

athletes of the week



Austin Putman
Charlevoix

The Rayder senior finished with a game-high 22 points, while also grabbing eight rebounds in Charlevoix's win over Boyne City. Putman would nail his final seven free throws in the fourth quarter to help seal the game.

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Hannah Hoth
Boyne City

The Rambler senior finished with 15 points in Boyne's contest with Charlevoix, scoring 12 fourth quarter points in a crucial stretch to bring the Ramblers to within striking distance of the Rayders, highlighted by back-to-back triples.



Sports

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Charlevoix **County News**

Section B

Thursday, January 28, 2016

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Girls Basketball

Charlevoix earns first win over Boyne City

Charlevoix 53, Boyne City 46

CHARLEVOIX -- The Lady Rayders have battled all season, only to come up short in the win column. This time around, Charlevoix would not be denied, as the Rayders built a lead and held on, in downing the visiting Ramblers, 53-46 on January 22.

Charlevoix led at the quarter breaks, 9-4, 27-19 and 43-25.

The Rayders used a balanced scoring attack to keep the Ramblers from focusing on one player, having eight different players get into the scoring column.

Sophomore Natalie Nesburg paced Charlevoix with 12 points, Olivia Jeakle added nine, Kelsey Engstrom and Beth Veenstra both had six points, while Raigan Novotny and Alex Snabes each finished with five.

Also for the Rayders, Emily Chomiczewski and Hannah Zipp each added four points.

With the Rayders holding the lead for most of the night, Boyne City put together one of their best quarters of the season, outscoring the Rayders 21-10 over the final eight minutes of regulation as senior guard, Hannah Hoth caught fire and single-handedly launched the Ramblers back into the contest, scoring 12 of her game-high 15 points in the quarter, but the deficit proved to be too much for BC to overcome.

Keyrsten Girlinghouse added 10 points, while Katie Hoth chipped in with eight and Olivia Looze added seven.

Both the Rayders and Ramblers stand at (1-8 overall, 1-4 conference) on the season.



ABOVE: Boyne City senior, Hannah Hoth (12) passes over the defense of Charlevoix's Natalie Nesburg (10). Hoth finished with 15 points, including 12 points in the fourth quarter as the Ramblers mounted a comeback. (Photo by Scott Richards)

LEFT: Charlevoix senior, Kelsey Engstrom launches a shot over the outstretched arm of Boyne City's Annika Bergquist (1). (PHOTO BY SCOTT RICHARDS)



BASKETBALL STANDINGS

Lake Michigan Conference Boys

School	Record	(overall)
1. East Jordan	4-1	(7-1)
2. TC St. Francis	4-0	(5-3)
3. Grayling	3-2	(5-4)
4. Boyne City	3-2	(4-4)
5. Charlevoix	2-3	(4-5)
6. Elk Rapids	2-2	(3-4)
7. Kalkaska	0-4	(2-7)
8. Harbor Springs	0-4	(0-7)

Lake Michigan Conference Girls

School	Record	(overall)
1. TC St. Francis	5-0	(8-1)
2. Kalkaska	4-0	(10-0)
3. Harbor Springs	3-1	(6-2)
4. Elk Rapids	2-2	(6-3)
5. Grayling	2-3	(6-5)
6. East Jordan	1-4	(4-6)
7. Charlevoix	1-4	(1-8)
8. Boyne City	1-4	(1-8)

Northern Lakes Conference Boys

School	Record	(overall)
1. Alanson	7-0	(9-0)
2. Boyne Falls	7-1	(8-2)
3. Mackinaw City	4-3	(4-4)
4. Alba	3-3	(5-5)
5. Wolverine	3-4	(5-6)
6. Ellsworth	3-4	(3-6)
7. Vanderbilt	1-6	(1-9)
8. Harbor Light	0-7	(0-8)

Northern Lakes Conference Girls

School	Record	(overall)
1. Mackinaw City	7-0	(9-2)
2. Alanson	6-1	(9-2)
3. Harbor Light	4-3	(5-4)
4. Ellsworth	3-5	(3-10)
5. Boyne Falls	3-4	(3-7)
6. Wolverine	2-4	(5-6)
7. Alba	0-8	(0-9)

Lady Red Devils fall to Elks

Elk Rapids 52, East Jordan 15

EAST JORDAN -- It was a combination of having an off night as well as some tough defensive pressure, resulting in the East Jordan girls basketball team falling to Elk Rapids, 52-15 in a Lake Michigan Conference contest on January 22.

The Elks used full court pressure to build a 20-8 first quarter lead, taking advantage of the shorthanded Red Devils, who were without their starting point guard, due to injury.

Elk Rapids then extended their lead to 28-9 at the half and 34-13 after three quarters of play.

"Elk Rapids got off to a big lead in the first quarter and we were not able to get any closer the rest of the way," EJ coach Steve Hines said. "Our shooting percentage for the evening was almost 20 percent, a huge struggle on the offensive end."

Leading the Red Devils was Kaitlyn Hines and Miranda Burks with seven points each.

Jill Atwood and Kasey Wojan each recorded four rebounds, and Kendall McNitt had three steals.

The Elks were led by Bridget Hintz with 19 points, while Natalie Graf and Nicole Hill added 12 and 11 points, respectively.

East Jordan slips to 4-6 overall, 1-4 LMC with the loss.

Red Devils Nipped by Vikings in close contest

Grayling 45, East Jordan 44

GRAYLING -- The East Jordan



East Jordan's Kaitlyn Hines (40) battles Elk Rapids, Bridget Hintz for position on a rebound. (PHOTO BY CHRIS FIEL)

girls basketball team was edged at the wire by the host Vikings, 45-44, after overcoming a late deficit on January 19.

The Red Devils held the lead at each of the first half of play, 17-6, 21-17 and were down 30-29 entering the fourth.

"We played one of our best first quarters in quite a while, we were in control and couldn't put them away," EJ coach Steve Hines said. "We were down eight with about three minutes left. We mounted a great comeback and had a chance to tie but missed a free throw to tie the game with eight seconds left. We let this game get away from us. Very good effort."

The Red Devils were led by Kaitlyn Hines with 13 points, eight rebounds and three assists, while Jill Atwood added nine points, nine boards and three steals.

Miranda Burks added seven points and Kendall McNitt chipped in with nine rebound.

Bridget Nielson had 15 points to lead Grayling.

