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2020 CHARLEVOIX COUNTY NEWS ALL-AREA GIRLS BASKETBALL DREAM TEAM

East Jordan's Jayden Weber selected Player of the Year



Jayden Weber.

Charlevoix's Marc Sroufe is Coach of the Year



Coach Marc Sroufe

CHARLEVOIX COUNTY — Another great season of basketball for our Northern Michigan area. While there continued to be strides made in each program of our coverage area this season, "What if" still lingers in regards to the Division 3, regional championship opportunity that was ahead of the Charlevoix girls basketball team when the season was halted.

The Rayders put together the best season in the area over the winter months, finishing 15-5 overall, going a perfect 14-0 in Lake Michigan

See **ALL-AREA BASKETBALL** - Page 1B

CHARLEVOIX CITY COUNCIL MEETING, APRIL 3 & 4, 2020

City votes to Temporarily Suspend Short Term Rental Operations

BY KAREN WALKER
The Charlevoix City Council held a special meeting last Friday, April 3rd, to consider an ordinance restricting the use, operation and licensing of lodging establishments within the City. The virtual meeting was held online and by phone via Zoom with approximately 40 people participating. City Manager Mark Heydlauff and City Attorney Scott Howard first presented the emergency ordinance to council members to "Temporarily Suspend Short Term Rental Operations during the State of Emergency" in an effort to limit the spread of COVID-19. After much discussion, Council members directed the City Attorney to make

some changes to the proposed ordinance as initially presented, causing the Council to hold a second meeting the following day, Saturday, April 4th. The revisions included restricting the use of hotels and motels, and ensures travelers staying at these establishments are there for essential services. Further, the ordinance requires all essential businesses comply with health and sanitation practices outlined by the Health Department of Northwest Michigan. City Mayor Luther Kurtz pointed out that Charlevoix values its seasonal residents, and the city is trying to keep everyone safe. The City Attorney informed Council members that the city has

both the right and obligation to protect the health, safety, and welfare of its citizenry and the ordinance is absolutely an important step towards protecting its residents. Excepted from the ban are rental units used to house economically disadvantaged or otherwise needy individuals, individuals who need assistance as a result of the emergency, and people with disabilities. Rentals may also be used to house persons working in COVID-19 mitigation and containment efforts and critical infrastructure workers so long as they comply with the Governor's executive orders relating to COVID-19. The Charlevoix City Council feels that continu-

ing to allow short term rentals would promote the movement of people, exacerbating the spread of COVID-19. And adoption of the Emergency Ordinance was necessary to protect the health, safety, and welfare of its citizens. While several meeting attendees voiced concern over enforcement of the ordinance, it ultimately was approved with a lone dissenting vote cast by Councilman Greg Bryan. The ordinance aligns with Governor Whitmer's executive order issued on March 23rd and will be in effect for 61 days or until the governor's executive order, or subsequent orders, is lifted, whichever comes first.

Health Department offers drive-through testing at Fairgrounds

The Health Department of Northwest Michigan, in partnership with Emmet County, Northern Michigan Med Center, McLaren Northern Michigan, the Charlevoix, Cheboygan, Emmet Office of Emergency Management and Homeland Security, and the Petoskey Department of Public Safety will be offering appointment based, drive-through testing at the Emmet County Fairgrounds beginning Wednesday, April 1. Testing will be scheduled from noon - 4pm Monday through Friday for patients 12 and older. This testing facility is for individuals who have seen their primary care provider, have been determined to meet the criteria for testing, and have a lab slip. The drive-through testing facility will utilize a recently approved FDA testing method with nasal swab. The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) has created a statewide hotline for COVID-19. The hotline will be open seven days a week from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at 1-888-535-6136. Additionally, the Health Department of Northwest Michigan has a Public Health Information Phone Line - 1-800-386-5959 and email publichealthinfo@nwhealth.org.

East Jordan Family Health Center employee receives positive Coronavirus test

On April 1, 2020, an East Jordan Family Health Center employee was confirmed as having a positive Coronavirus test. The employee has been quarantined at home since March 25th, 2020 and is doing well with mild symptoms at this time. Direct colleagues of this employee have been under delegated "self-monitoring" since March 25th and will continue for a minimum of 14 days. This individual had a history of downstate Michigan travel and was involved with a large group setting. The Bellaire and East Jordan Family Health Centers have taken significant measures to prevent the transmission of Coronavirus within our facilities. The health center will continue these daily prevention efforts and will continue to monitor the Coronavirus situation in our workplace and throughout northern MI. As a result of these proactive measures, employees and patients of Bellaire and East Jordan Family Health Centers remain at a low risk for exposure to the Coronavirus. All staff of the Bellaire and East Jordan Family Health Centers will continue to strictly adhere to PPE, social distancing and handwashing guidelines, both at work and home, to mitigate the spread of the COVID-19 virus. If you have questions regarding the Coronavirus, visit our website at www.ejfhc.org for up to date information along with additional services

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Health Department of Northwest Michigan declares Emergency Order

The Health Department of Northwest Michigan is declaring Emergency Order 2020-1 requiring screening and social distancing measures at open businesses and operations subject to the Governor's Executive Order 2020-21. The emergency order went into effect on Monday, April 6 at 12:00pm (noon).

