

Charlevoix County News

March 1, 2012

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with COUPON ON PAGE 8B

Charlevoix Celebrates Annual Winterfest

By Jim Akans

There is still plenty of winter left here in Northern Michigan, and this coming weekend Charlevoix area residents and visitors will have an excellent opportunity to get outdoors and celebrate the season with the second Annual Winterfest fundraising event held on Friday, March 2nd, and Saturday,

March 3rd.

Held at Mt. McSauba, Winterfest features a flurry of exciting activities and games, delicious foods and beverages, music, prizes, awards and more. Whether a participant or observer, the action at Winterfest is sure to kindle the thrill of enjoying the sights and sounds of winter in this beautiful Northern Michigan setting.

Winterfest will kick-off on Friday evening with Music on the Deck from 6 to 9 pm, and those participating in the Cardboard Sled Race on Saturday will have an opportunity to build their sleds during that same time period. Some materials, such as duct tape, cardboard and paint will be made available

See Winterfest— 3A



Broom Ball is just one of many unique and exciting winter activities attendees can enjoy at the 2nd Annual Charlevoix Winterfest held at Mt. McSauba this coming weekend. COURTESY PHOTO

sports



PHOTO BY BOB GINGERICH

East Jordan senior John Richards lets fly three of his game-high 27 points against Grayling, as Jake Swander (3) tries to defend. **PAGE 8B**



PHOTO BY SCOTT RICHARDS

Charlevoix's Kelsey Way (32) goes up for two points against the tough defense of East Jordan's Jasmine Steinhoff (54) and Grace Howes. **PAGE 1B**

Berries on Ice



PHOTO BY B. J. CONLEY

Red berries and icicles cling to a bush outside a residence in Charlevoix. The next few days are predicted to be cloudy with winds lessening and temperatures in the low 30s.

Superintendent of Charlevoix schools resigns to change careers

B. J. Conley

CHARLEVOIX — The superintendent of Charlevoix Public Schools has resigned and will change careers after 32 years in education.

Chet Janik took the position of county administrator for Lee-

lanau county where he grew up. He has been with the Charlevoix school district for five years. His salary was \$102,000 per year, plus benefits.

Janik named passage of the school bond in 2008 as one of the major accomplishments of his time with Charlevoix

schools.

"It's a great school district with a great staff," Janik said. "I've enjoyed my time here."

A special Board of Education meeting is scheduled for 5 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 29, to discuss a search for a new superintendent.



Chet Janik

County Parks Department juggles several projects

B. J. Conley

CHARLEVOIX — Parks and recreation is abuzz with county projects and potential acquisitions.

Whiting Park is slated for construction of a new pavilion. The park was made possible when an early resident, Perry Whiting, deeded

land to the county in 1923, with the stipulation that it remains a public park. Currently, a resident with 72 acres contiguous to Whiting Park would like the county to purchase the land.

Eveline Township supervisor, John Vrondran, attended the meeting.

"It's easier to get grants if property is contiguous and existing," Vrondran said. "The state is more into expansion than development."

Hayes Township would like the county's assistance in the acquisition of Camp Sea Gull. Hayes Township clerk, Marlene Golovich attended the Feb. 22 county board of commissioners meeting where it was discussed.

Parks director Ross Maxwell asked the commissioners if they were going to work on Camp Sea Gull or if Hayes Township was going to manage the potential acquisition.

See County Parks— 5A

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weather	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	snowfall	record temps
	HIGH: Low 30's LOW: Mid 20's	HIGH: Upper 30's LOW: Low 30's	HIGH: Mid 30's LOW: Low 20's	HIGH: Low 30's LOW: Upper 10's		

COUNTY RECORDS

DISTRICT COURT

The following cases were recently decided in the 90th District Court for the County of Charlevoix:

Christopher Noel Tacket, 24, Vanderbilt. Driving while license suspended. Sentenced to pay \$335 in fines and costs.

Andrew Michael Hindle, 20, Charlevoix. Minor in possession of alcohol. Sentenced to pay \$250 in fines and costs and to 30 hours of community service work.

Joseph Jay Sherwood, 22, Wolverine. Retail fraud 3rd degree. Sentenced to pay \$300 in fines and costs and \$4.15 in restitution and to 15 days in jail and 10 days of community service work.

Kathleen Marie Wells, 42, Charlevoix. Allowed an intoxicated person to drive. Sentenced to pay \$725 in fines and costs.

Harvey Lee Coates, 35, East Jordan. Criminal sexual contact 4th degree, attempted. Sentenced to pay \$1,050 in fines and costs and to 365 days in jail with credit for one day, serve 15 days, 330 days held in abeyance, 20 days of community service work and one year on probation.

Lucas Daniel Pennington, 32, East Jordan. Driving while license was suspended. Sentenced to pay \$575 in fines and costs and to serve 10 days in jail on work release.

CIRCUIT COURT

The following cases recently received sentencing in the Charlevoix County Circuit Court:

Dylan James Outman, 20, Williamsburg. Attempted weapons concealing.

Gerald Shane Schoolcraft, 51, Charlevoix. Attempted criminal sexual conduct, 3rd degree. Sentenced to 23 months minimum and 60 months maximum in prison.

William Lloyd Bentley, 49, Boyne City. Larceny by conversion. Sentenced to 24 months minimum and 60 months maximum in prison.

Karen Jayne Copeland, 57, Lake Ann. Driving while intoxicated, 3rd offense. Sentenced to

365 days in jail.

MARRIAGE LICENSES

The following people have recently filed for marriage licenses with the County of Charlevoix:

David Patrick Bertinelli, 50, Charlevoix and Jessica Lea Whitley, 40, Charlevoix.

Robert Anthony Kelley, 40, Boyne City and Maclyn Kye Heise, 37, Boyne City.

John Todd Parris, 45, East Jordan and Lori Michelle Campbell, 42, East Jordan.

ASSUMED NAMES:

The following businesses recently filed with the Charlevoix County Clerk's office for an assumed name for doing business:

Circle M, 26300 Old Church Crest Road, Beaver Island by Colleen M. Martin and Joseph B. Martin.

Peg Leg Pat's Fireworks, 6490 M-32, East Jordan by Patrick David Weisley.

Daddy Frank's, 26320 Forest Ave., Beaver Island by Mark A. Ehinger and Kathie A. Ehinger.

R & J Cleaning, 920 Edmond St., Boyne City by Joanne Cicotte.

The Boyne Box and Crate Company, 03025 Fall Park Road, Boyne City by Jeffrey W. Komondy.

J & R Restorations, 1018 West St., Boyne City by John C. McKenney.

BOYNE CITY POLICE DEPT.

Monday, February 20 2012

2:00am Assist Sheriff Department with subject off of Metros Rd

3:49am 911 hang up call from the 1000 block of Haven Ct. All OK

8:05am Probation violation in the 300 block of N Lake St

10:24am Suspicious situation reported in the area of Alice and Lincoln Streets.

5:20pm Suspicious complaint received from the 100 block of W Ann St

Tuesday, February 21, 2012

6:13am Report of dog bite in the 900 block of Roosevelt St

8:12am Driving complaint received in the area of Division and West Streets

10:47am Gasoline drive off from the 200 block of S Lake St

11:23am Suspicious complaint received in the 1400 block of Pleasant Av

8:17pm Unlock in the 400 block of Lewis

Wednesday, February 22, 2012

8:01am Met subject at shelter to lodge stray cat

8:04am Civil complaint received in the 500 block of N Lake St

8:24am Annoying phone calls reported from the 400 block of Lewis

5:25pm Report of suspicious posting on Facebook

6:00pm Checked on suspicious subject on Lake St

8:30pm Citation issued for Careless Driving

Thursday, February 23, 2012

6:06pm Gasoline drive off from the 200 block of S Lake St. Subject returned and paid.

7:25pm Assist EMS in the 200 block of Front St

11:00pm Vehicle off went off road and struck tree near Boyne Av and Division St

Friday, February 24, 2012

5:25am Assist EMS in the 300 block of E Division St

7:50am Unlock in the 100 block of Wilson St

8:08am 2 vehicle property damage accident at Pleasant and Division

11:54am Parking complaint received in the alley behind the 100 block of E Water St

12:43pm Verbal dispute in the 500 block of N Lake St

3:09pm Verbal dispute in the 500 block of N Lake St.

3:55pm Report of juvenile runaway from the 700 block of S Lake St. Later located.

4:06pm Arrested 2 subjects on warrants

Saturday, February 25, 2012

2:12am Assist motorist on N East St

7:45am Driving complaint received in the area of Trent and Division Streets. Damaged found to

fence and mailbox.

9:42am Driving complaint received on Boyne Av

10:57am Unlock in the 400 block of High St

12:10pm Report of suspicious tracks in the in the 100 block of W Michigan St

12:38pm Suspicious subject reported on Beardsley St

6:09pm Report of two aggressive pitbulls running at large in the 300 block of Bailey St. Citation issued to owner.

9:56pm Report of bonfire on Hannah St

Sunday, February 26, 2012

1:31am Citation issued for expired plates

2:27am Report of suspicious activity in the area of Bailey and East Streets

1:10pm Report of kids jumping into roadway at lake and Vogel Streets

2:50pm Report of screaming baby in the 300 block of E Division St

3:45pm Dispatched sick fox

9:00pm Assist to Sheriff Department on Davis Rd

11:46pm Report of dog barking or fighting on Pleasant Av. Unable to locate.

CHX COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPT.

