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### Inside THIS WEEK SPORTS

#### BOYS BASKETBALL

- Cooper Stevenson of East Jordan male athlete of the week - Page 1B
- Ramblers dismantle Vikings - Page 1B
- Boyne City falls to Elks - Page 1B
- Lancers beat Wolverine and Mack City by 25 each - Page 1B
- Rayders beat Harbor Springs - Page 5B
- Rayders over Red Devils - Page 5B
- Red Devils fall to Glads - Page 5B
- Loggers fall to Swordsmen - Page 5B
- Conference standings - Page 3B
- State Rankings - Page 3B
- District tourney schedule - Page 4B

#### GIRLS BASKETBALL

- Taylor Petrosky of Charlevoix female athlete of the week - Page 1B
- Ramblers earn pair of wins over Elks and Vikings - Page 2B
- Red Devils fall to St. Francis - Page 2B
- Rayders remain perfect in conference - Page 2B
- Conference standings - Page 3B
- State Rankings - Page 3B
- District tourney schedule - Page 4B

#### MORE SPORTS

- Red Devils competitive cheer team 2nd in districts - Page 2B
- Hockey Conference standings - Page 3B
- NBA Standings - Page 3B
- NBA Stats - Page 3B
- College Basketball rankings - Page 3B
- EJ athletes Stevenson brother and sister sign letters of intent - Page 8B
- Wrestling team finals schedule - Page 8B

#### OTHER

- Classified Ads - Page 6B, 7B
- Legal Notices - Page 6B, 7B
- Weather - Page 2
- Snowfall - Page 2
- Obituaries - Page 2
- Toast to Literacy - Page 3
- BC Commission meeting - Page 3
- Police report - Page 3
- News Briefs - Page 4
- Musicians to join community band - Page 5
- Letter to Editor - Page 5
- Feature home of the week - Page 6

### NEWS

## Charlevoix Chamber recognizes award winners

BY KAREN WALKER

Charlevoix's team spirit filled Castle Farm's King's Great Hall Feb. 20th as over

200 Charlevoix Area Chamber of Commerce members gathered for their annual meeting to celebrate their accomplishments and recog-

nize the 2019 award winners. Featured speaker, Charlevoix County Community Foundation president Chip Hansen, highlighted

reasons why Charlevoix is a great place to live and work and raise a family. Some of Charlevoix's attributes Hansen emphasized were

great schools, a healthy business climate in a beautiful downtown, the public library and the town's many events including the Venetian Festival. Recognizing the area's large number of service groups and volunteers, Hansen said, "Everywhere you go in Charlevoix, you will see the footprint of a volunteer." Inspired by the Charlevoix High School Rayder's fight song, Hansen punctuated his remarks by leading the assembled crowd with the cheer, "Charlevoix, we're for you!"

Chamber President Sarah Hagen presented her annual report along with an overview of the past year's accomplishments including a 91% member retention rate, hosting of 23 events, a 24% increase in the Chamber Check program which encourages purchases at member businesses, as well as a complete update of the Chamber's website.

The evening's program concluded with the 2019 Chamber awards presentation. New Business of the Year was awarded to Bier's Inwood Brewery, Customer Service Award was presented to Charlevoix State Bank's Commercial Services Officer Daniel Elliott, also from Charlevoix State Bank, Commercial Loan Officer Richard Christner was honored as Young Professional of the Year, Denise Fate was recognized as Outstanding Citizen of the Year, Business of the Year was awarded to Oleson's Food Store, and Ambassador of the Year was presented to Tabatha Simpson.



Award Winners - Pictured are (l to r) Tyler and Anna Bier, Tabatha Simpson, Richard Christner, Daniel Elliott, Denise Fate, Hiram Angell (Oleson's)



## Ride Like a Girl

BY KAREN WALKER

A fundraiser to help breast cancer patients was held last Saturday at the East Jordan Sno-Mobilers' clubhouse grounds. TNT's Ride Like a Girl to Save The Girls Bikini Radar Run was part of this year's 39th annual East Jordan Sno-Blast Festival. This was the second year for the event organized by 27 year old East Jordan resident, Courtney Fender. With over \$11,000 raised this year, she flew past her goal of \$5,000. The money came from a variety of sources including a Facebook campaign, on site collections, and a donation by the South Arm ORV club. But the largest portion of the money was raised by the racers that participated in the event which brought in more than \$7,500. Money raised by the event goes to the East Jordan Lioness Club to help area breast cancer patients.

