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Charlevoix County News

December 18, 2014

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Judge Patjas, Leaving a Wonderful Legacy in Charlevoix County



The Honorable Alton T. Davis retired from the Michigan Supreme Court presented Patjas with a plaque from Michigan Supreme court justices.

By Tina Sundelius

CHARLEVOIX - A portrait of Honorable Richard Patjas stood beside him on the stage as judges, law enforcement, family and elected officials tried to sum up a thirty year career of success and integrity. The portrait more than anything exemplified the significance of the event at hand. It would be the first to adorn the walls of the 33rd Circuit Court. Charlevoix County's first Circuit Court Judge was retiring. The party held in his honor at Castle Farms on December 11 tried hard to capture to importance of this truly historic event.

The evening opened with drinks and dinner catered by A Matter of Taste out of Ellsworth. Promptly at 6 p.m. emcee Mary Faculak, Director of the East Jordan Area Chamber of Commerce, intro-



The Honorable Richard Patjas stands with his wife of 50 years, sons Jason and Zachary with their wives Monica and Denise and granddaughters Mallory and Carissa while guests gave him a standing ovation at his retirement party....

duced the man of the hour. "He is leaving a wonderful legacy in Charlevoix County," she said. And the room erupted into a standing ovation as the Honorable Judge

Patjas took a seat right of the podium.

Retired Honorable Alton T. Davis, Justice of the Michigan Supreme Court, began his speech by stating that Patjas

"has shown himself to be one of the finest in the State of Michigan." He presented Patjas with a plaque signed by all of the current Supreme Court justices.

Honorable Charles Johnson, Judge of the Emmet County Circuit Court, opened his presentation by saying that during his time in the Circuit Court Patjas improved the quality of service in the two counties. "He did this in three ways, by instituting the victims restitution fund... he instituted modern case management practices... and through unwavering personal commitment to the highest standards of respect for everyone who came before him over the years," he said. Johnson presented Patjas with a special tribute from the State of Michigan in the form of a recognition certificate.

See Pajtas Retires-3A

THIS WEEK IN SPORTS



Boyne City senior Sidney McLeod (23) floats toward the hoop in action against East Jordan. Full Story in Sports. (PHOTO BY CINDA SHUMAKER)

2014 Charlevoix Hot Cocoa Champion



Congratulations to Cre8tive Cupcake, the winner of the 2014 Charlevoix Hot Cocoa Contest sponsored by the Charlevoix Area Chamber of Commerce. The contest was held during the Charlevoix Merchant Open House on Saturday, December 6th.

Over 500 votes were cast between the 9 restaurants competing for the coveted Cocoa Cup. The competitors were American Spoon Foods, The Bridge Street Tap Room, Cre8tive Cupcake, The Drawbridge Bistro, Grey Gables Inn Restaurant, The Landing Restaurant, The Quay Restaurant, Scovie's Gourmet and Smoke On The Water.

It was a tight race for the 2014 Cocoa Cup with Grey Gables taking a close 2nd and Scovie's Gourmet taking 3rd place.

"We are grateful and honored to earn the title and be recognized for having the Best Hot Cocoa in Charlevoix. What I was most excited to see was the smiling and enthusiastic faces of locals and visitors supporting downtown businesses," said Alfred Soriano, owner and baker at Cre8tive Cupcake.

"Cre8tive Cupcake offers our 100% Belgian Hot Cocoa on our daily menu. Other great products include freshly baked breakfast and Upper Peninsula pasties, made from scratch, quiche, cinnamon rolls, scones, cookies, cakes, cupcakes, organic and fair trade coffee, lattes and other specialty hot beverages. We open at 7 o'clock in the morning seven days a week. We invite everyone to try our scrumptious se-



Alfred Soriano, owner and baker at Cre8tive Cupcake with his Award,

lections. Thank you again for the opportunity and support," said Soriano.

The 2014 Charlevoix Hot Cocoa Contest offered a wonderful variety of delicious cocoa for all to sample and enjoy. Those that followed the Cocoa Trail were treated to the traditional deep rich chocolate, white chocolate, mint, and even a zesty barbeque blend recipe. Thank you to everyone that came downtown, sampled and voted for your favorite hot cocoa during Charlevoix for the Merchant Open House! It was a great event and we are looking forward to next year's festivities.

Boyne City H.S. to host regional robotics event

The Boyne City High School Robotics Team will host the regional 2015 FIRST Robotics Competition Kickoff on Saturday, January 3, from 9:00 am - 4:00 pm.

FIRST competitions challenge student teams to design and build a robot designed to perform prescribed tasks against other competitors. Students, under adult mentor guidance, also organize fundraising, develop team skills and promote their efforts.

Over 300 students from 20 area schools will attend the event, which begins the six-week period during which teams are permitted to design and build their robot in advance of the competition season. Students and mentors will attend workshops, learn from other teams, see robots from previous competitions, and hear about the 2015 challenge.

"We're very excited to host this event," said Karen Jarema, Boyne City High School principal. "Having the kick-off in our community is quite an honor for our program." Boyne City's team took a first place in a district

See Robotics-2A

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Notice of Early Deadline

For the Christmas and New Year's issues of the Charlevoix County News, the advertising deadlines will be Friday of the week prior. Proof deadlines will be one day earlier on Thursday. Our Christmas Week edition will come out Tuesday December 23rd. Deadline is December 19. Our New Year's Edition on Tuesday, December 30th. Deadline is December 26.



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MI Farms Opens New Shipping Center



By Tina Sundelius

ELLSWORTH—After nearly a year of silence since closing their storefront in Ellsworth MIFarms Market has reappeared in the neighborhood with a new shipping center, new customers, and a new company. They opened their doors to the public Thursday, December 11 for tours and Michigan made refreshments.

The company arranges and sells gift boxes of Michigan-made food products and uses online marketing, collaboration and social media to conduct most of their sales. Although the doors to their red brick and mortar presence on Center Street in downtown Ellsworth closed, the retailer of all Michigan produced goods has been

thriving. The company decided to take to the road in search of new retail outlets for their Michigan producers. It was yet another fruitful venture for the three year old company as they picked up about 150 new stores which now sell the Michigan Made food products packaged by MIFarms. “We started 2014 by getting on the road to food shows all over the Midwest. This allowed us to connect with potential buyers, showcase our products, and meet exciting new food producers,” said owner Scotty Bruce.

With the added retailers the company found themselves in need of more space. This fall they set up shop again in Ellsworth at 9525 Lake Street which gave them the capacity to triple

their production. “Along with more room to ship products, we also have expanded our crate building and food packaging capacity,” said Bruce. A large banner upfront announced their presence and they invited the community to tour the new packing center. Holiday gift arrangements were on display and refreshments were served during the open house. Bruce also announced that they have plans to reopen the Ellsworth storefront next summer in a new location.

Other big news for the company, they purchased one of their long time producers The Underground Cheesecake Co. of Traverse City in September. The previous owners stayed on long enough to help complete the

transition and retired in November. “When they began considering retirement it was very important to them that the company be left in the right hands,” said Bruce. Along with the purchase came three employees with a combined total of 25 years experience with the cheesecake factory.

The new warehouse and co-packing facility in Ellsworth where they pack, label and ship foods sold through the MIFarms website and catalog is the next step in MIFarms continued commitment to utilize Bruce’s marketing and sales expertise to help small Michigan food producers grow. You can visit MIFarms at <https://mifarmmarket.com/>

Shannon Bruce packing Michigan made products from local producers to be shipped all over the world.

TOGETHER, YOUR CARING HEART AND GOOD SAMARITAN HELP LIGHTEN THEIR LOAD



ANOTHER BRUTAL WINTER

- 1 in 3 Charlevoix County families are struggling to make ends meet according to a study distributed by United Way of Michigan.
- Where are your friends and neighbors right now? It is possible they are at our food pantry. We serve more than 700 families every month.
- These are real people with real needs that live next door to you, or are in your community. These struggling families are across from you at the gas station, sitting in front of you in church, their kids are in a classroom with your kids.
- They are doing their best working marginal or multiple jobs; jobs with few hours and low pay. They’re choices are tough; heating fuel, food, babysitter, reliable transportation, and on and on. These basic needs have to be met and the list gets longer. For many stressed families, a major car repair or medical bill is all it takes to send them to our pantry for help.
- Many families live just above the poverty level and cannot receive state aid.
- Good Samaritan has been the resource of last resort since 1990. With few options for a desperate family in Charlevoix County, we help with the seemingly impossible unmet needs. Our resources are eventually overwhelmed as we try to keep families together in their homes; children and elderly warm and fed, living as normal lives as possible. We must keep hope alive. Please help them.

We are ready to help, but we can’t do it without you. Please send your generous gift today.

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Good Samaritan Family Services
PO Box 206
Ellsworth, MI 49729

This ad was purchased by concerned members of the community

Indoor Farmer’s Markets this winter

By Jessica Boyce



Just because the winter season is here, that doesn’t mean that you have to give up your fresh produce and homemade products. There are still some indoor

There are some great, local, indoor farmer’s markets that are going on now.

Farmer’s Markets that are going on in the area where you can get some great items.

BOYNE CITY has their Indoor Farmer’s Market every Saturday until April. It lasts from 9:00 am - 1:00 pm at the Red Barn next to the Boyne District Library on Park Street.

THE CITY OF GRAYLING Winter Farm Market is open every Thursday at the Grayling Mini Mall next to the Hallmark Store. Stop in from 10:00 am - 3:00 pm for some fresh products.

GAYLORD now has a Winter Indoor Farmer’s Market every Saturday until March 28th, 2015. The market is located at the Alpine Plaza on W. Main Street and lasts from

9:00 am - 1:00 pm.

You can find some great items such as baked goods, homemade soaps, some fresh produce, maple syrup, and other great products. Any of these Farmer’s Markets can be a great place to find a Christmas gift for some of the people on your list this year, and you know that all products were made locally. While the focus of a winter Farmer’s Market may be less on fresh fruits and vegetables and more on other homemade items, you still know that everything has been made in your very own community. Stock up on some homemade goodies at a Winter Farmer’s Market near you.

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ROBOTICS

continued from 1A

competition in Troy, Michigan during the 2013 season; won the Entrepreneurial Award in a district competition in St. Joseph, Michigan and the Engineering Inspiration Award in a district competition in Gull Lake, Michigan during the 2014; this Kick-Off for 2015 begins Boyne City’s 4th year as a Robotics Program.

According to Jarema, all community members are invited to attend the event from 10:15 – 11:30 am in the HS Auditorium to learn more about FIRST Robotics Competitions, witness teams in action, and learn of opportunities to contribute or serve as a mentor.

For more information, contact the Boyne City High School at 231-439-8130.

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News

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Wooden Shoe Festival

By Tina Sundelius

ELLSWORTH - Residents of the community of Ellsworth flocked to the Banks Township Hall twice in one week for food, fellowship and holiday cheer. The Village Wooden Shoe Festival and Breakfast with Santa drew record numbers of people downtown.

The Wooden Shoe Fest began with the Pine Lake Winds playing Oh Tannenbaum as people drew near the 20 foot community Christmas tree as way of introduction for the moment Banks Township Citizen of the Year, Larry Essenberg, flipped the switch setting the square a glow. The party then moved into the hall where a free pizza dinner was provided by A Matter of Taste catering, the Pine Lake Winds played on and Twister Joe entertained the kids by providing balloon hats and Santa beards.

Early Saturday morning the Hall was once again filled with excited children and culinary fragrances. The Ellsworth Lionesses Pancake

"Ho, Ho, Ho," cried six year old Kole Hatfield after getting a Santa look from twister Joe...



Joseph Sowers, Scott Sowers, Marci Palajac, Grace Robbins and Alana Haley served homemade pizza, salad and Christmas treats...