Health Officer, Lisa Peacock shared "given that COVID-19 presents a serious threat to public health, our local health departments have been working to ensure the health and safety of critical infrastructure workers. As the threat of COVID-19 increases, I now feel it necessary to take additional steps to protect critical infrastructure workers and the general public."

Additional resources to assist businesses in implementing these protective measures can be found here on the Health Department Website, Coronavirus Page or on the Center for Disease Control and Prevention's Guidelines and Resources for Businesses. For questions on the emergency order, please utilize the Public Health Information Line at 1-800-386-5959.

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emergency order, please utilize the Public Health Information Line at 1-800-386-5959.

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First Responders participate in HAYO training program

On March 6, 7 and 8 over 100 First Responders from Charlevoix County and surrounding areas participated in a HAYO Training Program. HAYO stands for, "Hey, Are You Okay?" and was led by Chief Alan Styles from Dalton Township Fire Department. The participants learned to reach out and support one another in times of crisis, personal and professional. Unfortunately, First Responders have a high rate of suicide due to the trauma they face in saving the lives of others.

This was a kick-off to a year long program to assist First Responders from around Charlevoix County to develop a Peer to Peer Support Program for one another. The training for April has been postponed until September due to our current pandemic. As a result of this program with funding through a grant from the East Jordan Family Health Center, counseling from local professionals at the East Jordan Family Health Center and BASES in Charlevoix will be able to assist First Responders and their families to address trauma and other issues that may arise.

The three day training for 30 First Responders representing all of the different Fire and EMS agencies around Charlevoix County to be held September 17-19 is also funded through the grant where a representative from the Tania Glenn & Associates organization from



Boyne City First Responders. Courtesy photo



Charlevoix First Responders. Courtesy photo



East Jordan First Responders. Courtesy photo

Texas will come and conduct the training for the Peer to Peer program.

No one realized in early March how much things would change so suddenly

and how much we would rely on our local first responders. At this time, we owe a great debt of gratitude to these individuals and all of our health care professionals

throughout the world for risking their lives on a daily basis to help another.

For more information about this program, please contact Scott Kelly, Executive

Director at BASES in Charlevoix. 231-547-1144 or scott@basesrecoverycenter.org

Counterfeit Currency

Local Charlevoix businesses are being more frequently exposed to the passing of counterfeit currency. During these unprecedented times, it's more important than ever that local businesses and their staff members are aware of the security features to look for when accepting cash payment for goods and services. The counterfeit notes that we have been presented with look very similar to their legitimate counterparts, they have been in various face values, and they all seem to be the newer series of bills.

Here are some tips for identifying counterfeit currency:

- Feel the bill—If you have a note that feels stiff like a new bill, but rough like an old bill at the same time; this may be a sign that the note is not legitimate and you should proceed with caution. This also describes the feel of the counterfeit notes that we have seen passed in the Charlevoix community.

- Check the security features—The counterfeit notes that have been presented to our banking center were caught because of their lack of present security features. US currency is equip with many features designed to indicate the legitimacy of a note. Visit the US currency website at www.uscurrency.gov to learn about those features, and help your team members become aware of what to look for.

- Compare it—If you question a bill, compare it to another one that you know is legitimate. This is a good, easy way to identify discrepancies in the note if it is counterfeit.

- WE CAN HELP—We are here to help any business or individual in our community fight against the passing of counterfeit currency, whether you're a current customer of ours or not.

Please contact Jacob Duncan with Chemical Bank at (231)237-9179

Michigan businesses may apply for Federal Paycheck Protection Program

Small businesses across Michigan are now able to apply for \$349 billion in Paycheck Protection Program forgivable loans through the U.S. Small Business Administration. These loans are designed to help small businesses to keep their workers on the payroll. Loans may be forgiven in all or in part if employees are kept on the payroll for eight weeks and the funds are used toward payroll, rent, mortgage interest or utilities. The program will award loans on a first come, first served basis with funding caps in place, and Michigan businesses are encouraged to apply early.