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Sports

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STATE BASKETBALL RANKINGS

Michigan Boys Basketball AP poll rankings - 1/19/16

Class A
School (First-place votes) (Record) Points
1. Detroit U-D Jesuit (5) (11-0) 75
2. Macomb Dakota (9-0) 70
3. Clarkston (9-1) 65
4. Detroit Renaissance (9-1) 57
5. Ypsilanti (8-1) 54
6. East Lansing (10-0) 51
7. Ann Arbor Pioneer (11-1) 32
8. Saginaw Arthur Hill (8-2) 28
9. Canton (12-0) 27
10. North Farmington (9-2) 26
Others receiving 12 or more votes: Saginaw (7-3) 24, Detroit Western International (9-2) 19, Holland West Ottawa (10-0) 16, Detroit East English (9-2).

Class B
1. Wyoming Godwin Heights (3) (8-1) 59
2. Onsted (1) (10-0) 55
3. New Haven (9-1) 52
4. Wayland Union (8-1) 47
5. Lansing Catholic (8-0) 44
6. River Rouge (9-1) 42
7. Alma (9-1) 30
7. Frankenmuth (10-0) 30
9. Williamston (9-2) 24
10. Benton Harbor (9-2) 22
Others receiving votes: Detroit University Prep (9-1) 19.

Class C
T-1. Flint Beecher (3) (7-2) 70
T-1. Negaunee (2) (10-0) 70
3. McBain (9-0) 61
4. Iron Mountain (10-0) 55
5. Ithaca (10-1) 52
6. Beaverton (8-0) 50
7. Southfield Christian (9-1) 49
T-8. Grandville Calvin Christian (8-0) 42
T-8. Bad Axe (10-0) 42
10. East Jordan (7-1) 22
Others receiving votes: Vestaburg (7-0) 16, St. Ignace LaSalle (8-1) 15, Muskegon Heights PS Academy (8-1) 14.

Class D
School (First-place votes) (Record) Points
1. Powers North Central (4) (9-0) 60
T-2. Hillman (9-0) 50
T-2. Crystal Falls Forest Park (10-0) 50
4. Climax-Scotts (9-1) 45
5. Frankfort (8-1) 44
6. Lake Linden-Hubbell (9-0) 40
7. Waterford Our Lady of the Lakes (7-2) 39
8. Wyoming Tri-unity Christian (7-2) 38
9. Adrian Lenawee Christian (9-2) 26
10. Bellaire (7-1) 24
Others receiving votes: Buckley (6-2) 13.

Michigan Girls Basketball AP poll rankings - 1/19/16

Class A
School (First-place votes) (Record) Points
1. Saginaw Heritage (4) (12-0) 74
2. Southfield-Lathrup (1) (8-2) 71
3. Haslett (11-1) 60
4. Detroit Renaissance (11-2) 53
5. Ann Arbor Huron (9-3) 52
T-6. DeWitt (11-1) 45
T-6. Marquette (12-1) 45
8. Detroit Martin Luther King (11-1) 36
T-9. Midland Dow (9-3) 31
T-9. Caledonia (10-1) 31
Others receiving votes: 11, Dexter (10-1) 26, 12, Flushing (9-2) 22, 13, Farmington Hills Harrison (9-3) 17.

Class B
1. Grand Rapids Catholic Central (4) (11-0) 73
2. Detroit Country Day (10-1) 70
3. Bay City John Glenn (1) (11-0) 67
4. Grand Rapids South Christian (10-0) 59
T-5. Frankenmuth (10-1) 53
T-5. Williamston (11-2) 53
7. Manistee (7-2) 38
8. Durand (9-2) 29
9. Perry (8-1) 28
T-10. Marshall (10-1) 19
T-10. Houghton (9-2) 19
Others receiving votes: 12, Flint Powers (8-4) 17, 13, Goodrich (9-2) 14.

Class C
1. Calumet (4) (9-0) 71
2. Ypsilanti Arbor Preparatory (10-1) 70
3. Flint Hamady (1) (10-0) 67
4. St. Ignace (10-1) 54
5. Laingsburg (10-1) 52
6. Ithaca (11-0) 49
7. Traverse City St. Francis (8-1) 43
8. Napoleon (12-0) 33
T-9. Gobles (11-0) 29
T-9. Carson City-Crystal (10-1) 29
Others receiving votes: 11, Manchester (10-2) 14, 12, Maple City Glen Lake (9-1) 13, 12, Morley-Stanwood (9-1) 13.

Class D
1. Pittsford (4) (11-0) 60
2. Mount Pleasant Sacred Heart (10-0) 56
3. Bark River-Harris (11-0) 50
T-4. Waterford Our Lady of the Lakes (9-1) 46
T-4. Posen (10-0) 46
6. Newberry (10-1) 42
7. Frankfort (8-2) 32
8. Climax-Scotts (12-1) 27
9. Stephenson (11-0) 24
10. St. Joseph Michigan Lutheran (9-2) 21
Others receiving votes: 11, Crystal Falls Forest Park (10-2) 19, 12, Leland (9-1) 18, 13, Mendon (9-1) 16.

Boys Basketball

Red Devils make statement with strong second half

East Jordan 65, Grayling 46

EAST JORDAN -- The East Jordan boys basketball team put together one of the best second halves in recent memory, as they outscored the visiting Vikings 41-13 over the final 16 minutes of play to defeat Grayling, 65-46 on January 19 in a Lake Michigan Conference game.

Grayling seemed to be in control for a majority of the first half, taking a 33-24 lead into the break, but after the intermission, all things seemed to go right for the Red Devils as they raced out of the gates on a 14-0 run to start the half, and there was no looking back after that.

Red Devil Jordan Weber finished with 21 points and nine boards to lead E.J., while Collin Bajko added 13, Colin Petrie had 12 points and eight rebound, Thomas Brandell added 10 points and Donny Cutler had seven.

With the win, the Red Devils improved to 6-1 on the season, 3-1 in the LMC.



East Jordan senior, Jordan Weber (32) drives against Grayling's Josh Hetfield in their recent meeting. (PHOTO BY NIKI RYLAND)

Loggers roll past Comets, Swordsmen

Boyer Falls 56, Mackinaw City 35

MACKINAW CITY -- The Boyne Falls boys basketball team picked up another Northern Lakes Conference win, downing Mackinaw City, 56-35 on January 22.

The Loggers lead at the quarter breaks, 16-12, 33-25 and 46-33.

Logger senior, Marcus Matelski finished with a game-high 41 points, while grabbing 10 rebounds. Andrew Campbell also added 13 points and 11 assists.

