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Face Covering guidance during COVID-19

Governor Whitmer's extended Stay Home, Stay Safe executive order states that any individual able to medically tolerate a face covering must wear a covering over his or her nose and mouth—such as a homemade mask, scarf, bandana, or handkerchief—when in any enclosed public space.

With this new requirement, District Health Department #10 (DHD#10) reminds everyone that we must continue to follow the guidelines set in place to keep the public safe, including the use of face coverings in public.

"When wearing a mask in



public, keep in mind, it's not about you, it's about ensuring the people around you remain safe. People need to

be minimizing the spread of COVID-19 in as many ways as possible, including this one," said Kevin Hughes,

Health Officer for DHD#10. In addition to regularly washing your hands and practicing social distancing, follow this guidance for face masks:

- Wear a face covering whenever you are in a public setting, especially when you may be near people, are caring for others, or are sick yourself.
- Face coverings should be worn by everyone except - children under age 2, and anyone who has trouble breathing, is unconscious or otherwise unable to remove the mask without help.

See **Face Masks** – Page 3A

Boyne City road construction to begin May 11

The North Lake Street / West Michigan Avenue road construction project is scheduled to begin on Monday, May 11th and be completed on Saturday, June 13th. Payne and Dolan is the project contractor. The project involves milling off and replacing the pavement on these two roads on the north side of Boyne City.

"These streets have probably the worst pavement condition of any paved streets in Boyne City and are also some of our busiest, being on the route to Young State Park, US-131 and Charlevoix," stated Boyne City Manager Michael Cain. "This project continues the road work we did on North Lake Street last year and will provide much smoother access to the heart of Boyne City from the north."

Cain continued. "Pretty much anyway you come into Boyne City after this project

See **Road Construction** – Page 3A

Mom; A Child's Greatest Gift

BY JIM AKANS

This Sunday we celebrate, recognize, and honor a very special person in our lives; mom. She is there from the start, and while we bring her joy, concern, pride and challenges as we grow, her love remains unflinching, unconditional, and unending. As anyone who has lost a mother knows, the bond between mother and child lasts well beyond her lifetime. Whether a biological or foster mother, she is the one we turn to help celebrate our victories, comfort our setbacks and encourage our dreams.



Those who have aged long enough to remain on this earth after our mom's time has passed still recognize that special glow in our hearts when recalling a mother's warming smile. Miss you mom. Photo courtesy of Jim Akans

One of the most surprising things about Mother's Day is that it took so long to get around to set aside a celebratory day just for mom each year. In 1870, Julia Ward Howe wrote the "Mother's Day Proclamation," urging that a "general congress of women without limit of nationality" be appointed to "promote the alliance of the different nationalities." Howe's proclamation recognized women's role and responsibility in shaping the direction of society, but the idea of an actual Mother's Day was another four decades in arriving.

In May of 1908, Philadelphia, Anna Jarvis, came up with the concept and even trademarked the phrase "Mother's Day." She was adamant about including the apostrophe so that the term was a singular possessive - inspiring every family to honor their own mother rather than inferring a general celebration of motherhood. A few years later, in 1914, President Woodrow Wilson had the good sense to proclaim Mother's Day a national holiday, designated as the second Sunday in May.

Some interesting Mother's Day trivia:

- According to BabyCenter.com, the five most popular baby names (so far) for boys in 2020 are: Liam, Noah, Elijah and Oliver. The top five girl names: Olivia, Emma, Ava, Isabella and Mia.
- The oldest woman to deliver a child on record is Satyabhama Mahapatra, who gave birth to a baby



This Sunday we celebrate, recognize, and honor the most special person in our lives; mom. Wikimedia photo

boy on April 9, 2003, when she was 65 years old.

- The Guinness work record for most babies delivered at one time goes to Southern Californian Nadya Suleman, who gave birth to octuplets, six boys and two girls on January 26, 2009.
- Longest span between two children is 41 years, 185 days. The mother, Elizabeth Ann Buttle, gave birth to her first child, Belinda on May 19, 1956 and her last child, Joseph, on November 20, 1997.
- The centuries old nod for most children goes to

Russian Feodor Vassilyev's first wife (oddly, his wife's name doesn't seem to have been recorded), who between 1725 and 1765 gave birth to 69 children, including 16 pairs of twins, seven sets of triplets and four sets of quadruplets. Hand me downs must have tumbled through many sets of hands.

Statistics from Census.gov reveal that:

- Between the ages of 15 and 50; Forty-four percent of women have no children, seventeen percent have one

See **MOM** – Page 5A

Boyne City begins yard waste collections

Starting on Monday, May 4, the Boyne City Public Works Department crews will begin curbside pick-up of leaves in Boyne City. This service occurs each Monday and Friday and will continue for four (4) weeks through Friday, May 29. After these dates, Boyne City property owners will be responsible for bringing their leaves to the North Boyne Compost Site on Robinson Street, or mulching the leaves on their property.

Please place your bagged leaves at the curbside in clearly marked biodegradable paper yard waste bags. Do not place brush or other yard waste at the curbside. Boyne City property owners may bring their brush to the North Boyne Compost Site.

