give tours and information about our local history. The museum is also open (but not staffed) during normal city hall hours from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on weekdays. For further information, call the City of Boyne City at 582-6597.



A local Boyne City resident, Mac Smith picked this 1 1/4 inch, approximately .75 lb, white Morel Mushroom in the Boyne City area (he would not give out the specific location for obvious reasons) on June 10, 2009. The huge morel is one of the largest found in the area this year.



In 1974, Mac's mother, Betty Smith, was mushroom hunting and found a large black mushroom measuring 12" in circumference. A photo of that mushroom is shown here.

New natural food store is distinctly different

By Christine Gwidt

BOYNE CITY - If it's true what they say, and we really are what we eat, Boyne City area residents are in luck. Foltz's Country Store is bringing the best organic and natural foods to town, stocking their shelves with locally grown produce, farm raised meats and an assortment of exotic delicacies and pantry staples for the conscientious cook.

Located in Lake Street Plaza (across from the Lake Charlevoix boat launch), the new business conveys a pleasing blend of the sensible and the seductive. Behind the innocuous storefront, an array of wholesome foods and natural products are displayed with such appeal, one might be tempted to move in. The feeling is country market chic - a homey combination of antiques, charmingly displayed merchandise and good vibes. The aroma of freshly brewed coffee seems to have a particular magic. Could it taste as good as it smells? It does.

Owners Trischa and Jeff Foltz opened Foltz's Country Store on April 11 with a particular vision in mind:

"We want to establish good strong relationships with our customers in the community and with our local farmers and food crafters," Trischa said, adding that the concept for the store sprang from the couple's combined interest in antiques and their passion for wholesome healthy food.

Trischa and Jeff grew up in Petoskey and both served in the Army - Jeff is a 1991 veteran of Desert Storm - but their paths never crossed until 2006. They were married last summer and will celebrate their first anniversary in August. Both are active in Kiwanis and the Fraternal Order of Elks. Trischa is a trustee in the Ladies Auxiliary of the F.O.E. and Jeff is a VFW trustee.

Both Jeff and Trischa love to cook, and they understand the time restraints placed on busy families. They hope to soon be able to offer meals to go and local delivery service.

"The response we've had from customers in Boyne City has been great," Jeff said. "We want people to let us know if there's anything they'd like to see us carry, and we'll try to stock that item for them."

"We want this store to be our customer's store," Trischa added.

The selection of items that they do stock range from exotically flavored nut butters - Butter Toffee and white chocolate/coconut peanut butters and vanilla almond butter from Naturally Nutty in Traverse City - to soaps and lotions made from natu-



Healthy, fresh and fun - Foltz's Country Store offers home town goods, local crafts, and antiques and friendly personal service. Trischa and Jeff Foltz offer a range of local organic produce and products at Foltz's Country Store.

ral ingredients, to fresh baked goods supplied by Boyne City's Kitchen Angel. There are eco-friendly cleaning supplies, addictive chips and snacks and even wood and textile art by local crafters. Lavender Hills Farms in Horton Bay contribute their products to the variety of soaps and jellies, and the authentically scented, hand poured, natural soybean wax candles are from Laura's Country Candles in Allegan, Michigan.

It's hard to decide which one or two or three of the beautifully packaged teas to take home. Grown and harvested by Light of Day Organics, a biodynamic farm in Traverse City, each tin (with names like Sunday Morning and Cherry Mint), contains a combination of organically grown herbs and flowers. The blend labeled Hummingbird Nectar is comprised of Montmorency cherries, hibiscus, blueberries, grapes, currants, elderberries and maple syrup bits. Even if you happen to be a confirmed coffee drinker, these teas are hard to resist. And there's also an aromatic selection of fair-trade, locally roasted whole bean coffee.

Although Foltz's Country Store plans to include more gift items in the future, there is no shortage of gift ideas among the products that they currently offer from local farmers, growers and artisans. Jeff and Trischa are enthusiastic in their effort to provide a venue for locally produced goods crafted with integrity.

"It's especially important with the financial climate the way it is right now, to stand behind area businesses and support our local economy," Jeff said.

Store hours are 10am-6pm, Monday through Saturday, closed Sunday.

Sports

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MEETING THE CHALLENGE

LaVanway Leads Devils on Diamond

Senior embraced mantle of mound ace and had monster season, winning 11 games

By Mike Dunn

EAST JORDAN – High expectations. There were plenty of them coming into the 2009 season for the East Jordan baseball team and for the young man who would be taking over the duties as No. 1 pitcher, senior Kevin LaVanway.

The Red Devils were coming off district championships and runner-up finishes in the Lake Michigan Conference in 2007 and '08 under coach Pete Inman and assistant coach Al Stallard. In '08 the team also won a regional title for the second time in school history, earning a berth against Allendale in the Div. 3 state quarterfinals.

How would the boys fare in 2009? Would they live up to their preseason No. 4 ranking and continue the success of the previous two campaigns? LaVanway, as the projected No. 1 pitcher, would ultimately have a big say in how things turned out.

The 6-foot-1, 185-pound LaVanway, an East Jordan native and oldest of three children born to Kevin and Holly LaVanway, had been instrumental in helping the Red Devils in '08, though not so much as a pitcher. Switching time between the center field and shortstop, LaVanway batted close to .300 while banging out some majestic home runs and other timely hits as East Jordan won 25 games.

Last year, it was lefty Ryan Gettel and right-hander Scott Hansen leading the way on the mound for the Red Devils with LaVanway and others making occasional appearances. Gettel and Hansen both came through big time, winning eight games.

This year, it was LaVanway's turn to toe the rubber as the team's top pitcher. It was a challenge he was very much looking forward to.

"I kind of knew in the preseason that I'd be the No. 1 pitcher," LaVanway said this week. "I started working out in February to get ready for the season and the coaches basically told me I would be No. 1.

"It gave me a lot of confidence at the time and that kind of carried me through the winter and into the spring. I knew I'd be doing a lot more pitching than last year and I didn't want to let down my teammates or coaches."

LaVanway more than met the challenge, posting an 11-1 record to help lift the Red Devils to a third-straight district title and sole possession of the Lake Michigan Conference championship for the first time in five years. East Jordan's season ended with a 22-6-1 record following a loss to talent-rich Mancelona in the regional tournament.

Employing a lethal three-pitch combination featuring a sizzling fastball, change-



East Jordan's Kevin LaVanway will be continuing his baseball career at the next level after a stellar 2009 senior season. (photo by Mike Dunn)

LaVanway, Bingham help Team Far post victory

TRAVERSE CITY – Kevin LaVanway shined Wednesday at Traverse City Central in his final official appearance as an East Jordan Red Devil. LaVanway, who posted an 11-1 mound record with a miniscule ERA less than 0.60 for the Red Devils and coach Pete Inman this season, was superlative in three innings of work while helping Team Near upset Team Far 8-7 in the annual baseball all-star game. (It was the first time in seven years that Team Far, comprised of senior all-stars outside of the Traverse City area, defeated Team Near.)

After Mancelona mound ace Greg Blanco held Team Near scoreless over the first two innings, LaVanway took to the hill. The senior right-hander with the sweeping curve and the lethal array of pitches twirled three scoreless innings,

up and sweeping curve, the senior recorded a whopping 117 strikeouts, including 14 in the season-opener against Harbor Springs, and he had an earned-run-average remarkably less than 0.60. He recorded a three-hit, seven-strikeout shutout over an outstanding Inland Lakes team in the district title game and he had three no-hitters to his credit as well, including a near perfect game in the shutout victory over perennial diamond rival Elk Rapids that clinched the '09 Lake Michigan Conference championship.

The only blemish was a hit batsman in the sixth inning.

"That was a pretty good feeling beating (two-time defending league champion) Elk Rapids and coming so close to a perfect game," said LaVanway, who struck out the

permitting just two hits and striking out seven.

LaVanway wasn't the only Red Devil who made key contributions, though. First baseman Darryl Bingham, another star player who helped East Jordan to its third straight district championship and the Lake Michigan Conference title this season, was part of the Team Far roster as well and was instrumental in the eight-run, eighth-inning rally that turned the game around, scoring two runs and drilling an RBI single.

Central Lake's Ryan Crawley pitched a scoreless ninth to earn a save.

Hard-hitting Jared Forbes of Boyne City also earned a spot on the Team Far roster. East Jordan's Pete Inman of Jim VanWagoner of Mancelona were the Team Far coaches.

next two batters to finish things out after allowing the lone base runner. "It was nice to finally win the league after coming in second the last two years."

LaVanway's contributions to East Jordan's success didn't come solely from the mound, however. When he wasn't pitching and teammate Nico Cornstalk or Tony Pentecost was on the hill, LaVanway was at short or in center and playing stellar defense.

At the plate, LaVanway's line drives bolstered a lineup that could flex its muscles with any team in the north. With first baseman Darryl Bingham, catcher Billy Kraemer, Teddy Snowden, Matt Werner, Josh Williams, James Brown, Dylan Outman, Pentecost and Cornstalk waving the alumni-

num, opposing pitchers had no easy time of it.

LaVanway is the first to spread the credit around, noting that his teammates gave him plenty of support with the glove and the bat. Kraemer, a three-year starter at catcher, was especially helpful this season as LaVanway assumed the role as No. 1 pitcher.

"The team around me was tremendous," LaVanway said. "We had a bunch of awesome players. Back in Little League, we had most of the same guys and we ended up going downstate to Kalamazoo (in the state tournament). We were really good and we've carried that confidence in each other over into high school.

"We have a lot of team unity because we've been together for such a long time. We all know what we're capable of. The one big disappointment is that we didn't go as far this year as we could have (in the postseason)."

LaVanway expressed gratitude to coaches Inman and Stallard as well.

"Both of our coaches were always a great help," he said. "They put a lot of motivation in you and they're both really knowledgeable about the game. They get you going and get you excited about playing."

After the tough loss to state-ranked Mancelona in regionals, a 4-0 defeat in which LaVanway did not allow an earned run, Inman said his ace pitcher was "as good a strikeout pitcher" as East Jordan has ever produced and also expressed his belief that LaVanway will have a notable college career.

"Wherever Kevin ends up going, I know he'll do well," Inman said. "He has a lot to offer. He's a great kid. He comes from a great family and he's a true competitor. He did a tremendous job for us this year."

Prior to the baseball season, LaVanway's future plans included enrolling at Lake Superior State University. That's changed, however. His pitching credentials have earned him looks from a variety of schools and the plan now is to continue playing at the next level.

Kalamazoo Valley Community College and Lansing Community College are two of the schools that have expressed interest and LaVanway has pretty much narrowed his choice to either one of them. He will major in forensic biochemistry.

Going into the next school year, LaVanway will be facing a whole different set of challenges than the ones he tackled heading into the 2009 baseball season at East Jordan. And that's fine with him. He has overcome stiff challenges before and he knows that his upbringing and his years at East Jordan as an athlete and student have prepared him well for the ones that are ahead.

LOCAL SPORTS

On-line at www.CharlevoixCountyNews.com

POST SCRIPT by Mike Dunn

A warm welcome to our readers

Welcome to the inaugural edition of The Charlevoix County News.

My job is to report the area sports each week, which means that those who subscribe to the paper or purchase it regularly will be exposed to my ramblings on these pages. I hope to make the experience enjoyable and informative for you, the readers.

