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Charlevoix  
**County News**

March 28, 2019

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A few smiling faces representing the Charlevoix Public Schools incoming class of 2022. Photo courtesy Charlevoix Elementary School

**Kindergarten round-ups, open houses for the 2019-20 school year**

It's the time of year when local elementary schools roll out the welcome mat for incoming kindergartners and their families, through open houses, school tours and registration activities.

Following is a list of kindergarten registration open houses, parent meetings and school tours planned throughout the Charlevoix-Emmet Intermediate School District's 11 public schools (please note: some districts require an appointment and others do not):

**ANTRIM COUNTY**

**Central Lake Public Schools**

Appointment required.  
 April 16: 6:30-7:30 p.m. Parent orientation and tours  
 April 24: Kindergarten round-up, by appointment only  
 Contact: (231) 544-5221  
 On the web: www.clps.k12.mi.us

**Ellsworth Community School**

Appointment required. Parent meeting, orientation and tours.  
 April 23: 9 a.m.-2 p.m. and 4-6 p.m.  
 Contact: (231) 588-2544  
 On the web: www.ellsworth.k12.mi.us

**CHARLEVOIX COUNTY**

**Beaver Island Community School**

No appointment required.  
 May 29: 3 p.m. Parent open house  
 Please schedule an appointment to observe classroom at any time.  
 Contact: (231) 448-2744  
 On the web: www.beaverisland.k12.mi.us

**Charlevoix Public Schools**

Appointment required. Parent meeting, orientation and tours.  
 April 26: 8:30 a.m., 10 a.m. and 12:45 p.m.  
 April 29: 8:30 a.m. and 10 a.m.  
 Contact: (231) 547-3215  
 On the web: www.rayder.net

**Boyne City Public Schools**

Appointment required. Parent meeting, orientation and tours.  
 April 24 & 25: 9 to 11 a.m. and 1 to 3 p.m.  
 April 26: 9-11 a.m. only  
 Contact: (231) 439-8300  
 On the web: www.boyne.k12.mi.us

**East Jordan Public Schools**

Appointment required. Parent meeting, orientation and tours.  
 April 17: 1-6:30 p.m.  
 April 18: 3:30-7 p.m.  
 Contact: (231) 536-7564  
 On the web: www.ejps.org

**Boyne Falls Public School**

No appointment required. Parent meeting, orientation and tours.  
 April 24: 5:30 p.m.  
 Contact: (231) 549-2211  
 On the web: www.boynefalls.org

Michigan law states that for the 2019-20 school year, a child who resides in a public school district providing kindergarten may be enrolled if the child is at least 5 years of age on or before Sept. 1, 2019. For children who will be 5 by Dec. 1, 2019, parents may enroll their child through written notification to the school district.



(l-r) Amy Mickey, Jason O'Neal and Krisi Nowka celebrate The Village People's hit "YMCA" at the 2018 Rotary Variety Show. Courtesy photo

**East Jordan Rotary Club plans 13th annual Variety Show**

The Rotary Club of East Jordan is busy planning the 13th annual Rotary Variety Show, which will be held on Friday and Saturday, April 26 and 27. Held at the Community Auditorium at East Jordan High School, show time is at 7pm each night, and doors open at 6pm for some great pre-show entertainment with Bob Bryan and the Full Circle band.

Rotarian Chip Hansen will be the show's Master of Ceremonies again this year. "If you love great music and slapstick comedy, then the Variety Show is a must see," he noted, adding, "and the belly-laughs are guaranteed!"

The show features the fabulous Rotary Chorus, supported by a great band. "The chorus and the band headline the show," Hansen said, noting, "the music will make you dance in the aisles again this year." "Bob Bryan and the Full Circle basically play a pre-show concert too," Hansen commented, "so if you like great music, come early!"

The Rotary Variety Show is a team effort. Rotarians Mike Aenis and Mark Penzien coordinate the show's production team, which selects the chorus medleys, writes the skits and crossover acts, manages the rehearsals and, in general, plans the entire show.

"We've got an amazing crew of creative Rotarians that help develop the show," Aenis said. "We should probably sell tickets for the planning sessions, because there's some pretty good stand-up comedy on display there, too."

Penzien agreed, saying, "the show brings our club closer together, and it's been awesome to see what happens when talented people work together for the benefit of the community."

The pre-show begins at 6pm, so guests are encouraged to come early to enjoy music provided by Bob Bryan and Full Circle. General admission tickets are priced at just \$10 each and are available in East Jordan at Charlevoix State Bank and from any member of the Rotary Club. A limited number of reserved seats for each show are available for \$15 each plus fees at www.mynorthtickets.com. Tickets may also be available at the door, but in very limited quantities. According to

See Variety - Page 3A

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## weather

### THURSDAY



HIGH: 45  
LOW: 24

### FRIDAY



HIGH: 45  
LOW: 29

### SATURDAY



HIGH: 34  
LOW: 19

snowfall		record temps													
2016-17	AMT" CITY	2017-18	AMT" CITY	2018-19	AMT" CITY	DAY	AVG	LOW	AVG	HIGH	RECORD	LOW	RECORD	HIGH	
3/20/17	55.1	ATLANTA	3/26/18	31.9	ATLANTA	3/25/19	61.8	ATLANTA	MAR 28	24°	46°	0°	(1965)	71°	(1989)
3/20/17	111.4	BOYNE FALLS	3/26/18	91	BOYNE FALLS	3/25/19	117	BOYNE FALLS	MAR 29	24°	47°	-7°	(1970)	72°	(1986)
3/20/17	67.3	CHARLEVOIX	3/26/18	86.1	CHARLEVOIX	3/25/19	88.2	CHARLEVOIX	MAR 30	25°	47°	4°	(1964)	71°	(1986)
3/20/17	78	CHEBOYGAN	3/26/18	58.7	CHEBOYGAN	3/25/19	81.4	CHEBOYGAN	MAR 29	24°	47°	-7°	(1970)	72°	(1986)
3/20/17	117.1	EAST JORDAN	3/26/18	127.6	EAST JORDAN	3/25/19	4132.9	EAST JORDAN	MAR 30	25°	47°	4°	(1964)	71°	(1986)
3/20/17	177	GAYLORD	3/26/18	113.7	GAYLORD	3/25/19	151.6	GAYLORD	MAR 31	25°	48°	6°	(1965)	73°	(1999)
3/20/17	144	KALKASKA	3/26/18	103.3	KALKASKA	3/25/19	118.4	KALKASKA	APR 1	25°	48°	6°	(1964)	73°	(1999)
3/20/17	60.1	LEWISTON	3/26/18	42	LEWISTON	3/25/19	68.5	LEWISTON	APR 2	26°	48°	10°	(1965)	77°	(1963)
3/20/17	86.5	ONAWAY	3/26/18	70.6	ONAWAY	3/25/19	88.1	ONAWAY	APR 3	26°	49°	7°	(1965)	73°	(1963)
3/20/17	121.1	PETOSKEY	3/26/18	107.4	PETOSKEY	3/25/19	143.5	PETOSKEY	APR 4	26°	49°	5°	(1954)	71°	(1981)

## OBITUARIES

### Kimberly Ann (Kujawa) Pedigo, 50

(APRIL 25, 1968 - MARCH 22, 2019)



Kimberly A. Pedigo, loving wife, mother, and grandmother, passed away on March 22, 2019 at the age of 50.

