

# Sports

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Charlevoix County News

Section B

Thursday, June 23, 2016

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2016 CHARLEVOIX COUNTY NEWS' ALL-AREA SOFTBALL

# DREAM TEAM

PHOTOS BY CINDA SHUMAKER



Pictured are: (Back, L-R) Karlee Dunson, East Jordan; Emma Vondra, Boyne City; Hannah Hoth, Boyne City; Emma Shumaker, Boyne City; Katie Hoth, Boyne City; Abby Nachazel, Ellsworth; Skylar Herriman, Charlevoix. (Front, L-R) Chelsea Gibson, East Jordan; Marissa Kolp, East Jordan; Kelsey Hubbard, Boyne City; Hannah Solomon, Charlevoix; and McKenna Ebert, Charlevoix. Not pictured, Kurstin Wilson, Boyne Falls, Alicia Gasco, Boyne Falls and Shantel Potter, Ellsworth. A big "Thank You" to Matelski Lumber for providing the location for the All-Area photos. (PHOTO BY CINDA SHUMAKER)



All Area Players from Boyne Falls are Alicia Gasco (standing) and Kurstin Wilson.

## Boyne City's Hoth is repeat Player of the Year, Coach of the Year is Ellsworth's Montgomery

By Chris Fiel

CHARLEVOIX COUNTY -- With summer now into full swing and the 2016 softball season recently coming to an end, it is time to recognize the area teams and their athletes for all the hard work that they put in and the results they produced.

Boyne City finished their season as regional runners-up after claiming their fourth straight Division 3 district championship. The Ramblers also won the Lake Michigan

Conference crown with a 13-1 record. East Jordan and Charlevoix showed much improvement as the season progressed and look to challenge the Ramblers in both the LMC and district title hunts.

Ellsworth earned the Northern Lakes Conference title and Boyne Falls showed that on any given night, they could hang with any other team in the NLC, both teams will return a solid cast.

With that being said, there was once again a number of area athletes that contributed to the success of their respective team. This year's All-Area Softball "Dream Team" is comprised of both precision and power pitchers, infielders with vacuum like gloves, speedy outfielders and catchers armed with cannons.

Having an abundance of talent in the area to select from, it is often difficult to choose one individual, but after crunching all the numbers and weighing the value to their team, the 2016 Charlevoix County News is proud to announce that the honor of Player of the Year goes to Boyne City senior catcher, Hannah Hoth.

Hannah was also a first

team All-State selection for the second straight season, she was also recognized as a first team Lake Michigan Conference All-Conference selection as well as receiving All-District and All-Region honors and Academic All-State.

When asked to reflect on the season and her career as a Rambler, Hannah had this to say, "As a team, we're most proud of winning districts FOUR years in a row. Also, winning our home tournament (Boyne Invitational) and making it into the record books (MHSAA) for multiple things, including 31 home runs as a team."

"As an individual, I'm proud of my senior year as a whole. I've had my personal best batting average and home runs," Hoth said. "I'm also proud of (teammate) Emma Shumaker and I winning our district four year in a row. We are the only two to have ever done it in Boyne City's history!"

Hoth paced the Ramblers with a .600 batting average, connecting for 60 hits on the season. Of those 60 hits, 14 were doubles, five triples and she blasted 12 home runs and finished the season with a

team-high 66 RBIs while also scoring 51 runs.

She had a contact percentage of .930 and her slugging percentage was off the chart with a 1.170 average. Hannah also worked opposing pitchers for 20 walks, and had two sacrifice flies.

On the defensive side, much like the last four seasons, opponents were very aware of her quick snap and precision accuracy. She finished the season with a .917 fielding percentage, spending most of her time behind the plate. When not set up as the Rambler backstop, Hannah would control the middle infield from the shortstop position and if it was a playable ball, she would get to it and fire a laser across the diamond to get the runner at first.

When asked what keeps her motivated to play at a high level, she had this to say, "As a team, we got along well and helped each other out when we weren't having our best day and all just had a lot of fun together."

