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Charlevoix County News

November 25, 2015

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Thanksgiving: America's favorite holiday

By Jim Akans

Thanksgiving is the quintessential American holiday. It is a day of food, family, football and restored faith in the thankful capacity of mankind. Celebrated on the fourth Thursday of November, Thanksgiving is a red, white and blue celebration enshrouded in visions of Pilgrims in black and white sharing the harvest and good will with Native Americans so many moons ago.

It is a reminder that extending the spirit of camaraderie and good will is a timeless and priceless act.

Of course, Lions football and the annual Macy's Thanksgiving parade are must see turkey-day television events as well as great excuses to eat snacks before sitting down to a huge feast. The Macy's parade, known for elaborate floats, balloons and celebrity appearances, began in 1924, actually the same year "America's

Thanksgiving Parade" first marched down the streets in Detroit.

The annual Detroit Lions Thanksgiving football game tradition started ten years later, in 1934, with a 19 to 16 loss against the Chicago Bears, and with the exception of a hiatus between 1939 and 1944, the game has been played every year since, with an overall record hovering around the .500 mark at 35-34-2. Following back to back turkey day wins in

2013 and 2104, this year the Lions will play the Philadelphia Eagles at Ford Field starting at 12:30 pm and will be televised on FOX.

Thanksgiving has also inspired some memorable thoughts and observations over the years, such as...

"There is one day that is ours... Thanksgiving Day is the one day that is purely American." ~O. Henry

"Thanksgiving, when the Indians said, "Well, this has been fun,

but we know you have a long voyage back to England". -Jay Leno

Today, about 45 million turkeys don't look forward to the approach of Thanksgiving at all. That how many birds Americans will be carving up for the annual feast according to the US Department of Agriculture. Other Thanksgiving meal staples include sweet potatoes, cranberries, and of course, pumpkin pie with

See Thanksgiving-3A

SPORTS REPORT

2015 Charlevoix County News All-Area Volleyball Team Named



Charlevoix's Emily Zabawa is our Charlevoix County News' 2015 All-Area Volleyball Player of the Year. (COURTESY PHOTO)



Charlevoix Head Coach Audra Randall is our repeat Coach of the Year. FILE PHOTO

See the full team this week in Sports!

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Santa is Coming to Town!

Area Communities To Host Holiday Festivities This Friday

Holiday Open House and Santa Parade in Boyne City this Friday

Join the celebration and kick off to the holidays in downtown Boyne City on Friday, November 27, from 5 - 9 p.m. for the Holiday Open House and Santa Parade. The streets of downtown Boyne City will be filled with the sounds, sights and smells of the holiday season. Downtown businesses will be offering great shopping, refreshments and hospitality during the festivities. "We hope to have downtown filled with residents and visitors enjoying all that Boyne City has to offer for the holiday season," said Karen Guzniczak, chair of the Main Street committee organizing the event.

The evening kicks off with the Girl Scouts lighting the community Christmas tree in Old City Park at 5 p.m. The parade will begin at 6 p.m. with the evening's special guest from the North Pole!

Other activities include hay rides starting at 6:30 p.m. sponsored by Remax,



There's plenty of holiday fun in store for the whole family this Friday, November 23rd, in Boyne City at the Holiday Open House and the Santa Parade, kicking off with a tree lighting in Old City Park at 5pm. COURTESY PHOTO.

a live nativity scene from 4 - 8 p.m. sponsored by Coldwell Banker, visits with Santa and his elves, and a live reindeer petting zoo! The Girl Scouts will be handing out sweet treats throughout town.

Those participating in the parade will line-up on East Main Street between East and Lake Streets starting at 5:30 p.m. All community churches, organizations, schools and businesses are encouraged to participate in the parade.

The Holiday Open House and Parade are sponsored by Charlevoix State Bank.

For more information contact Main Street at Mainstreet@boynecity.com.

Charlevoix holiday parade and tree lighting this Friday

Come celebrate a time of family, friends and fun during the annual Holiday Parade & Tree Lighting Celebration taking place in downtown Charlevoix on Friday, November 27.

Throughout the day, Charlevoix stores and restaurants will be offering fantastic Black Friday Deals. Get a jump on your holiday shopping while taking advantage of some of the lowest prices of the year.

From 3 to 5pm, children of all ages are invited to the Charlevoix Circle of Arts to partake in some good old fashion holiday craft activities. There will be sprinkles and toppings galore for delicious cookie decorating fun. Or help your little ones make their own pine cone ornament to take home and hang on your family tree. Chemical Bank and the Circle of Arts have joined forces to help you create precious moments and keepsakes that will be remembered for a lifetime.



Come celebrate a time of family, friends and fun during the annual Holiday Parade & Tree Lighting Celebration taking place in downtown Charlevoix on Friday, November 27. COURTESY PHOTO

From 3 to 5pm, Charlevoix State Bank will host the North Pole where children can have their picture taken with Santa compliments of Picture This. Santa and his jolly elves will be at the bank to help you capture that special holiday moment. Enjoy festive and tasty treats in the lobby while your child waits for his or her turn to visit with Old Saint Nick.

From 4 to 6pm, Stafford's Weathervane Restaurant and Subway invite you to warm up with some hot cocoa and cookies in East Park next to the Community Christmas tree. Cookies and cocoa will be served by volunteers from the

See Holiday Parade-3A

East Jordan Freedom Festival Christmas Raffle

Fundraising efforts for the East Jordan Freedom Festival happen year round and the Christmas season is no exception. The East Jordan Freedom Festival Committee is holding its second annual Christmas Raffle. Raffle prizes include the first place "Family Fun Gift Package" packed with toys and games for the whole family, second prize is the "Family Fun Stocking" including games, coloring books and much more for the entire family to enjoy, third prize is a "Family Pizza Party" at BC Pizza.