Kim's family will begin receiving friends on Saturday, April 6, 2019 at 11:00 a.m. at St. Augustine's Catholic

Church in Boyne Falls. A vigil service celebrating Kim's life will begin at 1:00 p.m.

Kim was born on April 25, 1968 in Warren, MI to parents James and Patricia (Kondrat) Kujawa. On February 17, 1995, she married the love of her life, Randy Pedigo. They moved to Boyne Falls to raise their two daughters, Shelby and Raegen.

Kim loved to spend time with her family, especially with her granddaughters, Emery and Ava. In the spring, she enjoyed hunting for morel mushrooms, and during Christmas time, she kept family traditions alive by making pierogis. She was best known for her kind, loving spirit and humorous personality. There wasn't a situation Kim couldn't find

joy in.

Kim was preceded in death by her parents, Jim and Pat Kujawa, and brother James Kujawa. She is survived by her husband Randy, daughters Shelby and Raegen Pedigo, granddaughters Emery and Ava Smith, sister-in-law Jean and nephew Jeremy Kujawa.

### Geraldine Lucille Joy, 100

(APRIL 15, 1918 - MARCH 21, 2019)

Geraldine Lucille Joy of Charlevoix passed away on March 21, 2019.

No services have been planned at this time.

Arrangements have been handled by the Charlevoix

Chapel of Mortensen Funeral Homes.

Please sign her online guestbook at [www.mortensenfuneralhomes.com](http://www.mortensenfuneralhomes.com)

### Doni Jo Vaughn, 41

(NOV. 4, 1977 - MARCH 25, 2019)



Doni Jo Vaughn of East Jordan passed away at Hi-

land Cottage in Petoskey, Michigan.

She was born on November 4, 1977, in Grand Rapids, the daughter of Donald and Barbara (Schneider) Lofquist.

Doni received her B.A. from Spring Arbor University and was close to completing her Master's degree. She was a passionate teacher and taught at East Jordan Public Schools.

Doni loved her children and was their biggest fan. She loved watching them play sports.

She is survived by three loving children, Jordan, Jayden and Jarrin James "J.J." Weber, all of East Jordan; step daughters, Aven and Lyndan Vaughn of Shelby Township; mother, Barbara (Bill Bosanic) Lofquist of Manistique; brother, Brian

(Nate Cox) Lofquist of Chicago; several cousins; Jim Ostlund, who was Doni's father figure most of her life; and all her special friends in her life.

Doni was preceded in death by her father, Donald Lofquist, in 1989.

Funeral services will be held on Friday, April 5, 2019, at 5:00 P.M. at the Light-house Missionary Church, 7874 Rogers Road, East Jordan. Rev. Bart Adams will officiate.

The family will receive friends on Friday from 2:00 to 5:00 P.M. In loving memory, memorials may be directed to Susan Mast ALS Foundation 2500 Waldorf Ct NW b, Grand Rapids, MI 49544.

## IMMEDIATE OPENING FOR NEWS REPORTER

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Attend and report on local governmental meetings, school board and local news reporting. Experienced writer and photographer a plus. Must have Digital camera and computer.

E-mail info and samples to Dave at [Office@CharlevoixCountyNews.com](mailto:Office@CharlevoixCountyNews.com)



## Free Lean Agriculture workshops at NCMC

North Central Michigan College's Corporate and Community Education (CCE) department is offering free Lean agriculture workshops in April. Seating is limited and you must register in advance. All workshops are from 7-9pm. in Room 536 of the Student and Community Resource Center.

Lean principles can be applied to almost every system. The focus is on making improvements every day and trying to eliminate waste. Over time, these principles have shown solid massive benefits to the prod-

uct outcome of any business, including agriculture. Come and hear real-life current examples of lean agriculture from a local farmer. Trainings are led by Wendy Babcock, Serendipity Farms Owner and Lynn Turner, Corporate Educator and Business Owner.

Introduction to Lean Agriculture on Monday, April 8, will focus on the benefits of "lean" and how using these business strategies can provide a real impact to a bottom line. This session looks at the strategy of 5S—How to improve ways individuals work and

begin to change the view of work to constant improvement.

The Waste in Farming and the Lean Approach on Wednesday, April 10 looks at "lean" waste. Learn about the eight specific types of waste during processes along with ideas to reduce them. This workshop helps people understand what creates waste in individual processes and begin to get rid of it.

The Lean Kaizen Approach on Friday, April 12 is all about making positive change and constant improvement. These skills pro-

vide an approach to discovery and a sharing of ideas and improvements. Participants can make their operations run more consistently (given all the variables of farming) and build their plan to improve the bottom line.

To register, call 231-348-6613, email [ccefaq@ncmich.edu](mailto:ccefaq@ncmich.edu) or visit [www.ncmich.edu](http://www.ncmich.edu), click on Community & Events, Corporate and Community Education Workshops.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters may be submitted by e-mail to [office@CharlevoixCountyNews.com](mailto:office@CharlevoixCountyNews.com).

### JORDAN RIVER CLEANUP

To the Editor, Further to initiative from multiple sources, this effort continues and is relatively successful. Follows a letter from Tom (Tinker) Breakey of the Jordan River Action Group.

"The River project by the Jordan River Action Group has been going real good. The last two years the Lions Club here in East Jordan has taken on the job of maintaining the collection totes at the four access sites on the river. We have a good working relationship with the DNR. As Young State Park has control of all the sites on the Jordan River, we are allowed by them to deposit all the trash collected into the dumpster at Graves Crossing State Forest Campground. For the consideration of having our collections sites on the river, we have a \$50 per year permit fee which we pay to the DNR. Since beginning in 2009, over 1600 bags of trash and over 100,000 returnable products have been collected. It has very much helped the river. Our Red River Bags, used to put trash and returnables in during one's river trip, cost 42 cents each. Sponsors help with their LOGO being put on the bags. However, there are other costs involved like garbage bags, vandalism repair....that we have to cover

also. We are a 501c3 group, so if anyone would like to make a donation they can do so and would be much appreciated: Jordan River Action Group, Post Office Box 215, East Jordan, Michigan 49727."

This began with a few East Jordan residents encountering floating debris on the Jordan River. Through falderal and rig-marole of socio-legal finagling this finally emerged as a workable community effort with these various groups now more or less amalgamated in common ground, common river, interest. Friends of the Jordan and Jordan River Action Group, nonprofits since 1995 and 2015 respectively, join with the DNR, Lions, and other groups and individuals in preserving the bucolic nature of this trout stream of historic beauty. Unpretentiousness is its appeal, no wild Colorado, or Niagara, a peaceful stream meandering down the slope from behind Larry's Bar on US-131, a landmark tavern and all-in-one junction point for travelers now renamed Seven Ski Inn, a la Larry and Dorothy Sevnski who've owned and operated it for more than fifty years. Before that "Old Stan" ran the place, or most often was found asleep at the counter when after dark travelers would stop in for gas and a

beer. The old "Yukon Mosquito" is presumably still on display somewhere there, an artistic representation of the mosquito family enlarged to raven size. Many of those old local farmers were deft craftsmen and women. As formerly reported, the river springs forth from behind the inn complex and wends its way down the hillside known as Deadman's Hill which may be driven by dirt trail in warm months. A local girl by name Nancy Bartholomew photographed the sand-filled harbor in about 2008, the result of sand and silt carried downstream due to runoff and various unchecked means of abuse of the waterway. Locals Sherm and Peggy Thomas were in on this initiative, as was Veterinarian Dr. John Richter formerly, but Tinker Breakey deserves most recent credit for the fledgling transitional effort to bring fruition to the now-organized cleanup we see today.

