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Charlevoix County News

December 20, 2018

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Charlevoix Community Foundation awards grant to the Salvation Army

The Charlevoix County Community Foundation awarded The Salvation Army Petoskey Corps with a \$10,560 grant to serve Charlevoix County residents through their Emergency Financial Assistance Program.

The Salvation Army's Emergency Financial Assistance Program (EFAP) provides low-income individuals and families with necessities such as



heat, electricity, rent, emergency car repair and more. Last year EFAP provided more than \$360,000 of emergency financial assistance to people in their 3-county service area which includes Charlevoix County residents.

Charlevoix County assistance totaled more than \$96,000.00; a figure that continues to rise annually.

Charlevoix County building target of nationwide false bomb threat

BY MICHELLE MEDJESKY

CHARLEVOIX - The Charlevoix County building was one on a long list of governmental buildings, agencies, businesses, schools and hospitals that were targeted with a false bomb threat last week.

Charlevoix Police Chief Gerard Doan said the county building was evacuated around 1:40 p.m. Thursday, December 13 after a

county employee received a bomb threat via email. He said the threat was received around the same time a similar threat was emailed to War Memorial Hospital in Sault Ste. Marie.

Doan said the building was evacuated and county employees were sent home for the day as a safety measure both to give law enforcement time to make sure the building was clear of any

bomb or incendiary devices and also to allow time to gather more information from state and federal officials about the nature of what officials are calling a bomb threat "scam".

Michigan State Police public information officer Shannon Banner issued a statement detailing how numerous organizations na-

See Bomb Threat - Page 3A

NORAD tracks Santa's Christmas Eve journey

BY JIM AKANS

Kids of all ages can enjoy the thrill of following Santa's Christmas Eve journey, and make sure to be safely tucked in before St. Nick reaches their home. This up close look at Santa's progress from the North Pole is made possible by the high-tech tracking capabilities of the North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD). NORAD is a United States and Canada bi-national organization charged with the mission of aerospace warning, aerospace control and maritime warning in the defense of North America.

Tracking Santa's Christmas Eve journey started in 1955 when a local media advertisement directed children to call Santa direct - only the number was misprinted. Instead of reaching Santa, the phone rang through to the Crew Commander on duty at the Continental Air Defense Command Operations Center. Thus began the tradition, which NORAD carried on since it was created in 1958. As technology has developed, NORAD has used satellites, high-powered radar, jet fighters and special Santa cameras to track Santa Claus as he makes his journey around the world.

Today, excited children have a new and improved resource for monitoring Santa's journey to their chimney or doorstep. Children, (and curious adults), can take a peek at a special website; www.norad-



Children, (and curious adults), can take a peek at a special website; www.noradsanta.org, which features a look at Santa's North Pole Village and updates the progress of Santa and his team of reindeer on Christmas Eve. Logo courtesy of NORAD Public Affairs Office.

santa.org, which features a look at Santa's North Pole Village and updates the progress of Santa and his

team of reindeer on Christmas Eve. The site is already active and features Santa's North

Pole Village, which includes a holiday countdown, games, activities, and more. Official NORAD Tracks Santa apps are also available in the Windows, Apple and Google Play stores, so parents and children can countdown the days until Santa's launch on their smart phones and tablets. Tracking opportunities are also offered on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, and Google+.

Santa followers just need to type "@noradsanta" into each search engine to get started. Now NORAD's main job is to monitor the airspace and maritime area covering the United States and Canada using some very powerful satellite and radar equipment. It's a big and very important responsibility, and NORAD helps to keep us safe on a 24/7 basis. At Christmas time, however, NORAD continues a 61-year tradition of letting us know how Santa is doing with his journey of bringing smiles to the faces of children across the world.

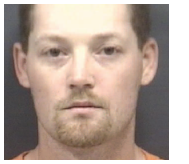
Have a very, merry Christmas!



Enjoy the thrill of following Santa's Christmas Eve journey, and make sure to be safely tucked in before St. Nick reaches your home. File image

Man Gets Prison for Strangulation

This morning in the 33rd Circuit Court, Ernest William Alex Sulkowski, Jr., 32, Boyne Falls, was sentenced to



WILLIAM ALEX SULKOWSKI

20 to 60 months in prison on a charge of attempted assault by strangulation.

The incident occurred in the City of Boyne City of July 28, 2018. Sulkowski pleaded guilty on November 6, 2018.

According to an affidavit filed in the case, Sulkowski grabbed the victim and began strangling her by using his arm from behind her, squeezing hard enough that she nearly lost consciousness. The victim was 13 weeks pregnant at the time of the assault.

Boyne City Police Department officers responded to the scene and observed the victim's mouth lined with blood and one of her teeth broken

See Sulkowski - Page 3A

Scam to be aware of

Sheriff Chuck Vondra would like to warn citizens of a scam where a citizen was contacted on his computer and in the update it said they needed an immediate response because there was a virus on his computer and he needed to call the number on the screen. Citizen called the number and they said they were Apple care assigned to tech and advised he was infected with lots of viruses but he could fix it, the tech wanted the computer open for one and a half hours. Citizen called back in an hour and a half and said everything was fixed. Before he fixed the computer he gave three choices for payment; one year, three years or seven years. Citizen chose three year and paid \$400.00 by PayPal. This scam occurred on 12/11/18 at 5:15pm. This citizen believed he was calling a legitimate Apple company, but it was not. Be sure to contact the actual company yourself and do not rely on phone numbers given by someone posing as a representative.

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weather

THURSDAY



HIGH: 40
LOW: 31

FRIDAY



HIGH: 34
LOW: 24

SATURDAY



HIGH: 29
LOW: 25

2016-17	AMT	CITY
12/19/16	.17.5	.ATLANTA
12/19/16	.30	.BOYNE FALLS
12/19/16	.16.5	.CHARLEVOIX
12/19/16	.16.1	.CHEBOYGAN
12/19/16	.34.8	.EAST JORDAN
12/19/16	.70.2	.GAYLORD
12/19/16	.65.8	.KALKASKA
12/19/16	.18	.LEWISTON
12/19/16	.17.3	.MIO
12/19/16	.33.2	.ONAWAY
12/19/16	.43.6	.PETOSKEY

snowfall

2017-18	AMT	CITY
12/18/17	.6.8	.ATLANTA
12/18/17	.31	.BOYNE FALLS
12/18/17	.23	.CHARLEVOIX
12/18/17	.17.8	.CHEBOYGAN
12/18/17	.41.8	.EAST JORDAN
12/18/17	.52	.GAYLORD
12/18/17	.34.8	.KALKASKA
12/18/17	.19.5	.LEWISTON
12/18/17	.7.9	.MIO
12/18/17	.22.8	.ONAWAY
12/18/17	.41.7	.PETOSKEY

