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**County News**

January 31, 2019

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**East Jordan recognizes business and community leaders at annual award banquet**

BY MICHELLE MEDJESKY

CHARLEVOIX - Dozens braved freezing temperatures and a miles-long drive on a dark, snowy night to gather at Castle Farms and salute the best and the brightest from the East Jordan community at the annual East Jordan Area Chamber of Commerce Awards Banquet last weekend.

This year's banquet, catered by Grey Gables Inn of Charlevoix, was held in tandem with a live and silent auction. The event was emceed by East Jordan Chamber of Commerce president Mary Faculak and chamber member and East Jordan Public Schools superintendent Matt Stevenson. The live auction featured local favorite auctioneer Scott MacKenzie, executive director of the Charlevoix Area Humane Society.

Awards in six categories were handed out to businesses, individuals and groups in the East Jordan area who proved most exemplary in 2018, whether in providing goods and services or in their attitudes and actions. Categories included:



(Left to right) East Jordan Chamber of Commerce award winners Rebecca Gotts, Rick Gotts, Alex Schlueter, Justin Barnett, Cheri Leach, Matt Hamilton, Luanne Reed, Brenda Skop, Bob Pursel, Sherry Pursel, Duane Chappuies and Debbie Chappuies. Business of the Year Award winners Baris and Cigdem Atmaca of Socks Kick were unable to attend the banquet to accept their award.

**AMBASSADOR OF THE YEAR**

Brenda Skop and Luanne Reed accepted this year's Ambassador of the Year Award on behalf of

staff and volunteers at the East Jordan Senior Center.

"It was very obvious and evident who deserved this..." Faculak said in presenting the award, "In fact, it was very easy as we looked over the many events we produce, who was always there to lend a hand to help us succeed on an event or activity."

She pointed to the numerous events the East Jordan Senior Center is involved with throughout the year, including Scarecrows across the Breezeway, sponsoring a pie-eating contest at the annual Pumpkin Festival and a yearly soup cook-off. Volunteers also crochet hats for newborns at Munson Healthcare Charlevoix Hospital and craft hats and other items for patients at the infusion center there. They also make "goody bags" to include with the Meals on Wheels program during the holidays and baked goods for other events.

Skop and Reed agreed



(Left to right) East Jordan Public Schools Superintendent and Chamber board member Matt Stevenson and East Jordan Area Chamber president Mary Faculak presented the Spirit Award to Justin Barnett and Alex Schlueter for their "Elf on the Shelf" video production with teacher Matt Hamilton.



Chamber member and East Jordan schools superintendent Matt Stevenson, Ambassador of the Year Award winners Brenda Skop and Luanne Reed and Chamber president Mary Faculak



Chamber member and East Jordan schools superintendent Matt Stevenson and Citizens of the Year Award winners Bob and Sherry Pursel and Chamber president Mary Faculak.

See EJ Awards – Page 7A

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## weather

### THURSDAY



HIGH: 4  
LOW: -3

### FRIDAY



HIGH: 16  
LOW: 7

### SATURDAY



HIGH: 33  
LOW: 30

snowfall				record temps																
2016-17	AMT"	CITY		2017-18	AMT"	CITY		2018-19	AMT"	CITY		DAY	AVG	LOW	AVG	HIGH	RECORD	LOW	RECORD	HIGH
1/30/17	36.8	ATLANTA		1/29/18	18.5	ATLANTA		1/28/19	28.2	ATLANTA		JAN 31	10°	29°	16°	(1980)	49°	(1988)		
1/30/17	81.4	BOYNE FALLS		1/29/18	63	BOYNE FALLS		1/28/19	45.5	BOYNE FALLS		FEB 1	10°	29°	28°	(1962)	47°	(1998)		
1/30/17	41.3	CHARLEVOIX		1/29/18	61	CHARLEVOIX		1/28/19	41.9	CHARLEVOIX		FEB 2	10°	29°	31°	(1961)	46°	(1991)		
1/30/17	45	CHEBOYGAN		1/29/18	42.6	CHEBOYGAN		1/28/19	43.9	CHEBOYGAN		FEB 3	10°	30°	18°	(1996)	52°	(1991)		
1/30/17	86.7	EAST JORDAN		1/29/18	91.4	EAST JORDAN		1/28/19	75.7	EAST JORDAN		FEB 4	10°	30°	25°	(1996)	50°	(2005)		
1/30/17	135.4	GAYLORD		1/29/18	81	GAYLORD		1/28/19	87.4	GAYLORD		FEB 5	10°	30°	14°	(1974)	56°	(2005)		
1/30/17	108.5	KALKASKA		1/29/18	63	KALKASKA		1/28/19	60.2	KALKASKA		FEB 6	10°	30°	20°	(1978)	56°	(2005)		
1/30/17	40.1	LEWISTON		1/29/18	29	LEWISTON		1/28/19	42.5	LEWISTON		FEB 7	10°	30°	22°	(1967)	46°	(2005)		
1/30/17	38.1	MIO		1/29/18	16.7	MIO		1/28/19	30.8	MIO		FEB 8	11°	30°	21°	(1962)	49°	(1990)		
1/30/17	52.4	ONAWAY		1/29/18	43.1	ONAWAY		1/28/19	53.2	ONAWAY		FEB 9	11°	31°	32°	(1979)	50°	(1966)		
1/30/17	87.4	PETOSKEY		1/29/18	79.5	PETOSKEY		1/28/19	81.5	PETOSKEY										

## Joseph M Carroll Sr., 84

(OCT. 3, 1934 - JAN. 25, 2019)

Joseph M Carroll Sr. of Charlevoix died Friday, January 25, 2019 at Charlevoix Area Hospital.



He was born October 3, 1934 in Detroit the son of John and Zeta (Walsh) Carroll.

Joe worked for many years with laboratory diagnostic services in the medical field.

On September 19, 1964 in Detroit he married Geraldine (Selk) Carroll who survives. They enjoyed 54 wonderful years together and were active members of St. Mary's Church in Charlevoix. Joe was also a member of the Knights of Columbus.

Joe was a handyman and

helped build his home on Lake Michigan in 1976. He enjoyed working with stained glass and playing golf. He also enjoyed downhill skiing and was on ski patrol in his younger years. He loved baseball, and played in his younger years, as well as coaching many little league teams for his son. He was also an avid Detroit Tigers fan.

Also surviving Joe are his children Colleen Carroll of Rochester, Joe Carroll Jr. of Traverse City, Kelley (Rick LaMarra) Carroll of Belaire, sisters Maureen (Ken) Edyvean of FL, Connie (Bob) Brooks of Grosse Pointe, grandchildren Kylee Carroll, Caera and Keegan Noyes, and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, his brothers Jack and Frank Carroll, and sister Mary Ivan.

A funeral mass will be held Saturday, February 2, at 1 p.m. at St. Mary's

Church with a rosary starting at 12:30. Fr. Peter Wigton will officiate. The family will receive friends from 11 a.m. until the time of service.

Memorial contributions can be directed to St. Mary's Church. Arrangements have been handled by the Winchester Chapel of Mortensen Funeral Homes.

Please sign his online guestbook [www.mortensen-funeralhomes.com](http://www.mortensen-funeralhomes.com)

## Ervin G Tamminga, 80

(SEPT. 4, 1938 - JAN. 22, 2019)

Ervin Tamminga escaped this mortal realm on January 22, 2019.

He was preceded in death by his eccentric wife Mary and cherished cat el Jefe. Erv was raised in Roseland, IL, enjoyed life and work in



Crete, IL, and retired in Ellsworth. Why he went north of the 45th parallel was never exactly clear. Perhaps it was the challenge of gardening on a hill of sand and rocks, and the sunsets. Erv did not go gentle into that good night, he bravely fought leukemia like the stubborn Dutchman he was.

Erv was a man with incalculable talents - engineer, gardener, baker, fixer of toys, inventor, food critic, solver of unsolvable mysteries. A fan, not of sports, but of good food, fast cars, fast women, and Alex Trebek. Not a man known to always measure twice and cut once - he once fashioned a parrot door instead of a cat door. He never stopped improving and inventing the essentials of life; an electric styrofoam cutter, a finch feeder filler funnel, a snowblower repurposed into a mulch thrower, a wheeled electric fertilizer applicator, and so many other indispensable items

we didn't know were needed.

Erv was also an expert in areas such as; classical music, Chicago Tribune columnists, giggling at the silly ideas in Fine Woodworking magazines, flirting, and cursing. His ability to make a vintage rototiller obey his commands with a stern glance was admired by men half his age. The day Erv (aka "Grillmaster") grilled with flames to his eyebrows made Bobby Flay weep, and was noted in the local paper. Antique autos would swoon at his feet, assaulted by a symphony in the garage. He was the Conductor. If stuck on Bass Lake with no wind while taming the laser sailboat, a simple draw from a Camel unfiltered would allow meditation and a deserved rest from the clamor of the camp he would attend for his two-week reprieve from managing a machine shop in Chicagoland.