In early 1960s when first encountered, this river was absolutely pristine. No trash floated, no sandy silty detritus emanated anywhere. Hopping from stone to stone or fallen tree to clump of earth was a child's garden of earthly delights. There are many picturesque landings along the 33-mile stream as it wends and winds its way to the lake

though weirs and bridges had interfered here and there with the natural flow. Some efforts to undo obstructions have been mounted. Winding dirt trails throughout the Jordan Valley are drivable in summer months and hikers are a normal sight. Marsh Road which from M-32 leads directly to the State Forest trails finally connects with the Alba road leading to that town. There are marshes for which the road is named, almost lakes but shallow, presumably runoff from the river or tributaries nearby. It truly is, mostly remains, a treasure trove of natural wonder to behold, remaining primevally bucolic at its upriver flow but tarnished the more the water encounters civilization.

We really can't say enough in praise of those who make an effort at preservation or at least removal of encumbrances to nature. It's doubtful the estuary can ever be restored to former state but the river itself may be kept clean and freely flowing. No one knew, of course, that such devastation would occur but here it is and thankfully there are some few who dedicate their time, and money, to keeping what's left to restore itself if possible.

Mitchell Jon MacKay, East Jordan

## Charlevoix County News

### VOLUME 10 ISSUE 40

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# News

ONLINE AT WWW.CHARLEVOIXCOUNTYNEWS.COM

## Crowdfunding campaign launched for project in Charlevoix

An alleyway in downtown Charlevoix will be transformed into an interactive space, improving walkability and adding to the vibrancy of town through a new crowdfunding campaign, the Michigan Economic Development Corporation, the City of Charlevoix and Charlevoix Main Street DDA announced today. The campaign is being offered

through Michigan-based crowdfunding platform Patornicity.

If the campaign reaches its crowdfunding goal of \$6,000 by April 30, 2019, the project will win a matching grant with funds made possible by MEDC's Public Spaces Community Places program. For project details and to donate, please visit: [patornicity.com/alley](http://patornicity.com/alley).

"Alleys are often an un-

comfortable means to a destination in our downtowns, but as creative placemakers put their minds together to activate these spaces, they become vibrant places to gather and spend time," said MEDC Senior Vice President of Community Development Katharine Czarnecki. "We are pleased to provide resources for this effort through our Public Spaces Community Places

program."

As a result of collaborative planning efforts between Charlevoix Main Street DDA and the Junior Main Street Committee of Charlevoix High School Students, there is a communal vision for the alley. This campaign will put that plan into action, transforming Hoop Skirt Alley into a pedestrian plaza and outdoor gathering place com-

plete with comfortable seating, decorative lighting, art and plenty of fun.

"The Public Spaces Community Places matching grant program will have a huge impact on the Hoop Skirt Alley project. Charlevoix Main Street DDA is actively trying to reduce the amount of asks we put out to our small business community and this funding helps us accomplish that. So

many people in the community have asked for a project like this and now they can invest and see their money go towards something extremely positive," said Lindsey Dotson, Main Street DDA director for Charlevoix. "The added bonus of knowing that their money could be doubled by this match if our goal is met

See CROWDFUNDING—Page 5B

## Annual Boyne Bee is April 3

Calling all spellers: Boyne City adult spelling bee April 3. Boyne City Main Street is pleased to present Lindsay's Fourth Annual Boyne Bee, benefiting the Walkabout Sculpture Show.

The adult-only spelling bee will begin at 7pm at the Pine Lake Lodge, which is located on the second floor of the Boyne City Tap Room at 220 S. Lake Street in downtown Boyne City. Doors open at 6pm, with wood-fired pizzas and beverages available for purchase. Get there early to register, snag a table, and



Lindsay's fourth Annual Boyne Bee will be held at 7pm on Wednesday, April 3 at Pine Lake Lodge, upstairs in the Boyne City Tap Room at 220 S. Lake Street. Courtesy image

get drinks and pizza. Teams of two will be vying for bragging rights to be the biggest Queen (or King) Bee in Boyne City.

All proceeds will benefit the 5th Annual Walkabout Sculpture Show. The 24/7 outdoor art show is a part-

nership between artists, Boyne City Main Street, volunteers, and sponsors who believe art is a way of life. The sculptures can be viewed year-round throughout Boyne City, and are changed on a yearly basis.

You won't want to miss

this hilarious event. Grab your favorite spelling partner and get registered online at [www.walkaboutsculptureshow.com](http://www.walkaboutsculptureshow.com) or call the Boyne City Main Street office at 231-582-9009. The cost is \$25 per team. Registration at the event is \$30. \$1 from every pizza and beverage sold will benefit the Walkabout Sculpture Show. Thank you to Charlevoix State Bank for sponsoring the Boyne Bee and supporting the Walkabout Sculpture Show.

## Spring has sprung!

BY JIM AKANS

"Spring is nature's way of saying, 'Let's party!'" Robin Williams

It's finally happened; the spring season officially arrived on Wednesday, March 20 at 5:58pm. This welcome event is marked by the occasion of the vernal equinox (Latin for "spring" and "equal night"), which marks the time when the sun is directly over the equator - making the length of daylight and darkness pretty much equal. As the calendar days move forward, the amount of daylight here in the north will be increasing (until the summer solstice in June), bringing much needed warmth, melting snows, budding trees and flowers.

Here in northern lower Michigan, daily high temperatures typically run around the 50-degree range in April and the 60's in May, but we all know wet snow and ice lurk beyond the horizon throughout the spring season. The Farmer's Almanac is calling for about normal temperatures and above average precipitation for the upper Midwest this spring; a notable prediction for an over 200 year-old publication with a claimed tradition of 80 percent accu-



Another icicle slowly turns to water and drips away. The vernal equinox has arrived. Spring has sprung! Photo by Jim Akans

rate forecasts. Still, foreseeing the weather is a finicky endeavor.

During these days of increasingly warmer temperatures and retreating snow banks it is interesting seeing items revealed in the yard that have been hidden since late autumn. Though those fallen leaves, tree limbs and abandoned tools typically lead to outdoor spring projects and maintenance tasks, don't forget to

mix chores with outdoor down time. Relax and enjoy getting outside for a walk, firing up the BBQ grille, or just sitting back in a lawn chair to watching nature come alive again. Smile and relish the fleeting stretch of warm weather between snow seasons.

For spring has sprung, and as we cross the vernal equinox be assured that each drop of melting ice and puddles growing be-

neath shrinking snow piles is a sign of the approach of summer in the north. Just keep those snow shovels, winter coats and ice scrapers handy for a little while longer; springtime in Michigan changes every day.