Breakfast with Santa saw the largest attendance in its history. Every child that came not only got to whisper in Santa's ear but was given a stuffed toy to take

home. Pancakes, eggs and sausage were served free to all who stopped in. "It was a successful celebration," said Village President Hugh Campbell.



Mom Katelyn Seaney holds six month old Rhys as he visits Santa for the first time.



Edna Fales (from left), Pat Smalley and Diane Gustin, all of Charlevoix, are just 3 of approximately 60 volunteers to help package supplies for distribution Friday at the Charlevoix Community Christmas Project. The 14th annual community-wide effort will help approximately 240 families. PHOTO BY M. CHRIS LEESE.

Charlevoix Community Christmas Project



Jim Abbey of Charlevoix is one of nearly 60 volunteers to help set up the 14th annual Charlevoix Community Christmas Project that will serve approximately 240 families in need this Friday. The public is invited to see the many goods set for distribution, Thursday, noon - 3PM during an open house at Bethany Lutheran Church on US 31 just north of Charlevoix. PHOTO BY M. CHRIS LEESE.



Bev Boss of Charlevoix, a champion of selfless giving and organizer of the Charlevoix Christmas project for the past 12 years, is recovering from surgery and unable to continue. New co-chairs Mary Everleigh, Rebecca Jeakle and the board of directors now manage the community efforts. PHOTO BY M. CHRIS LEESE.



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Literacy Corps reaches 115 members

Following another successful recruitment and training activity at Char-Em United Way (CEUW), more area volunteers are members of the Literacy Corps and being matched with needs in local schools. Over a dozen volunteers attended the November 12th training session and the new class of volunteers brings the Literacy Corps numbers up to 115 of the three year target of 150. The goal of this initiative is to recruit 150 community members from Charlevoix and Emmet Counties who will continue to work with children on a regular basis. The volunteers have been trained to work directly with students on their reading, writing, and comprehension skills as well as general tutoring and mentoring.

"There is an African proverb, "It takes a village to raise a child." I believe today, more than ever, our "village" is necessary to meet all the needs of our students," said Petoskey Central Elementary principal, Cal Prins. "At Central Elementary we have teachers, administrators, support staff, parents, and volunteers working together to help each student reach success. The volunteers coming into our school provide more than academic support. They provide a listening ear, words of encouragement, and possible solutions to problems. When students see adult volunteers in our school, they see firsthand how members in our community value education, and support our school."

The Literacy Corps is part of Char-Em United Way's education initiative "United We Read," which has recruited dedicated volunteers to read to, tutor, and mentor students in schools, libraries, and other youth serving agencies. Char-Em United Way's AmeriCorps VISTA Pat Brewer recruited the latest group of volunteers and turned to the resources of the Char-Em Intermediate School District to get the specialized training for them. Three Literacy Consultants from the ISD—Patti Loper, Jennifer Jess, and Pam Ciganick—presented a thorough and enjoyable overview of approaches and tools available when working with students of varying educational levels and ages. There was no charge for this training and it was open to anyone in the Char-Em service area with the interest

in being able to effectively help in schools. Volunteers have the ability to tailor their time in school around their own schedule.

Central Elementary is one of at least four area schools that will be recipients of the new group of Literacy Corps volunteers. Placements have also been made in Boyne City Elementary and Shay Elementary in Harbor Springs. A placement is still being finalized for two more volunteers in a school that is local to them. Volunteers are placed based on responses to a survey that was distributed to all area school principals in October. The survey asked about a variety of needs as well as the time of day the services would be provided.

Principal Prins pointed out that while the students get a great deal out of the time and efforts of the volunteers, they aren't alone in reaping rewards from the interaction. "The benefits of volunteering extend beyond the student. Volunteers are enriched by the experience as well and become more familiar with our school and the programs we offer. They develop relationships with our staff and students. Our volunteers have the satisfaction of knowing they are helping students during a very important stage in their development, while creating an important link between the school and the community. The school truly feels like a family when we all come together to support each other."

Current school volunteers are encouraged to join the Literacy Corps and attend training sessions, which are scheduled when numbers of new recruits are large enough. More information on becoming a Literacy Corps member is available by contacting Pat Brewer, AmeriCorps VISTA at Char-Em United Way, at 231-487-1006 or via email at vista@charemunitedway.org. To explore volunteer opportunities that are available at local nonprofit agencies including the Literacy Corps, visit the CEUW website at charemunitedway.org, click on "volunteer," then register as a volunteer and explore the agencies and their postings for volunteer needs on Volunteer Connections.

News

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CHARLEVOIX CITY COUNCIL, DECEMBER 15, 2014

Library contribution stirs up contention

By Norma Jean Babcock

CHARLEVOIX: The regular meeting of City Council began timidly enough, but soon became heated when members of both the DDA and the Library Board of Directors gave their opinion on a \$30,000 contribution to the Library from the DDA that hasn't been paid in several years.

The issue stemmed from a comment made at the last meeting of council when Mayor Gabe Campbell brought up the contribution for DDA Director Bethany Pearson to look into. Pearson took the issue before the DDA on December 8 where Chairman Dan Barron explained the circumstances upon which the contribution originated. According to Barron, the contribution was a "simple motion" made by the DDA in 2004 that stated as long as funds were available the DDA would give \$30,000 a year for 20 years to the Library.

However, according to Library Director Val Meyerson the DDA has not made payments for several years. Meyerson explained that the DDA has paid 5 payments thus far, for a total of \$150,000. According to Library officials, this lack of contribution has caused distress.

"That motion was a promise they would pay that," stated Meyerson. She went on to delineate that had the Library known the money wouldn't be given, they would have gone about funding the operation differently. On the basis that the contribution would be given, the Library pursued higher bonds, didn't file for as many grants for funding, and gave the DDA the naming privileges for the two conference rooms located inside the building.

Barron took the podium first to explain how the contribution came about, and why the DDA feels that mandating they pay the contribution will be detrimental. He explained that the motion to make the contribution was not a legally binding contract, but rather a "simple motion."

"It was understood that (the contribution) was going to be

contingent on our ability to afford it," stated Barron. He explained that from the DDA point of view, this agreement was not a formal resolution; therefore they aren't violating any agreements by not making the contribution. He also explained that due to the economic downturn in 2008, the DDA is not in a favorable position economically. Barron pointed out multiple times that the DDA is being forced to do "more with less" but that they aren't taking funds from the Library contribution to do other projects. He then listed multiple DDA projects that have been funded by donation, grant, or volunteer hours only.

"We want to get the money back to the library...we support that library. Our hearts are in the library, our hearts are in this town, and we're doing our level best," stated Barron.

City Attorney Scott Howard was called upon after Barron spoke to give a legal opinion regarding the "simple motion" and whether or not it was a legally binding agreement.

"I believe that it (isn't)... Likely a court would say there wasn't a binding contract...if the Library were to sue the DDA they probably wouldn't succeed," explained Howard.

Val Meyerson, with Library Treasurer Rick Brandt, then came before council to explain their point of view. According to the two of them, the library felt that this was a "promise" the money would be contributed. Meyerson explained that the pledge goes "directly to the debt fund," and that if the library were to get the contribution they could tax residents less.

"Had the contribution come in (our millage) would be .72 mills as opposed to .76," stated Meyerson.

In conclusion, Meyerson indicated what the library would like to see the DDA do about the matter. She stated that she feels the DDA and Library have worked well together, and that there are no hard feelings in their dealings.

"We want an honest commitment from the DDA," stated Meyerson. She also stated that

the Library understood if the DDA does not currently have the money, but that she wanted to see them put priority on the contribution and finding funds for it.

Those present in the audience however did not feel as kindly as Meyerson, of the several who voiced an opinion most were frustrated with the lack of contribution on the part of the DDA.

"(The motion) doesn't say they might contribute...it says that by unanimous vote of the DDA \$30,000 would be contributed," said Kay Heise who went on to state, "Of 207 donor names, 206 have sent in their money and honored their commitments. I look forward to the DDA doing the same."

The discussion concluded after an hour with DDA Director Bethany Pearson explaining that if the DDA were to start making the contribution again they would eventually be forced to fund the East Park Marina from the General Fund, a situation that City Council promised tax payers would not happen.

"The DDA has done everything we can...it is unfeasible to pay this debt and also make its contribution to the Marina Funds...I want to remind city council of their pledge to the taxpayers. If the library contribution is mandated, marina bond payments will have to be made by taxpayers," said Pearson.

The situation was finally summed up by City Manager Rob Straebel, when he expressed that although the contribution wouldn't be made this year, he did see that the DDA would work on making it in the future.

"I hear an honest commitment from the DDA to keep up their promise on this. This can be made in the future, it's just not going to happen this year," said Straebel.

Ultimately, council had little to say regarding the issue, and did not mandate that the DDA make the payment. Instead, they felt that perhaps the DDA and Library should sit down and discuss a feasible compromise that could make both parties happy.

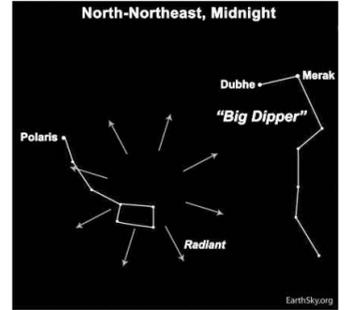
Celebrate the Meteor Shower of the Great Bear at the Headlands

By Jessica Boyce

Being inhabitants of Northern Michigan, we have a better opportunity than most to be able to view the night sky. This month, we have the opportunity to view the annual Ursid Meteor Shower that peaks near the time of the December Winter Solstice.

The Ursid Meteor Shower will peak on the 20th - 22nd of December and there is an opportunity to view the shows on December 20th at Headlands International Dark Sky Park. From 6:30 - 8:30 pm you can make your way to the Guest House at the Headlands where there will be indoor activities and outdoor observing opportunities. Attendees will "create seasonal journals in honor of the tradition of observing the sacred connection between Earth and the stars that occurs when there is the least amount of external light in the Northern Hemisphere." You can also try to count the shooting stars in the night sky as a part of the Ursid Meteor Shower and look into why certain cultural traditions impact scientific research and discovery.

The Ursids themselves has only been observed for about a century. There could be up to 100 meteors per hour, or more commonly, 5-10 per hour. Every annual meteor shower has radiant points and the showers are named from where these points lie. A radiant point is the point in the sky from where a meteor shower ap-



Look to the Big and Little Dipper around December 20th-22nd to catch a glimpse of the Ursid Meteor Shower, and join in on the viewing celebration at the Headlands International Dark Sky Park.

pears to originate, and for the Ursids, this point is in the Little Dipper asterism (a pattern or group of stars that is smaller than a constellation.) The Little Dipper asterism is in the constellation Ursa Minor which is also called the "Little Bear" or "Lesser Bear."

If you want to view the Ursid Meteor Shower, look towards the Big Dipper and the Little Dipper and that is where you should see the meteors. If you want to join in on the celebration, make sure you attend the viewing of the Meteor Shower of the Great Bear at the Headlands International Dark Sky Park at 15675 Headlands Road in Mackinaw City.

Class for Businesses Interested in Responding to Federal Government Solicitations

PETOSKEY — Businesses can learn about Responding to Federal Government Solicitations at a class December 11 in Petoskey. The class will run from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in room 536 of the Student Community Resource Building at North Central Michigan College (NCMC). The class is part of the "Doing Business with the Government Series," and is being offered by the Northwest Michigan Procurement Technical Assistance Center (PTAC) in partnership with NCMC.

In the class businesses will look at what factors they should consider before bidding, how the government evaluates offers, tips for responding to a request for proposal (RFP), and more. There is no charge to attend the class, but seating is limited and pre-registra-

tion is required at: networksnorthwest.org/ptactraining. For more information about the class contact Deb Donovan at: ddonovan@networksnorthwest.org or 231-929-5076.

