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December 10, 2015

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Charlevoix Township residents included in discounted rate at Mt. McSauba

By Tina Sundelius

CHARLEVOIX - Resolutions were passed to change the definition of "resident" in the Mt McSauba recreational rate listing and to vacate a portion of Division Street at the December 7 Charlevoix City Council meeting.

The Mt. McSauba rate schedule was changed to allow Charlevoix Township residents to enjoy the same rates as city residents. A resolution to change the words "city

resident" to "city and Charlevoix Township resident" was unanimously passed. "I'm very happy that the township and the city are working together on a lot of things," said Mayor Gabe Campbell.

A resolution to vacate the portion of Division Street between Mercer Road and US 31 was also approved. The resolution was drafted after a special meeting with the DDA and consultation with MDOT. "MDOT believes it would be a safer

intersection," said City Manager Mark Heydlauff. The intersection will be restructured and will include a left turn lane.

Revisions to the employee handbook were approved. The revisions pertained to non-discrimination policies. "The only change is to update the title 6 coordinator which is me, which has to be named specifically and not with the position," explained Heydlauff. Council member Shirley Gibson encouraged the board to not only periodically re-

view the handbook but the code of ethics and conflict of interest policies as well.

A motion to support grant applications from the Circle of Arts, Colorado Challenge and Joppa House Ministries to the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians was approved. The Circle of Arts is seeking \$12,500 to assist in the funding their arts educational program. The total budget for this program is \$39,980 and a portion of the request will be used for a Na-

tive American exhibition that is scheduled for April-May 2016. Colorado Challenge is seeking \$5,000 to assist in funding their week long adventure camp to the Rocky Mountains. The total budget for the trip is \$39,980. Joppa House Ministries is asking for \$15,500 for its women's transitional home. The total needed for the house is \$77,250. The Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians requires a local unit of government to endorse all grant submittals.

SPORTS REPORT



Charlevoix senior guard, Kelsey Engstrom (20) pulls up for a jumper over the Cheboygan defense. Story page 1B. (PHOTO BY SCOTT RICHARDS)



EJ Senior Jordan Weber broke the EJ high school record just 9 seconds into Tuesday's game when he scored a 3-point basket. The game was stopped and Coach Weber presented the ball to his son as Mancelona and East Jordan filled the gymnasium with applause. When the game resumed, Weber regained possession of the ball and scored another 2 points for the Red Devils.

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Woman crashes her car into Boyne City apartment building

By Michelle Medjesky

BOYNE CITY - A 40 year-old woman was arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol late last Friday afternoon, December 4, after driving her car halfway through an apartment at Deer Meadows Apartments in Boyne City.

Boyne City Police Chief Jeff Gaither said around 4:35 pm last Friday the woman, whose name could not be released by press time Monday, December 7, had apparently been trying to leave the apartment complex when she drove her vehicle down its long driveway and veered off and hit a light pole. She proceeded to drive over an ornamental rock pile at the base of signage across the street and then continued until she drove through the wall of a lower level apartment.

"There was quite a distance of destruction," Gaither said, "It (the vehicle) went halfway into the building."

Gaither said fortunately no one was home at the time the car crashed through the apartment at



Police say a 40 year-old woman drove her car halfway through this lower level apartment at Deer Meadows Apartments in Boyne City late last Friday afternoon. Boyne City Police Chief Jeff Gaither said fortunately no one was home in the apartment at the time of the incident and the driver of the vehicle was also not injured. Alcohol is believed to have been a factor in the crash.

the Deer Meadows complex, which is located at 315 East Division Street across from Boyne City's Senior Center. Gaither said mostly senior citizens reside at Deer Meadows.

Gaither said the driver of the vehi-

cle was taken to Munson Healthcare Charlevoix Hospital but suffered no serious injuries. She was later arrested and lodged at the Charlevoix County Jail. No further information had been released by press time.



State and local officials were on hand at Boyne City Hall recently as the city was awarded its certification as a Redevelopment Ready Community-one of only five communities in the state to become RRC Certified. (left to right) State Senator Wayne Schmidt, State Representative Triston Cole; RRC Program Manager Jennifer Rigterink, MEDC, City Commissioner (CC) Hugh Conklin, CC Laura Sansom, Mayor Tom Neidhamer, CC Ron Grunch, Mayor Pro-Tem Gene Towne, City Manager Michael Cain, Northern Michigan Regional Manager for U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow Brandon Fewins, MEDC Community Development Senior Vice President Mark Morante. Boyne City Main Street Director Lori Meeder, not pictured, was also present at the event.

Boyne City partners with Redevelopment program

By Michelle Medjesky

BOYNE CITY - With significant growth and a multi-million dollar city facility improvement project coming fast on the horizon, officials

in Boyne City are making sure their community will be prepared for the many nuances such redevelopment can bring.

In effort to do so, the city has partnered and recently became certified with the Redevelopment

Ready Community program sponsored by the Michigan Department of Economic Development. The RRC is a voluntary, no-cost program geared to helping communi-

See **Redevelopment** -3A

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There seems to be something missing as we edge closer to the Christmas holiday. Where's the snow? PHOTO BY JIM AKANS

Let it Snow ?

By Jim Akans

While yards across the north are beginning to glow with holiday decorations, and Santa is making appearances at festivals and events across the area, there seems to be something missing as we edge closer to the Christmas holiday. Where's the snow?

Jim Keyser, meteorologist at National Weather Service Gaylord, states, "The weather is quiet. An El Nino winter is what we are experiencing, which is when we have above normal water temperatures in the Pacific. That affects the Jet Stream and tends to push it further north so cold air becomes bottled up in the arctic."

The result - a warmer and drier than normal winter is in store for the Great Lakes region.

Keyser notes, "It won't remain as extreme as what we have been experienced lately. It will still get colder here and we will

See **Let it Snow** -4A

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weather

THURSDAY



HIGH: 51
LOW: 39

FRIDAY



HIGH: 43
LOW: 34

SATURDAY



HIGH: 46
LOW: 38

SUNDAY



HIGH: 45
LOW: 36

MONDAY



HIGH: 38
LOW: 29

TUESDAY



HIGH: 36
LOW: 30

WEDNESDAY



HIGH: 40
LOW: 31

record temps

DAY	AVG LOW	AVG HIGH	RECORD LOW	RECORD HIGH
DEC 10	...21°	...35°	...-2° (1977)	...51° (1971)
DEC 11	...21°	...35°	...-2° (1995)	...55° (1971)
DEC 12	...20°	...34°	...-13° (1989)	...56° (1949)
DEC 13	...20°	...34°	...-13° (1995)	...50° (1991)
DEC 14	...20°	...34°	...-8° (1954)	...59° (1975)
DEC 15	...19°	...34°	...-7° (2007)	...51° (1997)
DEC 16	...19°	...33°	...-4° (1961)	...56° (1984)
DEC 17	...19°	...33°	...-11° (1973)	...54° (1984)

OBITUARIES

Betty Evelyn Loranger (Johnson), 73

(JUNE 30, 1942 - DEC. 5, 2015)

Betty Evelyn Loranger of Boyne City passed away on Saturday, December 5, 2015.

Betty was born on June 30, 1942 to Wilson and Estelle Johnson in West Virginia.

She worked at Honeywell for twenty-eight years until she retired in 2005.

She is survived by her granddaughter Valerie; two great grandsons; sister-in-law Linda; seven nephews, one special great-nephew Cameron; two nieces; lots of good friends including Carolyn and her daughter Haley (granddaughter); daughter-in-law Emily; sons Dalton and Wyatt; as well as her real good friend Bob in Ohio.