2018-19	AMT	CITY
12/17/18	.6.7	.ATLANTA
12/17/18	.17	.BOYNE FALLS
12/17/18	.9.8	.CHARLEVOIX
12/17/18	.14.1	.CHEBOYGAN
12/17/18	.23.5	.EAST JORDAN
12/17/18	.29.2	.GAYLORD
12/17/18	.25.5	.KALKASKA
12/17/18	.15	.LEWISTON
12/17/18	.9.8	.MIO
12/17/18	.22.5	.ONAWAY
12/17/18	.32.1	.PETOSKEY

record temps

DAY	AVG	LOW	AVG	HIGH	RECORD LOW	RECORD HIGH
DEC 20	.18°	...32°	...20°	(1983)	.48°	(1988)
DEC 21	.18°	...32°	...14°	(1975)	.53°	(1967)
DEC 22	.18°	...32°	...0°	(1989)	.55°	(1957)
DEC 23	.17°	...31°	...-9°	(1989)	.52°	(1957)
DEC 24	.17°	...31°	...-14°	(1969)	.52°	(1994)
DEC 25	.17°	...31°	...-15°	(1958)	.58°	(1982)
DEC 26	.16°	...31°	...-9°	(1993)	.49°	(1982)
DEC 27	.16°	...31°	...-18°	(2004)	.50°	(1994)
DEC 28	.16°	...30°	...-31°	(1976)	.57°	(1984)
DEC 29	.16°	...30°	...-21°	(1976)	.56°	(1984)

Tony Fettig, 73

(MAY 19, 1945 - NOV. 14, 2018)



Lifelong area resident Tony G. Fettig passed away on Wednesday, November 14th, 2018 at Hiland Cottage in the presence of his family.

Tony was born May 19, 1945 in Petoskey, the son of Wilbert and Mary (Weimer) Fettig. He is survived by his wife Janet Fettig, his children Lisa (Kevin) Morrison of Charlevoix, and Toma (Megan) Fettig of Vero Beach, FL. His grandchildren include Alek, Aiden and Anabelle Fettig all of Vero Beach, FL., and Renie Morrison of Charlevoix. Tony's surviving siblings are Carol Lamoreaux, Doug (Jane) Fettig, Beverly Gonzalez, Kenny (Jody) Fettig, David (Karen) Fettig, Tommie (Lisa) Fettig, Brian Fettig, Terry Fettig, and Mary (Gerald) Klooster, as well as numerous nieces and nephews. Preceding Tony in death were his parents Wilbert and Mary and his sister Linda Goethals.

In his younger years Tony worked at Michigan Bakeries. For most of his adult life Tony worked Union construction jobs in the Petoskey area. He was a member of St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church. He

attended St. Francis Xavier Catholic School and Petoskey High School. Tony was also a member of the Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie #2462 of Petoskey.

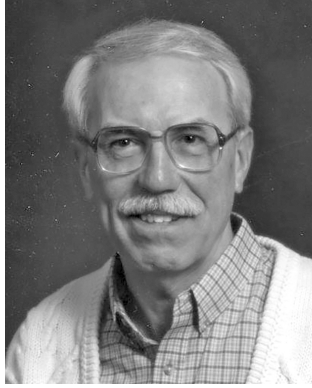
Tony took great pride in his well-groomed, beautiful garden. This past summer he planted over 100 tomato plants. He canned stewed tomatoes and salsa, among other things; and always a favorite of his four grandchildren were grandpa's green beans. Tony was always generous with everything he harvested, he loved sharing what he grew with friends and relatives, and you rarely left the house after a visit without a bag full of tomatoes whatever else he might have to share from his garden. Always active, Tony was rarely found indoors when not in his garden. He enjoyed deer hunting and mushroom and berry picking. Above all things he cherished his role as grandpa; his grandkids will always hold close those fond memories of jumping off the log with Grandpa Tony, while camping at Weber Lake. Janet will surely miss Tony's great big smile whenever he brought in the fresh cut flowers he so loved to grow.

Tony's life will be remembered and celebrated during a Memorial Mass that will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, December 28th at St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church. His family will receive friends in the church gathering space beginning at 10:00 a.m. on Friday. Fr. Dennis Stilwell will lead the mass.

Stone Funeral Home in Petoskey handled arrangements.

Dale W. Bachelor, 83

(NOV. 30, 1935 - DEC. 15, 2018)



Dale W. Bachelor of Boyne City died December 15, 2018 at the Grandvue Medical Care Facility in East Jordan.

Dale was born on November 30, 1935 in Montrose, MI, the son of Hubert and Doris (Reed) Bachelor and was raised in Fairgrove and Montrose until the age of 10 when the family moved to Petoskey. Dale graduated from Petoskey High School with the Class of 1953 before attending and graduating from Michigan State University.

On February 22, 1958, Dale married the love of his life, Nancy Cotanche, in Petoskey. Dale taught agriculture in Vermontville and in Harbor Springs before the family in 1960 moved to the Hudsonville area. He then went to work for Smith-Douglass Fertilizer in Holland, Michigan, and was there for 38 years before retiring as Chief of Marketing from the area in 1998. He returned to Petoskey upon his retirement and to his current home on Walloon Lake in 2000.

He enjoyed fishing, boating, golf and loved playing softball. He played as pitcher in most cases. He played on a championship winning intramural team in college, as well as playing in the local church league. He was also known for his homerun that he hit into the lake while playing for the Fotchman team.

He was a dedicated member of the First Christian Church of Petoskey and served in almost all positions of the church, except that of minister. He was also a Life-Member of the Fraternal Order of Oddfellows.

Dale was one of the most genuinely decent people you could ever hope to meet. He always had a smile on his face and was known for his sense of humor.

He is survived by his wife, Nancy; 5 children, Sam (Reenie) Bachelor, Elizabeth Pruitt, Jennifer (Scott) Hayes, Jeffrey Bachelor, and Jay Bachelor; 9 grandchildren, Phillip, Jay, Sarah, Nick, Tyler, Paige, Blake, Kelly, and Ashlee; 3 great grandchildren, Braxton, Emma, and Ava; sister, Marilyn Burrows and by numerous nieces and nephews.

Dale was preceded in death by his parents and by 6 siblings.

A memorial service will be tentatively held on May 25, 2019, the Saturday of Me-

morial Day Weekend at the First Christian Church in Petoskey. Full details will be announced by the Stone Funeral Home of Petoskey.

Philip C. Becker, 64

(MARCH 26, 1954 - DEC. 16, 2018)

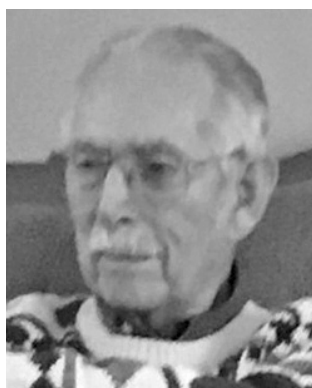
Philip C. Becker of Beaver Island passed away on December 16, 2018 at McLaren Northern Michigan Hospital.

Memorial service will be held in the Summer of 2019.

Arrangements are being handled by the Winchester Chapel of Mortensen Funeral Homes.

George (Woody) Woodman Everest, 95

(APRIL 18, 1923 - DEC. 13, 2018)



George Woodman (Woody) Everest of Boyne City passed away Thursday, December 13, 2018 surrounded by his family at Hiland Cottage in Petoskey.

Woody was the eldest son of George and Marguerite ("Toots" Russ) Everest.

Woody was a lifetime resident of Boyne City. He was a member of the BCHS Class of 1941, as was his high school sweetheart Marie Coon. On April 6th, 1942, he and Marie married and in April 2018 celebrated their 76th wedding anniversary. Woody worked hard his entire life, beginning with working on Marie's family's dairy, helping to keep it operational during World War II. He then began working with his brother-in-law, Gil Coon installing furnaces all over the state, until their senior years when selling furniture was a little easier. When the store closed, Woody worked at Moore's Hardware until he retired in 1985.