More information and a schedule of other classes offered by the PTAC available at: networksnorthwest.org/ptactraining.

The Northwest Michigan PTAC is a non-profit organization that provides assistance (normally at no cost) to companies in northwestern Lower Michigan and the Upper Peninsula interested in doing business with state and federal government agencies. For more information about services provided by the PTAC go to: networksnorthwest.org/ptac. The Northwest Michigan PTAC is a program of Networks Northwest.

BOYNE CITY POLICE DEPT.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 24

0925 Alarm in the 200 block of S Lake St. All OK. Employee error.

1005 Harassment complaint in the 300 block of E Division St

1146 Alarm from the 200 block of S Lake St. All OK. Employee error.

1400 Report of 1/2 cord of wood stolen sometime over the weekend from R St

1948 Unlock in front of the Dilworth

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 25TH

0622 Tree blocking High St. near E. Lincoln. Was able to move it with assistance from a citizen.

0640 Assist Sheriff Department with traffic control on M-75 N near Old State. Car in the ditch.

0715 Report of tree blocking W. Court near Boyne City Charlevoix Rd.

0917 Abandoned vehicle in the 200 block of N Lake St

0931 Assist DPW at East end of Pine St.

0945 W Michigan and Addis Spoke to daycare ref snow removal and keeping the alley clear

1314 Tree down on Charlevoix St. Removed by passerby.

1337 911 hang up from Eyes ON Main. All OK

1625 Civil custody dispute in the 100 block of E Lincoln

1938 Assist Boyne Valley Fire on M-75 S.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 25

1034 Civil standby in the 700 block of S Park St

1344 Suspicious situation in the 1100 block of Boyne Av

1558 Leslie Winters locked out of silver Van in front of Radio Shack

1650 Vehicle unlock in the 400 block of N Lake St.

1823 Dog at large on East near Morgan..

1917 Found debit card in the 100 block of S Lake St Was returned to owner.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 27

0125 Subject walking with open intoxicant at E. Main and S. East

0920 Escort on N Lake St.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 28

0242 Suspicious footprints near S. Park St. and E. Pine St.

1546 Stalking complaint

1546 Arrested subject for domestic assault and outstanding warrant.

1842 Assist citizen in the 400 block of State St.

2139 Assisted fire department with a structure fire on Old State.

2256 Driving complaint on C-56. We collected all the info from both parties and turned over to Sheriff Department.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 29

0854 Request for a civil stand by in the 300 block of E Division.

1132 Unlock in the 100 block of Trent St.

1141 State St and Cozy Nook, fire hydrant spewing water all over.

1142 Civil issues in the 300 block of E Division St

1316 Civil issues in the 300 block of E Division St

1401 Disturbance in the 300 block of E Division St

1500 Dogs running at large in the 300 block of E Main St

2345 Assisted Sheriff Department in the 400 block of Boyne Av

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30TH

0109 Civil complaint in the 300 block of E Division St

1110 Arrested subject for DWLS.

1232 Funeral Escort

1400 Report of lost wallet

1746 Civil complaint in the 300 block of E Division St

MONDAY, DECEMBER 1ST

0155 Assist EMS in the 1300 block of Boyne Av

1330 Assist East Jordan PD in the 300 block of Hannah St

1341 Report of resident receiving IRS scam phone call.

1451 Debit card found downtown. Was returned to owner.

1613 911 hang up in the 1000 block of Boyne Av

1703 CITATION issued for Speed at Lake and Lincoln

1832 Disturbance in the 300 block of E Division St

2228 Arrested subject for no operator's license and issued citation for running red light at Park and Water.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2

0847 Vehicle unlock 520 Jefferson St

1237 Suicide victim located in the 1300 block of Boyne Av

1259 Welfare check requested in the 500 block of N Lake St

1437 Driving complaint on Lake St.

17253 Vehicle personal injury accident on M-75 S Near the city limits

2100 Assisted Sheriff Department on warrant attempt in Boyne Falls.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 3

0715 Parking Violation in the 600 block of W Court St.

09182 vehicle Property damage accident at Lake and Main

0956 Vehicle unlock at the Middle School

1020 Alarm on W Water St.

1048 Noise complaint in the 600 block of E Main St.

1049 Driving complaint on E Main St. Report of excessive speeds

1714 CITATION issued for Speed at Main and Marl

1906 Civil complaint from the 900 block of Lakeview.

2103 Juvenile complaint in the 1000 block of Bone Av.

THURSDAY DECEMBER 4

0022 Noise complaint in the 300 block of E Division St

0714 Citation issued for speed at N. East St. and Arthur St.

0735 Noise complaint in the 300 block of E Division St

0914 Medical alarm in the 1300 block of Boyne Av

0931 Fraud complaint in the 900 block of Brockway St

1055 Vehicle unlock in the 400 block of N Lake St

15192 Vehicle private property damage accident in the 400 block of N Lake St

1624 Vehicle unlock in the 200 block of N Park St.

1712 Hit and run Private property damage accident on W Water St

1809 Assist FD gas leak on Vogel St.

1911 Private property damage accident in the 1000 block of Boyne Av

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5TH

0801 Bond violation in the 300 block of N Lake St

1108 Threats complaint from

W Main St

1219 Juvenile complaint from the 300 block of Silver St

1634 MDOP to car tire in the 300 block of E Division St

2041 Report of a disturbance in the 300 block of Silver St.

2130 Arrested subject for DWLS and Operating without security.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6

0054 Report of a suspicious situation at East and Water

0107 Assist EMS in the 400 block of W Michigan

0338 Assist Sheriff Department with a suspicious situation on M-75 N.

1000V ehicle unlock at the Library.

1038 Complaint about people not stopping for pedestrians at crosswalks while talking on their cell phones

1437 Citation issued for Expired Plate.

1909 Assist Sheriff Department with alarm on Tompkins Rd

2144 Assist Sheriff Department OWI on Griffin Rd.

SUNDAY DECEMBER 7TH 2014

0020 Citation issued for Speed.

1140 Alarm in the 100 block of E Water St

1400 Found stereo equipment dropped off at the PD

CHX. COUNTY SHERIFFS DEPT.

December 8-14

911 Hang Up Call1
Abandoned Vehicle.....0
Assault.....0
Alarm1
Animal Complaint10

Annoyance.....	0
Assault.....	2
Assist Citizen.....	3
Assist Motorist.....	3
Assist Other Agency.....	12
Attempt to Locate.....	0
Attempted Suicide.....	1
Bank Alarm.....	0
Boating Accident.....	0
Boating Violation.....	0
Breaking & Entering.....	1
Car/Deer Accident.....	22
Citations Issued.....	5
Civil Complaint.....	2
Criminal Sexual Conduct.....	0
Death.....	0
Disorderly Person.....	0
Disturbance.....	1
DNR Complaint.....	5
Domestic Dispute.....	0
Driving Complaint.....	1
Fireworks Complaint.....	1
Found Property.....	1
Fraud.....	5
Health & Safety.....	0
Hit & Run.....	0
Intoxicated Person.....	0
Juvenile.....	1
Larceny.....	3
Lockout.....	7
Lost Property.....	1
Malicious Destruction of Property.....	0
Mental Subject.....	1
Minor In Possession.....	0
Miscellaneous Criminal.....	3
Missing Person.....	0
Noise Complaint.....	3
Operating Under the Influence.....	0
Paper Service.....	11
Parking Violation.....	0
Personal Injury Accident.....	2
Personal Protection Order.....	0
Private Property Accident.....	0
Property Check.....	12
Property Damage Accident.....	9
Prowler.....	0
Road Hazard.....	2
Stalking.....	0
Suspicious Situation.....	8
Threat.....	1
Traffic Stop.....	25
Travelling.....	0
Unknown Accident.....	3
Unlawful Driving Away of Automobile.....	0
Vehicle in the Ditch.....	4
Violation of Controlled Substance.....	3
Act.....	3

Health & Wellness

ONLINE AT WWW.CHARLEVOIXCOUNTYNEWS.COM

Are you Feeling Holiday Stress?

By Deb Hagen-Foley

Christmas is less than a week away. Does reading that statement make you smile? Are you looking forward to the holidays and all that the holidays represent? Or are you reminded of the work involved in getting ready, the preparations yet to be completed?

Stress is the condition or feeling a person has when they perceive that "demands exceed the personal and social resources the individual is able to mobilize," according to Richard Lazarus, an early and influential stress researcher. Stress is all around us. For some people, stress is a part of daily life. Stress can be both positive and negative. Stress can motivate and improve performance. Chronic stress can be detrimental, both physically and psychologically. What is considered stressful and how one responds to stress will vary from one person to another.

The Holmes and Rahe stress scale was developed and validated in 1967 as a means of quantifying the impact of various stressful life events. The scale is completed by summing the Life Change Units corresponding with each stressor experienced in the past 12 months. Death of a spouse is considered the most stressful event, scoring 100 points. Christmas is also on the list, with a point value of 12. A total score greater than 150 increases the likelihood that the individual will become ill as a result of an inability to manage the accumulated stress. Everyone experiences stress; it is our ability to cope with the stressors in our lives that makes the difference in whether the stress impacts us negatively.

To understand how stress can be detrimental to health, think about what happens in the body when we are under stress. When we perceive a threat, our nervous system responds. The fight or flight response, as it is commonly called, is set into motion when we are under stress. Our nervous systems, preparing to fight the threat or rapidly move away, release adrenaline and cortisol, stress hormones. You might not recognize the hormones being released, but you won't be able to overlook the signs - your heart



PHOTO 123RF.COM

beats faster, blood pressure rises, muscles tighten and breath quickens.

You may be feeling holiday stress from trying to find the perfect gift. Try not to feel responsible for the happiness of others and remember that your thoughtfulness in wanting to recognize your relationship with someone by a gift is what counts. Also, remember to stay within your budget - the financial stress of going into debt for the perfect gift can last well into the New Year!

Stressed about meal preparation? Enlist the help of others - many will be willing to assist - and complete what you can in advance of the big day so you can spend more time socializing with family and friends and less time in the kitchen.

To help you cope with holiday stress, continue regular exercise or, if you are not an exerciser, go for a walk, even if it is around the house. Also, consider meditation, or at least taking time for a few deep breaths. Even taking time for 10 deep breaths can make you feel better and ready for your next task.

Merry Christmas!

Bay Harbor Foundation Grant to help Hospice of Northwest Michigan improve safety and comfort care for unfunded patient needs

Hospice of Northwest Michigan has announced it will receive a grant from the Bay Harbor Foundation to be used towards better meeting the immediate unfunded needs of the community. Amy Wieland, Executive Director, said the funding will be used to support and to improve the safety and comfort care needs provided to patients that are not covered by insurance.

"We are extremely grateful to the Bay Harbor Foundation for supporting our community services through this grant," Wieland said. The Bay Har-

bor Foundation funding in conjunction with other donations, will be used to meet the otherwise unfunded needs of Hospice patients in our service regarding patient care and safety. Funds are especially needed now because we are experiencing more situations in which patients and families lack insurance or are under-insured at a time when proceeds from fundraising are trending down in amounts given even if the number of givers remains about the same.

Wieland said Hospice of Northwest Michigan is the

only non-profit, community-based, locally-managed hospice in northern lower Michigan, meaning it is not owned, operated, regulated or supported by corporate interests. "That gives us the flexibility to make decisions that serve our own communities' unique and ever-changing needs," she explained. "Of course, it also means we're much more dependent on local support to survive." To learn more about Hospice of Northwest Michigan or to schedule presentations to local organizations please contact Wieland at (231) 547-7659.