"As an individual, just knowing that there are younger kids watching me makes me want to do better and knowing that I will be

### COACH OF THE YEAR



Andy Montgomery  
Ellsworth

playing at the collegiate level and overseas," she said. "I also had to push myself so that my younger sister (Katie) wouldn't beat me in home runs!"

Next season, Hannah will be playing softball at Lansing Community College, but before that, she will be part of the USA, American International Sports U19 Team that will play overseas in July.

"I would like to thank everyone who came out to support me along with my family!" Hannah added. Joining Hannah on the 2016 All-Area Softball

"Dream Team" are fellow Ramblers; Emma Shumaker, Emma Vondra, Katie Hoth and Kelsey Hubbard; Boyne Falls is represented by Kurstin Wilson and Alicia Gasco; Charlevoix offers Skylar Herriman, Hannah Solomon and McKenna Ebert; East Jordan adds, Karlee Dunson, Marissa Kolp and Chelsea Gibson; and Ellsworth boasts Abby Nachazel and Shantel Potter.

See All-Area Team—2B



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## CHARLEVOIX COUNTY NEWS' 2016 ALL-AREA SOFTBALL

## DREAM TEAM

## All-Area Team

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1B

## BOYNE CITY

**Emma Shumaker, senior, #13**

The Rambler pitching ace was recently recognized as an Honorable Mention All-State selection as well as first team LMC All-Conference, All-District All-Region and Academic All-State.

Emma tossed a majority of the innings for the Ramblers from inside the circle, finishing with a 20-7 record.

She faced 603 hitters, striking out 160, an average of about six per contest and fielded her position with a .947 average.

At the plate, Shumaker resumed her duties as the leadoff hitter for Boyne, turning in a .393 batting average, pounding out 42 hits on the season.

Of those 42 hits, she had nine doubles, two triples and four home runs. Emma also scored 46 runs and had 21 RBIs from the top of the lineup.

She had a slugging percentage of .626 and her contact percentage was .841, Emma also walked 23 times and had a sacrifice fly.

**Emma Vondra, junior #14**

Vondra has anchored the right side of the infield at first base since the beginning of her freshman season. With a .985 fielding percentage for her position, she no doubt plays it well defensively and her strong arm keeps baserunners thinking of advancing home on a sacrifice attempt closer to the base in which they came from.

Emma moved up in the lineup this season and it turned out to be a good move for both her and the Ramblers as she finished the season with a batting average of .453, a slugging percentage of .634, while making contact at a .800 clip.

Vondra tallied 43 hits on the season, with 11 doubles, three triples and five round trippers. She also had 48 RBI's and scored 57 times for Boyne. She showed great discipline at the plate by walking 30 times, helping set the table for the rest of the Rambler lineup.

Emma earned All-State Honorable Mention, as well as LMC All-Conference, All-District and All-Region.

**Katie Hoth, sophomore, #9**

Katie made the transition to centerfield this season and the move paid off well for the Ramblers. She could cover the ground from left center to right center better than anyone in the area with her blazing speed and ability to judge a fly ball. There were not many balls hit that she was unable to get a glove on, as she finished the season with a .962 fielding average.

She was recently recognized as an All-Lake Michigan Conference selection, as well as All-District and All-Region.

Her speed transferred over to the offensive side as she hit for a .458 average from the five spot, had a slugging percentage of .875 and made contact .760 percent of the time and was second on the team with 65 RBI's.

She led the Ramblers with 26 stolen bases, but her all-around game didn't just rely on speed as she finished with 44 hits, including five doubles, four triples and nine home runs, while also scoring 37 runs.

There was not a hitter in Northern Michigan hotter in the month of May than Katie. She also hit home runs against all but one Lake Michigan Conference team, including three Grand Slams!

**Kelsey Hubbard, sophomore, #2**

Kelsey filled in at shortstop for a majority of the season, when not manning the middle infield, she would take a turn behind the plate, finishing the season with a fielding percentage of .893.

Offensively, Hubbard's total hits were 47, with 12 doubles,



Katie Hoth

Boyne City



Kelsey Hubbard

Boyne City



Emma Shumaker

Boyne City



Hannah Hoth

Boyne City



Emma Vondra

Boyne City



Abby Nachazel

Ellsworth

one triple and one home run. She led the Ramblers with 61 runs scored and was a magnet for the ball, netting a team-high 15 hit-by-pitch.