"We came out very flat and didn't defend entire half," Boyne Falls coach Tim Smith said. "We had guys sick with flu all week and I think we were zapped and we came off a very emotional game with the 2000 night. We defended much better in second half and Marcus (Matelski) was very good again sensing teammates under the weather, as he carried us."

Cash O'Brien and John Martin led the Comets with 12 points each.

Milestone reached

Boyer Falls 81, Harbor Light 19

BOYNE FALLS -- There may not be any nights more special than this one.

Boyer Falls senior, Marcus Matelski thrust himself into elite company as he recorded his 2000th high school career point in the win over the Swordsmen on January 18.

Matelski hit a triple midway through the opening quarter to give him 2001 points, this coming just after he reached 1998 points on a two-handed rim-rattling dunk.

The contest was stopped and Marcus was able to acknowledge his parents and grandparents to a standing ovation in front of a



Logger senior, Marcus Matelski goes up for a two handed dunk in a recent win. (PHOTO BY RACHEL LANGE)

large crowd.

"There was a special buzz in the air," Logger coach Tim Smith said. "Marcus was extremely focused needing 16 points for 2000."

After achieving the milestone, the senior captain continued to do what he always does, score with a great deal of accuracy and consistency, nailing 18-of-20 shots in the contest.

Matelski would finish with 38 points, 10 rebounds, seven steals and six assists.

Boyer Falls also got other contributions from Andrew Campbell with 18 points and 10 assists, while Lezek Wasylewski added 15 points, Shea Ross had 10 points and seven rebounds and Joshua Lange added five steals.

"We were also able to get to also get other guys involved having four guys in double figures," coach Smith added. "We are getting better at attacking teams that double Marcus."

Lancers use strong finish to oust Swordsmen

Ellsworth 41, Harbor Light 25

HARBOR SPRINGS -- The Ellsworth boys basketball team got back on track with a 41-25 Northern Lakes Conference victory over Harbor Light on January 22.

The Lancers led at each of the quarter breaks, 9-7, 20-13 and 24-21, but it was the fourth quarter where they capitalized on their defensive pressure, outscoring the Swordsmen, 17-4 over the final eight minutes of play and putting the game away.

"Very scrappy, hard-fought game," Ellsworth coach Kirk Ikens said. "Our defensive pressure as a team was probably the difference. It created turnovers, giving us opportunities at the offensive end of the court."

Zeb Collins paced the Lancers with 16 points, while Lucas Veldboom added eight points and six rebounds.

Tyler Drenth chipped in with 11 boards.

"Overall a good game, this was a much needed conference victory," coach Ikens added.

Girls bball

Lady Lancers roll past Alba 55-12

Ellsworth 55, Alba 12

ELLSWORTH -- The Ellsworth girls basketball team hosted Alba on January 21 in a Northern Lakes Conference contest and routed the visiting Wildcats, 55-12.

Marie Groenink finished with a game-high 17 points to lead the Lancers, while Sharn Dhillon added 13 and Sophie Sommers chipped in with 11 points.

Eight Lancers scored in the contest.

Coach Doug Nitchman credited Groenink, Dhillon and Sommers with outstanding play.

NCAA Basketball Associated Press Top 25

TEAM	REC	PTS
1 Oklahoma (36)	16-2	1,592
2 North Carolina (29)	18-2	1,586
3 Iowa	16-3	1,473
4 Kansas	16-3	1,369
5 Texas A&M	17-2	1,332
6 Villanova	17-3	1,261
7 Xavier	17-2	1,186

TEAM	REC	PTS
8 Maryland	17-3	1,111
9 West Virginia	16-3	1,105
10 Providence	17-3	1,005
11 Virginia	15-4	903
12 Michigan State	17-4	869
13 SMU	18-1	838
14 Iowa State	15-4	792

TEAM	REC	PTS
15 Miami (FL)	15-3	753
16 Louisville	16-3	719
17 Baylor	15-4	594
18 Arizona	16-4	502
19 Indiana	17-3	466
20 Kentucky	15-4	403
21 Purdue	17-4	328

TEAM	REC	PTS
22 Wichita St	14-5	151
23 Oregon	16-4	149
24 Duke	15-5	145
25 Notre Dame	14-5	136

Others receiving votes: Dayton 77, South Carolina 74, Saint Mary's 42, Pittsburgh 38, USC 27, Butler 26, Clemson 18, VCU 17, Valparaiso 9, Hawaii 9, Connecticut 5, Utah 5, UAB 4, Chattanooga 2, Michigan 1, Colorado 1, Grand Canyon 1, Navy 1
Dropped from rankings: Butler 18, USC 21, South Carolina 24

Sports

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Rayder Wrestlers compete in Mio Tournament

MIO -- The Charlevoix Rayder wrestling team took part in the annual Josh Chartier Invitational Tournament on January 23, hav-

ing several athletes place in the 16-team tourney. Tyler McCallum was tournament champion in the 130 lbs. weight class, defeating Onaway's state medalist Isaac Nave 12-4 in the finals match. Camden Alden (135 lbs.) and

Wrestling Roundup



Rayder senior, Mick Hinkle tilts Curtis Giddens of Ogemaw during the Gaylord tri-meet event. (COURTESY PHOTO)



Rayder Camden Alden positions himself in effort to turn Petoskey's Matthew Aghajeri. (COURTESY PHOTO)

Charlevoix's Jordan Chernauckas works to pin Frankfort's Ben Tiesworth. (COURTESY PHOTO)



Mick Hinkle (189 lbs.) each earned a third place finish, while Jordan Chernauckas (119 lbs.) took fourth

Charlevoix wrestlers will be competing in Gaylord's annual JV tournament on Friday January 29th and the 32-team Northern Michigan Championship Tournament to be held in Gaylord on January 30th.

Charlevoix goes 1-1 in Gaylord tri-meet

GAYLORD -- On January 20, the Rayder wrestling team traveled to

Gaylord and took part in a tri-meet with the host Blue Devils and Ogemaw.

Charlevoix downed Ogemaw 53-30, before falling to Gaylord 42-31.

Several Charlevoix wrestlers went 2-0 for the evening including Jeremy Chernauckas (112 and 119 lbs.); Jordan Chernauckas (119 and 125 lbs.); Tyler McCallum

(130 and 135 lbs.); Camden Alden (135 and 140 lbs.) and Mick Hinkle (189 and 215 lbs.).