He will be sorely missed by his four sisters, Frances Puck, Phyllis Feikema, Janet Hall, and Nancy Gutierrez; children Peter (Marjorie), Jennifer (Stephanie Wright), and his favorite Joy (Tom) Funk. Proud grandpa of nine; Nicole, Scott, Dylan, Sierra, Miranda, Kaitlyn, Aden, Piper, and Archer. His love of smoking, drinking coffee, and solving jigsaw sudokus were only surpassed by his love for his grandchildren.

A memorial service at the Hastings Chapel of Mortensen Funeral Homes in Ellsworth was held on January 26th. In lieu of flowers, please make a donation to Interlochen Public Radio, PO BOX 199, Interlochen, MI 49643 or call 231.276.4400.

Please sign his online guestbook [www.mortensen-funeralhomes.com](http://www.mortensen-funeralhomes.com)

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## MDHHS updates status of public assistance benefits during government shutdown

Michigan residents still can apply for and receive Medicaid and public assistance benefits such as food and cash assistance; Women, Infants and Children (WIC); State Emergency Relief and child care reimbursement despite the partial federal government shutdown. The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services is clarifying the status of the programs, which receive federal dollars but are administered by MDHHS. The state has determined there will be no impact to the availability of benefits through these programs in February even if the shutdown continues. There has been no official determination made on March benefits.

"The partial federal government shutdown has understandably created concerns from families that rely on federal safety net assistance administered by MDHHS," said Terrence Beurer, deputy director of

Field Operations Administration for MDHHS. "Programs that feed Michigan residents are a primary concern of the State of Michigan, and we have heard misinformation being spread about the immediate impact of the shutdown. We want people to know that MDHHS is prepared to continue to provide this assistance and that funding remains in place through the end of February."

Below are updates on the status of various federally funded programs administered by MDHHS:

- Food Assistance Program: MDHHS issued February food assistance payments early beginning on Jan. 17. The federal government asked states to issue the assistance early to ensure that February funding would be available to be issued. Recipients do not need to redeem their benefits in January and MDHHS is urging them to budget their food assistance benefits so they can meet their

food needs through the entire month of February.

- WIC: Benefits, which include nutritious food for pregnant and postpartum women, infants and children up to age 5, are funded for the month of February and are being distributed according to the normal schedule.

- Medical assistance, including Medicaid and Healthy Michigan Plan: Programs are funded through Sept. 30, 2019, the end of the current fiscal year.

- Cash assistance: Funding is in place for January and February.

- State Emergency Relief: Funding for energy-related services such as heating assistance is in place to provide benefits through Sept. 30, 2019. Funding for non-energy-related services - such as home repairs and burials - is in place for January and February.

- Child Development and Care (child care assistance): Funding is in place through the end of April.

Clients who use Bridge Cards to redeem their food and cash assistance and WIC benefits are still able to do so in January and February.

State government generally can operate seamlessly for about 45 days after a federal shutdown begins. With the shutdown now beyond 30 days, the State Budget Office, Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's office and MDHHS are assessing the impact beyond 45 days and into March. Further information will be released as it becomes available.

Anyone who has questions about all programs above other than WIC can find contact information for their local MDHHS office by going to [www.michigan.gov/contact-mdhhs](http://www.michigan.gov/contact-mdhhs). Anyone with questions about WIC can find contact information for their local WIC agency by going to [www.michigan.gov/wic](http://www.michigan.gov/wic).

## McLaren Northern Michigan free Heart Month activities

February is American Heart Month and McLaren Northern Michigan is recognizing this important month with free heart healthy activities. No matter where you live, we have something planned to help you celebrate heart month.

Wear red for heart disease awareness on Friday, February 1. According to the American Heart Association, heart disease is the leading cause of death for men and women in the United States. Every year, 1 in 4 deaths are caused by heart disease. The good news? Heart disease can often be prevented when people make healthy choices and manage their health conditions.

Another heart month activity you can do anywhere is Get Up & Move. According to the Journal of the American College of Cardiology, five minutes of exercise a day is shown to increase health and lifespan. Here is the challenge... on February 14 (2/14) at 2:14 p.m. "Get Up & Move" wherever you are. Visit [mclaren.org/northern-heartmonth](http://mclaren.org/northern-heartmonth) to learn how you can win a prize for participating.

Following is a list of all the activities McLaren

Northern Michigan is hosting across northern Michigan.

**CHEBOYGAN**  
- Fresh Start Tobacco Cessation - Quit Smoking, Mondays in February. \$25 Fee at Cheboygan Community Medical Center  
- Community CPR - Thursday, February 21, 11am - 1pm at Cheboygan Campus Cafeteria  
- Mediterranean Heart Healthy Snacks Cooking Demonstration - Thursday, February 21, 5:30 - 7pm at Cheboygan Community Medical Center

**GAYLORD**  
- Health Screenings - Blood pressure, BMI, Cholesterol, Glucose, and more. Thursday, February 7, 9-11am at McLaren Gaylord Family Practice  
- Community CPR - Thursday, February 7, 11am - 1pm at McLaren Gaylord Family Practice  
**PETOSKEY AREA**  
- One Free Aquatics, Strength Training, or Yoga Class in February. Any offered day in February at Demmer Wellness Pavilion  
- Heart Innovations with Dr. Jason Ricci - Tuesday, February 12, 12:30 - 1pm at Emmet County Friendship

**Center**  
- Low Sodium Cooking Class - Tuesday, February 12, 6 - 7:30pm at Demmer Wellness Pavilion  
- Community CPR - Thursday, February 14, 11am - 1pm at Demmer Wellness Pavilion  
- Health Screening - Blood pressure, BMI, Cholesterol, Glucose, and more. Tuesday, February 19, 8 - 10am at Demmer Wellness Pavilion  
- Diabetes Friendly, Heart Healthy Cooking - with Chef Jon from Fustini's Oils & Vinegars. Wednesday, February 20, 5:30 - 7pm at Demmer Wellness Pavilion  
- Sleep and Your Heart Health - Thursday, Febru-

ary 21, 1 - 2pm at The Friendship Center of Harbor Springs

- Heart Innovations in Northern Michigan - Tuesday, February 26, 11 - 11:30am at Independence Village of Petoskey  
**ROGERS CITY**  
- Hoefft State Park Lantern Cross-Country Skiing - free healthy snacks and water from McLaren. Saturday, February 2, 6:30 - 10pm at Hoefft State Park  
For more information on Heart Month activities happening across northern Michigan and the eastern Upper Peninsula, visit [mclaren.org/northern-heartmonth](http://mclaren.org/northern-heartmonth).

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# News

ONLINE AT WWW.CHARLEVOIXCOUNTYNEWS.COM

## Lighting Up for Annual Boyne Lights of Love Event

Boyne Eta Nu Charities, a community-focused organization that contributes resources to the Boyne City area through service projects and fundraisers, held their Annual Lights of Love tree lighting ceremony on Wednesday, December 5, 2018. This has been an annual event for the community and organization since 1987. The poignant celebration is held each year to honor and commemorate the lives of those who have been lost or who are simply not near during the holiday season.

Each year the effort raises funds for the local hospice agency, Hospice of Northwest Michigan, providing funds to be used for unmet needs that may transpire in a difficult time for families. Hospice care is a benefit that is funded by Medicare and many insurance policies, but not all costs are met by the allowance, so fundraisers like Lights of Love help cover those needs.

Each year in November, Eta Nu members begin promoting the sale of different colored lights and hand-made, hand lettered hearts, that will be placed on a Christmas tree in the month of December. For the past several years, the tree has been prominently displayed on the beautiful front porch of the Dilworth Hotel, Boyne City. As is tradition, on the first Wednesday of December, a special lighting of the tree took place. This ceremony was complemented by strolling Christmas Carols and a dedication and blessing by Pastor Dave Behling, Spiritual Director of Hospice of



Committee members gather after the lighting ceremony celebrating with an evening of food and fellowship. Ladies left to right: Connie Tenkel, Kathy Henricks, Suzanne Snyder, Pati Scott, Marnie Parrott, Jeanne Marriott, Sharon Kemp, Candy Greene. Courtesy photo

Northwest Michigan. The evening began with a group of 50 guests meeting at Water Street Café in Boyne City before trekking about 2 blocks to the porch. After the blessings and carols, including a beautiful rendition of Amazing Grace played on the trumpet by Bob Greene, the group walked back to the Café to share in fellowship, dinner and drinks.

Eta Nu and Hospice of Northwest Michigan would like to thank everyone who purchased hearts and tree lights as well as the sponsors who contributed mate-

rials or services for this year's event. It could not be a success without their support. Sponsors included Bob Grove and the Dilworth Hotel who hosted the tree; Hailey Drost, who donated the tree; Miller Poineau & Naumes INC, provided the wood hearts; Industrial Magnetics Inc. who provided the printing; Val and Larry Glasgow, owners of Water Street Café; and Sydney Wormel from Upsy-Daisy Floral and Kimberly Pappas from The Brook Retirement Communities who provided beautiful flower arrangements.

This year there were 41 personalized hearts and 127 memorial tree lights bought to help make this another incredible event. In the past 31 years, over \$100,000 has been raised and donated to Hospice of Northwest Michigan through these efforts. At a chapter meeting of the organization on January 14, 2019, Pati Scott, Boyne Eta Nu Lights of Love Committee Chairwoman presented Jeanne Marriott, Executive Director of Hospice of Northwest Michigan, with a check in the amount of \$4,355.00 – the entire amount received

from the efforts. "The time and labor these Eta Nu ladies put in to making this fundraiser a success is simply amazing," noted Marriott.