Her average was .465, with a slugging percentage of .634 and contact percentage of .851. She also knocked in 22 runs.

Kelsey was recently named Honorable Mention in the LMC, as well as All-District and All-Region.

## BOYNE FALLS

**Kurstin Wilson, senior, #3**

Wilson has been the Loggers backstop ever since her freshman season, keeping Northern Lakes Conference runners in check when they attempted to try and take a free base.

Kurstin finished the season with a .509 batting average and a slugging percentage of .587. She had 27 hits on the season, including eight doubles and four triples.

She scored 35 runs, walked 10 times and had 20 RBI's.

Kurstin was a first team All-Conference selection and will be trying out for the Grand Valley State softball team in college.

"Kurstin will be missed next season," Logger coach Rick Matelski said. "Her leadership and what she brought to the ballpark

every night will be hard to replace."

**Alicia Gasco, senior, #9**

Alicia also helped lead the young Loggers. Playing both a field position as well as spending time in the circle.

While pitching, she earned a 4-5 record, tossing 48 1/3 innings of ball, striking out 35 and walking 72.

At the plate, Gasco hit .367, with a slugging percentage of .530. She finished the season with 18 hits, including four doubles, two triples and a home run.

She also scored 27 runs, while walking 17 times and added 15 RBI's.

Alicia was selected second team All-NLC and will tryout for the Central Michigan University softball team in college.

"Alicia did a fine job this season for us both offensively, defensively and in the circle," coach Matelski noted. "She upped her game this season and it showed on the field."

## CHARLEVOIX

**Skylar Herriman, senior, #16**

Herriman once again took to the circle for the Rayders this season, and it was very noticeable that she put in a lot of time and hard work over the winter and early spring.

Skylar worked 154 innings during 32 games, 27 of which she started.

She allowed 221 hits against the 943 batters she faced, giving up 295 runs (159 earned) while striking out 140 and walking 108, finishing with an ERA of 6.19.

She also fielded her position well, with a .983 average, only making one error, while collecting 14 putouts and 44 assists.

At the dish, Herriman carried a big stick, hitting .547 on the season, 31 hits in 86 at-bats, including 10 doubles, one triple, five home runs and 45 RBI's. Her slugging percentage was .824.

Skylar will play softball for Delta Community College next season and was a first team All-LMC selection and All-District.

"Skylar is the glue that held the team together for the last three years," coach Tom Mielke said. "She has sacrificed personal achievement and recognition to fill a needed role on the team."

**Hannah Solomon, freshman, #33**

Solomon stepped into the leadoff role for the Rayders before the first practice ended, utilizing her ability to connect with the ball and her "Flash" like speed.

Hannah would record 66 hits in 101 trips to the plate, including four doubles, one triple and a home run, for an average of .653 and slugging

percentage of .743.

She stole 47 bases and walked 16 times, finished with 20 RBI's and scored 55 runs.

Defensively, Solomon played a majority of her games at shortstop, where she had a fielding percentage of .789, with 29 putouts and 31 assists.

Hannah was a Lake Michigan Conference Honorable Mention and All-District selection.

"She's one of the toughest outs in the league," coach Tom Mielke said. "And may be the best leadoff hitter in Northern Michigan."

**McKenna Ebert, junior, #15**

McKenna played left field for the Rayders and played the position nearly flawlessly, finishing the season with a fielding percentage of .938.

Ebert recorded 39 hits in 84 at-bats, including four doubles and a triple. She also knocked in 19 runs. She walked 11 times and scored 28 times.

"McKenna had a 22 game hitting streak for us, hitting from our number three spot in the order," coach Mielke said.

Ebert was an All-District selection.