I'm looking forward to getting to know the coaches and athletes from Boyne City, East Jordan, Charlevoix, Boyne Falls and Ellsworth. I'm also looking forward to getting to know the people who are part of the communities. Discovering the stories that abound within the framework of communities, particularly through the prism of sports, is really what drew me to journalism in the first place and, more than anything else, what keeps me coming back to the keyboard.

As part of that process, I'll be getting to know you better in the weeks and months ahead. In the meantime, I'll tell you a little about myself.

I'm originally from Philadelphia, the oldest of seven children born to Jack and Arlene Dunn. If my birth certificate is still accurate, I'm 54 years old (though my head is always telling me I must be much younger than that). I graduated from high school in 1972 and from Temple University in 1976.

My degree was actually in business but that wasn't where my heart was. It took a few years for me to make the connection between my heart and my career ambitions. In 1978, it finally occurred to me that I'd be much happier trying to make a living as a writer. (Specifically, a sports writer.)

In 1978, while living in New Jersey, I embarked on my journey as a writer. I had no idea at the start that the twisting path would bring me in time to northern Michigan and to the seat in front of the computer here in Gaylord where I'm writing this column. I started out as a stringer for a small town paper in Wildwood (on the south Jersey shore), writing out all my stories longhand and then handing them to the sports editor, a very patient guy named Chuck, who would decipher my stuff and somehow put it all together coherently in the paper with my byline. My biggest thrill back then, like most young journalists, was seeing my name in print.

In 1979, I graduated to stringer status with a much larger daily paper in Atlantic City. A big highlight of my three years with The Press was covering some nationally televised boxing matches. From there, I went to central Florida for seven years, serving part of that time as sports editor of the Winter Haven paper. I had the opportunity to cover spring training during those years, primarily the Red Sox. I did interview Sparky Anderson a few times, though, when the Tigers would come to town. (Terrific guy.)

In the late fall of 1988, I did something that some would categorize as crazy, moving from Florida to Michigan. I landed in the small town of Colon in St. Joseph County in the southern part of the state, way down near the Indiana border (where it still gets cold in the winter, by the way). There were other factors aside from journalism that brought me to Michigan but for the dual purpose of brevity and not boring you to tears, I'll spare you those details.

I continued writing after the move, working part-time initially for the paper in Sturgis. I ended up serving as sports editor there for a while. The north country beckoned in 1992 and I made the fateful move above the Muskegon River to the land of snowmobiles and hearty winters. Aside from a few short forays, I've been here ever since.

In recent years, I've been living in Gaylord. In addition to my duties with the Charlevoix County News, I also write for the Weekly Choice, a free paper which is distributed over a wide area ranging from Grayling to the bridge and going as far east as Onaway.

So that's a little about me. Now I'm eager to learn a little about you.

Rayder season ends in regionals

Charlevoix rallies to make it close before falling by a run to perennial diamond powerhouse Kalkaska

By Mike Dunn

MANCELONA – After winning its first district title since 1994, the Charlevoix softball team gave perennial diamond powerhouse Kalkaska a strong battle in the regional tournament held at Mancelona on Saturday, June 6.

The Rayders rallied late to make it close but fell to the Blazers 3-2. They ended the season with a 15-16-2 record.

Sophomore Hannah Hybl, one of several promising underclassmen who are returning for coach Tony Zimmerman, pitched well in defeat, not allowing an earned run in the game. But Kalkaska lefty Jennifer Spann, Hybl's counterpart in the circle, got the outs when she had to have them to preserve the victory and earn a berth in the regionals finals against Gladstone.

Kalkaska senior Abby Merrill had two of Kalkaska's four hits off Hybl and she also scored two runs, and Kara Ponstein and Taren Fales each had RBIs as the Blazers pushed to a 3-0 lead after four innings.

In the fifth, the hammering Hoffman girls, junior Amber and freshman Chelsie, both singled and both scored on the same wild pitch. Amber tallied from third and then Chelsie came all the way around from second after a throwing error.

The rally sliced the Kalkaska lead to 3-2. In the seventh, Charlevoix senior Kristin Bradley ripped a line drive to right that went all the way to the fence for a one-out triple. With the tying run now at third, Spann bore down for Kalkaska and got the big outs she had to have, coaxing pop outs



The disappointment of the narrow defeat to Kalkaska is evident in the faces of the Charlevoix players as they break from a team huddle. (photo by Mike Dunn)

from Ericka Faust and Amber Hoffman to end the game.

Hybl struck out two and permitted the potent Blazer lineup just four hits. Lauren Mielke doubled and Madison Zimmerman singled to record Rayder hits in addition to Bradley's triple and the timely singles from Amber and Chelsie Hoffman.

Kalkaska went on to lose to Gladstone 4-1 and become the last team to score a run against the Braves in the postseason. After claiming the regional crown, Gladstone went on to post shutouts in the quarterfinals against Traverse City St. Francis, the semifinals against Clinton and the state finals against Reese.

Charlevoix coach Zimmerman was gracious in defeat after the Kalkaska game.

"It was a fantastic game and it's been a

fantastic season," he said. "This is the first time since 1994 that we've been to the regionals and it's been a great experience. The girls got down to a very good Kalkaska team but they kept battling to the end. One more hit and we would still be out there playing."

Charlevoix loses seniors Sarah Potter, Ericka Faust, Mielke and Bradley to graduation but has everyone else coming back.

"We'll miss the seniors a great deal; they're great kids and we appreciate everything they've contributed to the program," Zimmerman said. "We're excited to have a strong nucleus of talented players coming back and we're looking to build on the good things we accomplished this year."

Rayder's Jones earns top-10 finish

Junior rallies from tough opening round to outscore entire field on second day in Div. 3 state finals

By Mike Dunn

CHARLEVOIX – The good news for Charlevoix golf coach Doug Drenth is that his team advanced to the two-day Div. 3 state finals tournament at the challenging Eagle Crest course of Eastern Michigan University on June 5-6 and one of his golfer, junior Tyler Jones, rallied from a first-day round of 85 to earn a spot in the top 10.

The really good news for Drenth is that all of the Rayder golfers are underclassmen and will be coming back in 2010.

Jones paced the Rayder scoring with an outstanding second-day performance. His round of 73 game him a two-day total of 158, good for an eighth-place tie with Tony Fanola of Monroe St. Mary Catholic Central

(84-75 – 158) and Patrick Sheffers of Kalamazoo Christian (78-80 – 158). Jones' 73 score was the best of the day among the entire field of golfers in the tourney.

As a team, Charlevoix posted team scores of 355 and 344 to come in 12th place. Jackson Lumen Christi (314-320 – 634) dominated the competition, easily outdistancing the rest of the field. Big Rapids (321-321 – 642) and Kalamazoo Christian (316-326 – 642) finished in a second-place tie.

Wyatt Drost finished behind Jones in the scoring for Charlevoix, posting scores of 85 and 88 for a two-day total of 173. He was followed by Gunnar Whitley (92-88 – 180), Ryan Wimmer (93-96 – 189) and Thomas Rich (95-95 – 190).

Jacob Rykse of Kalamazoo Christian (76-77 – 153) was the Div 3 medalist. He and Grayling junior Taylor Desenfants finished tied with identical rounds but Rykse edged Desenfants in a playoff, getting a par on the first hole while Desenfants bogied.

Here is the top 10:

Top Individuals
(First Day - Second Day - Total)

1. Jacob Rykse, Kalamazoo Christian 76 - 77 - 153
2. Taylor Desenfants, Grayling 76 - 77 - 153
3. Jarrod Hauch, Coloma 79 - 75 - 154
4. Zach Turner, Hemlock 73 - 82 - 155
5. Alex Reynolds, Jackson Lumen Christi 77 - 80 - 157
5. Kennon Kelly, Jackson Lumen Christi 78 - 79 - 157
5. Curtis Hanba, Big Rapids 78 - 79 - 157
8. Tony Fanola, Monroe St Mary CC 84 - 74 - 158
8. Patrick Scheffers, Kalamazoo Christian 78 - 80 - 158
8. Tyler Jones, Charlevoix 85 - 73 - 158

* Won with a par on the first playoff hole.

LOCAL NEWS

On-line at www.CharlevoixCountyNews.com

Suspect, 14, may face life imprisonment

B. J. Conley-Hetler

CHARLEVOIX — A 14-year-old boy who is charged with an April 26 assault with intent to commit the murder of a 9-year-old Boyne City girl, admitted to the police that he had been drinking and was in the home where she lived on that date.

The police found footprints leading out of the back door and continuing across the yard of the residence on Michigan Street. The police photographed the footprints and they matched the footwear on the suspect, Michael Meza.

"One of the cuts was very close to the jugular vein, he said. Apparently, the attacker fled when the girl screamed."

Officer Dan Mercer from the Boyne City Police Department and Under-Sheriff Chuck Vondra arrested Meza on Friday, June 5.

Meza will be tried in the Charlevoix County court system as an adult. The Charlevoix County Prosecutor's Office made that determination based on Michigan law that allows a child who is at least 14, but less than 17 years of age, to be tried as an adult for certain crimes.

Meza, who was born on Jan. 29, 1995, has also been charged with first-degree home invasion involved in the same incident. Meza has faced prior home invasion charges in Van Buren county.

"One of the cuts was very close to the jugular vein, he said. Apparently, the attacker fled when the girl screamed."

At 4:19 a.m. on Sunday, April 26, a 9-1-1 call came into the Boyne City Ambulance Department asking for a response to a residence on Michigan Street where it was reported that a girl had been attacked with a knife and received several cuts to her throat. Her father, Nelson Duncan, was the EMT on duty at the time and answered the call to his own residence. The girl was taken to the hospital where she was treated and released.

Duncan, frustrated by the lack of action in finding a suspect, appeared before the city commission at its meeting on May 26.

"I come before you today because of a terrible tragedy that happened to my family," Duncan told commissioners. "I received a call (while at the ambulance station) to respond to my own residence. ... I discovered that someone had broken into our residence and tried to murder my 9-year-old daughter by slitting her throat."

One of the cuts was very close to the jugular vein, he said. Apparently, the attacker fled when the girl screamed. On Saturday, June 6, Duncan said he was relieved that there was an arrest.

"He has other home invasion felonies so I don't understand why he's out (in public)," Duncan said.

Meza was arraigned in the 90th District Court on Tuesday, June 9. His preliminary examination is set for June 23.

E-Mail BJ at reporterbjh@charter.net



By Christine Gwidt

Dance fever

"All she wants to do is dance

And make romance,

She can feel the heat comin' off the street.

She wants to party,

She wants to get down,

All she wants to do is,

All she wants to do is dance."

- Don Henley -

I can tell you with the conviction wrought from experience that wanting something is just the tip of the iceberg. That naked yearning must be tempered with at least a thimbleful of talent, or even the most fervent dreams will languish at the feet of futility. I understand and accept this premise when it comes to creating a masterpiece of any magnitude. But all I want to do is dance.