After their retirements, Woody and Marie could be seen taking their daily walks around town. When that got to be a little too precarious, they began walking the halls of Boyne City Middle School. The staff at Boyne City Middle School became very special to Woody. It was the highlight of his day to go for his walk. A special thank you to Debbie Day for making him feel so special, hanging birthday banners in the hall, making cards when he was ill, or just giving him a hug. And special thanks to the custodians that kept the door open for him, even on a "snow day".

Another favorite part of his day was going to Subway. Woody had a Subway sandwich every day for lunch. The staff shoveled for him and made his order by just the show of a finger: 1 for one sandwich, 2 if Marie wanted one as well. The girls there made him feel so special. Thank you, Pat, and Charissa.

Another favorite thing of Woody's was driving his truck. He always said "I may be 95, but I'm only 45 behind the wheel!"

Woody was a wealth of knowledge on Boyne City history, often contacted by City Hall and the District Library. He was also very proud of his family name and its roots, not missing a chance to point out that it was his relative that took part in engineering the Everest-Jennings wheel-chair.

Woody was preceded in death by his parents, George and Toots, sisters Jean Hutton and Leta May Erber, and brother Jim Everest.

He is survived by his wife Marie, daughter Nancy (Alvin) Zeiss of Cheboygan, son John (Susan) Everest of Petoskey, sisters Marguerite Skop of Troy and Sue Adamski of Warren, brother Wayne Everest of Boyne City, 7 grandchildren, 18 great-grandchildren, 14 great-great grandchildren, and many nieces & nephews and very special friends, including MaryEllen Long. She visited every morning and kept his driveway clear in the winter.

Visitation will be at Stackus Funeral Home on Thursday, December 20th, from 5PM-8PM. Funeral services will be at St. Matthews Church on Friday, December 21st at 11AM. Family will receive visitors from 10AM until the service.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Hiland Cottage of Petoskey, or directed to Debbie Day at BCMS for classroom books or Camp Daggett Scholarships.

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

Irving E. Manville, 89

(JUNE 22, 1929 - DEC. 9, 2018)

Irving E. Manville of Gaylord passed away Sunday, December 9, 2018 at Munson Healthcare Otsego Memorial Hospital.

Irving was born on June 22, 1929 in Kingsley, Michigan.

He is survived by his wife, Rose, married 70 years; children, Irving (Debbie) Manville of East Jordan, Charlotte (Joseph) Tebo of Wentzville, MO, Patricia (Dennis) Hartley Alexander of Columbia, MO, Darlene (Charles) Evans of Holt Summit, MO, Barbara (Larry) Large of Gaylord and his sister, Erma Mun-

sell of Alma.

The family has chosen to remember him privately. Arrangements are by Gaylord Community Funeral Home & Cremation Service. Please share your memories and personal messages with the family at www.gaylord-funeralhome.com

Helen E. Arthur, 91

(OCT. 30, 1927 - DEC. 16, 2018)



Helen E. Arthur of Charlevoix passed away on December 16, 2018 at Munson Healthcare Charlevoix Hospital.

Helen was born on October 30, 1927 in Detroit to the late Joseph E. and Tressa A. (Marshall) Parker. She enjoyed spending her time with family, reading, knitting, crocheting and praying nightly. Helen will be remembered as the very happy, funny, loving lady who put everyone else first.

Helen is survived by her children, Joseph (Shirley) Arthur of Redford, MI, Dorothy (Chuck) Metzger of Charlevoix, Peter (Mary) Arthur of East Jordan, John (Patti) Arthur of Cass City, MI, Lorraine (Joe) Niswander; 16 grandchildren; 21 great grandchildren along with many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her husband Thomas Arthur, sisters, Betty Ritchie, Mary Lord, Florence Parker, stepson, Timothy Arthur along with her parents.

No services are planned at this time. Memorial contributions may be directed to the Charlevoix Area Humane Society, 614 Beardsley Street, Boyne City, MI 49712.

Arrangements are being handled by the Winchester Chapel of Mortensen Funeral Homes. Online guest-book at www.mortensenfuneral-homes.com.

Patricia A. Pepin, 80

(OCT. 11, 1938 - DEC. 17, 2018)

Patricia Anne Pepin of East Jordan passed away Monday, December 17, 2018 at Grandvue Medical Care Facility in East Jordan.

A family memorial gathering will be held at a later date.

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Deer cooperatior patch contest is now open

Since the early 1970s, the Michigan Deer Management Cooperator Patch – with a new look and design every year – has been a collector's item for many hunters around the state. The DNR again is asking the public's help in designing the next patch.

"We had a great response last year with over 200 submissions," said DNR outreach assistant Emilie O'Grady. "We're expecting this year's contest to bring in even more creative designs."

The DNR provides the patch as a thank-you to hunters who bring their deer to check stations during hunting seasons. At check stations, DNR staff members collect valuable data about the state's deer population for a given season – things like the age and sex of the deer taken, locations where hunters have been successful, and an overall look at herd health.

The contest is open to everyone. Those interested in participating in this year's contest should

submit their designs by Feb. 1. Patch designs may be done in any medium, but must be hand-drawn or printed and include a maximum of seven colors.

Complete contest information and submission guidelines are available at michigan.gov/deer under Cooperator Patches.

The winner will be contacted in early March.

Questions? Contact the DNR Wildlife Division at 517-284-9453.



The latest DNR deer cooperatior patch contest is now open and submissions must be received by Feb. 1. (courtesy of DNR)

Super Santa Claus!

BY JIM AKANS

Santa Claus is truly an amazing fellow. Visiting an estimated 400 million eager children across the globe who celebrate the Christmas holiday, Santa has his work cut out for him during the eve of the big day. Yet for centuries Kris Kringle, St. Nicholas, Father Christmas or simply, Santa Claus, has successfully filled the stockings and stuffed presents under the trees of all good girls and boys during one very long night.

Here are some "fascinating facts" about just how incredible Santa's Christmas Eve journey is. While these are estimated guesses, you'll get the idea:



- With about 2 billion children in the world, and estimating 15-percent of those celebrating Christmas, Santa visits nearly 380 million children, or, at about 3.5 kids per household; over 100 million homes.

- His approximately 31 hour trip (time zone changes extend his work hours a bit), there are about 900 visits per second. This works out to one-thousandth of a second per household. No wonder chil-

dren who stay up late never seem to catch him visiting their house.

- Santa's sleigh moves very quickly. Using some very rough math (even the experts don't know exactly how Santa does this) the journey covers around 75 million miles. That puts that reindeer propelled craft at a whopping speed of 650 miles per second. Rock on Rudolph!

- Let's talk cargo. Putting each gift at an average of two pounds (what the heck), we are looking at 380 tons of gleaming, glittering toys and stocking stuffers packed for the trip. Mary Poppins' magic travel bag has nothing on this!

And of course there is the milk and cookie diet Santa

craves. Let's go back to that 900 visits per second estimate. Santa never seems to drink all the milk or eat all of the cookies at each home...he really doesn't have the time. We'll give him two ounces of milk and one-quarter of a cookie at each stop. My calculation puts his milk consumption at around 28 gallons per second. We'll just call it a LOT of cookies.