## EAST JORDAN

**PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHARLEVOIX COUNTY NEWS' 2016 ALL-AREA SOFTBALL

# DREAM TEAM



**Shantel Potter** Ellsworth



**Alicia Gasco** Boyne Falls



**Kurstin Wilson** East Jordan



**Chelsea Gibson** East Jordan



**Karlee Dunson** East Jordan



**Marissa Kolp** East Jordan



**McKenna Ebert** Charlevoix



**Skylar Herriman** Charlevoix



**Hannah Solomon** Charlevoix

**Karlee Dunson, junior, #12**  
Karlee returned to her shortstop position for the Red Devils this season, playing 143 innings there. She recorded 27 putouts and had 49 assists and had a fielding percentage of .738.  
Dunson had 27 hits in 71 at-bats for an average of .380. She seven doubles and two triples and finished with 22 RBI's.  
Her slugging percentage was .535, with an on-base percentage of .519 and contact percentage of .915. She recorded eight stolen bases and scored 27 runs for EJ.  
"Karlee is a team leader who always tries her best and leads by example," coach Meg Kitson said.

**Marissa Kolp, junior, #4**  
Kolp set the table for the Red Devils as the leadoff hitter,

"Marissa is constantly striving to be the best softball player she can be," coach Kitson added. "She works her tail off and all of her teammates can see her dedication."  
Marissa finished the season with a .346 batting average, collecting 27 hits in 78 plate appearances, including six doubles and five triples. She also added eight RBI's and scored 28 runs.  
Her slugging percentage was .551 and her OBP was .500, she also walked seven times.  
Defensively, she played 141 innings in centerfield, recording 29 putouts and adding four assists for a fielding percentage of .786.

**Chelsea Gibson, sophomore, #3**  
Gibson was a solid backstop for the Red Devils behind the plate, she let other teams know early and often

that it was not a good idea to run on her, as she threw out 18 runners attempting to take another base.  
Chelsea finished the season with a .944 fielding percentage, recording 31 putouts and 20 assists.  
She was the number two hitter for EJ this season, advancing runners when her number was called, including two sacrifice bunts and a sac fly. She hit .190 on the season, including one triple and tallying five RBI's. Gibson also scored 23 runs for the Red Devils.  
"Defensively, she (Chelsea) has mad skills as a catcher," coach Kitson noted. "She has a rocket for an arm."

**ELLSWORTH**

**Abby Nachazel, sophomore, #8**  
Nachazel improved her resume

this season after an already solid rookie season a year ago.  
She was a Lancer team captain, and finished the season with a .558 batting average, with three home runs and 27 RBI's.  
Her totals over the last two seasons include 30 wins and 110 strikeouts.  
Abby was a Northern Lakes Conference first team selection.

**Shantel Potter, senior, #21**  
Another Lancer captain, who coach Andy Montgomery describes as "A Warrior behind the plate."  
Shantel was the main catcher for Ellsworth, and has a great arm and possesses an amazing field presence. She had a .404 batting average and scored 25 runs.  
"Her stats do not say it all, she is counted on to move runners via the

sacrifice bunt," coach Montgomery noted. "Great overall athlete."  
Shantel was a Northern Lakes Conference first team selection.

**COACH OF THE YEAR**

**Andy Montgomery, Ellsworth**  
For the second straight season, Ellsworth coach Andy Montgomery has been selected as the Charlevoix County News Coach of the Year.

After enjoying a 19-15 season last year for the Lancers, Montgomery helped lead Ellsworth to a 21-12 record this season and capturing the Northern Lakes Conference title in the process, going 10-0.

"I am truly honored to be all area coach of the year for two consecutive years. Thank you!" he said. "Fact is, it could not be possible without the support I receive from the assistant coaches. They work so hard and volunteer their time to a great cause, softball."

Coach Montgomery noted that the Lancer staff works very hard to teach the girls the game, stressing that good things happen.

"We do have a very young team with only one graduating senior, and we only have one senior next year as well," he added.

The Lancers got off to a rough start this season, winning only four of their first 12 games, but then went on a 17-4 run to close out the season.

"The girls just turned the light switch on and ran with it," he said. "We won our conference this year (10-0) and we also took second place in a tournament at Traverse City Christian."

"The community and staff at Ellsworth has embraced the changes made to the softball program and are very excited for the future. We have a few really athletic eighth graders that will be joining the club next year so the sky's the limit. Ellsworth softball will only get stronger going forward, so the excitement is just starting to build!"