From my earliest recollection, I was, and I remain, a terrible dancer. Rock music evokes in me a dangerous performance that is a combination of calisthenics and frenetic spasms resembling a medical emergency. I rotate my arms over my head in a doomed but optimistic attempt to levitate. I shimmy

More or Less

and strut with appalling vigor. I clench my hands and twist hard enough to screw myself into the floor. I leap and spin and frequently land a punch to the face or groin of anyone unlucky enough to stray into my sphere of influence. Aware of this, I am always initially reluctant to unleash the beast, but eventually I will succumb. I love to dance.

For quite some time, I was able to get away with it. In the early 'seventies, there seemed to be no standard by which to measure one's prowess on the dance floor. It was a free-for-all and I blended. But with the advent of disco, everything changed. Now, more than just a heart full of soul was required to keep pace. These were stylized moves requiring skill and coordination.

For a while, I was able to fake it by severely restricting my natural inclinations. A friend who taught ballroom dancing tried to salvage my leaky boat to no avail. "Stiffen up," he told me, shaking my noodle arms and pinching my waist. "Give me some resistance." The only resistance I had in me was against following his lead. I learned to compromise by shuffling mechanically from foot to foot, looking down at the ground and then tipping my head back until my mouth fell open. I augmented my dazzling footwork with choo-choo arm movements and the occasional aberrant 360-degree spin. I suffered this stultifying choreography and followed the trends to the best of my limited ability.

Around the time of the Boot Scootin' Boogie, I fell off the wagon. For me, line dancing was the equivalent of marching in a chain gang.

It negated all of the physical and emotional freedom that I love. Memorizing and executing the moves was drudgery and I began to revert to my roots. Little by little I recaptured the oblivious joy and wanton flailing of my youth.

Recently, my husband and I attended the wedding of a friend's daughter. At the reception, I could feel the onset of dance lust. My knees were already bending rhythmically as we made our way through the crowd. The band was playing "Every Little Thing She Does is Magic" and there were a few couples out on the floor.

"Let's dance," I said to Michael, attempting to lure him into a scrimmage.

"Now?" He was glancing around looking for an anchor. "Don't you want to sit down for a minute first?"

I repeated the quote, attributed to Mark Twain, that I always use as my free pass to manic behavior: "Dance like nobody's watching; love like you've never been hurt. Sing like nobody's listening; live like it's heaven on earth."

Michael rolled his eyes, but he allowed me to drag him to the periphery of the action. "Watch out for the waiters," he said, moving back to a safe distance.

I do dance like nobody's watching, and more often than not, I'm right. Anyone with an ounce of decency will usually look away.

Write to Christine Gwidt at moreorlesschristine@gmail.com

Food Bank and Agencies Partner to Distribute Extra Food in Community



FLINT- The Food Bank of Eastern Michigan has partnered with Otsego County Food Pantry to distribute food to those in need. The Food Bank, which regularly monitors the number of people or families receiving emergency food assistance, identified four counties needing extra food assistance in the month of June, including Otsego, Roscommon, Huron, and Genesee counties. Recognizing this need, the Food Bank partnered with local agencies in each county to provide food to the community using its Mobile

Food Pantry program.

The Mobile Food Pantry provides on average 8,000-15,000 pounds of food to those in need within a few hours. During this time, approximately 150-300 families receive items such as bread, meat, canned goods, beverages, and snacks. Individuals and families in need may participate locally by attending the distribution at;

Agency: Otsego County Food Pantry

Location: Ace Hardware (Corner of South Otsego & McCoy Road), Gaylord, MI

Date/Time: Monday, June 22, 2009 at 1:00 PM

Food will be distributed at no charge. All food distributions will remain open during the indicated timeframe or until supplies run out. People attending are asked to bring boxes or bags with them.

The Food Bank of Eastern Michigan is a non-profit organization that secures and distributes donated food and personal care items to non-profit agencies in 22 counties of the state. Agencies then provide this food to the more than 328,000 people seeking emergency food assistance each year. In 2008, the Food Bank distributed more than 17 million pounds of food in partnership with its more than 400 agency network.

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LOCAL NEWS

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Road Commissions

Continued from front page...

financial squeeze. Some road commissions are laying off employees, others are cutting back on services.

But the federal Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 is giving some relief to county road commissions with approximately 800 state and local transportation projects paid for by \$873 million in federal Recovery and Reinvestment funds. In addition, approximately 25,000 jobs are being created or sustained.

For its part, the state is spending \$980 million on transportation funding this year and creating or sustaining more than 27,000 jobs, according to information on the state of Michigan's official website.

The Charlevoix County Road Commission hasn't seen much of the money going around, manager Pat Harmon said. The county has 184 miles of primary roads and most of them need repairs to one degree or another. A road commission steering committee whose members are John Vron dran, Dennis Way, Mike Webster, Ken Allen and Dennis Howard traveled all of the primary roads and compiled a list of county roads that would be repaired and/or improved and in what priority.

A glaring omission from the list is the Boyne City-Charlevoix Road, or C-56, that Harmon said has the

highest traffic volume at about 3,000 vehicles a day. Cars, trucks, large construction trucks, motor homes and motorcycles, travel the road daily. It is one of the county's worst roads, and has been described by former sheriff George T. Lasater as "a very dangerous road." Drivers often speed on the 14 miles of the road that is full of inclines, curves and no-passing zones.

After the Charlevoix County Road Commission repeatedly said there were no funds to improve the road, area residents formed a group known as "Concerned Citizens of Charlevoix County" about a year ago with the goal of finding a way to fund the work needed.

Two of the members, Jerry Matelski and Connie Saltonstall, met with the Charlevoix County Board of Commissioners at its May 26 meeting to discuss the priority of roads to be improved and to advocate for improvements to the Boyne City-Charlevoix Road.

Matelski stated that the road millage that was passed in November 2008, would not take effect until late 2009, when tax collections are completed.

"The Boyne City Road needs to take priority as it is the most traveled road in the county," he said.

Matelski outlined several options that could be

used, saying that one option is to use local contractors instead of going out of the county.

Connie Saltonstall asked the Charlevoix County Board of Commissioners to investigate funding the Boyne City-Charlevoix Road.

According to Harmon of the Road Commission, the engineering has not been completed for the Boyne City-Charlevoix Road and there are too many variables to project when the road can be done. At this point it would be October and the weather is not stable at that time of year, he said.

County Commissioner Ron Reinhardt said that his constituents say that the millage was not passed primarily for the Boyne City Road.

County Commissioner Joel Evans said that his constituents want the Ellsworth Road done first.

County Commissioner Bob Drebenstedt said the Board of Commissioners should remain open to what the Concerned Citizens say since they have put a lot of work into this project.

Dennis Way, who is on the Road Commission board, said he does not feel that this is a political committee and roads are not being worked on just because people on the committee live in the areas where the roads are being repaired and improved.

E-Mail BJ at reporterbjh@charter.net

LOCAL NEWS IN BRIEF

continued from page 6...

month? Save the date for July 25 when we'll host a "Summer Picnic" Dinner. We hope to see you soon "on" the Front Porch!

WALLOON LAKE

LEARN TO HOOK A RUG

Attend a 6-week class each Wednesday that will teach the basics of rug hooking beginning July 18. Cost is \$60. Contact Jeannie Donaldson at 231-535-2544

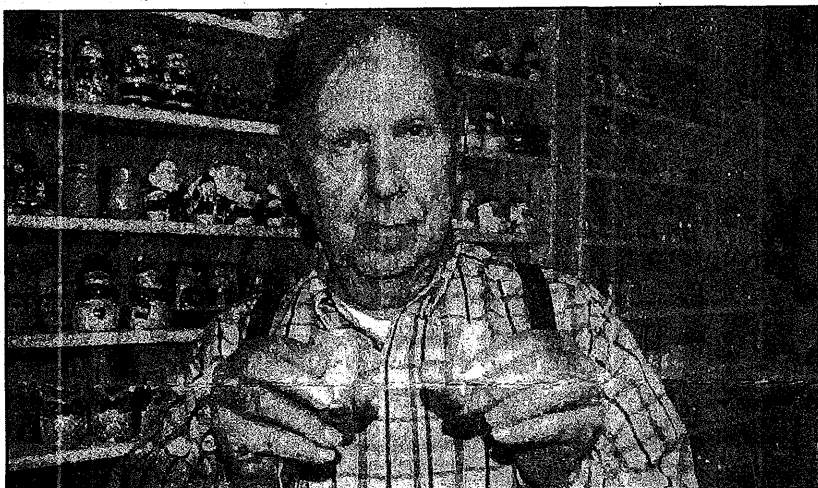
BOYNE CITY

AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY RELAY FOR LIFE COMING IN AUGUST

The nation's largest, most successful nonprofit event, the American Cancer Society Relay For Life, is coming to Charlevoix County for the 4th annual event. More than 5,000 communities have already started fighting back against cancer through Relay For Life, and Charlevoix County will join in this worldwide movement to end cancer from 10 a.m. August 15 to 10 a.m. Aug. 16 at Castle Farms. Activities will include a cancer survivor celebration and victory lap, a luminaria ceremony to help honor and remember everyone touched by the disease and a Fight Back ceremony to empower community members to take action against cancer. Anyone interested in learning more about this moving, 24-hour experience should contact Lindsey Malpass-Skop at 231.536.7959 or visit <http://www.relayforlife.org/>. If you have a question about cancer or Relay, contact the American Cancer Society at 1.800.ACS.2345. The Society provides patient support and information 24 hours a day, 7 days a week because cancer never sleeps.

Chx Co News 6-18-2009

Movers and Shakers



East Jordan living legend Bernie Hammond with the corncob pipe novelty salt and peppers shakers that started his collection 67 years (and 799 sets) ago.

By Jane Booze

On May 22, 2009, East Jordan lost one of those quiet heroes we all know, but sometimes don't recognize until they are gone. Joe Hammond was the chief of police for 33 years. He was loved and will be missed.

His passing has left us more mindful of the heroes still in our midst. We will be talking to some of those over the next few weeks, in an attempt to ensure that their lives are not over before we acknowledge how much they have contributed to ours.

Bernie "Peanut" Hammond, Joe's brother, and his lovely bride Bonnie, are two of those heroes. Peanut was so named by his father, because, 9 pounds at birth, he was the smallest baby his father had ever seen. "Why, he's nothing but a peanut," the proud father said, and so he was from then on.

Bonnie works for the East Jordan Emergency Medical Service in the (as the) billing department, but the

job is only one incarnation of her long service to East Jordan and EMS.

She has been involved in EMS for 38 years, starting as the dispatcher in 1971, and continuing until the 911 service came in. Originally she called the ambulance crew members on the phone, one at a time, to dispatch an emergency run. Eventually, the crew got pagers, and Bonnie got a radio, and that simplified that.

Peanut was a fireman until he became the first director of East Jordan's simple ambulance service and built an excellent basic life support department (which has since been upgraded to advanced life support).

EMS was a natural fit for Bernie: his medical inclination started early. If he could do it over, he said, he would have been a doctor. Instead he quit school at 16 and went to work at a body shop. Local physician, Dr. Vandellen, had a different idea.

"Go back to school, get your grades up, and I'll send you to school to be a doctor. You can go into practice with me," Bernie remembers Dr. Vandellen saying. "I said, 'Why would I want to be a doctor? I'm making 35 cents an hour now!'"

"I shoulda listened to him," Bernie said with his trademark lop-sided grin.

Peanut didn't retire until 1998, and in the interim, he saved lives and built relationships.