Paper Yard Waste bags are available locally at the Boyne Ace Hardware store and the Boyne Co-op store, or can be purchased elsewhere. Please only place leaves in the yard waste bags, as these bags are not designed to hold sticks, roots, sand, soil, or stones and will break when handled.

Under City of Boyne City Ordinance you may not deposit loose piles of leaves, or other yard waste, onto the streets. Loose material may wash into the city storm sewers causing flooding & pollution of Lake Charlevoix and/or the Boyne River. If you feel your pick-up was missed during this service period, please contact the Boyne City City Hall at 582-6579.

As a reminder, the City of Boyne City Spring Rubbish Collection will be held on Saturday, May 23, 2020. This year there will be only one collection day in the Spring, not three as in past years.

For more information on this release, please contact Tim Faas, Boyne City Director of Public Works at 582-0375.

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Boyne City Stroll the Streets postponed until July 17

Boyne City Main Street's 17th Annual Stroll the Streets event series will postpone its start date until July 17 this year, due to concerns for the health and safety of the community. Stroll the Streets takes place each Friday evening mid-June through Labor Day weekend from 6-9 p.m. in downtown Boyne City.

"We are faced with many hard decisions right now regarding summer events, but the health and safety of our community are our first priority," said Karen Guzniczak, Stroll the Streets volunteer coordinator. "We are very sad to have to do this, but look forward to welcoming everyone back downtown for Stroll as soon as possible."

Stroll the Streets is a one of Boyne City Main Street's signature events. Each Friday evening, local bands, of all musical varieties, are placed on the sidewalks throughout downtown for folks to enjoy while they shop, eat, stroll and enjoy beautiful Northern Michigan summer evenings.

Safety guidelines and group gathering protocols will be carefully monitored as July draws closer.

ROAD CONSTRUCTION

FROM PG. 1A

is complete you will find smooth pavement." In addition the project will involve upgrades to intersection sidewalk ramps and some shoulder widening. Plans for the project are available for review on the City's website, www.boyneccity.com

There will be temporary lane closures in the construction area during the project. No detours are anticipated.

The \$311,400 project is being funded using \$135,000 Federal Surface Transportation Program (STP), \$100,000 MDOT Economic Development Category D funds with the remainder being paid for by the City. There will be no additional charges to abutting property owners for the project.

Executive Order provisions for K-12 Learning and Early Childhood Programs

Governor Gretchen Whitmer today signed Executive Order 2020-65 to extend and clarify Executive Order 2020-35, which ordered all K-12 school buildings to close for instructional purposes for students for the remainder of the school year, and provided continuity of learning infrastructure by setting guidelines for remote learning. In addition to continuing the actions taken in the previous executive order, Executive Order 2020-65 also suspends in-person instruction of both the Great Start Readiness Program and early childhood programs for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year. GSRP is Michigan's state-funded preschool program.

"A few weeks ago I made the difficult choice to close our school facilities for the remainder of the school year. I understand the tremendous impact this has placed on families, teachers, staff and students. It was not a decision I took lightly," said Governor Whitmer. "I am so thankful for the tireless work of our frontline school employees who are working every day to ensure the continued education of Michigan's kids. Already, I have seen amaz-

ing stories of teachers doing their part and working hard to make sure their students have the resources they need. This order builds upon my previous order to ensure schools have the clear guidance they need to give Michigan students the best, most equitable education possible from the safety of their homes."

Under the re-issued EO, school districts that run Great Start Readiness Programs (GSRP) must also detail a plan on how the GSRP teaching team will engage with enrolled children and families as well as provide children and their families plans for the transition from GSRP to kindergarten. This outreach must include a virtual conference with the family. Schools must begin implementation of GSRP plans by May 7, 2020.

Executive Order 2020-65 suspends certain requirements for teacher evaluations in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. Additionally the order clarifies that some teachers with individualized development plans will need to be provided an annual year-end performance evaluation, but that administrators

must only use data available prior to the school closures, in recognition of some limitations posed by COVID-19. The order also temporarily suspends certain requirements that districts will not be able to fulfill due to the closure of school buildings for instructional purposes, like mandatory fire, lockdown, and tornado drills. It also waives compulsory attendance requirements and truancy enforcement measures for the remainder of 2019-2020 school year.

Like her previous order, all districts must ensure their plans are appropriate, equitable and accessible for students and families. Although each district's plan will be different and represent what is best for their students, the Continued Learning Plan (CoL) outlined in the order requires schools to:

- Include a description of the methods used to provide alternative modes of instruction as well as a summary of materials, a description of methods to keep students at the center of education activities, a plan to deliver content in multiple ways to ensure access for all students, and a plan to manage and moni-

tor learning.
- Include a budget outline estimating additional expenditures associated with the CoL Plan and sources of revenue to pay for those expenditures.

- Provide a description of methods the district will use to notify pupils and parents or guardians of the CoL Plan.

- Provide or arrange for continuation of food distribution to eligible pupils.

- Continue to pay school employees while redeploying staff to provide meaningful work in the context - Provide for evaluation of participation in the CoL Plan by pupils.