She is preceded in death by her parents; son David; and brothers Edward, Jack and Robert.

Betty 'Boop' loved her family and loved Jesus. Her love will forever be in our hearts as her memories will live in our souls.

Psalm 23 -

A funeral service will be held 1:00 PM Thursday, December 10, 2015 at Stackus Funeral Home with visitation being held from noon until the time of service. Burial will follow at Maple Lawn Cemetery.

Family and friends wishing to share a thought or memory of Betty are encouraged to do so online at www.stonefuneralhome-inc.com.

Anna Alexandra Hart (Wasylewski), 97

(MAY 1, 1918 - NOV. 29, 2015)

Anna Alexandra Hart of Boyne Falls passed away on November 29th, 2015.

Anna was born on May 1, 2018 in Boyne Falls, MI the daughter of Michael and Antoinette (Zynewicz) Wasylewski.

Anna is survived by her son Herbert (Katherine) Hart of Byron, MI; grandchildren Ashley, Jacob and Paige; brothers Frank (Joan) Wasylewski and Felix Wasylewski; sister-in-law's Sevella

Wasylewski and Myrtle Wasylewski.

She is preceded in death by her parents, husband Herbert Hart; sister Wanda Karakash; four brothers Michael Jr., Felix, Vincent and John; and sister-in-law Delores Wasylewski.

Mass was celebrated Thursday, December 3, 2015 at St. Augustine Church with Fr. Frank Partridge serving as celebrant. Burial will follow at Maple Lawn Cemetery in Boyne City.

Family and friends wishing to share a thought or memory are encouraged to do so online at www.stonefuneralhomeinc.com.

Stackus Funeral Home of Boyne City is serving the family.

wife Mary Sue, three brothers Dennis, Donald, and Dale, and his parents.

Visitation will take place Fri. Dec. 11, from 4 to 7 p.m. at the Central Lake Chapel of Mortensen Funeral Homes. Funeral services will be held Sat. Dec. 12, at 11 a.m. at the Lighthouse Missionary Church in East Jordan with Pastor Jim Jordan officiating. The family will also receive friends from 10 a.m. until the time of service at the church. Interment will take place in Dunsmore Cemetery, Echo Township.

Arrangements have been handled by the Central Lake Chapel of Mortensen Funeral Homes. Please sign his online guestbook www.mortensenfuneralhomes.com.

ing that time they resided in Florida.

She returned to her hometown of Vicksburg, Michigan in 2000 and due to declining health she moved to her daughter's home in Charlevoix, residing there from 2012 until her death.

Having grown up during the depression followed by World War II, she, like her contemporaries, knew how to make the most of what she had or didn't have. If a dress was too expensive, she produced her own pattern and scrimped to buy the material to make her outfit. Her love of making things for others continued throughout her life. After she retired, she produced beautiful quilts for her grandchildren when they married.

During the war she commuted with other ladies from Vicksburg to Battle Creek working in a factory making aircraft engine valves. She continued to work various jobs most of her adult life including work as a sales representative and manager for Avon, a bookkeeper, and secretarial work.

Her children remember her most for her love of animals, especially dogs. Her final dog, a Chihuahua named Killer, kept a vigil at her bedside during her passing.

Trudy shared her love of cars with her sons and especially enjoyed driving her Corvette (in her 80's) when she typically drove to Crossroads Mall to walk and visit with her friends. She also loved to attend local car shows in the Kalamazoo/Vicksburg area. At the car shows and the mall she was well known for the dozens of cookies she brought to share with her friends. She knew how to have a good time wherever she went and she always brought a smile.

Her youngest great-grandchildren had the opportunity during her last couple of years to walk with her and her dog as well as bat balloons back and forth. During this last summer she amazed her family by pitching an accurate whiffle ball to her slugger great grandson before being relieved for obvious safety reasons.

She will be greatly missed and always remembered. A memorial service at her Vicksburg home is being planned by her family to take place in January, 2016. Anyone wishing to honor her memory may make donations to Hospice of Northwest Michigan, 220 West Garfield, Charlevoix, MI 49720. Arrangements are being handled by Winchester Funeral Home in Charlevoix.

Gertrude "Trudy" Sherman Rawlinson Barnard, 92

(MAY 18, 1923 - NOV. 28, 2015)

Gertrude (Trudy) Sherman, Rawlinson, Barnard passed away peacefully at home in Charlevoix, Saturday, November 28, 2015.

Trudy was born May 18, 1923 in Kalamazoo, Michigan to Jennie (De Ruyscher) Sherman and Warren Aren Sherman. She also had a sister, Madeline Sherman Dorbin. Her parents and sister preceded her in death.

She is survived by her two sons, a daughter and their spouses: William Kenneth Rawlinson and Peggy, Jon Warren Rawlinson and Cheri Van, and Helen Jean Rawlinson Donahue and John.

She has nine grandchildren: Kenneth L. Rawlinson and Judy, Laurie S. Cantrell and John, Glenn H.T. Rawlinson and Kristi, Melinda Rawlinson, Julie Gregory and Jeff, Jon Christopher Rawlinson and Ellen Groth, Tina Maxwell and Aaron, Sandy Fershee Selinger and Sandy, and Carissa Mullaney and Brian. There are 20 great-grandchildren.

Trudy was married to Kenneth Leroy Rawlinson from 1942 until his death in 1962. They had 4 children, three mentioned above and baby Kenneth who died at birth in 1962.

She was later married to Ronald E. Barnard, of Kalamazoo, from 1964 until his death in 1994. Dur-

Richard G. LaVanway, 67

(DEC. 24, 1930 - DEC. 7, 2015)

Richard G. LaVanway of East Jordan, died Dec. 7, 2015 peacefully at home after battling Acute Myeloid Leukemia.

He was born on Nov. 15, 1948 in Charlevoix, the son of Elgin and Mae (Kenney) LaVanway.

He worked for many years for Smith Excavating and later for Northland Septic. In 1985, he became owner of Jordan Valley Concrete and Northland Septic. He sold Jordan Valley Concrete to Manthei Development Corp. and formed Northland Septic Tanks & Excavating in 1999. In 2001, he followed his other interests and also became owner of Jordan Valley Polled Herefords.

Rich was a member of the East Jordan Snowmobile Club and a dedicated volunteer to the Jordan Valley District Library.

He is survived by wife; Dawn, his children; Kevin (Holly) LaVanway of East Jordan, Kristen (Scott) Rhodes of Middleburg, FL, Kourtney (Adam) Greenman of East Jordan, grandchildren Kevin Jr. Kara, Ryan LaVanway, Brandon and Breanna Rhodes, Myles and Nathan Greenman, sister Shirley (Lyle) Etcher of Grandville, brothers Virgil (Sharon) LaVanway of East Jordan, Robert (Jan) LaVanway of Boyne City, and Randy (Laurie) LaVanway of Central Lake. He was preceded in death by his first



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Vehicle Ends up in Pond

Sheriff Don Schneider reports that at approximately 8:55 a.m. the Charlevoix County Sheriff's Office responded to a complaint of a vehicle in a private pond off of Lake 26 Road in Marion Township.

Charlevoix City Fire and EMS and Charlevoix Township Fire responded to the scene. A 2006 GMC Denali was found submerged up to its roof. Divers from the Charlevoix City Dive Team were able to recover the vehicle from the pond where it was found to be without any occupants.