As I mentioned above, the arithmetic is all relative here. There are years when there are more good children to visit, seasons when the popular gift weighs a bit more or less, pit stops along the way (don't forget he drinks tons of milk)...but the bottom line is clear; Santa is a super duper kind

of guy.

Santa is, after all, a part of Christmas...the Christian celebration of the birth of Jesus. Perhaps Santa's amazing gift, just like the gift of love, brotherhood and the promise of eternal life heralded by the birth of God's son, isn't that difficult to understand at all. Any thing is possible at Christmas if we simply believe.

SantaStatImage; Santa has been making his incredible Christmas Eve journey for centuries. Shown here is a wonderful old illustration of Santa and his reindeer as he lands his sleigh on a roof. Illustration by F. O. C. Darley (1822-1888), Wikipedia public domain file.

BOMB THREAT FROM PG. 1A

tionwide reported receiving bomb threats December 13. "They are not targeted toward any one specific sector," she noted.

Banner said the emails were sent from a fake email address and had the words "Think Twice" in the subject line. The emails warned its target of a bomb hidden in the building that would be detonated unless a \$20,000 Bitcoin payment was made to an online account.

Banner said no explosive detonations were reported by any of the targeted contacts and that Michigan State Police are keeping in "close communication" with federal agents.

The FBI released a statement urging the public to continue to report any suspicious activity. The Charlevoix County building was on lockdown throughout the afternoon December 13 but it was open for business as usual on Friday, December 14.

SULKOWSKI FROM PG. 1A

off near the base. They also saw red marks and an abrasion on her neck which appeared slightly swollen.

Sulkowski is a former mixed martial arts fighter and trainer.

"This successful prosecution is the result of a very brave victim, good police work by Officer Kyle Smith who documented the numerous injuries the victim suffered and determined prosecution by (Charlevoix County Chief Assistant Prosecuting Attorney) Kerry Zahner and the work of Victim Advocate Libby Mikulski," Charlevoix County Prosecuting Attorney Allen Telgenhof said.

"Strangulation is a very dangerous crime, especially when the victim is pregnant. Even a momentary loss of oxygen and blood supply can be permanently damaging."

Submitted by Allen Telgenhof

Why do we hang stockings by the fireplace?

Some Christmas traditions date back many centuries

BY MIKE DUNN

The great Christmas tradition, the hanging Christmas stockings by the fireplace, actually began with the original Saint Nicholas, a Fourth Century bishop of Myra in Asia Minor (present day Turkey). A lot of people don't realize there actually was a man who became known Saint Nicholas and upon whom the generous character of Santa Claus and the tradition of giving gifts is based. (And, of course, for Christians around the world the giving of gifts reflects the manner in which the Son of God, the Lord Jesus Christ, came into the world and gave Himself as redeemer for the sins of mankind.)

As one would expect, the original Saint Nicholas was a benevolent man noted for his charity and good will and he was particularly kind to children, often giving away treats and small gifts.

According to legend, there was a widower in Myra who had three daughters for whom he could not provide a dowry. The story goes that Saint Nicholas threw three bags of gold into the fireplace chimney one Christmas Eve and the gold landed into the stockings drying by the fire. Thus began the tradition of putting presents into Christmas stockings.

Another longstanding tradition, one we're all especially familiar with here in northern Michigan even if our surname is not Helsel or Murray, is Christmas trees.

This tradition has been around a while. They are known to have been popular in Germany as far back as the sixteenth century. The tree's association with Christmas seems to have evolved from the late Middle



The tradition of hanging stockings by the fireplace dates back to the original Saint Nicholas in the Fourth Century.

Ages when Germans and Scandinavians placed evergreens inside their homes to show their hope in the forthcoming spring.

According to legend, Martin Luther began the tradition of decorating trees to celebrate Christmas. One crisp Christmas Eve, about the year 1500, he was walking through snow-covered woods and was struck by the beauty of a group of small evergreens. Their branches, dusted with snow, shimmered in the moonlight. When he got home, he set up a little fir tree indoors so he could share this story with his children. He decorated it with candles, which he lighted in honor of Christ's birth.

In England, they became popular after Queen Victoria's husband Albert, who came from Germany, made a tree part of the celebrations at Windsor Castle. In the United States, the earliest known mention of a Christmas tree is in the diary of a German who set-

tled in Pennsylvania.

The tradition of Christmas trees in the U.S. can likely be traced to the German immigrants who came to Pennsylvania. Christmas trees have been sold commercially in the U.S. since 1850.

Here are some interesting facts, gleaned from several sources, about Christmas trees, Christmas cards, Christmas carols and other holiday stuff:

- No surprise here. Michigan is among the top Christmas tree producing states in the country. Michigan joins California, Oregon, Washington, Wisconsin, Pennsylvania and North Carolina as the top Christmas tree producing states. Oregon is still the leading producer of Christmas trees, typically between 7 and 8 million each year.

- What is the best-selling Christmas tree? If you guessed Scotch pine, you're right. The best selling trees are Scotch pine, followed by Douglas fir,

Noble fir, Fraser fir, Virginia pine, balsam fir and white pine.

- If you love Dickens' classic "A Christmas Carol," you'll find this interesting. Before settling on the name of Tiny Tim for his character, three other alternative names were considered by the author: Little Larry, Puny Pete, and Small Sam.

- According to the National Christmas Tree Association, Americans buy 37.1 million real Christmas trees each year; 25 percent of them are from the nation's 5,000 choose-and-cut farms.

- America's official national Christmas tree is located in King's Canyon National Park in California. The tree, a giant sequoia called the "General Grant Tree," is over 300 feet high. It was made the official Christmas tree in 1925.

- The first commercial Christmas card sold was designed by London artist John Calcott Horsley

in December of 1842. He was hired by Sir Henry Cole, a wealthy British businessman, to design a card that showed people feeding and clothing the poor with another picture of a Christmas party. The first Christmas card said, "Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to you." Of the original 1,000 cards he printed for Sir Henry Cole, only one exists today.

- An average household in America will mail out 28 Christmas cards each year and see 28 eight cards return in their place.

- Christmas caroling began as an old English custom called Wassailing - toasting neighbors to a long and healthy life.

- Some famous people who were born on Christmas day: Sir Isaac Newton (1642); Humphrey Bogart (1899); Rod Serling (1924); Little Richard (1932); Ken Stabler (1945); Jimmy Buffet (1946); Larry Csonka (1946); Sissy Spacek (1949); Ricky Henderson (1958).

- Ironically, it's nearly certain Jesus himself was not born on Dec. 25. That date for the celebration of the birth of the Savior was chosen by the Emperor Constantine around the year 335 A.D. because on that same day the pagan festival Saturnalia revolving around the Winter Solstice and the start of a new year was held. Jesus was likely born in the spring, sometime between March 21 and May 20 by our calendar.

- During the Christmas buying season, Visa cards alone are used an average of 5,340 times every minute in the United States.

- Although many believe the Friday after Thanksgiving is the busiest shopping day of the year, it is not. It is the fifth to tenth busiest day. The Friday and Saturday before Christmas are the two busiest shopping days of the year.

- During the Christmas/Hanukkah season, more than 1.76 billion candy canes will be made.