"In the spring, I have counted 136 different kinds of weather inside of 24 hours." Mark Twain

## Overall Rankings in Health Outcomes by County

Rank	County	Rank	County
1	Leelanau (LL)	24	Dickinson (DI)
2	Ottawa (OT)	25	Shiawassee (SW)
3	Livingston (LI)	26	Delta (DE)
4	Washtenaw (WA)	27	Mecosta (MC)
5	Clinton (CN)	28	Houghton (HO)
6	Grand Traverse	29	Kalkaska (KA)
(GT)		30	Kalamazoo (KM)
7	Emmet (EM)	31	Tuscola (TU)
8	Oakland (OK)	32	Cheboygan (CE)
9	Midland (MD)	33	Schoolcraft (SH)
10	Menominee (MM)	34	Alger (AG)
11	Barry (BR)	35	Gogebic (GO)
12	Kent (KN)	36	Lenawee (LE)
13	Charlevoix (CH)	37	Newaygo (NE)
14	Ionia (IO)	38	Monroe (MR)
15	Allegan (AE)	39	Ontonagon (ON)
16	Lapeer (LP)	40	Otsego (OS)
17	Antrim (AN)	41	Alpena (AP)
18	Benzie (BE)	42	Cass (CS)
19	Chippewa (CI)	43	Mason (MA)
20	Marquette (MQ)	44	Hillsdale (HI)
21	Eaton (EA)	45	Branch (BN)
22	Missaukee (MI)	46	Keweenaw (KE)
23	Gratiot (GA)	47	Luce (LU)
		48	Montcalm (MN)
		49	Manistee (MS)
		50	Huron (HU)
		51	St. Clair (SC)
		52	Sanilac (SN)
		53	Isabella (IA)
		54	Macomb (MB)
		55	St. Joseph (SJ)
		56	Wexford (WE)
		57	Ingham (IN)
		58	Bay (BY)
		59	Berrien (BI)
		60	Jackson (JA)
		61	Van Buren (VB)
		62	Presque Isle (PR)
		63	Osceola (OE)
		64	Iosco (IS)
		65	Gladwin (GL)
		66	Oceana (OA)
		67	Baraga (BA)
		68	Arenac (AR)
		69	Iron (IR)
		70	Ogemaw (OG)
		71	Montmorency
		(MO)	
		72	Roscommon (RO)
		73	Saginaw (SA)
		74	Lake (LK)
		75	Muskegon (MU)
		76	Alcona (AL)
		77	Mackinac (MK)
		78	Calhoun (CA)
		79	Clare (CL)
		80	Genesee (GE)
		81	Oscoda (OC)
		82	Wayne (WY)
		83	Crawford (CR)

## VARIETY

FROM PG. 1A

Chip Hansen, the show always sells out. "The show has a following," he said, "so it's important to get your tickets early."

Proceeds from the show will be utilized in support of the good work the East Jordan Rotary Club does throughout the year including scholarship support for local students, youth leadership training programs, community improvement projects and more.

## BOYNE CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT INCIDENT REPORT

**Monday, March 11, 2019**  
 0126 Disturbance in the 400 block of Poplar.  
 0512 Assist EMS in the 800 block of S Park St  
 1431 Vehicle unlock in the 400 block of N Lake St  
 1507 Assist citizen in the 300 block of N Lake St  
 1528 Vehicle unlock on Taylor St  
 2019 Welfare check in the 1000 block of S. Lake St.  
 2222 Trespass complaint in the 200 block of S. East St.  
**Tuesday, March 12, 2019**  
 1110 Natural death in the 300 block of E Division St  
 1228 Attempted fraud complaint from Jefferson St.  
 1438 Civil complaint from Roosevelt St  
 1441 Vehicles blocking alley behind S Lake St  
 1724 Assist Sheriff Dept. on Maple Hill Rd.

1909 Assist citizen at Avalanche  
 2025 Suspicious situation in the 200 block of S Park St  
 2224 Citation issued for speed on N. Lake near Groveland.  
**Wednesday, March 13, 2019**  
 0136 Assault reported in the 400 block of Poplar.  
 0153 Noise complaint in the 600 block of E. Main.  
 0820 Forged check dropped off at PD  
 0834 Abandoned vehicle reported in the 500 block of Hannah St  
 1037 Assist EMS in the 800 block of S Park St  
 1055 Property damage crash on Hull St.  
 1520 Met Tuscarora Twp. unit in Petoskey to transport subject arrested on our warrant.  
 1753 Private property damage crash at the Recycling Center. Arrested subject for OWI

1957 Vehicle unlock in the 300 block of Trent  
 2015 Fraud complaint from the 500 block of Hannah.  
**Thursday, March 14, 2019**  
 0149 Arrested subject OWI at Division and Grant  
 0835 Juvenile complaint in the 700 block of Wenonah St.  
 1207 Property damage crash at S. Park St and Water St.  
 1506 Subject in to drop off Ford key fob found while walking on Avalanche. Returned to owner.  
 1533 Vehicle unlock in the 300 block of N Lake St  
 1902 Citation issued for expired registration at Park and Pine.  
 2019 Truck parked in road creating hazard in the 400 block of Groveland  
**Friday, March 15, 2019**  
 0901 Vehicle unlock in the Industrial Park  
 1014 Civil complaint from Ray St

1050 PR at the Middle School.  
 1211 Vehicle unlock in the 600 block of E Main Street.  
 1339 PR at the High School  
 1647 Vehicle unlock in the 300 block of Jefferson Street.  
 1654 Private property damage crash in the 400 block of N Lake St.  
 2018 Vehicle unlock in the 500 block of Jefferson St.  
 2035 PR at the high school for the drama program.  
**Saturday, March 16, 2019**  
 0019 Assist MSP with a disturbance at Boyne Mountain.  
 1029 Vehicle unlock in the 600 block of Grant Street.  
 1137 Assist with traffic control at Tannery Beach.  
 1200 Assist Fire Department on S Park St.  
 1314 Assist EMS in the 500 block of N Lake St.  
 1355 Vehicle unlock in the 200 block of Vogel St.  
 1532 Harassing phone calls re-

ported from the 400 block of W Michigan.  
 1625 Report of traffic hazard in the 400 block of Groveland. Unfolded.  
 1646 Driving complaint reported northbound on N Lake Street.  
 1714 Report of a dog running at large in the area of Pine Street and Grant Street.  
 1917 Report of additional harassing phone calls reported from the 400 block of W Michigan.  
 2122 Car deer crash that occurred on Boyne City Rd. near Court St.  
 2144 Domestic Assault in the 500 block of Hannah.  
 2236 Assist Sheriff Dept. on Advance Rd. N.  
**Sunday, March 17, 2019**  
 0013 Assist Sheriff Dept. in the area of Meadowoods Ln. and Reycraft Rd.  
 0030 Responded to a report of

suspicious situation at Boyne Mountain  
 0039 Assist Sheriff Dept. at Boyne Mountain.  
 0041 Arrested subject for Domestic Assault on Adams St  
 0202 Arrested subject for OWI on W. Michigan at Mechanic St.  
 0444 Assist EMS in the 400 block of Clark St.  
 1022 Report of possible PPO Violation in the 1300 block of Boyne Av.  
 1230 Harassment complaint from the 300 block of E Division St  
 1741 Dog complaint in the 700 block of Wenonah St.  
 1911 Assist Sheriff Dept. with message delivery on Adams St  
 2132 Citation issued for possession of marijuana under the age of 21 on Second St. near Terrace.  
 2220 Assist EMS on US 131 S.

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# News Briefs

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## BOYNE CITY

### SEXUAL ABUSE EXAMINED

March 31, 6:30pm, Lifetree Cafe. Potluck at 5:30, bring a dish to share. The program features the filmed story of a woman who suffered childhood sexual abuse. "This brave woman's story puts sexual abuse out on the table for discussion," says Lifetree representative Craig Cable. "We'll consider why the cycle of abuse in families is so difficult to break—and how those who've suffered childhood sexual abuse can find healing." Cable says this particular Lifetree Café program is not appropriate for young children. 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.