A short time later, the owner/driver of the vehicle, Marc Jacobs age 37 from East Jordan, arrived at the scene to report the incident to the Sheriff's Office. There was one passenger, Andrew Mailloux age 28 from Charlevoix. Neither occupant sustained any injuries.

They reported to Law Enforcement that they were out looking for deer when the vehicle would not stop because of the slippery muddy conditions causing them to wind up in the pond.

The Sheriff's Office was relieved that no one was injured in this accident which had the potential of turning fatal.

The Sheriff commends all the First Responders for their hard work and effort in this event.

Boulder Park Terrace to hold open house

Boulder Park Terrace, located in Charlevoix, will be hosting an Open House on Thursday, December 17, from 5 - 8 p.m. The community is encouraged to come and see the recent renovation. Boulder Park Terrace offers both long-term care and a sub-acute rehabilitation program. With the recent addition, Boulder Park Terrace has added nine additional beds and seven private rooms with bathroom. The gym is also expanded for both rehab patients and long-term residents. "The renovation will allow for the long-term residents and the rehabilitation patients to have separate wings of the facility," stated Deb Saur-MacKenzie, Executive Director of Boulder Park Terrace. "There will be less traffic in the long-term residents area, making it feel more like

home and peaceful and our rehabilitation patients can have a more clinic setting."

A new entrance and parking lot will be located at 14673 W. Garfield Avenue for Sub-Acute Rehabilitation. The original entrance at 14676 W. Upright Street will be used for long-term care patients and visitors.

"We hope that with the new renovation and added beds and rooms we will be able to hire at least two more employees," stated Saur-MacKenzie. "We welcome the public to come and see the remarkable changes that have been made, and understand the importance of the care we provide."

To learn more about Boulder Park Terrace or McLaren North-ern Michigan, please call (800) 248-6777.



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BOYNE CITY COMMISSION MEETING DECEMBER 8, 2015

Boyne City Hall moving across the street during construction of new facility

By Michelle Medjesky

BOYNE CITY - Officials here have decided where Boyne City Hall will temporarily re-locate until a \$7 million construction project to upgrade the existing facility is completed. But it won't be moving far, in fact, it's moving just across the street.

The Boyne City commission voted unanimously on Tuesday to authorize city manager Michael Cain to move forward with negotiations to lease vacant space in a building located at 364 North Lake Street, owned by Honeywell. It is situated just north of 4Front Credit Union, across the street from city hall's long-time location at 319 Lake Street.

The commission agreed to lease the building for a period not to exceed 30 months and to pay \$2,756 monthly in rent with a three percent annual increase along with an additional \$551 in monthly utilities. The first year total to lease the temporary space would amount to \$33,075, according to figures presented by city manager Michael Cain.

Cain said the 6,600 square foot structure will

be "sufficient space" for all services the city typically offers and will be large enough to house administrative offices and facilitate meetings and election procedures.

Its location in such close proximity to the current city hall will furthermore make it convenient for people to find as the new city facilities undergo construction.

"Being located across the street will make it easy for people to find and for us to keep an eye on the construction process," Cain said.

The police station will not be moving into the new, temporary digs across the street, however, and will instead relocate to a space that is being vacated in the old Department of Public Works Building, just behind current city hall.

Cain noted the Honeywell building has been vacant for some time and will need some sprucing up before city staff and commissioners can move in and set up shop in the next few months.

"While the space is currently dirty and dated, we believe it could be made fully useable," Cain said.

City staff and commissioners toured the building and evaluated its

condition prior to voting in favor of deciding to temporarily relocate city hall within its walls.

All agreed that with a little effort, it would be the most suitable and convenient solution to their re-location problem.

"After visiting this building, I believe it will work well for us," said commissioner and mayor pro-tem Gene Towne.

In a matter related to the major upcoming construction project at Boyne City Hall, the commission also voted unanimously in favor of authorizing the city manager to contract an Asbestos Survey with the firm Otwell Mawby to be performed at the city facility location at 319 Lake Street.

Cain said sampling is required to determine the best ways to remove and dispose of asbestos, which city officials determined does exist at the aging facility. He said proper removal of asbestos is strictly regulated and the samplings will ensure the city is in compliance when the construction process begins. Each sampling costs \$30.95 and it is estimated the facility will require between 70 and 135 for proper evaluation.

Great Lakes Energy employees give \$19,993 to United Way charities

Great Lakes Energy (GLE) Cooperative employees will contribute \$19,993 to local United Way agencies throughout the GLE service area with the help of CoBank, a cooperative lender. GLE employees annually participate in a United Way campaign pledging money from their paychecks throughout the year. For the second year in a row, the employee contributions received a \$5,000 matching grant from CoBank's Sharing Success Program.

As cooperatives, GLE and CoBank both share a concern for local communities, which is one of the seven cooperative principles. Since 1999, GLE employees have contributed more than \$240,000 to local United Way agencies and charities.

The following United Way agencies and charities were selected by GLE



Char-Em Executive Director Lorraine Manary (left) accepting the check on behalf of the United Way from Great Lakes Energy staff members. COURTESY PHOTO

employees to receive contributions:

- Char-Em United Way
- Crawford County United Way
- Crystal Valley Care Fund
- United Way of the Lakeshore
- Love INC. of Oceana
- United Way of Mason County
- Manna Food Project
- Mecosta-Osceola United Way
- United Way of Northwest Michigan
- Otsego County United

Way - Otsego County Salvation Army

Great Lakes Energy is a member-owned electric cooperative headquartered in Boyne City, MI, serving more than 125,000 members in 26 counties throughout western Michigan. CoBank provides loans, leases, export financing and other financial services to agribusinesses and rural power, water and communications providers in all 50 states.

REDEVELOPMENT

CONTINUED FROM PG. 1A

ties build a solid foundation for redevelopment and investment to flourish in their communities.

City Manager Michael Cain explained what the program is all about:

"Being the best Boyne City is exactly what the Redevelopment Ready Communities program is all about. It's been about helping us look at ourselves and our processes to make sure that we were putting our best foot forward, not standing in our own way as we sought to achieve our goals," said Cain, "It has given us a great opportunity to take an honest look in the mirror to make sure we see how we really appear to others, and not just what we think we are projecting ourselves as."

Cain said the program has been helpful in crafting and implementing sustainable procedures and practices that will "stand the test of time" and not be defined only within the current terms of the city's planning director, city manager, Main Street manager and city commis-

sioners. He said Boyne City staff and officials worked a year and a half to satisfy the requirements set forth through RRC Best Practices and become the fifth community in the state of Michigan to officially reach certification standards.

State and local officials and area residents gathered on December 7 at Boyne City Hall to celebrate the city becoming the state's most recently certified RRC partner. State Senator Wayne Schmidt and State Representative Triston Cole were among those present to congratulate city officials on their achievement.

Cain said the RRC will continue to play an important role in helping to steer the city's planned future growth most productively.

Said Cain, "Where we have good practices, we want to make sure we keep them going, and where we had weak practices, we wanted to improve them. The Redevelopment Ready Communities program has helped us with that."

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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

To the Editor,

The Committee on behalf of the Charlevoix Community Thanksgiving Dinner would like to thank the Charlevoix Ministerial Association for sponsoring another wonderful Thanksgiving Dinner this year. Thank you also to St. Mary of the Assumption Catholic Church for hosting the event, Screen Masters for display of the banners, and the wonderful donors and volunteers who contribute so much to the success of the dinner. Special thanks to Terry Left and Bob Muneio for generously donating and preparing 18 turkeys, without their contribution the dinner would not be possible.

Gay Kiteley
Charlevoix

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 Christmas season, 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.