The drawing will be held on December 3, 2015 at 7:30 PM at the Community Center during the East Jordan Holiday Community Night celebration. Tickets are \$3.00 each or 2 for \$5.00 and can be purchased from any Freedom Festival Board Member, The Insurance Shop, Essence Hair Salon, Charlevoix State Bank East Jordan and the East Jordan Area Chamber of Commerce Office. All proceeds from the Christmas Raffle will benefit the East Jordan Freedom Festival Fireworks Fund.

A huge thank you to the generous sponsors, Korthase Flinn Insurance & Financial Services, Inc. and BC Pizza of East Jordan.

BELOW: East Jordan Freedom Festival Christmas Raffle First Prize: "Family Fun Package." COURTESY PHOTO



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Charlevoix County Community Foundation grant awards

The Board of Trustees of the Charlevoix County Community Foundation recently approved \$155,619 in grants during their fall 2015 grant cycle, including 37 awards. "Highlights include over \$17,000 in timely assistance for food pantries and emergency fuel & utility payments to help our neighbors keep warm and well-fed through this winter season. Many folks are employed, but may be having a hard time making ends meet. Giving through the community foundation is an excellent way to help those help themselves," says Maureen Radke, Program Officer with the foundation.

The grant awards included \$28,000 in funding for projects that will impact Charlevoix County youth in a positive way. The grants were recommended by the foundation's Youth Advisory Committee (YAC).

"The YAC members are continually trying to find ways to address youth needs in Charlevoix County, and they accept proposals from organizations that have a similar vision," said Mishelle Shooks, who coordinates the Youth Advisory Committee on the foundation's behalf.

"The YAC conducts a survey of their peers every three years to see what they think are the biggest issues surrounding them," she said, adding, "the results are considered when making grant decisions, and they help the YAC to determine the merit of each proposal and fund accordingly," she concluded. The survey will be administered again in early 2016.

In addition to grants to benefit youth, the recent grants support programs in the arts; education; community development; the environment;

human services; health and wellness; recreation and more.

"Area nonprofit agencies provide us with information on local issues and needs and we're able to connect them with donors that want to give back. That's the beauty of the community foundation grantmaking process at work," Radke added.

A charitable organization dedicated to improving and enriching life in the area, the Charlevoix County Community Foundation accepts gifts from individuals, families, businesses and civic groups and manages them as permanent endowments. While a portion of the funds are utilized to support grantmaking, the principal of the endowment continues to grow, providing perpetual charitable capital to benefit Charlevoix County's residents—now and in the future.

Since it was founded in 1992, the community foundation's net assets have grown to \$29.8 million. Grants and scholarships totaling more than \$18 million have been distributed to enhance and enrich the quality of life for all those who currently live in Charlevoix County—and for generations to come.

The foundation welcomes inquiries and grant requests. The next deadline for submitting a grant request is Tuesday, March 1, 2016. For a complete list of the recent grant awards, visit the foundation's website at www.c3f.org and click on "What's New," then "Recent Grants."

HOLIDAY PARADE

CONTINUED FROM PG. 1A

Charlevoix Chamber Ambassador Committee. Get them while they last!

At 5:30pm, the 5th Annual Holiday Parade will make its way down Bridge Street. The parade will take place on US 31 between Hurlbut and Clinton Street downtown. Enjoy music, lighted floats and even a visit from the Grinch. The final parade entry will be Santa and his helpers

who will stop in East Park to brighten the night by lighting the Community Christmas Tree for the first time this holiday season. The tree will be lit at approximately 6:00pm accompanied by holiday music provided by Dale Boss and the KCB Petunia Truck.

Contact the Charlevoix Area Chamber of Commerce at 231-547-2101 or info@charlevoix.org for additional information or to request a parade entry form. Entry forms are also available online at www.charlevoix.org.

THANKSGIVING

CONTINUED FROM PG. 1A

lots of whipped cream.

"An optimist is a person who starts a new diet on Thanksgiving Day." ~Irv Kupcine

"Thanksgiving dinners take eighteen hours to prepare. They are consumed in twelve minutes. Half-times take twelve minutes. This is not coincidence." ~Erma Bombeck

"What a marvelous resource soup is for the thrifty cook - it solves the ham-bone and lamb-bone problems, the everlasting Thanksgiving turkey."

~Julia Child

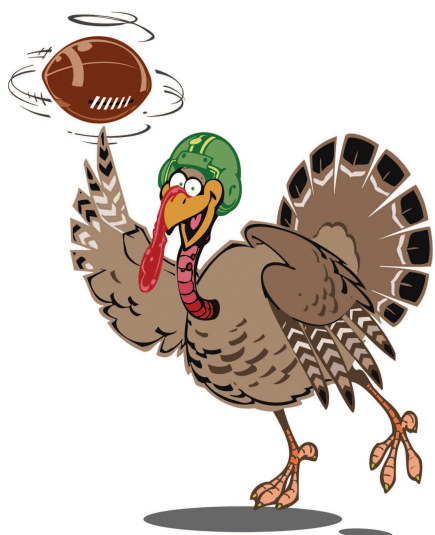
Sharing a belt-loosening stuffing with family and friends gathered around the table is a wonderful Norman Rockwell worthy image representing the warmth, reunion and kindness embracing the Thanksgiving holiday.