February 13-19, 2012

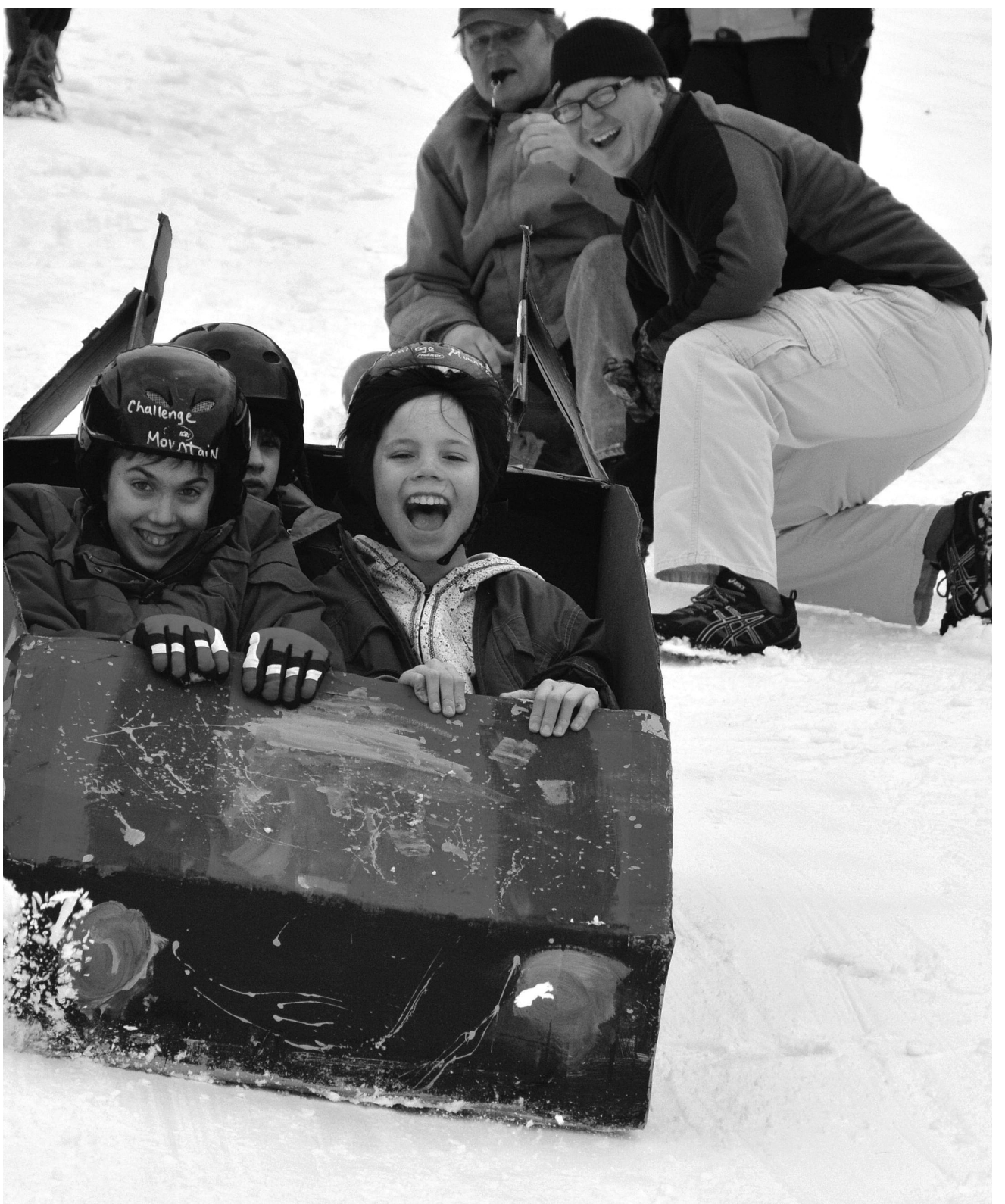
911 Hang Up Call.....	2
Alarm.....	5
Animal Complaint.....	25
Assist Citizen.....	2
Assist Motorist.....	2
Assist Other Agency.....	12
Attempt to Locate.....	2
Attempted Suicide.....	1
Breaking & Entering.....	1
Car/Deer Accident.....	11
Citations Issued.....	25
Civil Complaint.....	4
Criminal Sexual Conduct.....	1
DNR Complaint.....	1
Domestic Dispute.....	3
Driving Complaint.....	2
Health & Safety.....	5
Larceny.....	2
Lockout.....	5
Paper Service.....	7
Personal Protection Order.....	1
Private Property Accident.....	1
Property Check.....	7
Property Damage Accident.....	9
Road Hazard.....	1
Snowmobile Accident.....	1
Suspicious Situation.....	9

Threat.....	1
Traffic Stop.....	81
Vehicle in the Ditch.....	4

February 20-26, 2012

911 Hang Up Call.....	4
Abandoned Vehicle.....	1
Alarm.....	2
Animal Complaint.....	11
Annoyance.....	1
Assist Citizen.....	2
Assist Motorist.....	3
Assist Other Agency.....	8
Attempt to Locate.....	2
Car/Deer Accident.....	10
Citations Issued.....	33
Civil Complaint.....	5
Disturbance.....	3
DNR Complaint.....	1
Domestic Dispute.....	1
Found Property.....	1
Fraud.....	1
Health & Safety.....	1
Juvenile.....	2
Larceny.....	9
Lockout.....	5
Miscellaneous Criminal.....	2
Noise Complaint.....	1
Paper Service.....	17
Personal Injury Accident.....	3
Personal Protection Order.....	1
Private Property Accident.....	4
Property Check.....	3
Property Damage Accident.....	9
Suspicious Situation.....	3
Traffic Stop.....	85
Trespassing.....	2
Vehicle in the Ditch.....	2
Violation of Controlled Substance Act.....	2

Thinking the Box Outside



"Team 52" heads down Avalanche Mountain in Boyne City at Char-Em ISD's Orion School's first annual "Cardboard Classic" Wednesday, Feb. 22.

Winter fun was delivered in cardboard boxes to Orion School students Wednesday, Feb. 22.

Students from the Char-Em ISD school gathered at Avalanche Mountain in Boyne City for their first annual "Cardboard Classic." They had spent the week leading up to the day in their classrooms constructing sleds made of cardboard and tape.

The event was the brainchild of 11th grader Cory Speigl, who had heard from friends of a similar event held at Boyne City Middle School.

"I told everyone here about it, and I got the idea approved," Speigl said. Then he put in the legwork involved with getting a permit from the city to use Avalanche Hill for the event, and making calls that resulted in a dona-

tion of 50 rolls of duct tape from Home Depot, and a bundle of cardboard from Petoskey Moving Co.

"It was fun," he said, "everybody liked it." His teacher, Carol Melvin, agreed. "The kids had a blast," Melvin said. "They had fun making them, and they helped each other out on the hill. It taught them about design, and teamwork."

Charlevoix County News

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News

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FROM PAGE 1 Winterfest

By Jim Akans

There is still plenty of winter left here in Northern Michigan, and this coming weekend Charlevoix area residents and visitors will have an excellent opportunity to get outdoors and celebrate the season with the second Annual Winterfest fundraising event held on Friday, March 2nd, and Saturday, March 3rd.

Held at Mt. McCauba, Winterfest features a flurry of exciting activities and games, delicious foods and beverages, music, prizes, awards and more. Whether a participant or observer, the action at Winterfest is sure to kindle the thrill of enjoying the sights and sounds of winter in this beautiful Northern Michigan setting.

Winterfest will kick-off on Friday evening with Music on the Deck from 6 to 9 pm, and those participating in the Cardboard Sled Race on Saturday will have an opportunity to build their sleds during that same time period. Some materials, such as duct tape, cardboard and paint will be made available for those building sleds. Bump Jumper practice will also take place on Friday evening from 8 to 8:30 pm, and there will be a very cool Flashlight Parade of skiers and snowboarders down the big hill starting at 8:30 pm (please bring your own flashlight).

Saturday is a day-long celebration. It starts out with a Broom Ball game, with those ages 7 to 14 playing from 10 to 11 am, and those 15 years of age and up from 11:30 am until 12:30 pm. Broom Ball not your sport? Well how about trying your hand at achieving the longest drive with a tennis ball (participants to supply their own clubs and tennis balls) starting at 11 am. There will also be a Human Bowling Ball competition (utilizing two people in a tube, with teammates pushing them toward soccerball "pins") at 11 am and 1:30 pm...no supplies needed other than a brave and adventurous soul!

BUSINESS

New Bay Winds Federal Credit Union branch opens in Boyne City

Bay Winds Federal Credit Union has announced the opening of its newly constructed branch in Boyne City at 308 N. Lake Street. Keeping pace with Boyne City's vibrant growth is pivotal to Bay Winds continued success in a highly competitive marketplace. This all-new full service branch

features two drive-thru lanes as well as a drive-thru ATM machine.

To give members the most personalized service possible the traditional teller line has been replaced with dialog stations; creating a side-by-side service environment that is more flexible, functional and member friendly. "This approach to banking is a great way to provide the highest level of service without losing the personal touch Bay Winds is known for," said David Leusink, President/CEO.

The functional components of the dialog stations are the cash recyclers. Cash recyclers count, sort and dispense cash making transactions more accurate, more secure and faster. Dialog banking provides the ideal mix of technological efficiency in a friendly environment that fosters dynamic customer service. "We feel it optimizes the best of hi-tech and hi-touch," said Leusink.

Bay Winds Federal is a community chartered credit union open to residents who live and work in Grand Traverse, Antrim, Charlevoix, Emmet and Cheboygan counties. It currently has more than 24,000 members, deposits in excess of \$130 million with branches in Charlevoix, Petoskey, East Jordan, and Bellaire in addition to Boyne City.

BELOW: Bay Winds Federal Credit Union has announced the opening of its newly constructed branch in Boyne City at 308 N. Lake Street.

COURTESY PHOTO



GOVERNMENT

Banks Township Board Take First Salary Increase In 5 Years

By Tina Sundelius

ELLSWORTH—At the Banks Township meeting Monday, Feb. 20 the board voted to give the officers a pay raise and discussed the state of Michigan's new fireworks law. At the tail end of a lengthy meeting, which included acceptance of a balanced Fire Department budget, Township Supervisor, Thomas Mann made a motion to raise Treasurer, Katy Postmus' salary from \$15,000 to \$18,000. Postmus took a reduction in pay two years ago because of the economic distress of the township.

"You take a reduction because you're doing servant work and get to stay at home however, the work you do is not less than that of other treasurers. I really think we need to revisit some of these numbers. There's a lot of time, a lot of stress, a lot of work done for these numbers. Even

with a cost of living increase she'd be at the bottom of the pay scale in Antrim County," he said.

The board discussed the pay scales of all three township officers. Banks officers are at the very bottom of the pay scale for townships of comparable size in Antrim County as a result of their refusal to take salary increases until the township was in a better financial position. The average yearly salaries of Antrim County Township Supervisors fall between \$13,000 and \$22,000. Supervisor Mann has remained at \$11,500 since 2006. The average salary of Township Treasurers meeting the same criteria is \$18,000-\$26,000. Treasurer Postmus took a \$3,000 pay cut in 2009 reducing her salary to \$15,000 annually.

The motion was amended to include raises for all three officers. The Supervisor raised from

\$11,500 to \$14,000, the clerk's salary raised from \$19,000 to \$21,000 and the treasurer raised from \$15,000 to \$18,000. The motion was approved.

The state's new relaxed fireworks laws have caused some stress at the township level. The Michigan Fireworks Law used to prohibit the sale, possession, transportation and use of most fireworks—such as firecrackers, bottle rockets and Roman candles—without a permit. The only fireworks devices allowed without a permit are snappers and other toy trick noisemakers, toy smoke devices, sparklers, flitter sparklers, flat paper caps, cone and cylinder fountains that shoot showers of sparks, and toy snakes. Because some Michigan residents were spending money that could have been aiding the state's economy, Michigan has relaxed the fireworks law to include

anything that is legal on the federal level.

In addition to changing what fireworks are legal, the legislative proposal would set up regulated open areas to light fireworks, charge a safety fee with money going to law enforcement, and increase penalties for using illegal fireworks. Banks Township rescinded their present fireworks ordinance that conflicted with the new laws and will be discussing the need for any further ordinances in the future. The board is concerned for the safety of the community and the expense of increased fire calls. The ordinance will be discussed again after consulting with their lawyer.

Public hearings that will discuss plans for improvements at the Banks Township Park and the Township Budget will be discussed at the March 19 Township meeting at 7pm

Blurred Boundaries Grant awarded to Raven Hill Discovery Center

The Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs, in conjunction with the National Endowment for the Arts, has announced a 2012 award to Raven Hill Discovery Center for Blurred Boundaries: Ancient to Modern Megaliths. This is the twelfth consecutive grant awarded to Raven Hill by MCACA and is for \$6,000. The award must be matched with another \$6,000 in cash or in-kind contributions. Blurred Boundaries will allow Raven Hill to expand its Ancient World area with five new megaliths. Megaliths are large stone sculptures or groupings of rocks originally placed for sacred celebrations or to honor something or someone.