"One time we were called to the canning factory. A guy was sitting on the curb waiting for the ambulance. He had gotten into a corn husker. He had no hands and no feet, and someone was lighting a cigarette for him," Peanut said.

These days, while Bonnie works part time at EMS, Bernie bakes pies and makes the occasional quilt. Less well known, perhaps, is the fact that this generous, community-minded couple has stuff.

Their home is modest enough to the casual observer, but find your way downstairs, and the truth comes out. It is perpetual Christmas down there, with collections of toys and trains, model airplanes and a coin-operated horse (on which you may ride and get your picture taken), vintage bicycles, Trust Worthy banks, collections of antiques – all with a story – and even an antique artificial Christmas tree, always decorated and ready to light.

But the real story is the 800 pairs of salt and pepper shakers.

It all started when Bernie was about seven years old.

"I used to go with my mother to our neighbor, Mattie Laird's for tea. She gave me a pair of salt and pepper shakers and said, 'You take these, and by the time you're an old person, you will be amazed at how many different kinds there are.'"

"She was right," Bernie said dryly. "I am amazed."

He buys the sets at garage sales, and people give them to him.

"Tad Malpass, when he travels, he brings me some of the weirdest ones," Bernie said. His favorite is a Corvette that matches the one he had in his younger days – the car he admits won Bonnie.

Bernie is 74 on June 20th. (Bonnie isn't telling.) He's been collecting salt and pepper shakers for 67 years. That shows on the neatly organized shelves of shakers – the fruit- and vegetable-shaped shakers shelf; the wooden shakers shelf; the novelty shakers shelf; the souvenir shakers shelf. What should be no less evident is the way that Bernie and Bonnie have contributed to the health and well-being of East Jordan throughout their lives.

"I miss it every day," Bernie said of working on the ambulance. "One part: the people. I sure don't miss the politics, but taking care of people – I miss that."

E-Mail Jane at jebooze@sbcglobal.net

Boyne City Police Blotter

On Sunday Morning the Boyne City Police Department was called to the 400 block of State St. for a report of a stolen car.

While investigating this complaint, officers came across another vehicle that had been stolen from the Silver St. area and had not been reported yet. This vehicle was processed for evidence and returned to the owner.

The missing vehicle is a 4 door, 2003 Oldsmobile Alero, silver in color with a Michigan registration of BZM 6103.

The Boyne City Police would like to remind everyone to lock their cars and homes.

Anyone with further information is asked to call the Boyne City Police at 231-582-6611.

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LOCAL SPORTS

On-line at www.CharlevoixCountyNews.com

Deer harvest up slightly in '08

LANSING -- Michigan hunters harvested an estimated 489,922 deer in 2008, a 1 percent increase from 2007, the Department of Natural Resources announced at its Natural Resources Commission meeting in Lansing earlier this month.

Hunters killed 248,350 antlered bucks and 241,573 antlerless deer, a 7 percent decrease in the buck harvest, but a 12 percent increase in the number of antlerless animals taken the previous year.

The estimates are based on the DNR's annual mail survey, which was sent to 49,947 individuals who bought at least one deer license.

The survey showed that 47 percent of those who bought a license harvested at least one deer, a 1 percent decrease from 2007. The decrease

was most noted in the Upper Peninsula, where success rates dropped 5 percent. Hunters in the northern Lower Peninsula were slightly more successful (by 1 percent), while hunters in southern Michigan were modestly less successful (by 1 percent).

A total of 733,998 individuals bought at least one deer license, a 1 percent increase from 2007. Overall, the DNR sold 7 percent more licenses than the previous year.

Deer hunters spent 9.7 million days afield in 2008, about the same as in 2007.

To read the complete report, check the DNR Web site at www.michigan.gov/dnrhunting, and click on Wildlife-Surveys and Reports.



According to the DNR's annual mail survey, Michigan hunters harvested 489,922 deer in 2008, a 1-percent increase from the year before

SPORTS BRIEFS

Announcing upcoming events

The Charlevoix County News offers readers a forum for announcing upcoming events. Send information about upcoming golf outings, soccer tournaments, auto shows, softball tournaments, road races, youth events, etc. and the News will get the word out in Sports Briefs.

Include the date, time, location, registration fee and contact information (phone number, e-mail address and/or Web site) and send to sports@charlevoix-countynews.com or via fax at (888) 240-5499.

Reporting league scores and results

The Charlevoix County News is happy to report the results of area golf leagues, bowling leagues, road races, soccer tournaments, youth baseball and softball events and other such activities.

Include the date and location of the event with the results and include a contact number in case there are questions. Send to sports@charlevoixcountynews.com or via fax at (888) 240-5499.

BoyneThunder slated for July 10-11

BOYNE CITY – Boyne City Main Street is hosting the sixth annual BoyneThunder Poker Run on Friday and Saturday, July 10-11. Each year, the event high-performance boats from across the Midwest to the beautiful shore of Lake Charlevoix.

BoyneThunder begins in Boyne City and continues to Charlevoix, Beaver Island, Harbor Springs and Bay Harbor before returning to the Boyne City marina for the Thunder Feast by the lake.

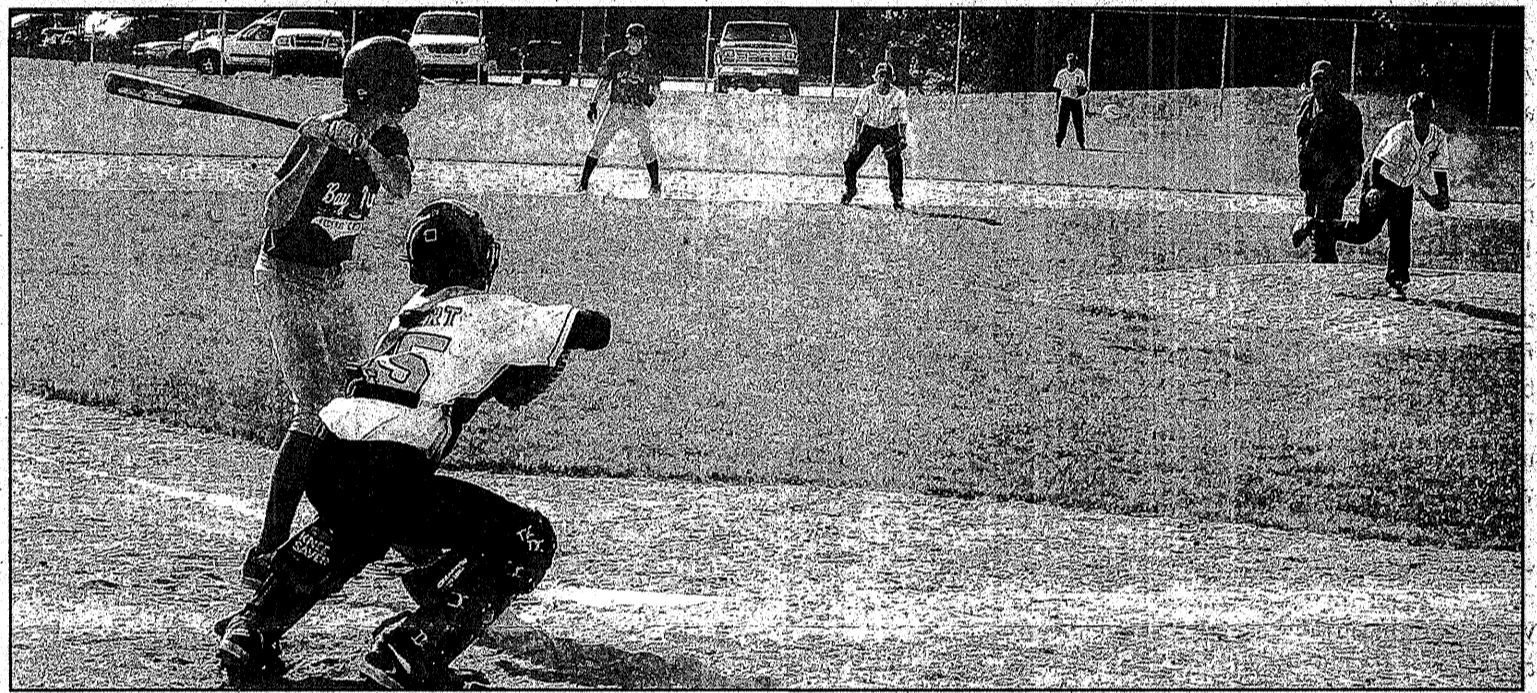
For information about BoyneThunder, call (231) 582-9002 or e-mail mainstreet@boynecity.com.

Mackinaw triathlon set for July 26

MACKINAW CITY – The annual Mackinaw Multi-Sports Mix Triathlon takes place on Sunday, July 26, starting 8 a.m. at Waywatum Park (located under the water tower next to Shepler's Ferry).

The event features an 800-meter swim, a 30-kilometer bike and a 5-kilometer run. For those who prefer not to swim, there is also a course featuring a 2-mile run, a 30K bike and a 5K run. There is also the option of just doing the 5K run.

Kenny Krell of 3 Disciplines Racing, which is hosting the event, calls the Mackinaw Multi-Sports Mix "a great escape race right in the middle of the season." It is a biker's race with a scenic



Reporting youth sports ...

Kenny Streufert of the East Jordan Bay Winds Junior Boys team stands in against Traverse City Trojans' pitcher Dakota Porter during a recent youth baseball game in East Jordan. Zack Egbert is catching for Traverse City. Coaches of youth baseball and softball teams (or other sports) from the coverage area are welcome to report their results to sports@charlevoixcountynews.com. Include game date and names of the two opposing teams, the league name, the final score and any pertinent info regarding big hits, pitching lines, etc. (photo by Charles Jarman)

Vanderbilt seeking basketball coaches

VANDERBILT – Vanderbilt High School is currently taking applications for the positions of head varsity coach of the boys and girls basketball teams for the 2009-10 school year.

All interested candidates should send a letter of application to the superintendent's office no later than Monday, Aug. 31. Interviews will be conducted in the early part of September.

The address: 947 Donovan St., Vanderbilt, MI 49795. For information, call (989) 983-2561.

Wolverine seeking basketball coaches

WOLVERINE – Wolverine is currently taking applications for the positions of varsity boys basketball coach, JV boys basketball coach, middle school boys basketball coach for the fall, and middle school girls basketball coach for the fall.

Interested candidates should send a resume to Athletic Director Al Thomas, Wolverine Community Schools, P.O. Box 219, Wolverine, MI 49799.

For more details, contact Thomas at (231) 525-9050, ext. 125.

Hockey skills workshops at Sportsplex

GAYLORD -- The Otsego County Sportsplex is offering a series of hockey skills workshops in July. These workshops are designed to improve the basic hockey skills, skating, passing, and shooting, of each player. The program is open to any player who has completed a hockey initiation program or played on a team at least one season.

The workshops are for Pee wee- and

Bantam-age players and take place on Mondays from 5:45-7:20 p.m. Each session consists of three consecutive Monday classes. The session dates are July 13, 20 and 27. The deadline for registration is Friday July 10. The \$75 fee covers all three classes.

Each class starts with a 15-minute off-ice meeting to cover the goals for that night. The players will then be on the ice from 6-7:20 pm. Prior to the first session, there will be a meeting with the players and parents to review the plans for the classes.