"Forever on Thanksgiving Day the heart will find the pathway home," ~Wilbur D. Nesbit

"On Thanksgiving Day, all over America, families sit down to dinner at the same moment - halftime." ~Author Unknown

"Do not get tired of doing what is good. Don't get discouraged and give up, for we will reap a harvest of blessing at the appropriate time." - Galatians 6:9

Yet, most of all, Thanksgiving is a time for sharing our blessings and... giving thanks. It is a special day set aside for recognizing the good in our-



Food, football, family and friends...enjoy the celebration of Thanksgiving. FILE IMAGE

selves and in those around us, celebrated by the simple act of sharing a laugh, a remembrance, a kind word, and a delicious, hearty meal.

"O Lord that lends me life, Lend me a heart replete with thankfulness." ~William Shakespeare

"As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them." ~John Fitzgerald Kennedy

"If the only prayer you said in your whole life was, 'thank you,' that would suffice." ~Meister Eckhart

"A thankful heart is not only the greatest virtue, but the parent of all the other virtues." ~Cicero

Share your blessings and enjoy the celebration of Thanksgiving.

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



Will You Help Make a Difference?

- 1 in 3 Charlevoix County families are not able to make ends meet.
- 1 in 5 kids don't get enough to eat.
- It is possible some of your friends and neighbors are visiting our food pantry. We serve more than 700 families every month.
- These are real people with real needs. They may live in the house next door. These struggling families are across from us at the gas station, sitting in front of us in church, their kids are in the classrooms with our kids.
- They are doing their best working marginal or multiple jobs; jobs with few hours and low pay.
- The choices are tough; heating fuel, food, reliable transportation, and on and on. These basic needs have to be met. 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 line 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.
- When you give thanks for your many blessings this Thanksgiving, please reach out and help those less fortunate.

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

Please help us provide food, clothing and heating fuel for those who come to us.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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

GUN FREE ZONE MASSACRE

To the Editor,
 "WAIT, MUGSY, WE CAN'T GO IN DEAH; dat's a gun-free zone." "Oh, Jeez, probly no trespassin' and no smokin' eidah. Bummah." (Scenes we'd like to see).
 Guaranteed, unequivocally, gun-free zones invite violence. Moreover, if an honest man shoots a bad guy in a gun-free zone it's he who is arrested. If there seems no sense to this it's because there is none. This is what law has come to, the precise inversion of justice.
 There is no definitive verification that Hitler ever disarmed a populace for sake of genocide but there are unfounded insinuations to that effect, as there are elsewhere in this war-torn world. Simply put, if you want to ravage a people, take their guns away first, that's the inference. That's why, ostensibly, Switzerland was immune from WWII, something about those Alps and a highly trained militia composed of all Swiss citizens throughout their lives, mandatory military service when young, periodic reinstating thereafter. The Swiss rank among the lowest crime rate statistics in the World.
 Statistics are misleading, however, because many factors enter the calculations. Iceland and Hong Kong, for instance rank better than Switzerland, Nordic

countries are at the top percentile of safety ratings. The isle of Cypress comes in number one in overall safety. The world since becoming aware of terrorism has had to make some revolutionary adjustments in crime-stopping since terrorists target the innocent and unarmed because that's the quickest way to arouse the feeling of helplessness and futility albeit short-to-long term animosity. France finally got a bit peeved and we'll see where that goes.
 Ironically the United States which proclaims freedom as shibboleth has the highest incarceration ratio in the world both per capita and percentage although Venezuela achieves the top ranking of dangerous places. Of course it depends on which areas one goes to within any city or country that determines the threat factor. Irony is extended to gun free zones that naturally attract persons with guns that have no interest in legal proclamations, plus the insult and injury directed toward those who retaliate with guns, stopping the bad guys, yes, perhaps, but incurring bureaucratic legal action for their heroism. It does no good to editorialize about this outcome because the futility and blowback from such zoning laws finds legislated redoubt, whether locally or federally, which means

that public opinion and common sense have no bearing upon the law, and illogically never will since law is drafted by bureaucrats and signed thereunto by persons elected by a plurality of public votes, seemingly the will of the people.
 Legal writ thereby becomes abstracted from what makes sense to what sounds logical but is often unworkable due to unintended consequences. The public is often fooled by rhetoric that on the surface sounds reasonable but is unenforceable in rational terms, therefore irrational law pervades and indeed prevails. The obvious conundrum is the winner, the untenable law of the land. Nothing can get better because the law won't allow it. Stare Decisis, the tendency of the courts to adhere to former decisions, insures this imbroglio's continuum. Latin, old English and other linguistic ploys round out the illusion of official documentation that is destined to intimidate and threaten the public.
 In this modern world – probably a lot like the ancient world with iPhones – we're often besieged with irrationality under guise of legal writ. Catch-22 has become the status quo. Only by having lots of money can we avoid most of the doggerel inherent to social order. And it still helps to stay away from gun-free

zones. Sandy Hook elementary School is a gun-free zone. Go figure. It can't be said plainer than this: crooks are cowards; they don't want a fair fight, no more than cops do. If they're crooks they get out quick; if they're cops they call for reinforcements.
 This sort of oxymoronic play is irrational in a weights and measures action reaction world and certainly approaches the psychological aberrance threshold. In fact the US system of law, as plausibly many other countries, is prone to mental disorder as policy. Conflicting laws abound from these centuries of social devolution, thus schizophrenia is naturally inherent to legal documents and the interpretations thereof.
 "Criminals Beware. This is a Neighborhood Watch Area." There, that sign should do it. Now, if cops were smart, they'd use bogus gun-free zone signs to attract would-be thugs, lie in wait, let the public carry guns anyway in a quid pro quo arrangement, use these faux zones as flypaper. "Hey, Mugsy, deah's one a dem no firecrackah zones deah. C'mon let's go get 'em."
 Mitchell Jon MacKay, East Jordan