Zonta Club of Charlevoix shows support for survivors



Women's Resource Center of Northern Michigan (WRCNM) recently accepted a donation of food, supplies and a financial contribution from The Zonta Club of Charlevoix. The food and supplies will help restock pantry shelves at the Safe Home which provides support and shelter to survivors of domestic abuse and their children. The financial donation supports the WRCNM's Educational and Employment Services which offers academic advising, educational scholarships, job search assistance and career guidance to those looking to enter or re-enter the workforce. The donations reflect the club's focus on awareness and prevention of violence against women and align their service activities with Zonta's international campaign, called "Zonta Says NO to Violence Against Women". Pictured receiving the donations are (from left) Jamie Winters, WRCNM Safe Home coordinator; Zonta members Joan Buday and Judith Schneider; and Carrie Harrison, WRCNM administrative assistant.

Creative Minds Changing Minds

Call for poetry entries for statewide mental health project

Petoskey - Poets of all ages who receive services from North Country Community Mental Health (CMH) are encouraged to enter their original poetry in the Creative Minds Changing Minds Poetry Project. North Country CMH, in partnership with the Michigan Association of Community Mental Health Boards, is sponsor-

ing a poetry project featuring the work of poets who receive CMH services.

The project has two goals: 1) to help de-stigmatize mental illness, intellectual/developmental disabilities, and substance use disorders by showcasing the talents of people who use CMH services; and 2) to highlight the recovery and quality-of-life potential of poetry. The poems will be featured in a variety of venues, including the MACMHB statewide traveling art show.

To participate, the poet must be a current or past recipient of CMH services and live in one of the six counties served by North Country CMH: Antrim, Charlevoix, Cheboygan, Emmet, Kalkaska, Otsego. Poetry must be postmarked or dropped off to North Country CMH by January 15, 2015. Rules and entry form are available at <http://bit.ly/1s0kJzq>. For more information contact Deb Freed at dfreed@northcountrycmh.org or (231) 271-6177.

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Mio
989-826-626

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www.ocsportsplex.com

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989-732-6521
www.otsegocountyparksrec.com

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989-732-0744
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Health Dept. of NW Michigan
220 W. Garfield, Charlevoix
231-547-6092
www.nwhealth.org

Northern Management Services
657 Chestnut Ct., Gaylord
989-732-6374
www.northernmanagement.org

HOSPITALS

McLaren Northern Michigan
416 Connable Ave., Petoskey
(800) 248-6777
northernhealth.org

Mercy Hospital
1100 Michigan Ave., Grayling
989-348-5461
www.mercygrayling.com

Charlevoix Area Hospital
14700 Lake Shore Dr., Charlevoix
231-547-8630
www.cah.org

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www.otsegocountycoa.org

Crawford County COA
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www.crawfordcoa.org

Seniors Helping Seniors
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Gaylord
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Charlevoix County Commission on Aging
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231-237-0103
www.charlevoixcounty.org/coa.asp

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2572 North US 131
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News Briefs

ONLINE AT WWW.CHARLEVOIXCOUNTYNEWS.COM

N. MICHIGAN

Christmas songbooks

If your group or organization would like extra copies of the Christmas Traditions songbooks for Christmas caroling, contact our office. They are free of charge and contain words and music to lots of favorite Christmas carols. Contact the Charlevoix County News office at 989-732-8160 or e-mail us at Office@CharlevoixCountyNews.com.

EAST JORDAN

Christmas Village

Enjoy a drive through our Christmas Village at the East Jordan Tourist Park, 218 N. Lake St. thru Jan 4, 2015. Christmas music will be available on your radio as you drive through the lighted displays which have been created by area businesses and individuals. Children of all ages may visit with Santa, Saturday Dec. 13, 5-7pm while enjoying cookies and hot cocoa. Christmas Village and Santa sponsored by the East Jordan Lions Club.

EAST JORDAN

Christmas Tree Sales

The EJ Lions Club is selling Christmas Trees at the EJ True Value Hardware during normal business hours. Prices range from \$25-\$50 and proceeds go to support local Lions Club Projects. Shop early for the best selection.

BOYNE CITY

Business after hours

The Boyne Area Chamber's Christmas Business After Hours will be held at RE/MAX Resort Properties, 104 S. Lake St., Boyne City, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 18. Free admission includes hors d'oeuvres, refreshments and door prizes. A 50/50 drawing will benefit Camp Quality.

BOYNE CITY

Community Christmas

With the holiday season approaching the volunteers of Boyne Area Com-

munity Christmas are asking for your support. All of your donations are greatly appreciated and can be in the form of non-perishable food items, new unwrapped toys, games or books. If you would like to donate monetarily, please make checks payable to Boyne Area Community Christmas and send them c/o Eleanor West, Treasurer at 915 Robinson Street #15, Boyne City, MI 49712. All donations can be dropped off at the Boyne City Education Center by using the Pine Street entrance. They will be accepting donations until December 19, 9am to 4pm.

N. MICHIGAN

Early Deadline

The Weekly Choice and Charlevoix County News will be published two days earlier the week of Christmas and the week of New Years. Normally published every Thursday, these issues will be distributed on Tuesday, December 23 and Tuesday December 30. Deadline for each of these issues will be the preceding Friday at 5pm for Display advertising, Classified advertising, News Releases, News and Sports. Deadline is Dec. 19 for the Dec. 23 issue and Dec. 26 for the Dec. 30 issue.

PETOSKEY

Baroque Christmas Concert

Spice up your holidays with a generous measure of Baroque Christmas music. Join the Great Lakes Chamber Orchestra and Chorus, conductor Libor Ondras and Choral Master Peter D. Sims for an evening of inspired seasonal music from the 18th-century. They will be joined by vocal soprano, Antonina Chekhovskaya, alto, Martha J. Hart, and alto, Jamie Platte. The concert, entitled Messiah Plus, will be presented Thursday, December 18 and Friday, December 19 at 7pm at St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church. Tickets are available by calling the orchestra office

at 231 487-0010 or by visiting our website at www.glcorchestra.org.

PETOSKEY

The Nutcracker

Dec 20 - 21, Holiday favorite, "The Nutcracker", will be performed by CTAC School of Ballet dancers on Saturday and Sunday December 20 & 21 at the Harbor Springs Performing Arts Center. Show times are 3pm both days and 7pm on December 21st. Tickets for Matinee Performances: \$50 Reserved / \$15 Adult / \$5 Student. Evening Performances: \$50 Reserved / \$20 Adult / \$10 Student. Tickets are available online, at the arts center and Between the Covers in Harbor Springs.

IRONTON

Christmas Eve Service

Come and join us in celebrating the miracle of Christmas at our Christmas Eve service at 7pm. It's at the little Ironton Congregational Church on Washington Street. It's a traditional service with music and message by Reverend Jim Jordan. Cookies and fellowship to follow before you step out again into the holy night.

BOYNE CITY

Community Christmas dinner

On Dec. 25 First Presbyterian Church at 401 S. Park St. will host a Community Christmas Dinner from 12-2. Please join us for this free meal as we celebrate the birth of Christ. For more information call 231-582-7983.

BOYNE CITY

Blood drive

A blood drive will be hosted by the Community of Christ Church, 777 Vogel St., Boyne City, from 11 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. Monday, Dec. 29. Call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit redcrossblood.org to make an appointment or for more information.

CHARLEVOIX

Bridge Drop

New Year's Eve, December 31st is right around the corner and the Charlevoix Bridge Drop is back and better than ever! Get your creative juices flowing during the Snowman Making Contest, sponsored by Charlevoix Public Library! Make smores over the fire pit in Bridge Park! Meet and greet the famous Second Chance Mushers - kiddos

can even go on a dog sled ride! Pigs Eatin Ribs and Pita Cruiser food trucks will be serving up awesome eats to warm you from the inside out. New to the Bridge Drop this year is the Bridge Drop Brew Tent (21+) which features an all Michigan Brew line up and hosts fantastic live music from 3-11:45pm. (P.S. the tent will be heated) The actual Bridge Drop will take place at 11:55pm and the best New Year's Eve Firework Show in the Midwest will take place at midnight! Fireworks Raffle Tickets are now available! 1 for \$10 and 3 for \$20. Grand prize is \$1000 and all proceeds help fund the fireworks show! The Bridge Drop is sponsored by Charlevoix Downtown Development Authority, Charlevoix Convention & Visitors Bureau, Randall Chiropractic, and Fox Motors. If you are interested in sponsoring this fantastic community event, please contact Amanda at info@visitcharlevoix.com. For more information visit www.bridgedrop.com!

EAST JORDAN

Citizen of the Year

Now is the time to get your nominations in to the Chamber for Citizen of the Year, which will be awarded at the Chamber's Annual Meeting - Saturday, January 31, 2015 at Castle Farms. There are several people in our community worthy of this award. Take a look at the people making a difference in our community. Don't let your choice be left out. Contact the East Jordan Area Chamber of Commerce, 100 Main St. or call 231-536-7351.

CHARLEVOIX

Gift of Art Holiday Show

The Gift of Art Holiday Show will run thru January 3rd at the Circle of Arts. This show features the creations of over twenty area fine artists and craftsmen. Offered are a wide range of paintings, prints, photographs, pottery, jewelry, etc. to please all tastes and budgets.

BOYNE CITY

Fruit sale

The Boyne City High School bands are raising funds by selling fresh-from-the-grove Florida oranges and grapefruit in convenient sizes. Please show your support for our organization by purchasing a box of fruit for yourself, a family member, a friend or a co-worker. See any member of the band to place your order.

N. MICHIGAN

Junior Achievement volunteers

Junior Achievement's local Board of Directors is looking for volunteers that would like to share their leadership skills to increase the growth of Junior Achievement programs in area schools. For more information on numerous opportunities, contact the area's District Director Mark Pankner at janso@ja.org or call 231-582-4660.

BOYNE CITY

Boyne Volunteer Network

Boyne volunteer network is a joint project of the Boyne District Library, Boyne City Main Street Program and the Boyne Area Chamber of Commerce. It's easy to participate - just go to www.boynevolunteers.org and fill out the application form, which will tell us your skills, interests and contact information. We will contact you later about volunteer opportunities that may interest you. If you have questions or would like to learn more about how to include your organization and volunteer needs in this new network, contact Monica Kroondyk at the Boyne District Library by phone at 231-582-7861 or by email at kroondykm@boynelibrary.org.

EAST JORDAN

Christian coffee house

Open Door Christian coffee house will be held every first and third Saturday at the East Jordan Community Center on Main St. Refreshments are available; free coffee and a small charge for pizza and soda. We have a lot of wonderful talent right here in northern Michigan. Great fellowship, everyone is welcome to come

N. MICHIGAN

Playgroups

Playgroups for children 0-60 months and their preschool aged siblings are offered free through the Women's Resource Center of Northern Michigan. Playgroups will help you find out more about your child's developmental stage; learn new games and activities to play with

your child; and share ideas, parenting experiences and concerns with the playgroup facilitator and other parents. This fall/winter, Playgroups are held: 9:30-11am Tuesdays at Jordan Valley District Library Community Room, East Jordan; 9:30-11am Wednesdays at United Methodist Church, Alanson; 9:30-11am Thursdays at Christ Lutheran Church, Boyne City; 9:30-11am Fridays at United Methodist Church, Petoskey. Call (231)347-0067 or visit wrcnm.org for more information.

CHARLEVOIX

Messy church

This is a fun way of doing church for families. There are crafts, Bible stories learning about the God who loves you, songs, and free meal. Children must be accompanied by parent or adult. This is a non-denominational event which takes place on the first Sunday of each month at 4 - 6 pm at the Charlevoix United Methodist Church, 104 State St. Your call is appreciated for meal count at 547-2654.