Michigan Governor Gretchen Whitmer stated, "Small businesses drive the economies of our communities, and we understand that they are facing unprecedented challenges in the fight against COVID-19. We are working with small business organizations and partners around the state to

ensure that every possible resource is made available to businesses, communities and entrepreneurs in Michigan. The Paycheck Protection Program through the U.S. Small Business Administration will help ensure our workers continue to get paychecks, our businesses are able to make it through this challenging time and put Michigan in the best possible position to accelerate our economic recovery here in the state, once the immediate public health threat has been resolved. I encourage you to take advantage of the information on this site, including the list of certified SBA lenders, and apply today for the Paycheck Protection Program."

The application period for small businesses opened April 3, and for independent contractors and sole proprietors on April 10.

Details of the program can be found at: <https://www.paycheckprotectionprogrammichigan.com>

Meijer announces efforts to keep customers and team members safe

Meijer announced today additional steps it is taking to make its stores safe for both shoppers and team members. In addition to amplifying its communication to customers about social distancing practices, Meijer is now asking its customers to limit the number of shoppers who come to the store on each trip.

Following are the newest steps the retailer has taken to help make the stores as safe as possible:

- Asking customers to limit the number of shoppers per trip, while understanding that some customers may need additional assistance.
- Implementing processes to monitor the number of customers in our stores. This includes managing the number of customers shopping to support proper social distancing practices.
- Conducting daily health screenings and temperatures checks of team members as they arrive at the store.
- Completing installation of protective plexiglass shields at all check lanes and pharmacies in its 248 super-centers and stores.
- Adding signage and broadcast announcements inside the store educating customers about proper social distancing.
- Temporarily suspending the weekly sales ad beginning April 12 to decrease customer count inside the store.
- These new steps supplement the previous actions the retailer has implemented, which include:
 - Suspending the use of reusable bags by customers in its stores unless they're being

tancing practices.

used for the retailer's Shop & Scan program.

- Discontinued accepting beverage containers for return at its Michigan stores.

- Temporarily removed Sandy the Pony from the front end of its stores.

- Placed decals on the floor 6 feet apart in areas where customers may congregate, such as lines for check lanes, pharmacy and service desk counters.

- Suggesting customers use the length of their shopping carts to gauge appropriate distance from others where there aren't decals on the floor.

- Implemented reduced shopping hours to support deeper cleaning overnight and re-stocking efficiency.

- Implemented dedicated shopping hours for senior citizens, customers with chronic health conditions and essential service workers.

- Encouraging use of the "express pay" option through the Meijer pharmacy enhanced text messaging program, which provides a contactless experience when picking up most prescriptions.

"We continue to look for additional ways to ensure the safety of our customers and team members in the face of this difficult challenge," Meijer President & Chief Executive Officer Rick Keyes said.

"By working together, we can reduce the spread of this virus and help keep our communities safe."

CENTER

FROM PG. 1A

provided at both the Bellaire and East Jordan locations. Working together, we can limit the impact of the virus on our community.

Please help prevent the spread of coronavirus and other infectious diseases by practicing everyday prevention including frequent

hand washing for at least 20 seconds, staying home when sick, covering coughs and sneezes with the bend of the elbow, and not touching the eyes, mouth or the nose.

East Jordan Family Health Center – (231) 536-2206

Bellaire Family Health Center – (231) 533-8649

Check out our website for information regarding Covid-19 – www.ejfhc.org/2019-novel-coronavirus/

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Longtime NCMC professor Larry Cummings passes away

North Central Michigan College Professor Larry Cummings, a fixture in the Petoskey community and an icon on the college's campus, passed away at McLaren Northern Michigan on March 31, 2020, due to complications of Covid-19. He was 76. Cummings taught history and geography at North Central for 51 years, spending his entire professional career teaching generations of students who will remember him fondly.

"Our hearts are heavy with grief at the passing of our friend, mentor and colleague," said Dr. David Roland Finley, North Central president. "The entire North Central community grieves with Larry's wife, Shannon, and their family. We are holding them close in our thoughts and prayers."

Professor Chet Jessick, president of North Central's Faculty Association, echoed the depth of loss felt by the campus community.

"Professor Larry Cummings was the best person I



Professor Larry Cummings carries the North Central mace during the college's 59th Commencement exercises on May 10, 2019. Courtesy photo

have known professionally," Jessick said. "Those who knew Larry considered him a

North Central legend, and not just because of his 51 years of exemplary service to

the college, his students and his community. It was because he was the passionate

and compassionate teacher, the mentor, the storyteller, and the best friend we all aspire to be."