## BOYNE CITY

### 4TH ANNUAL BOYNE BEE

April 3, 7pm, Pine Lake Lodge (upstairs at Boyne City Tap Room). This adults-only spelling bee will involve teams of two vying for bragging rights to be the biggest Queen (or King) BEE in Boyne City. You won't want to miss this hilarious event. Grab your favorite spelling partner and enter the competition or show up to cheer on (or jeer) your favorite team. Signing up is easy. You can register online at boynecitymainstreet.com. The entry fee is \$25 in advance for a team of two, or \$30 on the day of the event.

This event is a fundraiser for The 5th Annual Walkabout Sculpture Show, a partnership between artists, the Boyne City Main Street Program, volunteers and sponsors who believe art is a way of life.

## PETOSKEY

### LUNCHEON LECTURE SERIES; A MOSAIC OF FAITHS: EXPLORING NORTHERN INDIA

April 4, Lunch begins at 11:30am, NCMC Library conference room. With its deep history and diverse religious and cultural traditions, India offers a fascinating window into the dynamics of belief and worship—particularly via its many temples and holy sites. Reflecting on travels to a Buddhist monastery, Hindu temples, and Sikh and Christian sites, among others, Dr. Gary Hauck offers a reflection on this rich religious tapestry of India, and how it serves as a fine example of cultural pluralism and diversity. This lecture is free and open to the public. No RSVP necessary.

## BOYNE CITY

### IMPACT OF INTIMACY ANOREXIA ON MARRIAGES EXAMINED

April 7, 6:30pm, Lifetree Cafe. The program, titled "Intimacy Anorexia: The Dark Secret That's Killing Marriages," features a filmed interview with Dr. Douglas Weiss, a licensed psychologist and an expert in the field of Intimacy Anorexia. Weiss explains Intimacy Anorexia is the intentional withholding of emotional, spiritual, and sexual intimacy from one's spouse and is a condition that affects both men and women. Lifetree participants will learn the common symptoms of Intimacy Anorexia as well as practical treatment options. 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.

## ELLSWORTH

### VILLAGE OF ELLSWORTH SEWER PROJECT MEETING

April 8, 6pm, Banks Township Hall. Come meet with the Village's consultant and learn what the Village is considering regarding a sanitary sewer system for the Village. This is a critical

opportunity to get questions answered.

## PETOSKEY

### VETERANS ASSISTANCE FAIR

April 10, 4-7pm, NCMC Student Community Resource Center. A special open house/assistance fair in the Student Community Resource Center to celebrate the newly refurbished Veterans Lounge, located off of the gymnasium. The Open House will include a Veterans Assistance Fair to offer local organizations the opportunity to set up exhibits and information tables. There will also be a play area for children and light refreshments for all attendees. This new space provides an opportunity and a location for the Student Veteran Association meetings on campus, as well as a place for veteran service providers in our community to connect with veterans and their family members. Please join us in celebrating the service and sacrifice of this very valued population in our community.

## BOYNE CITY

### STATE OF THE COMMUNITY LUNCHEON

April 11, 11:30am-2pm, Talcott Event Center, 4127 M-75, Walloon Lake. Featuring updates from Boyne City Manager Michael Cain, Charlevoix County Commissioner Chris Christensen, Boyne City School Superintendent Patrick Little, Main Street Executive Director Kelsie King-Duff, and Boyne Area Chamber Executive Director Kim Akin. Tickets: \$25 per person (includes lunch). Register at boynechamber.com

## ELLSWORTH

### ELLSWORTH LIONESS FUNDRAISER

April 11, 6pm, Banks Township Hall. Come and enjoy an evening of cooking, eating, beverages and conversation. Plus learn a few smart cooking tips and tricks. Presented by The Pampered Chef consultant; Virginia Hoeksema. RSVP to allow us to know how much food to buy to; Lynn Spearing, lynnspearing@gmail.com. Profits are used for community projects.

## BOYNE CITY

### ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT

April 13, 1pm, Veteran's Park. Bring your own Basket or bags provided. Preschool to 5th Grade. Join us for fun in the park. Sponsored by the First Presbyterian Church, Boyne City. For more information, call 231-582-7983 or secretary@fp-boyne.org

## BOYNE CITY

### PAINT THE TOWN RED

April 13, Boyne Mountain Civic Center. It's time to Paint The Town Red! Please join us for the 9th annual Rambler night to benefit the Boyne City Booster Foundation, which provides funding in the Arts, Athletics and Academics for our kids. Featuring a buffet dinner, silent and live auctions, and dancing to the band Jedi Mind Trip. Tickets are \$60 and can be purchased at Lynda's Real Estate and Mark Patrick's State Farm Insurance offices.

## BOYNE CITY

### HOW TO CATCH A LIAR EXPLORED

April 14, 6:30pm, Lifetree Cafe. The program, titled "How to Spot a Liar: Secrets from a Former FBI Agent," features an exclusive filmed interview with FBI counterintelligence officer John Schafer. As a behavioral analyst for the FBI's National Security Division, Schafer developed deception-detection techniques that are now widely used by intelligence and law en-

forcement agencies. In his interview, Schafer shares key indicators that signal when someone is lying. 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.

## EAST JORDAN

### CHAMBER BUSINESS AFTER HOURS

April 17, 5-7pm, East Jordan American Legion #227 Rebec-Hosler-Sweet Post. Let's play some Bingo ~ Have some snacks ~ Network with others ~ And have some fun. Proudly Co-Sponsored by: American Legion #227 Rebec - Hosler - Sweet Post, EJ Catering and East Jordan Auto Parts, Inc

## EAST JORDAN

### EJ ELEMENTARY KINDERGARTEN ROUND UP

April 17 and 18. Please plan on an hour and a half. Go to <https://www.schoolbookings.net> and enter code kgtwr to make an appointment or call the office at 231-536-7564.

## CHARLEVOIX COUNTY

April 19. Charlevoix County Transit will be close Friday, April 19th in observance of Good Friday; normal service hours will resume on Saturday, April 20th.

## CHARLEVOIX

### EASTER EGG HUNT

April 20, 2pm, East Park. The event is free for children up to 10 years old. Age groups are 2 years old and under, 3-4 years, 5-6 years and 7-10 years. The hunt will include 7500 prize filled eggs. So bring your Easter basket and be ready at 2:00pm sharp so you don't miss out. Other activities from 2-3pm - East Park; Face Painting compliments of Charlevoix State Bank, Hot Cocoa provided by Stafford's Weathervane Restaurant, Cookies compliments of Subway, Twister Joe sponsored by Charlevoix State Bank, A visit from the Easter Bunny compliments of Stafford's Weathervane Restaurant, Plus 7500 prize filled eggs & Easter Egg shaped Bubbles.

## EAST JORDAN

### 99TH ANNUAL ROTARY FATHER AND SON BANQUET

April 20, 6pm, East Jordan High School. Included Father of the Year presentation and a presentation by Wings of Wonder raptor sanctuary. Adults; \$10, Students; \$5, Preschool; Free. Tickets are available from East Jordan Rotary members, East Jordan Chamber or at the door. For additional information contact Gary Roberts at (231) 675-7859.

## EAST JORDAN

### EASTER FUN & GAMES

April 20, 10am, East Jordan Middle/High School Gymnasium. Join the Easter Bunny for some free fun, games, candy and prizes. There will be 2 bikes and 2 fishing poles given away. Presented by the East Jordan Lion's Club.