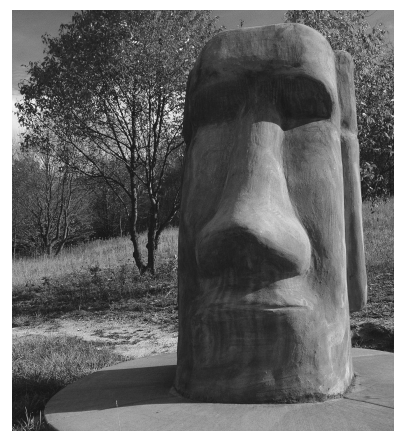
Two professional artists will create and install their modern interpretations of well-known ancient megaliths. Schools & community members will be invited to submit miniature interpretations of ancient megaliths. All submitted miniliths will be on display April 22nd to May 6th at Raven Hill. A judging committee will choose 3 miniature megaliths to be "enlarged" and installed in the Ancient World exhibit. All five new exhibits will be unveiled at a grand opening in September 16, 2012.

Blurred Boundaries will connect an awareness of the rocks that form our earth to ancient cultures and their interpretation of the world. It will bridge the gap between past and present; art and history, natural and manmade, simply decorative or purposeful.

"Our early ancestors exploited stone in many ways: they used it not only to create dwellings for the living and the dead, but also as a canvas for their sacred art, as a means of celebrating the heavens and of marking and commemorating the land of which they were an inseparable part." (Jan Pohribny, MAGIC STONES, 2007)

Raven Hill Discovery Center is the only place in northern Lower Michigan where children and adults can link science, history & the arts with hands-on activities and explorations both indoors and outdoors. Connections emerge through classes, exhibits and facilities that provide opportunities for all ages to learn, create, grow and play.

For more information, call 231.536.3369 or 877.833.4254.



The Easter Island Moai megalith is already a part of the Ancient World exhibit at Raven Hill Discovery Center. COURTESY PHOTO

TRACKING LEGISLATION

A weekly compilation of selected bills, resolutions and actions of the House and Senate in the state Legislature. To see more detail contact www.legislature.mi.gov/

HB 4369: Introduced by Rep. Frank Foster on Feb. 21, 2012. A bill to shield light fixtures so that no light rays are emitted by the installed fixture at angles above 15 degrees below the horizontal plane and also constructed so that the filament or light source is not visible to the naked eye when viewed from a point higher than 15 degrees below the horizontal plane.

STATUS: Referred to Committee on Natural Resources, Tourism and Outdoor Recreation.

HR 0189: Introduced by Rep. Douglas Geiss on Feb. 22, 2012. A resolution of gratitude to the people of the state of Michigan, the people of the United States of America, the President and Congress for their continued support of the domestic automobile industry.

STATUS: Referred to Committee on Commerce.

SCR 0028: Introduced by Sen. Rick Jones on Feb. 22, 2012. A concurrent resolution to memorialize Congress to fully fund the Facility for Rare Isotope Beams (FRIB) at Michigan State University to its full scheduled appropriation level. The FRIB project is an effort that reflects many years of

preparation, planning and coordination. The FRIB is a major commitment that represents an effort by our country to maintain its long-held leadership in basic scientific research. **STATUS:** Referred to Committee on Energy and Technology.

SB 0977: Introduced by Sen. Rick Jones on Feb. 23, 2012. A bill to amend



STATE OF MICHIGAN CAPITOL BUILDING PHOTOGRAPHER: BRIAN CHARLES WATSON

the Michigan Medical Act to declare glaucoma or its treatment is not a debili-

tating medical condition. **STATUS:** Referred to Committee on Judiciary.

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News

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“Stumped” about “Shoulder Season”

By Jim Akans

It's about that time again here in Northern Michigan...the “quiet” weeks that stretch between the bustle of activity surrounding the snow season (though that was a bit finicky this year) and the unveiling of the incredible array of outdoor summer recreational opportunities that are so beautifully unique to our area. It is a period I have often heard referred to as the “shoulder season,” an idiom that left me scratching my head wondering how such a description could apply to a time of few tourists, fewer activities and events, and frankly nothing to do with shoulders. It was an expression that left me “stumped.”

So I dug in.

It turns out “**shoulder season**” is travel industry jargon designating the “super deals” timeframe when a popular tourism destination transitions from low to high demand. Now technically, the north tends to transition from one high demand period to another, so I'm not sure the “shoulder” is the proper place for our region to land during downtimes in early spring and late fall. While the explanation at least satisfied my curiosity, it also piqued my interest regarding the origin of other common (as well as fading) idioms.

“**Stumped**” likely derives from our nation's pioneering days, when ploughs and implements would get stuck after hitting tree-stumps as

woodlands were being cleared for farmland, railroads and roadways. “Dig in” is a condensed version of “dig in your heels,” also harkening back to the early days when the best way to keep an ox, horse or mule from dragging the operator of an implement face down in the dirt was to do what the saying simply advises.

That got me going...what were the origins of some of those odder idioms and sayings that were commonplace among my elders, some of which continue to spout unexpectedly from my tongue to this day?

“**Dead as a Doornail**” - In days of old carpenters would bend over the ends of nails when building doors so those nails wouldn't work their way out when the door was used. Frugality being a rule before the age of government bailouts, tradesmen would often salvage nails from worn out building materials, but having been bent over, doornails were considered un-reclaimable...or “dead.”

“**Rings a Bell**” - Back in “the day” accurate timepieces weren't all that common, so the ringing of bells was routinely utilized to remind folks it was time for church, school, town meetings and other social events. Hence the phrase “rings a bell” is used today to indicate something we are reminded about.

“**With a Grain of Salt**” - Salt was once a primary food preservative, in high demand, and often scarce in supply. People would some-

times add salt to their food or drink, but just a grain or so, as a preventative measure. The phrase adapted nicely when taking information or advice from someone when the accuracy of that information was questionable.

“**My two cents worth**” - The earliest reference I could find was in the Gospels of Mark and Luke. There is a story in which wealthy temple patrons donate large sums of money and a poor widow places just two small coins, (i.e. her two cents), into the offering. Since the wealthy patrons still had plenty of money left over and the widow gave most, if not all of her money to the church, Jesus found greater favor with her than with the wealthy patrons.

One another side of this particular coin (or coins), sources trace the origin of this saying to reflect the custom of placing coins into the ante pot during betting card games, such as poker. It's somehow fitting that there are varying opinions regarding the origin of this phrase.

“**Dollars to donuts,**” - This was one of my mom's favorite sayings, and though I heard it hundreds of times while growing up and well into adulthood, I never considered what it could possibly mean, much less where it came from.

The standard interpretation of this idiom is that the person relaying it is very certain about the subject at hand (and my mom usually

was). The roots appear to be grown from the world of betting (again?), indicating someone is so confident in their belief they willing to risk money against items of little value (this was long before gourmet pastries). Apparently, the expression began as “dollars to but-tens,” evolved to “dollars to dumplings,” and finally hit the “sweet spot” when “dollars to donuts” entered the mainstream lingo in the 1920's.

And what about that “**sweet spot**?” There's an idiom that is used, and arguably overused, in the world of golf, tennis, music, consumer preferences, corporate effectiveness, political agendas, stock market investment strategies and more. The general consensus seems to be the metaphor grew from the world of baseball, designating the thickest part of the bat whereon a hitter skilled, or lucky enough, to connect with the oncoming ball will stand an excellent chance of sending it out of the park.

So regardless of whether we are indeed in our “shoulder season,” it's always a great moment in time to live right here in the “sweet spot” of Michigan. I'm also willing to bet “dollars to donuts” another outstanding summer waits in the wings.

That's my “two cents worth;” please take it with a “grain of salt” if you wish.

Citizens' Committee begins work on noise issue

B. J. Conley

BOYNE CITY — The city has named 10 members to the Citizens Committee to study the noise that emanates from a manufacturing plant in the city's industrial park. Neighbors around the plant have complained that the noise is too loud and affects their ability to sleep or relax.

The manufacturer, Kirtland Products, has taken steps to rectify the situation, but the problem remains. Kirtland makes wood pellets for commercial and residential heating.

The members chosen are from varied backgrounds: business, workers, residents, Kirtland owners and city staff. See sidebar to this story for the names.

A Request for Proposal has been developed and distributed directly to 15 firms and submitted to the Northwest Michigan Council of Governments Technical Assistance Center. Firms have until March 12 to submit proposals.

The first meeting of the Citizens Committee was held on Wednesday Feb. 29 and was an organizational meeting.

A discussion was held on whether the meeting would be open or closed to the public and the media. City manager Michael Cain said he had talked with the city attorney who had advised that it did not need to be an open meeting. Commissioners were mixed on their opinions and voted 3-2 to make it an open meeting.

The Open Meetings Act states that: the OMA does not apply to committees and subcommittees composed of less than a quorum of the full public body if they “are merely advisory or only capable of making recommendations concerning the exercise of governmental authority.”

reporterbjh@gmail.com

CITIZENS COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Tom Johnson
Bud Shear
Kirk Jabara
Laurie Leaman
Ryan Giem
Al Aown
Mike Hauser
Leon Tupper
Mike Lange
Tom Monley

CITY STAFF SUPPORT:

Hugh Conklin
Scott McPherson
Barb Brooks

Goodwill Retail & Distribution Centers in Petoskey and Gaylord

By Jim Akans

It is a well-recognized name that symbolizes services and programs that provide a means for people in need to get back on their feet and regain their treasured independence. Goodwill has been around since 1902, when a Boston area Methodist Minister named Rev. Edgar Helms began collecting used household goods and clothing, and hired those who were down on their luck to mend and repair those goods for resale. Here in Northern Michigan, Goodwill opened their doors at Asgard Enterprises in 1972, and today the non-profit organization offers vocational, housing, transportation, nutritional and family strengthening programs across the region.

Goodwill also continues to offer gently used clothing, household items, books, home décor accessories and more at their Retail and Donation Centers. In our area, centers are located in Petoskey and Gaylord, employing a total of 34 people, utilizing proceeds from sales at each location to help support programs throughout Northern Michigan that help people overcome barriers to independence.

“Part of our business model is also being ‘green,’” observes Ruth Blick, Director of Marketing and Communications for Goodwill Industries of Northern Michigan. “Everything that is donated to our stores is either reduced, reused or recycled. Items that come in that don't meet quality standards go thru our salvage pro-

gram. We are also in partnership with Dell Reconnect and we accept all types of computer equipment and recycle those items. Many people don't realize that a computer monitor can contain up to a pound of lead. We are able to safely recycle those units.”

Goodwill also recycles metal items, cardboard, purses, belts, shoes, books and clothing. The gently used items on the sales floor follow a rotation model where they are on display for four weeks a regular price, then half-off for a week, then reduced per item to 99-cents for adult sizes and 49-cents for children sizes, and those items are finally recycled if not sold.

“So there are always items at sale prices when someone visits our store,” observes Ruth Blick. “People want to see different items on display when they visit us. Thousands of items are regularly coming in and going out of our stores.”

Submitting items for donation is easy. Each location has a drive up donation center, open 7 days a week, and members of the Goodwill team will happily unload items from the donor's vehicle.