Boyne Falls Student of the Week



Tim Gasco

Grade: 11
Parent's Name(s): Shawna Herrick
Future Plans: Engineering
Favorite Book: "All The Light We Can Not See" by Anthony Doerr
Hobbies and Interests: Hunting and Snowboarding
School Activities: Varsity Basketball and Baseball
Staff Comments:
 "Tim is doing a great job in the classroom this year. He is putting in the effort it takes to be successful. Tim is polite, respectful, and a pleasure to have in class. He is a student/athlete who represents Boyne Falls Public School in a positive way. Keep up the good work Tim."
 – Jason Stolarski

Resale bargains and one-of-a-kind items at the Bergmann Center Resale Shop

By Jim Akans

Many Northern Michigan residents are familiar with the outstanding opportunities provided by the ongoing work of the Bergmann Center in Charlevoix. The staff at the non-profit Center assists in building life skills for individuals with developmental disabilities, with programs that include on-site job training and employment opportunities, volunteer opportunities, community awareness, daily living skills and enrichment classes.
 In August of 2010 the Bergmann Center opened a fantastic Resale Shop located right next to their

main facility on Ance Road, offering terrific bargains on resale goods ranging from clothing, furniture and other household items, to one-of-a-kind new products created by local individuals.
 The shop has many exciting products made by individuals at the Bergmann Center; such as fire starters from recycled material, furniture painted by a local woman artist, gazing balls made from recycled bowling balls adorned with donated stained glass, items from clay, handmade jewelry, love lights made with clear stained glass and candles, and much more.
 In addition to a lot of great merchandise, the Bergmann Center Resale

Shop also offers a great place for individuals in the Center's program to learn skills on the job, such as running a cash register and processing inventory. These are valuable skills that will continue to provide rewards for these individuals for years to come.
 The Bergmann Center Resale Shop is located at 8888 Ance Road in Charlevoix, and is open Tuesday through Saturday from 9 am to 4 pm, and the staff accepts item donations during those hours as well.
 For additional information call (231) 547-9624 or visit www.bergmanncenter.org and follow the Resale Shop link.



The Bergmann Center Resale Shop offers terrific bargains on resale goods ranging from clothing, furniture and other household items, to one-of-a-kind new products created by local individuals. COURTESY PHOTO

GOOD SAMARITAN RESALE SHOP

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Hidden Treasures

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

CHARLEVOIX	CHEBOYGAN	ELLSWORTH	GAYLORD	HARBOR SPRINGS
Bergmann Center Resale Shop 8888 Ance Road, Charlevoix 231-547-9624 www.bergmanncenter.org	Goodwill Retail and Donation Center 982 S Main St., Cheboygan 231-445-9300	Good Samaritan 9746 Main Street, Ellsworth 231-588-2208 thegoodsam.org	Salvation Army Family Store 919 S. Otsego Ave., Gaylord 989-448-2357	New Beginnings Thrift Shop 650 W Conway Rd., Harbor Springs 231-348-2980
Kelly's Antiques & Furniture Barn 06176 Old US 31 S., Charlevoix 231-547-0133 www.dkellyantiques.com	EAST JORDAN Crossroads Resale Shop 205 Water Street., East Jordan 231-536-7606 Open Tuesday thru Saturday	FREDERIC Pineview Military Surplus 7328 Old 27 North, Frederic 989-348-8300	Homespun Antiques & Crafts 230 West Main Downtown Gaylord 989-731-4305 Mon – Sat 10-5, Sun Noon - 4	MIO Strawberry Patch Resale & Consignment Store Downtown Mio, Mio MI (989)826-1503 Open Mon – Sat 10 am to 5 pm
Goodwill Retail and Donation Center 402 Petoskey Avenue Charlevoix 231- 437-6176	ELLSWORTH Good Samaritan Furniture & More Store 6519 Center St., Downtown Ellsworth 231-588-2208 thegoodsam.org	GAYLORD A-2-Z Resale 1829 Old 27 South, Gaylord 989-732-9500 Goodwill Retail and Donation Center 1361 Pineview Dr. (near Lows), Gaylord 989-705-1747. www.goodwillnmi.org	GRAYLING The-Brickery.com Two floors of treasures 107 Ottawa, Grayling, One block north of the light 989-348-8999	PETOSKEY Goodwill Retail and Donation Center 1600 Anderson Rd., Petoskey 231-348-6947 www.goodwillnmi.org

News

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NMC receives funds for healthcare worker safety training

For the fifth consecutive year, North Central's Corporate and Community Education (CCE) has been awarded MIOSHA funds to provide ergonomic safety training to workers in Northern Michigan long-term health care facilities.

CCE's Ergonomics Safety Training was designed to reduce injuries and illnesses among employees at nursing and residential care facilities. Thanks to the MIOSHA funds, safety training has been offered free to health-care workers in Antrim, Emmet, Charlevoix, Cheboygan, Presque Isle and Crawford counties in the Lower Peninsula, as well as Mackinac County in the Upper Peninsula for the last four years.

In 2014, more than 560 workers received instruction and practice in safe patient lifting, carrying and transporting techniques. Each worker also received a manual use during training and as a quick reference guide following training. The manual provided an explanation of ergonomics, MIOSHA programs, specific ergonomic actions and exercises to prevent injuries on the job.

"The long-term care business is growing rapidly as our population ages and many people retire to Northern Michigan. These businesses have an increasing need to educate new employees to safely care for patients," said CCE Director Jim Tisdell. "CCE tailors its safety programs to meet the demand of this important industry."