- Provide mental health supports to pupils affected by a state of emergency or state of disaster prompted by COVID-19.

- nclude a plan for early childhood services, including Great Start Readiness Program, compliant with guidance issued by the Department.

Additionally, each district must have its plan approved by their regional intermediate school district before being implemented. Public school academies must have their plans approved by their authorizer. Districts can also partner

with one another to create joint plans.

School districts will have the flexibility to adopt a balanced calendar for the 2019-2020 school year and/or to begin the 2020-2021 school year before Labor Day without having to seek additional approval. Teachers and school employees will be paid for the remainder of the school year. Student teachers will still be able to get a temporary certification and current teachers will still be able to get their certifications renewed, even if they can't meet all the requirements due to COVID-19.

All Michigan high school seniors will be given the opportunity to graduate this year so that they may make a successful postsecondary transition. Additionally, all standardized tests previously scheduled for the remainder of the school year, including the M-STEP and the SAT, will be canceled. There will be a date in October for rising high school seniors to take the SAT and for other high school students to take the PSAT.

Robert Banner running for 90th District Court Judge



Boyne City Attorney Robert Banner announces his candidacy for the 90th District Court Judge position.

"I am excited to take on this challenge. The positive response to my decision to run is humbling. It will be my pleasure to meet the voters of Charlevoix and Emmet Counties over the months to come. I look forward to earning the trust and respect of the voters to serve as District Court Judge," said Banner.

Banner is a trial lawyer and has extensive jury and bench trial experience. Over the last 29 years he has tried many cases in district, circuit, probate, and tribal

courts. He has litigated matters involving: drinking and driving; landlord/tenant; land contract forfeiture; misdemeanor and felony criminal matters; general civil litigation in district and circuit courts; juvenile delinquency; and abuse and neglect cases. He handles probate estates, trust estates, assists clients creating estate plans, and he has litigated both contested probate and trust estates.

Outside of his work responsibilities, Robert (Bob) Banner is a 27-year member of the Rotary Club of Boyne City. He is a past president, past board member and current scholarship chairman for the club. Banner is the current President of the Board of Directors of Northern Community Mediation in Petoskey. He is on the Advisory Council to the Charlevoix County Community Foundation. In 2017 he was appointed by then Michi-

gan Attorney General Bill Schuette to the position of Public Administrator for Charlevoix County. This appointment requires him to represent the State of Michigan in Charlevoix County probate matters involving deceased persons without heirs.

Bob and his wife Cindy of 29 years, have two children, Katelyn, age 22, who is in graduate school at Western Michigan University, and Phillip, a sophomore at Boyne City High School. They are long-time members of Christ Lutheran Church in Boyne City.

"I have earned the trust and respect of my colleagues. I am uniquely qualified for this position as I possess the experience and proper temperament to succeed as judge. It would be my honor to continue serving Charlevoix and Emmet Counties as District Court Judge."

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DTE Electric to provide bill relief during peak summer usage

DTE Energy today announced that it is passing along between \$30 to \$40 million in bill relief to its electric utility customers for the months of June and July. DTE has leveraged its efficiency and lower fuel prices to significantly reduce the amount of money it spends on generation costs and is passing these savings on to its customers.

"We know that many Michiganders are experiencing hardships due to the COVID-19 pandemic," said Trevor Lauer, president of the electric company at DTE Energy. "That's why we feel

it is important to apply some relief for upcoming June and July bills to help ease some of the financial burdens being experienced by our customers and the communities we serve."

This \$30 to \$40 million bill relief initiative will complement DTE's recently announced Personalized Service Protection program to help customers experiencing financial hardships due to COVID-19. The service protection program helps ensure impacted customers can retain the energy service they need during this ongoing crisis. Some of the cus-

tomized protections available to eligible customers include deposit waivers, payment extensions and flexible repayment options.

This bill relief effort and Personalized Service Protection program are the latest in a series of recent actions DTE has taken to help its customers during the COVID-19 crisis. Other actions include:

- Extending coverage through June 1, 2020 for customers enrolled in its low-income and senior shutoff protection programs
- Extending its 30-day medical hold policy to help low-

income customers who are physically exposed, infected or quarantined by the COVID-19 virus (including influenza)

- Providing business customers with guidance on resources available to them through state and federal agencies via its COVID-19 business support site

- Providing energy efficiency guidance to customers spending more time at home, with easy, low- or no-cost steps that can immediately reduce usage and costs

- Encouraging customers to download the free DTE In-

sight app which helps monitor energy use and take actions to reduce usage, and thereby lower bills

- Stressing the benefits of its safe and convenient ways to manage accounts – such as eBill, AutoPay, mobile payment and other programs

More information on the Personalized Service Protection program, as well as DTE's other initiatives in response to COVID-19 can be found at dteenergy.com/covid19.

BOYNE CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT INCIDENT REPORT

Monday, April 20, 2020
0909 Report of tree on lines in the 600 block of Jefferson.
1529 Suspicious vehicles reported in the 200 block of Vogel
1548 Tree on house on E Cedar.
1751 Report of dogs running at large in the area of Vogel and East St.