There were 14 participants in this year's race,

twice as many as last year with racers coming from as far away as Wisconsin and Ohio, as well as throughout Michigan. Men as well as women competed in the radar run; the only requirement for entering the race was you must wear a bikini top. Courtney pointed out most of the guys who participate will put together an entire costume for the race.

The youngest race participant was thirteen year old Reese Robinson from Gaylord. Courtney said Reese first became interested in the event during East Jordan's Freedom Festival when she rode on Courtney's float in the parade. In addition to being the youngest racer, Reese also brought in the largest donation of \$1,846. Reese also won the award for best decorated sled.

Winner of the timed race was Megan Pixley from Howell, Mich. with a speed 71 mph, while Mary Ban-

See RIDE LIKE A GIRL—Page 3A



The youngest race participant was thirteen year old Reese Robinson from Gaylord



This was the second year for the event organized by 27 year old East Jordan resident, Courtney Fender



Featured speaker, Charlevoix County Community Foundation president Chip Hansen, highlighted reasons why Charlevoix is a great place to live and work and raise a family



Chamber President Sarah Hagen presented her annual report along with an overview of the past year's accomplishments

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## Char-Em United Way's "Toast to Literacy" event February 29



BY JIM AKANS

Featuring a festive Mardi Gras theme, the annual Char-Em United Way's "Toast to Literacy" promises to provide a fun-filled evening while helping to support childhood literacy. This festive event will take place at Castle Farms in

Charlevoix on Saturday, February 29, from 6 to 9pm.

This will be the seventh year Char-Em United Way has held "Toast to Literacy," and proceeds will as benefit the local Dolly Parton Imagination Library program. An initiative sponsored by Char-Em United Way, the program pro-

vides books into the hands of over 1,500 local children at no cost to the parents. Launched in 2012, since its inception thousands of children have graduated from the program, with approximately 100,000 books distributed.

At the event, attendees can look forward to enjoying an evening of

wine, beer and mead tastings, a catering competition, auctions, and musical entertainment. It all takes place in a Castle Farms setting transformed to reflect a colorful, festive Mardi Gras décor. Attendees can sample and vote for their favorites in three categories; Soup, Savory and Sweet dishes, as well

as best overall.

Tickets are \$30 in advance and \$40 at the door. For tickets, to register or for additional information, call 231-487-1006 or go to <http://www.char-Emunitedway.org/Toast>



Char-Em United Way's sixth annual Toast to Literacy fundraising event will take place at Castle Farms in Charlevoix on Saturday, February 29, from 6 to 9pm. Courtesy photo



At the event, attendees can look forward to enjoying an evening of wine and beer tastings, a catering competition, photo booth, silent auction, and entertainment. Courtesy photo

### RIDE LIKE A GIRL

FROM PG. 1A

croft from Mancelona placed second with a speed of 70 mph. Courtney noted, even at this rate of speed, with adrenaline pumping, you really don't feel the cold.

Courtney is a member of a group called TNT Lady Slidders which encourages community involvement and supporting charitable causes. She explained this fundraiser combines her two biggest passions, snowmobiling and breast cancer awareness. She pointed out that breast cancer runs in her family. It hit close to

home for her this past year when her grandmother was diagnosed with the disease. Thankfully, her grandmother is doing well after surgery and is preparing for chemo treatment. Her grandmother was on hand last Saturday to watch the race. Courtney said, "She's always been one of my biggest supporters". Courtney has been racing snowmobiles for over ten years. You can find her through her Facebook page "Twisted Princess Racing".

Courtney said she's had a lot of support from the community and local businesses with donations of cash and prizes helping make this event a success. Plans are already underway for next year's race.