\$25.00 \$50.00 \$100.00 \$500.00 \$_____

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Good Samaritan Family Services
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From gratitude to the secret

Deb Hagen-Foley

On Thanksgiving Day, you may have reflected on all that you have to be thankful for in your life. Perhaps you have also tried the gratitude exercise I suggested last week. The expression of gratitude has been found, through positive psychology, to increase optimism, empathy and energy.

If you are having a difficult day in the future, rereading your gratitudes will remind you to be grateful. Compose five sentences starting with, "Today I am grateful for . . ." Five a day, every day. Write them down. Review them regularly. Over time, you will find that your focus changes to a more positive and appreciative approach.

When we are having difficulties, we have a tendency to focus on those problems and our energy is negative. We perceive the events around us as negative and it becomes a negative spiral, one bad thing after another. By focusing on the problems, our life becomes all about problems. What if we shift our thinking away from the problem, to a more positive perspective?

What if you could get whatever you desire, achieve all your dreams, by changing how you think? According to *The Secret*, you can! *The Secret*, a book by Rhonda Byrne that became a movie in 2006, was not new. It is based on *The Law of Attraction*.

Think and Grow Rich, by Napoleon Hill, was published in

1937. That book and *The Secret* are based on quantum physics. Quantum physics is about energy. Each of us projects energy or vibrations, through our thoughts and emotions. According to *The Secret*, that energy is the source of who we are, our sense of well-being, and what we attract in our lives.

"Like attracts like." If your thinking is negative, you will attract negative events. If your thinking is positive, if you anticipate that positive things are going to happen for you, your vibrations will be positive and you will attract positive things.

More than just positive thinking, *The Secret* starts with the thought, but it doesn't end there. If our thoughts are consumed

with problems, how can our mind produce a solution? If, instead, we shift our attention to focus on the solution, through our thoughts, a solution can present itself.

Next, of course, we need to act on the solution and our situation can change for the better. How we think about our situation is of greatest importance, according to the theory. If we need money, and are constantly thinking about our lack of funds, it isn't possible to attract money. Instead, by thinking about the desire for a life of abundance, that shift in thinking will draw money into our lives, by generating ideas and taking actions to improve our financial status.

LET IT SNOW

CONTINUED FROM PG. 1A

have snow events, but overall compared to the last couple of winters this will be milder and slower starting."

Ah, but slow starting means that just like Jolly St. Nick, winter will soon be on the way.

"There appears to be a change coming in the second half of December," Keysor relates. "There are signals that we will begin to flip things over to more wintry conditions. That would be good news for the snow lovers and those who enjoy outdoor winter recreation activities."

In northern Lower Michigan, early December typically brings average high temperatures in the low to mid 30's. November has the distinction of being one of the top five warmest on record for several area communities, and the warmest ever for our U.P. neighbor Sault Ste. Marie. Until the icy switch flips, Keysor observes we are going to be running about 10 degrees above those normal highs for the next week or so.

The big question; will we have a white Christmas?

Keysor pauses and says, "That's a hard one. Is think the chances are pretty good as weather trends show more winter-like conditions are approaching for the second half of the month. So we may have at least a little snow on the ground Christmas week."

I'm all about that; Let it snow!

"Doing the Most Good" – Gaylord Salvation Army Family Store offers shopping and community value

By Jim Akans

The Salvation Army Family Store and Donation Center in Gaylord is a win-win for both area shoppers and for the local community. The shop, one of six being rolled out in the organization's Eastern Michigan division between 2012 and 2014, opened on October 26th of 2013, and is operated under the direction of Lori Oldenburg, Store Manager and Timothy Schroeder, Eastern Michigan Division Family Store Consultant.

"The inventory we carry comes from community donations," Schroeder explains, "and we rotate that inventory consistently to keep it fresh for our customers. Our revenue, after expenses, is utilized to help fund the work the Salvation Army does in this community for those in need. We are up 35% over last year and have also increased our staff. We want to thank the community for all of their donations, for shopping here and for helping others do the most good."

Brian Jergenson, Business Manager for Salvation Army in Otsego County, notes, "In Otsego County, much of the funding we receive is used to help residents in need of assistance for paying utility bills. We work in cooperation with First Call for Help and the Otsego Housing & Homeless Coalition and other community service organizations in assisting individuals and families in need. We also provide disaster assistance for shelter and food, and on a more limited basis, we offer help for paying for prescriptions and



The Salvation Army Family Store is operated under the direction of Store Manager Lori Oldenburg, (at center) and Eastern Michigan Division Family Store Consultant, Timothy Schroeder (at right). Brian Jergenson, (at photo left) is the Business Manager for Salvation Army in Otsego County. PHOTO BY JIM AKANS

gash vouchers."

Revenue from the Gaylord Salvation Army Family Store is critical in supporting the Salvation Army's mission of "Doing the Most Good." The store also provides employment for approximately 20 people. Shoppers are impressed with the stores clean, well lit and organized atmosphere, as well as the outstanding values that can be found among the huge variety of items ranging from men's, women's and children's clothing, books, DVD's, household and kitchen ware, toys, and even large items such as fur-

niture, televisions and appliances.

Schroeder points out, "We also offer a 15-percent discount for Senior shoppers every Wednesday, and a 15-percent discount for those serving or who have served in the military on Thursdays."

Shoppers will also find half-off specials each week, and the store offers pick-up service for donated items. In keeping with the organization's mission of "Doing the Most Good," clothing items that aren't sold are baled and sent to 3rd world countries.

"Many people don't realize that the Salvation Army is a church,"

states Schroeder. "We are Christian mission and a Christ-center organization. We are about helping others."

The Salvation Army Family Store is located at 919 S. Otsego Avenue in Gaylord, and is open Monday through Saturday from 10 am until 7 pm. For those wishing to drop off items for donation (this is especially welcome during the slower first few months of the year), they can stop by between 9 am and 7 pm Monday through Saturday – phone (989) 448-2357

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Hidden Treasures

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

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Health

ONLINE AT WWW.CHARLEVOIXCOUNTYNEWS.COM

Michigan announces the MI Health Link Ombudsman program

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services today announced that MI Health Link beneficiaries now have an additional resource for information and support through the MI Health Link Ombudsman Program which was officially operational December 1. As a requirement of Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), MDHHS must provide an ombudsman program for the project.

A collaboration between the Michigan Elder Justice Initiative and the Counsel and Advocacy

Law Line, the MI Health Link Ombudsman Program will respond to general inquiries about the MI Health Link program. The ombudsman will also provide advocacy for enrollees needing assistance with access to services, billing issues, quality of supports and services and other issues by working with the MI Health Link health plans, the Pre-paid Inpatient Health Plans for behavioral health services, and MDHHS for problem resolution.

In addition to the MI Health Link Ombudsman Program, MI

Health Link beneficiaries may also be referred to other organizations such as legal services, the Medicare and Medicaid Assistance Program (MMAP), the Long Term Care Ombudsman Program, Michigan ENROLLS, Adult Protective Services, or other appropriate agencies.

The MI Health Link Ombudsman program may be reached by calling toll-free 888-746-6456 between the hours of 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. ET Monday-Friday. Inquiries may also be directed to HELP@mhlo.org.

MI Health Link is a demonstra-

tion project for people eligible for both Medicaid and Medicare in four regions of the state (Barry, Berrien, Branch, Calhoun, Cass, Kalamazoo, Macomb, St. Joseph, Van Buren, Wayne and all counties in the Upper

MI Health Link offers a broad range of medical and behavioral health services, pharmacy, home and community-based services and nursing home care, all in a single program designed to meet individual needs. Each enrollee has a care coordinator and receives their care from an Integrated Care Organization (ICO),

also known as a MI Health Link health plan.