Mike Webb (130 and 135 lbs.), Jake Seger (152 lbs.), Max Hinkle (171 lbs.), and Jake Petrosky (Hwt.), each went 1-1.

Boys Basketball

Rayders edge Ramblers in physical contest



Charlevoix's Kevin Pearl (32) makes a pass over Boyne City's Mason Gardner (33). (PHOTO BY SCOTT RICHARDS)

Charlevoix 58, Boyne City 51

CHARLEVOIX -- For the past couple of seasons, it seems that Boyne City has had Charlevoix's number on the basketball court.

This time around, it would be the Rayders coming out with a 58-51 victory on January 22 in front of the home crowd, playing their usual physical style, which included tough defense, interior offense and some timely outside shooting.

The two Lake Michigan Conference teams battled to a 10-9 first quarter, with the Rayders holding the advantage. Charlevoix got on the board first, but a pair of back-to-back triples from Boyne senior Derek Willis put the Ramblers on top, but as soon as Willis was whistled for his second foul, Charlevoix seemed to turn a switch and take control of the quarter.

That would carry over to the second quarter, when Charlevoix outscored Boyne 20-14 to take a 30-23 lead into the half. The third quarter would be no different as the Rayders kept at it, as their defense held the Ramblers to nine points, while the Rayder offense pumped in 13.

A strong fourth quarter push by BC had the Rayders on the ropes, but in the end, Charlevoix pulled out a hard-fought win as they went 9-of-12 from the charity stripe down the stretch to seal the game.

"We didn't execute well enough to win the game too many turnovers and



ABOVE: Rayder sophomore, Collin Smith (24) tries to get off a shot as Boyne City sophomore, Eric Carson (21) defends. Carson would make a clean block on the play. (PHOTO BY SCOTT RICHARDS)

missed layups," Rambler coach Nick Redman said. "Credit Charlevoix, they played hard and Austin Putman played great for them."

Putman finished with a game-high 22 points, while also grabbing eight boards to lead the Rayder attack.

In addition to Putman, Walker Drost added nine points and five assists, while Kevin Pearl, Colin Smith and Arvo Viitaharju each chipped in with eight points.

For the Ramblers, seniors, Tanner Kruzel and Willis each finished with 12 points apiece; sophomore Mason Gardner added in 11 and senior Luke Sage finished with 10.

The Rayders improve to (4-5, 2-3 LMC) with the win, while Boyne City slips to (4-4, 3-2) on the season.

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Northern Michigan Outdoors

Cheboygan's Inspirational David vs. Goliath Story



By Patrick Bevier

The absolute strongest, lightest, and most affordable elite level cross country ski poles in the world are made just a 45 minute drive from Gaylord! That's not Michigan malarkey, folks-it's Mitten State "money"-as in you can take that to the bank. Putting other top-of-the-

line poles made in China and Finland to shame, U.S. Ski Pole Company in Cheboygan uses a special carbon fiber technique called "LEP-Z technology" to manufacture the highest quality poles. Founder and owner Andy Liebner, 32, a 4-time college All-American Nordic skier at Alaska Anchorage and Northern Michigan, said, "We have only been at full production level for about a year and are currently producing poles at a rate of 30

per minute or 1,800 per hour. We ship all over the world to places like Alaska, Europe, and the Western U.S. We are proud of that!" He's also proud that the pole accessories, like thermal hand straps, EVA foam grips, and lightweight baskets are made in Muskegon and Elk Rapids. You can purchase these 100% made-in-Michigan poles in four models ranging from \$210-\$360 at retailers including Roscommon's Cross Country Ski Headquarters (800-832-2663), The Outfitter of Harbor Springs (231-526-2621), and Petoskey's Boyne Country Sports (231-439-4906). That's \$100.00 cheaper than comparable poles made by Swix of China and Lithuania. To get some perspective, U.S. Ski Poles is competing with Swix's marketing budget that tally's in the tens of millions.

One of the biggest selling points of U.S. Ski Poles is that you lift 2 fewer pounds per minute. That adds up to hundreds of pounds of extra weight being saved in a typical long race or extended recreational ski adventure. Additionally, you don't need snow, "24-7-365" as Liebner's company has branched out to sell Rundleski RS-10 Rollerskis in three lengths. Rollerskis allow Nordic skiers to continue their training in the warm weather months as these wheeled skis can be utilized on any hard surface.

U.S. Ski Poles are so remarkable that this modern answer to "David" designs poles for the World's best striders including the Canadian National Ski Team and World Champion skier Petter Northug of Norway.

A 2-year unconditional warranty is a bonus. Order them online at usskipoles.com or by calling (231) 331-3076. I'm strongly encouraging all local



U.S. Ski Pole Company founder, Andy Liebner, displays a pair of poles he custom made for Nordic World Ski Champion Petter Northug of Norway.

Nordic skiers to consider giving this fledgling company that is, "supporting, reshoring, and restoring over 250 American jobs," their business!

Liebner, who has skied at an Olympic level all over the

world, has also penned an entertaining book titled, "Wild Shot" capturing his unlikely rise and antics as a very young, elite biathlon skier. It can be ordered at usskipoles.com.



Former college All-American Nordic skier, Andy Liebner, works on a ski pole blank at his U.S. Ski Pole Company in Cheboygan.

Skiing

Boyne Mountain Wednesday Night Race League week 1

BOYNE FALLS -- The ski season was finally able to get underway as the local teams hit the slopes on January 20 at Boyne Mountain.

Team Format:1- Riverside Tire, 8.84; 2-Hart Ford, 7.94. Handicap Format: 1-Rieth-Riley Construction Company, 18t, Kitchen Farms, 18t; 3-Boyne Avenue Greenhouse, 17.5; 4-Skee Dawgs Too!, 17; 5-East Jordan Plastics, 16.5; 6-Skee Dawgs, 16t, Punctuality Vending, 16t, Wildwood Rush, 16t, Wild Wild Women of Gaylord Bowling Center, 16t; 10-Boyne Bombers, 15t, Pat O'Brien & Associates, 15t, Greenhouse Gases, 15t; 13-Shaggy's Copper Country Skis, 14.5; 14-Boyne 10min Oil Change, 14; 15-Lange Vending, 13; 16-Punctual Vendetta, 11.

Fastest male was Steve Pirie of Riverside Tire, while fastest female was Katherine Rowley of Wildwood Rush.