BOYNE CITY COMMISSION MEETING, FEBRUARY 25, 2020

## County Housing Ready Program director starts March 1

### Program will address housing shortage county wide

BY KAREN WALKER

At their last regular meeting held February 25th, Boyne City Commissioners approved a contract with Chandler Township to provide EMS services to Township residents. Boyne City EMS Director John Lamont said the three year contract is similar to the one Boyne City recently signed with Melrose Township. Chandler signed their portion of the agreement at their last regu-

lar Township meeting February 11th. Mr. Lamont estimates an average volume of eight runs per year in Chandler Township. The area will be served from the Boyne Valley station located in Boyne Falls. The Boyne City EMS Department coverage area now includes the City of Boyne City, Bay, Boyne Valley, Chandler, Evangeline, Melrose, and Hudson Townships as well as a portion of Eveline and Wilson Townships.

In other business, Commissioners approved a contract with Housing North of Traverse City to provide a staff person for the position of Charlevoix County Housing Ready Program Director. City Manager Mike Cain informed the Commissioners that this is, at minimum, a three year effort to address the housing shortage in Charlevoix County. The Housing Ready position is a

collaboration between the Charlevoix County Community Foundation, the Frey Foundation, Charlevoix County, the Cities of Boyne City, East Jordan, and Charlevoix, and Housing North.

Charlevoix County resident Steve Schnell has been hired for the Housing Ready Program director position and will officially begin work March 1st. Sarah Lucas of Housing North stated in her letter to the Charlevoix housing partners that Mr. Schnell brings a wealth of Northern Michigan community development experience, including work with the Northeast Michigan Council of Governments, Cheboygan County, and Mackinaw City, where he was involved with housing projects in a variety of capacities.

Some of Mr. Schnell's duties and activities will include coordinating meetings,

developing local goals for zoning change, along with identifying key development sites and resources for development. Other duties will be providing assistance to developers and development partners including public officials, lenders, investors, and nonprofits in planning, funding, and advocating for housing development. Boyne City's portion of the one year contract is \$9,250. Similar contracts will be presented to the cities of East Jordan and Charlevoix, and Charlevoix County.

Regular City Commission meeting dates for March have been changed due to schedule conflicts. The next regular Boyne City Commission meeting will be Tuesday, March 3rd at noon and the second March meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 17th at 7 p.m.

### BOYNE CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT INCIDENT REPORT

#### MONDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2020

- 1009 Subject in from Grant St to report attempted grandchild phone scam.
- 1548 Report of B&E in the 400 block of W Michigan.
- 1744 Assist Sheriff Dept. at Boyne Av and Fall Park Rd.
- 1853 Subject walking in the road at Division and Boyne Av.
- 1929 Closed account check written in the 400 block of N Lake St
- 2005 Suspicious subject in the 1300 block of Pleasant Ave.

#### TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2020

- 0500 Assist citizen in the 900 block of Robinson St.
- 0707 Arrested subject for No Insurance, Cited for Expired plate in the 1100 block of Boyne Av.
- 0916 Civil dispute in the 500 block of N Lake St
- 0956 Suspicious subject in the 300 block of E Division St

- 1018 Assist Sheriff Dept. on Deer Lake Rd.
- 1020 Subject at PD to turn self in on warrant.
- 1055 Vehicle unlock at Av-alanche. Cancelled while enroute.
- 1411 Juvenile complaint on W Main.
- 1510 Citation issued for speed in the school zone.
- 1550 Parking violation in the 400 block of N Lake St.
- 1819 Attempted paper service for Cadillac PD in the 300 block of E Division St
- 1835 Arrested subject for No Insurance at Brockway and Beardsley

#### WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2020

- 0844 Arrested subject on probation violation in the 800 block of Boyne Av.
- 0955 2 drivers at PD for crash report from Sunday
- 1005 Possible counterfeit \$10 bill passed in the 500 block of N Lake St
- 1624 Assist Sheriff Dept. with a report of a dog that had been hit on Boyne City Rd. It was a deer.

#### THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2020

- 0016 Assist EMS on Vogel St
- 0601 Car deer crash on State Stand Cozy Nook Ln.
- 0638 Car deer crash on State Stand Cozy Nook Ln.
- 1511 Assist other agency at Park and Pine
- 1534 Dispatched an injured deer on Front St. near Lake Park.

#### FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2020

- 0900 Truancy complaint at the High School
- 1210 MDOP to vehicle in the Industrial Park.
- 1356 Assist EMS in the 400 block of E Division St
- 1536 Driving complaint on Boyne City Rd
- 1601 Report of violation of conditional bond from E Main St.
- 2113 Parking violation at East and Bailey St.
- 2132 Verbal altercation in the Industrial Park.
- 2301 Assist Sheriff Dept. at Boyne Mountain.

#### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2020

- 0907 Assist EMS in the 200 block of W court St
- 1311 Citizen assist in the 600 block of N East.
- 1441 Snowmobile violation in the 500 block of N East.
- 1437 Report of lost debit card.
- 1651 Arrested subject for warrant on Adams St.
- 2308 Assist Sheriff Dept. at Boyne Mountain.

#### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2020

- 0953 Parking violation in the 100 block of N Park.
- 1356 Snowmobile violation in the 600 block of N East St.
- 1406 Suspicious situation in the 500 block of N Lake St.
- 1632 Report of suspicious subject walking in road near Park and State St
- 1804 Property damage crash at Boyne and Main.
- 2345 Motorist assist in the 400 block of N Lake St

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# News

ONLINE AT WWW.CHARLEVOIXCOUNTYNEWS.COM

## Community Band concert invites musicians to join them for concert

BY KAREN WALKER

The Jordan Valley Community Band is seeking new musicians to add to their ranks as they prepare for their 30th anniversary concert. Area musicians who have experience playing, even if they haven't played for a while, are invited to dust off their instruments and join the fun. Band member Terri Warnos said, "We are always looking for new musicians to add to our ranks". Any and all instruments are welcome. Private lessons are also available.

This year's spring concert will be held Sunday, May 3rd, 7 p.m. in the East Jordan School auditorium. The theme this year is "Dancing Through the Years", with musical selections highlighting various styles of dance.

The band rehearses Thursday nights from 7 to 9 p.m. in the East Jordan High School

band room. The band meets for three sessions during the year; a Christmas Concert in December with rehearsals starting in the fall; winter/early spring rehearsals with a concert in May; and rehearsals on Thursday evenings in June for "Concerts in the Park" performed in July at the band shell in East Jordan's Memorial Park.

The Jordan Valley Community Band is comprised of mostly amateur musicians from many surrounding communities. In addition to East Jordan, they have participating members from Boyne City, Charlevoix, Ellsworth, Elmira, Mancelona, and Central Lake. The Jordan Valley Community Band is a 501c3 nonprofit organization. For more information, contact band director Becky Palmiter at 231-675-0543 or palmiterbecky@yahoo.com.



Jordan Valley Community Band at their Christmas concert last December. By Becky Palmiter

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### Should you Appraise your Home Before Putting it on the Market?

It isn't necessary, but an appraisal will give a good indication of the price the seller will actually get for their property. A real estate agent can give you similar reliable data to determine current market value.

First, to determine the asking price, a seller's agent will look at the "comps," the price for which "comparable" homes in the area have recently been sold.

Based upon these prices, the seller should adjust what they are asking. For example, if similar properties in the area are selling for \$210,000, then trying to get \$250,000 usually does not make sense. Thus, before putting the house on the market, a seller should review the "comps," which can be obtained from a local real estate professional.

The appraisal process used by a licensed appraiser is more theoretical than a "comp," and doesn't predict what a buyer will

be willing to pay. Why would anyone ever get an appraisal then? Although rarely needed by buyers or sellers, appraisals are normally required by lenders who are considering making a loan.