Hospice of Northwest Michigan is a 501(c)3 non-profit, community based hospice, serving Antrim, Charlevoix, Emmet and Otsego Counties. Call (800) 551-4140 or email j.marriott@nwhealth.org for more information on hospice services, or to learn more about how you can help with a fundraiser of your own, or as a volunteer for patients.

## Great Lakes Energy to construct fiber network

Great Lakes Energy (GLE) has announced construction plans for its fiber network starting this spring in parts of Emmet and Charlevoix counties. The construction will expand availability of Trustream fiber internet and voice services to thousands of rural residents who do not have access to fiber at their home or business. The fiber network delivers download speeds up to 1 Gig (1,000 megabits per second), massive bandwidth, unlimited voice services and no data caps.

As an electric cooperative, GLE is dedicated to driving innovation in technology and customer experience for rural residents and businesses. GLE is encouraging interested members to register their interest on [www.jointruestream.com](http://www.jointruestream.com). There is no obligation once registered.

Many have already voiced their interest and expressed how life changing fiber internet is for them. The benefits of fiber are already making an impact.

"The numbers don't lie," said Brian Bates of Bear Creek Organic farm in Petoskey Michigan, who posted speed test results on Facebook after having service installed. "Trustream is more than 400 times faster than speeds we were able to get with our previous internet provider. And for 75% less money with no contract and unlimited everything!"

Trustream opens the door for more than just downloading and streaming content at high speeds. Internet connections for many will finally catch up with modern video and voice calling technology, offering a sharper image, clearer sound, and minimized lag. The opportunity to work from home or take classes will become a reality for thousands of Michigan residents. The structure will be put in place for future connected smart-home technologies and advancements.

"Our entire community will benefit from the Trustream fiber network. Not only will members experience some of the fastest internet speeds and most reliable connectivity in the country, we believe the long-term economic boost to the area will be substantial," said Great Lakes Energy CEO Bill Scott. "Studies have shown that just having access to fiber can add to a home's real estate value, and we've already had 9,000 people register their interest. We're thrilled to launch in our Petoskey service area first, and we plan to continue expanding. Construction will take time though."

Fast, reliable Internet is becoming an essential utility, as vital as power or water for many. GLE is confident the Trustream fiber network will build a better, more connected future.

Visit [gtlakes.com](http://gtlakes.com) or [jointruestream.com](http://jointruestream.com) for additional information



## Boyne Falls Public Schools STUDENT OF THE WEEK



### Alice Loper

Grade: 8th

Parent's Name(s): Joe and Barb Loper

Future Plans: Attend and play volleyball in college

Favorite Book: "The Brothers Grim Fairytales"

Hobbies and Interests: Ski, Read and Write

School Activities: Volleyball, Basketball, and Softball

Staff Comments: Alice has done a great job this year. She demonstrates teamwork by being positive and helpful. Always with a smile. Alice is polite, respectful, and a pleasure to have in class. She participates in volleyball, basketball, and softball and is a student/athlete who represents Boyne Falls Public School in the right way. Great job Alice!

Submitted By: Jason Stolarski



Pictured Left to Right, Front Row: Matthew Solomon, Mary Lentz, Joe Gaffney, Boddy Whitley. Back Row: Catherine Hayes, Aiden Parish, Jillian Romono, Izzy Hosler, Alessandra Jess, Ryan Tall. Courtesy photo

## St. Mary School Spelling Bee Winners

St Mary School hosted its annual Scripps Spelling Bee on Monday, January 14. 1st – 3rd place prizes were given to each grade level 5th through 8th grades, and the top six spellers will advance to the County Bee on Thursday, February 14th at Boyne City High School Performing Arts Center. Principal Kathleen Dvoracek noted that many of the children have been studying hard all year.

"Quite a few of our students formed a spelling club after last year's spelling bee and have been meeting weekly to study. Their hard work has paid off as many of the spelling club members are advancing to the

County-level Spelling Bee."

Grade level winners were:

5th Grade: Alessandra Jess (1st), Matthew Solomon (2nd), Joe Gaffney (3rd)

6th Grade: Ryan Tall (1st), Mary Lentz (2nd), Boddy Whitley (3rd)

7th Grade: Catherine Hayes (1st)

8th Grade: Izzy Hosler (1st), Jillian Romano (2nd), Aiden Parish (3rd)

The top six advancing to the County-level Spelling Bee are: Izzy Hosler, Alessandra Jess, Matthew Solomon, Catherine Hayes, Ryan Tall and Mary Lentz.

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# News

## “Phil” prepares for annual Groundhog Day forecast

BY JIM AKANS

A spry 130-plus years old, Punxsutawney Phil is once again preparing to emerge from his cozy groundhog burrow on February 2, a.k.a; Groundhog Day.

According to Wikipedia; “The first reported news of a Groundhog Day observance was arguably made by the Punxsutawney Spirit newspaper of Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania in 1886: “up to the time of going to press, the beast has not seen its shadow”. However, it was not until the following year in 1887 that the first Groundhog Day considered “official” was commemorated here, with a group making a trip to the Gobbler’s Knob part of town to consult the groundhog. People have gathered annually at the spot for the event ever since.”

That’s a longstanding tradition for a weather forecaster that has been on the questionable side of accuracy. The method is fairly simple; if Phil sees his shadow; there will be six more weeks of winter (a safe bet here in Northern Michigan), and if not; spring is on the near horizon (as long as that horizon extends to mid-May for this area).

According to the “infoplease” website, the origins of this Groundhog Day tradition extend back to Europe many centuries ago. Back then, people would keep an eye on emerging hibernating animals, such as the groundhog, during mid-winter. If they cast shadows because of sunning days it was considered a bad sign. Those days are typically cold and that just might mean winter is retreating slowly.

“Throughout history numerous holidays have marked this seasonal crossroads,” infoplease relates. “Among these is Candlemas Day, February 2, a Christian holiday that celebrates Mary’s ritual purification. Early Christians believed that if the sun came out on Candlemas Day, winter would last for six weeks more.”

In terms of accuracy, “livescience.com” found that Phil has predicted over 100 forecasts of six more months of winter and only about 20 for an early spring. Data from “Stormfax Almanac” show this to be around thirty-nine percent accurate. Looking at the years since 1969, that accuracy falls to about thirty-six percent...global warming



The groundhog (*Marmota monax*) is a rodent of the family *Sciuridae*, belonging to the group of large ground squirrels. Emerging from its burrow on February 2, if it sees a shadow due to clear weather, it will retreat to its den and winter will persist for six more weeks. If it does not see its shadow because of cloudiness, spring will arrive early. Wikipedia photo

may be working against Phil. Bottom line; flipping a coin produces better odds of weather prediction.

Still, Phil is fun..Phil is tradition..and Phil is treated very well.

The “Penn Live Blog” notes:

- Phil has his own car. It’s called the Philmobile and it’s a little bus that houses members of the Inner Circle. Phil has a special seat on the outside, so he can be seen during parades.

- Phil takes a magical elixir every summer to extend his lifespan. The elixir also changes his appearance (much like the Doctor in “Doctor Who”), which explains why Phil may be grey one year and a youthful brown the next. Alas, the elixir does not work on humans. “We’ve tried, it just makes them fat and bald,” said Ron Ploucha, Stump Warden of the Inner Circle of the Groundhog Club and co-handler of Phil. “If you saw some of our Inner Circle members you can tell the ones that tried.”

- Phil has a wife. Well, make that Phil has had many wives. While Phil has an extended lifespan, his wives do not partake in the elixir so they pass away like normal groundhogs do. Phil’s current wife is called Phyllis - of course.

- Phil was not in “Groundhog Day.” In that Bill Murray movie he is played by a groundhog named Scooter - who bit the actor three times during filming. Phil was Murray’s first choice for the role. “He’s treated like royalty and is very well-behaved. A true professional,” the actor told The Philadelphia Inquirer in 1993. “So when they couldn’t get him - a creature who has been hand-raised since birth and is very tame - what did they do? They went out into the woods and caught this Scooter, a groundhog who hated my guts from day one.”

The film, “Groundhog Day,” was released in 1993. It’s a classic comedy about Phil Connors, played by Bill Murray, who becomes

trapped in a Groundhog Day loop, replaying the day over and over again.

IMDb (Internet Movie Database) offers some fun trivia about the film:

- Bill Murray and Harold Ramis (director) have both been honorary Grand Marshals for the Groundhog Day celebrations in Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania.

- The scene where Phil picks up the alarm clock and slams it onto the floor didn’t go as planned. Bill slammed down the clock, but it barely broke, so the crew bashed it with a hammer to give it the really smashed look. The clock actually continued playing the song like in the movie.

- All the clocks in the diner are stopped, mirroring Phil’s predicament.

- Though Phil Connors almost certainly experiences February 2nd thousands of times, 38 of which are said to be actually depicted, a careful sorting of “day-isolated” sequences and/or events plus a parsing of Connors’ dialogue accounts for at least 42 days - the exact number of days of additional winter predicted by Punxsutawney Phil (6 weeks).