- A traditional Christmas dinner in early England was the head of a pig prepared with mustard.

- The tradition of Christmas lights dates back to when Christians were persecuted for saying Mass. A simple candle in the window meant that Mass would be celebrated there that night.

BOYNE CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT INCIDENT REPORT

MONDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2018
 0750 PR at all the schools.
 0947 Juvenile complaint in the 1000 block of Boyne Av
 0950 Vehicle unlock in the 300 block of Bailey St.
 1026 Civil complaint involving location on S Lake St
 1030 Salvage Vehicle Inspection
 1332 Citation issued for speed at Boyne City Rd and Court St.
 1528 Assist EMS in the 500 block of N Lake St
 1537 Arrested subject for Trespassing in the 200 block of S Lake St
 2030 PR at the high school for basketball game.
 2122 Car deer crash on

State St. near Cozy Nook.
Tuesday, December 4, 2018
 0832 Vehicle unlock in the 300 block of N Lake St
 1045 Property damage crash at Lake and Water
 1113 Parking complaint in alley off S Park St
 1347 Report of missing dogs from the 1300 block of Marshall Rd. Dogs returned home.
 1510 Arrest subject on Parole violation on E Lincoln St
 1736 Vehicle unlock in the 300 block of E Division St
 1902 PR at the Basketball game.
 1953 PR at the Basketball game.

Wednesday, December 5, 2018
 0051 Assist Sheriff Dept in Boyne Falls.
 0252 Disturbance in the 500 block of N Lake St.
 0945 Larceny from building in the 1100 block of Boyne Av
 1034 Report of injured deer that needs to be put down on Robinson St
 1505 Property damage crash on High St.
 1520 2 Salvage Vehicle Inspections
 1855 Subject in with an inappropriate text that was sent to her by mistake.
Thursday, December 6, 2018
 0934 Salvage Vehicle Inspection
 1520 Harassment complaint

from Poplar St
 1523 Private property damage crash at the High School.
 1804 Suspicious activity reported from the 1000 block of Boyne Av
 1825 Driving Complaint on Brockway near Harris.
Friday, December 7, 2018
 1329 Report of runaway from the 1000 block of Boyne Av. Later returned home.
 1548 Elderly man walking on Charlevoix St trying to flag down cars.
 2020 Car deer crash on Fall Park near Boyne Ave.
 2338 Suspicious juvenile/snowmobile violation on N East St.

Saturday, December 8, 2018
 0110 Assist Sheriff Dept with a welfare check on reportedly suicidal subject. Found safe.
 0818 Arrested subject at PD for Probation Violation
 0937 Assisted EMS in the 700 block of Vogel St.
 1151 Larceny of cell phone from the 1000 block of Boyne Av
 1444 Request for a VIN inspection on a trailer on West St.
 1642 Citation issued for speed at Boyne City Rd/Court.
 1916 Citation issued for disregard stop sign at Lake and Ray.
 2013 Assist EMS on N park St.

2055 Car deer crash on State St. near Taylor St.
Sunday, December 9, 2018
 0014 Assist Sheriff Dept at Boyne Mountain.
 0053 Assist EMS in the 1200 block of Pleasant Ave.
 0907 Assist Sheriff Dept on Addis Rd. N.
 1241 Assist Sheriff Dept on M-75 S
 1628 Private property damage crash in the 400 block of N Lake St.
 1803 Assist EMS in the 700 block of Vogel
 2348 Suspicious person in the 200 block of S Lake St

News Briefs

ONLINE AT WWW.CHARLEVOIXCOUNTYNEWS.COM

PETOSKEY

HANDEL'S MESSIAH CONCERTS

December 20, 7pm, St. Francis Xavier Church (513 Howard Street) and December 21, 7pm, Great Lakes Center for the Arts (800 Bay Harbor Drive). The Great Lakes Chamber Orchestra and Chorus perform Handel's Messiah. Featuring Laura Osgood Brown (Soprano), Christine Amon (Mezzo Soprano), Richard Fracker (Tenor) and Jason Coffey (Baritone). Reserve seating; \$50 or \$35, General Admission; \$25. Ages 18 and under are free. For tickets visit glorchestra.org or call (231) 487-0010.

EAST JORDAN

RAVEN HILL WINTER SOLSTICE

December 21, noon-4pm. Indoors, the focus will be on ancient calendars and timepieces with special family activities planned. Guided trips out to Stonehenge in Raven Hill's Ancient World are available on request. Anyone interested in a guided snowshoe or cross-country ski adventure, should call ahead to book a time for a family or group outing. Indoors or out, the entire family will have great fun.

BOYNE CITY

TIPS FOR AVOIDING CHARITY SCAMS REVEALED

December 23, 6:30pm, Lifetree Cafe. The program, titled "How to Sniff Out a Scam: Practical Tips for Giving Wisely," features a recorded interview with a woman who rallied her community to raise money for a friend who lied about needing cash for cancer treatment. Lifetree participants will get tools that will help them tell which charitable appeals are legitimate and feel comfortable giving to worthy causes. Admission to the 60-minute event is free. Lifetree Café is in the First Presbyterian Church, 401 S. Park St., Boyne City. Use the Pine St. entrance.

IRONTON

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

December 24, 7pm. Looking for an old fashioned Christmas service? One with all your favorite carols and cookies? We invite you to our candlelight Christmas Eve service. Join us in singing traditional hymns and celebrating the birth of the baby Jesus. Fellowship with coffee and cookies before heading back out into the crisp evening air. We look forward to seeing you. We are located at 3805 Washington Street in Ironton.

BOYNE CITY

COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS DINNER

December 25, noon-2pm, First Presbyterian Church, 401 S. Park Street. Please use the Pine St. entrance. Church members are cooking a traditional turkey dinner with all the fixin's. Free and open to the public. The dinner is paid for by contributions from the congrega-

tion, the public and local grocery stores. Anyone who would like to support the effort may call 231-582-7983.

EAST JORDAN

COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS DINNER

December 25, 1-3pm, East Jordan United Methodist Church. We serve a traditional ham and/or turkey dinner with all the trimmings, salads, desserts, and beverages. Enjoy an all you can eat meal and the fellowship of others. Free. 201 Fourth Street, East Jordan. 536-216

CHARLEVOIX

A CHILDREN'S WINTER SPECTACULAR

December 27, 4-6pm, Castle Farms. Enjoy a visit and special performance by the well known Snow Queen and Ice Princess. Get creative at the hot cocoa bar and decorate your own sugar cookies. Plus, take the fun home with you with a take-home Olaf Craft. Tickets are \$15 per child and each child includes one adult. Extra adults are \$5. After this exciting event ends, take a drive through our first ever lighted Christmas display! (included with your ticket)

EAST JORDAN

RAVEN HILL HOLIDAY GATHERING

December 28. Come play, buy your annual membership or make an annual donation and help us celebrate our 27th holiday season with special treats.