Cummings was born in Charlevoix in 1943. He lived in Arizona and California as a child, but spent his formative years in Northern Michigan, attending Traverse City Central High School. He attended Northwestern Michigan College, Bowling Green State University in Ohio, and Central Michigan University, where he obtained a master's degree in history.

A world-traveler, Cummings visited more than 50 countries, each providing him with insight and information that he shared with his students. His curriculum was rich with personal experiences of people, places and significant moments in history.

"Larry shared his international adventures so effectively that the listener was often transported right there with him, riveted by his stories, photos and souvenirs from faraway places," Finley

said.

Cummings was active with the Harbor Springs Educational Foundation and the Michigan Department of Transportation's Adopt-A-Highway program, rallying North Central's team of employees and students to care for a three-mile stretch of U.S. 31 south of Petoskey.

"Larry has left a lasting impact on everyone who was fortunate enough to know him," Finley said. "His legacy will live on at North Central indefinitely."

Counseling services are available to help North Central students and employees process their grief.

The college will communicate additional information as appropriate, including plans to celebrate Cummings' life and his many contributions to North Central. The college asks that the privacy of the Cummings family be respected at this difficult time.

Michigan's Amazing Animals:

Great Horned Owls!

PATRICK BEVIER

Michigan's largest and most widespread resident owl species features a fascinating array of fun facts. Here are some totally terrific tidbits about Great Horned Owls:

The Name Game: The scientific name of the Great Horned Owl is *Bubo virginianus*. *Bubo* (no it's not a cute name for a grandmother or a big time wrestler) derives from the Latin meaning, "eagle-owl." *Virginianus* harkens back to the area of the U.S. where it was first described by French zoologist Andre' Dumeril in 1805. Other common monikers for these lovely and loquacious birds are tiger owls and hoot owls. In Spanish they're dubbed 'Buho Americano' while in French they are known as Grand-duc d'Amérique. The genus *Bubo* boasts 17 species worldwide and consists of the North and South American horned owls and the Old World eagle-owls. The reason their close kin are called eagle-owls is because many of them grow to be almost as big as eagles. Indeed, the Eurasian eagle-owl's favorite prey are red foxes! The *Bubo* clan is widely distributed globally.

Color Combinations: Among our state's most stunning raptors, Great Horned Owl's coloration is a painter's palette of russet, gray, brown, and black body and head feathers, tiger-hued wing feathers, a cat-like face framed by a rounded black fascial disc, piercing yellow eyes, and a white patch on the throat. The bill and talons are a dark, gunmetal gray.

Bruiser Birds: Great Horned Owls are the largest owls in North America (Great Gray Owls are often longer but not as heavy). As with other birds of prey the females are larger and dwarf the males by as much as 20%. Great Horns stretch the measuring tape from 18 to 27 inches and have a wingspan of 40 to 60 inches. An average bird is 22 inches long, weighs 3.0 pounds, and has a wingspan of 50 inches. To provide silent approaches when hunting, the wings of Great Horned Owls have very dense, soft feathers and are wider than other owls. The wingspan is relatively short, however, so that these forest-dwellers can maneuver more easily through dense



A mother Great Horned Owl shades her owlet from the mid-day heat in the hollowed-out tree in which she fashioned her nest. © Joni Roberts photo

trees. Their association with wisdom is only strengthened by the fact that a group of owls is called a Parliament.

Athena's Animal: In Greek mythology the owl is the symbol of Athena, the Goddess of Wisdom.

Pretty Plumicorns: The "ears" on top of a Great Horned Owl's head are not ears at all but actually tufts of specialized feathers called plumicorns. Ornithologists are unsure of their function. Some believe plumicorns help the owls to recognize members of their own species while others hypothesize that they are an adaptation that allows the birds to blend in better in forest habitats containing broken off trees. Case in point, the mother owl pictured here had perfect color and shape mimicry with the hollowed out tree in which she fashioned her nest.

Hoo Are You? While they can make a variety of sounds the typical call of Great Horned Owls is a loud, low-pitched ho-ho-hoo, hoo-hoo that is responsible for the birds being called hoot owls. Females have a smaller voice box and a higher call that rises in pitch at the end. The larger Great Horned owlets may make hissing or screeching sounds that are often confused with the calls of Barn Owls.

Hearing Heroes: The actual location of the ears of Great

Horned Owls is on the side of their heads directly behind their eyes. The ears are simply open, thumbnail-sized holes lined with sensitive feathers. The feathers that form the fascial disc can be bent around the openings for amplification purposes, much like when we cup our hands behind our ears. That's extremely effective as they can hear a mouse rustling on the forest floor from a distance of a football field!