However, sellers of expensive, custom homes may get appraisals, because there may not be any homes in the area that compare. Buyers of these one-of-a-kind homes will also have more confidence in an asking price that is supported by an appraisal. Before determining an asking price, sellers should give their agent a list of major improvements done to the home, such as a new roof or upgraded heating system.

This will help the agent consider all the factors when recommending a price.

It will also put him or her in a better position to sell the house-and all of its features-for the best possible price.

## Ice conditions may require early shanty removal

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources reminds anglers that changing ice conditions could require removal of fishing shanties before required removal dates. This is a possibility every year, as all shanties must be removed once ice can no longer safely support them.

People venturing onto the ice should use extreme caution as temperatures begin to rise or fluctuate. The repeated thawing and refreezing of ice weakens its integrity, decreasing its ability to support additional weight of people, snowmobiles, ORVs and shanties. Deteriorating ice, water currents and high winds increase the probability of pressure cracks, which can

leave anglers and others stranded on ice floes or at risk of falling through the ice.

"Regardless of the required date, ice shanties must be removed before the ice becomes too weak to support them," said F/Lt. Jason Wicklund, DNR Law Enforcement Division. "It's the angler's responsibility to safely remove their shanty before it falls through the ice."

Shanty owners whose structures fall through the ice are subject to penalties of up to 30 days in jail, fines of \$100 to \$500, or both. If a shanty is removed by a government agency, the court can require the owner to reimburse that agency for an amount of up to three times the cost of removal.

If ice conditions don't warrant early removal, these are the final dates for shanty removal:

#### LOWER PENINSULA

Shanties in the northern Lower Peninsula must be removed by midnight Sunday, March 15. Counties include Alcona, Alpena, Antrim, Arenac, Bay, Benzie, Charlevoix, Cheboygan, Clare, Crawford, Emmet, Gladwin, Grand Traverse, Iosco, Isabella, Kalkaska, Lake, Leelanau, Manistee, Mason, Mecosta, Midland, Missaukee, Montmorency, Newaygo, Oceana, Ogemaw, Osceola, Oscoda, Otsego, Presque Isle, Roscommon and Wexford.

Ice shanties in the remaining counties of the Lower Peninsula must be removed

by midnight Sunday, March 1. **UPPER PENINSULA**

On Michigan-Wisconsin boundary waters, ice shanties must be removed by midnight Sunday, March 15.

All other bodies of water in the Upper Peninsula must have ice shanties removed by midnight Tuesday, March 31.

Daily use of ice shanties is permitted anywhere in Michigan as long as ice conditions permit and if the shanties are removed from the ice at the end of each day.

"No ice is ever considered safe," Wicklund reminded. "Anyone venturing onto the ice should always wear a personal flotation device."

For more information, watch the Michigan DNR ice safety tips video or visit the ice safety section of the DNR Education webpage.

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters may be submitted by e-mail to office@Charlevoix CountyNews.com.

#### THE TAXMAN COMETH Devil in the Details To the Editor,

We hear about debt and deficit as rumor and weather report, not actually the severity of the dire consequences foreboding. Government shutdowns reflect this crisis that is always alleviated by more debt and more deficit. Kicking the can a little further down the road is and has been the remedy for decade upon century, sometimes fiscally caught up, lately not at all but only extended indefinitely. Some maintain it's all paperwork anyway and not to worry.

Abstractly this would seem to have some validity since indeed debt is reality only on paper. The trust factor reigns supreme because without it the whole system of world commerce would break down.

Enter the taxman, the villain. Due to the system of trust and predictability the various organized entities known as government took it upon themselves to get in on the action for sake of some monitoring status to keep things flowing evenly and provide the necessary facilities and workers to turn anarchy into Capitalistic Democracy. This, after the Great Depression 1.0 (others lurk), was alleviated by Franklin D. Roosevelt with the New Deal and forthwith benefits known variously as Socialism, Direct Democracy, Medicare, Medicaid, food-

stamps and so forth. Haggling and disinformation as to full health care on a nationwide basis could be presented as simply an extension of all public welfare programs but has been stymied in implementation despite the Obamacare ACA attempt immediately to be limited by political wrangling. Campaign dollars are the major thwart to furthering of affordable care for all. Tax dollars pay for everything plus the additional convenience of immediately available credit debt in compounded taxation.