Participants in the program can enroll, disenroll, or change plans throughout the year and do not need to wait for an "open enrollment window." The MI Health Link Ombudsman program is funded by a grant from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services.

For more information visit www.michigan.gov/MIHealthLink.

Health Insurance Marketplace enrollment deadline approaches

Over two million consumers selected a plan in the Federally Facilitated Marketplace as of Nov. 28, 2015, including 63,334 in Michigan.

"Americans who need health coverage starting January 1st have just two weeks remaining before the December 15 enrollment deadline," Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Sylvia Burwell said. "Whether you are enrolling for the first time or an existing customer who is shopping for the best plan for 2016, now is the time to visit HealthCare.gov or CuidadoDeSalud.gov. We're encouraged by the number of people who are returning to the Marketplace or are seeking coverage for the first time. More than 2 million consumers have selected a plan and over 700,000 are new Marketplace consumers in the 38 states using the HealthCare.gov platform."

As we near the December 15 deadline officials from HHS are available for print, radio and television interviews. To request an interview with an official from HHS, email press@cms.hhs.gov.

Five Facts about Open Enrollment in Michigan:

- Since Open Enrollment began on Nov. 1, 63,334 Michigan consumers have selected a plan in the Federally Facilitated Marketplace.
- Plans for 2016 are affordable, 69 percent of Michigan enrollees can

find plans for \$75 or less a month in premiums after tax credits. Nationwide, about 8 out of 10 people who enroll in health coverage through HealthCare.gov qualify for financial help to make their monthly premiums more affordable.

- For 2016, 91 percent of returning Michigan HealthCare.gov consumers could save an average of \$895 annually in premiums before tax credits for a plan in the same level of coverage by returning to shop.

- When Michigan customers visit HealthCare.gov they'll find a variety of quality health coverage options available. For 2016, Michigan consumers can choose from 15 issuers and an average of 88 plans.

- Free confidential enrollment help is available if people in Michigan have questions or want to talk through their options with a trained professional.

Visit LocalHelp@HealthCare.gov to find a listing enrollment centers and events in your community where free, confidential enrollment help is offered. Representatives at the 24-hour Call Center are available every day at 1-800-318-2596. Call Center representatives can answer questions and help people enroll in coverage over the phone.

Do the holidays mean weight gain?

By Deb Hagen-Foley

Beginning with Thanksgiving and through New Year's Day, there are multiple opportunities to deviate from a regular healthy eating plan. The common wisdom for several years has been that the average adult gains seven to ten pounds over the holidays, starting the New Year with a resolution to lose weight. With overeating encouraged and almost expected, it might seem believable that substantial weight gain is a likely result.

Let's think about what a ten-pound weight gain would mean. With 3,500 calories per pound, a gain of ten pounds would require consuming 35,000 more calories than is required to meet the caloric needs of the body. With as few as 26 or as many as 32 days between Thanksgiving and New Year's Day, a weight gain of ten pounds would mean overeating by more than 1,000 calories per day.

For reference, the daily caloric needs of an average moderately-active male is around 2,500 calories and an average moderately-active woman

According to a 2000 study reported in the New England Journal of Medicine, participants estimated their holiday weight gain at "at least five pounds," but their actual weight gain was just over one pound.

around 2,000. Gaining ten pounds would be the equivalent of around 10 sugar cookies or ten squares of fudge each day in addition to the required calories for maintaining your current weight.

More likely, holiday overeating is going to be concentrated in a few number of days, making it more difficult to consume that many calories. Believing that we may gain ten-to-fifteen pounds should help us to keep our eating in check, but we may instead use that as a self-fulfilling prophecy. That is, if we think it is bound to happen, why should we even bother to try and control our holiday eating?

This often-repeated statistic that the average adult gains seven to ten pounds over the holidays has been the subject of research. Researchers have examined this issue and find that

the average person over-estimates their holiday weight gain. According to a 2000 study reported in the New England Journal of Medicine, participants estimated their holiday weight gain at "at least five pounds," but their actual weight gain was just over one pound.

However, people who were overweight did gain five pounds. While this is better than ten or fifteen pounds, there is bad news about this weight gain - most of those who gain a pound (or five) in December will not lose the weight. Instead, they will gain another pound (or more) the next December. A person weighing 160 pounds would need to walk nearly an hour to burn off the calories in two frosted sugar cookies. Are they worth it?

Telehealth Care being utilized for care of Rural Veterans

The Aleda E. Lutz VA Medical Center in Saginaw and its nine Community Based Outpatient Clinics throughout the mid and northern lower peninsula have been well-advanced in utilizing telehealth to deliver care to Veterans.

Telehealth was first introduced to the VA in 1998. The idea behind this modality of care was to do two things. One was to require less traveling for the Veteran throughout the state for his or her care, the other was to tap into providers and specialists who could provide assessments, care, and treatment plans virtually to the Veteran should a particular clinic not have a health care

provider the Veteran needed to see.

Telehealth's mission is to provide the right care in the right place at the right time through the efficient, cost-effective, and appropriate use of health information and telecommunications technologies. Telehealth's vision is to make the home and local community the preferred place of care whenever possible and practical.

Telehealth bridges the mileage gap between the Veteran and his or her VA provider. Home telehealth is monitoring patients in the home through monitoring/messaging devices and /or toll-free phone interac-

tion. Veterans may also receive services in conjunction with a "live" video connection. Contact your Facility Telehealth Coordinator for availability and types of services.

Clinical Video Telehealth (CVT) is real-time video interaction between a patient and a clinician. CVT provides Veterans opportunities to see a variety of clinical specialists within close proximity to their homes. Veterans may be able to receive some services via a home computer (CVT to home). Services vary within VISN facilities.

Store and Forward Telehealth (SFT) is taking an image at one location, uploading, transmitting,

and having the image interpreted by a specialty provider at another location. SFT modality allows Veterans to be screened more timely and decreases lengthy wait times for traditional appointments. Services vary within VISN facilities.

Secure Messaging is an electronic bi-directional communication between patients and their health care teams. It allows patients with an upgraded MyHealthVet account the opportunity to send messages to their health care teams regarding non-urgent health-related issues. Visit: <https://www.myhealth.va.gov> to learn more.

In Fiscal Year 2015, which ended September 30, 2015, the Aleda E. Lutz VA and Community Based Outpatient Clinics, provided some form of telehealth care to 3,573 Veterans which attributed to a total of 13,759 telehealth visits.

Veterans should talk with their health care team about the possibility of receiving their care via telehealth should they be faced with long-distance travel for VA care. It might just be an option for them.

More information about this VA can be found at www.saginaw.va.gov.

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News

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Prosecutor looks ahead to 2016 prioritizing victims, drug abuse

Lansing - Allen Telgenhof, Charlevoix County Prosecutor since 2013, was recently appointed to two committees for the Prosecuting Attorneys Association of Michigan (PAAM). Prosecutor Telgenhof will serve on PAAM's drug initiatives and annual conference committees. The drug initiatives committee brings prosecutors together to discuss drug prosecution strategies and investigations, communication and collaboration with law enforcement, trending drugs, public education and legal updates. Telgenhof was also appointed to PAAM's annual conference committee to contribute his suggestions for prosecution best practices and training sessions based on the trends he sees in his jurisdiction.

Michael Wendling, PAAM President and St. Clair County Prosecuting Attorney, appointed Telgenhof to the committees made up of prosecuting attorneys from around the state.