Tuesday, April 21, 2020

1214 Question regarding home repair and the Executive Order from Poplar St.
1819 Civil complaint in the 500 block of State St

Wednesday, April 22, 2020
0912 Report of lost wallet from the 500 block of N Lake St
0936 Threats complaint from the 500 block of N Lake St
1112 Call regarding the Ex-

ecutive Order
1200 Car der crash at Vogel and East St.
1954 Assist MSP with logging a dog at the shelter.

Thursday, April 23, 2020
0036 Vehicle unlock in the 200 block of Vogel St.
1032 Illegal dumping complaint in the Industrial Park.
1501 Citizen assist in the 100 block of Water St
2100 Alarm activation on

S. Lake.

Friday, April 24, 2020
0945 Report of Executive Order violation on Pearl St.
1030 Report of attempted grandchild scam.
1315 Call for clarification on Executive Order
1323 Call for clarification on Executive Order
1546 Lost set of keys reported.

Saturday, April 25, 2020
0033 Assist Sheriff Dept. at Boyne City Rd and Sumner Rd.
1332 Questions regarding Executive Order in the 500 block of Jefferson St.
1356 Animal complaint in the 100 block of S. Lake St.
2050 Vehicle stopped at State St. and N. East St. No insurance and DWLS.

Sunday April 26, 2020
1339 Water pipe leak in

the 800 block of N Lake St.
1341 Assist Sheriff Dept. on Addis Rd.
1519 Assist Fire and EMS at Avalanche Mt for bicycle crash.
1720 Animal complaint from Robinson St
1809 Report of subject stopping traffic at Boyne City Rd and Michigan Av

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Organizations receive almost \$117,000 in People Fund grants

Eighteen grants were awarded to local community non-profits thanks to Great Lakes Energy members who support the cooperative's People Fund program. Since the program's inception in 1999, organizations have received over \$3.8 million in People Fund grants.

The People Fund Board of Directors awarded \$50,374.70 in grants to eighteen northern Michigan organizations listed below, with a total of over \$116,819 for all organizations throughout the cooperative's 26-county service area in 2020.

Otsego County Economic Alliance, Inc., Gaylord: \$3,000 for 2 computers, equipment, and software.

Blissfest Music Organization, Petoskey: \$2,043.04 for four computer monitors for virtual programming.

Women's Resource Center for the Grand Traverse Area, Traverse City: \$5,000 for safe shelters from domestic violence.

Northern Michigan Equine Therapy, Boyne City: \$2,533.66 for care for therapy horses (while business is suspended due to pandemic).

SEEDS Ecology and Education Centers, Traverse City: \$2,000 for renovating sugar shack building and to purchase new equipment and signs.

Harbor Springs Festival of the Book, Harbor Springs: \$3,000 to purchase books in

relation to author visits in schools.

The Salvation Army, Petoskey: \$4,600 for new computers to replace outdated models.

The King House Association, Good Hart: \$2,500 for constructing interior wall panels for the King's House.

East Jordan Fire Department, East Jordan: \$2,050 for new water rescue equipment - vests and helmets. Contingent on raising the rest of the funding needed.

Crooked Tree Arts Center, Petoskey: \$3,300 for necessary video streaming equipment for virtual programming during the pandemic.

TART Trails, Traverse

City: \$5,000 to complete Vasa pathway skill-building loops.

Otsego - Antrim Habitat for Humanity, Inc., Gaylord: \$2,568 for a computer with RECON multi-location sync engine.

Friendship Centers of Emmet County, Petoskey: \$3,000 for a new vehicle for the Meals on Wheels program.

Harbor Area Recreation & Entertainment, Inc., Harbor Springs: \$1,000 for a timing system for feedback for swimming event participants.

Otsego County Library, Gaylord: \$1,280 for establishing a Makerspace, a place where children can learn and create.

Elk Rapids Area Historical

Society, Elk Rapids: \$2,000 to repair cracks in walls and repaint.

Otsego Conservation District, Gaylord: \$2,500 for installing handicap parking to garden and educational center.

Grass River Natural Area, Inc., Bellaire: \$3,000 for the production and printing of interpretive signage for trail.

The People Fund is supported by the voluntary contributions of Great Lakes Energy members who allow their electric cooperative to round up their bill each month to the next dollar. It averages 50 cents a month.

"Cooperatives have a unique opportunity to have a significant impact in the com-

munities they serve," says President/CEO Bill Scott. "By allowing members to round up their bill, Great Lakes Energy serves as the conduit between them and their communities to have a positive and lasting impact."

Great Lakes Energy members can enroll in the People Fund by calling 1-888-485-2537 or visiting gtlakes.com. All funds collected from members go toward grants.

Nonprofit organizations in the Great Lakes Energy service area can request a grant application online at <https://www.gtlakes.com/people-fund/>. The next grant application deadline is October 15, 2020.

Raven Hill Discovery Center in hibernation until 2021

The danger of COVID-19 remains foremost in the minds of the Raven Hill Discovery Center Board of Directors. After much discussion, the Raven Hill Board has made the difficult decision to "hibernate" for 12 months, so that everyone can stay removed from one another and the Center can safely open a year from now.