This year, CCE will again be offering free ergonomic safety training for employers and employees at long-term health care facilities. The classes are short and usually scheduled at the worksite, during times that best fit the work schedule. To learn more about the program or schedule a safety class at your business, please call (231) 348-6613.

"What Matters To You?" health survey

A community health assessment is underway in Northern Michigan, and your input is needed. By completing the "What Matters To You?" online survey online, you will help determine health-related priorities and goals in your area. This survey is a simple way to voice your thoughts, and can be accessed directly at www.survey-monkey.com/r/WhatMattersToYouCommunitySurvey or through www.nwhealth.org.

The "What Matters to You?" survey is a part of the Northern Michigan Community Health Assessment and Improvement Initia-

tive. The project is being led by Jane Sundmacher, Community Health Planner at the Health Department of Northwest Michigan. Members of the public can easily express their opinions by taking the survey, she said.

"Community participation in the survey is very important," said Sundmacher. "Survey results will be one factor in determining community health priorities for the region for the next three years."

The last community health assessment took place in 2012, and top-ranked priorities included obesity/chronic disease prevention,

access to care, and substance use. Since then, health departments and hospitals across the region have secured millions of dollars in grants to address these issues.

The "What Matters to You?" survey is funded with a grant from the Northern Health Plan. Partners in this project are Health Department of Northwest Michigan, District Health Department #4, Charlevoix Area Hospital, McLaren Northern Michigan, and Otsego Memorial Hospital. It was developed with the Northern Michigan Health Network.

For more information about the

"What Matters to You?" survey or the Northern Michigan Community Health Assessment and Improvement Initiative, contact Jane Sundmacher at (231) 347-5041. The Health Department of Northwest Michigan is mandated by the Michigan Public Health Code to promote wellness, prevent disease, provide quality healthcare, address health problems of vulnerable populations, and protect the environment for the residents and visitors of Antrim, Charlevoix, Emmet, and Otsego Counties.

The power of Thanksgiving

By Deb Hagen-Foley

This week, we celebrate Thanksgiving. The first Thanksgiving is said to have taken place when the Pilgrims celebrated the fall harvest in 1621. The first national Thanksgiving was proclaimed by the Continental Congress in 1777. The proclamation was continued by Presidents Washington, Adams and Monroe, but the national observance was replaced by state observances in 1815.

The national observance was reestablished by President Lincoln in 1863, after a campaign by Sarah J. Hale, lasting more than 30 years. Sarah J. Hale, the editor of a

women's magazine, Godey's Ladies Journal petitioned several presidents to recognize the national event before succeeding. Considered the "Godmother of Thanksgiving," Sarah Hale also authored several poems, including Mary Had a Little Lamb.

Your Thanksgiving might include a Turkey Trot and football. For many Americans, Thanksgiving is an opportunity to overeat and signals the start of the holiday season. As you gather with family, you might also take an opportunity to reflect on the things for which you are thankful. The act of expressing gratitude, appreciation for what we have, runs counter to the consumerism

prevalent in Black Friday and Cyber-Monday.

The expression of gratitude has been found, through positive psychology, to increase optimism, empathy and energy. This need not be an annual event. If you are not regularly expressing gratitude, this may take practice.

To get started, record five things you are grateful for every day. Yes, write them down. If you are having a difficult day in the future, rereading your gratitude's will remind you to be grateful.

Compose five sentences starting with, "Today I am grateful for . . ." You will quickly find there is much to be grateful for - the sunshine, springtime, having people who

love and care about you, being alive. . . for just a few examples! I am sure you can think of others. Five a day, every day. Write them down. Review them regularly.

Through practice this will become easier. Over time, you will find that your focus changes to a more positive and appreciative approach. Every day can become a day of thanksgiving, less the football and overeating.

"We tend to forget that happiness doesn't come as a result of getting something we don't have, but rather of recognizing and appreciating what we do have." Frederick Keonig

Energy costs to cook Thanksgiving meal are lower this year

Consumers Energy is pleased to offer lower energy costs this year to cook a traditional Thanksgiving dinner.

"Consumers Energy is thankful to be a part of holiday celebrations across the state as warm Thanksgiving memories are being made, and we are committed to providing many more generations of Michigan families with reliable, affordable energy in all seasons," said Garrick Rochow, Consumers Energy's vice president and chief customer officer.

It costs 43 cents to cook an entire Thanksgiving meal for 12 guests using a natural gas oven and stove, or \$1.70 using an electric oven and stove. That's 4 percent less to cook with electricity than last year, and a savings of 25 percent to cook with natural gas.

Here is the breakdown of energy costs for helping to create priceless memories around the Thanksgiving table with family and friends:

- Roast stuffed turkey: 28 cents in a natural gas oven; \$1.05 in an electric oven.
- Large pan of mashed potatoes: 2 cents on a natural gas stove; 9 cents on an electric stove.
- Giblet gravy cooked on the stove: Less than 1 cent using natural gas; 4 cents using electricity.

- Homemade baked dinner rolls: 3 cents in a natural gas oven; 13 cents in an electric oven.

- Vegetable casserole: 3 cents in a natural gas oven; 13 cents in an electric oven.

- Two baked pumpkin pies: 7 cents in a natural gas oven; 26 cents in an electric oven.

Consumers Energy offers these tips to get even more energy value while cooking:

- Use glass and ceramic dishes. They hold heat well and allow you to lower the oven temperature by 25 degrees.