With that being said, the Charlevoix County News would like to thank the coaches that helped throughout the season by providing their stats and game information following their contests and the student-athletes for supplying the communities with great performances each time they took the field.

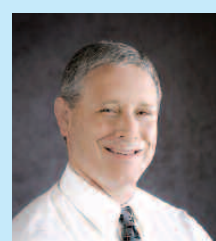
A big "Thank You" to Matelski Lumber, for providing the location for the All-Area photos. They specialize in servicing the Northern Michigan area for all your lumber and flooring needs, and can be reached at 231.549.2780.

Also, a big "Thank You" to Cinda Shumaker for the photography. For those interested in purchasing photos, please contact Cinda at [shumaker0658@charter.net](mailto:shumaker0658@charter.net).

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## Real Estate Corner

### A Timeline for Your Summer Move

Part 1 of 5

Your best bet for a move that goes smoothly is to plan for it.

If you're one of the millions of Americans who have picked the summer months to move into a new home, you might see stress in your future.

But if you're organized, you can minimize the impact moving has on your family. Moving.com has created a timeline with useful tips on how families on the move can quickly get prepared for a seamless transition to their next home.

Moving Timeline and Tips for Summer Moves  
4 weeks from move date:

Get organized and start notifying the right people and companies that you'll be moving soon and give them a date to forward or terminate service. Start looking for licensed and professional moving companies, moving guides and relevant coupons.

Tip: If you're using a professional mover, get quotes from multiple moving companies to get the best deal that is right for you and your needs. Ask plenty of questions, like whether or not they give binding quotes and what kind of insurance is included. Be sure to talk with them about the different options available with full-service moves such as packing and unpacking services and providing boxes and packing supplies.

Tip: Important documents such as your child's school records may need to be accessible during your transition. Make sure to put these items aside and make copies of any records for yourself, in case you forget what box they're packed in.

Tip: Use the free Moving.com Address Changer service to save time and to ensure you've covered all the ground necessary to better ensure your move is seamless. Fill out change of address forms for creditors, doctors and personal providers. Schedule account closings for trash removal, gardeners, pest control, etc., and transfer utilities or other services that'll go with you.

### Featured Property

## Historic depot offers commercial opportunities in East Jordan

By Jim Akans

Radiating with historical flair and charm, this classic depot building on over five acres in East Jordan offers a wide array of commercial opportunities.

Starting its life as the East Jordan and Southern RR depot and having served as both a retail outlet and a manufacturing operation over the years, this approximately 2,736 square foot facility has amazing versatility. While today's architects and designers work tirelessly to create new facades that bring customers to the client's door, this structure provides an authentic, vintage appeal that provides a wonderful platform to enhance and create a unique market draw.

As a bonus, this building sits on over five acres of property that includes over 400 feet of millpond frontage. Eagles have regularly been reported soaring over this wonderful setting.

Located at 204 Depot in East Jordan this is a building and property provide a wonderful canvass on which to paint your entrepreneurial vision, and it is listed at \$299,900. For additional information or to arrange for a tour, please call Chris Oliver, Agent at Coldwell Banker Schmidt - East Jordan at 231-536-7700 or email chrisforreality@gmail.com



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2016 SALEM CRUISE LITE 201BHXL Travel Trailer. New floorplan. Has front Murphy bed, rear bunks. Also has the Power pkg which includes power awning, power jacks and power tongue jack. Retail \$22,372. Reduced to

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Used 2004 Trail Cruiser 26 QBS Travel Trailer. 2 awnings, slideout, very clean, tub/shower, queen bed, generous storage, and much more. Regular \$8,995. Sale Price \$7,995. As low as \$99 a Month. Petoskey RV. 2215 North U.S. 31, Petoskey. 231-347-3200.  
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2009 Dodge Journey. As low as \$149 a Month. Rivertown Auto Group, 989 VFW Road, Cheboygan, MI 231-627-6700. www.RiverAuto.net

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2016 Ford Edge SE. Turbocharged, 30 MPG Hwy, traction control, smart device integration, back-up camera. MSRP \$29,585. Feeny Price \$27,413. Feeny Ford, 208 S. James, Grayling. 989-348-3242.