PETOSKEY

SECOND CITY "DYSFUNCTIONAL HOLIDAY REVUE"

December 28, 8-10pm, Great Lakes Center for the Arts. The Second City's Dysfunctional Holiday Revue delivers a healthy dose of seasonal satire where neither holiday film classics, family gatherings nor Christmas carols are too sacred for a show that is the perfect alternative to the same old holiday fare. Founded in Chicago in 1959, The Second City has become the premier training ground for the comedy world's best and brightest. Their alumni list reads like a who's who of American comedy, including Mike Nichols, Elaine May, Alan Arkin, Joan Rivers, Harold Ramis, John Belushi, Bill Murray, Gilda Radner, George Wendt, Martin Short, John Candy, Chris Farley, Mike Myers, Tina Fey, Steve Carell, Stephen Colbert, Julia Louis-Dreyfus, Aidy Bryant, Keegan-Michael Key and countless others. Due to adult content, this holiday offering is recommended for mature audiences only. www.seconcity.com. Tickets start at \$35. Contact GLCFA Box office; Email: tickets@greatlakesca.org Phone: (231) 439-2610

BOYNE CITY

WILLY PORTER CONCERT AT FRESHWATER GALLERY

December 29, 8pm,

Freshwater Gallery, 217 South Lake Street. His live shows are guitar-driven grit and soul, dynamic silence and muscle—unique and electrifying. He's one of America's finest guitarists. Willy toured as the opener for Tori Amos, Paul Simon, Jethro Tull, Sting and Jeff Beck. Tickets \$30 in advance. Call to reserve 231-582-2588. Remember to bring an item for our food pantry collection box.

BOYNE CITY

THE PAIN OF LIVING A DOUBLE LIFE ADDRESSED

December 30, 6:30pm, Lifetree Cafe. The program, titled "Living a Lie: The Perils of a Double Life," features the filmed story of Carol Grever, a woman who discovered after 30 years that her husband had been living a double life. Participants will gain practical insights into coping with the pain of discovering double lives as they follow Grever's journey toward forgiveness, growth, and hope. Admission to the 60-minute event is free. Lifetree Café is in the First Presbyterian Church, 401 S. Park St., Boyne City. Use the Pine St. entrance.

CHARLEVOIX

BRIDGE DROP

December 31, downtown. Festivities begin at 1pm with fireworks at 9pm and midnight. Horse Drawn Wagon Rides from 1-4, S'mores and Hot Cocoa in East Park from 1-4

Snowman Contest in East Park from 1-4. Free family movie Incredibles 2 at Charlevoix Cinema III at 4:30. Tommy Tropic's One Man Circus show will entertain the crowd a half hour prior to each of the fireworks shows in East Park. Spectacular fireworks will be displayed at 9pm and midnight. This year, the best place to view them will be from East Park. The Memorial Bridge will be dropped at midnight to welcome in 2019.

EAST JORDAN

NEW YEAR'S EVE OVERNIGHT

December 31, starting at 6pm to 9am January 1. Raven Hill Discovery Center staff will entertain the kids and keep them safe, while you celebrate here with them or on your own. Registration is limited and cost is \$100 per person, so book soon by calling Cheri at 231-536-3369. Register by December 24, 2018 for this fun-filled December 31st overnight. For more information on any Raven Hill activities, phone 231-536-3369 or email info@miravenhill.org

CHARLEVOIX

FREE BLOOD PRESSURE CLINIC

January 8, 1-2pm, America House, 615 Petoskey Ave. Free Blood Pressure Clinic hosted at American House Charlevoix by Hospice of Michigan.

PETOSKEY

GLCO RECITAL; PIANO DUO

January 13, Emmanuel Episcopal Church, 1020

Mitchell St. Please join us for an afternoon of exciting music featuring Duo Pianists: Michelle Mitchum & Robin McCarty. Free Will donations will be taken at the door.

CHARLEVOIX

CHAMBER BUSINESS AFTER HOURS

January 15, 5-7pm, Lake Charlevoix Brewing Company. Come mix and mingle at Business After Hours. Hosted by Lake Charlevoix Brewing Company. Networking, Food & Fun.

BOYNE CITY

ANNUAL AWARDS GALA

January 17, Boyne Mountain. This year, the Annual Awards Gala has a red carpet theme. We are hoping everyone will get into the fun and dress up like the local celebrities we know they are! Dust off those fancy duds - suits and dresses, or tuxes and gowns if you really want bonus points - and give them new life at the Annual Awards Gala. New this year, we'll have a plated meal, with your choice of entrée options that you can choose when you register.

EAST JORDAN

ANNUAL CHAMBER MEETING/DINNER/AUCTION

January 26, 5:30-9pm, Castle Farms. The Chamber's largest event of the year, the Annual Dinner in January at the majestic Castle Farms, kicks off the new year with an awards program, dinner and live and silent auction. Community members, Chamber Member businesses and organizations are honored and recognized annually with the Citizen of the Year and Spirit Award presented to deserving individuals and business owners. The Chamber's second largest fundraiser, next to membership dues, culminates the evening with spirited live auction. A silent auction is held during the Social Hour in the Castle's Gallery. For information on how to attend the dinner or donate an auction item, please contact the Chamber Office at 231-536-7351 or email info@ejchamber.org

BOYNE CITY

DISTRACTED DRIVING WORKSHOP

January 26, 10am-2pm, Boyne District Library community room. Join Michigan State Trooper Corey Hebner and Officer Dan Mercer from the Boyne City Police Department as they demonstrate and educate us on how dangerous distract driving can be...including a chance to use a driving simulator! Ages 14 and up. RSVP for use of driving simulator: call the library 231-582-7861 or online www.boynelibrary.org/programs.

BOYNE CITY

FARMERS MARKET

Boyne City Hall, Saturday's, 9 am - Noon. The Boyne City Indoor Farmers Market is located in the main lobby and training room of the City Facilities Building, which is located across the

street from the summer market location in Veterans Park. Twenty vendors are confirmed for the indoor market. For more information on the market, visit the Boyne City Farmers Market Facebook page or email farmersmarket@boynecity.com

BOYNE CITY

KINDER CLOSET

At Christ Lutheran Church is open from 10am to noon on the second Saturday of every month. Free baby items are provided, including diapers; wipes; clothes and more, for any Charlevoix County parent with a newborn to 24 month-old-child. Christ Lutheran Church is located at 1250 Boyne Avenue in Boyne City. For more information, call 231-582-9301.

CHARLEVOIX

WELLNESS WORKSHOPS

Held at Munson Healthcare Charlevoix Hospital Wellness Workshop, 411 Bridge Street. Call (231) 437-3482 for more information.

- Hatha Yoga, every Monday and Friday 7:30-8:30am. The yoga sequences, along with breath work and relaxation techniques will assist in building strength, stamina, flexibility, balance, and increasing body awareness. The use of props, blocks, or blankets make poses easily modified to suit the individual. All levels of fitness are welcome and modifications will be provided as needed. The class is taught by Lisa Hepner is a licensed physical therapist assistant with Munson Healthcare Charlevoix Hospital.

- Wellness Wednesday, every Wednesday from 8am-11am. Health screens include: Total Cholesterol, HDL, TC/HDL Ratio, Glucose Level, Body Mass Index Score, Muscle and Fat Percentages, and a Blood Pressure Reading. No fasting is required. However, if you are fasting and LDL and Triglyceride reading can also be obtained. Cost for the service is \$15. Hemoglobin A1C Levels can also be done for known or borderline diabetics for an additional \$10. Participants will receive all test results at the time of the screening and a "Know Your Numbers" log to track progress. A Registered Nurse will adapt health consultation and educational materials to individual results. Walk-ins only, no appointment required.