DNR News

Pheasant hunting program making headway

DNR marks progress at halfway point in 10-year Michigan Pheasant Restoration Initiative

A few years ago, when the Michigan Department of Natural Resources announced it was putting together a coalition to rehabilitate pheasant hunting in Michigan, it assembled an impressive array of partners to address many of the problems that led to the declining fortunes of "ringnecks."

Now, halfway through the 10-year project, those involved in the Michigan Pheasant Restoration Initiative say the program has made significant headway.

We are seeing enhanced partnerships, excellent teamwork, habitat improvements and increased enthusiasm for pheasants and pheasant hunting," said Al Stewart, the DNR's upland game bird specialist.

The coalition began the pheasant initiative by establishing three pilot focus areas, concentrating efforts in areas that offer some of the best remaining pheasant habitat in the state.

These priority Pheasant Recovery Areas each have three counties and are situated in the "Thumb Area" (Huron, Tuscola and Sanilac counties), central Michigan (Gratiot, Saginaw and Clinton counties) and southeastern Michigan (Hillsdale, Lenawee and Monroe counties).

Since the "golden days" of Michigan pheasant hunting in the 1950s, changes in agricultural practices and land use have contributed to pheasant habitat loss, declining food sources and lower production of chicks.

Over the first five years of the Michigan Pheasant Restoration Initiative, the DNR has enhanced or restored roughly 7,400 acres of grasslands on state game, wildlife and recreation areas and established 3,160 acres of food plots.

Another 556 acres of enhanced grasslands and 203 acres of food plots have been cultivated around the Sharonville State Game Area, just to the north of the Hillsdale-Lenawee-

Monroe focus area.

In addition, the DNR has acquired 742 acres to add to existing game areas within the Pheasant Recovery Areas.

There have also been 765 acres of grasslands and 2,000 acres of food plots established at the Allegan State Game Area, which is located outside the existing focus areas.

"Things are really starting to happen," Stewart said.

However, those significant improvements on state-managed land represent only one small part of the equation, as most of the state's prime pheasant range - located in southern Michigan - is privately owned.

To address this, the initiative has helped establish cooperatives and hired a co-ops coordinator in the focus areas so private landowners can meet with other like-minded individuals to help improve habitat for pheasants across the landscape.

The DNR has funded five conservation district Farm Bill biologists, with more to come, to assist private landowners in habitat improvement projects. The money for the biologists was raised from the DNR's recent license restructuring.

Jason Myers, a Farm Bill biologist who covers four counties working out of the Tuscola Conservation District, says 80 percent of his efforts are directed toward pheasant restoration projects.

He said much of his work involves finding cost-share programs for landowners and providing technical assistance for managing Conservation Reserve Program and Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program lands.

Under these two federal Farm Bill programs, farmland is removed from production in exchange for annual rental

payments with the lands improved for conservation or environmental quality enhancements.

"I do a lot of habitat plans for guys," Myers said. "We're kind of like therapists in a way - kind of hold their hands through the process and make sure they do it right. I spend a lot of time visiting CRP and CREP lands to help landowners maintain them in the shape they supposed to be in."

The work is paying off, he said.

"A couple of guys in the pheasant cooperatives have said they wouldn't have done what they've done in the last few years if it wasn't for the initiative," Myers said. "Tuscola County had about 200 CRP and CREP contracts when I started. About 190 of them have re-enrolled and about half of those have added acreage."

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And, of course, it helps pheasants.

Cooperative landowners say they're hearing more crowing pheasant roosters in recent years, and some hunters report seeing more pheasants on state-managed land.

Despite these advances, much of the effort of the pheasant initiative has yet to bear fruit, but members say the seeds have been sown for the future.

"The coalition is committed to an even more productive next five years," Vander Zouwen said.

To learn more about upland game bird hunting in Michigan, visit the DNR's Web page.



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ANNOUNCEMENTS

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Grand Opening! The Old Lumberyard Shoppes will be opening on Jan 23, 2016 at 10am. There are several shoppes located under one roof, offering antiques, gifts, and unique pieces. Stop by 609 Norway Street, Grayling for our Grand Opening!

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2012 Ford Taurus. Great deal. As low as \$189 a Month. Rivertown Auto Group, 989 VFW Road, Cheboygan, MI 231-627-6700.

2013 Chrysler 300. AWD, back-up camera, great luxury car. Sale Price \$21,900. Onaway Auto Sales, 21061 M-68, Onaway. 989-733-8191.

2013 Dodge Charger SXT. Sweet car. Only 77 K. Sale Price \$13,900. Onaway Auto Sales, 21061 M-68, Onaway. 989-733-8191.

2013 Dodge Dart. Sporty look. Great gas mileage. As low as \$179 a Month. Rivertown Auto Group, 989 VFW Road, Cheboygan, MI 231-627-6700.

2013 Ford Fusion SE. Back up Camera, power moonroof, 34 MPG. Sale Price \$11,900.

Onaway Auto Sales, 21061 M-68, Onaway. 989-733-8191.

2014 Ford Focus. 35 MPG. As low as \$179 a Month. Rivertown Auto Group, 989 VFW Road, Cheboygan, MI 231-627-6700.

2014 Volkswagen Passat TDI SE. Leather and loaded. Only 45 K. Sale Price \$17,900. Onaway Auto Sales, 21061 M-68, Onaway. 989-733-8191.

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universal garage door opener, heated seats, remote start, Wi-Fi hotspot, 3rd row seat. MSRP \$40,790. Feeny Price \$37,317. Feeny Ford, 208 S. James, Grayling. 989-348-3242.

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2016 Ford Fusion SE. Back-up camera, bluetooth, traction control, 34 MPG Hwy. MSRP \$25,635. Feeny Price \$22,794. Feeny Ford, 208 S. James, Grayling. 989-348-3242.

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Automotive Review



The Jeep® brand is introduced its new Cherokee Overland at the New England International Auto Show, expanding the brand's lineup to deliver consumers a new level of luxury combined with unmatched capability in the mid-size SUV segment.

Jeep® expands Cherokee lineup with Premium Overland Model

The Jeep® brand is introduced its new Cherokee Overland at the New England International Auto Show, expanding the brand's lineup to deliver consumers a new level of luxury combined with unmatched capability in the mid-size SUV segment.

"The new Cherokee Overland model is a direct response to consumers looking for benchmark 4x4 capability that only Jeep can offer, in a stunning, more luxurious package loaded with premium amenities," said Mike Manley, Head of Jeep Brand - FCA Global. "Cherokee sales increased 23 percent in 2015, and we expect the new Overland model will attract even more consumers into our Jeep showrooms going forward."