- Keep the oven door closed. The temperature drops 25 to 75 degrees each time the oven door is opened, so monitor cooking time and peek through the oven window, if possible, to check on your food.

- Use your microwave for defrosting and cooking small portions.

- Plan to bake more than one dish or cook an entire meal in the oven to save energy.

- Using roasting bags reduces cooking time in the oven by nearly half.

Helping Michigan save energy is a Promise from Consumers Energy. For more ways to save on energy, go to www.ConsumersEnergy.com/energyanswers.

Local organizations receive \$81,290 in People Fund grants

The Great Lakes Energy People Fund awarded \$81,290 in grants in October to 26 non-profit organizations throughout the electric cooperative's service area. The grant awards were made possible through the support of Great Lakes Energy members who voluntarily round-up their bill each month.

Among the organizations receiving grants in the northern Michigan area are:

- Boyne Area Free Clinic, Boyne City: \$5,000 for laboratory testing.
- Kalkaska County Library: \$5,800 for two children's computer learning stations.
- East Jordan Community Pool: \$2,500 for a record board.
- Good Neighbors Food Pantry, Boyne City: \$1,800 for improvements to the entryway.
- Crossroads Ministries/New Life Pregnancy Resource Center, Gaylord: \$7,000 for a heating and cooling system.
- Crooked Tree Arts Center, Petoskey: \$3,000 for a pugmill for the pottery studio.
- Friendship Centers of Emmet County, Petoskey: \$1,100 toward a vehicle for the

Meals on Wheels program.

- Lighthouse Community Lunch Program, Charlevoix: \$1,000 for supplies and food.

- Challenge Mountain, Boyne City: \$7,500 for renovations to the resale store.

- Crawford County Community Help Center, Grayling: \$2,500 for a commercial freezer for the food pantry.

Since 1999, the People Fund has awarded more than \$2.8 million in grants to local non-profit organizations that work to enhance local communities in Great Lakes Energy's 26-county service area.

"For less than 50 cents per month, our members' small contributions make a large impact on the lives of others" says President/CEO Steve Boeckman. "By joining together to round-up their bills to the nearest dollar our members show their true commitment to their local communities."

Great Lakes Energy members can enroll in the People Fund by calling 888-485-2537 or visiting gtlakes.com. One hundred percent of the funds collected are used for grants.

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News

ONLINE AT WWW.CHARLEVOIXCOUNTYNEWS.COM

Charlevoix Area Hospital's annual Holly Daze is back and bigger than ever

Friday, December 11th is just around the corner and seats are filling up for Holly Daze, Charlevoix Area Hospital's annual holiday fundraiser, held at Castle Farms in Charlevoix. Proceeds from this year's event will benefit the Hospital's upcoming Surgical Suite and Laboratory Renovation.

The project will be adding a third operating room, seven new patient rooms for pre-operative and post-operative needs, and an overhaul of the entire surgery and laboratory units to better accommodate the rapid growth in outpatient procedures. This important project will meet the growing needs of our communities, and is part of our continual effort to provide high-quality, compassionate care close to home. This year's auction will boast a

number of fantastic items generously donated by local businesses and community members. Sports fans will have their pick of college and professional game tickets, and limited edition memorabilia, including a faceoff between MSU and U of M football helmets signed by Mark Dantonio and Desmond Howard - sports fans know which is which!

Guests will be able to stock up on gift certificates or win a private party from your favorite restaurants. New this year will be a "Love Local" section filled with original pieces from local artists and craftsmen.

Want to get out of town? There will be accommodations and packages galore - including exotic trips to Mexico and South Africa. There

will be a chance to win a set of Disney Hopper tickets, a personal fireworks display, a one-of-a-kind tour to the top of the Mackinaw Bridge... and that's just a preview.

Kick off the holiday season and get in the spirit of giving! Space is limited; please contact Faye Parrish at 231-547-8501 or go to www.cah.org/hollydaze to purchase your tickets. Tickets are \$100 per person, a portion of which is tax deductible.

Charlevoix Area Hospital Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization working to raise and manage funds to benefit Charlevoix Area Hospital. For more information about the Charlevoix Area Hospital and Foundation please visit www.cah.org.



Friday, December 11th is just around the corner and seats are filling up for Holly Daze, Charlevoix Area Hospital's annual holiday fundraiser, held at Castle Farms in Charlevoix. Courtesy photo

Charlevoix Circle of Arts appoints Executive Director

The Charlevoix Circle of Arts has announced that Gail DeMeyere is to become its first full-time Executive Director. Since 2004 Ms DeMeyere has been the Visual Arts Director/Curator at the Crooked Tree Arts Center in Petoskey, Michigan.

Bob Klein, President of the Circle, said: "We are extremely pleased that Gail has agreed to come to the Circle as our professional Executive Director. She brings to us a wide knowledge of the arts community in Michigan and has broad experience with our local artists' community."

When asked about her being the first full time professional to be employed by the Circle, Klein continued: "The Circle was founded in 2007 and has relied almost exclusively upon unpaid volunteers. We are very proud of the service to the Charlevoix community that the Circle has provided to date, however, we feel we can do much more. As part of our strategic planning the Board of Directors determined that the Circle should now move from an all-volunteer operation by adding a paid staff to support the Circle's activities including a full time executive director. We are confident that Gail is the right person to

lead this transition."

While at Crooked Tree Arts Center Ms DeMeyere had the overall responsibility for innovative exhibits such as the well loved, "Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening" a fine art tribute to the poem by Robert Frost, the "Detroit @ CTAC" exhibition that brought the current art scene from the motor city north and "as small as a world and as large as alone" an intimate view of the exquisite natural beauty of northern Michigan, among many other experiences in her twelve years on staff.