- Full Body Toning Exercise Class, every Thursday from 5:30-6:30pm. The first class is free as are all yoga and strength training classes. If you enjoy your first class, low-cost punch cards available and are good for any of our classes. Call (231) 437-3482 for more information or email chx-wellness@mhc.net to have our calendar emailed to you monthly.

BOYNE CITY

FREE COFFEE, DOUGHNUTS & LUNCH FOR VETERANS

The community of Boyne City will be hosting a free social gathering for all veterans from 9 to 11 a.m. on the

fourth Tuesday of the month at the Boyne Area Senior Center. Coffee and doughnuts will be donated by supportive area businesses. The senior center will also offer free lunches to all veterans on the fourth Tuesday of the month, starting in January. The senior center is located at 411 E. Division St.

CHARLEVOIX

Hospice of Northwest Michigan invites you to join our Monthly adult grief, loss & bereavement support group, which takes place the 2nd Sunday of each month from 4-5pm at the First Baptist Church, 6781 M66 North. This program is open to anyone in our community looking for assistance in their grief process and is facilitated by Rev. David Behling. There is no charge to attend. Please feel free to call Hospice at 231-547-7659 to register or for more information.

NORTHERN MICHIGAN

Women's Resource Center of Northern Michigan provides counseling and support services at no cost to survivors of domestic abuse, sexual assault, child abuse, child sexual assault and adults molested when they were children. Support services include crisis counseling, individual counseling, support groups, trauma therapy (EMDR), play therapy for children, safety planning, advocacy and resources/referrals. If you or someone you care about has been a victim of crime, contact the WRCNM's main office at (231) 347-0067.

NORTHERN MICHIGAN

Women's Resource Center of Northern Michigan offers free playgroups for children 0-60 months and their preschool-age siblings. Playgroups help you learn about your child's developmental stages, learn new children's games/activities and share parenting concerns/experiences with other parents and the playgroup facilitator. Playgroups are held in various northern Michigan communities. For current playgroup locations/times, visit www.wrcnm.org or call (231) 347-0067.

BOYNE CITY

BOYNE DISTRICT LIBRARY PROGRAMS

- Toddler Tales & Tunes every Monday at 10am and Preschool Storytime every Tuesday at 10am. Check website for any date changes. No registration is required.

- Yoga with Reb Andrews 9am every Monday, 8 week sessions/\$5 per week

- Tai Chi every Wednesday, 9am beginners class, 10am advanced class, cost is \$5 per session

- The Boyne District Library Book Club meets at 7pm. Information at www.boynelibrary.org.

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News

ONLINE AT WWW.CHARLEVOIXCOUNTYNEWS.COM

December 10, 2018 Regular Meeting Highlights of the Boyne City Board of Education

- The Board conducted a **Superintendent evaluation** and declared Pat Little's evaluation status as **'Highly Effective'**, the highest mark in open session. The Board authorized a one-year extension of Little's contract through June 2021. This is Little's second year of being rated as 'Highly Effective' using the Michigan Association of School Boards Superintendent's Evaluation tool. The following is taken directly from the Board's evaluation signed by the Board President, Kenneth Schrader:
 - *The Board found that Superintendent Little is a significant asset to our school system and community. His depth of knowledge, experience and ambition has given the District the tools to progress forward and be pioneers in the areas of Early Childhood Education and Trade Skills.*
 - Board members commented:*
 - *We are well informed as Mr. Little has been timely and concise in his communications.*
 - *The focus groups and coffee talk is an excellent format for including the community.*
 - *Little is popular among staff and principals.*

- *His working abilities with Chief Financial Officer Irene Byrne on financial matters has benefited the District with a solid financial backbone.*
- *They are looking forward to the results of the curriculum studies.*

The Board is looking forward to another year of increasing student growth, financial well-being, staff development and community support due to his leadership.

- The Board discussed the **Focus Group** results and the Board felt it as a positive experience. In November the District conducted separate Parent and Staff Focus Groups. Both groups and individuals expressed their appreciation for the opportunity to share their thoughts/concerns to provoke improvement in the District.
- Middle School Student Council report was presented by Josie Wilson and Sydney Dickinson gave the High School Student Council report. Mike Wilson also shared with the Board the Conservation Award that the Boyne City Middle School received for helping harvest beach grass. Wilson also showed the Board an award Kyle Maginity received for the District's technology initiative from Lansing.

- **Lisa Schrock** was presented with a token of the Board and the District's appreciation for her six and a half years of service to the BCPS Board of Education.
- Fourth-grade teachers, Carrie Stanek, and Bethany Brown presented to the Board **Reading Buddies at Boyne City Elementary School** and how they are teaching compassion inspired by the Char-Em ISD professional development day. The fourth graders and their kindergarten reading buddies, with the help of many wonderful volunteers, sewed pillowcases for local seniors who may not have much family in the area and in need of holiday cheer. The Board was represented with the **Certificate of Excellence for achieving 100% pass rate for the school bus safety inspections.** McLane expressed that the transportation department's record is impressive.
- Boyne City Public School was the recipient of many grants and donations in which we want to express our gratitude. The grant award from the Michigan Department of Education in the amount of \$17,373.84, for the Additional Instructional Time and Interventions grant. Competitive School Safety Grant from the Michigan State Police was awarded in

the amount of \$119,775 to supplement varying safety improvements for the summer of 2019. DTE Energy gave a donation in the amount of \$5,000 for their support of the BCHS Energy Fundamentals Course.

- The Board also discussed the regular meeting scheduled for 2019 and the committee appointments. A decision will be made at the January 14, 2019 meeting.

Other Notes

On January 14, 2019, at 5:30 pm there will be a special Board meeting to review School Board member obligations followed by the regular meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Community members are welcome and encouraged to attend School Board meetings and become involved in the operation and governance of their school district. Your involvement in the education of our children are appreciated. The Boyne City School Board meetings are typically on the second Monday of the month at 6:30 p.m. All meeting dates can be found at our website at this address: <https://www.boyne.k12.mi.us/District/Portal/board-of-education>.

Notice of all special meetings will be posted on the website and by the main entrance in each school building as to date, time, and place.



Boyne Falls Public Schools **STUDENT OF THE WEEK**



Jaymason Tieber

Grade: 1st
Parent's Name(s): Jennifer Mathers and John Tieber
What do you want to be when you grow up?: Jaymason wants to be a doctor when he grows up because he wants to help people when there is something wrong in their bodies. He wants to help make people feel better.
Favorite Book: Jaymason's favorite books are all "Pete the Cat" books.
Hobbies and Interests: Jaymason enjoys jumping on the trampoline, watching funny videos, and science videos on the computer.
School Activities: Jaymason also enjoys playing outside and swinging on the swings.
Staff Comments: Jaymason is a very happy and funny boy, who likes to giggle and dance. Jaymason has been working very hard on his reading and math skills this year. He has increased his stamina. Keep up the good work Jaymason!
Submitted By: Deanna Milks

Boyne City will hold public hearing on recreational marijuana businesses

BY MICHELLE MEDJESKY

BOYNE CITY - Yet another community in Charlevoix County is moving forward with deciding how to govern the use of recreational marijuana and strike a balance between regulations that will apply to its recent legalization and the city's long-term business and community ideals.