"Al has proven that he is the type of prosecutor that the electorate wants. He truly cares about the citizens of Charlevoix County and it shows by his involvement in the community. I know he'll use his skills to serve his county and better the state of Michigan as a whole," said Wendling.

In addition to his service statewide, Telgenhof

has also made the investigation and prosecution of drug crimes a core priority in the Charlevoix County Prosecuting Attorney's Office. Drug abuse, especially heroin and prescription drugs, has become a major problem and Telgenhof, in collaboration with the Joint Operational Law Enforcement Drug Team (JOLT), has implemented policies to attempt to halt the abuse.

"I especially look forward to serving on the drug initiatives committee," Telgenhof said. "Together with JOLT, I have made the prosecution of drug dealers a top priority in Charlevoix County. Through committee work, I can be more involved in what is happening at the state level having the opportunity to hear and share ideas with my fellow prosecutors."

The Prosecuting Attorneys Association of Michigan was established in 1928. It is governed by a Board of Directors consisting of: 5 officers, 14 elected directors, active past presidents and the Attorney General. The primary purposes of the association are to promote equal justice in enforcing the state's criminal laws, and continuing the education of prosecuting attorneys and other law enforcement officials.



East Jordan's very own Little Caesars opened Monday in the Family Fare Plaza on M 66. Owner Scott Tuch and some of the new crew, Amy Richards, Hannah Beeler and Trisha Jones are ready to greet customers.

Little Caesars opens for business in East Jordan

By Tina Sundelius

EAST JORDAN—Little Caesars has returned to East Jordan. Earlier this week the newly remodeled storefront in the Family Fare Plaza on M 66 opened for business.

Scott and Peggy Tuch have been in the pizza business for 10 years. They own 6 Little Caesar franchises across Northwestern Michigan. "My first store was in Grayling and it just sort of grew from there," said Scott.

Although running a franchise in a small community is more difficult than in more urban areas the Tuchs prefer to do business in small towns. "We're here to serve the community, a lot of times the smaller communi-

ties don't get the bigger franchises.

It's not just a business move, we also feel coming to East Jordan is a community move," he said.

Upon entering the store customers are greeted with the most recent Little Caesar interior design. "This may be the only store north of West Branch that has this design," said Scott. The store flaunts ceramic tile floors and digital menu boards. "This particular image is our latest and greatest. We really took great care making sure the image of this store looks really good," he said.

So far the new business has hired 10 employees. "I believe everyone of them lives in East Jordan," said Scott. "We wanted local, fresh faces from all

over the community."

The store's opening coincides with the introduction of the \$8 Premium Detroit Style Deep Dish pizza. Other specials include a \$5.55 large round and the Classic Pepperoni meal deal that includes a large round, crazy bread, sauce and a 2 liter for \$10. "It's a whole meal for 10\$, you can't get that anywhere else, not that type of value," he said.

Although the Tuchs, who's home base is in Central Michigan, hire local managers for all of their stores they plan to spend their summers up north. "I want to make sure I'm doing the brand correct and doing the customer's proud," said Scott.

Boyer Falls Public School 1st Trimester Honor Roll

3rd Grade All A's Selah Bennett Lilliann Fenske Jayden Gerloff Mackenzie Smith Jozlyn Turnbull	8th Grade Honor Roll Jordan Gellis Erienne Goodrich Ryleigh Richardson
3rd Grade Honor Roll Vincent Cousineau Megan Pickering	9th Grade Honor Roll (3.0-3.69) Sydney Best Maddie Donoff
4th Grade Honor Roll JT Greenier Bryar Lester Damen Murphy Brianna Wilson	10th Grade High Honors (3.7+) Jordan Herman Michael Whennen
5th Grade All A's Yannis Burnell Scott Matelski Colton O'Neil Zofia Wasylewski	10th Grade Honor Roll (3.0-3.69) Naomi Johnson
5th Grade Honor Roll Jordan Devers Kajiah Lightfoot Adeyanna Roshow Jacob Roshow Abigail Smith	11th Grade Honor Roll (3.0-3.69) Neceli Perron Leszels Wasylewski
6th Grade All A's Daniel Powers	12th Grade High Honors (3.7+) Megan Byrne Josh Lange
6th Grade Honor Roll Calvin Cousineau Logan Crocker Margo Shuman	12th Grade Honor Roll (3.0-3.69) Andrew Campbell Kayla Carson Sean Lynch Marcus Matelski Cody Milbrandt Kelsy Richardson Shea Ross Kurstin Wilson
7th Grade Honor Roll Blake Brunmeier Jodiue Herman Aubrie Sparks	

BOYNE CITY POLICE DEPT.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2015

- 1017 Assist EMS in the 300 block of E Division St
- 1047 Suspicious situation in the 100 block of E Water St
- 1154 Assist EMS in the 1000 block of Boyne Av
- 1155 Stalking complaint in the 300 block of E Division St
- 1326 Property line dispute in the 1000 block of Roosevelt St.
- 1552 personal injury accident in the 1100 block of Boyne Av
- 1709 Report of unusual light in the 200 block of Front St.
- 1725 Report of possible child abuse in the 700 block of Wenonah. No abuse

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2015

- 0957 Suspicious activity reported in the 400 block of Lewis Av
- 1012 Vehicle unlock on N East St

- 1040 Larceny complaint in the 300 block of E Division St
- 1054 Assist EMS in the 300 block of N Park St
- 1332 Assisted Sheriff Dept on Clute Rd E.
- 1353 Civil tenant landlord issue reported on W Michigan
- 1615 Hit and run causing damage to fence on Robinson St.
- 1811 Assist Sheriff Dept on Reynolds Rd.
- 2106 Assisted EMS in the 800 block of Brockway.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2015

- 0027 Domestic dispute in the 1000 block of S. Lake St.
- 1111 Private property damage accident on W Main St
- 1256 Hit and run suspect vehicle from Robinson St located in the 1100 block of Boyne Av
- 1403 Parking complaint in the 100 block of E Water St.
- 1725 Assisted Sheriff Dept in Clarion.
- 1839 Assisted other agency in the 300 block of E Division St
- 1900 Report of threatening text in the 700 block of N Park St.

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 26, 2015

- 0109 Assisted subject in looking for wedding ring at Lake and State. Was found elsewhere.
- 0638 Vehicle in the ditch on Fall Park Rd.
- 0853 Escorted the Trotting Turkeys.
- 2046 Property damage accident in the 400 block of N Lake St

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2015

- 1423 Assist Sheriff Dept on Lakeshore.
- 2220 Report of stolen meds from the 200 block of S Lake St

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2015

- 0718 Suspicious activity reported in the 100 block of S Park St
- 1345 Arrested subject in the 500 block of Poplar St. on 2 warrants, one from CX, one from Emmet.
- 1616 Larceny of a necklace that occurred two years ago.

- 2236 Assisted Sheriff Dept with a fight at the mountain.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2015

- 0105 Responded to assist units in Charlevoix. The earlier fight was continuing at the hospital.
- 0415 Car deer accident on Boyne Ave. at Hemlock.
- 1018 Found cell phone at Front and Main.
- 1031 Civil at Police Dept
- 1102 Issued permit for the deer killed earlier at Boyne Av and Hemlock.
- 1108 Report of yard being toilet papered and saran wrapped in the 100 block of W. Division St.
- 1203 Civil dispute in the 400 block of W Michigan Av
- 1228 Assist EMS on Lake Park Dr.
- 1758 Assisted EMS in the 200 block of Silver St.
- 1921 Report of possible phone scam in the 1100 block of Second St.