The 6,000 square foot Goodwill Retail and Donation Center at 1361 Pineview Drive in Gaylord is managed by Jessica McDowell, and is open Monday through Saturday from 9 am to 7 pm, and Sunday from 11am until 6 pm. The 6,700 square foot Goodwill Retail and Donation Center at 1600 Anderson Road in Petoskey is managed by Jan Henderson, and is open Monday through Saturday from

9 am to 8 pm, and Sunday from 11am until 6 pm.

For additional information, visit www.goodwillnmi.org



ABOVE: The 6,700 square foot Goodwill Retail and Donation Center in Petoskey is located at 1600 Anderson Road.

BELOW: The 6,000 square foot Goodwill Retail and Donation Center in Gaylord, managed by Jessica McDowell, is located at 1361 Pineview Drive



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Northern Michigan Treasure Hunter's Guide to area antique, consignment, resale and thrift shops

News

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Upcoming lecture at NCMC to feature local adventure

North Central Michigan College's international lecture series will feature the adventures of Boyne City science teacher, Susan Martin Sharp, on the Snowman Trek in Bhutan at a lecture on Wednesday, March 7. This free program will take place at 7 p.m. in the Library conference room on the Petoskey campus.

Often dubbed "the hardest trek in the world," the Snowman Trek winds its way through the western corner of Bhutan. Last fall, Susan Martin Sharp crossed 11 mountain passes, nine of which are more than 4,500 meters high. Sharp will talk about the people of Bhutan, the geology of the country and her incredible adventures on the trek. An avid adventurer, Sharp has also cross-country skied to the North Pole and climbed Mt. Kilimanjaro. When she is not adventuring, she teaches eighth grade science at Boyne City Middle School.

No reservations are required. This free program is sponsored by the Michigan Global Awareness Consortium, a group of community colleges dedicated to bringing global issues, international opportunities, and information to their campuses. For more information, call 231-348-6705.

North Central Michigan College is an open-door community college based in Petoskey. Through its University Center partnerships, students can take courses leading to certificates, bachelor's and master's degrees from participating universities. North Central's Corporate and Community Education offers non-credit job skills training tailored to meet individual needs. In addition to its main campus in Petoskey, North Central offers classes, academic advising, testing and other services in Cheboygan, Gaylord and East Jordan.

DAVE Says

Sell the bike?

Dear Dave,
My husband and I have been through Financial Peace University. I've always been the numbers nerd, although he's catching on and doing pretty well. He has a motorcycle he bought a few years ago before we got married, and still owes \$7,000 on it. My common sense says we need to sell it, but he doesn't want to, even though we haven't been riding in over a year. What should I do?

Gina
Dear Gina,
It sounds like he's making progress, so we don't want to ruin that. Here's the question: if you win the bike battle, do you lose relationship war? In other words, if you force him to give up the motorcycle, will it damage the marriage and the progress he's made toward getting out of debt and learning how to handle money?

If I were you, I'd first sit down with him and tell him how proud I am for the way he's trying to improve the financial situation in your home. Then, I'd suggest that the motorcycle is a stumbling block to your shared financial goals. Ask him what he'd be willing to do to get the motorcycle paid off more quickly. Would he pick up a part-time job, or maybe sacrifice something else he's spending money on? But let him know the motorcycle isn't really the issue. The issue is that you guys need a plan to get this \$7,000 debt out of your life!
—Dave

Single again ...

Dear Dave,
I got divorced recently, and have custody of our children who are 12 and 17. I'm lucky enough to be debt-free, and I own the house we're living in, which is worth about \$350,000. I also have \$160,000 in savings, and we receive \$1,200 in child support every month. People are all telling me I should be investing, but each one tells me to do a different kind of investing.

What do you suggest?
Mary Dear Mary,
I know going through a divorce has got to be hard on you and your kids. Make sure you spend lots of time hugging on them and letting them know they're loved. Fortunately, things are still pretty good in your world in a financial sense. Your net worth is a half-million dollars, plus you have no debt. Most ladies don't find themselves as lucky money-wise after a divorce.

Don't do too much with the \$160,000 right now. Just park \$100,000 of it in a CD for a year until you get over the shock of everything that has happened. You won't make much money, but you won't lose anything, either. Then, take the remaining \$60,000, and invest it in good growth stock mutual funds — ones that are very conservative and have at least a 10-year track record of success.

You've also got to take a look down the road and decide what you want to do with the rest of your life. You're going to be an empty-nester in a few years. Do you want to go back to school or maybe start your own business? You've got a little learning to do about investing, too. Taking a year or so will allow for education and thinking about what you want out of life. Knowledge has a way of erasing fear. Plus, you've got a responsibility to your kids to invest this money wisely.

When everything settles down a bit, just take your time, find a good investment professional with the heart of a teacher, and make sure you don't put money into anything you don't understand. Spend lots of time loving on your kids, too. That'll help with the healing process as much as anything.

—Dave
* For more financial help please visit daveramsey.com.



Dave Ramsey



Jim Daly

FOCUS ON THE FAMILY

with Jim Daly & Juli Slattery



Dr. Juli Slattery

BULLIES MAKING SCHOOL DIFFICULT FOR CHILD

QUESTION: Our son is in third grade, and we suspect that some of the older kids at school are taunting him. He doesn't want to talk about it, though, and keeps assuring us everything is fine. What should we do?

JIM: If the older kids are bothering him, he probably feels very alone right now. I know what that's like. When I was a kid, I fell victim to the neighborhood bully. My parents weren't around, so it eventually fell to my older sister to come to my defense. Long story short: She decked him, and he never bothered me again. That's obviously not the best way to deal with this issue!

Bullying is a rising problem in schools. Kids in this situation need to know that Mom and Dad are on their side. Author Brad Lewis has identified four ways parents can support their kids when they're being bullied:

1. Don't wait for your child to talk about it. If you sense there's a problem, say, "Is someone picking on

you at school?" Some bullies will threaten to harm a child if he tells. Keeping the lines of communication open will assure your child that he's not alone.

2. Watch for (BEGIN ITALS)nonverbal(END ITALS) signs of bullying. Does your child want to stay home? Does he keep "losing" his lunch money? Is he hungry right after school even though he took a big lunch? These could be warning signs.

3. Encourage your child to make friends. Being with one other buddy might deter a bully. While peer support does not replace adult intervention, it does provide an emotional safety net and can help restore lost hope.

4. Let the school know what's going on — but in a discreet manner. Your child may fear that if you make a fuss, it will make things worse. Keep the same thing in mind if you know the parents of the bullies and decide to contact them.

QUESTION: I have a 12-year-old boy who never gets his chores or homework done because he's ob-

essed with video games. I've tried telling him he can't play until he gets his work done, but then he rushes through his work and does a sloppy job because he's so anxious to play. I'm at my wit's end!

JULI: As the mom of three boys, I know your frustration. Boys can become obsessed and even addicted to video games. Unfortunately, the problem does not always disappear with time. College students are failing classes and husbands are ignoring their wives because of gaming.

Here's what I recommend. Your son needs to be reminded that video games are a privilege to be earned, not a right. While he is at school one day, remove the game console from the family room and hide it. When your son discovers that the video games are gone, very calmly state that they have become a distraction. Explain that the video games will be put away for a while until he learns to focus on his grades and chores. If you

see him being disciplined with his work for several weeks in a row, you may consider reintroducing video games. Then, allow him to play only for a short period of time on the weekends, as long as he continues to complete his homework and chores. Eventually, give him the goal of monitoring his own video game time and schoolwork.

After all, before you know it, he will be a young man, needing the muscles of self-discipline and balance. As the saying goes, "It's easier to raise a boy than fix a man!" **

Jim Daly is president of Focus on the Family, host of the Focus on the Family radio program, and a husband and father of two.

Dr. Juli Slattery is a licensed psychologist, co-host of Focus on the Family, author of several books, and a wife and mother of three.

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FROM PAGE 1 County Parks

B. J. Conley

CHARLEVOIX — Parks and recreation is abuzz with county projects and potential acquisitions. Whiting Park is slated for construc-

tion of a new pavilion. The park was made possible when an early resident, Perry Whiting, deeded land to the county in 1923, with the stipulation that it remains a public park. Currently, a resident with 72 acres contiguous to Whiting Park would like the county to purchase the land. Eveline Township supervisor, John Vrondran, attended the meeting. "It's easier to get grants if property

is contiguous and existing," Vrondran said. "The state is more into expansion than development." Hayes Township would like the county's assistance in the acquisition of Camp Sea Gull. Hayes Township clerk, Marlene Golovich attended the Feb. 22 county board of commissioners meeting where it was discussed. Parks director Ross Maxwell asked the commissioners if they were going

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Food & Dining

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Great food & great beer in perfect harmony

Murray's Bar & Grill hosts exciting new dinner series



Executive Chef Justin Burch and Sous Chef Jessie Murray Burch prepare the salad course which includes Cranberry Soft Parade (Short's) Chutney.

Murray's Bar & Grill of East Jordan has launched a series of dinners featuring beers, wines and spirits from local breweries and vineyards, paired with the kitchen magic of Murray's chefs, Justin and Jessie Burch.

The first event took place on November 22, 2011 featuring Short's Brewing Co. of Bellaire, MI. During each of the 5 courses, Jon Wojtowicz of Short's gave a description of the beer which either accompanied or was incorporated in the dish. Jessie Burch then described the dish itself and, in several cases, gave out recipe cards for the "do-it-yourselfer" in the kitchen. Incorporated in the menu were Short's Pontius Pilsner, Soft Parade, Pandemonium Pale Ale, Nicie Spicie, Black Cherry Porter and Bellaire Brown.

The next event, featuring New Holland Brewing Co. of Holland, MI, will be Tuesday, March 6, 2012 at 5:30 p.m. The dinner will feature New Holland's Full Circle, Cabin Fever, Mad Hatter, Sundog, Dragon's Milk and Poet Stout beers. Isaac Hartman, New Holland's beer guru, will be on-hand to discuss the brewing process and the Murray's chefs will talk about the pairing process - choosing beers to compliment ingredients.

"Pairing beer with food can be just as interesting as wine pairings," says Sous Chef Jessie Burch. "There are so many different subtle notes and flavor profiles inherent in beer, especially in our Michigan hand-crafted beers, that

pair really well with food." Tickets are \$50 per person (including tax & gratuity) and must be purchased in advance at Murray's. Seating is limited, so reserve your tickets today.

Save the date! The Bell's Dinner is Tuesday, May 1, 2012 which will also be the beginning of Oberon Week

at Murray's. Murray's is located at 115 Main Street in downtown East Jordan.

For more information, contact Murray's at 231-536-3395, email Emily Welsh at Murrayem@yahoo.com or Laurie Hodgson at laurie@northbays.com, or visit www.murraysbar.com.



Jon Wojtowicz, Short's Brewing Co., and Emily Murray Welsh, co-owner of Murray's, greet guests at the November 22 Short's & Murray's paired beer dinner.



Intermezzo Course - Mango Nicie Spicie (Short's) Sorbet.



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Arts & Entertainment

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Rob Bliss, "You Tube" video sensation & community revitalization speaker to appear at Boyne District Library



Rob Bliss, whose Grand Rapids LipDub video featuring the classic song "American Pie" has received more than 4 million views, will be visiting Boyne City on March 8th to make two presentations about community revitalization. COURTESY PHOTO

Rob Bliss, whose Grand Rapids LipDub video featuring the classic song "American Pie" has received more than 4 million views, will be visiting Boyne City on March 8th to make two presentations. He will be speaking at the Boyne District Library's community room next Thursday evening at 6 p.m.