- When Ned Ryerson accosts Phil Connors in the street, John Candy can be seen in the background giving money to the older homeless person.

- There is a small plaque that reads “Bill Murray stepped here” on the curb where Murray continually steps into a puddle. There is another plaque on the building wall at the corner that says “Ned’s Corner” where Bill Murray was continually accosted by insurance salesman Ned Ryerson (Stephen Tobolowsky).

- Harold Ramis and Danny Rubin considered including an explanation for Phil being stuck in a time loop. The possibilities included was that Phil had been cursed by a scorned lover or someone he had verbally abused. But they decided it was best to leave it a mystery.

Mystery is really what the celebration of Groundhog day is about. As we hopefully cross the midpoint of the winter season why not put our hopes for the early arrival of spring into a clue provided by a celebrity marmot, (a large rodents related to large ground squirrels) and his shadow? On a personal note: I hope he doesn’t!

## Marion Township Public Hearings on Proposed Amendments to the Zoning Ordinance

The Marion Township Planning Commission will hold five consecutive public hearings on proposed amendments to the Marion Township Zoning Ordinance on Monday, February 25, 2019 starting at 7pm. . The purpose of the amendments is to comply with recent changes in state and federal laws and court rulings. The topics and order of the public hearings will be as follows: 1.) content-neutral signage; 2.) adult and child care facility regulations; 3.) medical marihuana; 4.) cell towers and antennae; and 5.) small cell wireless facilities.

Contact the Marion Township Clerk, Tim Matchett, at Marion Township, 01362 Matchett Road, Charlevoix, MI 49720, or (231) 547-2154 to set up time to view the draft ordinances or to submit comments in writing, preferably at least one week in advance, prior to the meeting.

The public hearings will be held in the Marion Township Hall located at 03735 Marion Center Rd., Charlevoix, Michigan. All interested parties are invited to attend the hearings and comment on the Zoning Ordinance amendments.

## Register now for “Girls Bikini Radar Run” breast cancer fundraiser

Courtney Fender of Twisted Princess Racing and native of East Jordan will be hosting TNT’s Ride Like A Girl To Save The Girls Bikini Radar Run during the 2019 East Jordan Sno-Blast Festival, on February 23rd starting at noon. The event will be held at the East Jordan Sno-Mobilers Clubhouse on Mt. Bliss Road in East Jordan.

The bikini radar run is a fundraiser for breast cancer. Entrants are asking for support from family members, friends, co-workers, employers and community members. All monies raised will remain local and be distributed through the East Jordan Lioness Club. T-shirts and sweat shirts are also available for purchase with half of the proceeds benefiting the event. Shirt must be pre-ordered and forms are available by e-mailing Courtney at twistedprincess15@gmail.com.

Courtney is organizing the bikini run as part of her ambassadorship of TNT Lady Sledgers. Both men and women are welcome to register for the radar runs, but must wear a bikini to participate. The amazing items for the three prize packages have been rolling in every day. There will be prize packages for the rider with the fastest time, the person that raises the most money and for the rider with the best breast cancer decorated sled.

Registration forms are available now to give riders time to raise donations. Riders must be registered by February 1, 2019. Registration forms are available by e-mailing Courtney at twistedprincess15@gmail.com. Each rider in the Bikini Run will receive a t-shirt complements of Northern MI Custom Image of East Jordan.

## Sturgeon season on Black Lake set for Feb. 2

CHEBOYGAN COUNTY – One of Michigan’s most anticipated angling opportunities – the annual lake sturgeon fishing season on Black Lake in Cheboygan County – will start at 8 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 2. The 2019 total season limit on Black Lake is seven lake sturgeon. To reduce the chance of exceeding that limit, officials will close the season if one of two scenarios occurs:

- The sixth fish is harvested.
- Five fish have been harvested at the end of any fishing day.

Daily season fishing hours are 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. The season will end either at 2 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 6, or when one of the above scenarios is met, at which point DNR personnel on the lake will notify anglers to immediately stop fishing for lake sturgeon.

Registration is required to participate in the season. The DNR Onaway field station (approximately 5 miles north of Onaway on Route

11) will host early registration 2 to 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 1.

“Early registration is a great opportunity for anglers to pick up their fishing identification flags and talk with DNR staff about season logistics and sturgeon populations,” said DNR fisheries biologist Tim Cwalinski.

Anglers are strongly encouraged to take advantage of the early registration Friday, but those unable to do so may register the next day at the registration trailer at Zolner Road ending on Black Lake. Morning registration begins at 7 a.m. each day of the season.

Anyone who successfully takes a lake sturgeon must contact an on-ice DNR employee and register the fish at the Zolner Road trailer registration site. Registration may include an examination of the fish’s internal organs and removal of a piece of fin tissue for DNA analysis and aging.

## BOYNE CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT INCIDENT REPORT

### Monday, January 14, 2019

1400 Threats complaint at the PD.  
1405 health and safety concerns on Pine Pointe Trl  
1732 Assist Sheriff Dept. in Boyne Falls  
2033 Assist with civil property return on S East St.  
2553 Noise complaint in the 300 block of E Division St.

### Tuesday, January 15, 2019

0850 Citation issued for for disregarding stop sign on Lake St  
1624 Arrested subject on warrant in the 400 block of N East St.  
1813 PR at High School.  
2035 PR at High School.

### Wednesday, January 16, 2019

0731 Alarm in the 400 block of N Lake St.  
1208 Vehicle unlock in the 100 block of N East St  
1322 Vehicle unlock in the Industrial Park  
1741 Pick up subject on court order on E Pine St.

### Thursday, January, 17, 2019

1059 Driving complaint coming into town from Lakeshore Dr. and Marshall Rd.  
1229 Driving complaint coming into town from M 75 N and Old State Rd.  
1642 Assist EMS in the 100 block of W Division St.  
1711 Parking complaint at Front St. and Water St.

1956 Vehicle unlock in the 200 block of Front St.  
2207 Asst. Sheriff Dept. on Traffic stop at N Park/Vogel  
2344 Suspicious vehicle in the 1200 block of Boyne Av

### Friday, January 17, 2019

0645 Assist Sheriff Dept. in Boyne Falls  
1100 salvage Vehicle inspection.  
1548 Private property damage crash in the 1300 block of Boyne Av.  
2039 Civil standby in the 300 block of E Division St.  
2054 Property damage crash at Main and Front.  
2118 Civil in the 300 block of E Division St.  
2205 Disturbance in the 300 block of Vogel.

### Saturday, January 19, 2019

0821 Assist EMS in the 300 block of E Division St  
0900 Assist with Mountain Bike Race  
1300 Assisted with Women’s March downtown.  
1406 Vehicle unlock in the 500 block of Bay St.  
1427 Assist EMS in the 100 block of N Park St.  
1813 PR at the VFW for the Fireman’s wild game dinner.  
2109 Citation issued for speed at Boyne City Rd and Court St.  
2121 Assist Sheriff Dept. on

Crozier Rd W.  
2245 Assist motorist on Boyne City Rd near city limits.

### Sunday, January 20, 2019

0847 Assist EMS in the 300 block of E Division St  
2006 Report of possible water leak, Wilson and Prospect.

### Monday, January 21, 2019

0322 Assist Sheriff Dept. on US 131 N.  
0800 Found checkbook turned in from Family Fare. Returned to owner  
0800 Found wallet turned in from Family Fare  
0800 Found wallet turned in from Family Fare  
1639 PR at Middle School basketball.  
1725 Assist EMS in the 300 block of E Division St

### Tuesday, January 22, 2019

0518 Assist. motorist on N. Lake St.  
0530 Noise complaint in the 100 block of N Park St.  
0610 Reduce Speed Ahead sign ran over Pleasant south of city limit.  
1109 Citizen assist in the 100 block of S Park St  
1721 PR at High School basketball games.  
1911 Welfare check in the 800 block of S Park St  
2354 Assist intoxicated subject on River St.

### Wednesday, January 23, 2019

0135 Civil dispute in the 600 block of Court  
0440 Dispatch deer on Lake Shore at city limit.  
0810 Juvenile Civil complaint from Brockway  
1057 Vehicle inspections at Great Lakes Energy.  
1141 911 hang up from the 1000 block of Boyne Av  
1258 Suspicious situation reported from the 300 block of E Division St.  
1333 Property damage crash at Lexamar Dr and Air Industrial Park Dr.  
1421 Parking complaint in the 500 block of W. Michigan.  
1644 Assist Sheriff Dept. at 131 and Metros.  
1649 Assist Sheriff Dept. in Boyne Falls  
1754 PR-High school wrestling  
1819 Assist Sheriff Dept. at Old State and 75 N.  
1911 Found two dogs running in the road at State and Cozy Nook. Dogs were returned back to the owner.  
1911 Fraudulent phone calls complaint.  
2103 Parking complaint on Terrace St.  
2110 911 hang up from the 200 block of S Lake St  
2118 Citation issued for defective headlight, defective tail-light. At Lake and Vogel.  
2327 Citizen assist on W

### Thursday, January 24, 2019

0243 Snow removal tow from Front St downtown.  
0250 Snow removal tow from Front St downtown.  
0703 Assist Sheriff Dept. at M-75 S and Magnet Dr.  
0810 Bond violation in the 300 block of N Lake St  
1140 Report of strong smell of natural gas in the area of Trent and Second  
1148 Suspicious situation reported on Douglas St.  
1907 Assist Sheriff Dept. on M 75 S.