CHARLEVOIX COUNTY

Seniors ride free

Residents aged 60 and over will now be able to ride the Charlevoix County Transit free of charge within Charlevoix County. Seniors please contact the Charlevoix County Transit for your ride at 231-582-6900. This program is made possible through the cooperation of the Charlevoix County Commission on Aging and the Charlevoix County Transit.

CHARLEVOIX

Story time

Weekly Story Time is hosted every Thursday at 10:30am and all children and their parents or caregivers are invited to attend. Story Time at the Charlevoix Library is geared towards children birth to five years old. Ms. Laura, story teller extraordinaire, reads stories, sings songs, interacts with finger plays, and sometimes even dances with the kids.



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Charlevoix County News

VOLUME 6, ISSUE 26

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News

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Interim Title removed for East Jordan Schools Superintendent

By Tina Sundelius

EAST JORDAN - At the regular December 15 meeting of the East Jordan Public Schools Board of Education, the board agreed that Interim Superintendent Matt Stevenson met their expectations and as a result, the board took action to remove the "Interim" title and named him the Superintendent of EJPS.

Matt was given the title of Interim Superintendent in July, 2014 after Jon Hoover announced his retirement. Stevenson's performance was evaluated at Monday night's meeting and the board was in one hundred percent agreement to remove the "interim" title. "Over the summer the board felt they were put in a tight spot and they decided to let me fill in as an interim and at that point I asked for a mid-year evaluation process. So, it was just one of those things where it worked out and everybody was in agreement and now they're ready to move forward," said Stevenson.

Although there has been some confusion in the general public over what title was bestowed on Stevenson. Until the board removed the title of interim most people thought he was already the superintendent. In light of the district beginning a strategic planning process the conversation amongst board members over the last couple of months has concerned where they wanted to go from here. "I didn't want to be an interim guiding that process. I think they've been happy with what I've done so far I know I'm happy to lead the district and do what's needed to make EJPS a positive place to be," said Stevenson.



Char-Em United Way Funding Community Investment process has begun

Char-Em United Way's 2014-15 Community Investment process has begun. Non-profit agencies which provide programs and services meeting the health and human service needs of Charlevoix and Emmet Counties are encouraged to submit a Letter of Intent to apply for funding.

Our funding priorities and eligibility criteria can be found on our website, charemunitedway.org. If the project for which you are seeking funding meets these guidelines and you wish to apply for United Way funding, please submit a very short letter of intent by 4 p.m., Monday, January 12, 2015. The CEUW Investment Committee will review these letters and invite eligible agencies to submit full applications. New applicants are requested to call us first to discuss your program. A sample letter of intent can be downloaded from United

Way's website under Allocations/Apply for Funding.

"We are pleased to announce this year's funding availability," states Lorraine Manary, Executive Director. "In 2013-14, we made Community Investment Allocations of \$193,844 to 25 programs of 20 agencies with grants ranging from \$500 to \$20,000. This year, we hope to be able to provide even more funding. We have set our Campaign goal to meet the increasing community need and are striving to reach it. We are still accepting contributions, and all donations received through the end of April will be awarded in this investment cycle."

CEUW's 2014-15 funding priorities focus on meeting the community's needs for Education, Income and Health. More information on these priorities, as well as other criteria for eligible programs and agencies is available from Char-Em

United Way.

"These priorities will ensure that, with the increased need in our community for health and human services and with limited dollars available, our Community Investments are being made as wisely as possible. We revise our priority outcomes to align with the changing needs of our community," continues Manary. "Our investors (donors) want to know that we are making the greatest possible impact in the areas of Education, Income, & Health, and that we are working collaboratively in our community to address difficult issues. Currently CEUW is working through a strategic planning initiative and will be inviting community leaders to share their thoughts and insights at our next meeting on January 20th. Anyone interested in participating is encouraged to call the United Way office at 231-487-1006"

Agencies invited to submit a full application will be scheduled to make a presentation to CEUW Citizen Review Panels in mid-April. The Citizen Review Panel members review requests for funding from 4-5 agencies, hears presentations, seeks additional information, and makes recommendations to the United Way Board of Directors. The Board of Directors will meet in May to consider the recommendations of the Panel and to make Community Investment decisions.

For more information about Char-Em United Way, how to be part of the Citizen Review Panel or the application process, contact CEUW at 231-487-1006 or info@charemunitedway.org or write P O Box 1701, Petoskey MI 49770. Complete application information will be made available online at www.charemunitedway.org.

Exploring Extinction: a reading & film showing

EAST JORDAN - Saturday, December 20, 5:30pm at the Martha Wagbo Farm and Education Center in East Jordan. There is a suggested donation of \$3 - \$5. The program is family-friendly. Potluck begins at 5:30pm, program at 7pm. For more information contact the Wagbo Farm at 231-536-0333 or info@wagbo.org.

2014 marks the 100th year anniversary of the death of the last Passenger Pigeon, a bird that once numbered in the billions and is thought to have been the most numerous bird on Earth. The slaughter that took these birds

from our Michigan skies was unimaginable and holds deep lessons for our present ecological state and its future. A short reading exploring the life and death of the Passenger Pigeon will be followed by an hour-long film on the subject as well as a look into other animals that may soon be found only in history books.

Our potlucks are always a treat. Join us for fine food and fun folks in the Wagbo farmhouse. Bring a dish to pass if you are able, not required. Table service and hot tea and coffee provided.

Boyne City Public School Student of the Week



Roman Barker

Grade: 9

Parent(s): Valerie VanVolkenburg and Ronald Barker

Future Plans: "Become an inventor or make a TV show."

School Activities: Robotics Club

Hobbies and Interests: Building, Think of new ways to do things, Drawing

Staff Comments:

"Roman is doing a great job in US History! I appreciate his willingness to challenge himself in the classroom! Keep up the great work Roman!" - Michele Deming

"Roman Barker is an outstanding academic student already as a 9th grader. Our BC Blaze Robotics team is excited to have Roman join us!" - Principal, Karen Jarema

"Roman is a wonderful student to have in class. He always tries his best and is an active participant in the classroom. I have enjoyed having Roman in the classroom and looking forward to watching him move forward in Algebra. I wish Roman the best at Boyne City High School." - Pamela Crouch

"Roman is a very dedicated and respectful student." - Jeanne Heath, English Teacher

Boyne Falls Elementary Student of the Week



Riley Zbacnik

Grade: 4

Parent(s): Heather and Chad

What do you want to be when you grow up?: Teacher

School Activities: I like meeting with my kindergarten buddy on Fridays, and doing math.

Hobbies and Interests: Playing games, Pokemon, playing outside with mom and friends.

Favorite Book: I Survived September 11

Staff Comments:

Riley is a friendly and kind student who always helps others, follows directions, and works extra hard. - Mrs. Wind

East Jordan Public Schools Students of the Month



LINDSAY SCHROEDER

12 Grade

Lindsay is a very dedicated hard working student; she has a great personality and sense of humor.

Mr. Essenberg said he is impressed with Lindsay's work ethic and maturity.

Ms. Wimmer added that Lindsay is always happy and smiling and infectious to those around her, she is a bright spot in the day.

CATERA EVERETT

3rd Grade

Catera is a great role model. She is a hard worker. She is kind and helpful. She is respectful, responsible and safe. She is an awesome choice for student of the month. She is a great Red Devil.

- Mrs. Kitson

HUNTER ADAMS

7th Grade

Hunter is well deserved as this month's student of the month for East Jordan Middle School. As a member of the National Junior Honor Society, he embodies the qualities of service, leadership, citizenship, character and scholarship. Hunter is quick to step in and take part in new committee work, volunteer at various service opportunities for the community, demonstrates positive attitude ALWAYS and is a true gentleman and friend to all.

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News

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Knights of Columbus host Christmas party

BOYNE CITY – On December 3rd the Boyne Valley Knights of Columbus hosted the 23rd annual Christmas part for the physically and mentally impaired at St. Mathew's Catholic Church in Boyne City.

Each year Della Sevenski has

prepared and planned the event together with the Boyne Valley Knights of Columbus.

The party includes a luncheon for more than 200 area impaired people along with their caregivers. The event also includes live music with dancing and

singing along with gifts and fruit that Santa hands out to all who attend from Boyne City, Charlevoix, East Jordan and Gaylord.

K of C Grand Knight, Steve Czerkes presented checks totaling \$1,610.70 to the Bergmann

Center, North Country Enrichments Center and Challenge Mountain.

Additional donations were made by the UAW Local 1403, Boyne Falls Polish Festival committee and the Fraternal Order of Eagles.



The Grand Knight, Steve Czerkes of the Boyne Valley Knights of Columbus presents a check in the amount of \$1610.70 to Tammy McGeshick of the North Country Enrichment Center



The Grand Knight, Steve Czerkes of the Boyne Valley Knights of Columbus presents a check in the amount of \$1610.70 to Elizabeth Looze, the Director of Challenge Mountain.



The Grand Knight, Steve Czerkes of the Boyne Valley Knights of Columbus presents a check in the amount of \$1610.70 to the Activities Director Robin Ames of the Bergman Center.

A blend of old, new and homemade too at Gaylord's Homespun Antiques & Crafts



By Jim Akans

For shoppers seeking a spot to find antique, vintage, new as well as homemade craft items, look no further than the wide array of fascinating goods offered at downtown Gaylord's Homespun Antiques & Crafts, located right next to the historic Sugar Bowl Restaurant. Established by Sue Nowak in May of 2010, the shop has a wide array of items conveniently organized by product type.

"Customer's regularly comment how nicely organized the store is," affirms Sue Nowak. "Many people also tell us that we

have a lot of inventory so I keep wondering if I should change our name to the "lots of stuff" store!"

Nowak originally started out renting booth space at downtown craft shows. She opened a store location on South Otsego Avenue in Gaylord and relocated to Elmira in 2009. Pursuing an interest to have a store in downtown Gaylord she surveyed the space connected to the Sugar Bowl and was motivated by the idea people might browse her store while waiting to enjoy a meal at the restaurant. She decided to make the move in 2010

She recalls, "On opening day we did more business

than we did in several months combined at the Elmira location. This is a great spot."

Items on display at Homespun Antiques & Crafts represent several vendors, many of which are local, who rent space in the store as well as items Nowak and her husband Larry find at auctions and estate sales. Among the items customers can find are dishware, glassware, tons of books, CD's, DVD's, vinyl records and home décor products and accessories. They have American Doll clothing, handmade knit sweaters, socks and mittens, hand woven rugs, crochet top dish towels

have recently added brand new and collectable Christmas decorations.

"We will also be introducing craft supplies in the near future," notes Nowak. "We truly do offer a blend of the old, the new and the handmade too at Homespun Antiques & Crafts."

Homespun Antiques & Crafts is located at 230 West Main Street in downtown Gaylord. Winter hours are 11 am until 5 pm Monday through Saturday and Summer hours are 10 am to 5 pm Monday through Saturday and 12 pm to 4 pm on Sunday. They can be reached by calling (989) 731-4305.