Opening for this 2020 spring and summer season would be difficult in this time of "social distancing". Opening this coming fall or winter doesn't make sense, because it is Raven Hill's hardest time financially.

Opening in the spring of 2021 in time for spring field trips, discovery camps and summer visitors, seems to be the best option for the Center. The Center's staff is working behind the scenes and Raven Hill's Board will continue to reassess the situation as future Executive Orders for Michigan are released.

If you have any questions or need more information, please email me or call me on my cell: 231.675.6025. I will be sharing updates on a weekly basis. If you are not interested in receiving them, let me know and I will remove you from the list. miravenhill.org

'Explore at Home' online resources

The mission of Mackinac State Historic Parks is simple and encompassing - we protect, preserve and present Mackinac's rich historic and natural resources to provide outstanding educational and recreational experiences for the public. With that in mind, MSHP is excited to announce its "Explore at Home" collection of online resources. Included are online exhibits and demonstrations, movies detailing the histories of Fort Mackinac, Colonial Michilimackinac, Historic Mill Creek Discovery Park and Old Mackinac Point Lighthouse, activities for kids like coloring books, online puzzles and activities, and easy ac-

cess to our extensive library of blog posts and timeline histories.

"We hope these resources will be helpful to those unable to visit us now, but at least provide a glimpse into what our sites have to offer," said Steve Brisson, Mackinac State Historic Parks Deputy Director. "There is a great sampling of material available taken directly from the sites. Other items have been carefully crafted for the website."

The online collection can be found at mackinacparks.com/exploreathome. Content will be updated regularly, and everything on the "Explore at

Home" tab is free.

Curator of History Craig Wilson and Exhibit Designer Keeney Swearer were driving forces in getting a lot of the content created and ready for publication. Marketing Manager Dominick Miller and Brisson assisted with review, ideas, and publication. The team thanks staff past and present for contributions to the content.

"Our 'Explore at Home' pages give us a chance to share stories from our museums and historic sites with people who might not be able to physically visit us in person," Wilson said. "I hope people get a little extra taste of Mackinac at home."



Fuelwood gathering Michigan residents now can apply online for a free permit to cut fuelwood from dead and downed trees in approved areas of Michigan's state forests. Courtesy photo

Fuelwood permits are free in 2020; apply online now

Fuelwood gathering Michigan residents now can apply online for a free permit to cut fuelwood from dead and downed trees in approved areas of Michigan's state forests. Fuelwood season will begin May 1, a month later than usual, because of statewide Department of Natural Resources office closures due to the COVID-19 virus.

DNR staff recommends that you visit the site where you plan to cut before applying for a permit. The quality and quantity of dead wood varies by location. Current maps of areas where cutting will be allowed are available online. The permit form is at Michigan.gov/Fuelwood. Print it, complete it, and carry it with you when you are cutting wood. If you have already submitted an application and payment, your check will be returned to you along with your permit. Permits are good for 90 days after they're issued; all permits expire Dec. 31 regardless of issue date.

Check fuelwood maps to make sure the area where you plan to cut is open for fuelwood. Permits are for use on designated state forest land in the Upper Peninsula and the northern Lower Peninsula. Permits allow for collection of up to five standard cords of wood per household. Wood is for personal use only and cannot be resold or traded. Wood must be dead and down within 200 feet of a road. No off-road use of vehicles is permitted to gather wood.

Permits normally cost \$20 each; 2020 permits are free due to the effect of the COVID-19 virus on DNR staff availability. The DNR will assess the situation for 2021 after this fuelwood season has ended. Local DNR customer service centers and management unit offices are currently closed due to statewide measures against COVID-19. Staff is available by telephone.

If you have additional questions specifically regarding fuelwood permits, contact Doug Heym at 517-284-5867.

MOM

FROM PG. 1A

child, twenty-two percent have two children and seventeen percent have three or more children.

- Most first-time mothers (thirty-seven percent) are between the ages of 20 and 24.

- Mom is spelled the same forwards and backwards, and upside down it spells "WOW."

Somewhere between the rare, the facts and the fun, however, is where moms truly make their mark. It's those times when her unconditional loving eyes share moments of joy, anxiety, sorrow and celebration that ultimately become etched on a child's memories, no matter how grown-up that child may become. Those who have aged long enough to remain on this earth after our mom's time has passed still recognize that special glow in our hearts when recalling a mother's warming smile in our mind's eye.

So spend some time with mom this coming Sunday. Stop by for a visit, give her a call, or hold her in your thoughts and prayers. For the greatest gift a child can give, is letting their mother know that they love them too.

HEALTH NEWS: Don't wait to seek emergency care

McLaren Northern Michigan is reminding individuals to continue to seek care for medical emergencies. Physicians are concerned that many individuals who should have sought medical care for non-COVID related concerns have put off treatment that may be endangering your health and life.