Four local coaches will direct the workshops: Bill Touroo, who served eight years as the head coach of Gaylord High School and led the Blue Devils to the state finals; Doug Weight, head coach from the Mite level thru the Junior A level with the Compuware Hockey program; Mark Gainer, two years as assistant coach with the Blue Devil team; and Bill Michaels, two years as assistant coach with the Blue Devil team.

For information, contact the Sportsplex at (989) 731-3546. More information is also available on the Sportsplex website at www.ocsportsplex.com.

British Soccer camp coming to Gaylord

GAYLORD – The Gaylord and Crawford Soccer Associations are teaming up to bring Challenger Sports to the area for a soccer camp on August 3-7. A British coaching staff will be on hand to conduct the camp, working on individual skills in small groups. Scrimmages are scheduled for each day as well.

Camp sessions run from ages 3-18. To register, go to www.challengersports.com or contact Rick Ashley at (989) 732-3365 or Beth Morley at (989) 348-1209.

Real Estate & Classifieds

Charlevoix County News

THURSDAY, JUNE 18, 2009

Real Estate Designation Key

ABR Accredited Buyers Representative

GRI GRI, Graduate, REALTOR® Institute

CRS Certified Residential Specialist

e-PRO Internet Marketing Professional

ASP Accredited Staging Professionals

CRB Certified Residential Broker



Real Estate Corner

by Marty Moody

There has been a lot of press lately, good and bad, about our national Real Estate markets. While things are not perfect here in Northern Michigan, they definitely are doing impressively well considering some other markets in our country. Over the past year, since June of 2008, there have been 1,006 properties sold off the ACK board of Realtors MLS, to the tune of \$185,819,160.00. Leaving an average sale price of \$184,710.00, not the dire straights numbers that some media outlets would have you thinking and wondering. But alas, our media is taught to only focus on negative, as they think we all are only interested in the carnage left after the accident. When in reality, I think most people are more positive thinking, but are beaten down with so much negative that some of it is bound to stick. These numbers include all residential, commercial, vacant land, as well as foreclosures. The last part of that past sentence, foreclosures, seems to be the word of the day.

Everyone loves a deal, whether it is the two for

continued on page 16...

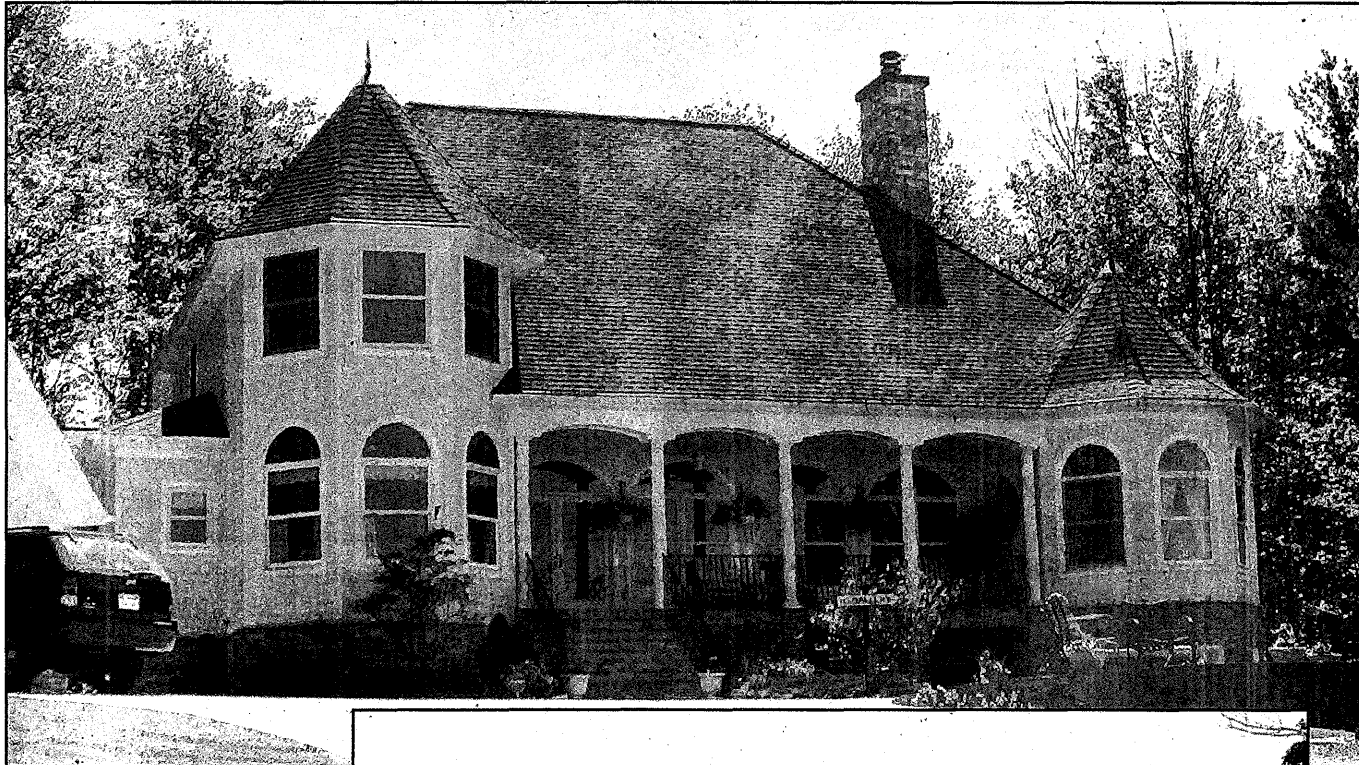
Featured Home

On the Market

1266 S. Advance Rd, East Jordan

Contact-Beth Anzell, Pat O'Brien & Associates, (231) 582-1700

Lake Charlevoix Hilltop View



Custom Designed Home on 10 Acres Features Incredible Detail Inside and Breathtaking Vistas Outside

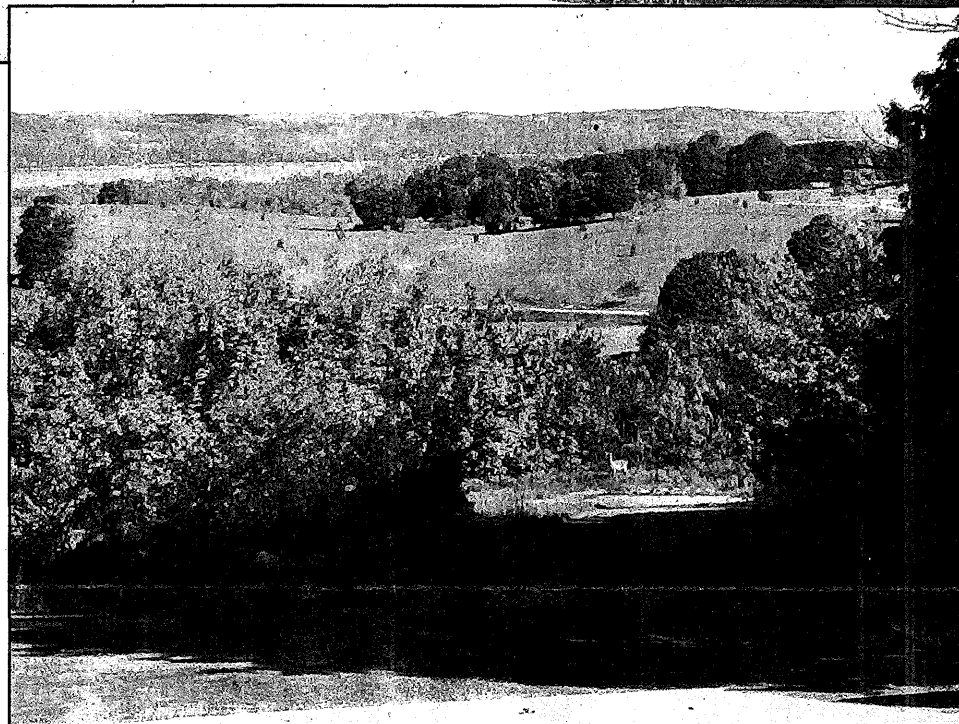
By Jim Akans

This gorgeous, custom designed residence offers elegant detailing and craftsmanship inside and out, and features a location that provides absolutely stunning panoramic hilltop views.

First, let take a peak at the home itself. There is nearly 3,000 square feet of living area on the primary two levels, plus an additional 1,200 square feet of lower level finished space offering the homeowner incredible versatility in matching their lifestyle needs. Currently the walkout lower level is set up as a beautiful artist studio with an adjoining game room and work-out area, yet the new homeowner can easily adapt the space to suit their requirements.

The main two levels of the home feature three very generously sized bedrooms, (there is a possible fourth bedroom on the lower level), three full baths, (including a lavish master bath), an open great room, kitchen and informal dining area, formal dining, study or home office, and laundry.

Custom designed by the current owners; wonderful amenities abound. Some of those features include a cathedral ceiling in the great room as well as high ceilings throughout the main level, gorgeous cherry woodworking, tile and hardwood flooring, granite countertops, energy-efficient thermal windows, whirlpool tub, upgraded appliances...the list truly goes on and



on.

The level of finish work in this home is exceptional. Cherry woodwork creates a pallet of warm, rich color that is both tantalizing to the imagination and soothing to the eye. That includes the solid wood, six panel interior doors, the extraordinary custom cabinetry, hardwood flooring, and custom designed built-in cabinetry that embrace the magnificent fireplace surround in the great room..

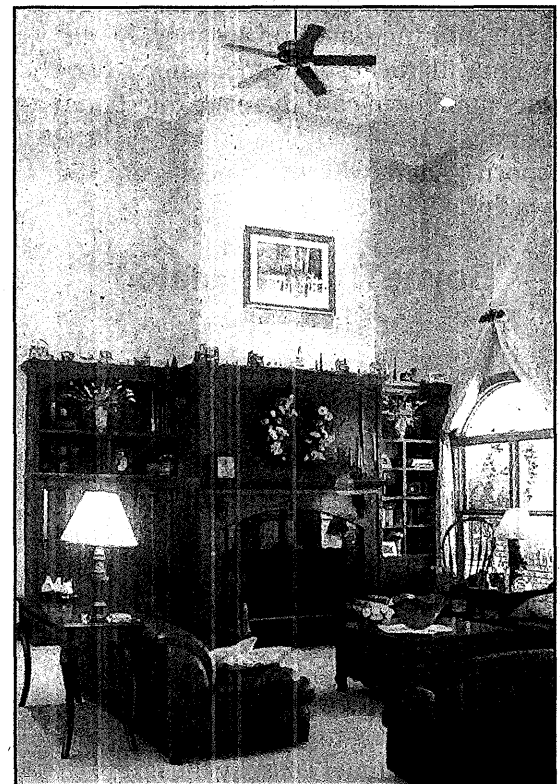
And while the home itself is spectacular, the ten acre grounds the home is situated on, and the views provided by the hilltop setting, create those extra special elements that dream homes are made of.

A multi-level rear deck has been customized with seating vignettes to take maximum advantage of the breathtaking views of the surrounding countryside, the crisp, blue waters of Lake Charlevoix, and even Lake Michigan on clear, sun-filled days

While the home has a spacious, two-and-a-half car attached garage, there is also a large 30' by 50' pole building on the property for those extra storage requirements (including recreational vehicles or watercraft), and it has a cement floor, electric, phone and water service, providing the potential to accommodate a wide variety of needs for the new homeowner.