His presentation, titled "Creative Director," will feature events he has organized in downtown Grand Rapids over the past few years. His work focuses on downtown revitalization, youth retention in West Michigan, and creating large-scale, participant-driven community events.

Bliss's presentation at the library is free and open to the public. Earlier in the day he will be speaking to Boyne City High School students at a school assembly.

Bliss is a 22-year-old creative-event organizer and his efforts have been focused on downtown Grand Rapids. In the past three years he has created events that have had a combined attendance of more than 100,000 people, and he has done it without spending a dollar on conventional advertising. By creating free, fun, inclusive community events, he has been a key figure in the revitalization efforts in downtown Grand Rapids.

His Grand Rapids LipDub video on Youtube was described by film critic Roger Ebert as the "greatest music video ever made." As a result of the video's success, Bliss has been featured on World News with Diane Sawyer, The Today Show, Fox News, Business Insider, Bloomberg Television, and in countless newspaper and magazine stories.

Bliss has created the world's largest pillow fight and zombie walk, and organized the launching of 100,000 paper airplanes onto a crowd of 30,000 people. This was the largest crowd assembled in downtown Grand Rapids since President John Kennedy's campaign visit in 1960, with the entire crowd singing the same melody together in the streets. Bliss once also built a 500-foot inflatable water slide in the middle of the street in downtown Grand Rapids, free for anyone to ride for an entire weekend.

The upcoming presentations by Rob Bliss are sponsored by the Boyne City Main Street Program and the Boyne District Library. For more information, contact the Main Street office at 582-9009 or the library at 582-7861, and check out Rob Bliss Events on Facebook.com.

"Murder at the OK Corral" is a dinner mystery fundraiser at Weathervane Restaurant

By Jim Akans

Hold your horses partners...and don't miss the upcoming "Murder at the OK Corral" dinner mystery fundraiser event for the Charlevoix Area Humane Society to be held at Weathervane Restaurant in Charlevoix on Saturday, March 3rd.

"This is the second fundraising event of this type we have held," notes Alice Marshall, Fundraising Chair for the Charlevoix Area Humane Society. "It is a wonderful western style dinner combined with a "whodunit" murder mystery where attendees can participate in figuring out who committed the "crime" and what the motive was. It is a lot of fun, and last time several of the guests arrived in costume, joining the ten "suspects" who will be mingling among diners providing clues during the evening."

As much fun as this event promises to be, the proceeds from the evening will help support a very critical area need; helping to fund the Charlevoix Area Humane Society's spay/neuter pro-

gram and Angel Fund.

"Our goal is to spay or neuter every dog or cat before it leaves our shelter," Marshall states, "and we offer a reduced fee program for Charlevoix County residents. Our Angel Fund started about eight years ago. A 14-week-old Sheltie puppy named Angel came to us with a horribly battered leg. The Veterinarian wasn't sure he could save the leg, and possibly the puppy's life, and the fee for surgery was well beyond our organizations means."

She explains that after running an article about the seemingly doomed puppy, people from across the county began donating money for the surgery. After the surgery, one of the names of the family members adopting the puppy was also named Angel, and the Angel Fund was born.

"Someone said puppy must have had an angel on her shoulder," Marshall recalls. "We recently spoke with the adoptive family, and they told us they had just clocked the puppy running at 35 mph!"

Tickets for Saturday evening's Murder at the OK



Don't miss the upcoming "Murder at the OK Corral" a dinner mystery fundraiser event for the Charlevoix Area Humane Society to be held at Weathervane Restaurant in Charlevoix on Saturday, March 3rd.

Corral event are \$75 per person. There will be a cocktail-cash bar and hors d'oeuvres hour starting at 6 pm, a Country and Western band will play some uplifting music for the first hour and a half, and dinner will begin at 7 pm. A limited

number of tickets are still available at Weathervane Restaurant, the Charlevoix and Boyne City Chambers of Commerce, or by calling the Charlevoix Area Humane Society at (231)-582-6774.

Plans under way for Instant Wine Cellar fundraiser

Plans are underway for Char-Em United Way's Instant Wine Cellar party. The 2nd Instant Wine Cellar is scheduled for 7p.m. Friday, April 20, at the Perry Hotel in Petoskey. The night will feature a chance to win a collection of wine or 99 Bottles of Shorts Beer and will include live entertainment from Northern Michigan's own Boyne River Remedy.

Entry to the event is either a bottle of wine, a six-pack of craft beer, or \$15. With the purchase of raffle tickets, guests have a chance to win an Instant Wine Cellar or 99 Bottles of Craft Beer from the donated beverages as well as many other fantastic prizes. Adding to the entertainment, there will be a silent auction, Stafford's hors d'oeuvres, as well as a cash bar.

A committee of local, young professionals is organizing the evening to benefit Char-Em United Way's Volunteer Connections program and hopes to bring awareness to the positive impact the organization has on the community. Ben Crockett, Adjunct Instructor at NCMC and Betsy Britton of Korthase-Flinn Insurance and Financial Services of Boyne City, serve as the event co-chairs.

"This was a huge success last year," said Ben Crockett, co-chair of the event committee. "This is a great event for young people in the area to get together for a good cause and they're already talking about it."

All proceeds from the Instant



Ryan Nelson won the Grand Prize at the 2011 Instant Wine Cellar

Wine Cellar event will support Char-Em United Way's Volunteer Connections program. Volunteer Connections is a virtual volunteer center which promotes volunteerism in the community and helps people find opportunities that meet their passion and interests.

For more information or to RSVP for the party, contact United Way at 231-487-1006 or info@charemunited-way.org, visit www.charemunited-way.org, Events, or sign up on Facebook.

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Friday: 7pm, Sat & Sun: 4:30 & 7pm, Mon. - Thurs.: 7pm

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Parents and fans can send photos, local news and news releases for everything Charlevoix County to us at Office@CharlevoixCountyNews.com

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News Briefs

ONLINE AT WWW.CHARLEVOIXCOUNTYNEWS.COM

EAST JORDAN

World Day of Prayer

Our local worship service will be held at the Community of Christ Church, 202 Jordan Street. Friday, March 2 at 1pm.

CHARLEVOIX

St. Mary's Fish Fry & St. Patrick's Day Dinner

Dates for the Lenten Fish Fry are March 2, March 9, March 23, and March 30 from 5:30-7:30. \$9 for adults and \$4 for children. The annual St. Patrick's Day Dinner will be March 18th from 12-3pm. Adults are \$10, Seniors are \$7, Children are \$5 or a family is \$30.

CHARLEVOIX COUNTY

Looking for Volunteers

Hospice of Northwest Michigan is looking for new volunteers. To qualify as a Hospice volunteer you must undergo a criminal background check, including fingerprinting, pass a drug test, complete a 4 session training course and commit to at least 2 hours a week of volunteer time. If you are interested in being part of the training which will begin on March 1, please contact Cheri Hoffman 547-7659.

EAST JORDAN

Ice skating rink open

The ice skating rink is now open at East Jordan Community Park. The rink is lit for night skating, so get the kids out after school and enjoy a great family activity.

PETOSKEY

Cooking class

Tuesdays through March 27, Crooked Tree Arts Center will host cooking classes with chefs from around the area. Café Santé on March 6, the Twisted Olive on March 13, Thai Orchid on March 20, and wrapping up the series on March 27 with Lake Street Market. For more information on these classes or other programs offered at Crooked Tree Art Center go online to www.crookedtree.org or call the arts center at 231-347-4337.

PETOSKEY

Nursing info

North Central Michigan College's nursing faculty will hold informational sessions on March 14, at 4:15 p.m. until 5:30 p.m. to explain the process for admission into the college's highly competitive nursing program and the courses that students must take prior to entry.

BOYNE CITY

Winter Farmers Market

Winter hours will be Saturdays from 10am to 2pm. The market will be held in the red building next to the library.

CHARLEVOIX COUNTY

Ride free to Senior Centers

Don't be a shut in this winter. Good food, good fun daily at any of the county's senior centers. Charlevoix County Transit 231-582-6900 provides free

rides to and from any of the County's Senior Centers.

EAST JORDAN

Sno-Lovers Breakfast

East Jordan Sno-Mobilers Club House, Mt. Bliss Rd. Adults-\$6, Kids (5-10) \$3, Under 4 Free. Every Sunday, 7am - Noon

CHARLEVOIX

Indoor farmers market

The Charlevoix Winter Farmers Market will be held indoors at the Charlevoix Public Library the first Thursday of every month from 10am to 2pm, November through May.

CHARLEVOIX

Skinny 501c3 workshop

Think your nonprofit or small business can't afford state-of-the-art technology tools? Think again! In hard economic times, successful organizations learn to do more with less. Our Skinny 501c3 workshop series will show you how you can have up-to-date tech and still spend your money on your mission, not your tools. 1st & 3rd Saturdays, 9:30-11:30am. \$20 To register: 231-838-6460. Attend as many workshops as you like. We supply coffee, tea, and donuts. Bring your laptop if you want a hands-on experience, or just sit back and learn.

EAST JORDAN

Fiddlers Jamboree

Saturday, March 3 the Harvest Barn Church will host the Fiddlers Jamboree. There is no admission fee (donation box at the door) Jamboree Noon - 5pm and Dance from 7 - 10pm. Everyone is welcome!

CHARLEVOIX

Shootout at the OK Corral

Join the Charlevoix Area Humane Society at 6pm Saturday, March 3 at the Weathervane restaurant for Shootout at the OK Corral. The fund-raiser will be a gunsmoking good time with dinner starting at 7pm. Help us figure out who dunnit and have a great meal with good friends at the same time. Tickets are \$75 per person, available at the Humane Society and the chamber offices in Boyne City and Charlevoix. For more information, call Jodie Adams at 231-582-6774

EAST JORDAN

Maple tree tapping

Saturday, March 3rd, Noon. Join the Martha Wagbo Farm

and Education Center for our monthly potluck program! Lunch starts at Noon. Bring a dish if you can, but it's not required. Wagbo provides drinks and table service. The program begins at 1pm with an excursion to the Wagbo Sugarbush to tap maples with the Friends of the Wagbo Sugarbush (FWSB). Our sugarbush is a half-mile hike from the farmhouse, so come prepared for the trip and for the weather. No experience necessary. Bring a cordless drill and 5/16" bit if you have one. For more info, call 231-536-0333 or email info@wagbo.org.

CHARLEVOIX

Mom to mom sale

On March 3rd from 5-7pm the Mom to Mom sale in the Charlevoix American will take place, there are still spaces available! The cost to sell is \$30 and includes an entire standard room to display your sale items and then you get to keep the room for the night! For more details call Randi at 231-237-0988 for additional details. Free admission.

BOYNE CITY

Parking restricted

The Boyne City Police Department and Department of Public Works would like to remind vehicle owners that parking on the streets is restricted during the winter months. There is no parking on the city streets between 2am and 6am. This is to allow the street crews to plow and get the snow removed from the streets. Parking is available in the municipal lots through town. Vehicles left parked on the streets overnight, can be ticketed and/or towed at the vehicle owner's expense. If you have any questions about where you can park, please call the Police Department at (231)582-6611.