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News Briefs

ONLINE AT WWW.CHARLEVOIXCOUNTYNEWS.COM

CHARLEVOIX DINNER WITH SANTA

December 10, 5-8pm, The Bistro at Charlevoix Country Club, 9600 Clubhouse Drive. Join Santa for a Dinner Buffet and Cookie decorating. \$15 adults, kids 12 and under free. Reservations 231-547-9796.

CHARLEVOIX HOLLY DAZE

December 11, Castle Farms. Charlevoix Area Hospital's annual holiday fundraiser. Proceeds from this year's event will benefit the Hospital's upcoming Surgical Suite and Laboratory Renovation. Kick off the holiday season and get in the spirit of giving. Space is limited; please contact Faye Parish 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 HUMANE SOCIETY OPEN HOUSE

December 12, 1-4pm, Charlevoix Humane Society, 614 Beardsley Street, Boyne City. Adoption Specials, Punch and Cookies. Bring your friendly pets for a photo with Santa. For more information call 231.582.6774.

EAST JORDAN VISIT WITH SANTA

December 12, 6-8pm, Visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus at the East Jordan Tourist Park on M-66. Enjoy Christmas cookies and hot chocolate and watch lots of toy trains. Before or after your visit, drive through the Tourist Park and enjoy Christmas music and lighted Christmas Displays courtesy of businesses and families in East Jordan. Organized by the East Jordan Lions Club.

ELLSWORTH BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

December 12, 9-11:30am, Banks Township Hall. Under construction but still open. Indulge in breakfast featuring pancakes, eggs donated by Eastport Market, Sausage, Juice, Milk and Coffee. Choose a stuffed toy and take a photo with Santa and Mrs. Claus compliments of Charlevoix State Bank.

BOYNE CITY PURSUING AN ADVENTURE-FILLED LIFE

December 13, 6:30pm, Lifetree Café, 401 S. Park Street. Practical and fun ways to add excitement and adventure to your world will be explored. The program, titled "Pursuing an Audacious Life: Inspiration From a Man Who's Traveled to Every Country," features a filmed interview with Chris Guillebeau, an author who set a goal to travel to all 193 countries in the world and did so in 10.5 years. Admission to the 60-minute event is free.

EAST JORDAN BLOOD DRIVE

December 15, 8:30am-1:15pm. East Jordan High School, 101 Maple Street. Simply call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit redcrossblood.org to make an appointment or for more information.

CHARLEVOIX HOLIDAY CONCERT

December 16, 7pm, First Congregational Church. Charlevoix Wind Ensemble Holiday Concert directed by Dr. Timothy Topolewski and featuring euphonium soloist Edward Bahr performing Morceau de Concert by Camille Saint-Saens. Other music includes pieces by Gordon Jacob, Karl L. King and Johann Sebastian Bach.

Enrollment period opens for Safety Net Coverage farm program

U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA) Administrator Val Dolcini today announced that producers who chose coverage from the safety net programs established by the 2014 Farm Bill, known as the Agriculture Risk Coverage (ARC) or the Price Loss Coverage (PLC) programs, can begin visiting FSA county offices starting Dec. 7, 2015, to sign contracts to enroll in coverage for 2016. The enrollment period will continue until Aug. 1, 2016.

"The choice between ARC and PLC is completed and remains in effect through 2018, but producers must still enroll their farm by signing a contract each year to re-

ceive coverage," said Dolcini.

Producers are encouraged to contact their local FSA office to schedule an appointment to enroll. If a farm is not enrolled during the 2016 enrollment period, producers on that farm will not be eligible for financial assistance from the ARC or PLC programs should crop prices or farm revenues fall below the historical price or revenue benchmarks established by the program.

The two programs were authorized by the 2014 Farm Bill and offer a safety net to agricultural producers when there is a substantial drop in prices or revenues for covered commodities. Covered commodities include barley,

canola, large and small chickpeas, corn, crambe, flaxseed, grain sorghum, lentils, mustard seed, oats, peanuts, dry peas, rapeseed, long grain rice, medium grain rice (which includes short grain and sweet rice), safflower seed, sesame, soybeans, sunflower seed and wheat. Upland cotton is no longer a covered commodity. For more details regarding these programs, go to www.fsa.usda.gov/arc-plc.

For more information, producers are encouraged to visit their local FSA office. To find a local FSA office, visit <http://offices.usda.gov>.

gram emphasizes practical strategies to reduce the fear of falling and increase activity levels. To register for a class, or to request a workshop in your area, please call 1-800-442-1713. Visit www.aaanm.org/mob-workshops to learn where and when "A Matter of Balance" workshops are being held throughout northwest Michigan.

EAST JORDAN

The East Jordan Lions Club is still accepting site reservations for their annual lighted Christmas Village at the EJ Tourist Park, Dec. 3-Jan. 4.

Email jeffargetsinger@yahoo.com or call 582-2770 for more information.

CHARLEVOIX IRONTON FERRY SERVICE SUSPENDED

The Charlevoix County Transportation Authority has determined it will be necessary for the Ironton Ferry to remain closed for the remainder of the 2015 season, due to the extensive damage caused by an October 2nd private vehicle fire while aboard the ferry. The Transportation Authority anticipates no fire-related delay in the annual reopening on April 15, 2016 as scheduled.

BOYNE CITY FARMERS MARKET

The Boyne City Winter Farmers Market begins November 7 at the Red Barn on Saturday's from 9am-1pm through April.

EAST JORDAN FARMERS MARKET

Winter Farmers Market begins November 14 at the Civic Center. Takes place on the second Thursday of the month from 10am-2pm through April. On Facebook at [EastJordanFarmerMarket](https://www.facebook.com/EastJordanFarmerMarket)

Please join the band members after the concert for light refreshments. Admission is free.

BOYNE CITY BUSINESS AFTER HOURS

December 17, 5:30-7:30pm. Business After Hours will be hosted by Porter Creek Fish House at Sommerset Pointe and co-sponsored by Charlevoix State Bank. The public is welcome to attend and there is no charge for admission or refreshments.

CHARLEVOIX BLOOD DRIVE

December 17, 10am-3:45pm. Charlevoix Area Hospital, 14700 Lakeshore Drive. Simply call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit redcrossblood.org to make an appointment or for more information.

PETOSKEY GLCO "MESSIAH"

December 17 and 18 at 7pm, St. Francis Xavier Church. Once again the Great Lakes Chamber Orchestra brings the Messiah to northern Michigan with three soloists performing. Tickets are available at Boyne, Charlevoix, Harbor Springs, and Petoskey Chambers, the Orchestra office at 231 487-0010 or www.glorchestra.org. Reserved tickets are \$75, \$50, and \$35. General admission is \$25.

BOYNE CITY BLOOD DRIVE

December 28, 11am-4:45pm. Community of Christ Church, 777 Vogel. Simply call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit redcrossblood.org to make an appointment or for more information.

CHARLEVOIX COMMUNITY POOL NEW YEAR'S CELEBRATION

December 30, 6-8pm, Charlevoix Area Community Pool. Beach Bash 2015! Celebrate with family and friends at the Pool for our annual New Year's kick-off party. It's cold outside, but not on the Pool deck. Grab your swimsuits, lounge at the pool, toss around some beach balls, and soak in the hot tub. Pizza, refreshments and goody bags provided. Children 5 and under are free! All other guests (swimmers and non-swimmers), \$5 advance purchase or \$6 at the door. Reservations are recommended, as we are limited to a maximum occupancy. Call or email the Pool today to ensure your spot at the Beach Bash: 231.547.0982 or info@charlevoixpool.org.