This is a truly lovely home in a most spectacular Northern Michigan setting.

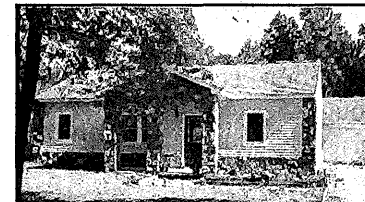
For a more information or to arrange for a tour of this home, call Beth Anzell at 231-582-1700 or email at beth@patobrien.com



Pat O'Brien & Associates
Real Estate
 128 Water Street
 Boyne City, Michigan
 Office: 231-582-1700
 Fax: 231-582-1714
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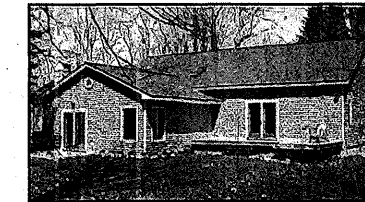
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 with great views of Lake Charlevoix. Located less than 1 mile from downtown Boyne City and a short walk to the public access on Lake Charlevoix. You will instantly feel at home here, with its bright sunlit rooms and knotty pine contrasts. This is a house built to be lived in - built to be a home! #420300 **New Price: \$149,900**



NEW CONSTRUCTION!
 Adorable 3 bedroom custom home on a quiet street close to schools and town. Incredible front and back stone work give the exterior exceptional curb appeal! Unique interior also has custom stonework. Totally energy efficient home. Large fenced in yard. Well worth a look! #417585 **\$109,500**



GREAT 2800 SQUARE FOOT,
 5 bedroom family home on 8 acres near Boyne City. Property has wonderful country feel, with a lot of really beautiful landscape and wildlife viewing opportunities. It's only a short distance from Boyne City, schools, and the all-season recreational offerings of Boyne Mountain. #414122 **\$179,900**



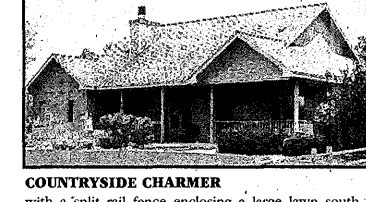
MAPLE-WOODED FIVE ACRE PARCEL
 with a newer, quality construction three bedroom home. The kitchen is very nice, and the interior is bright, well-planned and cozy - but it may take more than that to keep you indoors. A truly beautiful piece of property, with an 8-kennel Ritz-Carlton for boarding or raising man's best friend in style. #421937 **\$224,000**



PRETTY 3 BEDROOM, 2 BATH HOME
 nestled into a wooded hillside near Boyne City. Beautifully landscaped yard, with a fenced-in area perfect for small children and pets. Very private deck in the back provides outdoor living space all summer long. Wood-burning fireplace, nice open floor plan with a nice up north feeling. #421762 **\$137,900**



GREAT THREE BEDROOM HOME
 and guest house in the heart of the Village of Walloon. Step out the front door for a great view of Walloon Lake. Its sandy shore are just a hop, skip and a jump down the street. This home has a relaxed family appeal, with excellent rental potential. Deeded lake access. #421763 **\$319,000**



COUNTRYSIDE CHARMER
 with a split rail fence enclosing a large lawn south of Horton Bay. Three bedrooms, two full baths, and a bright white interior that has a European flair. Gourmet kitchen has classic black and white tile above the counters, whose dark surface is a rich foil for the contemporary white cabinets and brushed silver toned hardware. Very nice. Stone gas fireplace cozies up a roomy living room, which is equally suited to entertaining guests or a quiet evening at home. All this on 10 acres. #422373 **\$299,000**



BEAUTIFULLY DECORATED AND FURNISHED
 2 bedroom 'up north' retreat. This great condominium in downtown Boyne City has fabulous views of Lake Charlevoix from the rooftop patio/deck! Location couldn't be better...only 2 blocks from a public beach/park, and close to dining, shopping and all that the great north has to offer! Unit is being sold completely furnished. #421089 **New Price: \$109,000**

Energy Performance, Kitchens & Baths Are Key Home Improvements

JNJ Construction Specializes in New Homes and Remodeling Projects

By Jim Akans

Whether embarking on a new home adventure, or tackling a remodeling project for your existing home, there are some key areas to pay particular attention to.

Jim Jeffers, founder of JNJ Construction, Inc., started his construction career in 1991 and incorporated his company five years later. Jim and his crew have helped hundreds of customers throughout Northern Michigan realize their new home or

remodeling dreams, building a reputation for excellence in workmanship and service.

"In remodeling a home," notes Jim. "The homeowner will typically see a good return on their investment in the kitchen and bath. Updating items such as cabinetry, flooring, fixtures, countertops and even appliances, are features that not only improve the existing homeowners lifestyle, they also make the home more marketable."

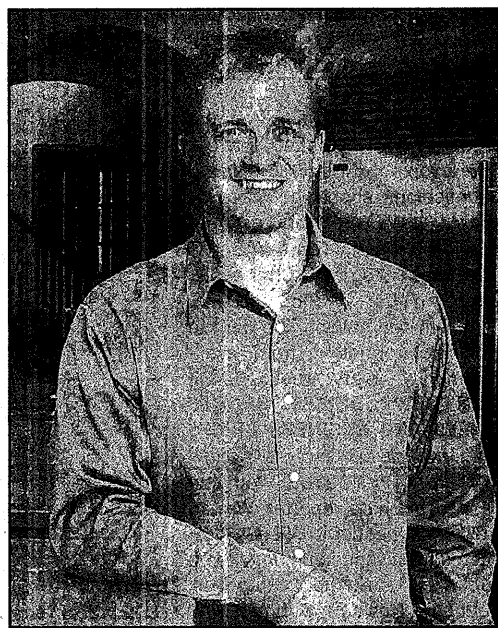
According to Remodeling Magazine's

annual report of various remodeling project's cost versus value, a midrange kitchen make-over can return up to 76% of the customer's investment at the time of resale, and a bath project can achieve nearly 75% return. However, there is another remodeling target that can yield over an 80% payback; vinyl siding.

"Making the exterior of the home maintenance-free is a great improvement," notes Jim Jeffers. "As the baby-boomer generation approaches retirement, they are looking to avoid constant maintenance to the outside of the home. By upgrading siding and windows, we can make the exterior of the home 99% maintenance-free for the homeowner."

Another focus, particularly as utility costs skyrocket, is making a home more energy efficient. There are even tax credits available to help offset some of the costs of improving the energy usage of the home. For qualified items such as window, doors, skylights, insulation and heating and cooling equipment, homeowner can claim a tax credit for 30% of the cost making these improvements, up to \$1,500, for 2009 and 2010.

"We are a qualified Energy Star builder," states Jim. "So we are very familiar with the products and building techniques that make a home more energy efficient. That includes both new homes as well as remodeling existing homes to reduce its energy consumption."



Jim Jeffers of JNJ Construction, Inc. Photo by Phoenix Photographic Studio



According to Remodeling Magazine's annual report of various remodeling project's cost versus value, a midrange kitchen make-over can return up to 76% of the customer's investment. Photo by Phoenix Photographic Studio

Whether you are considering building a new dream home, or planning to make some changes to your existing home, Jim stresses the importance of taking time to research the reputation and credentials of the contractor before signing on the line.

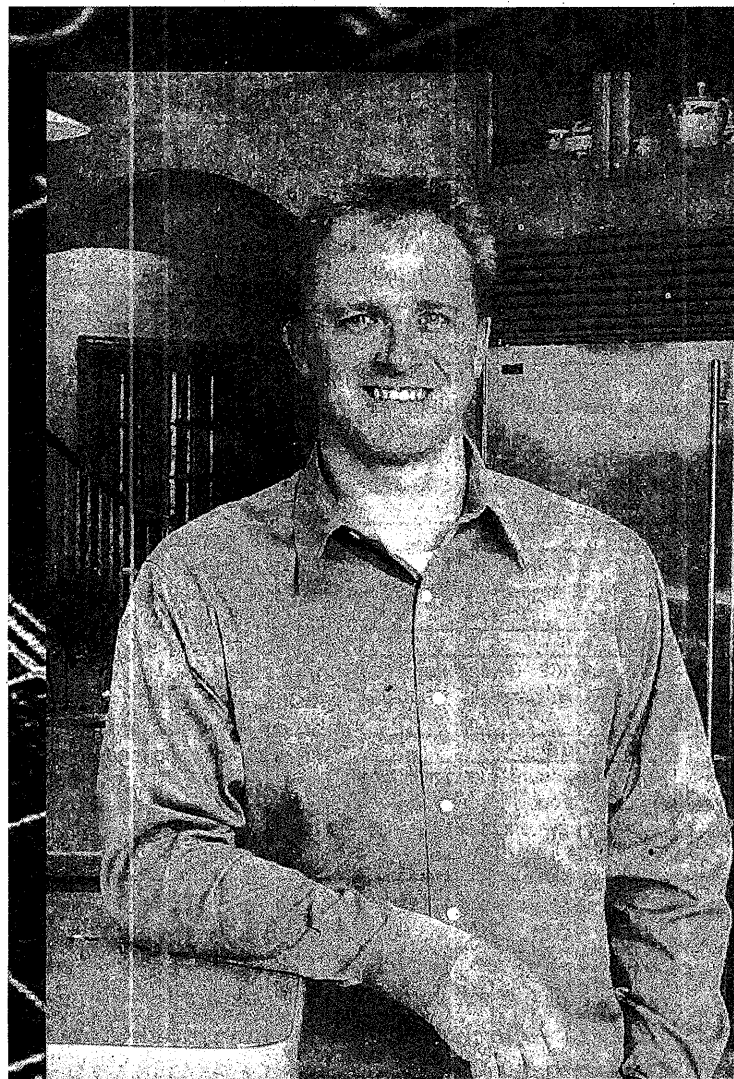
"We take a "hands-on" approach to every project," notes Jim. "That starts at the very beginning; sitting down with the homeowner to identify their needs, assisting in creating a design, laying out a schedule of work so they know what to expect, and perhaps most importantly, maintaining an open line of communication with them throughout the construction process."

Is Home Value important to you these days?

If you're building or remodeling - it should be important to you.

What are the top 3 ways to add value to your home?

- Revive the Kitchen • Make minor Bathroom Changes • Spruce up your Siding -- "Call us today for a free Home Value Consultation"



Is it tough to know who you can trust in this shaky economy? Go with stability. We are committed to help you achieve optimum Home Value. We are J-n-J Construction, Inc. A full service contractor serving all of Northern Michigan. Whether you are looking to build a new home, add space to your current home or spruce up your existing home, J-n-J is there to help. For your dream deck, siding and roofing needs, replacement windows or that extra garage space come see us for all your residential, commercial or remodeling needs!