PETOSKEY

Homebuyer workshop

Northwest Michigan Community Action Agency (NMCAA) will be presenting a two day workshop on Homebuyer Education on March 6 and 8 from 6pm to 9pm. This course will teach you the basics of the home buying process including options for low income and moderate income families. The workshops are offered free to the public at 2202 Mitchell Park. Attend both workshops to get your certificate of completion! To register or to find out about future workshops, please call (231) 347-9070 or (800) 443-5518 or visit www.nmcaa.net.

BOYNE CITY

Let me look into your eyes

If you want to find out what Iridology is all about, and perhaps get a quick assessment of your eyes done, join Teri Rounds at the Boyne City Library at 6 p.m. Tuesday, March 6th. She will be asking for audience participation and assessing your eyes on a volunteer basis. This is always a time of discovery and quite fascinating. Iridology is a form of assessing the eye for predisposition to illness. According to Rounds: "It is a fascinating field, which is commonly used in doctor's offices in Europe and Asia, but unfortunately, only in a few offices here in the US. Iridology is a means of prevention; we see the health issue before it evolves, enabling us to work with healing the problem before it gets out of hand. I have helped many! I have been practicing Iridology and Sclerology for about 7 years and love what I do. I am an R.N. of over 30 years and have worked primarily in the hospital

setting." For further information call Teri Rounds at 586-530-6532.

EAST JORDAN

Free health workshop

The East Jordan Family Health Center is hosting a free health workshop in East Jordan from March 7 to April 11 to help individuals manage chronic or long-term health conditions. The Personal Action Toward Health (PATH) class will meet on Wednesdays from 9:30 a.m. until Noon in the Community Room at the East Jordan Family Health Center, 601 Bridge Street, East Jordan, MI. It is a six week workshop conducted in 2 1/2 hour sessions each week. Registration for the PATH workshop is necessary and enrollment is limited. To register or for more information, contact the East Jordan Family Health Center at 231-536-2206 and ask for Pam Walsh or Connie Roland.

CHARLEVOIX

Wellness Wednesday

Charlevoix Area Hospital's next "Wellness Wednesday" cholesterol screening will be from 8am until 11am on Wednesday, March 7. The Wellness Wednesday Health Screens include: Total Cholesterol, HDL, ratio, and Glucose levels, Body Mass Index (BMI) score, Fat Percentage, and a Blood Pressure reading. No fasting is required. However, if you are fasting an LDL and triglyceride reading can also be obtained. Cost for the service is \$12. Participants will also receive a blood pressure log and pedometer as well as all test results at the time of the screen. A Registered Nurse will adapt health consultation and educational materials to individual results. Appointments can be made in advance by calling the office of Community Health Education at Charlevoix Area Hospital 231-547-8906 or by email kjacobsen@cah.org Walk-ins are always welcome.

EAST JORDAN

Business after hours

March 8 sponsored by Boyne Gazette at the Jordan Inn, 5:30 - 7:30pm.

EAST JORDAN

Walleye Tourney

Last Chance Walleye Tournament Saturday, March 10 to benefit Care and Share Food Pantry. 1st Place Walleye \$1,000 plus the winning fish will be mounted by Fish Whisperer Taxidermy in Gaylord. Other prizes include Biggest Perch - 1st \$100. Sponsored by Stark Real Estate, 2nd \$50. Sponsored by Rich Hoffman Cottage Service, Biggest Pike (hook-n-line only) 1st \$100. Sponsored by Stark Real Estate, 2nd \$50. Sponsored by Lakeside Chiropractic. There will be weigh-in station, concessions, warm-up shanty, port-a-potties located at the E.J. Tourist Park. Register/information at Tom's Bait & Tackle in East Jordan - 231-536-3521, Holiday Station Store in Charlevoix - 231-547-2821, Boyne Co-op- True Value in Boyne City - 231-582-1700 or Chicken-N-Stuff will be open at 5am for breakfast.

ELMIRA

Donation sale & bake sale

Have gently used unwanted stuff? Please donate items to the Elmira-Warner Firefighters, all proceeds will go to the firefighters to help raise money for special items. (dress uniforms, ID Cards, Badges, Halloween Candy, food for Community Christmas party, and many other things) March 10 at Elmira Twp. Hall, 9am - 6pm. Donated items can be dropped off at the Fire Hall on Tuesday, March 6th between 6 and 9pm. Arrangements call be made if not able to make this time. Please contact Leigh-Anne Marsh at 989-370-2271

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Home show

March 9—10. Little Traverse Association of Home Builders Annual Home Show at North Central Michigan College's Main Campus.

BOYNE CITY

Irish Heritage Festival

Boyne City's Irish Heritage Festival includes a full range of themed events from March 11 through March 18. This is the fifth year of the celebration of Boyne City's Irish foundations, which began when Irish immigrants John and Harriet Miller settled here in 1856. In addition to a dinner on March 17, the festival includes two Irish films, two Celtic music sessions, a history program on "The Battle of the Boyne Revisited," and a genealogy workshop to provide help tracing family lineage back to the "Olde Country." Local businesses will be offering some special Irish items, and decorating their establishments in suitable Irish décor. The Boyne City Main Street Program produces the event under the leadership of event chairman Linn Williams. The Irish Heritage Dinner will be the highlight of the festival from 5 to 8pm on St. Patrick's Day, Saturday, March 17 at the Boyne City Eagles Hall. It is a traditional six-course Irish feast prepared by high school culinary arts students, as well as Irish step dancers and Irish music and song from the Hooligans. Admission is \$15 for adults if paid by March 13 and \$20 after. Admission is \$8 for children ages 6 to 12 and free for children under 6. Tickets will be available at the Boyne Area Chamber, Eagles Hall, Local Flavor, and Country Now & Then/Up the Lazy River. See the full schedule at www.boyneirishfestival.com.

BOYNE CITY

Ice Out contest

The Great Lake Charlevoix Ice Out contest will be held again this winter as a fund fund-raiser benefiting the Alano Clubs of Boyne City and Charlevoix. Community members will have the opportunity to purchase guesses on the day and time the carefully selected rock, "Rocky Balboa", will fall through the ice. The person who picks the closest date and time will win \$1,000. The rest of the funds will be split between the two organizations. Rocky and a specially constructed clock will be placed on Lake Charlevoix near the marina lighthouse as soon as ice conditions allow. Tickets are available until March 15. The cost for each guess is \$2 and tickets will be sold by Alano Club board members and at participating businesses, including the Boyne Area Chamber, Local Flavor bookstore and Pat O'Brien Real Estate. Alano clubs manage facilities that host 12-step recovery programs such as Alcoholics Anonymous, Alanon, Alateen, Narcotics Anonymous, etc. to meet the needs of individuals, families and communities. For more information about this contest or the Alano Clubs of Boyne City or Charlevoix, contact Pat O'Brien at 231-582-1700 or Richard O'Leary at 231- 547- 9184.

EAST JORDAN

Artist Gathering

Artist Gathering will continue during the winter each Wednesday thru March 14. They will meet at the Jordan River Art Center in the lower gallery. Fresh flowers will be provided each week. All artist wishing to be together to participate art are welcome. There is no fee or pre-registration. On occasion mini-lessons may be presented by someone attending. Some videos may be shared. The JRAC art library is available for use. When the East Jordan School is closed so is the art center. It should be noted that the summer plein aire scheduled has already been planned. For further information contact Karen Kimmell, 231-582-0683, kakimmell@gmail.com or Nancy Carey 231-536-7912, ncarey@charter.net.

CHARLEVOIX

Synthetics Education from BASES

This link just came out recently through the Partnership for DrugFree.org and is an audio / slide share program on synthetics. Very appropriate for all parents, adults who work with teens and older teens themselves so they have accurate information about these new emerging drugs that are being abused. www.slideshare.net/PartnershipDigital/parents360-synthetic-drugs-bath-salts-k2-spice-115903321

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News Briefs

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BOYNE CITY

BAC Moves (temporarily)

Boyne Arts Collective (BAC) Gallery at 210 S Lake Street in Boyne City has been temporarily relocated to the Boyne Mountain's "Made in Michigan" Shop for January, February, and March. The Shop is located on the second level of the building across from the Lift Ticket Counter on Village Lane. Made in Michigan Shop is open Sunday - Tuesday 12 - 5pm and Wednesday - Saturday 12 - 8 PM. Every Friday and Saturday from 5 - 7pm there is Beer and Wine Tasting at the shop. BAC artists will demonstrate a variety of art techniques every weekend at the Made in Michigan Shop on Friday and Saturday from 2 - 6pm and on Sundays from Noon - 4PM.

CHARLEVOIX

College Night

Students and parents will have a unique opportunity to explore a wide variety of higher education options at the Fourth Annual Northern Michigan College Night on Thursday, March 15th, from 6:30-8pm. The free college fair will be hosted by Charlevoix High School, 5200 Marion Center Rd., Charlevoix. Designed for high school juniors, sophomores, and their families, College Night introduces students and their parents to representatives from approximately 50 post-secondary institutions. Participants will receive important information about educational planning, gather literature, speak one-on-one with representatives from these institutions, and visit displays from various colleges, universities, and the armed forces. For more information, students may contact Charlevoix High School at 231-547-8206.

BOYNE CITY

High school musical

Students from the Boyne City High School drama program will produce the musical "Pajama Game" in the Performing Arts Center on March 17, 18, 23 and 24. Performance times are 7 p.m. except for 2 p.m. on Sunday, March 18. Pajama game is a musical and a romantic comedy that takes place in 1957 in a pajama factory where the workers are demanding a 7-1/2 cents an hour pay raise. It was a movie with Doris Day as well as on Broadway. It was also given the Tony Award in 2006 for best revival, when it starred Harry Connick Jr. Tickets are \$5 or \$10 for patrons (center, main floor) and are available at Local Flavor.

PETOSKEY

Budgeting workshop

Northwest Michigan Community Action Agency will be hosting a workshop on Budgeting on March 20 from 6pm to 9pm, as part of a series of six workshops on financial fitness. This workshop is offered free to the public at NMCAA, 2202 Mitchell Park. To register or to find out about future workshops, please call (231) 347-9070 or (800) 443-5518 or visit www.nmcaa.net.

PETOSKEY

NMC Family fun nights

The North Central Michigan College gym and fitness center is offering family fun nights on March 21 from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m. Dinner and activities will be in the Student and Community Resource Center gymnasium on the Petoskey campus. Activities will include soccer, basketball, volleyball and Eclipse Ball. There will be appropriate toys and tumbling mats for toddlers and an obstacle course for children ages 7 to 11. The fitness staff will be available to help parents and their children with all activities. Participants should wear suitable gym clothing and clean, dry shoes. Cost is \$5 per family and includes all activities and a light dinner of chili or soup, crackers and bread, and applesauce. For families who wish to participate in games and activities only, the cost is \$3 per family. Coffee and hot chocolate will also be for sale. For more information, call 231-439-6370.