The new Cherokee Overland joins Sport, Latitude, Limited and Trailhawk models in the Cherokee lineup. With a U.S. Manufacturer's Suggested Retail Price (MSRP) of \$34,695 (plus \$995 destination), Cherokee Overland arrives in Jeep dealerships this spring.

An exclusive style, premium amenities and enhancements and a long list of standard equipment elevate the new 2016 Jeep Cherokee Overland model to new levels of refined elegance and comfort. The exterior of the new Cherokee Overland model features new body-color fascias with a bright front grille and chin extension, body-color door cladding and wheel flares, new 18-inch fully polished bright aluminum wheels,

standard HID bi-xenon headlamps and "Overland" badge on the liftgate.

Inspired by the award-winning Jeep Grand Cherokee Overland model, the Jeep Cherokee Overland interior includes a host of premium enhancements, including a leather-wrapped instrument panel, power front driver and passenger seat with four-way power lumbar, a new Jeep steering wheel with Zebrano high-gloss wood trim, bright door sill plates, Berber floor mats, standard Nappa leather seats with ventilated/heated front seats, standard Alpine Premium Audio system, Uconnect 8.4AN AM/FM radio with 8.4-in. touchscreen display, Bluetooth, Navigation, HD Radio, SiriusXM Travel Link, SiriusXM Traffic, Uconnect Access Advantage, and standard memory driver's seat, radio and exterior mirrors.

In addition to the interior and exterior design enhancements and the standard equipment found on the Jeep Cherokee Limited model, the 2016 Jeep Cherokee Overland model adds the following as standard equipment: power liftgate, blind spot monitoring and rear crosspath detection, ParkSense rear backup assist system and a premium insulation group. The new Jeep Cherokee Overland 4x4 model comes standard with 8.2 inches of ground clearance to help drivers reach the most demanding destinations.

Living up to the "Overland"

name, each Jeep Cherokee Overland 4x4 model comes equipped with the Jeep Active Drive II 4x4 system, which includes a two-speed power transfer unit, low range and an industry-first disconnecting rear axle for improved fuel efficiency when 4x4 capability isn't needed.

In addition, the Jeep Active Drive II system features the Jeep brand's Selec-Terrain traction control system. Selec-Terrain allows the driver, with a push of a button on the Selec-Terrain dial, to choose the on- and off-road setting for optimum performance. Four customized settings are offered on the new Cherokee Overland model: Auto, Snow, Sport and Sand/Mud.

Selec-Terrain is designed to optimize the four-wheel-drive systems for unsurpassed control and capability. Selec-Terrain electronically coordinates and optimizes up to 12 systems on any terrain providing enhanced vehicle control, including drivetrain control module, electronic brake controller, ESC, transmission controller, powertrain controller and Selec-Speed Control (Hill-ascent and Hill-descent Control). The system also includes Jeep Selec-Terrain, allowing drivers to choose between four modes (auto, sport, snow and sand/mud), which optimizes the 4x4 system to the driving conditions.

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2012 Chevy Equinox. Bluetooth, lots of nice features. As low as \$179 a Month. Rivertown Auto Group, 989 VFW Road, Cheboygan, MI 231-627-6700.

2012 Ford Escape Limited. Leather, tow pkg. Sale Price \$13,900. Onaway Auto Sales, 21061 M-68, Onaway. 989-733-8191.

2013 Ford Escape SEL. 4WD, SYNC, back-up camera, leather. Sale Price \$15,900. Onaway Auto Sales, 21061 M-68, Onaway. 989-733-8191.

2013 Jeep Compass Limited. 27 MPG, 58 K. Sale Price \$14,900. Onaway Auto Sales, 21061 M-68, Onaway. 989-733-8191.

2015 Ford Edge SE. AWD, Ecoboost, bluetooth, back-up camera. MSRP \$30,490. Feeny Price \$28,520. Feeny Ford, 208 S. James, Grayling. 989-348-3242.

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PROCEEDINGS OF THE EAST JORDAN CITY COMMISSION

The East Jordan City Commission met January 19, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.; Mayor Peck presiding with all members of Commission present except Breakey. Acknowledgement was given to paid bills in the amount of \$165,154.86.

Further Commission Action: Acknowledged receipt of the Monthly Public Safety Reports for Police, December 2015, Fire December 2015 and Annual 2015; acknowledged receipt of Monthly Zoning Activity Report for December 2015; acknowledged receipt of Annual Zoning Activity Report for 2015; repealed Administrative Policy #158; adopted Resolution #101-2016; adopted Resolution #102-2016; and re-appointed Bill Dunson to Planning Commission.

Copies of the minutes of the above meeting are posted in City Hall for review during normal office hours.

Cheltzi M. Wilson, CMC
City Clerk

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<p>1972 VOLKSWAGEN RABBIT PICKUP Diesel engine. Very hard to find. SALE PRICE \$2,999</p>	<p>2 to Choose from. 2011 CHEVY SILVERADO 4x4, ext cab, seats 5, one owner. AS LOW AS \$249.00 A MONTH</p>	<p>2010 CHRYSLER TOWN & COUNTRY One owner. Slow-N-Go seating. AS LOW AS \$149 A MONTH</p>	<p>BUY A FLEET OF TRUCKS. 2011 Chevy Silverado. Regular cab, bedliner, tow pkg. 4 TO CHOOSE FROM. AS LOW AS \$159 A MONTH</p>	<p>2008 FORD F-150 XLT 4x4, low pkg, 5.4L Triton. AS LOW AS \$189 A MONTH</p>
<p>2011 GMC TERRAIN SLE Very nice. One owner. (Not exactly as pictured.) AS LOW AS \$189 A MONTH</p>	<p>2002 GMC YUKON SLT 4WD, leather, 3rd row seat, low pkg. AS LOW AS \$179 A MONTH</p>	<p>2008 SATURN OUTLOOK XE 3rd row seat, nice. AS LOW AS \$165 A MONTH</p>	<p>2013 DODGE DART Sporty look. Great gas mileage. AS LOW AS \$179 A MONTH</p>	<p>2006 CHEVY SILVERADO 4x4, bedliner, 4 door, seats 6, low pkg, short box. AS LOW AS \$189 A MONTH</p>
<p>2012 CHEVY EQUINOX Bluetooth, lots of nice features. AS LOW AS \$179 A MONTH</p>	<p>2011 BMW 328I Xdrive, AWD, 50 K, leather, power moonroof. Very nice. SALE PRICE \$21,500</p>	<p>2012 FORD TAURUS Great deal. AS LOW AS \$189 A MONTH</p>	<p>2010 FORD TRANSIT CONNECT XLT Good gas mileage in a cargo van. AS LOW AS \$174 A MONTH</p>	<p>2006 CHEVY SILVERADO LT 4x4, 4 door, bedliner, tow pkg. AS LOW AS \$189 A MONTH</p>
<p>2008 FORD ESCAPE LIMITED Loaded, nice. AS LOW AS \$165 A MONTH</p>	<p>2008 FORD F-250 XL SUPER DUTY 6.4L Turbo Diesel, 4x4, seats 6, tow pkg, bedliner. AS LOW AS \$249 A MONTH</p>	<p>2014 FORD FOCUS 35 MPG. AS LOW AS \$179 A MONTH</p>	<p>2006 CHEVY TAHOE LT 4WD, leather, DVD, 3rd row seat, low pkg, power moonroof. AS LOW AS \$199 A MONTH</p>	<p>2004 HUMMER H-2 One owner, leather. 4WD, very, very nice. SALE PRICE \$17,500</p>