### Friday, January 25, 2019

0206 Found a car in the snowbank, Front St near W Main.  
0622 Assist Sheriff Dept. on Camp Daggett Rd  
0710 Alarm in the 1200 block of Boyne Av.  
0729 Property damage crash at W Michigan and Charlevoix St.  
1010 Vehicle unlock in the 100 block of Front St  
1320 Welfare check requested in the 400 block of Front St  
1342 Vehicle unlock in the 300 block of N Lake St  
1740 Assist Sheriff Dept. on M-75 S  
2140 Motorist assist High St and Boyne Av

### Saturday, January 26, 2019

0043 Snow removal tow from the 100 block of Water St  
0251 Abandoned bicycle on N Lake St.  
0506 Dispatched injured deer in road, Marshall and Forest Way  
0853 Vehicle unlock on Union St  
0911 PR at Library for Distracted Driving Open House  
1026 Report of poor road conditions at Charlevoix St. and W. Michigan Ave.  
1410 Suspicious situation in the 1000 block of Boyne Av  
1748 Welfare check in the 400 block of Grant St.

### Sunday, January 27, 2019

0150 Arrest subject for OWI on N East St. Passenger was also arrested for outstanding warrant.  
0319 Arrest subject on 4 counts Felonious Assault in the 600 block of E Main St  
1026 Report of a dog running at large on Water St. Owner picked him up.  
1201 Property damage crash at W Division and Pleasant  
1713 Vehicle in the ditch at N. Park St. and State St.  
1730 Driving complaint on 75 S coming towards town.  
1810 Assisted with a vehicle in the ditch at M 75 S near city limits  
2231 Assist Sheriff Dept. at Mountain Pass and Deer Lake Rd.

## North Country Community Mental Health staff recognized

Employees of North Country Community Mental Health (NCCMH) who were nominated by their peers for exemplary service were recognized at an annual event at Boyne Mountain Resort in Boyne Falls. To be considered for an award, individuals nominated must exhibit a sense of personal integrity; demonstrate an understanding of the special skills required and demands inherent in the field of human services; and possess ethical leadership qualities that may not be necessarily demonstrated through a formal leadership position.

The highest Individual Achievement Award for extraordinary performance was presented to Lorie Minidis, Bellaire Center Supervisor, by NCCMH Chief Operating Officer Brian Babbitt.

Her colleagues noted that Minidis "constantly goes above and beyond for her



Back L-R: Tiffany Kiper, Ryan DeMarsh, Cab Behan Harvey, Jan Proudfoot, Dr. Charles Lapo II, Donna Appold, Lindsay Gaertner, Julie Jones, Brooke Kleinert, Carole Merritt-Doherty, Barbara Woodhams, Andrea Sarto, Alice Simmons, Jennifer Hunt, Alison Reed, Anna Holeman. Front L-R: Suzan Petee-Eubank, Danelle Paul, Anita Kornfield, Katie Somers. Courtesy Photo

job and coworkers." They added, "She keeps up with all the obligations of being a

supervisor while still carrying a full caseload. She is truly an inspiring person

and an amazing leader."

Certificates of Merit for excellent performance were presented to Dominique Cook, Sue Tramontini, Jodie Roback, and Dr. Marit Vogel.

Individuals receiving Recognition Awards were Donna Appold, Cab Behan-Harvey, Amy Carey, Jennifer Cassidy, Marguerite Champion, Mary Curran, Ryan DeMarsh, Lindsay Gaertner, Corey Goldsmith, Deborah Halleck, Anna Holeman, Jennifer Hunt, Julie Jones, Janelle Kassien, Diane Kilkenny, Tiffany Kiper, Brooke Kleinert, Anita Kornfield, Dr. Charles Lapo II, Carole Merritt-Doherty, Holly Miner, Danielle Paul, Suzan Petee-Eubank, Janice Proudfoot, Alison Reed, Andrea Sarto, Alan Scott, Alice Simmons, Joni Simon, Katie Somers, John

Thorp, and Barbara Woodhams.

Information Technology received the Team Achievement Award. The team's colleagues noted that the responsiveness of the IT Department has increased tremendously with the implementation and hiring of a specific Help Desk. "Their focus is on efficiency and getting you back up and running as soon as possible. This means we are all more efficient at our jobs and more helpful to our clients."

Team Recognition Awards were presented to Antrim/Kalkaska Offices, Bellaire Office, Center Supervisors, Cheboygan Team, Gentle Harbor Team, and Health Services Team.

Ten-year service awards were presented to Jennifer Cassidy, Melissa Howard, Kathy Martin, Marcia Peter-

son, Kathleen Steele, Nila Woods, and Ellen Wregglesworth. Twenty-year service awards were presented to Amy Carey, Carole Merritt-Doherty, and Pamela Krasinski-Wespiser. Recognized for 25 years of service were Suzan Petee-Eubank, Lynn Hershberger, Jama Moffett, and Donna Wixon. Recognized for 30 years of service were Julie Moran and Cab Behan Harvey. Alison Reed was recognized for 35 years of service. Andrea Sarto, who is retiring at the end of January, was recognized for her noteworthy career spanning 36 years of service to persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

The North Country Personnel/Staff Development committee is responsible for reviewing the nominations and selecting the award recipients.

Christine Gebhard, NCCMH Chief Executive Officer, said, "Our staff is our agency's greatest asset and it is important to recognize what they do every day to assist people with mental illness or intellectual/developmental disability to live a full life. I admire our staff members for their tremendous resilience, good humor, generosity of spirit, passion for social justice, and genuine vocation to serve others - some for 10 years, 20 years, 30 years or more."

Persons wishing to know more about the agency are encouraged to visit [www.norccmh.org](http://www.norccmh.org) or to access services call 877-470-7130.



L-R: Jennifer Morse Griffin, Susan Clingan, Dr. Charles Lapo II, Debra Erber, Dr. Marit Vogel, Nina Martenson, Lorie Minidis, Natalie Webber, Jennifer Pewinski, Marcia Peterson. Courtesy photo

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### How Can Two Similar Homes Vary in Price by More Than \$10,000?

Forgetting, for a moment, the interior improvements that set one home apart from another, there are exterior factors that also influence price. For instance, homes on primary ingress and egress streets-(that is, the main streets that lead in and out of a tract)-generally appreciate more slowly than those within the tract that are not on primary streets.

Primary ingress/egress streets generate more traffic and are therefore, generally less desirable. Thus, they have lower prices.

Within a tract, a home on a cul-de-sac may generate a higher price for the same reason-less traffic. Cul-de-sacs are frequently like a maze and they discourage drive-throughs, which is, of course, a definite benefit to residential privacy.

Even properties on one side of a street can be worth more than a similar property across from it. Why? Certain communities, because of their name, are more prestigious than others. Beverly Hills, California, of course, is one. It is known worldwide for its high-end shopping, expensive housing and impeccable name. In sections where Beverly Hills is divided from other cities and/or communities

by a street, the homes on the Beverly Hills side of the avenue command a higher price than those in the non-Beverly Hills city across from it.

Existing homes may differ radically in price for another reason-one homeowner wants to sell, and the other has to sell. The motivation for each is quite different, and so may be the pricing strategies.

Some other factors that influence price: What commercial developments are adjacent to the tract? How (un)desirable are they? And, don't forget supply and demand.

The wise buyer checks one other thing-a community's master plan. This is a must, especially if a tract (or home) is surrounded by vacant land. Most communities have one. It is usually drawn up by planners within the city of county and approved by a local planning commission. Find out what is going to be built nearby and determine how it might impact the value of the tract. All this, of course, takes time and homework. But, it is well worth it, especially when you consider that the purchase of a home is usually going to be the largest, single financial investment most people make in a lifetime.

## NCCMC preps for building renovation

North Central Michigan College will begin the renovation of its 50-year-old Main Classroom Building (AD/CL) in 2019. This renovation project is designed to provide our students with an engaging and exciting learning environment with tools and technology to prepare them for the challenges of a dynamic, creative, entrepreneurial, digital world.

Recently, the State of Michigan awarded \$3.4 million toward this project, with the College seeking an additional \$4 million match toward its completion. The new addition will be completed in the spring of 2020 and the building will be back to full operation late that semester.

Classes in the AD/CL will continue to be held during Winter semester 2019, but in preparation for the more intensive construction work beginning in May/June, there will be some preliminary departmental changes.