Extraordinary Eyes: Perhaps the most impressive attribute of Great Horned Owls are their large, citrine-colored eyes. In fact, each eye is the same size as the owl's entire brain. Because they can't move their eye sockets Great Horn's must rely on their remarkable rotating neck to scope out the scene. With a range of motion of almost 270 degrees these birds would make even the toughest yoga master proud. This rotation is made possible because Great Horns sport a maneuverable S-shaped neck containing almost twice as many cervical vertebrae as a human. The retina of each eye possesses over 1 million light sensitive 'rod cells' per square millimeter, giving them truly extraordinary night vision.

Eclectic Eaters: Great Horned Owls have the most diverse diet of any North American raptor. In the Great Lakes State, they prefer to dine on



A mother Great Horned Owl stands guard over her brood of week-old owlets in Southeast Michigan. Four weeks later the young will be capable of full flight. © Joni Roberts photo

cottontail rabbits and snowshoe hares. However, these fierce predators can take down large prey including wild turkey, Canada geese, osprey, and other raptors. They also devour a veritable plethora of prey including squirrels, mice, songbirds, ducks, frogs, and even insects. Being the most robust owls we have in Michigan, the only predator they fear are other Great Horned Owls.

Widespread Wonders: In the U.S. Great Horned Owls are highly adaptable and live in many biomes including mountains, grasslands, deciduous and coniferous forests, deserts, and chaparrals. In the Mitten State, they are found in every county and are a Least Concern Species on the conservation status scale.

Old-Timer Owls: The typical lifespan of a Great Horned Owl is approximately 13-15 years. The most senior wild specimen was aged at 28 years old. Astonishingly, a captive female Great Horned Owl didn't flutter off to that great aviary in the sky until she reached the age of 50!

Mating Matters: Great Horned Owls most often mate for life and may return to the same nest in successive years. They are one of the earliest breeding owls, often laying eggs in late January or early February. Clutch sizes are anywhere from 1-4 with 2 being the most common num-

ber of eggs. Mom incubates the eggs by resting on them with the warm, featherless brood patch on her abdomen. After hatching she usually stays in the nest while dad hunts for food for both the dedicated mother and her increasingly ravenous owlets.

Outlandish Owlets: Young Great Horns start off with an appearance that, "only a mother owl could love" and are almost entirely pink and white fuzz balls with tiny gray beaks and closed eyes. They begin looking a little more owl-like in about a week with the emergence of yellowish-white plumage and sunken black eyes. The owlets are born after about 35 days' incubation and grow like bird-brained beanstalks during their roughly 6-7-week development before fledging. The young have to allow their pinfeathers, sometimes called blood feathers, to fully unfurl before flight is possible. The pinfeathers are encased in a waxy substance that resembles a drinking straw and have a blood supply, both of which recede as the mature feather gradually emerges.

"Brancher" Beware: A word of caution to well-meaning hominids. At about 6-weeks young owls - while not quite capable of flying - will often "blow" out of nests and remain in smaller bushes, holding on with their now fully formed talons. This is com-

pletely normal and is known as the "brancher stage." Rest assured that the well camouflaged mom and dad are nearby and humans should absolutely not approach the owlet. The mighty mites will also put on an impressive display of puffing up, hissing, and clacking their beaks to look as intimidating as possible to any perceived predators.

Not Always Nocturnal: Great Horned Owls are one of the most diurnal owls in Michigan meaning they can be active during the daylight hours. This is especially true in winter when their prey animals are more apt to be hopping, skittering, or fluttering during the warmest times of the day.

Storybook Stars: Their terrific tufts, mesmerizing yellow eyes, and hooting calls make Great Horned Owls the quintessential storybook owl. Speaking of stories, I would highly recommend the delightful young children's book titled, *Owl Moon*, by writer Jane Yolen. The book won artist, John Schoenherr, the prestigious Caldecott Award for children's book illustration.

Puking Pellets: Like other owls Great Horn's must periodically throw up packets of undigested food. Known as 'owl pellets' these masses contain the fur, feathers, and bones of the bird's prey. A fantastically fun activity to do with children is to dissect these pellets to determine what type of animals the owl had eaten. Like just about everything else on Mother Earth, owl pellets, with bone identification keys, can be purchased on-line!

No Poison for You! Please use methods of rodent control other than rat poisons. Owls, as well as other birds of prey, may consume the mice and die from the ingested poison.

Because of their large size and extensive populations, it's quite likely you'll soon encounter a Great Horned Owl in the woods and waters of the Wolverine State!