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CUSTOMER TESTIMONIAL

*Jim,
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Troy & Heather Huff

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DO YOU HAVE SOMETHING NICE TO SAY? We would like to hear something nice you have to say about businesses or people in Northern Michigan. Send us a note in the mail or by e-mail. Each week we will publish positive comments from our readers in the Charlevoix County News. Mail your note to Charlevoix County News, PO Box 382, Gaylord, MI 49734 or e-mail to Office@CharlevoixCountyNews.com. The Charlevoix County News... To Inform, To Encourage, To Inspire. Charlevoix County's Weekly Community Newspaper

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BUILDING MATERIAL
NEW PEACHTREE FIBERGLASS Decorative glass front door with side lites, \$1,295. 231-384-5981

CLASSIC AUTO
1973 BUICK ELECTRA CUSTOM 225, 2 door, hardtop, 455, dual exhaust, automatic, all power factory options, \$5,000 or best offer, 989-731-2000

CASH FOR OLD CARS. Please don't send to crusher. Michel's Collision & Restoration 231-348-7066

FOR SALE: 1940 FORD PICKUP. 231-348-7066

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY
COMMERCIAL. Clean 3-bedroom home with storage space, plus 30'x40' storage building. Excellent location with high visibility and exposure. Lot size 90x470. Ideal place for your business. \$76,500. Call Koske Realty, Gaylord. 989-732-1012

FOR LEASE: Commercial Building Downtown Bellaire 3000 Sq w/ full Basement. Call 231-533-9131

GREAT LOCATION for your business! Formerly "The Corner Grocery" building with attached 2 car garage plus a 3 BR Mobile Home* on 2 acres. Lots of possibilities. Call Now! \$79,900. MLS #258673. Call Sandy Cogswell at Harmony Realty, Gaylord. 989-732-2804

GREAT LOCATION WITH HIGH VISIBILITY in Gaylord. Approx. 1700 sq. ft. of retail or office space. Property is currently vacant and shows well. Call for a private viewing. \$124,500. MLS #252751. Call Real Estate One of Gaylord, 989-705-8284

PRIME COMMERCIAL LOCATION across from Meijer, next to Kohl's in Gaylord. Perfect for any business. 4800 sq. ft. newer building with highway exposure. Business is moving to a new location, not closing. \$589,000. MLS #261131. Call Cindy Clark at Coldwell Banker, Schmidt Realtors, Gaylord. 989-350-5520

PRIME LOCATION. Designed to support 1 or 2 professional offices or retail space. Features include central air, newer electric, roof & windows. Loading dock to basement. Large lot provides room to expand. Attractive and well maintained. Downtown Indian River. \$175,000. MLS #260704. Call Steve Hutchinson at Coldwell Banker, Northern Lakes, Indian River. 231-238-9336 ext. 15

COMPUTERS & OFFICE
COMPUTER GIVING YOU HEADACHES? Call Dave the Computer Doc at 989-705-9326 for in-your-home or business repair, service, upgrades, virus and spyware removal, training.

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FREE GIFT FROM GOD, Eternal Life. Read John 3:16. VVVJDBSM. HAVE SOMETHING TO GIVE AWAY? Free items classified ads run free of charge in the Charlevoix County News. Call 989-732-8160 or e-mail your ad to Office@CharlevoixCountyNews.com.

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HAVE SOMETHING TO SELL? Sell it with a classified ad, just \$2.00 for 10 words. Why bother with a Garage Sale? Sell it the easy way, with a classified ad in the Charlevoix County News.

HEAVY EQUIPMENT
DRESSER TD-7 BULLDOZER, new engine, 6-way blade, good condition. \$9,900. 989-858-1285

HELP WANTED
BARTENDER WANTED for neighborhood style bar and grill. Thirty plus hours per week. Some experience and a pleasant smile required. Must be able to work nights and weekends. Apply in person at the Alpine Lodge 833 West Main Street, Gaylord.

EAST JORDAN: PART-TIME Advertising and Printing Sales. Immediate Opening for sales position now available in East Jordan selling advertising in the Charlevoix County News. Work 1-5 days a week, your choice! Independent Salesperson earns 20% commission. Contact Dave 2 at 989-350-9233 or e-mail Dave2@WeeklyChoice.com.

HAIR STYLIST NEEDED. Full or part time, guaranteed hourly. Commission and benefits available. Call 888-888-7778 Ext. 42330 Leave Message, Or apply in person at Hair Fiesta Salon in Gaylord

MANCELONA: PART-TIME Advertising and Printing Sales. IMMEDIATE OPENING for sales position now available in Mancelona. Work 1-5 days a week, your choice! Independent Salesperson earns 20% commission. Contact Dave 2 at 989-350-9233 or e-mail Dave2@WeeklyChoice.com.

NOW HIRING ALL POSITIONS. No experience necessary. Call 989-732-2175

HOMES FOR RENT
For Rent: 1 bedroom apartment in Gaylord all utilities included, a/c and trash. No pets \$450 monthly. Jim 989-858-1350

HOMES FOR SALE
BEAUTIFUL 4 bedroom, 1 bath home filled with charm & character. Wood around all doors & windows still in original condition. Bay windowed dining room. The 4th bedroom over the garage could easily be a den. Floors upstairs in awesome condition. Landing with lots of storage, trails of curved original staircase. Well taken care of, close to everything. Room sizes approximate. \$57,900. MLS #260993. Call Front Street Realty, Mancelona. 231-587-0291

CUSTOM LAKEFRONT HOME
Reduced over \$100,000. Additional scenic acreage available. www.ForSaleByOwner.com. Listing #20674242, slideshow

EAST JORDAN. 3 Bedroom, 1 Bath, 5+ acres with 2 pole barns. Owner will finance, any credit, any income. MLS #254935. Call Peggy Cooley at Coldwell Banker, Schmidt Realtors, Gaylord. 989-370-9832

ENJOY THE BEAUTIFUL TORCH LAKE view. 2 bedroom, 1 bath home that needs updates & repairs. The view is simply beautiful of Torch Lake from here. Motivated seller. Right on top of swimming, skiing, shopping & churches. Grab your boat and come on. \$145,000. MLS #253466. Call Front Street Realty, Mancelona. 231-587-0291

HOMES FOR SALE
EXCELLENT WEEKEND STORAGE BUILDING or rustic cabin, 24X36. Well insulated, natural gas heat, inside toilet, hot and cold water, keep your sleds inside, corner lot nice location. Close to Elk lake. Great price \$54,900. 231-620-2867

EXECUTIVE RETREAT. Large secluded acreage. Abundance of wildlife. Private Trout pond, with an abundance of trout. DNR approved ponds, Clear creek runs thru it. Large bucks seen. New tongue & groove lodge with fireplace overlooking lake. A sportsman's paradise. Eagles, Turkeys, Deer, Geese. Create a sanctuary. This newly build lodge was designed to last. It is well insulated & great views. 150 Acres. 1000+/- feet of frontage. \$495,000. MLS #259733. Call Steve Hutchinson at Coldwell Banker, Northern Lakes, Indian River. 231-238-9336 ext. 15

NEAR TREETOPS RESORT. Beautifully groomed 12.5 Acres with two large ponds is the setting for this unique 3 BR, 2.5 Bath home with basement, 3 car garage and two 1 BR efficiency apartments. Add a 2 BR rental w/basement & 2 car garage & you have quite a buy for \$599,900. See it today! MLS #257530. Call Sandy Cogswell at Harmony Realty, Gaylord. 989-732-2804

NEWLY REMODELED 2-bedroom, 2-bath cottage with stainless appliances, fireplace and deck. Dock rights on Mullett Lake. \$148,700. Call Mike Sherwood at RE/MAX North, Cheboygan. 231-627-9991

SELL YOUR HOME FAST! Use a color photo in your ad as low as \$19. Call 989-732-8160 or e-mail us at Office@CharlevoixCountyNews.com. Color Photo ads will sell your home, car, truck or RV fast!

SERENE 13.4 acres close to the AuSable River, Mainstream. Quality custom home with 2,643 s.f., three bedrooms and three baths. Home features: two story double sided center fireplace, loft over looking great room, master suite with Jacuzzi tub, unique log stair case, extensive ceramic tile, four skylights, central vacuum, and large utility room with utility tub. Door wall off dining room onto double elevated deck. Exterior offers beautiful landscaping, attached garage, detached garage, irrigation system, and a Hardy outdoor wood burner. \$279,000 CH-2729. Call Craig Hinkle at RE/MAX of Grayling. 800-731-4002

Wow! Upstairs, Downstairs, Inside, Outside. Everything you see will please you on this totally remodeled 3 bedroom 2 bath, full basement home. 2 fireplaces, hardwood and ceramic floors, oversized garage, covered porch with country view on 1.34 acres are just a few features of this elegant ranch. \$143,600. MLS #258973. Call Front Street Realty, Mancelona. 231-587-0291

HOUSEHOLD
GERTA'S DRAPERIES: Everything in Window Treatments" Free estimates and in home appointments. Established 1958. Call 989-732-3340 or visit our show room at 2281 South Otsego Ave., Gaylord.

LAND & PROPERTY
117 ACRES. Well wooded parcel, mostly maple trees located across from state land on a seasonal road. Good deer country. \$352,980. Call Koske Realty, Gaylord. 989-732-1012

LAND & PROPERTY
AFFORDABLE ACREAGE with electric, well and partial septic already on site. Close to Jordan River Valley and trails. Mobile Home has been removed. Adjacent 5 acre parcel with pole bldg, electric, well and septic also for sale MLS 255003. \$29,900. MLS #256305. Call KDR, Keith Dressel Realty, Gaylord. 989-732-1707

LOST & FOUND
LOST SOMETHING? Found something? Lost and found ads run free in the Charlevoix County News. Call 989-732-8160

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NEW & Repossessed single and double wides, financing available. 989-354-6867

NEW BOCA MODULAR HOME, 28x63, 3 bedroom, 3 bath, 2x6 construction, super insulated, less than 1/2 cost of new. Ready for your lot, \$38,000. Must move now. 989-732-9362

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BOXES AND MOVING SUPPLIES. Heavy duty boxes, Wardrobe boxes, Dish boxes, all types of specialty boxes, Mattress and Furniture Bags, labels and supplies. U-Haul of Gaylord, 112 East Sixth St. Gaylord. 989-705-7044

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RECREATIONAL VEHICLES
1984 CHEVY MALLARD class C motorhome. 60,000 original miles, 350, runs and drives like new. all options, great deal, \$5,500. 989-731-2000

RENTAL EQUIPMENT
BOXES AND MOVING SUPPLIES. Heavy duty boxes, Wardrobe boxes, Dish boxes, all types of specialty boxes, Mattress and Furniture Bags, labels and supplies. U-Haul of Gaylord, 112 East Sixth St. Gaylord. 989-705-7044

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Real Estate Corner ... continued from page 14

one dinner coupon, the \$.75 off coupon at your favorite grocery store, and yes that great deal on real estate. Once again there has been a lot of talk in the media about foreclosures, and while most of it focuses on the bad, you never hear them try and look at the positive side of this dilemma that our country has been thrown into. We have some unprecedented buying opportunities for the first time home buyer, especially coupled with the federal tax credits, and interest rates bouncing around at record lows, there really is no better time to buy. Also, you never hear about the investors picking up the foreclosures and fixing them up with new siding and facades, as well as interiors, and then either selling them or renting them out. Either way, the community / neighborhood in which they are located get a fresh boost from any blight that had previously existed. Also, we see more opportunities, albeit smaller jobs, for our local contractors to