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SUV

2015 Ford Edge SEL. AWD, tow pkg, technology pkg, alarm, handsfree liftgate, garage door opener, blue-tooth, back-up camera. MSRP \$39,885, Feeny Price \$37,213. Feeny Ford, 208 S. James, Grayling. 989-348-3242.

2015 Ford Edge Titanium. AWD, 28 MPG Hwy, tow pkg, leather, handsfree liftgate, garage door opener, blue-tooth, back-up camera. MSRP \$42,320. Feeny Price \$39,509. Feeny Ford, 208 S. James, Grayling. 989-348-3242.

2015 Ford Edge Titanium. AWD, turbocharged, leather, hands free liftgate, back-up camera, bluetooth. MSRP \$45,045. Feeny Price \$41,528. Feeny Ford, 208 S. James, Grayling. 989-348-3242.

2016 Ford Escape S. Traction control, bluetooth, back-up camera, 31 MPG Hwy, MSRP \$23,855. Feeny Price \$21,739. Feeny Ford, 208 S. James, Grayling. 989-348-3242.

2016 Ford Escape SE. 4WD, Eco boost, tow pkg, cold weather pkg, back-up camera, bluetooth, MSRP \$30,815. Feeny Price \$27,872. Feeny Ford, 208 S. James, Grayling. 989-348-3242.

2016 Ford Escape SE. 4WD, turbocharged, 29 MPG Hwy, bluetooth, back-up camera. MSRP \$28,645. Feeny Price \$25,876. Feeny Ford, 208 S. James, Grayling. 989-348-3242.

2016 Ford Escape SE. 4WD, turbocharged, 29MP hwy, cold weather pkg, back-up camera. MSRP \$29,185. Feeny Price \$26,399. Feeny Ford, 208 S. James, Grayling. 989-348-3242.

2016 Ford Explorer XLT. 4WD, 3rd row seat, bluetooth, back-up camera. MSRP \$39,345. Feeny Price \$36,753. Feeny Ford, 208 S. James, Grayling. 989-348-3242.

2016 Ford Explorer XLT. 4WD, tow pkg, hands free liftgate, bluetooth, 3rd row seat, back-up camera. MSRP \$40,840. Feeny Price \$38,200. Feeny Ford, 208 S. James, Grayling. 989-348-3242.

TIRES

USED SNOW TIRES. Firestone Winterforce, 2 - 225/60R16, \$100 pair. 2 - 215/55R16, \$100 pair. 4 - brand new P235/75R15XL. \$100 each. 2 - used 185/80R13 Mastercraft Glacier grip snow tires, \$25 each. 989-732-4789.

TRAILERS

2003 5x14 Carry-on Utility Trailer. \$975. 989-335-5124
VAN TRAILERS. 40 TO 48 FOOT. Storage, office, workshop. Can deliver. \$1,350 - \$1,900. 989-274-8234

New 2016 Stealth Cargo Trailer Titan 5 x 8. MSRP \$2,305. Sale Price \$2,095. Petoskey RV USA, 2215 US 31 North, Petoskey. 231-347-3200

TRUCKS

2006 Chevy Silverado LT. 4x4, 4 door, bedliner, tow pkg. As low as \$189 a Month. Rivertown Auto Group, 989 VFW Road, Cheboygan, MI 231-627-6700.

2010 Ford F-250 XL Super Duty. FX4, tow pkg, bedliner, 4x4, 98 K. Sale Price \$11,900. Onaway Auto Sales, 21061 M-68, Onaway. 989-733-8191.

2010 Toyota Tundra. 4x4, club cab, tow pkg, bedliner. Sale Price \$20,900. Onaway Auto Sales, 21061 M-68, Onaway. 989-733-8191.

2015 Ford F-150 XLT. Extended Cab. 4WD, Eco boost, tow pkg, bluetooth. MSRP \$44,635. Feeny Price \$37,286 Feeny Ford, 208 S. James, Grayling. 989-348-3242.

2016 Ford Super Duty F-250 XLT. Crew Cab, 4WD, bluetooth, tow pkg, MSRP \$49,010. Feeny Price \$43,854. Feeny Ford, 208 S. James, Grayling. 989-348-3242.

2016 Ford Super Duty F-350 Lariat Crew Cab 4WD, 5th wheel gooseneck hitch prep pkg, Camper pkg, chrome pkg, FX4 off road pkg, heated seats, Lariat ultimate pkg, snow plow prep pkg, loaded. MSRP \$59,080. Feeny Price \$52,693. Feeny Ford, 208 S. James, Grayling. 989-348-3242.

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VANS

2008 Saturn Outlook XE. 3rd row seat, nice. As low as \$165 a Month. Rivertown

Auto Group, 989 VFW Road, Cheboygan, MI 231-627-6700.

2010 Dodge Grand Caravan SXT. Stow-N-Go seating, 4 captain chairs. Sale Price \$7,900. Onaway Auto Sales, 21061 M-68, Onaway. 989-733-8191.

2010 Ford Transit Connect SLT. Advance trac, nice cargo van with good MPG. Sale Price \$8,900. Onaway Auto Sales, 21061 M-68, Onaway.

989-733-8191.