Boyne City commissioners last week voted unanimously in favor of a preliminary measure that, if finally approved after a public hearing next month, will become an ordinance to prohibit recreational marijuana businesses or facilities from opening up

in the city limits and prohibit use of marijuana on city-owned properties and public spaces.

The commission's vote came after comment from city manager of Boyne City Michael Cain and police Chief Jeff Gaither. Cain said the proposed ordinance would complement an ordinance enacted last year that prohibits smoking tobacco in city parks. Gaither explained to the commission how he wanted to clarify local law enforcement's stance on the proposed ordinance, especially after hearing input recently from community members who question its intent.

"The voters have spoken

and marijuana use and consumption right now is legal. Nobody is saying we're going to undo that," Gaither said, "This (proposed ordinance) allows us as a city to find out what the state regulations are going to be, because we have no idea what they're going to be at this point and it allows us to react accordingly how we want to plan and zone in our own city."

Commissioner Dean Solomon advocated a public hearing to gather more community input regarding the proposed measure before it goes to vote for final approval.

Boyne City Mayor Tom Neidhamer and other commission members agreed that a public hearing will be the

best way to feel the pulse of the community and get its input on how to proceed with a proposed ordinance that will ultimately regulate recreational marijuana use and sales in the city.

Said Neidhamer, "When all this gets figured out, I don't want to close the door on entrepreneurship. I don't want to close the door on job creation. I don't want to close the door on tax revenue and I don't want to close the door on what the voters voted."

The public will have the opportunity to comment on the proposed ordinance at its second reading during the commission's 7 p.m. meeting on February 12 at Boyne City Hall, 319 Lake Street.

Holiday movies to enjoy at home

BY JIM AKANS

The sights and sounds of Christmas are part of what makes the holiday season special. From classic holiday tunes on your favorite radio station, familiar jingles wafting through the air at retail shops, to timeless stories captured on film filling cable and television stations across the remote...it's impossible to miss the message that Christmas is near at hand.

The Internet Movie Database (IMDb) is among the many website to rate the top Christmas movies of all time. While we all have our personal favorites, here is how the top ten stacked up for IMDb:

1 - It's a Wonderful Life (1946) Rated PG. Surprisingly, this holiday favorite didn't get off to a very good start. It is based on a story, "The Greatest Gift," by Philip Van Doren Stern who couldn't get published after writing it in 1939. It stars James Stewart and Donna Reed in the lead roles, with Lionel Barrymore as despicable banker Henry Potter, but it flopped at the box office. Over the years it has gained a well-deserved reputation as the most beloved celluloid incarnations of the Christmas spirit, a celebration of the triumph of family, friends, goodness and love.

2 - Die Hard (1988) Rated R. Starring Bruce Willis as NYPD officer John McClane, this might not appear to be a holiday movie. The action does, however, take place during a Christmas party in a high rise. The bad guys figure this is a great time to rob the place, and a walloping cat and mouse, save the evening nail-biter ensues. For those who like action films with a touch or Christmas spirit...this one's for you.



Much like the spirit of the holidays, a good movie can pull us into an alternative place, where life's complications seem to melt away. Wikipedia public domain photo

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

4 - Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer (1964). Technically, this is a television special rather than a movie. Yet after five decades who can resist watching as a group of underdogs, led by a very bright reindeer, persevere over bad weather and monsters with bad attitudes to make sure Santa delivers the goods.

5 - A Christmas Story (1983) Rated PG. Hard to resist smiling all the way through this look at a family Christmas during the 1940's. The tale is told through the eyes of young "Ralphie," whose gift wish is a Red Ryder B.B. gun though his parents warn he will "shoot his eye out" much to his dismay. Stars Peter Billingsley, Darren McGavin and Melinda Dillon.

6 - National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation (1989) Rated PG-13. The Griswold family host a Christmas gathering at their home that is over the top satirical yet manages to capture a glimpse of the holidays nearly anyone can relate to when the nuclear family meets extended family during the holidays. Stars Chevy Chase, Beverly D'Angelo, Randy Quaid and a long list of memorable characters.

7 - Home Alone (1990) Rated PG. Where's Kevin? While mom, dad and the rest of the family head off for a holiday in Paris, young Kevin McCallister (played by Macaulay Culkin) wakes up to discover he been left home alone. At first he enjoys his freedom around the house, but a few bumbling burglars zone in on robbing the McCallister home. Filled with zany "Three Stooges" vaudeville type comedy, this film keeps you on the edge of your seat to see how young Kevin will foil the crooks plans.

8 - Miracle on 34th Street (1947) A film responsible for making true believers in Santa Clause for over seventy years. Edmund Gwenn may actually be Santa for all I know; he certainly looks and acts the part. Despite the best efforts of all the doubters...we still believe.

9 - Scrooged (1988) Rated PG-13. The crusty old miser as only Bill Murray could portray. Classic tale set in a more current setting, spiced

with humor and retaining the timeless moral; love for family, friends and yourself offers more value than all the money one can attempt to hold. Also stars Karen Allen and John Forsythe.

10 - Elf (2003) Rated PG. Yes it is silly, inane and a bit sappy, but somehow this crazy tale about a human raised by elves at the North Pole who embarks on a trip to New York to meet his natural father pokes at the funny bone and tugs at the heart. Star-studded cast includes Will Ferrell, James Caan, Bob Newhart, Ed Asner, Mary Steenburgen and Zooey Deschanel.

A few not in the IMDb top ten, but you also may want to check out:

- How the Grinch Stole Christmas (2000) Rated PG. - The original Dr. Seuss animated television show continues to be a holiday favorite for young and old alike. Ron Howard's big screen version, starring Jim Carrey as the Grinch, retained the spirit of that 1966 classic and took it to a new, hilarious level. The Grinch is miserly as Scrooge, mean as the Winter Warlock, yet wears his heart on his sleeve. Somehow it's easy to root for this green, misunderstood creature throughout the film.
- The Santa Clause (1994) Rated PG. Tim Allen plays the title role, though unwittingly at first, when he accidentally startles Santa into a major mishap and then becomes jolly St. Nick himself. The transformation, in both appearance and attitude is fun to watch, and this original movie in what would become a series of sequels, still reins supreme.
- And there are many, many more Christmas movie classics to sit back with a bowl of popcorn and a some loved ones and enjoy. Much like the spirit of the holidays, a good film can pull us into an alternative place, where life's complications seem to melt away. Take a break from the holiday hustle and bustle and get ready for some movie magic from the comfort of home.

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East Jordan State of the Community Luncheon

By Tina Sundellus

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 26 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 improvements 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-pilings 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 now 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 up beat energy," he said.

DDA Chairman Tom Teske, Entrepreneur Director with the Northern Lakes Economic Alliance Tom Ehart, Chamber of Commerce Director Mary Faculak, East Jordan Mayor Russell Peck, and EJ Schools Superintendent Matt Stevenson addressed 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.

See State of the Community—11A

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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 CINDA SHUMAKER)

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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 merrier 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 c/o Eleanor West, Treasurer at 915 Robinson Street #15, Boyne City, MI 49712. All donations can be dropped off at the Boyne City Education Center by using the Pine Street entrance. We will be accepting donations from November 19 until December 19, 9am to 4pm.

If you need any additional information, please contact Ruth Witek at (231) 582-3152 or (231) 758-2787. 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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