CHARLEVOIX & EMMET COUNTY

Project Connect

Your help is needed. Local human service agencies are once again joining forces. Planning for the fifth annual Charlevoix-Emmet Project Connect has begun. This year the event will be held on

March 21 from 10am to 5:30pm at the Community Building at the Emmet County Fairgrounds in Petoskey. Project Connect connects people in need with a range of health and human services needed to improve their lives. The planning team anticipates an event both bigger and better this year. Last year the event reached over 800 individuals. All received a wide range of supportive services. Assistance with housing, food, tax preparation, health services, and much more were provided throughout the day. Free haircuts and chair massages were available. Guests received a meal and gifts of food, personal care and household items. Individuals or businesses interested in donating items might consider conducting a drive at their business, school, or faith community. Lists of specific food, personal care, household, or other items that are most needed are listed on the United Way website www.charemunited-way.org, under Find a Donation Drive.

CHARLEVOIX

Winterfolk Concert Series

March 26: Bob & Letty Faccett, 6:30pm at Charlevoix Public Library, 220 W. Clinton St.

MANCELONA

Wall Repair and Painting workshop

NMCAA in Petoskey will also hold a Wall Repair and Painting workshop on March 27 at 201 E. State Street from 6pm to 9pm. To register or to find out about future workshops, please call (231) 347-9070 or (800) 443-5518 or visit www.nmcaa.net.

CHARLEVOIX

Scholarship

The Charlevoix Chamber of Commerce raises funds every year from the silent auction at the Annual Gala and Awards Ceremony to award local graduates scholarships for future education. Requirements include:

1. Must be a graduating high school senior who is planning to attend an accredited vocational school, community college or university.
2. Must be accepted to an accredited two or four year institution of higher learning (college or vocational school).
3. Must have a 3.0 or better Grade Point Average (GPA)
4. Must be either an employee of a company which is a member of the Charlevoix Area Chamber of Commerce or the child of an employee.
5. Immediate family members of the Chamber's Selection Committee members are ineligible to apply for the Chamber Scholarship.

Applications are due on April 16th at 5pm and can be downloaded here: <http://www.charlevoix.org/General/scholarship.htm>

CHARLEVOIX

K of C Cash Raffle Party

Reserve your ticket today. Overwhelming "positives" from last year's event and lots of new for this year to keep on improving the best party in Charlevoix! Sponsored By the Charlevoix Knights of Columbus Council 7172. On Saturday, April 21 from 6-11:30pm at Castle Farms Knights East Garden. The event costs \$150 per ticket, Admits Two. Donation includes all food, entertainment and beverage allowance. Over \$14,750 in Cash Prizes! 26 Prizes To Be Awarded. All religions and denominations welcome. This is to Celebrate Spring! Music by Steve Larson of Disc-O-Nection back again from 6:30-11:30pm. Catering by Matter of Taste! Luscious array of delicious gourmet foods. Serving from 6:30 - 10pm. Two mixed cocktail bars and a beer/ wine bar to serve you! Serving from 6 - 11pm. To purchase your ticket now please contact one of these Knights or any area Knight. Ticket reservations are first come-first served. Steve Seely: 231-499-3674, Ed Linse: 231-547-4526, Gabe Campbell: 231-547-9739, John Haggard: 231-547-4046, Roger Nesburg: 231-547-5111, Paul Hoelderle: 231-547-6127

EAST JORDAN

Kindergarten Round Up

April 24th and 26th from 11am - 7pm. Call East Jordan Public School to make an appointment. 231-536-7564

Dolores Jankowski, 66

Dolores Jankowski, of Petoskey and formerly of Boyne Falls, died Sunday, Feb. 26, 2012, at Northern Michigan Regional Hospital at the age of 66.

A funeral Mass will take place at 11 a.m. Saturday, March 3, at St. Augustine's Catholic Church in Boyne Falls. Visitation will be 4:30-8 p.m. Friday, March 2, at St. Augustine church.

Ruth G. Boyd, 84

Ruth G. Boyd, 84, of Gladstone and formerly of Charlevoix, died Feb. 26, 2012. Arrangements are pending at Winchester Funeral Home in Charlevoix.

Richard David 'Dick' Lepman

(DEC. 8, 1927 - FEB. 21, 2012)

Richard David "Dick" Lepman, 84, of Northbrook, Ill., died Tuesday, Feb. 21, 2012, at Grandvue Medical Care Facility in East Jordan, Mich. He was born Dec. 8, 1927, in Evanston, Ill., to Lewis and Hazel (Keim) Lepman.

Dick graduated from New Trier High School in Winnetka, Ill., and was an Illinois High School Championship Swimmer in 1944.

He served in the U.S. Navy Air Corps during World War II.

In 1949, he graduated from the University of Colorado, Boulder, and he was the "Big 8" 100 Yard Freestyle Swimming Champion.

On July 5, 1952, he married Virginia "Gina" Loeb of Highland Park, Ill., and they made their home in Northbrook, Ill.

Dick was the owner and C.E.O. of General Scientific Corporation in Chicago, a manufacturer of precision optics, and of its subsidiary GS Sports, the North American distributor of Netherlands based Wayler sailboards. He retired in 1991.

Dick was a member of the Optical Society of America, U.S. Boardsailing Association, Charlevoix Yacht Club, and Charlevoix Rotary International.

Dick crewed on the 1955 Chicago to Mackinac race winner. He was an accomplished downhill skier, skiing at both Aspen and Vail Colorado's first seasons. Dick was an icon in the boardsailing industry, a certified instructor and sponsor of regattas.

Dick is survived by his wife, Gina; children, Tad Lepman of Charlevoix, Bob (Carol) Lepman of Lake Forest, Ill., Martha (Marty Gonzalez) Lepman of Highland Park, Ill., Adele (Gary) Forbrig of Petoskey, David Lepman of Missoula, Mont.; grandchildren, Anne (Andrew Baker), Caroline, Jessica, Jennifer, Rachel, Michael, Daniel, Samantha, Grant, and Max; great-granddaughter, Ariella. Dick's sister, Mary, and brothers, Lewis and Donald, preceded him in death.

Memorial services in Charlevoix this summer will be announced at a later date. Dick's family will be receiving this Sunday afternoon, Monday and Tuesday evening at their Northbrook residence.

Contributions in Dick's memory may be made to: Charlevoix Yacht Club (209 Ferry Ave., Charlevoix, Mich. 49720); or, Charlevoix Rotary International (P.O. Box 532, Charlevoix, Mich. 49720).

Those wanting to share a memory of Dick, or condolences, may do so using www.chicagotribune.com/obits.

Clarence 'Mike' Scott

(DEC. 2, 1930 - FEB. 21, 2012)

Clarence "Mike" Scott, age 81, of Boyne City, passed away peacefully at his home on Tuesday, Feb. 21, 2012, surrounded by his loving wife and family.

Mike was born Dec. 2, 1930, in Boyne City, to Elmer and Mary (Dodds) Scott. He was the youngest of 13 children.

Mike was united in marriage to Sally Kaye Moore on June 15, 1957, for more than 54 years. He was a loving, caring and kind husband, father, grandfather and friend, his family was his world.

Mike lived his entire life in Boyne City where he graduated from Boyne City High School, played all sports and walked to church.

Mike loved boating, snowmobiling, bonfires and golf.

He left Boyne to serve in the U.S. Army during the Korean War and was a past member of the American Legion.

Mike was employed by Top of Michigan Electric Company (now known as Great Lakes Energy) for 30 years.

Mike is survived by his wife, Sally, the love of his life and best friend; daughters, Terrie (Mark) of Minneapolis, Minn., Ginnie (Mike) of Farmington, N.M., and Cindi (Ford) of Manistee, Mich.; four grandsons, Chad (Cammie), Johnny, Scott and Patrick; one great-granddaughter, Acacia; sister, Betty (Leroy) Nicloy;

OBITUARIES

sisters-in-law, Vernetta Scott, Lois Scott; brother-in-law, Otis Smith; and several nieces and nephews.

Preceding Mike in death were his parents, Elmer and Mary Scott; infant son, Jeffrey; brothers and sisters, Jeffrey, Lyle (Letha) Scott, Ralph (Gertrude) Scott, Carmalita (Kurt) Nicloy, Kenny Scott, L.G. Scott, Claude Scott, Juanita Smith, Lornita (Loyd) Westerdale, Doug (Joan) Scott, Clyde Scott; and infant sister, Ruth Scott.

Anyone who knew Mike knew his sense of humor and his eternal devotion to his family. He will be greatly missed.

A memorial service to celebrate Mike's life took place Saturday, Feb. 25, at the Free Methodist Church of Boyne City.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be directed to the Cardiac Unit of Northern Michigan Regional Hospital Foundation, 360 Connable Ave, Petoskey, Mich. 49770 in Mike's honor. Family and friends wishing to share a thought or memory are encouraged to do so online at www.stonefuneralhomeinc.com. Stackus Funeral Home of Boyne City is serving the family.

Robbin 'Rob' James Behling

(JULY 18, 1956 - FEB. 20, 2012)

Robbin "Rob" James Behling, 55, of Boyne City, died Monday, Feb. 20, 2012, at Northern Michigan Regional Hospital in Petoskey with his family at his bedside.

Rob was born on July 18, 1956, in Petoskey, the son of James and Margie (Erber) Behling. He met his wife and love of his life, Patricia O'Malley, in 1978 and they made their home in Boyne City.

Rob was owner/operator of Behling's Crane Services.

He enjoyed fast-pitch softball, Antique Flywheelers, farming and listening to Prairie Home Companion.

Annually Rob, Tim and James would embark on a pheasant hunting trip to South Dakota with friends.

He enjoyed flying airplanes and was a member of the Charlevoix Soaring Club. His love of planes propelled him to build and fly his own Ultra Light plane.

Rob was a very family-oriented man. He was a patient and loving grandfather who enjoyed spending time with and teaching his granddaughters how to drive tractors, catch frogs and enjoy the outdoors. The Behling's are a close knit family which frequently gathers to spend time together.

Many will remember Rob for his compassion and kindness. He would help anyone, anytime with anything. He had an endlessly positive attitude and never lost his smile.

He is survived by his wife and best friend, Patricia O'Malley, of Boyne City; only son, Timothy (Denise) Behling, of Longwood, Fla.; granddaughters, Taylor and Kennedy Behling; parents, James and Margie Behling; sisters, Cathy (Pete) Hammond of East Jordan and Terrie (Gil) Redmer of Boyne City; sister-in-law, Karen O'Malley (George Willabee) of Novi, Mich.; and brothers-in-law, William and Robert O'Malley of Detroit; as well as several nieces and nephews.

The funeral service was held Thursday, Feb. 23, at Christ Lutheran Church in Boyne City.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be directly to the Christ Lutheran Church children's program. Family and friends wishing to share a thought or memory of Rob are encouraged to do so online at www.stonefuneralhomeinc.com.

Peter P. Skop

(JULY 1, 1929 - FEB. 20, 2012)

Peter P. Skop, age 82, of Boyne Falls, died Monday, Feb. 20, 2012, at Northern Michigan Regional Hospital.

Peter was born on July 1, 1929, in Boyne Falls, the son of Marko and Pariska Skop. Peter grew up in and graduated from school in Boyne Falls.

Following his graduation, he joined the United States Army and fought in the front lines of the Korean War.

On June 30, 1984, he married Bernice Frankowiak Podufaly at St. Augustine Church in Boyne Falls.