Homespun Antiques & Crafts is located right next to the historic Sugar Bowl Restaurant in downtown Gaylord. Established by Sue Nowak in May of 2010, the downtown Gaylord store is a must see destination for shoppers seeking antique, vintage, new as well as homemade craft items. PHOTO BY JIM AKANS

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News

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weather

THURSDAY



HIGH: Upper 20's
LOW: Low 20's

FRIDAY



HIGH: Upper 20's
LOW: Low 20's

SATURDAY



HIGH: Low 30's
LOW: Mid 20's

SUNDAY



HIGH: Low 30's
LOW: Mid 20's

snowfall

2013-14	.....Amt	2014-15	.....Amt
12/16/2013	...37	12/15/2014	...36.5.....Boyer Falls
12/16/2013	...21.4	12/15/2014	...23.1.....Charlevoix
12/16/2013	...38.5	12/15/2014	...26.....Cheboygan
12/16/2013	...32.7	12/15/2014	...43.1.....East Jordan
12/16/2013	...75.8	12/15/2014	...61.2.....Gaylord
12/16/2013	...15.7	12/15/2014	...8.5.....Mio
12/16/2013	...33.4	12/15/2014	...28.....Onaway
12/16/2013	...47.6	12/15/2014	...43.7.....Petoskey

record temps

DAY	.....AVG LOW	.....AVG. HIGH	.....RECORD LOW	.....RECORD HIGH
DEC 18	.....19°	.....33°	.....-1° (1973)	.....47° (1949)
DEC 19	.....18°	.....32°	.....-13° (2004)	.....50° (2002)
DEC 20	.....18°	.....32°	.....-20° (1983)	.....48° (1988)
DEC 21	.....18°	.....32°	.....-14° (1975)	.....53° (1967)
DEC 22	.....18°	.....32°	.....0° (1989)	.....55° (1957)
DEC 23	.....17°	.....31°	.....-9° (1989)	.....52° (1957)
DEC 24	.....17°	.....31°	.....-14° (1969)	.....52° (1994)
DEC 25	.....17°	.....31°	.....-15° (1958)	.....58° (1982)

EAST JORDAN CITY COMMISSION MEETING, DECEMBER 16, 2014

East Jordan city parks and beaches go tobacco-free

By Krystal Johnson

EAST JORDAN - The East Jordan City Commission negotiated a contract with the new city administrator, Tom Cannon, at the December 16 meeting.

After being appointed as the interim city administrator in October, the city decided to make Cannon's title official at their November 20 meeting by offering Cannon the full-time position. Cannon, who has served as the city's parks director for nearly a decade and was recently promoted to assistant city administrator, demonstrated the camaraderie, work ethic, and professionalism that many of the commissioners hoped to see in a new administrator.

With hopes to help Cannon pursue more education in his field, the city included an agreement to cover costs for three college credits or continuing education units (CEUs) annually in his contract. This commission had expressed a desire to see Cannon further his education when they offered him the job in November, with Commissioner Mark Penzien suggesting that it could be something Cannon worked on while serving as administrator.

The commission also included a three-month severance package in Cannon's contract, which was a decrease from previous city administrator Chris Yonker's six-month deal. Cannon did not ask for the severance to be included with his contract, but many commissioners felt that the city administrator title was deserving of a severance package. Commissioners are optimistic that Cannon will remain rooted in the community and his new position for many years to come.

The city commission also passed a resolution to go tobacco-free at city parks and beaches, as well as city owned outdoor recreational facilities at Tuesday's meeting.

After hearing from SAFE (substance abuse free environment) representatives at the commission's December 2 meeting, commissioners

were challenged by students who collected nearly 1,400 cigarette butts or filters littering East Jordan beaches, to go tobacco-free at parks and beaches.

The commission unanimously passed a resolution that endorses and supports making all parks and beaches in the city of East Jordan 100% tobacco free, excluding the Tourist Park Campground site, East Jordan Harbor rented boat slips, Elm Pointe and outdoor rented spaces. The commission also resolved that tobacco use be prohibited at any city-owned or operated outdoor recreational facilities, including restrooms, spectator stands, and concession areas.

Commissioner Paul Timmons commented that the resolutions for tobacco-free areas were family friendly, which is something the community of East Jordan strives to be.

Tobacco-free signs will be posted in appropriate areas and are being provided to the city at no cost.

The appointments committee also recommended Jason Cady to the Downtown Development Authority (DDA). Commissioners unanimously approved Cady to the DDA, who is the new owner of longtime restaurant, Murray's Bar & Grill.

Mayor Russ Peck shared with commissioners that the DDA will be hosting an exciting opportunity for entrepreneurs this spring. On April 11, the DDA will hold their first ever hatch, where they hope to help someone hatch their next big idea in business. Hopeful entrepreneurs will have the chance to share their business plan with the DDA, and the best proposed plan will win \$10K to help kick start their business. This privately funded award has only one catch: the business must be located in East Jordan. For more information, contact the East Jordan DDA. The DDA meets on the first Monday of the first month at 5:30 p.m.

The next regular meeting of the East Jordan City Commission is scheduled for 7 p.m., Tuesday, January 6, 2015.

Dr. Oz and Roizen

Television's Dr. Oz and Cleveland Clinic's Dr. Roizen report on health, wellness and quality of life.



5 STRESS-BUSTERS WITH A HUGE HEALTH BONUS

Feeling tense? You're not alone. Thanks to too many bills, too much to do, relationship conflicts and health problems, one in four Americans say that they've felt stretched to the breaking point in the past month, according to a recent nationwide survey. And half of us have faced one of life's major stress-busters in the past year: a birth or death; marriage or divorce; or buying or selling a home.

Life's ups and downs don't have to take a long-term health toll. True, chronic stress increases your risk for all kinds of health problems and can make taking care of the ones you have more difficult. But tension-taming strategies can make you feel sooo good today and reach deep into your body, flipping switches to create better health for the long run.

Case in point: Researchers from Canada's University of Calgary discovered that breast cancer survivors who practiced a simple daily meditation had longer "caps" on the ends of their DNA compared with survivors who didn't take these stress-busting mental breaks. These "caps" are called telomeres. They work like the plastic bit at the end of a shoelace, keeping everything intact and allowing chromosomes to reproduce so they can repair and

replace other cells that are injured.

Telomeres naturally get shorter as we age, but research indicates that stress accelerates their fraying, raising your risk for heart disease, diabetes and even cancer. Fortunately, further research reveals that there are a wide variety of do-it-yourself tension-tamers to help keep that from happening. They melt anxiety while pampering your heart and reducing pain, which keeps your cells young and gives you more energy.

These do-it-yourself tension-tamers are good for everyone at any age -- whether you enjoy hanging out with friends, meditating or soaking in a hot tub. Hint: If you're the super-busy type who has trouble taking a little "me" time, think of relaxing as a health Rx instead of an indulgence! With stress-management techniques, exercise and great food choices, you can decelerate stress damage and slow the aging process. Here's what you might try:

1. Meditation. Mindfulness meditation can help your body process blood sugar better, help curb overeating and improve blood pressure, too. Try it: Look for a mindfulness meditation class in your community or simply sit comfortably with your eyes closed and pay attention to your breathing. Gently refo-

cus your attention on your breath whenever your mind wanders. Check out sharecare.com for more detailed instructions.

2. Deep breathing. When you breathe in through your nose (count to four) and out through your mouth (slowly, count to eight), that sends beneficial nitric oxide into your lungs -- encouraging your airways to expand. You'll instantly increase the oxygen level in your blood by up to 3 percent. Not bad!

3. Time with friends. Getting together to watch the big game, going to a Friday-night movie or however else you do it, spending time with supportive friends and family feels great and makes you healthier. Studies show that social support calms blood pressure, lowers stress hormone levels and can slow your heart rate. So give your BFF a call today and get together with someone you like (or love) this week.

4. Music. Lots of research shows listening to your favorite tunes can knock a few points off your blood pressure, soothe stress hormone levels and reduce pain.

5. Just chill ... at home or away. Whether you take a vacation, a "stay-cation," kick back for an hour with a glass of wine and a good book or go for a soak in the tub, plain old relaxation has big benefits. Vacations cut the risk for heart attacks and heart-disease-related deaths in two big studies of men and women. And in one recent study, men who took time every day to relax actually lengthened their telomeres. Simply put, chilling out keeps you younger longer and gives you a younger RealAge.

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OBITUARIES

George A. Rhine, 50

(FEB. 4, 1964 - DEC. 8, 2014)

George A. Rhine of Charlevoix died at home Monday, December 8, 2014. Born February 4, 1964, in Petoskey, attended Harbor Springs schools, and graduated from Charlevoix High School in 1982. After graduating, George joined the US Navy where he served honorably for twenty-two years, achieving the rank of Machinist Mate 1st Class. He worked on nuclear submarine servicing, and was awarded two Meritorious Unit Commendation Medals for the outstanding performance of his duties as a Machinist Mate. He also received the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, Good Conduct Medal, Navy "E" Ribbon, National Defense Service Medal, Armed Forces Expedition Medal, Southwest Asia Service Medal, Navy & Marine Overseas Service Ribbon, Expert Pistol Shot Medal, Sea Service Deployment Ribbon, Enlisted Surface Warfare Specialist, Flag Letter of Commendation.

George returned home to northern Michigan. He was an avid deer and small game hunter; and an antique and Chevy Chev-elle collector.

The son of Cathy and James Novotny, he is survived by his parents; brothers, Pat (Sarah) Rhine, Jeff (Cindy) Novotny, James Novotny, Jr.; sisters, Victoria Rhine, Avis Rhine, Marshall

Rhine, Kathy (Tim) Bradley, Cheryl (Bob) Ripley; niece, Bonnie Rhine; nephew, Dustin Ripley; former wife, Fely Rhine; son Cyrus; daughter, Debbie. He was preceded in death by his brothers, Antonio (Tony) Rhine and Lawrence (Larry) Rhine; father, Victor Rhine; grandparents, George and Esther Rhine, Ellen and Frank Steffel, Francis and Frieda Peters.

A memorial gathering was held Tuesday, December 16, at Winchester Funeral Home in Charlevoix, where Military Honors were presented by the Charlevoix Area Veterans and the United States Navy. Interment will take place at Saint Mary's Cemetery in Charlevoix.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Wounded Warrior Project, P.O. Box 758517, Topeka, Kansas 66675; or www.wounded-warriorproject.org

Please sign George's guestbook at www.winchesterfuneralhome.com

Robert V. Colt, 80

(APRIL 1, 1934 - DEC. 9, 2014)

Robert V. Colt of Charlevoix, formerly of Lansing, and Lake City, died at his home, Tuesday, December 9, 2014. Born April 1st, 1934 to Calvin and Meryl Colt, Robert lived the majority of his life in the Lansing area. Surviving are his wife, Judy; children, Kristi, David, Robert, Scott, and Suzanne, and grandchildren Ben,



Josh, Matt, Luke, Brad, and Kate.

Robert attended Sexton High School, graduating in 1952 and continued on to Michigan State University where he was a member of the Kappa Sigma Fraternity, class of 1956. He joined the Navy and flew AWAC plane VV-12 in the Navy Airborne Division. He left as a Naval Lieutenant to return to study dentistry at the University of Michigan, and graduated in 1964. He opened his dental practice in Lansing in 1965 and continued there until his retirement in 1999.

Bob belonged to many organizations over the years including: Lansing Golden Gloves, YMCA Century Club, MSU Presidents' Club and Honorary Coach, Lansing Country Club, Rotary, American Dental Association, Michigan Dental Association, and Kiwanis.

He was an active member of the Charlevoix Christ Episcopal Church and sang in the Charlevoix Men's Chorus and Little Traverse Choral Society. Robert was a positive influence and brought joy to all the lives he touched. He will be sorely missed by all.

There will be a Celebration of Life service will be held at The Christ Episcopal Church of Charlevoix on Monday, December 29th, at 11:00am. Donations in lieu of flowers should go to The Barbara Karmanos Cancer Institute or The Michigan State University Spartan Fund.

Kellie Marie Barber, 39

Kellie Marie Barber died Saturday, December 13, 2014 at Charlevoix Area Hospital. Arrangements are pending at

the pending at the Penzien Funeral Homes, Inc. in East Jordan. **Kyle Lee Symonds, 30**

Kyle Lee Symonds died Monday, December 15, 2014 at Munson Medical Center in Traverse City.