## BOYNE CITY

### IDENTITY OF JESUS EXAMINED

April 21, 6:30pm, Lifetree Cafe. The program, titled "Who Was Jesus—Really?" features a filmed interview with Greg Stier, author of Outbreak, and Rick Lawrence, author of The Jesus-Centered Life. Both men share their insights about the historical Jesus and what influenced their conclusions about the identity of Jesus. Polls indicate a large majority of Americans believe Jesus walked the earth. But a smaller percentage say he should be considered the Son of God. Participants will have the opportunity to share

their own thoughts concerning the identity of Jesus. 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.

## EAST JORDAN

### 13TH ANNUAL EAST JORDAN ROTARY VARIETY SHOW

April 26 & 27, Community Auditorium. Showtime is at 7:00 p.m. each night at the Community Auditorium, and the doors open at 6:00 p.m. Patrons will once again enjoy great music with Bob Bryan and Full Circle, and the great slapstick comedy that is the hallmark of every show. Reserved seats are limited to 100 for each show and are available for \$15 + internet fees at [www.mynorthtickets.com](http://www.mynorthtickets.com). General admission tickets are available for \$10 each and are available from any Rotarian, and at Charlevoix State Bank.

## EAST JORDAN

Fiddlers Jamboree April 27, Civic Center. The Jordan Valley Fiddlers Jamboree will take place from noon - 5pm with a dance from 7 - 10pm. The Jordan Valley Fiddlers Jamboree is looking for some help with the event. If you would like to help out please contact Ron Fowler at [fowronler@aol.com](mailto:fowronler@aol.com)

## BOYNE CITY

### ONE MAN'S PATH TO HEROIN ADDICTION EXPLORED

April 28, 6:30pm, Lifetree Cafe. The societal impact of heroin addiction will be examined at Lifetree Café on Potluck Sunday, April 28 at 5:30/6:30. Bring a dish to share. The program, titled "The Heroin Addict Next Door: One Man's Painful Story," features a filmed interview with Rocky Romano, a former heroin addict. During the interview, Romano explains that his downward spiral began with alcohol and grew worse from there. This Lifetree episode will also explore whether a connection exists between early childhood trauma and self-destructive behavior. 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.

## BOYNE CITY

### FARMERS MARKET

Boyne City Hall, Saturday, 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](mailto:farmersmarket@boynecity.com)

## NORTHERN MICHIGAN

### PEOPLE FUND GRANT APPLICATIONS DUE APRIL 15

The Great Lakes Energy People Fund is accepting grant applications from non-profit organizations throughout its local service area for the spring grant cycle. Applications should be submitted in person or by mail by 4:30pm on April 15. With the purpose of bettering local communities, the People Fund is supported solely by Great Lakes Energy members. Those who participate in the program allow their electric cooperative to round their monthly electric bill to the next whole dollar amount. Since 1999, more than \$3.5 million in grants have been awarded to charitable and community organizations throughout Great Lakes Energy's 26-county service area, which stretches from Kalamazoo to the Mackinac Straits. The People Fund

awarded \$218,770 in grants in 2018. Non-profit organizations can read program details and request a grant application online at [www.gtlakes.com/grant-application-request](http://www.gtlakes.com/grant-application-request) or by calling Great Lakes Energy at 1-888-485-2537, ext. 1313. Non-profit organizations that serve communities located in the Great Lakes Energy service area are eligible to apply. Applications are due by April 15. Another grant opportunity will be available in October.

## CHARLEVOIX COUNTY

Charlevoix County Transit will be close Friday, April 19th in observance of Good Friday; normal service hours will resume on Saturday, April 20th.

## EAST JORDAN

### OPEN DOOR CHRISTIAN COFFEE HOUSE

Features gospel music on the first and third Saturdays of the month starting at 7pm. East Jordan Senior Center, 951 Mill Street. Everyone welcome. Free coffee and snacks with a small charge for pizza and water.

## 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.

## EAST JORDAN

### CITY COMMISSION NOMINATING PETITIONS DUE APRIL 23

The City of East Jordan is accepting candidate nominating petitions for the upcoming city commission election in November. Four seats on the city commission will be up for election term fulfillment in the November 5 general election. Those seats are currently occupied by Andrew Boyer, Abigail Hawley, Tracey Johnson and Paul Timmons. To be eligible to run for election, a person must be a registered voter in the city office a person shall have been a registered and qualified elector of the City for the thirty (30) days immediately preceding the date of nomination and continuously thereafter. A person shall not be eligible for election who is in default to the City. Any qualified person wishing to run for one of the seats must submit a nominating petition signed by not less than 30 and no more than 45 registered city voters. Petitions may be picked up at city hall between 8am. -5opm, Monday through Friday. Petitions must be submitted to city hall by 4pm on Tuesday, April 23. Terms of office will expire in 2023 for those filling the 4 seats available.

## NORTHERN MICHIGAN

### NCMC SCHOLARSHIPS OFFERED FOR HOME SCHOOL SENIORS

Presidential Scholarships are offered for full tuition (up to 20 contact hours per semester) and mandatory fees for four consecutive semesters (fall and winter only). Field study fees are not included. Scholarship recipients must register for the fall semester immediately following their spring high school graduation. To be considered, a student shall: Complete an online Application for Admission to North Central by April 1 of their graduation year. Have a minimum 3.5 overall high school grade point average. Submit a recommendation letter that addresses their academic potential and leadership qualities. Submit a statement that addresses aca-

ademic and career goals and how North Central will help to meet those goals. Submit ACT/ SAT scores (ACT score of 18 or above for English and a Reading score of 21 or above; SAT (test prior to April 2016) score of 430 or above in English and a score of 450 or above in Reading); SAT (test starting April 2016) two-digit score of 25 or above in both English and Reading; SAT (test starting April 2016) three-digit score of 500 or above in English/Reading/Writing (ERW). All documentation must be received no later than April 12, 2019. For more information, contact Renee DeYoung, Vice President of Student Affairs, at (231) 348-6618.

## 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](mailto: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.

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# News

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## Improving access, service to those who need it

**BY SEN. WAYNE SCHMIDT  
37TH SENATE DISTRICT**

The state of Michigan has several safety nets in place for residents down on their luck. In recent years, however, some of these safety nets have failed them. It wasn't long ago that the state's Unemployment Insurance Agency was under fire, and in recent months, I and other Northern Michigan legislators have heard numerous complaints about cases at the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). A new pilot system designed to increase access to caseworkers and improve efficiency at DHHS was introduced in February 2018. The

plan, which is called Universal Caseload (UCL), was rolled out to 50 counties, which were grouped into 10 "geo-groups." The idea was that any caseworker in a geo-group could assist a recipient within that group — leading to improved efficiency should one specific office get bogged down. The program has not generated the success we had hoped. Wait times and service issues have plagued UCL offices, while traditional service branches have seen far fewer issues and disruption of service. In UCL counties, the backlog at one point averaged 32 percent, with some being as high as 48 percent. This is not acceptable, and there are people being

wrongly denied or being burdened with an unreasonably long wait time for services to be rendered or restored. I have heard from residents who have called my office, I have discussed the issue with folks at local coffee hours and I have discussed the issue with state House Speaker Lee Chatfield — who has also heard from numerous residents in his district. I met with department officials in late February to see what changes are being made and how we can improve service for residents in need. I was happy to hear that DHHS Director Robert Gordon was already keenly aware of the issue and had plans for moving forward. The original UCL rollout

was halted and it will not expand beyond its initial 50-county rollout until improvements are implemented successfully. DHHS staff have been reassigned to high-volume areas to decrease backlogs — an effort that was able to reduce backlog percentages in recent weeks. Staff have also revisited cases that were not approved in time or wrongfully denied to ensure those who need help are able to receive it during this critical time of year. While I have heard directly from people struggling to receive food assistance, the department maintains that there were no cases of someone being denied heating assistance during this winter's frigid temperatures.