Peter started working at Boyne Mountain with Everett Kircher and continued to work in maintenance for the mountain until he retired after many years of service. He loved working with his hands; whether it was in the garden that he loved or working on a building project, he was a very patient man. Peter enjoyed traveling, being outside and shopping with Bernice. Peter was an active member of St. Augustine Church and Knights of Columbus.

Peter is survived by his wife, Bernice; stepchildren, Philip Frankowiak, Patricia (Peter) Grimes,

Sharon (Kevin) Henahan, Karen Campbell and Eric (Natalie) Frankowiak; grandchildren, Anastasia, Claire, Nicholas, Aidan, Andrew and Sophie; sister, Sadie Koloddziej; and many nieces and nephews. He is preceded in death by his parents; sisters and brothers.

Mass was celebrated Friday, Feb. 24, at St. Augustine Church in Boyne Falls with the Rev. Francis Partridge serving as celebrant. Burial will take place at Holy Cross Cemetery in the spring.

The family requests memorial donations to be directed to the St. Augustine Church Cemetery Fund or Mass Intentions. Family and friends wishing to share a thought or memory of Peter are encouraged to do so online at www.stonefuneralhomeinc.com. Stackus Funeral Home of Boyne City is serving the family.

Kenneth Ivan McGeorge

(MAY 17, 1925 - FEB. 15, 2012)

Kenneth Ivan McGeorge, age 86, of Marquette, Mich., passed away Wednesday, Feb. 15, 2012, at his home, in the loving care of his wife, Bev, son, Dwaine, daughter, Nadine, and the caregivers of Lake Superior Hospice.

Born May 17, 1925, in Boyne City, he was the son of Leonard and Emma (Reinhardt) McGeorge.

He married Beverly (Kos), together they raised seven children, and she preceded him in death. He then married Beverly Moyer. They were married 31 years. Our father was a proud veteran of World War II.

He is survived by his wife, Bev; children, Hudson (Laurel) McGeorge, Dwaine (Gayle) McGeorge, Nadine (John) Harris, Keith (Peggy) McGeorge, Janette (Lee) Strayer, Gale (Steve) Burridge; daughter-in-law, Marg ("Skip") McGeorge; two stepdaughters, Bridget Kozlowski and Sue Powell; 18 grandchildren; 27 great-grandchildren; six step grandchildren and three step great-grandchildren.

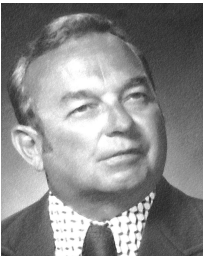
Kenneth was preceded in death by his parents, Leonard and Emma McGeorge; son, Arden "Skip" McGeorge; and infant granddaughter, Sabrina Marie Anzell.

The Fassbender Funeral Home in Marquette is handling the funeral arrangements. A memorial service is being planned in Boyne City at a later date.

John C. Lachman

(OCT. 26, 1923 - FEB. 11, 2012)

John C. Lachman, age 88, of Charlevoix and Petoskey, retired President of Hoskins Manufacturing Company, died Saturday, February 11, 2012 at Boulder Park Terrace.



He was born October 26, 1923, in Pottstown Pennsylvania, to the late Wellington "Duke" and Harriet A (McLaughlin) Lachman.

John graduated from Pottstown Senior High School in 1941. He enlisted in the Marines during WWII and served in Japan during the Korean War. On February 22, 1947, he married Agnes Sneddon in Pottstown, Pennsylvania.

John worked for the General Electric Company during the late 1950's as a metallurgist. In 1960, he joined Hoskins Manufacturing in Detroit, moving to Charlevoix in 1963 to become plant manager. He was promoted to Vice President of Manufacturing for the United States, Europe and Canada. He finished his thirty year tenure as President of Hoskins, retiring in 1990. John served as a consultant and board of director's member of Trent, Inc. of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

John enjoyed being President of the Charlevoix Community Chest and Kiwanis Club, chairman of the Norwood Township Planning Commission, member of the board of directors of the Bergman Center and Scenic Trails Boy Scout Council.

John was an avid golfer, fly fisherman, and reader of numerous subjects living a long fulfilling life with "no regrets."

John is survived by his wife, Agnes Lachman of Charlevoix; three children, Janice (David) Erikson of Shelby Township, Jeffrey (Laurie) Lachman of Novi and John Charles (Karen) Lachman of Frankenmuth; five grandchildren and one great grandchild. He was preceded in death by his parents, three sisters, and twin infant sons.

A memorial service will be held in the spring of 2012 at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Charlevoix with a private graveside service being held at Norwood Township Cemetery, Norwood, Michigan. Those wanting to share a memory of John, or condolences, may do so at www.winchesterfuneralhome.com

“National Ag Week” March 4-10

Celebrating the Abundance of Agriculture in our Lives

By Jim Akans

National “Ag Day” is this coming Thursday, March 8th, an annual observance of the contributions agriculture makes to our economy and our well-being. The occasion will be recognized as countless associations, corporations, schools, universities, government agencies and everyday Americans join to recognize and celebrate the complex web of farming and distribution channels that literally puts food on the table each and every day. Agriculture here in Michigan generates over \$71.3 billion a year and employs more than 1 million people, a booming sector of our economy that can easily go unnoticed, yet directly affects our families on a daily basis.

In addition to Ag Day, the entire week of March 4th through the 10th will celebrate National Agriculture Week, and across the state of Michigan County Farm Bureaus will reach out to farm and non-farm consumers alike to remind them that local agriculture provides safe, affordable and abundant food. Activities will include Ag-in-the-Classroom visits, baskets of Michigan products presented to babies born during the week and counties will promote Michigan

agriculture on radio and in newspapers. Agriculture is the second largest industry in Michigan and National Ag-Week provides a great opportunity for Michigan farmers to teach children and adults about how important agriculture is and how much they CARE!

Sheryl Thayer and her husband, Guy, own a small sheep farmer in the Cheboygan area. She relates, “We have been farming for about five years. My husband grew up on farm and his dad raised beef cattle and grew their own feed and hay for those cattle. I grew up in Petoskey, but my mom grew up on farm. I always told her that I wanted to own a farm someday, but she warned me that there is a lot of work involved!”

While it’s true that farming requires a great deal of hard work day in and day out, Sheryl points out that the family farm also provides work and income for many small business in the local economy.

“When you think about all the local businesses that benefit from local farming,” she observes, “that includes coops, butcher shops, feed stores, lumber yards, and so many others. It’s nice to see that money staying in the local area.”

The Thayer’s five children have all been involved in 4H activities over the



PHOTO BY CHARLES JARMAN

ABOVE: The level of technology may have changed, but today’s farmer still works the fields in much the same way farmers did in the early part of the 20th Century. Pictured is northern Michigan farmer Vernon Jarman.

years. Some have participated in sheep competitions (which Sheryl notes is one of the main reasons they operate a sheep farm), and one of their sons, who is handicapped, raised two grand champion pigs for 4H.

Sheryl states, “He has since moved to a group home and brought his passion for 4H to that home. They have now planted a small garden there, raising produce such as tomatoes, peppers and squashes. That has helped cut food cost for the residents, plus they get to enjoy fresh vegetables they have grown themselves.”

The family farm lies at the root of the Agricultural industry. Michigan’s unique “micro-climate” allow farmers to produce over 125 different food and fiber products. The state ranks number one in the production of black beans, cranberry beans, blueberries, tart cherries, processing cucumbers and Niagara grapes. Michigan is also a leader in plantation grown Christmas trees, bedding plants, seed and cutting

geraniums and hanging baskets.

These statistics certainly wouldn’t surprise Waneta Cook, who has been operating a farm with her husband, Tom, and their eleven children, that has grown to encompass just shy of 50 acres over the past 12 years.

“Everything we do we do together as a family,” she states, “Our children are integral in our farm, and they each contribute to our operation in a way that is of personal interest to them. We are unique in our farm approach.”

The Cook Family farm is among a growing number of independent farmers who offer organic sources of meats and produce to their customers, steering away from using pesticides, chemicals, medications and genetically altered seeds and feed.

Waneta Cook notes, “When the season allows,

our animals rotate pastures and ‘free range,’ - poultry is moved on a daily basis, and our feed, which 100-percent GMO free, is fresh ground by the Amish in the nearby community of Mio.”

Agriculture provides the materials for nearly everything we eat, use and wear on a daily basis, and is increasingly contributing to fuel and other bio-products. Each American farmer feeds over 144 people, a dramatic increase from the 25 people each fed in the 1960s. Quite simply, American agriculture is doing more - and doing it better. As the world population soars, there is an even greater demand for the food and fiber produced here in the United States.

Sheryl Thayer states, “The farm is an important aspect in our all of our lives. This is a country that can literally feed the world, and Michigan has a lot to

contribute to that. I would encourage people to try raising food in their own home garden. It’s also wonderful to visit the local farmer’s markets. There were so many local, fresh healthy products available there it is an amazing. It not only supports friends and neighbors for their efforts in growing those products, it is an excellent way to shop for items that are pure Michigan.”

Take time this coming week to recognize and celebrate the vital role agriculture and the American farmer play in each and every one of our lives on a daily basis. For additional information about National Ag Day, visit www.agday.org. Teachers and students looking for information and activities to help bring Ag Day a little closer to home can visit the Farm Bureau’s Agricultural Education website at www.michfb.com/education.

Michigan County Farm Bureaus will reach out to farm and non-farm consumers alike to remind them that local agriculture provides safe, affordable and abundant food.

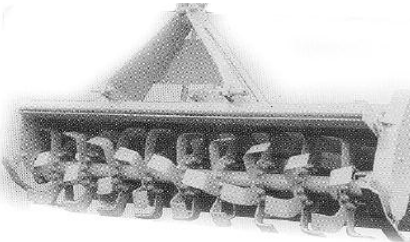
PHOTO BY CHARLES JARMAN



Charles Jarman

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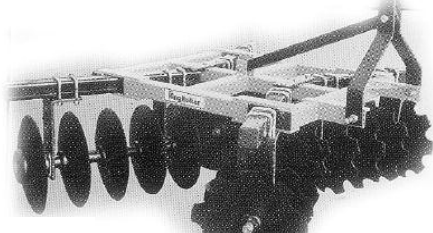
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A Farmer's Creed

I believe a man's greatest possession in his dignity and that no calling bestows this more abundantly than farming.

I believe hard work and honest sweat are the building blocks of a person's character.

I believe that farming, despite their hardships and disappointments, is the most honest and honorable way a man can spend his days on this earth.

I believe farming nurtures the close family ties that makes life rich in ways money can't buy.

I believe my children are learning values that will last a lifetime and can be learned no other way.

I believe farming provides education for life and that no other occupation teaches so much about birth, growth and maturity in such a variety of ways.

I believe many of the best things in life are indeed free: the splendor of a sunrise, the rapture of wide open spaces, the exhilarating sight of your and greening each spring.

I believe that true happiness comes from watching your crops ripen in the field, your children grow tall in the sun, your whole family feeling the pride that springs from their shared experience.

I believe that by my toil I am giving more to the world than I am taking from it, an honor that does not come to all men.

I believe my life will be measured ultimately by what I have done for my fellowman, and by this standard I fear no judgment.

I believe when a man grows old and sums up his days, he should be able to stand tall and feel pride in the life he's lived.

I believe in farming, because it makes all this possible.

Written for New Holland and originally published in 1975