A funeral service will be held on Sunday, December 21, 2014 at 4:00 P.M. at the Penzien Funeral Home in East Jordan.

The family will receive friends on Sunday from 2:00 P.M. until service time.

Mary Kathryn Bischoff, 87

(APRIL 8, 1927 - DEC. 8, 2014)

Mary Kathryn Bischoff of Springvale Township passed away at home on December 8, 2014.

Mary was born April 8, 1927 in Harbor Springs the daughter of Guy and Henrietta Ann (Ulrich) Cotanche. She grew up in both Harbor Springs and Walloon Lake and was a graduate of Petoskey High School.

She married the love of her life Willard "Bill" C. Bischoff on December 26, 1946. Mary and Bill shared 56 wonderful years and together raised five children. Bill sadly preceded Mary in death on July 5, 2003.

Mary will forever be remembered by her family as a loving and caring mother and grandmother, who always kept a warm home where everyone always felt welcome. She enjoyed cooking, baking and tending her yard and

garden. Mary's home, yard and garden were always a source of pride to her and in the fall she loved putting up quarts of pickles and sauerkraut that she shared with family and friends.

Mary is survived by her five children Louis (Peggy) of Bay City, Robert (Ginger) of Charlevoix, Brenda K. (Jake) Jacobson of Conway, Gary (Linda) of Grand Haven, and Michael (Carla) of Petoskey and by eleven grandchildren, 24 great grandchildren and one great, great grandchild. Also surviving Mary is her brother Bruce Cotanche and sister Nancy Bachelor. Including her husband Bill, Mary was also preceded in death by her sisters Edith and Ellen.

Mary's life was remembered with a funeral service at Stone Funeral Home on Saturday, December 13, 2014. Pastor Leroy Sutfin officiated. Interment will take place in the spring within Curtiss Cemetery.

Friends and family are welcome to share memories or offer condolences online at www.stonefuneralhomeinc.com

David C. Burns, 70

David C. Burns died Dec. 15, 2014, at home in Charlevoix. Arrangements are pending at Winchester Funeral Home in Charlevoix.

News

ONLINE AT WWW.CHARLEVOIXCOUNTYNEWS.COM

Crooked Tree Arts Center School of Ballet perform The Nutcracker

The holiday favorite "The Nutcracker" will be performed by Crooked Tree Arts Center School of Ballet dancers on Saturday and Sunday December 20 and 21 at the Harbor Springs Performing Arts Center. This annual performance is a fundraising event for the School of Ballet Dance Scholarship Fund.

Over 40 dancers will take the stage for the full performance with music by Tchaikovsky. "Each year the CTAC School of Ballet performers delight us with this classic performance" noted Tony Ryner, Crooked Tree Arts Center Chairman of the Board of Directors. "We encourage people to buy their tickets in advance, as tickets may not be



CTAC School of Ballet dancers Amanda Humphrey and Michael Menghini will perform The Nutcracker on Saturday and Sunday, December 20 and 21, 2014 in Harbor Springs. PHOTO CREDIT: HENRY JOY.

available at the door and the Sunday matinee has very few seats open at this time" continued Ryner. The lead dancers include: Nutcracker & Cavalier - Michael Menghini, St. Ignace

Clara - Emily Stabile, Petoskey Snow Queen - Emily McGeehan, Petoskey Sugar Plum Fairy - Amanda Humphrey, Harbor Springs

Mouse Queen - Aidan Flynn, Charlevoix Dew Drop Fairy - Taylor Naturkas, Petoskey Drosselmeyer - Tracy Thomson, Petoskey

Arabian - Claire Millard, Alanson and Washington DC

Performance times are Saturday, December 20 at 3 pm and 7 pm and Sunday, December 21 at 3 pm. Tickets for Matinee Performances: \$50 Reserved / \$15 Adult / \$5 Student. Evening Performances: \$50 Reserved / \$20 Adult / \$10 Student. Tickets available online, at the arts center and in Harbor Springs at Between the Covers and the Harbor Springs Chamber of Commerce. The Harbor Springs Performing Arts Center is located at 500 N. Spring Street in Harbor Springs. For more information contact the Crooked Tree Arts Center at 231-347-4337 or

Sounds of the Season



PHOTO BY M. CHRIS LEESE

Miriam Pico of Traverse City (center) performs a holiday concert before a full house recently with Younce Guitar Duo (from left) Jerry Younce, Greg Vadnais and Ryan Younce at the Charlevoix Circle of Arts. The CCA is also hosting a holiday gift sale open to the public daily, noon to 4pm through January 3.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters may be submitted by e-mail to office@CharlevoixCountyNews.com.

Dear Editor,

The committee on behalf of the Charlevoix Ministerial Association would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to the Methodist Church, the many generous donors, and all of the wonderful volunteers for helping to make the 8th annual Charlevoix Community Thanksgiving Dinner a huge success again this year. Thank you so very much, without your support this wonderful community event would not be possible. *Gay Kiteley, Charlevoix*

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News

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Christmas in Black & White

Some classic movies that celebrate holiday spirit and fun

By Jim Akans

Every year, a few new film titles are released during the holidays with storylines directly aimed at capturing the festive Christmas spirit, and audiences. Like an early snow, some of these movies stick, and some rapidly fade away.

A number of those relatively recent titles have already become classics, such as *A Christmas Story*, *Scrooged* (the Bill Murray version), *Elf*, National Lampoon's *Christmas Vacation*, *Home Alone* and *The Polar Express*. These can easily be found repeated across the cable channels and revolving on and off video store shelves throughout the season.

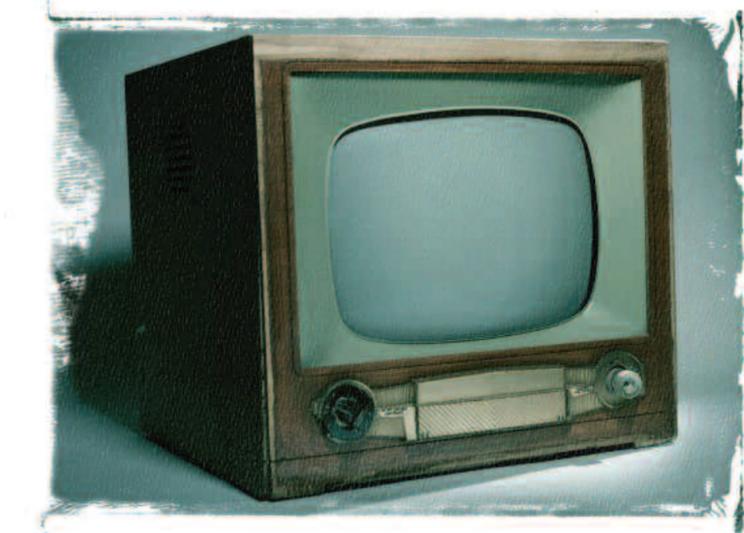
Movies are a perfect fit for the Christmas season. Much like the spirit of the holidays, a good movie can pull us into an alternative place, where life's complications seem to melt away. Purpose and meaning somehow become clearer, and understanding the world around us is a lucid as black & white.

After more than half a Century, a selection of Christmas films from the 1940's and 1950's continue to capture the magic of the holidays in elegant black & white format. Well-written, flawlessly casted, beautifully filmed (yes, they do look good in HD), and each offering an enduring message of life, love and hope. These are film treasures that deserve to be re-visited... and introduced to a new generation of viewers.

The Shop Around the Corner (1940) – A bustling shop prepares for Christmas amid the troubles of a shopkeeper who suspects his wife is having an affair, and co-workers, played by James Stewart and Margaret Sullivan, who seem to dislike each other, yet are unknowingly flirting via anonymous letters. Great fun that later inspired *In the Good Old Summertime* and even *You've Got Mail*.

The Bishop's Wife (1947) – Cary Grant, Loretta Young and David Niven team up in this memorable tale about one of the most unlikely "love triangles;" a bishop, his wife and a guardian angel. Grant charms, Niven befuddles, and Young glows. Life lessons are learned among the laughter. Winner of five Academy Awards.

Holiday Inn (1942) – How could a hol-



iday movie (and this one stops at all the holidays) become anything but a classic when it stars Bing Crosby, Fred Astaire and has a soundtrack composed by Irving Berlin? Not about plot, just great fun and a superb holiday musical, including the debut of Bing's "White Christmas."

White Christmas (1954) – Irving Berlin's now classic holiday song surfaces again and became the title of this story of a highly successful song-and-dance team (Bing Crosby and Danny Kaye) who romance a singing sister act (Rosemary Clooney and Vera-Ellen) and bring a full scale stage show to a struggling Vermont Inn owned by a much loved former WWII commanding general. The final scene still grabs at the heartstrings.

Scrooge (1951) – The Charles Dickens literary classic has been adapted to film many, many times, but Alastair Sim's portrayal of the indomitable Scrooge in this version is an all-out classic performance. He is just so darn mean and miserly, and seems so genuinely transformed by the end of the movie...even Santa would love him.

Christmas in Connecticut (1942) – While this may be the least-known titles on this short list of classics, don't miss the opportunity to rent or push "select" should this show up on the channel guide. Barbara Stanwyck stars as an unmarried New York food writer, desperately trying to fabricate the Connecticut family farm life she

has professed to her readers. It is part "screwball comedy," part love story, and all holiday mayhem.

Miracle on 34th Street (1947) – A film responsible for making true believers in Santa Clause for over sixty years. Edmund Gwenn may actually be Santa for all I know; he certainly looks and acts the part. When all those letters pour into the courtroom...and his cane shows up in that charming Cape Cod home...I still believe.

It's a Wonderful Life (1946) – Surprisingly, this holiday favorite didn't get off to a very good start. It is based on a story, "The Greatest Gift," by Philip Van Doren Stern who couldn't get published after writing it in 1939. An RKO studio producer spotted it, showed it to Cary Grant, who decided to make *The Bishop's Wife* instead. Director Frank Capra, however, thought it had great potential, and made this film starring James Stewart and Donna Reed in the lead roles, with Lionel Barrymore as despicable banker Henry Potter, but it flopped at the box office. Over the years it has gained a well-deserved reputation as the most beloved celluloid incarnations of the Christmas spirit, a celebration of the triumph of family, friends, goodness and love.

So grab some eggnog, a bowl of walnuts for cracking, and get ready for some good old-fashioned 20th century holiday spirit to fill your heart.



A new way for kids to send a letter to Santa

By Jessica Boyce

Christmas can be a very busy time for everyone. Kids are frantically writing their Christmas lists and are worried about Santa getting them on time, and parents have Christmas shopping, cooking, and everything else to worry about. They also have to make sure that their child gets their letter to Santa in time for Christmas and many times write a response to that letter so their child can continue to believe in the Christmas magic of Santa Claus.

There is a website that can help with your child's letter to Santa this year as well as answer questions your child may have about Jolly St. Nick and how he delivers all of those gifts on Christmas Eve. The website, www.letter4santa.com is where that parents can go to and have their kids write a letter to Santa and get an immediate, personalized response. All they have to do is fill out the form with their first name, if they are a boy/girl, if they have been good this year, what they want for Christmas, and there is even another spot where they can write a personalized little note. After they submit their letter, they get a response with their name at the top and Santa tells them that he will try to send them everything they asked for, but he also says that they may not receive those exact things, but they will have something great under the tree this year. This can make it so much easier for parents so they don't have to come up with a response to their kid's letter.

Not only can kids submit their letter to Santa, but the website has so much more for them to do. They can track Santa and explore the North Pole, play Santa's games (online games related to Christmas), color online with Santa's Coloring Book, have a Santa Sing-Along, watch Christmas movies with Santa, and play 20 questions with Santa. The 20 questions with Santa answers many questions that kids have about Santa and Christmas that parents find themselves constantly answering. Some of these questions are:

What if my house doesn't have a chimney? Are you real?