Northern Michigan and the Upper Peninsula experience some of the harshest winter seasons in the nation. We cannot let people fall through the cracks when it comes to needing aid to feed their families or heating assistance to stay warm during the winter. While some portions of the state are warming up, we are a few weeks behind up north and we need to ensure folks are safe. I look forward to the ongoing improvements at the department and continual efforts to improve access and efficiency for those in need. In the meantime, I want to keep hearing from folks back home and I will continue conversations between me, the speaker and

the department until we are able to iron this out. If you are having any issues with heating assistance or receiving the benefits that you qualify for, please contact my office. My staff can work with the department on your behalf and can help you straighten everything out. Sen. Wayne Schmidt, R-Traverse City, represents the 37th state Senate District, which includes Antrim, Charlevoix, Cheboygan, Chippewa, Emmet, Grand Traverse, Luce and Mackinac counties.

## New dashboard gives up-to-date stats on Michigan bridge conditions

The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) has launched a new online dashboard to make information about the condition of all bridges on state and local road systems easily accessible to the public. Replacing a more limited version from 2018, the Michigan Bridge Conditions dashboard is now online, providing data on more than 11,000 bridges across the state.

"We're very excited about the new dashboard," said Matt Chynoweth, head of the MDOT Bureau of Bridges and Structures. "This supports both the governor's and state transportation director's objectives of transparency in government. It's a great tool, allowing the public to easily look into the condition of any bridge, MDOT or locally owned."

Bridges on the state (I, M and US routes) and local road systems are rated good, fair or poor. The dashboard shows visual representations of the number of bridges in each category, while an interactive map on the site shows the location and color-coded status for each structure. Users can sort and view data by bridge rating, ownership or geographical area. Zooming in on the map and clicking on an icon for an individual bridge pulls up more detailed information about that structure. The dashboard can also provide comparisons between different bridge categories.

Beginning in January, MDOT worked to improve its existing bridge dashboard by including all bridges, not just those on the National Highway System. The new site is also directly connected to a bridge database so that the dashboard reflects the most current available data instead of only being a snapshot in time.

Federal law defines a bridge as a structure carrying traffic with a span greater than 20 feet. The law also requires that all bridges be inspected at least every two years to monitor and report condition ratings. These ratings are based on a 0-9 scale and are assigned to each culvert and each deck, superstructure and substructure of each bridge. Bridges rated from 7 to 9 are designated "good," while ratings of 5 and 6 are "fair," and ratings from 0 to 4 are in the "poor" category.

Condition ratings are an important tool for transportation asset management, as they are used to identify preventive maintenance needs and to determine funding priorities for rehabilitation and replacement projects.

## HEALTH NEWS

# Preventing poisonings in the home

Last year, the Michigan Regional Poison Control Center responded to more than 60,000 calls related to potential poisonings; 46 percent involving children under the age of six. To raise awareness of the dangers of potentially poisonous medicines and chemicals, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services is joining the Michigan Regional Poison Control Center in recognizing March 17-23 as National Poison Prevention Week.

More than 2 million poisonings are reported each year to the nation's poison centers. According to

the American Association of Poison Control Centers, approximately 90 percent of poisonings happen at home. "By educating Michigan residents about preventative measures they can take, we can help keep our environments and loved ones safe," said MDHHS Director Robert Gordon. "But, if needed, calling poison control can help Michiganders manage their exposures to poison wisely, with nearly 47 percent of calls managed at home without requiring medical intervention."

Residents should follow preventative measures to reduce the risk of poisonings, including:

- Keep all chemicals, including medications, out of the reach of children.
- Carefully read the labels and dosages on all products before using.
- Keep products in their original containers.
- Do not mix chemicals.
- Have a working carbon monoxide detector in your home.
- Program the National Poison Control number in your phone –

800-222-1222. To learn more about ways to keep people of all ages safe and help prevent poisonings, visit the Poison Help Web site at [PoisonHelp.hrsa.gov](http://PoisonHelp.hrsa.gov). To view materials in Spanish, visit [PoisonHelpEspanol.hrsa.gov](http://PoisonHelpEspanol.hrsa.gov). In the event of a poison emergency, contact the Michigan Poison Control Center at 800-222-1222. If someone is unconscious or has trouble breathing, call 911 immediately.

## Tips for fall prevention

**DIANE RELLIGER, MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION**

It is a common misconception that as a person grows older they will likely experience a fall, and potentially injury themselves. It is true that as a person ages they may have a decrease in muscle strength, flexibility and balance, but it is not true that falling is a normal part of the aging process. Fall prevention awareness strategies and community instructional programs work hand in hand to help older adults overcome the fear of falling, maintain independ-

ence and regain confidence to stay active. Since 75 percent of falls take place inside the home, or in close proximity, it is important to start your fall prevention strategies by assessing the home environment, and then involve your healthcare team and family. Small changes can easily rectify potential tripping hazards or dangerous areas in your home often at minimal or no cost. The National Council on Aging (NCA) provides the following six tips to prevent a fall.

- Find a good balance and exer-

cise program

- Talk to your healthcare provider (share if you have fallen and if you fear falling again)
- Regularly review your medications with your doctor or pharmacist
- Get your vision and hearing changed annually and update your eyeglasses
- Keep your home safe (assess your living space for potential falling hazards)
- Talk to your family members (honest conversation about feeling steady on your feet)

The first tip from NCA is to find

a good balance and exercise program that you can enroll in to improve and maintain strength, balance and flexibility. Michigan State University Extension offers two exercise and balance programs that are proven to work: A Matter of Balance and Tai Chi for Arthritis. Contact your local MSU Extension office for more information. Review and incorporate these fall prevention tips soon to help identify and reduce your risk factors for falling and injury. For more information, visit <http://www.msue.msu.edu>.

# Preventing Salmonella illness when raising backyard birds

A sure sign of spring is the arrival of chicks and ducklings in local feed and agriculture supply stores. Health experts at the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) want people to know about the potential for baby poultry to carry Salmonella bacteria which can make people sick. If proper precautions are not taken, even handling baby birds displayed in stores can cause a Salmonella infection. "Raising birds for eggs and meat can be fun and educational, but all poultry, even those that appear healthy and clean, have the potential to carry the Salmonella bacteria," said MDHHS Public Health Veterinarian Dr. Mary Grace Stobierski. "Washing your hands thoroughly before and after handling chicks and other poultry protects

both you and your family from the risk of Salmonella, and also helps keep the birds healthy." Salmonella usually does not make the birds sick but can cause illness in people. Salmonella can cause diarrhea, vomiting, fever and/or abdominal cramps lasting four to seven days or more. Certain groups have a greater chance of illness from handling live poultry or contact with areas where the birds live. Children younger than 5 years old, older adults or people with weak immune systems should not handle or touch live poultry because they are more likely to become severely ill. In 2018, 334 people from 47 states were sickened by Salmonella after having contact with live poultry in backyard flocks, including 18 people from Michigan. Of the 334 ill-

nesses, 21 percent were children younger than 5 years. Follow these simple steps to help protect your family and others:

- Wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water after touching birds or anything in their environment. Adults should supervise hand washing for young children.
- Use hand sanitizer after touching birds or their environment until you can wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water.
- Do not kiss or snuggle birds, touch your mouth or eat or drink around live poultry.
- Don't let children younger than 5 years, adults older than 65 or people with weakened immune systems from conditions such as cancer treatment, HIV/AIDS or organ transplants, handle or touch

chicks, ducklings or other live poultry. Do not keep live poultry inside the house where people live, eat or sleep. Keep live poultry away from areas where food or drink is prepared, served or stored, such as kitchens or outdoor patios. Frequently clean all equipment such as cages, feed, water containers and other materials associated with raising or caring for poultry. Always clean equipment outdoors. Set aside a pair of shoes to wear while caring for poultry and keep those shoes outside the home. For more information, visit [Cdc.gov/features/salmonellapoultry/index.html](http://Cdc.gov/features/salmonellapoultry/index.html).