The current timeline for the project is found below. February 2019

- Business office, currently located in the Main Classroom Building, will move to the Library. This will include accounts receivable and student accounts.
- Student Outreach and Recruiting staff currently residing in the business office will move to Student Services located in the Student and Community Resource Center.
- Foundation staff will move to the administration offices.
- May - August 2019
  - The main classroom building will be vacated, with the exception of the administration area and the IT department.
  - The administration offices will remain open throughout the construction. Parking for only the administration staff will be in parking lot #3.
  - The upper west and southwest building entrances will be used to access the administration offices.
  - The upper east entrance will be used to access the IT

- department.
- All other access doors will be inaccessible during construction.
- The main/first entrance to the College on Howard Street will be blocked off. Only construction vehicles and administration staff will be authorized to use this entrance to access their parking in lot #3. Parking lot #2 will be blocked off and will be used as a construction staging area.
- All others wishing to access the north parking lot #1 or parking lot #7 behind the Tech building are asked to enter and exit using Atkins Road.
- All Howard Road traffic will be routed past the main entrance on Howard Street to access parking lots #4 behind the library, #5 behind the residence halls and #6 behind the gym which will not be affected during this renovation.
- It is planned that the Business Office and renovated classrooms (3) will be completed prior to the Fall 2019 semester, while the

Student Services area and addition into the Harris Gardens will remain under construction through February 2020.

There will be wayfinding signage clearly posted throughout the campus. There will also be a renovation section on the [ncmich.edu](http://ncmich.edu) website that will have a campus map and other pertinent renovation project updates.

The public is encouraged to still enjoy all that the College has to offer, and the Luncheon Lectures, Community Interest Classes, and Corporate and Community Education classes will not be affected. The College encourages visitors to park behind the Library (Lot #4) or the Student and Community Resource Center (Lot #6).

Beginning February 1, 2019, for more information about the renovation, construction and access, visit the renovation page at <http://www.ncmich.edu/community-events/building-renovation/>.

## Emmet-Charlevoix County Fair earns awards at State Convention

Emmet-Charlevoix County Fair continued its winning ways recently at the 134th annual Michigan Association of Fairs and Exhibitions convention held in Grand Rapids Jan. 10-12. The two-county fair group earned three first place awards in its division. Its multi-page booklet, Fair Time Magazine, placed first in the printed material category of the Communications Awards competition.

Emmet-Charlevoix County Fair also entered a "Yester Years" publication, produced by the Petoskey News-Review, which earned the top award in an open category. The group also took first place in the advertising and merchandise competition with the fair's branded blanket, magnet, t-shirt and pen.

Ten members of the local



Emmet-Charlevoix County Fair manager Agnes Shaw displays the three first place awards the local fair group brought home from the Michigan Association of Fairs and Exhibitions convention recently. Courtesy photo

other fair members and vendors, gaining insights and bringing home new ideas.

Emmet-Charlevoix County Fair members have attended the annual convention for over 35 years. The gathering of nearly 90 groups from fairs and festivals around Michigan share and learn from one another's experiences, exchange contact information to help continue the historically-popular county fairs.

This year, the Emmet-Charlevoix County Fair is set for Aug. 20-25 with many 4-H activities and judging scheduled in the days leading up to the fair kick-off of carnival rides and grandstand events among other activities.

fair board attended the three-day state convention where they attended work-

shops, round-table discussions and speaker sessions as well as networked with

# News Briefs

ONLINE AT WWW.CHARLEVOIXCOUNTYNEWS.COM

## BOYNE CITY

### HOW TO SELL A BUSINESS WORKSHOP

January 31, 9am-2pm, Boyne City Hall. Michigan Main Street, in partnership with the Small Business Development Center, is presenting a "How to Buy or Sell a Business" workshop. The workshop will be held from 9am to 2pm with registration beginning at 8:30. The workshop fee is \$75, but Boyne City businesses can participate free of charge by using code MMSBiz when they register. Workshop details and registration are online at clients.sbdcmichigan.org. Pre-registration is preferred; however, walk-ins will be welcomed.

## CHARLEVOIX

### SHADOWFEST

February 1 & 2, Downtown. Charlevoix's Groundhog Shadow Fest celebrates the best of winter. With numerous fun activities, there is something for everyone. Pancake Breakfast, Shadow Fest Soup Contest, Free Movie @ Charlevoix Cinema III

Kids Events & Prizes, Beer Tent - DJ Big Mike, Live Music featuring the Galactic Sherpas, Disc Golf Putting Contest, Cocktail Contest and Amazing Discounts at Downtown Stores. Schedule at charlevoixshadowfest.com

## BOYNE CITY

### OPEN CONVERSATION ABOUT ATHEISM

February 3, 6:30pm, Lifetree Cafe. The program, titled "What Your Atheist Friend Wants You to Know: The Conversation No One Is Having" includes a film featuring honest insights from atheists about their beliefs and their experience with people of faith. The program gives participants the opportunity to have a safe, open conversation about their experiences with atheist secularism and faith. Admission to the 60-minute event is free. Lifetree Cafe is in the First Presbyterian Church, 401 S. Park St., Boyne City. Use the Pine St. entrance.

## PETOSKEY

### NORTHERN MI CHORAL SPRING CONCERT REGISTRATION

February 4, 6:15-6:55pm, Cross of Christ Lutheran Church in Petoskey at 1400 E. Mitchell Road. Rehearsals start on the 28th and continue on Monday evenings, from 7 - 9pm. The spring concert titled, "Broadway to the Silver Screen" will be performed at the Great Lakes Center for the Arts in Bay Harbor. Dates for the performances are Saturday, May 4, afternoon and evening and Sunday, May 5 in the afternoon. The membership fee for new members is \$30 each, and family is \$40, and includes a practice CD. High School students pay \$10. A music fee of \$15 is also collected from new members. Students from North Central Michigan College, taking Chorale, as Music 101, Chorale I, for credit, will pay the music fee only. Registration by members, online, is encouraged. Go to the Chorale website: www.NMChorale.org and select JOIN US. For information, please call our Treasurer Sarah Sevens at 231-347-6985.

## CHARLEVOIX

### CHAMBER ANNUAL

### MEETING AND AWARDS BREAKFAST

February 8, 7-9am, Castle Farms. Please join us in celebrating the award winners; Outstanding Citizen; Maureen Owens, Business of the Year; Charlevoix State Bank, New Business of the Year; Northern Explorers Child Development Center, Young Professional of the Year; Jodi Bingham, Customer Service Award; Charlevoix Public Library and Chamber Ambassador Award; Cheryl Carey. This year's featured speaker is David L. Miles, Charlevoix Historical Society Curator. Also, on the morning's agenda is a review of the Chamber's accomplishments in 2018, as well as an introduction of the current Board of Directors and special recognition and thank you to our outgoing Board members. Tickets (\$30 per person) include catered breakfast buffet and are available at Charlevoix Chamber; (231) 547-2101 or email; info@charlevoix.org. Online registration is open at www.charlevoix.org.

## BOYNE CITY

### FRESHWATER CONCERTS PRESENTS ALBERT LEE

February 9, 8pm, Freshwater Art Gallery, 217 S. Lake Street. If you watched the George Harrison Tribute concert on PBS Saturday night you saw Albert on stage trading licks with Eric Clapton, Paul McCartney, Tom Petty, Jeff Lynn, etc. He is the real deal. The chance to see someone of this stature playing in an intimate setting in Northern Michigan is rare.....very rare. Tickets \$35 in advance and \$40 at the door. Call to reserve; (231) 582-2588.

## EAST JORDAN

### ANNUAL DADDY DAUGHTER SWEETHEART DANCE

February 9, 6-8pm, East Jordan High School Cafeteria. Presented by the CO-OP Nursery. Grandfathers, uncles or friends welcome. Includes DJ, Dancing, Ice Cream Sundae, Craft and Photo Moment. \$20 per couple, \$25 for a family with two or more daughters. Please contact a Co-Op Nursery Parent or the school office (238) 536-7564, ext 5166 with any questions.

## EAST JORDAN

### ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT SWISS STEAK DINNER

February 9, 5-7pm. The East Jordan United Methodist Women are sponsoring an All you care to eat Swiss Steak Dinner with Swiss steak, mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans, salads, rolls, and homemade pies. The dinner will be held at the United Methodist Church, 201 Fourth Street. Ticket prices are \$9 for adults, \$5 ages 5-12, under 5 free.

## BOYNE CITY

### THE LIMITS OF LOVE DISCUSSED

February 10, 6:30pm, Lifetree Cafe. The program, titled "What Would You Do for Love? One Guy's Outrageous, Risk-It-All Adventure to Get the Girl," includes a film featuring Ryan Leak, whose girlfriend, Amanda Roman, once said she wanted to get engaged and married on the same day. So, Ryan secretly invited 100 of their friends and family to fly to Miami to witness their wedding—before

he'd proposed. The only flight into Miami that was delayed was Amanda's flight. "She had no idea she was getting married the next day," said Ryan who struggled to stay calm while keeping his secret. Admission to the 60-minute event is free. Lifetree Cafe is in the First Presbyterian Church, 401 S. Park St., Boyne City. Use the Pine St. entrance.