"BUT MY EYES ARE MADE FOR DARKNESS, SO THE NIGHTTIME IS RIGHT FOR ME."

- 'Night Owl' by James Taylor

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Health Department of Northwest Michigan COVID-19 4/07 Update

With the continued rise in cases across Michigan as well as evidence of community spread in Antrim, Charlevoix, Emmet and Otsego Counties, the Health Department is urging residents to continue to stay home and stay safe and reminding essential businesses of the employee screening requirements.

Health Officer, Lisa Peacock, shared "We are concerned about anyone who has to leave their home to either provide or receive essential services. Our local public health emergency order adds an additional layer of safety by requiring these businesses to screen their employees for risk of COVID-19 as well as requiring them to implement social distancing measures. These steps are intended to keep people safe, not create barriers. We continue to hear innovative methods that businesses are using to comply with the emergency order."

The Emmet County Testing Facility has tested 42 individuals for COVID since opening last Wednesday. Individuals with questions about the facility, how to get tested, etc. should call 1-800-432-4121. Please note the Emmet County Testing Facility will be closed this Friday, April 10.

As of 4pm on April 7, the Health Department of Northwest Michigan is reporting positive COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Antrim - 6, Charlevoix - 8, Emmet - 14, Otsego - 28; and confirmed COVID-19 deaths in the following counties: Emmet - 2, Otsego - 2. The State of Michigan has reported 18,970 cases and 845 deaths.

Stay up-to-date on the latest information in the Health Department jurisdiction by liking and following our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/nwhealthdepartment/> and visiting our website: <http://nwhealth.org/covid19>.

Charlevoix County Transit offers free essential service rides

Charlevoix County Transit service hours for the mainland will be Monday through Friday, 7am to 4pm and on Beaver Island, Monday through Friday, 11am to 2pm.

Transit will be providing free passenger rides to locations that are designed as essential service (medical, essential work locations, food/grocery locations). In addition to those passenger rides, transit will provide delivery service for the Commission on Aging Senior Meals Program. Residents

who'd like to receive a senior meal should call the Commission on Aging office at 231.237.0103 by Thursday to reserve meals for next week.

If you need a ride, call us and we'll do our best to make it work for you. To request a ride or schedule delivery service, please call Transit at 231.582.6900 between the hours of 7am and 4pm. Please check our Facebook Page and the county website for updated information.

Boyerne Food pantry still open weekly and accepting donations

Good Neighbors Food Pantry continues to serve families in need every Tuesday using a "drive-up" service to keep clients and volunteers safe. The pantry is adhering to strict COVID-19 safety measures in all aspects of its operations. Donations are still being accepted. Please leave items on the table outside the door on Mondays from noon to 3:30 p.m. and Tuesdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Items currently most needed are: packs of individual string cheese and other



non-sweet snacks for children; tuna fish; soups; diced tomatoes; and shelf-stable milk. During this time, only current volunteers are allowed in the pantry, since we are limiting the number of people inside the building as advised by the CDC. The pantry is located at 624 State St.

For more information, please call (231) 497-8677, email goodneighborsboyerne@gmail.com, or visit www.goodneighborsboyerne.org.



Volunteers Ron Crozier and Gow Litzenburger work on the grounds around the Veterans Memorial

Boyerne City Veterans looking for donations for Veterans Memorial

BY KAREN WALKER

The Boyne City Military Veterans are seeking donations to help them put the finishing touches to a new statue honoring the LaBrecque brothers who fought in World War II. Of the five brothers who fought, three were killed during the war. The Boyne City Veterans organization hopes to raise approximately \$5000; \$3000 is needed immediately for the

new statue's granite base.

Money is also needed to pay for repainting the WWII howitzer displayed at Memorial Park as well as ongoing maintenance. Ron Crozier, one of the volunteers helping to maintain the memorial explained that small community projects such as the Veterans Memorial are easily overlooked while so much of our attention is currently focused on the global pandemic.

While the memorial is located within Boyne City's Memorial park located adjacent City Hall, it does not receive any funding from the City. All work performed at the Veterans Memorial is funded solely by donations from the public and area businesses. Anyone wishing to donate to the non-profit organization supporting the memorial is encouraged to send a check, payable to Boyne City Area Veterans

Memorial, to 1121 Crozier Crest, Boyne City, MI 49712 or call Ron Crozier at 231-582-6413.

The current memorial was officially dedicated Memorial Day, May 25, 2009 and was financed by donations gathered by the Boyne City American Legion, VFW, Eagles Lodge, and former Charlevoix County Sheriff George Lasater.