How do you fit down a chimney?

What if we move or are visiting another home on Christmas Eve?

Santa responds with his answers for each question, reassuring the child that he is in fact real, can come in a door or window if the house has no chimney, squeezes down the chimney with some Christmas Magic, and will always find them on Christmas no matter where they are. Even if your child has already sent a letter to Santa the old fashioned way, this website can be a fun way for them to explore more about Santa and Christmas.

The Days are Getting Longer

Winter Solstice begins a journey toward summer

By Jim Akans

There's still plenty of winter ahead, but at 6:03 pm on Sunday, December 21st, the earth's axis will begin to tilt back toward the sun, resulting in greater amounts of sunlight here in the north every day until mid June...so the days will soon be getting longer.

It's the winter solstice, also known as Midwinter, the Solar New Year, the Longest Night, Yule, DongZhi, Soyol...and many more tongue-twisting handles that reference the same celestial event in differing cultural perspectives. The universal message, however, is clear; the path toward summer is about to be broken in.

The word "solstice" comes from a Latin phrase that means; "sun stands still." After months of crossing lower and lower in the sky the sun appears to stop before beginning to arc higher in the sky each day for the next six months. Alas, it takes a few months before the increasingly prevalent sun actually warms things up, resulting in a period we refer to as "winter" around these parts, but it's comforting to know we are heading in the right direction.

Always a major "turning point," the solstice has been



There's still plenty of winter ahead, but at 6:03 pm on Sunday, December 21st., the earth's axis will begin to tilt back toward the sun, resulting in greater amounts of sunlight here in the north every day until mid June.

celebrated throughout human history, as demonstrated by the Newgrange tomb in Ireland, one of the oldest structures in the world, which captures light

from the winter solstice sunrise.

Germanic cultures celebrated Winter Solstice with Yule festivals, which ushered in the long-standing

tradition of burning a Yule log for good luck. The Greeks held a winter solstice festival called Lenaea, or the Festival of Wild Women...now that's an interesting name for an event. Romans held the festival of Saturnalia where schools were closed, prisoners were not executed, and people paraded around the streets in masks (sort of an ancient Mardi Gras). Apparently, people like to party during the longest night of the year.

Yet, as Newton's Third Law indicates: for every action there is an equal and opposite reaction. So while half the world sees greater amounts of daylight after the winter solstice, the other half experiences a steadily decreasing amount of daily sunlight. The same Winter Solstice that begins the slow march toward summer in Cleveland also notifies old man winter its time to think about sauntering back to southern hemisphere places such as Sydney, Australia.

Though there is lots of great outdoor fun yet to come during the beautiful northern Michigan winter ahead, summer seems a little closer, and the world looks a little brighter every day after the Winter Solstice.

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CHRISTMAS HUMOR

Buy Your Own Gift!

Last Christmas, grandpa was feeling his age and found that shopping for Christmas gifts had become too diffi-cult. So he decided to send checks to every-one instead.

In each card he wrote, "Buy your own present!" and mailed them early.

He enjoyed the usual flurry of family festivities, and it was only after the holiday that he noticed that he had received very few cards in return. Puzzled over this, he went into his study, intending to write a couple of his relatives and ask what had happened. It was then, as he cleared off his cluttered desk that he got his answer. Under a stack of papers, he was horrified to find the gift checks which he had forgotten to enclose with the cards.

The Truth About Reindeer

According to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, while both male and female reindeer grow antlers in the summer each year, male reindeer drop their antlers at the beginning of winter, usually late November to mid-December.

Female reindeer retain their antlers till after they give birth in the spring. Therefore, according to EVERY historical rendition depicting Santa's reindeer, EVERY single one of them, from Rudolph to Blitzen, had to be a girl!

BOYNE AREA SENIOR CENTER ACTIVITIES

Thursday, December 18 Wii Bowling 11am Knitting & Crochet	Friday, December 19 CHRISTMAS PARTY!! 11am O.J. Adkins Raffle	Monday, December 22 Line Dance Brown-Bag Bingo - Gift Certificate Prize	Tuesday, December 23 Brown-Bag Bingo - Free Lunch	Wed., December 24 CLOSED... MERRY CHRISTMAS!	Thursday, December 25 CLOSED... MERRY CHRISTMAS!
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CHARLEVOIX SENIOR CENTER ACTIVITIES

Thursday, December 18 11am Chair Yoga Class 1pm Pinochle	Friday, December 19 Foot Clinic 9:30am Craft Class 1pm Rummy	Monday, December 22 1pm Bridge 1pm Woodcarving 7pm Bible Study	Tuesday, December 23 Wii Bowling Competition 11am Chair Yoga Class 1pm Paint Class 1pm Rummy	Wed., December 24 CLOSED... MERRY CHRISTMAS!	Thursday, December 25 CLOSED... MERRY CHRISTMAS!
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EAST JORDAN SENIOR CENTER ACTIVITIES

Thursday, December 18 KARAOKE DAY!	Friday, December 19 11am Dollar in a Jukebox Bingo BAKE RAFFLE—everyone bring something!	Monday, December 22 8am-1pm Walking M-F	Tuesday, December 23 10:30am Line Dancing 12:30pm Bingo	Wed., December 24 CLOSED... MERRY CHRISTMAS!	Thursday, December 25 CLOSED... MERRY CHRISTMAS!
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CHARLEVOIX COUNTY SENIOR CENTER MENU

Thursday, December 18 COD ALMONDINE	Friday, December 19 PORK & GRAVY	Monday, December 22 CHICKEN LASAGNA	Tuesday, December 23 POLISH SAUSAGE	Wed., December 24 CLOSED... MERRY CHRISTMAS!	Thursday, December 25 CLOSED... MERRY CHRISTMAS!
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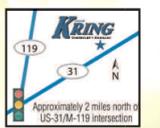
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<p>2008 Pontiac G6 GT In Sedona Beige Metallic, 30 mpg EPA fuel economy, CD, 164 hp., 2.4 liter, 4 cylinder with variable valve timing. Lots of extras too. Don't miss it.</p> <p>YEAR END BLOWOUT PRICED \$7,949</p>	<p>2008 Chevy Impala LT Imperial Blue Metallic, 30 MPG! Safe and Reliable. Air bags surround you. Flip & Fold Rear Seats, 18" Alloys wrapped by nearly new tires, Remote start too!</p> <p>YEAR END BLOWOUT PRICED \$9,449</p>	<p>2009 Saturn Aura XR CARFAX 1 owner and buyback guarantee! Many options like Tap Shift Auto, heated gray leather, great deep Tread tires on sharp & clean alloys! Many features you'd like!</p> <p>YEAR END BLOWOUT PRICED \$10,440</p>	<p>2011 Chevy HHR LT CARFAX 1 owner! Victory Red, charcoal cloth, Chrome Package, Low Miles... the previous owner appears to Have taken extra care to his vehicle.</p> <p>YEAR END BLOWOUT PRICED \$10,949</p>	<p>2011 Chevy Cruze 1LT Just Arrived!! CARFAX 1 owner and buyback guarantee in crystal red metallic!! Great Fuel economy 36 mpg EPA highway! Many features you'd want!</p> <p>YEAR END BLOWOUT PRICED \$10,949</p>	<p>2008 Buick LaCrosse CXL Beautiful Black onyx 1 Owner! Chrome Appearance Pkg.. Chrome Alloys, heated Leather, Ultra-Sonic Parking Assist, remote start, Hurry it's a great ride!</p> <p>YEAR END BLOWOUT PRICED \$10,949</p>	<p>2007 Cadillac DTS Luxury 1 Beautiful Luxury Vehicle at an exceptional low price! Heated and cooled front leather seats, rear heated seats, Even a heated steering wheel, Front & Rear Parking Assist.</p> <p>YEAR END BLOWOUT PRICED \$11,449</p>
<p>2005 Audi S4 4.2L Fast and fun! Includes a CARFAX buyback guarantee! 6 speed Manual & turbo V-8! Sunroof, Heated leather, Packed full of features! Drive it!</p> <p>YEAR END BLOWOUT PRICED \$11,980</p>	<p>2011 Chevy Malibu LS w/1FL CARFAX 1 owner and buyback guarantee! Economical! 2.4 liter giving a 35 mpg highway mileage! We've rolled The price on this one. Save Big NOW!</p> <p>YEAR END BLOWOUT PRICED \$12,449</p>	<p>2006 Ford F-150 XLT 4x4 Super Cab Just Arrived... Includes a CARFAX buyback guarantee! Brand New Cooper All Season Tires! Bed Liner, Miles High but it doesn't look it... come see!</p> <p>YEAR END BLOWOUT PRICED \$13,495</p>	<p>2011 Toyota Matrix S CARFAX 1 owner in Black Sand Pearl with less than 17k Miles! With ABS, traction control, steering controls, tilt/telescopic steering wheel & Great Mpg!</p> <p>YEAR END BLOWOUT PRICED \$14,949</p>	<p>2012 Dodge Journey SE/AVP In Brilliant Black Crystal, low miles, super clean in and out, kid-friendly with 3 rows of seating, safe too with ABS, Traction control and so many other features!</p> <p>YEAR END BLOWOUT PRICED \$15,949</p>	<p>2011 Buick Regal CXL Buick CERTIFIED extended new Car Warranty, CARFAX 1 owner! Heated Leather, Remote Start, Sunroof, Parking Assist, Blue tooth, NICE CAR!</p> <p>YEAR END BLOWOUT PRICED \$16,949</p>	<p>2002 Chevy Camaro Z28 Convertible A rare find! 20,000 miles! One owner in arctic white/black top, Powerful 5.7 liter V8, 6 speed stick, Moonson Sound System, SS Appearance Package!</p> <p>YEAR END BLOWOUT PRICED \$16,949</p>
<p>2014 Chrysler 200 Limited Less than 4,000 miles! CARFAX 1 owner and buyback guarantee in Crystal Blue Pearl! Heated leather, steering wheel controls and so much more! REDUCED \$1,800 NOW!</p> <p>YEAR END BLOWOUT PRICED \$17,949</p>	<p>2007 Chevy Avalanche LTZ 4x4 Black w/ Heated Black Leather, Loaded with everything you would want & more! 20" tires on alloys, rear parking assist, running boards & sunroof!</p> <p>YEAR END BLOWOUT PRICED \$18,949</p>	<p>2005 Silverado 2500HD LT "Dura-Max" Extended Cab 3/4 ton hardy Truck. CARFAX 1 owner! Heated leather! Hard tonneau cover, chrome tube steps, fog lamps, matching color wheel flares.</p> <p>YEAR END BLOWOUT PRICED \$19,449</p>	<p>2013 Toyota RAV4 AWD Perfect for any Season! Great MPG's & Traction for Safe driving ahead! Parking camera, loaded with features! You would want in your next SUV!</p> <p>YEAR END BLOWOUT PRICED \$21,949</p>	<p>2012 Jeep Grand Cherokee 4x4 Just Arrived! CARFAX 1 owner! Very low miles! Graystone Buckets, lots of storage, Perfect for winter, Fog lamps Looks as if it just came off the showroom floor!</p> <p>YEAR END BLOWOUT PRICED \$23,949</p>	<p>2014 Hyundai Santa Fe Sport AWD Just arrived! In Cabo bronze and CARFAX 1 owner! Looks as if it just drove off the showroom floor. So many Features that you need to see! Come in soon!</p> <p>YEAR END BLOWOUT PRICED \$23,949</p>	<p>2014 Chevy Express 2500 Van Contractors Save Big one this versatile and popular van! CARFAX 1 owner and buyback guarantee! Less than 14,000 miles and clean!</p> <p>YEAR END BLOWOUT PRICED \$25,449</p>

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