## BOYNE CITY

### HOUSING SOLUTIONS MEETING

February 15, 1-2:30pm, Commission Chambers at Boyne City Hall. The Boyne Area Chamber, in conjunction with the City of Boyne City and surrounding townships, has organized Boyne Housing Solutions, a group focused on scouting solutions to our housing needs in the Boyne Area. As many are aware, the supply of housing options in the Boyne Area is currently not keeping up with the demand. Some businesses are finding it difficult to hire employees, because potential employees can't find an affordable place to live within reasonable driving distance. The public is invited to attend

## BOYNE CITY

### CHOCOLATE COVERED BOYNE

February 15 & 16. Sponsored by the Main Street Program, the event includes more than 30 businesses offering chocolate treats and sales. Chocolate-Covered Boyne has a combined chocolate/Valentine theme. Participating businesses can send their sweet specials to bcmainstreet@gmail.com by February 1. The Chocolate Dessert Tasting and Contest will be held from 11am to 1pm on Saturday, Feb. 16. Dessert tastings will start at 11am with the judging and award at 1pm. The dessert tasting and contest will take place at Stiggs Brewery & Kitchen, the winner of last year's contest.

## CHARLEVOIX

### DOWNTOWN SIDEWALK SALES

February 15 & 16. Enjoy countless bargains and more on a variety of great merchandise at participating stores. Take advantage of substantial reductions on seasonal inventory that must go. Shoppers will find great discounts on gift items, home decor, clothing, books, art, jewelry, accessories and more.

## BOYNE CITY

### INTELLIGENT LIFE ON OTHER PLANETS EXPLORED

February 17, 6:30pm, Lifetree Cafe. The program, titled "We're Not Alone? The Search for Intelligent Life on Other Planets," features a filmed interview with Dr. Seth Shostak, senior astronomer at the SETI Institute and author of Confessions of an Alien Hunter: A Scientist's Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence. Participants in the Lifetree program will have an opportunity to share their thoughts and experiences related to the topic. Admission to the 60-minute event is free. Lifetree Cafe is in the First Presbyterian Church, 401 S. Park St., Boyne City. Use the Pine St. entrance.

## WALLOON LAKE

### BOYNE CHAMBER BUSINESS AFTER HOURS

February 21, 5:30pm, Walloon Lake Trust and Conser-

vancy, 4060 M-75, Suite 102. Business After Hours is the Chamber's monthly business networking event, held at member businesses. There is no charge for admission or refreshments.

## EAST JORDAN

### 38TH ANNUAL SNO-BLAST

February 22-24. This annual event includes Sno-Sculpture Contest, Crowning of the Belle of the Blizzard & Winter Knight, Blessing of the Sleds, Girls Bikini Radar Run fundraiser, the Annual Rotary Chili Supper, Antique Snowmobile Show, Snowmobile Safari Ride, Euchre Party, Family Games, Softball in the Snow, Sno-Lovers Breakfast and much more. Full schedule at www.ejchamber.org

## BOYNE CITY

### PERSONAL TRAGEDIES EXPLORED

February 24, 6:30pm, Lifetree Cafe. The Lifetree event, titled "Why, God? When Personal Tragedy Doesn't Make Sense," features an original film depicting the true story of Thomas Vander Woude, who found his son struggling for his life after a backyard accident. According to Lifetree Cafe representative Craig Cable, "When tragedy strikes, many people question how God could allow such suffering. This Lifetree program addresses this question head-on." This is Potluck Sunday. Bring a dish to share at 5:30pm. Admission to the 60-minute event is free. Lifetree Cafe is in the First Presbyterian Church, 401 S. Park St., Boyne City. Use the Pine St. entrance.

## PETOSKEY

### PROJECT CONNECT

March 13, 11am-3pm, Odawa Casino. Project Connect is a day of service for those in need in Charlevoix and Emmet Counties. During this one-day event 500 to 1,000 individuals will connect with a range of health and human services provided by around 70 local non-profit agencies and businesses. Free services are available in areas such as: Education & Employment, Food & Nutrition, Health & Wellness, Housing & Finance, Kids & Parenting, Veterans Affairs and other Social Services. Guests can also receive gifts of personal care items. The idea behind the event is to help people who may be struggling to make ends meet, to have access to the services they need without the confusion, red tape, and waits that often characterize social services.

## BOYNE CITY

### FARMERS MARKET

Boyne City Hall, Saturday's, 9am - 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@boyncity.com

## CHARLEVOIX COUNTY

### COMMUNITY FOUNDATION GRANTS

The Charlevoix County Community Foundation announces the availability of grant dollars to support the work of area nonprofit organi-

zations, educational institutions, and municipalities. The deadline to submit a grant proposal is Friday, March 1, 2019. Eligible nonprofit organizations serve residents of Charlevoix County and work to enrich or improve life for local residents. Applications will be reviewed by advisory committees made up of community representatives. The youth advisory committees will review proposals that benefit young people. Committee recommendations will be forwarded to the respective Boards of Trustees. To apply for a grant or for more information, call or email your local community foundation. In Charlevoix County call 231.536.2440 to contact Mishelle Shooks for youth grants at mshooks@c3f.org or Maureen Radke for all other grants at maureen@c3f.org.

## 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 WR-CNM'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.wr-cnm.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

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## EJ AWARDS

FROM PG. 1A

they were both humbled to accept the award on behalf of all those who serve at the East Jordan Senior Center.

Reed said she's always been happy to help out her community in whatever ways she could throughout her lifetime and plans to continue as long as she can. "I'm 86 for heaven's sake," she chuckled.

## SPIRIT AWARD

Two students at East Jordan Middle/High School were named winners of the chamber's 2018 Spirit Award for their video production project titled, "Elf on the Shelf".

Alex Schlueter, a junior at the high school this year, and Justin Barnett, a senior, nabbed the award for the video they produced with their class under the direction of teacher Matt Hamilton.

Schlueter, who starred as "the elf" in the video, showed up at the chamber banquet dressed head to toe in his red elf costume, however, event organizers mercifully allowed him to sit at a table and did not place him on a shelf. He

and Barnett, chief cameraman on the production, accepted the award on behalf of their classmates, who they thanked for their assistance.

Schlueter also had others to thank:

"Mostly, I want to thank my mom, because she had to put up with this (video production) for a long time," he said, adding thanks to his girlfriend for the same thing.

## BUSINESS OF THE YEAR

"Socks Kick" took East Jordan's Business of the Year Award for the remarkably impressive trajectory the business has taken since it launched in 2017.

Husband and wife owners Baris and Cigdem Atmaca were traveling in Turkey at the time of last weekend's banquet and unable to attend and receive their award, which was accepted on behalf of the couple by Baris's former Rotary exchange parents.

Faculak explained how the seed for Socks Kick was sown when Baris came to northern Michigan in 2005 and spent a year in East Jordan as a Rotary exchange student. It was experiencing the

cold and snowy winters here that gave him the idea that warm socks might someday be a lucrative business venture in such a cold region.

A few years later, Baris returned to East Jordan where he and wife Cigdem opened their business in 2017. Since then, Socks Kick, which sells just what it says-socks-has won the 2018 green Light East Jordan Business Model Competition and took third place in the Northern Lakes Economic Alliance regional Grand Event business competition. Both awards included cash prizes to help the new business owners succeed.

Faculak lauded Baris, noting how he "exudes positive energy and unwavering belief, love and commitment in the East Jordan community."

While the Atmacas were unable to attend the event, they provided a prepared statement:

"We had a goal to put East Jordan on the map as the town with cozy socks," the couple wrote.

And by all accounts- so far, so good.

## RENAISSANCE AWARD

For their very visible ef-

forts in physically re-shaping and reviving parts of East Jordan, Rick and Rebecca Gotts of Water Street Ventures were named winners of this year's Renaissance Award.

Faculak said the impact being made by the numerous projects generated by Water Street Ventures has been significant and noticeable by residents and visitors alike.

Water Street Ventures was behind the restoration of two of the city's historical structures, re-shaping the entryway to the city and renovating the waterfront structure that's soon to be developed for multi business use.

Faculak described husband and wife Rick and Rebecca Gotts as a "dynamic team" in the work they've both completed and have planned in the community.

"The recipients of this award are and will continue to be mindful of hiring and supporting local talent and resources. They believe in history and research and are true members of this community," Faculak said, "They are believers that East Jordan is a great place by helping make it a little better."

## THE da VINCI

## AWARD

Cheri Leach of Raven Hill Discovery Center was winner of the chamber's signature da Vinci Award, which Faculak explained was named after the legendary painter Leonardo da Vinci.

Faculak said Leach was chosen for the award because she best personifies one of da Vinci's most well-known quotes in which he stated:

"It has long since come to my attention that people of accomplishment rarely sat back and let things happen to them. They went out and happened to things."

And Leach, said Faculak, lives by that quote.

She described Leach as a woman with 'tenacity' whose 'vision and determination' has brought such an educational and recreational gem as Raven Hill for all ages of the community to enjoy throughout their lifetime.

Faculak pointed to the countless and ever-changing programming and exhibits featured at Raven Hill throughout the year, including a wide variety of workshops, a Jurassic garden, a treehouse, archeological digs and the Water/Ways Smithsonian Museum exhibit which Raven Hill recently hosted, to name a few.

## CITIZENS OF THE YEAR AWARD

Bob and Sherry Pursel are winners of the East Jordan Area Chamber of Commerce's 2018 Citizens of the Year Award.

Faculak applauded the husband and wife team for their "tireless dedication to a wide range of community organizations and projects improving the quality of life for all of us."