CHARLEVOIX BRIDGE DROP

December 31, starting at 9pm. 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! The best New Years Eve Firework Show in the Midwest will take place at 9pm. The Bridge Drop will take place at midnight.

CHARLEVOIX MODERN DAY MASQUERADE

December 31, 9pm-1am, Castle Farms. Join us at the Castle on New Year's Eve for a masquerade ball as we usher out the Old Year and ring in the New. \$45 per person.

CHARLEVOIX CHAMBER AWARD NOMINATIONS

The Charlevoix Chamber is accepting nominations to recognize those businesses and

individuals that go the extra mile to make Charlevoix the amazing place we call home. If you know a person or business that is worthy of receiving an award, please e-mail your nomination, along with an explanation of why this person or business is so deserving, to info@charlevoix.org by 5pm on Friday, December 11th. Categories include; Outstanding Citizen Award, Customer Service Award, New Business of the Year, Young Professional of the Year, Member of the Year.

BOYNE CITY ANNUAL MEETING AND AWARDS CEREMONY

Tickets are now on sale for the Boyne Area Chamber of Commerce Annual Meeting and Awards Ceremony. The event will take place on January 21 from 5:30-8:30pm at Boyne Mountain. The program includes food, beverage,

live and silent auctions, entertainment by the Boyne City High School Jazz Band, awards in six categories and the introduction of the Chamber Board members. Tickets (\$40 per person by January 4) are available at the Boyne Chamber, (231) 582-6222.

BOYNE CITY FREE BALANCE WORKSHOP

Beginning January 4th the Area Agency on Aging of Northwest Michigan is offering a popular eight-session workshop designed to help adults with concerns about falling in Boyne City. This award-winning program, called "A Matter of Balance: Managing Concerns About Falls," is being held in the Community Room at Litzenger Place located at 829 S Park Street. Classes will be held every Monday from 10 am-12 noon from January 4 through February 22, 2016. The Boston University, evidence-based pro-

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MDHHS reminds beneficiaries about Medicaid eligibility review process

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) is reminding Plan First! beneficiaries that as the program comes to an end, the Department will conduct reviews to determine eligibility for other Michigan Medicaid programs including the Healthy Michigan Plan. Eligibility will be automatically reviewed for current Plan First! beneficiaries who do not have additional health care coverage on record. Plan First! coverage will end once the department has reviewed the eligibility for beneficiaries without additional health care coverage on file.

Current Plan First! beneficiaries who have additional health care coverage through a third party must opt-in to the eligibility review process no later than December 11, 2015. To have your eligibility reviewed call 877-522-8050 before the December 11, 2015 deadline. If you have additional health care coverage and do not call, your Plan First! coverage will end January 31.

With the launch of the Healthy Michigan Plan and other coverage initiatives, eligible Plan First! beneficiaries now have access to more comprehensive healthcare coverage. In early November, MDHHS mailed letters to all residents enrolled in Plan First! reminding them that the program is ending, and outlining the eligibility determination process for other Medicaid programs.

Plan First! was approved by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) in 2006 as a Demonstration Waiver for family planning services for uninsured women 19 to 44 years of age who were not eligible for Medicaid. Since that time, the Healthy Michigan Plan launched and expanded health care coverage to more than 600,000 residents who were previously ineligible for traditional Medicaid. CMS has approved the termination of the Plan First! Program.

Most individuals eligible under the Plan First! Demonstration waiver are eligible to receive full healthcare coverage including family planning services under the Healthy Michigan Plan or through other options on the Federal Facilitated Market Place.

MDHHS is encouraging Plan First! beneficiaries who have questions about their current health care coverage to contact the Department before December 1, 2015 to ensure that, if needed, they can request a Medicaid eligibility review before Plan First! benefits end on January 31, 2016.

Individuals with questions should call the Beneficiary Help Line at 1-800-642-3195 or TTY 1-866-501-5656.

Great Lakes Chamber Orchestra presents "Messiah"

Once again the Great Lakes Chamber Orchestra brings the Messiah to northern Michigan December 17 and 18 at 7:00 p.m. at St. Francis Xavier Church in Petoskey. The Messiah has become a Christmas tradition, one that is eagerly anticipated every year. This year, in addition to conductor Libor Ondras, Chorus Master Peter Sims and the Great Lakes Chamber Chorus, three soloists will perform. Amy Cross, soprano, Katherine Jannakos, alto and Tom Cilluffo, tenor are our guest soloists.

Soprano Amy Cross studied classical voice at Boston University where she sang under the leadership of Robert Shaw. She lived in California for a time, performing in many operas. She now lives in Petoskey with her husband and four growing children. Music lovers will remember Amy in her many performances with the Great Lakes Chamber Orchestra, most recently in November a concert of 18th Century Italian Sacred Music.

Tenor Thomas Cilluffo was born and raised in Traverse City. He has always been musical, starting with percussion instruments, piano, and bagpipes (he still plays the bagpipes on occasion). He began early in the fourth grade performing at the Old Town Playhouse in Traverse City. By middle school he was singing in choirs, school musicals, local companies, and the Showcase Dinner Theater, with Broadway star Dominic Fortuna. In addition to all this he had a boys' band with high school friends playing hits by Frank Sinatra and Bobby Darin. In college at the University of Michigan he studied under the legendary tenor George Shirley, and sang with the Gilbert and



The Great Lakes Chamber Orchestra brings the Messiah to northern Michigan December 17 and 18 at 7:00 p.m. at St. Francis Xavier Church in Petoskey. COURTESY PHOTO

Sullivan Society. He also directed and coached these performances.

Not only does Tom love singing and acting, he loves working with his hands. He has used these skills in wood carving, jewelry/beading, even blacksmithing. He has worked on sets and props, been a tech director and designer. He has a side job making conducting batons for orchestra and choral directors. Tom is currently working toward his master's degree in voice performance at the University of Michigan. He sang the role of Rinuccio in the University's fall main stage opera, Gianni Schicchi.

Alto Katherine Jannakos cannot remember a time when she hasn't been involved in music. She comes from a very musical



Tenor Thomas Cilluffo will join fellow soloists, Amy Cross, soprano, Katherine Jannakos, alto for the Great Lakes Chamber Orchestra performance of Messiah. COURTESY PHOTO

family, and early on studied music theory and flute. She didn't start singing until high school, and later began serious voice study at Grand Rapids Community College. It was there that she discovered her gift and passion for classical vocal performance. After three years she left GRCC and completed her degree at Oberlin Conservatory. In addition to classical music Katherine loves Orthodox liturgical music. She has been music director at St. Paul's Orthodox Cathedral in Dearborn Heights, Michigan for the past three years.

The Messiah has special meaning for Katherine. As a high

school senior she auditioned for and won a selected solo position in a joint high school production of the Messiah. Her teacher not only gave her encouragement and guidance, she presented her with a complete copy of the Messiah with beautiful illustrations on the inside cover. She has used that copy which inspires her today. She is delighted with the opportunity to perform the Messiah in Petoskey, where she performed at Bay View in a production of Gianni Schicchi and Buoso's Ghost. She also looks forward to a reunion with Libor Ondras. She has collaborated with him and the Kent Philharmonic Orchestra several times.

Tickets are available at Boyne, Charlevoix, Harbor Springs, and Petoskey Chambers, the Orchestra office at 231 487 0010 or www.glorchestra.org. Reserved tickets are \$75, \$50, and \$35. General admission is \$25.

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