"One of the tragic aspects of the COVID-19 outbreak in New York is that people were afraid of going to the Emergency Department for fear of getting COVID. That has resulted in an increase of unnecessary deaths at home in New York. We don't want that to happen here," said Andrew McDonagh, MD, Chief Medical Officer at McLaren Northern Michigan

McLaren Northern Michigan has taken multiple steps to ensure that all patients are safe. In addition to following the governor's mandated orders for screening and visitation, McLaren



McLaren Northern Michigan is reminding individuals to continue to seek care for medical emergencies. Courtesy photo

Northern Michigan triages patients upon arrival at the emergency department. There are designated respiratory recovery areas in both the Emergency Department and in the hospital to keep you safe.

The hospital's in-house

lab is now capable of completing rapid COVID-19 testing for inpatients. "The fact that we can quickly assess whether a patient has COVID-19 or not is a game changer," said Karen Denbesten, MD, Medical Director of Infection Preven-

tion at McLaren Northern Michigan. "We can immediately isolate patients and ensure that our staff and other patients are effectively protected from transmission. We were already doing this by treating any patient with respiratory symptoms as if they had COVID-19, but now we have more assurance due to our testing capability."

While COVID is a public health emergency; heart attacks, strokes, and sepsis are far more deadly. If you are experiencing signs or symptoms of heart attack, stroke, or sepsis, seek medical attention immediately.

"We have created a safe environment here," expressed Dr. Denbesten. "We have implemented plans to safely provide care and treatment for all patients. Please don't put off your urgent medical needs and put your life at risk."

Health Department May 5 COVID-19 update

The Health Department of Northwest Michigan has been working diligently to meet the information and data requests of our residents. Today, we will begin reporting a few additional pieces of data on our COVID-19 Data Dashboard, including total number of recovered cases across our jurisdiction and by county, as well as two new map visualizations to display total number of confirmed and probable cases by zip code and by county.

Dr. Josh Meyerson, Health Department of Northwest Michigan Medical Director, shares, "information about recoveries from COVID-19 has been highly requested by residents. We are excited to be at a place where we can share recovered case counts and respond to these information requests. The number of recoveries across our four counties is evidence that staying home, and social distancing efforts are working to reduce the



HEALTH DEPARTMENT
of Northwest Michigan

spread of COVID-19, while ensuring our health care systems have the capacity to help residents safely recover."

Consistent with the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS), our health department is reporting recovered cases as the number of persons with a confirmed COVID-19 diagnosis who are alive 30 days post-onset of symptoms (or referral date if onset is not available). If an individual dies from a COVID-related cause more than 30 days from onset-date, they are removed from the number of persons recovered. Our health department team is reviewing vital records statistics to identify recovered cases.

Confirmed and probable cases were previously reported on the dashboard in

a table by zip code. We are now reporting confirmed and probable cases by zip code and county using two map visualizations to show the prevalence of COVID-19. Darker colors represent more cases for zip code and county COVID-19 data.

As of 4pm on May 5, the Health Department of Northwest Michigan is reporting positive COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Antrim - 10, Charlevoix - 13, Emmet - 21, Otsego - 94; confirmed COVID-19 deaths in the following counties: Charlevoix - 1, Emmet - 2, Otsego - 8; and recovered COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Antrim - 8, Charlevoix - 11, Emmet - 19, Otsego - 42. The State of Michigan has reported 44,397 cases and 4,179 deaths.

Stay up to date on the latest information in the Health Department jurisdiction by liking and following our Facebook page and visiting our COVID-19 Data Dashboard.

Governor Whitmer Extends Executive Order limiting places of public accommodation

Governor Gretchen Whitmer signed Executive Order 2020-69 which extends her previous order that temporarily closes certain places of public accommodation such as theaters, bars, casinos, and more. In order to maintain social distancing the order also limits restaurants to carry-out and delivery orders.

"Although we are beginning to see the curve flatten, we are not out of the woods yet. We must all continue to be diligent, observe social distancing and limit in-person interactions and services to slow the spread of COVID-19," said Governor Whitmer. "Michigan now has more than 40,000 cases of COVID-19. The virus has killed more Michiganders than we lost during the Vietnam war. Extending this order is vital to the health and safety of every Michigander. If we work together and do our part, we can help reduce the spread of COVID-19 and save lives."

This order does not restrict a place of business from offering food and beverage using delivery service, window service, walk-up service, drive-

through service, or drive-up service. Places of public accommodation are encouraged to offer food and beverage service in one or more of those ways and use precautions to mitigate potential transmission of COVID-19, including social distancing and wearing as face covering. Restaurants may allow five people inside at a time to pick up orders, so long as they stay six feet apart from each other.

These restrictions do not apply to the following locations: office buildings, grocery stores, markets, food pantries, pharmacies, drug stores, and providers of medical equipment and supplies, health care facilities, residential care facilities, congregate care facilities, and juvenile justice facilities, warehouse and distribution centers, and industrial and manufacturing facilities.

Executive Order 2020-69 is effective immediately and extends until May 28. The latest information is available at Michigan.gov/Coronavirus and CDC.gov/Coronavirus.