Why bunnies, baskets, bonnets and eggs part of the Easter celebration

BY JIM AKANS

Easter is one of the most reverent of Christian holidays. A celebration of the resurrection of Christ, it is also a day that has become steeped in traditions of colorful eggs, baskets brimming with treats, fanciful bonnets and of course, the bounding, goodies-bearing bunny that literally brings visions of sugar plums to children's imaginations each Easter morning.

How did these seemingly unrelated traditions become such an ingrained part of the Easter celebration?

The egg has long served as a symbol of fertility and rebirth. Long before Jesus walked the earth, ancient Greeks, Chinese and Egyptians would dye eggs to symbolize the rebirth of the spring season after the starkness of winter. Early Christians adopted this practice of using dyed eggs to symbolize the resurrection of Christ, and in transforming the ancient Pagan holiday of Eastr into the observance of Easter, the decorated egg became a part of the celebration.

In Medieval Europe the consumption of eggs was strictly forbidden during Lent, so they were often



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boiled in order to preserve them until they could become a staple of the Easter meal. In early England and Germany, the practice of rolling these hard-boiled eggs down a hill was established as an Easter morning game for

children and was said to symbolize the rolling away of the rock from Jesus tomb. The practice was brought to the United States in the early 19th century, and a short time later Dolly Madison, wife of President James

Madison, started the tradition of holding an "egg roll" for children on the White House lawn, which continues to this day.

Also a timeless symbol of fertility, the "Easter Hare" seems to have originated in

Germany, where this fabled bunny would lay eggs (rabbits must have been quite different back then) on Easter morning for children to find. This tradition emigrated to America as part of the German culture, becoming a popular part of the Easter celebration shortly after the Civil War.

Placing Easter eggs into "one basket," along with many other treats, is a custom that has evolved from the early Christian practice of bringing large baskets of food to church to be blessed by priests after the Lenten fasting period. The "grass" at the bottom of those baskets heralds from a Dutch tradition where children would place eggs on Easter Sunday in "nests" of colored grass, which actually was grass in earlier times.

Since the 16th century, donning a new set of clothes has been a part of the English Easter celebration. The idea of an Easter bonnet was popularized by the legendary songsmith, Irving Berlin in his 1933 hit song, Easter Parade. Soon, "all hat's were on" during the Easter Holiday, and women and girls would put on wide brimmed, lavishly decorated bonnets to celebrate the joy of Easter season. The Easter bonnet, however, is a tradition that is

slowly fading as society becomes increasingly casual about such fanciful things.

Let's not forget the Easter lily. Said to symbolize the purity, innocence and virtue of the Virgin Mary, the lily has been called the "white-robed apostles of hope," and were reportedly found growing in the Garden of Gethsemane after Christ's crucifixion. Churches have traditionally surround altars and crosses with Easter lilies to commemorate the resurrection of Jesus. This beautiful, bright, trumpet-shaped white flower is a reminder that above all, the celebration of Easter is about rebirth of life and spirit.

"Easter morn with lilies fair fills the church with perfumes rare,

as their clouds of incense rise sweetest offerings to the skies.

Stately lilies pure and white flooding darkness with their light,

bloom and sorrow drifts away on this holy hallow'd day.

Easter Lilies bending low in the golden afterglow, bear a message from the sod to the heavenly towers of God."

-Louise Lewin Matthews

News

ONLINE AT WWW.CHARLEVOIXCOUNTYNEWS.COM

Legislature extends state of emergency through April 30

“My office has received several calls and emails from residents concerned about the impact that a more-than-two-month shutdown will have on their livelihoods,” said Sen. Wayne Schmidt, R-Traverse City. “These are certainly challenging times, and everyone should continue to stay home and do their part,

but considering how frequently the information surrounding the coronavirus outbreak is changing and the drastic impact it has already had on families, I don’t believe a 70-day extension is a reasonable starting point.”

The governor last week proposed the 70-day extension of Michigan’s emergency declaration.

Lawmakers instead approved Senate Concurrent Resolution 24, which expands the governor’s expanded emergency and disaster declaration by 23 days through April 30 but allows the extension to be revisited based on new information.

The resolution does not require the governor’s signature to take effect.

“An extension of the governor’s emergency authority until the end of April is reasonable and coincides with the suggested federal guidelines. We need to be able to revisit Michigan’s state of emergency status on a regular basis to ensure all actions and guidelines are up to date with the ever-changing information,” Schmidt said. “State law requires

the Legislature to approve an emergency declaration that lasts beyond the initial 28-day period, and my colleagues and I have a constitutional duty to protect public health. Today’s action was a reflection of both of those duties as your legislator.”