Responding to the question why she would move from a larger and well established art center to the smaller and younger Charlevoix Circle of Arts, Gail said: "While it has been my privilege to work at Crooked Tree Arts Center for over a decade, I feel that the time has come for me to move forward with new challenges, and work within a smaller organization that has the desire and spirit needed to become all that it envisions itself to be."

DeMeyere continues, "Moving to the Circle will involve personal risks as well as opportunities, but I feel strongly that it is a time for me to use my knowledge, my ex-



The Charlevoix Circle of Arts has announced that Gail DeMeyere is to become its first full-time Executive Director. COURTESY PHOTO

perience and my commitment to the arts in a more comprehensive leadership role. I respect the dedication of all involved with the Charlevoix Circle of Arts to build the organization to this point and they have developed many successful shows and programs. Now I want to work as a team-player with all of the hard working Cir-

cle volunteers in serving the Charlevoix community."

Gail DeMeyere is no stranger to the work required in assuming the professional role needed to elevate an arts organization to the next level. She holds a BA degree from the University of Michigan in the History of Arts with concentrations in ceramics and photography and a MS degree from North Carolina State University in Textile Technology, Marketing and Management. She has worked in numerous galleries, mostly in Salt Lake City as well as in conjunction with the University of Utah Museum of Fine Arts. In the mid-80s, Gail worked as the art preparator for the Kalamazoo Institute of Arts and was in charge of maintaining their permanent collection.

Gail developed her own textile design business, and for the past twelve years has served as the Visual Arts Director as well as School of the Arts Director at CTAC. During that period she has worked on several collaborations with North Central Michigan College, the Downtown Management Board in Petoskey as well as partnering with artists and arts organizations across the state of Michigan. She currently assists

on the grant review panel for the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs and is under contract for a book on the history of sweater design.

"The position presented to me by the Charlevoix Circle of Arts provides the opportunity to bring to the Charlevoix community the breadth of knowledge I have obtained from across the United States. Over the course of my career, I have been exposed to a vast number of culturally-related experiences and I hope to use these insights to develop and support artists and patrons of the arts in Charlevoix," stated DeMeyere.

"The mission of the Charlevoix Circle of Arts has been to enrich and inspire the Charlevoix community in the visual and performing arts," explained Cindy Boss, Vice President and Board Member of the Circle. "We have a commitment to education of youth and adults; and a commitment to support the rich community of artists. We are proud of our progress and I am confident that Gail will help us to be even more effective in accomplishing our mission."

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Walkabout Sculpture Photo Contest winner announced

Boyne City's Walkabout Sculpture Committee Photo Contest, open to all amateur and professional photographers, kicked off in September. The committee received 31 photo entries posted to Face Book. David Leaver won with his photo entitled Draco Starry Night, which captured the Draco Viewer in the starlight. David will receive \$100 and be recognized at the June 2016 Artist Reception.

"We are so pleased that so many photographers participated and posted amazing photos of our sculptures", says event organizer and local sculptor, Martha Sulfridge. "This was an opportunity for us to encourage everyone to enjoy the sculptures and allow them to study the sculptures from a different, more thoughtful perspective."

A new photo contest will kick off in January with a new twist. The photos submitted and posted to our Face Book page must be a selfie with their favorite sculpture.

The Walkabout Sculpture Show, now in its eighth month, features eight sculptures of various sizes and mediums - life size to monument presentations, realistic to ab-

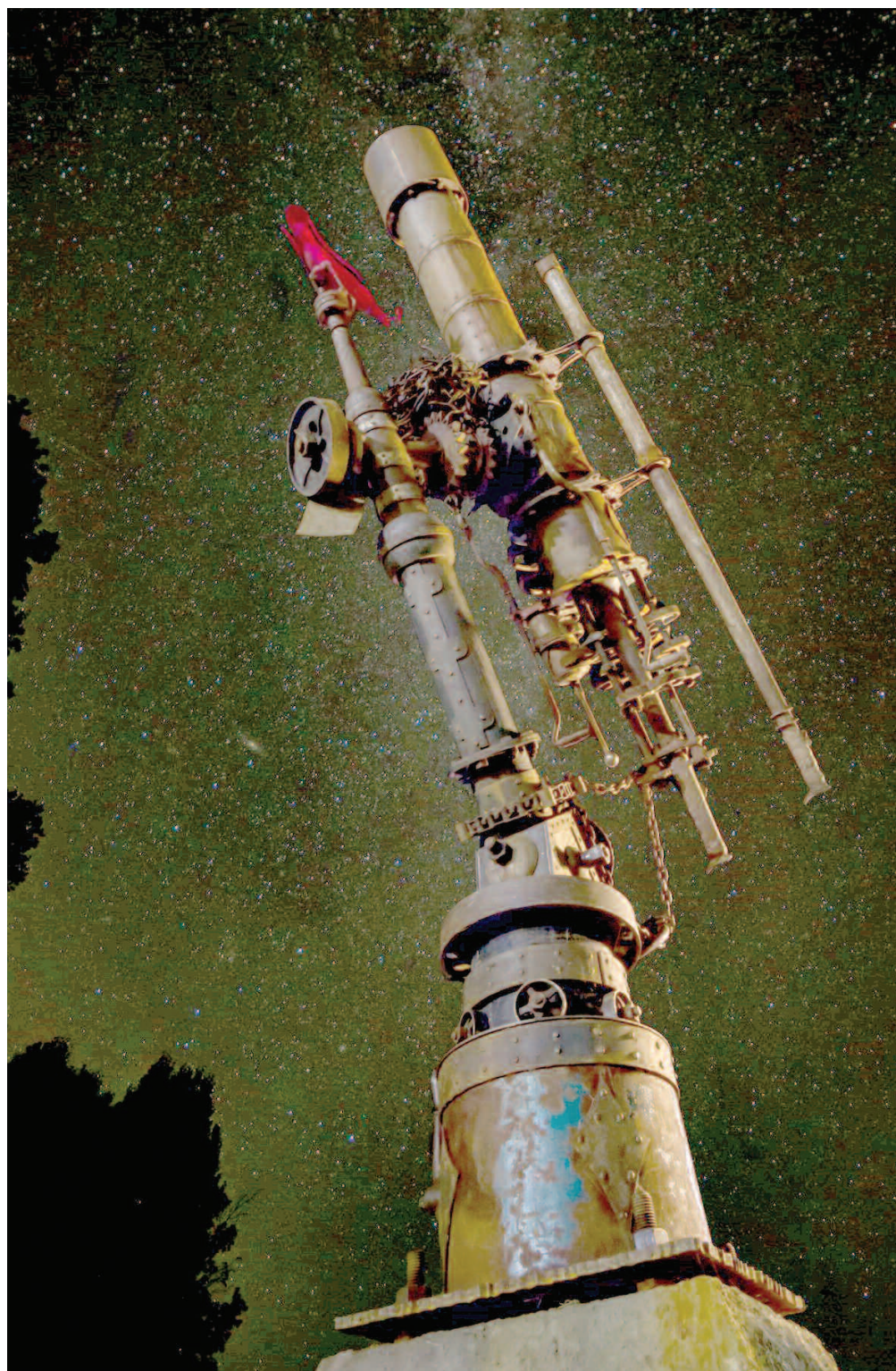
stract, metal, clay, steel, iron and granite - has created a real buzz.