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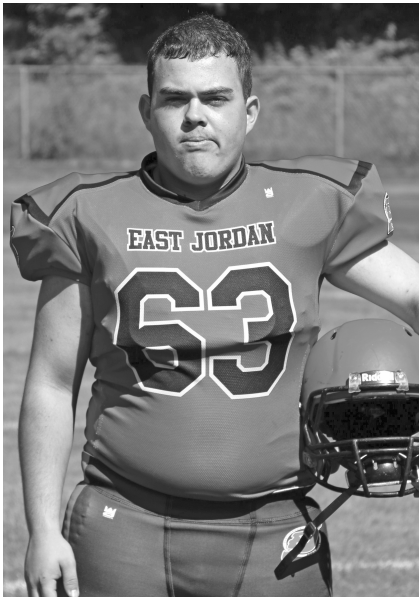
Charlevoix County News

Thursday, April 30, 2020

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AREA ATHLETE PROFILE



Hunter Adams
EAST JORDAN RED DEVILS

SPORTS:

JV FOOTBALL
• 2016-17
• 2017-18

VARSITY FOOTBALL
• 2018-19
• 2019-20

TRACK FIELD
• 2016-17
• 2017-18
• 2018-19

HONORS:

VARSITY FOOTBALL
2019-20
• Coach's Award

LEAGUE SCHOLAR ATHLETE
• 2018-19
• 2019-20

PARENTS:

Bart and Lynn Adams

AREA ATHLETE PROFILE



Nick Aown
BOYNE CITY RAMBLERS

BASEBALL

Highlights: Pitching in the district Championship my freshman year, hitting a Home Run in the regional semis my sophomore year, going to regional finals my junior year.

Stats from last year:

.328 Avg.
1 HR, 61 IP,
1.07 ERA, 94 K's,
10 wins, 2 Losses

GPA: 4.063
SAT: 1540
ACT: 35

Coach's Comment - "Nick is a natural leader on the field. He is always looking to get better and put in the extra work to get it done. Dominant force on the mound and behind the plate."

AREA ATHLETE PROFILE



Kara Feury
EAST JORDAN RED DEVILS

SPORTS:

GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY
• 2019-20

TRACK FIELD
• 2016-17

MOTHER:

Kathleen Bowden

AREA ATHLETE PROFILE



T.J. Schultz
ELLSWORTH LANCERS

BASEBALL

Senior
Infielder/Catcher
Member of 2018 Northern Lakes Conference Championship Team; Northern Lake All Conference 2nd Team 2018, Antrim County All Area 2nd Team 2018

Stats (2018)

Games Played - 19
Batting Average - .486
Hits - 18 (2 home runs, 1 triple, 4 doubles, 11 singles)
RBIs - 16, Walks - 14, Strikes Outs - 9
Stolen Bases - 3, Runs scored - 25
Defensive - Innings 77,
.630 fielding percentage

In the year TJ played, his competitive nature and ability to play any position was a great asset and contributing factor in helping his team win a conference title. His strength and determination contributed to making him a very successful catcher and also helped at the plate where he always hit with power.

2020 Boys Soccer Division Classifications

The Michigan High School Athletic Association released its 2020 boys soccer division classifications.

Below is a listing of area boys soccer programs and their corresponding divisions.

Division 1 (1,171 or above)

Traverse City Central, 1,432
Traverse City West, 1,602

Division 2 (650-1,170)

Cadillac, 799
Gaylord, 913
Petoskey, 950

Division 3 (342-649)

Boyne City, 432
Cheboygan, 594
Elk Rapids, 384
Grayling, 431
Harbor Springs, 277 (opted up)
Kalkaska, 586
Ogemaw Heights, 594

Division 4 (342 or below)

Beaver Island, 15
Burt Lake Northern Michigan Christian, 115
Charlevoix, 280
Houghton Lake, 328
Roscommon, 288

Camp Daggett cancels Summer 2020 Camping Sessions

The Board of Trustees of Camp Daggett made the difficult decision to cancel all summer 2020 camping sessions at their board meeting on April 28. The board considered the situation currently facing Michigan, the United States and the world, that camp would be unable to serve their mission this summer to the standards that our camping families have come to expect.

"It is with camper, staff, and community safety in

mind that the Camp Daggett Board of Trustees has decided to cancel all summer 2020 camping sessions," states Justin Weisler, chair of the Board of Trustees. "Please know that this decision was not arrived at lightly, the entire staff and board feel that current guidance on social distancing, mass gatherings, and personal protective equipment would not allow us to deliver high quality programming for this summer," Weisler

continues.

The Board of Trustees has established a full refund policy during these difficult times. All camping families have been notified by either email, phone call or mail. All have been given the option of a full refund, or moving their deposit to secure a 2021 camping registration. Camp will be in contact with all camping families to determine their wishes and refunds will be made quickly.

If you need additional in-

formation, a Frequently Asked Questions page will be maintained and updated on the website www.campdaggett.org.

In additional news, the search for a new executive director has been suspended for the moment. As soon as the Board has deemed the current environment stabilized and safer, a new calendar for Executive Director hiring should be established including interview schedule, procedures, job offer

and anticipated starting date.

The golf outing, scheduled for Thursday, June 4 has also been cancelled and will not be rescheduled in 2020. The outing will be scheduled for Thursday June 10, 2021 at the Walloon Lake Country Club.