The Senate took particular care Tuesday to ensure the safety of all lawmakers and staff. During their time in the building, legislators maintained a distance of six feet between themselves and remained standing during session. Computers and voting buttons were not used, and before entering the Capitol, everyone was required to pass a health screening administered by the Michigan State Police with the assistance of medical professionals.

“I know the last few weeks have been especially hard on families and small businesses, and I join everyone in hoping our state is on a better track by the end of the month so we can begin a gradual return to our daily lives,” Schmidt said.

Note: Information around this outbreak is changing rapidly. The latest information is available at Michigan.gov/Coronavirus and CDC.gov/Coronavirus. For those who have questions about the state’s actions to mitigate the spread of coronavirus, please call the COVID-19 Hotline at 1-888-535-6136 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. daily.

Tree Sale Pick Up Weekend Changes

Please note the following changes to our Tree Sale Pick-up weekend on Friday, April 24th & Saturday, April 25th. We have a new registration process, please contact us to schedule your pick up time slot or let us know if you have health restrictions & need your order delivered. As always, please do what you feel is necessary & wear preferred appropriate gear to further protect yourself. The plan is to keep everyone spaced out, avoid congregating in small spaces and strictly limit contact with others.

Please feel free to pay in advance for your order if you haven’t already. This is not required, but encouraged. Checks are also encouraged in lieu of cash if possible (to limit exchange). Thank you for your patience, understanding & support. Stay well!

We still have trees & are accepting orders. We will accept orders until we run out. Any remaining trees will be available for discount- we will inform you of this process. charlevoixcounty.org/conservation_district/tree_sale/

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Buying a Home with Resale Value

PART 2 BEDROOMS AND BATHROOMS

Three and four bedroom houses are the most popular among homebuyers, so if you can stick in that range you will have more potential buyers when it comes time to resell. Five is okay, too, as long as you do not have to pay too much extra for the additional bedroom.

There should always be at least two bathrooms in a house, preferably at least two and a half. One bathroom with a place to wash up for day-to-day visitors, one for the master bedroom, and at least one to be shared by the other bedrooms.

CLOSETS, GARAGES, AND LAUNDRY

Walk-in closets are extremely desirable for the master bedroom. For the rest of the house, just be sure there is plenty of closet space. Don’t forget space for linens and towels.

Garages add to the resale value and you should always make sure to get at least a two-car garage. Lately, three-car garages have become desirable in some areas of the country.

The laundry facilities should be located some-

where convenient on the main floor of the house, but not in a place it will create an eyesore. Think about whether you want to walk up and down stairs when carrying loads of laundry.

THE KITCHEN

Family activity centers around the kitchen, so this is the most important room of the house. Larger kitchens are better, and they should be provided with modern appliances. Obviously, the dining room and breakfast nook should be located adjacent to the kitchen. In newer houses, the family room should also be extremely close to the kitchen.

There should be easy access to the back yard, as there will be occasions for barbecues and outdoor entertaining. In addition, it should be a short trek between the garage to the kitchen so hauling groceries in from the car does not become a horrendous chore.

FIREPLACES

The only room where you absolutely have to have a fireplace is the family room. A fireplace in the living room may be nice, but you pay extra for it and will probably rarely use it. At best, it serves as a focal point of the living room, but does not add much in real value.

Real Estate Feature Property

TWO RUSTIC CABINS WITH SCOTT’S LAKE FRONTAGE



BY JIM AKANS

This week’s feature listing is two-for-one; two rustic cabins situated on approximately 97 feet of frontage on Scott’s Lake between East Jordan and Central Lake.

It’s the perfect set up for the outdoor enthusiast. There is approximately 700

square feet of living space with all the amenities; bedrooms, bath, kitchen with appliances...even furnishings.

The cabins are both perched on the edge of Scott’s Lake, and there are four aluminum boats, a pontoon boat and a paddle boat all ready and waiting to get out on the water.

Scott’s Lake offers great

fishing and boating. This is an ideal opportunity to own an excellent northern Lower Michigan get away and spend time on the water and enjoy some relaxation.

These two rustic cabins with Scott’s Lake frontage are located at 2634 Lake Road between East Jordan and Central Lake, and it is listed at \$79,900. 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@lyndasrealestateservice.com or Chris@lyndasrealestateservice.com



FOR SALE: 2017 CHEVY SILVERADO LT

4WD, Double cab, bed liner, newer tires, High topper. 62K. Lease is up. Selling for payoff price, **\$23,800. Hurry. I have to turn the truck in Soon.**

Call Dave, **989-350-9235**. Gaylord



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