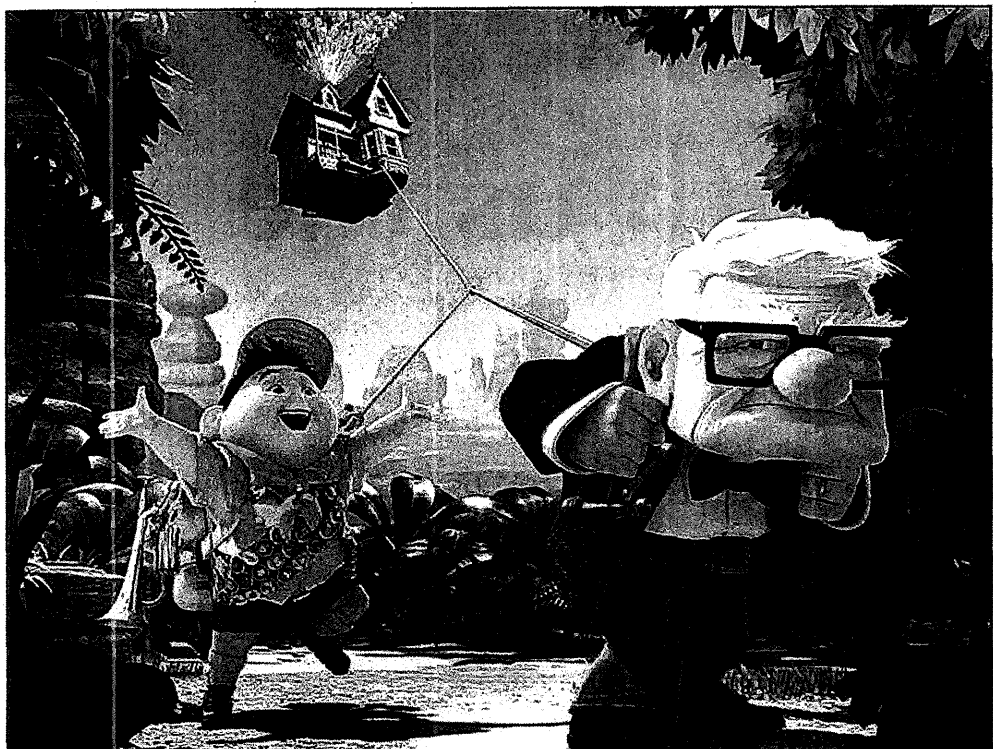
have a chance for some remodel work. So in short, while one door may close another opens up, and a new opportunity is allowed to grow.

As with any legal transaction, you need to make sure you are dealing with someone that you are comfortable talking to, and that you believe is looking out for your best interest. In any Real Estate transaction there are many hoops to get through, but dealing with a foreclosed property there are even more, and you want to be sure your professional has been through the process and knows how to keep you covered. If you are not careful, you can be charged for costs that should have been paid for by the Selling entity. These sellers are looking out for their interest, so be sure that someone is looking out for you, the Buyer. If done right, you can navigate through the foreclosure process, and end up with a great property at an exceptional price, and sometimes with minimal out-of-pocket expenses.

With all the above mentioned, we are by no means trying to avoid the negative disruption to the circumstances that led to the foreclosing of anyone's property. But, I do believe that we as a country would love to focus on positive aspects of getting our great country onto it's feet and running again. That cannot be accomplished without moving through the distressed properties that have been thrown upon our respective markets. Slowly but surely, as the numbers in this article have indicated, we here in Northern Michigan have been able to move through that negative and offer positive opportunities to a growing number of people. So with summer upon us, it is now time to turn off the TV, and all the negative bashing that it brings to our lives, and get out there and start taking a look at all the positives there are to living here.

MOVIE GUIDE

- Gaylord Cinema West
- Petoskey Cinema • Bellaire Theatre
- Kingston Theater
- Courtyard Cinema



Up-lifting Film for All Ages

Enjoyable Animated Cast Tugs at the Heartstrings

By Jim Akans
At first, it seems as though Pixar Animation Studios and Walt Disney Pictures latest release, Up, is speeding quickly through a storyline that will leave little left to tell.

The film opens following lead "character", Carl Fredricksen (voice by Ed Asner), as a young boy entranced by 1930's era newsreels of famed adventurer, Charles Muntz (voice by Christopher Plummer). Explorer Muntz excites movie audiences with his travels to a fabled South American land called Paradise Falls. Carl is joined by childhood sweetheart, Ellie, in sharing a longing to someday visit Paradise Falls themselves for a life of adventure.

Carl and Ellie marry, and in a rapid sequence, grow old together while never quite finding the time to travel to South America in pursuit of their shared dream. When Ellie passes, it looks as though Carl will spend the remainder of his days living quietly, (and a bit grumpily), among the memories of his life with Ellie.

That almost seems to be the end of the story, yet we are only about fifteen minutes into the film!

What follows is a rollicking, insightful, sometimes thrilling, and always entertaining adventure that begins when Carl decides to tie thousands of helium filled balloons to the home he shared with his wife, and sets a flight course for South America. He unknowingly takes along a partner, neighborhood Boy Scout, Russell, a character who provides just the right amount of humor, naivety, and heart to offset Carl's somewhat belligerent persona.

Director Pete Docter notes that one of the film's main premises; flying away in a house, stems from his own childhood fantasy of longing to escape. He modeled the character of Carl as a blend of Spencer Tracy and Walter Matthau...which should give older viewers a clue as to what to expect. There is a wonderful sense of escapism in this film, and the characters (even some "talking" dogs that show up to create havoc) have an ability to grab at the viewers heartstrings on a level that is uncanny for an animated film.

Up is rated PG, based on some perilous situations and action (I'm not sure when "action" became "parental warning" criteria), yet this is an excellent movie for audiences of all ages. There was plenty of applause from young and old alike at the end of the showing I attended, and lots of smiles on the faces of those exiting the theater.

So thumbs-up for Up! Make this a part of your summer movie schedule, especially if you have youngsters to entertain, or are among the young at heart yourself.

Exit Comments;

- "Great movie for all ages," Carol & Charles - Ellsworth
- "Liked the squeaky dog voice and big bird" Garrison & Brayden- Bellaire
- "Enjoyed the whole movie" Ryan - Troy
- "Very cute and funny," Maggie & Mio - Indiana
- "It was awesome," Haley- Johannesburg

Exit Poll - Which Did You Prefer?



Movie; 100%



Popcorn; 0%

Gaylord Cinema West June 19-25

The Hangover - R (103)
Starring - Bradley Cooper - Heather Graham
At: 2:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:00

The Proposal - PG-13 (108)
Starring - Sandra Bullock - Martin Akermans
At: 2:00, 4:15, 7:00, 9:15

The Taking Of Pelham 1 2 3 - R (106)
Starring - Denzel Washington
At: 2:00, 4:15, 7:00, 9:15

Up - PG (90)
Voices - Ed Asner - Jordan Nagai
At: 2:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:00

Imagine That - PG (107)
Starring - Eddie Murphy
At: 2:00, 4:15, 7:00, 9:15

Year One - PG-13 (97)
Starring - Jack Black - Michael Cera
At: 2:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:00

Transformers - PG-13 (150) (Revenge of the Fallen)
Starring - Shia LeBeouf - Josh Duhamel
Tuesday at Midnight
Wed. & Thurs at: 1:30, 4:05, 7:00, 9:40

Bellaire Theatre June 19-25

Up - PG (90)
Voices - Ed Asner - Jordan Nagai
Fri. - Tues At: 7:00, 9:00 nightly

The Hangover - R (103)
Starring - Bradley Cooper - Heather Graham
Starring - Will Ferrell - Danny R. McBride
At: 7:00, 9:00 nightly

Transformers - PG-13 (150) (Revenge of the Fallen)
Starring - Shia LeBeouf - Josh Duhamel
Tuesday at Midnight
Wed. & Thurs at: 7:00, 9:35

Courtyard Cinema June 19-25

The Taking Of Pelham 1 2 3 - R (106)
Starring - Denzel Washington
At: 2:00, 4:15, 7:00, 9:15

Imagine That - PG (107)
Starring - Eddie Murphy
At: 2:00, 4:15, 7:00, 9:15

The Hangover - R (103)
Starring - Bradley Cooper - Heather Graham
At: 2:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:00

Up - PG (90)
Voices - Ed Asner - Jordan Nagai
At: 2:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:00

Land of the Lost - PG-13 (106)
Starring - Will Ferrell - Danny R. McBride
Fri. - Tues. At: 2:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:00

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Courtyard cont...
Transformers - PG-13 (150) (Revenge of the Fallen)
Starring - Shia LeBeouf - Josh Duhamel
Wed. & Thurs at: 1:30, 4:05, 7:00, 9:40

Petoskey Cinema June 19-25

Year One - PG-13 (97)
Starring - Jack Black - Michael Cera
At: 11:45, 2:00, 3:45, 5:30, 7:15, 9:00

The Hangover - R (103)
Starring - Bradley Cooper - Heather Graham
At: 12:00, 2:00, 5:00, 7:00, 9:00

Night At The Museum - PG (105)
Starring - Ben Stiller - Robin Williams
At: 11:45, 2:15, 4:45, 7:00, 9:15

The Taking Of Pelham 1 2 3 - R (106)
Starring - Denzel Washington
At: 12:00, 2:15, 4:45, 7:00, 9:15

Up - PG (90)
Voices - Ed Asner - Jordan Nagai
At: 11:45, 2:00, 3:45, 5:30, 7:15, 9:00

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Starring - Sandra Bullock - Martin Akermans
At: 12:00, 2:15, 5:00, 7:00, 9:15

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Starring - Will Ferrell - Danny R. McBride
At: 11:45, 2:15, 5:15, 7:15, 9:15

Transformers PG-13 (150) (Revenge of the Fallen)
Starring - Shia LeBeouf - Josh Duhamel
Tuesday at Midnight
Wed. & Thurs. at: 11:45, 2:30, 6:45, 9:30

Kingston Theatre June 19-25

The Hangover - R (103)
Starring - Bradley Cooper - Heather Graham
At: 1:00, 3:00, 7:00, 9:00

Imagine That - PG (107)
Starring - Eddie Murphy
Fri. - Tues At: 1:00, 3:15, 7:00, 9:15

Up - PG (90)
Voices - Ed Asner - Jordan Nagai
At: 1:00, 3:00, 7:00, 9:00

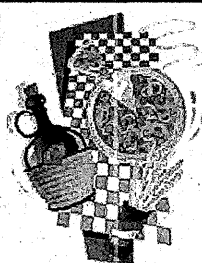
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Starring - Shia LeBeouf - Josh Duhamel
Tuesday at Midnight
Wed. & Thurs. at: 1:00, 3:45, 6:45, 9:30

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NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER. EXPIRES 7-12-09

TOP TEN COUPON -
1- LARGE PIZZA WITH 3 ITEMS
\$10.95

PLUS TAX, DELIVERY EXTRA
NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER. EXPIRES 7-12-09

TOP TEN COUPON -
1- SMALL STROMBOLI OR CALZONE WITH 3 ITEMS
\$6.95

PLUS TAX, DELIVERY EXTRA. 65¢ FOR ADD. TOPPINGS
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