2013 Dodge Grand Caravan SE. Stow-N-Go seating, 25 MPG, seats 7. Sale Price \$13,900. Onaway Auto Sales, 21061 M-68, Onaway. 989-733-8191.

2016 Ford Transit Connect Van XL. 28 MPH Hwy, Eco boost, traction control, MSRP \$25,910. Feeny Price \$24,713 Feeny Ford, 208 S. James, Grayling. 989-348-3242.

2016 Ford Transit Van XL. Heavy duty tow pkg, traction control, back-up camera, MSRP \$37,345. Feeny Price \$33,996. Feeny Ford, 208 S. James, Grayling. 989-348-3242.

WANTED

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Real Estate Corner

Five Key Areas to Pay Attention to When Buying a Home



Compliments of Mike Stark,
Coldwell Banker Schmidt Realtors
East Jordan. (231) 536-7700



Part 1 of 2

Looking for a new home can be exciting and frustrating. You can help alleviate the frustration by paying close attention to five key areas of the homes you're considering buying; it may save you money in the long run.

There are five areas in homes that he frequently reports problems with. They are electrical, foundation, plumbing, the attic, and landscaping.

Electrical

Walker says sometimes homeowners assume with newer homes that all will work just fine but that's often not the case. "I [inspected] a brand new house -- four years old but the electrical was all done incorrectly," says Walker.

Having a complete home inspection

will help to rule out any problems and point out any areas of concern. However, even as you're browsing homes, buyers can start to make note of the key areas that Walker mentioned, such as the foundation.

Foundation

Walker says a four-year-old home he inspected recently was already showing trouble signs which could result in a costly repair project. "It was a model home. What [the homeowners] did was plant trees for shade to make it look really nice, but they planted the wrong trees and they're going to crack the foundation and it's going to cut the property value down by \$50,000," says Walker.

Walker says in the case of that home, the trees were causing microfractures in the tile in various locations of the home. "As you walk

through the house, 21 feet in and 30 feet deep, there's just too much root invasion and it's going to ruin their tile," explains Walker.

He says some tell-tale signs with this home were the minor cracks in the foundation that were causing a lifting and separation of the foundation. Also, the windows were not opening and closing properly, "which means the foundation is moving."

However, just because you see cracks doesn't mean there is a foundation problem. "Most people don't understand that there are natural cracks in a house. That's why when we do an inspection report we have to look at it and say 'Okay, this is a typical crack and this one is an untypical crack,'" says Walker. He says some cracks may lead to other problems while others won't.

Featured Property

Restaurant, bar and bowling alley in East Jordan



By Jim Akans

This week's feature listing might be 'right up your alley' if you are looking for an exciting business opportunity in downtown East Jordan.

This outstanding turn-key operation includes an 80+ seat restaurant and bar with full kitchen, class 'C' liquor license (including outdoor entertaining), keno sales, pool table, ATM,

PLUS a 6-lane bowling alley. This is an establishment that offers wide appeal and a great revenue stream all year long. Among the professional equipment included are a large walk-in freezer and walk-in cooler, brand new Aventco prep station, new Manitowic ice machine...there have been over \$80,000 in updates in the last year!

The restaurant has offered typical tavern food fare as well as a

full menu with high-end sandwiches, soups and pizza. Restrooms are located in both the restaurant and bowling areas. The equipment is included with the sale though food and beverages will be assessed at the time of sale.

This extraordinary opportunity to hit the ground up and running in your own business for the New Year. It is located at 214 Main Street in East Jordan and it

is listed at \$579,000. For a more information or to arrange a home tour, call Marty Moody, Associate Broker or Christopher Christensen, Associate Broker at Lynda's Real Estate Service in Boyne City at 231-582-9555 or email at Marty@lyndasrealestateservice.com or Chris@lyndasrealestateservice.com

List locally! List with us!



NEW LISTING

7751 ROGERS • EAST JORDAN

This is that slice of up north that everyone is looking for!!! Close to town but not in the city. Just a short walk down the road or across the beautiful sights that are offered on the Little Traverse Conservancy property known as the "Rogers Family Homestead" to see the Jordan river. This 10 acre parcel was a piece of the original Homestead. Many options for this parcel!! MLS #446898. **\$34,900. Ask for Chris Oliver.**



REDUCED!

303 FOURTH STREET • EAST JORDAN

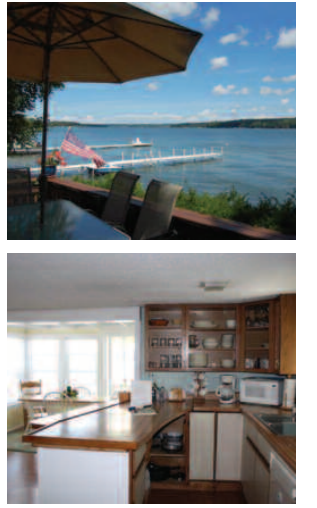
Why rent when you can OWN? Perfect starter or retirement home with one level living. Located next to the elementary school on a huge lot with quick access to everything in town. Quaint, very well taken care of ranch, with some hardwood floors, an updated bathroom, woodstove and deck off the back. Lots of charm with this one! Call today to schedule a showing. MLS #444717. **\$54,900. Ask for Holly Nierman or Mike Stark.**



REDUCED!

120 GARNER • EAST JORDAN

This home is located in a quiet neighborhood and sits on approx. 5 acres with apple and pear trees surrounding it. Close enough to town for those quick trips in, but still has the country setting. This 3BR 2BA home also has a formal dining room and living room combination creating a "great room" that is perfect for family gatherings and entertaining and has a full basement that could be turned into a great extra family space. MLS #446689. **\$162,900. Ask for Holly Nierman or Mike Stark.**



02268 S M-66 HIGHWAY • EAST JORDAN

Lake Charlevoix Cottage! Beautiful 98 feet of sandy frontage. Well maintained three BR, 1 BA home comes completely furnished. This bright, airy Lake Charlevoix Cottage is quite the find, it sits on 98 feet of frontage that is very welcoming to guest and family alike. The rooms flow beautifully and the views of the Lake from every window is just something you don't want to miss out on. MLS #445872. **\$349,900. Ask for Holly Nierman**



HOLLY NIEMAN
ASSOCIATE BROKER, MANAGER
CELL: 231-675-3105



MIKE STARK
ASSOCIATE BROKER
CELL: 231-357-2347



CHRIS OLIVER
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CELL: 231-675-7342

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