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 2016 Ford Escape SE. 4WD, 29 MPG Hwy, Turbocharged, bluetooth, back-up camera. Stock 12295. MSRP \$28,740. Feeny Price \$24,663. Feeny Ford, 208 S. James, Grayling. 989-348-3242.  
 2016 Ford Expedition. King Ranch®, 4WD, twin turbo, power moonroof, rear load leveling suspension, 3rd row seat, universal garage door opener, tow pkg, leather, heated and cooled seats, lots more. Stock 12216. MSRP \$65,560. Feeny Price \$59,876. Feeny Ford, 208 S. James, Grayling. 989-348-3242.  
 2016 Ford Explorer Sport. 4WD, twin turbo, tow hitch, heated leather seats, remote start, Wi-Fi hotspot, back-up camera, 3rd row seat. MSRP \$52,410. Feeny Price \$47,594. Feeny Ford, 208 S. James, Grayling. 989-348-3242.  
 2017 Ford Escape SE. 4WD, Ecoboost, Cold weather pkg, back-up camera. Stock 12272. MSRP \$29,630. Feeny Price \$27,701. Feeny Ford, 208 S. James, Grayling. 989-

348-3242.  
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 2006 Ford F-250. Ext cab. As low as \$149 a Month. Rivertown Auto Group, 989 VFW Road, Cheboygan, MI 231-627-6700. www.RiverAuto.net  
 2007 Chevy Silverado 4x4 Crew Cab LTZ. Beautiful Victory Red, loaded with features like heated titanium leather, sunroof, hard top tonneau cover, carpeted box liner, running boards & so much more! \$21,990. Dave Kring Chevy Cadillac. 1861 US 31 North, Petoskey, 231-347-2585  
 2007 GMC Sierra 1500 Crew Cab. With 7'6 Snow Dogg power angle plow, medium brown metallic, light cashmere cloth seats, OnStar, bright alloys, rear parking assist, Off Season Priced! \$13,950. Dave Kring Chevy Cadillac. 1861 US 31 North, Petoskey, 231-347-2585  
 2007 GMC Sierra 2500 HD.

As low as \$149 a Month. Rivertown Auto Group, 989 VFW Road, Cheboygan, MI 231-627-6700. www.RiverAuto.net  
 2016 Ford F-150 XLT. Extended Cab, 4WD, 2.7L V-6 Ecoboost, pro trailer back-up assist, Tow pkg, smart device integration. Stock 12080. MSRP \$44,055. Feeny Price \$35,739. Feeny Ford, 208 S. James, Grayling. 989-348-3242.  
**VANS**  
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 2016 Ford Transit Van XL. 3.7L V-6, Load compartment lighting pkg, back-up camera, traction control. Stock 12092. MSRP \$36,345. Feeny Price \$32,677. Feeny Ford, 208 S. James, Grayling. 989-348-3242.

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 <b>#2 APPLE LANE, EAST JORDAN</b> Lake Charlevoix building site with 700' of shared sandy beach frontage on Lake Charlevoix. There are boat slips available based on when your home is started. Great location for building with all the amenities that waterfront property has to offer without the high cost. Located between Charlevoix and East Jordan MLS#447084. <b>\$45,000. Ask for Holly Nierman.</b>	 <b>SHADYBROOK ROAD, CENTRAL LAKE</b> Beautiful, quiet country setting to build your new family home! Has been perked. Views of Torch Lake on an extra large building site! MLS# 447085 <b>\$32,500. Ask for Holly Nierman or Mike Stark.</b>	 <b>TBD M-66 • EAST JORDAN</b> Be highly visible as this is East Jordan's highest traveled entry way. This property has endless possibilities! It is currently in a PUD zone which opens the door to just about any type of future development. This parcel could be used as pretty much anything. Let your mind run wild with ideas. Snowmobile trail near by. The Jordan River and Little Traverse Conservancy property nearby. MLS #448232. <b>\$59,000. Ask for Chris Oliver.</b>
 <b>HERSHA LANE, ELLSWORTH</b> Approximately 1 acre on a private drive with Six Mile Lake frontage. The property is set up to develop just the way you would like it. There is a septic easement on another parcel nearby. MLS 444831. <b>\$35,000. Ask for Mike Stark or Holly Nierman.</b>	 <b>SIX MILE LAKE ROAD, EAST JORDAN</b> How would you like to own 67' of frontage on Beals lake? Look no further, great fishing and a wonderful area to set up camp and just take in the beautiful views of nature. Property also has a 14' drive well. MLS 445459. <b>\$15,000. Ask for Mike Stark or Holly Nierman</b>	 <b>TBD SIX MILE LAKE • EAST JORDAN</b> A very nice parcel with possible building sites, just across the road from Beals Lake. Fully wooded with high and low areas. This is your chance to get close to the Chain of Lakes at a very reasonable price! Parcel directly across the road with waterfront available also! MLS #445649. <b>\$15,000. Ask for Chris Oliver.</b>