With all that money coming in on a foreseeable basis, it is hardly surprising that many would see the opportunistic potential therein. This trickles down - not as Reagan cunningly spoofed to the public - to State, County, City, Town, Township municipalities as enforced taxation on the public commandeered by the tax offices throughout the whole system, a top-down pyramid scheme. Taxation is based on a premise not of ability to pay but on what one owns. If the former were the delineator, the rich would pay way more than they do, the poor way less. The opposite is the reality. Property taxes, income tax, sales tax, fines, fees, bail bonds, concomitant attorneys to offset fees, courts, cops, malfeasance being inevitable in all societies. All is organized around taxation in its multi-various manifestations. As Leona Helmsley infa-

mously said to a staff worker, "We don't pay taxes, only the little people do". This is true regardless claims otherwise. Tax money pays for all political immersion, diversion, and subversion alike. Should anyone ponder the extent of politicians' take, suffice to say they are set for life and this is why they hold on so desperately to their achievements for sake of pay, perks and pensions publicly known plus all the side deals none will discuss. Thus tax money is a major pie-wedge obscured under bureaucratic "Administration".

And then the military. Through tax money support, every soldier, every barracks, every overseas installation, all Veterans Administration facilities and monitor during and after enlistment, is paid by taxation of the working public. Even the once essential labor unions are near-obliterated by corrupted mismanagement fee-taxation avarice by leaders. There is no form of taxation above corruption and collusion to defraud. Now the US Government openly wreaks havoc on emoluments, power gone mad, conspiracy, lies, and autocratic malfeasance well beyond clandestine evasion, openly hostile and scathing of civil and legal justification. Power gone berserk has always its hand on the tax revenue.

Public aversion to taxation is so naturally visceral that tax

evaders are made out to be desperado heroes a la Jesse James fighting for survival in abjectly corrupt culture. This unfortunately spurs more corruption while spurning the means to subdue it. We wouldn't mind intrinsically were the taxes used solely for needful things, infrastructure, guardianship, information communications, transportation safety and the like. These things are forthcoming in variable implementation but the bulk of our tax money goes elsewhere for things we don't want or need.

A little known, virtually almost totally unknown, fact is an alleged attempt to avoid taxation being the condemnation factor against Jesus and His followers when brought before Pilate and the Jewish Council, rabble et al, even Holy Writ having failed to affix account for that travesty, viz. tax evasion as accused. Taxes, far more than death, are the inevitable fixation bedeviling mankind in exploitation. Taxation is the Devil's own advocate. But for humanitarian-oriented individuals within taxation catacombs, the autocratic horde would prevail unaccountable. They even prevailed over the Master of Men, the Christ, but not for long. Without taxation we would not know of salvation, the devil in the details.

Mitchell Jon MacKay, East Jordan

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BY JIM AKANS

Situated in the heart of Boyne City, this ranch style home is a great opportunity for those looking to purchase their first home, or downsize from a larger home.

This three bedroom, two bath home has just under 1,100 square feet of nicely

finished living space. Interior highlights include an open living, dining and kitchen with vaulted ceilings, wood flooring and plenty of windows filling the space with natural light. Updates include those new windows and beautiful wood floors (which continue into the bedrooms), plus remodeled bathrooms and more.

The location is fantastic. It is within walking distance to stores and Lake Charlevoix, and just three blocks from downtown Boyne City, which features a huge variety of shopping, entertainment and dining possibilities. Three parks and lake access are also just a few blocks away.

This exceptional starter home is located at 616 Park

Street in Boyne City and it is listed at \$109,000. For more information or to arrange a home tour, call Marty Moody, Associate Broker or Christopher Christensen, Associate Broker, at Lynda's Real Estate Service in Boyne City at 231-582-9555 or email at Marty@lyndasrealestate-service.com or Chris@lyndasrealestateservice.com



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