Martha Sulfridge, said, "The goal is to create a new and fresh show each year and expand the tour to include even more sculptures and artists from around the country next year."

An Artist Reception, to be held in June to celebrate and thank the sculptors for the enjoyment the community received throughout the year. The reception will also introduce the new pieces that will be installed for the next year. A People's Choice Award of \$1,000 will be presented to the winning sculpture at the June Reception.

The Walkabout Sculpture Show is free and accessible to all viewers 24 hours a day. All the featured art works are for sale. Anyone interested in purchasing or voting on their favorite pieces can contact the Boyne City Main Street office at 231-582-9009, Mainstreet@boynecity.com or visit www.walkaboutsculptureshow.com.

RIGHT: David Leaver won with his photo entitled Draco Starry Night, which captured the Draco Viewer in the starlight. Courtesy photo



BOYNE CITY POLICE DEPT.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 9

- 1000 Report of possible missing air conditioning unit on Roosevelt.
- 1010 Report of a bird with a mouse trap on its foot in the 300 block of N Lake St.
- 1045 Fraud complaint from the 500 block of Boyne Av
- 1204 Request for civil standby on W Division St
- 1720 Bad driver reported headed to town on Pleasant Valley Rd
- 2003 Report of a mattress in the middle of State Street.
- 2121 Property damage accident at State and East.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10

- 1305 Possible civil complaint reported in the 200 block of S Lake St.
- 2129 Vehicle unlock E. Main and Park.
- 2213 Report of intoxicated driver hitting fence in the 100 block of W Pine St

WEDNESDAY, NOV 11

- 1428 Report missing keys
- 1500 Report of Hit and Run crash in the 300 block of E Division St on Sunday.
- 1550 Report of suspicious activity on Ottawa St.
- 1815 Car deer accident on State St at the city limits.
- 1826 Citation served on subject on BC-EJ Rd for violating restricted license and fail to yield at signed intersection.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 11

- 0041 Assisted Sheriff Dept on Pleasant Valley Rd.
- 0806 Car deer accident on State St near Rotary Park
- 0940 911 check in the 100 block of S Lake St.
- 1120 Report of property line dispute on Roosevelt.
- 1550 Report of suspicious subjects in the 500 block of N Lake St

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13

- 0222 Suspicious situation in the 400 block of Boyne Ave.
- 0252 Report of possible suicidal subject enroute from Harbor Springs
- 0600 Suspicious situation in the 1100 block of Boyne Av
- 0758 Report of sick raccoon on Fall Park Rd.
- 0808 Unlock in the 800 block of Thompson.
- 1030 Report of attempted IRS scam.
- 1105 Report of attempted IRS scam in the 200 block of Hannah St.
- 1236 Report of attempted IRS scam.
- 1112 Report of threatening letter received in the 300 block of Vogel St
- 1250 Assist Sheriff Dept with traffic control for funeral escort
- 1252 Report of subject threatening dog on Franklin St after verbal altercation with owner.
- 1503 Civil complaint on Second St
- 1510 Lead football team out of town
- 1557 Report of attempted IRS scam.
- 2135 Citation issued for speed on Pleasant Ave near Timber Ln.
- 2338 Assist MSP at 131 S and Cherry Hill Rd.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14

- 0826 Arrested subject for OWI under 21.
- 1000 Dispatched distempered raccoon in the 300 block of N Park St
- 1400 Unlock on Water St.
- 1454 Gasoline drive off from the 1300 block of Boyne Av
- 2029 Citation issued for speed on Front St. near Division.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15

- 0332 Assist Sheriff Dept with an OWI on 131 S near Robbins Siding Rd.
- 0948 Assist citizen from the 300 block of Silver St
- 1420 Traffic assist to Charlevoix Towing at Lake and River
- 1652 Lodged a stray dog at the shelter.

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