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### East Jordan State of the Community Luncheon

By Tina Sundelius

**EAST JORDAN**—East Jordan is heading in the right direction and its future is bright was the message members of the community walked away with after hearing four keynote speakers discuss the status of the city, schools, and DDA at East Jordan's State of the Community Luncheon Tuesday, November 11.

An air of optimism filled the Harvest Barn hall as 28 East Jordan High School seniors and other members of the community listened intently to Mayor Russell Peck whose speech focused on the challenges and infrastructure im-

provements that still lie ahead for the city. "All in all things are looking up, we're heading in the right direction. Together we will position our community for a resilient and sustainable future. Indeed, East Jordan's future is bright," he concluded.



DDA Chairman Tom Teske, Entrepreneur Director with the Northern Lakes Economic Alliance Tom Erhart, Chamber of Commerce Director Mary Fackula, East Jordan Mayor Russell Peck and City Schools Superintendent Matt Stevenson address an audience of community leaders at the third annual State of the Community Address Tuesday, November 11. "East Jordan's future is bright," said Peck.

provements that still lie ahead for the city. "All in all things are looking up, we're heading in the right direction. Together we will position our community for a resilient and sustainable future. Indeed, East Jordan's future is bright," he concluded.

Peck not only talked about all that the city has accomplished but emphasized the infrastructure improvements needed to accommodate new growth. "We are very optimistic about the future of our community and that optimism comes from the exciting new direction we have been heading," he said. He cited the city's sewer system that is already operating at 98%

capacity, sidewalks, and sea-pillings to be installed at the southwest side of the harbor next to the bridge intended to stop silt from filling the harbor (construction to begin in December) as projects that will further enable the city to grow. He mentioned the new well house (already up and running), the new open 24/7 recycling center and the \$12,000 kayak facility in the park which he stated presently "looks like an art project." "We are developing the kind of community we have envisioned for future generations. There is a positive tip beat energy," he said.

See State of the Community—11A

### SPORTS



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### District Champs!



Boyne City's Luke Sage (2) follows an opening for another big gain. Sage finished with 63 yards on nine carries and a touchdown. Full Story in Sports. (PHOTO BY CHRIS SHROBAGER)

### Boyne Area Community Christmas

"That no child in the Boyne area be without a Christmas"  
Over the last 60 years your generous donations ensured thousands of Boyne area children had a merry Christmas.  
With the holiday season approaching we, the volunteers of Boyne Area Community Christmas, are asking for your support. All of your donations are greatly appreciated and can be in the form of non-perishable food items, new unwrapped toys, games or books. If you would like to donate monetarily, please make checks payable to Boyne Area Community Christmas and send them to c/o Eleanor West, Treasurer at 916 Robinson Street #15, Boyne City, MI 49712.  
All donations can be dropped off at the Boyne City Education Center by using the Pine Street entrance. We will be accepting donations from November 19 until December 19, 8am to 4pm.  
If you need any additional information, please contact Ruth Wrenski at (231) 582-3152 or (231) 728-2787. If you would like to submit the name of a child in need, please contact Nancy Hosmer at (231) 582-7246.

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