The Pursels routinely volunteer for countless events and agencies and are active in a wide variety of groups and organizations, among them the Charlevoix Area Humane Society, the United Methodist Church and Lake Charlevoix Association.

"No event or community gathering is without them," Faculak said of the couple, "They truly are two of our community's biggest promoters and supporters."

## Drs. Oz and Roizen

Television's Dr. Oz and Cleveland Clinic's Dr. Roizen report on health, wellness and quality of life.



### The health benefits of giving up alcohol for one month a year

Dean Martin and Foster Brooks had successful Las Vegas nightclub careers based on characters who were fun-loving drunks. Once people sobered up and realized that a drunk wasn't something to laugh at, those characters were retired. Now, it seems sobriety is all the rage, at least for the month of January in the U.K.

The charitable group Alcohol Change U.K. started Dry January, which is an initiative to get people to give up alcohol for the first month of the year. People all around the world have taken part in it. Researchers from the University of Sussex have found that the health benefits of abstaining for a month are far-reaching.

A three-times-a-year survey of 2,500 people who took part in Dry January found that everyone who took the challenge reported higher energy levels and healthier body weights. Participants reduced their average number of drinking days throughout the year from 4.3 to 3.3 days per week. On days when they did drink, consumption was down more than 10 percent. They also reduced excessive drinking by more than 30 percent. Ninety percent of participants reported that they saved money, 80 percent felt more in control of their drinking habits, and 70 percent reported better overall health and improved sleep.

Interestingly, the benefits from Dry January extended, although to a lesser degree, to those who didn't make it through the whole month. So just giving it a try can boost your health. Don't wait until next January. Test it out for February in the ol' USA.

### Food that loves you back twice!

In 1983 Danny Ainge was playing for the Boston Celtics (he's now their GM and president of basketball operations) when he and 7-foot-1 Monte "Tree" Rollins, a center for the Atlanta Hawks, got into a scuffle that ended with Rollins biting Ainge's right hand. "Tree Bites Man" read the headline in the next day's Boston Herald.

Not much love in that bite. But research shows that when you bite into food, it loves you back — twice! Researchers published a study in Cell Metabolism that revealed when you first taste food, you get a hit of dopamine, the brain chemical that lets you focus on the pleasure — and then when you digest it, bam, you get another dose. Bite. Reward. Reward.

But the research also reveals that cravings can interfere with that reward system. If you're craving something and take a bite, that first hit of dopamine takes over. After you swallow, the second hit is very small. Cravings seem to be associated with a dysregulation of the whole hungry/eat/feel-full process.

So how can you reduce cravings and protect your double dose of dopamine for maximum eating pleasure and health?

First: Eat slowly. Alternate bites between the foods you crave and foods you don't crave. For many, that'll be veggies and whole grains.

Second: If you're overweight, losing weight may reduce cravings. Research indicates that if you're obese, the reward you feel from eating is associated with brain changes that are similar to ones associated with addiction. Twelve-step programs, exercise, revised nutritional habits and therapy can help.

### Solving bladder leak problems

Horror fiction novelist Stephen King, say aficionados on reddit, has at least one character in every

novel ("The Stand" and "Under the Dome," for example) who pees in his or her pants.

Being frightened does that to you, because the limbic system in the brain (where the fight-or-flight impulse lives) can override the command center in your frontal cortex that says, "Hey, let's wait and urinate later, say, when there's a bathroom around." And then whoosh, you've wet yourself.

But it's not just scary situations that cause bladder leaks and floods. An estimated 25 to 30 percent of men and women (far more women) deal with urinary incontinence. About 33 million have overactive bladder, others have stress incontinence (the kind that's triggered by laugh, picking up something, sneezing) or a combination of both. It can happen because of age, menopause, a sedentary lifestyle, pregnancy or childbirth. Smoking increases the risk, as does diabetes, obesity and prostate problems.

Although there are some medical (Botox), surgical (artificial sphincter) and device-based (catheters) treatments, sometimes your best bets are pelvic-muscle-strengthening exercises called Kegels (with biofeedback) and cognitive behavioral therapy that helps your mind and body take control of your responses. One recent study found that a two-hour group bladder control class created improvements in urination frequency and severity of the problem.

Down the road is a new device (only tested in the lab so far) called a miniaturized bio-optoelectronic implant, that uses a light-emitting device to short circuit the uncooperative bladder and allow controlled filling and emptying.

### Getting real about artificial sweeteners

Tab, one of the first diet colas on supermarket shelves in the 1960s, was billed as a soft drink "for

beautiful people." The original Tab was sweetened with saccharin, which caused bladder cancer in rodents. The company reformulated the soda with the artificial sweetener aspartame, which some studies indicate is associated with changes in your microbiome that increase insulin resistance and inflammation. That leads to higher risks of obesity, high blood pressure, Type 2 diabetes, stroke and cardiovascular disease.

People love to think that no-calorie sweeteners are better for them than drinking sweetened beverages. But humans are hardwired to think that sweet flavors signal "Calories are coming! Calories are coming!" When, repeatedly, they don't arrive, it disrupts the brain and body's ability to know when you're full, making you crave real sugar and disrupting glucose-regulating insulin secretion. That can trigger overeating and weight gain.

A recent study in BMJ finds limited evidence that artificial sweeteners provide any health benefits. In the review of 56 studies, the researchers didn't find statistical evidence that consuming non-sugar sweeteners improved health. In another review of 37 studies, published in a journal of the Canadian Medical Association, those drinking artificially sweetened beverages had higher incidences of weight gain, obesity, diabetes and heart disease.

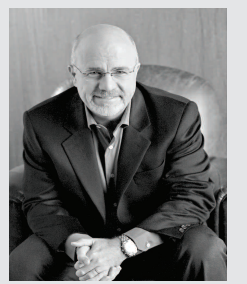
Your best move: get real! For sweetened beverages, opt for adding berries (whole or pureed), orange slices or pineapple to seltzer water. Enjoy 1 ounce of 70 percent cacao dark chocolate, and a handful of nuts. Pecans, cashews and roasted walnuts are naturally sweet.

\*\*\*

Mehmet Oz, M.D. is host of "The Dr. Oz Show," and Mike Roizen, M.D. is Chief Wellness Officer and Chair of Wellness Institute at Cleveland Clinic. To live your healthiest, tune into "The Dr. Oz Show" or visit [www.sharecare.com](http://www.sharecare.com).

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## DAVE Says



Dave Ramsey

### (Let her take care of the payments)

Dear Dave,

My daughter is in college, and I've always warned her to stay away from credit cards. Recently, I learned she got a department store credit card despite my advice. She has stayed within her credit limit, but she has never made any of the payments. At this point, she owes about \$3,500. She's a good student, and I want to look at this as a young person's mistake. Should I pay it off for her this one time?

Joseph

Dear Joseph,

You're right, this is a typical young person's mistake. Like a lot of mistakes our kids make, it's one that's bad and wonderful at the same time. It's bad because, if she had just listened to dear old dad, she would've avoided a mess. It's wonderful, though, because it gives you the opportunity to provide her with a real world, teachable moment.

I understand you wanting to help her out "this one time." It means you have a good heart, and that you care about your daughter and love her. There's a reality here, though, I hope you won't overlook. It's her debt, not yours. She knew what she was doing when she signed up for that credit card. She knew what it meant, what was expected, and she is the one who should have to make good on the repayment. The entire deal is legal and fair.

At this point, my advice is to put your arm around her, talk to her, and lovingly explain where she went wrong and why it was a bad idea. You can even help her find a part-time job if she doesn't have one right now, so she can pay off her debt and get out of this mess. But leave the payments to her. My guess is by the time she finishes working her tail off to pay this debt she will have learned a lesson she'll remember for the rest of her life!

—Dave

### (Relationships and money)

Dear Dave,

My father-in-law wants to help us with our mortgage. We've been working hard to pay off our home early, and we've reduced what we owe to around \$35,000. His idea is to pay off the remainder, then let us pay him back over time. In the past, he has loaned us much smaller amounts and everything has worked out fine. What do you think about this?

Brianne

Dear Brianne,

I'm sure this seems like a winning proposition all the way around. My concern is there's a big spiritual and emotional issue that has been left out of the equation. The borrower is always slave to the lender, and nowhere is that more true than in a family.

I understand, too, you have a solid track record with this kind of thing. But anytime you borrow money from family you're playing with fire. When you do something like this, especially with such a large amount, the money issue is likely to be a shadow hovering over your relationship. Family get together, special events, and holidays will feel different when you're there with your lender instead of just good old dad.

I assume your father-in-law is doing well financially, since he can afford to make this offer. And don't get me wrong, it's a very kind and generous offer. If I were in his shoes, I might offer instead to pay off the mortgage as a gift to my son and daughter-in-law for working so hard to attain a goal. But it would be a gift. No strings attached.

If you have a nice, stable family, this debt will always be there in the back of your mind. If you have a dysfunctional, control-freak kind of family, it's going to be right there in front of you constantly. Either way, I don't think it's worth the risk.

—Dave

\*Follow Dave on the web at [daveramsey.com](http://daveramsey.com) and on Twitter at @DaveRamsey.

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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 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 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.

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 Eshart, 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

### 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 CINDA SHUMAKER)

## 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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