## Successful container gardening

**DIXIE SANDBORN, MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION**

Growing plants in containers has grown in popularity over the past decade. Michigan State University Extension says one of the most important reasons people grow plants in containers is to have plants in places that would otherwise be plant-less. Seed companies and nurseries are working diligently to improve varieties of plants that will perform well in containers. American trial gardens have designated container gardens to support plant companies research in order to bring the best products available to consumers. You can visit the MSU demonstration garden to see many containers with the newest

plant varieties being developed for the market. Growing plants in containers follows basic horticulture principals and is the same for all plants; annuals, vegetables, perennials, shrubs, trees and even fruit. Like all gardening, soil is one of the most important things to plant health. Plant in soil that is a well aerated, or use a soilless mix or well cured compost. Water frequently! Containers dry out quickly and need to be watered more often than traditional gardens. Plants in containers require more added nutrients depending on the soil chosen; Nutrients can be easily leached from the soil. Be sure to feed your containers at least twice during the growing season. Do not limit yourself to impatiens, geraniums and

the center spike. Be creative, it is fun to have fresh herbs and veggies next to the kitchen door or have lettuce growing on your front porch. For added interest, tuck a planter into larger garden areas. Balconies and roof tops can be transformed into a private green oasis. So as we start planning our spring gardens, be creative and add a few containers for an extra spark of color or a tasty treat. Containers should be chosen carefully depending on what is going to be growing in it. It is fun to pick containers that accent their surroundings or have an artsy look. Think outside of typical planters and let your creativity go wild. For more information, visit <http://www.msue.msu.edu>.

## CROWDFUNDING

FROM PG. 3A

makes it more compelling to give. It's incredible that the students on our Junior Main Street Committee chose to move forward with revitalizing an alley to improve walkability and the overall vibrancy of our downtown." Public Spaces Community Places is a collaborative effort of the MEDC, the Michigan Municipal League and Patronicity, in which local residents can use crowdfunding to be part of the development of strategic projects in their communities and be backed with a matching grant from MEDC. Communities, nonprofits and other business entities can apply at <https://patronicity.com/puremichigan>. "Turning underutilized areas of town into creative, engaging public spaces is key to great placemaking," said Dan Gilmartin, CEO and executive

director of the Michigan Municipal League. "This project will transform Hoop Skirt Alley into an inviting pass-through as well as an appealing place to stop and enjoy." The Public Spaces Community Places initiative started in 2014 with MEDC providing matched funding of up to \$50,000 for community improvement projects throughout Michigan. As of March 13, 2019, MEDC has provided more than \$6 million in matching grants. Since the launch of the program, 196 projects have been successful in reaching their goal, with \$7.2 million raised from 37,743 individual donors. For more information on the MEDC and our initiatives, visit [www.MichiganBusiness.org](http://www.MichiganBusiness.org). For Pure Michigan® tourism information, your trip begins at [www.michigan.org](http://www.michigan.org). Join the conversation on: Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, and Twitter.

# News

ONLINE AT WWW.CHARLEVOIXCOUNTYNEWS.COM

## Graze Catering wins top spot at Taste of Charlevoix

BY MICHELLE MEDJESKY

CHARLEVOIX - Hundreds from around the area came to network and learn about local businesses-and to graze on some of the area's finest foods-during the recent Charlevoix Business Expo and Taste of Charlevoix event last week at Castle Farms.

Caitlin Cole, events coordinator for the Charlevoix Area Chamber of Commerce, said attendance at this year's event was just a bit lower this year than in past years, likely due to it being held on March 20, which was the day before spring break was scheduled to start for most schools in the area.

"We had about 467 people (attend) this year, which was a little bit down, but spring break was going to start the very next day and I think a lot of people around here take off early for that," Cole said.

Cole said 63 Charlevoix



Sarah Sheaffer just opened "Graze", a Charlevoix-based catering company, which was voted "Best of Show" at last week's business expo. Trent Sheaffer, Sarah's husband, was on hand to help set up their signature "grazing tables" to feed the crowd. Photo by Michelle Medjesky

area businesses had booths at this year's expo, all of

them there to offer information about their products and services and many with free samples and other tokens.

She said ten local restaurants participated in this year's Taste of Charlevoix, which is held along with the annual Expo, each one giving guests a sample of their menus and a chance to vote for best restaurant at the event.

Cole said attendees this year voters named the number one restaurant as Graze Catering, a newly-opened Charlevoix catering business which bills itself as "specializing in grazing tables and platters for all of your fine-eating frenzies."

+ Graze owner Sarah Sheaffer featured grazing tables indeed, this year filled with bountiful platters of fine

meats and gourmet cheeses, fruits, nuts, spreads and more.

Sheaffer recruited her husband, Trent, away from his usual job as an area UPS driver, to help with set up and display of the grazing tables, which maintained a long line of eager tasters throughout the three hour-long expo. "They're a great addition to our area," Cole said of Graze being named winner, "Sarah is really excited to be here and we're really excited to have them."

Despite the slightly lower crowd numbers, Cole said

this year's Business Expo and Taste of Charlevoix was an overall success. "It was a

really good event," Cole said, "All the vendors were very happy with the outcome and our guests all had a chance to try some great foods."

Cole noted the next event being sponsored by the Charlevoix Chamber of Commerce will be its annual Easter Egg Hunt coming up next month. This year's egg hunt will be held Saturday, April 20 at 2 p.m. in Charlevoix's East Park. Before the egg hunt, Cole said a Easter-themed craft workshop will be hosted at the Charlevoix Circle of Arts from 11:30-1 p.m. and an Easter Bunny Luncheon will be featured at Stafford's Weathervane restaurant, complete with a photo op with the Easter Bunny. For luncheon reservations call: (231) 547-4311

The Easter Egg Hunt is free of charge and open to children ages 2-10 years old. There will be 5,000 eggs filled with prizes, face painting, Twister Joe the balloon artist, the Easter Bunny and free cookies and cocoa.



Former Charlevoix city council woman Shirley Gibson shared good spirits with Mary Delamater of Island Airways during last week's Taste of Charlevoix held during the business expo. Photo by Michelle Medjesky



Steve Erwin and Jessica Vallance of Fox Motors Charlevoix were rockin' a "Totally Awesome 80s" look at last week's Charlevoix Business Expo at Castle Farms. Erwin especially owned his "business in the front/party in the back" mullet. Photo by Michelle Medjesky

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