Any questions about camp can be directed to Nathan Fleshman, summer camp director, at Nathan.fleshman@campdaggett.org.

DNR allows open burning with permits

Just over a month since it suspended open burning across the state in response to COVID-19 concerns, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources announced that it will begin issuing burn permits starting today. "We're going to issue burn permits based on local fire risk and weather conditions, just as we have always done," said Dan Laux, fire section supervisor for the DNR's Forest Resources Division. "We still

expect people to practice social distancing and use good sense to prevent the possible transmission of the COVID-19 virus." Laux said that firefighters, now with a month of

experience during the COVID-19 emergency, have better protocols in place to slow the spread of the virus.

The DNR issues burn permits online at Michigan.gov/BurnPermit if weather and fire danger conditions are favorable. In most of the southern Lower Peninsula, burn permits are issued by local

departments and local government offices. Make sure to check local regulations before you burn. Open burning of yard debris and brush were suspended March 26 to make firefighters available for emergencies related to COVID-19 and to protect first responders. With more favorable fuel condi-

tions occurring as Michigan moves toward the "green-up" of vegetation where plants and trees are leafing out

and filled with sap, fire potential can now be regulated based on local fire danger ratings. These ratings

are based on weather conditions, including anticipated wind and rain.

Year after year, burning yard debris is the top cause of wildfires in Michigan. People who want to burn are still expected to check in at Michigan.gov/BurnPermit to make sure fires are allowed on the day they want to burn.

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*“Bobcat tracks in the snow.
Tell me, Mister Bobcat, where is it that you go?”*

~Old Crow Medicine Show

Michigan's Amazing Animals

Beautiful Bobcats

BY PATRICK W. C. BEVIER

The smallest wild cats in the Mitten State are enigmatic and elusive animals. Here are some amazingly awesome attributes of those beautiful, bob-tailed bandits, the bobcats:

The Name Game: The bobcats scientific name is *Lynx rufus*. The genus *Lynx* originates from an Indo-European term meaning “light” and was bestowed on bobcats and other members of the lynx family because of their reflective, luminescent eyes. The Latin *rufus* means red and refers to the cat's reddish-brown fur. They were first described by German naturalist, Johann Schreber, in 1777. The origin of the common name is undoubtedly the cat's stubby, bobbed tail. Other monikers around the U.S. include red lynx, bay lynx, bobtailed cat, and wildcat.

Sizing Them Up: Of the three wild cat species found in Michigan – the others being cougars and Canadian lynx – bobcats are by far the most common. They're also more diminutive, and on average are about twice the size of a house cat. Adult *Lynx rufus* range from 30-50 inches long, with 6-inch bobbed tails, and tip the scales at up to 30 pounds. Males are larger than their female counterparts by an average of 10 pounds.

Eclectic Eaters: Where a northern bobcat population lives – in Michigan or further north in Canada – dictates what their main food source will be. Cottontail



© Anne-Marie Mee

Bobcats, like this beautiful male, are rarely seen during the daylight in Michigan. They are the Mitten State's most common feline species. Photo © Anne-Marie Mee.

rabbits or snowshoe hares are the main cuisine in cats found in the Mitten State, or in the land of Tim Horton's and hockey, respectively. Other food items bobcats devour include birds, small rodents, squirrels, and insects. In true David versus Goliath

proportions these cats are also extremely adept at killing white-tailed deer. Although they generally hunt fawns, a single bobcat has been known to take down a deer weighing 200 pounds!

Population Parameters: According to MDNR wildlife biologist, Adam Bump, accurately estimating bobcat numbers in Michigan is a difficult task. He did say that furbearer statistics suggest the number of these cats is stable and added that, “One thing most Michiganders don't realize is that bobcats are found in every county of our state!” Indeed, the bobcat is classified as a Least Concern animal on the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) scale.

Fabulous Feet: Amazingly, bobcats have been observed to jump as high as 12-feet. In a Superman comparison, if an adult male human had that capability, he'd be able to launch himself to the top of a 6-story building in a single bound! Bobcats can also motor at up to 35 miles per hour. That's needed acceleration when you're in the business of running down rabbits.

Mating Matters: In Michigan, bobcats breed from winter into spring, with most of the mating taking place in February and March. Litter size ranges from one to six with two to four being most common. The gestation period is 60 days. The female raises the kittens alone which are blind at birth and each weigh only as much as a can of beer. The young, sometimes called bob-kittens, wean at about two months. They grow quickly and are able to hunt on their own by autumn and in most

cases disperse soon after. In Michigan, however, the bob-kittens have been known to hang with their protective mother until the next spring.

Plenty of Pads: Bobcats have one main den in their territory and prefer that to be a cave or deep crevice under a rock. This is their “natal den” which they fill with dead plants for bedding in preparation for the birth of the young. Several additional abodes are constructed and are spread out through the territory and may include hollow logs, rock formations, and clumped bushes. For females, the extra shelters are especially helpful. To throw predators off the little ones' scent, mother bobcats move their bob-kittens from one den to the next on a regular basis.

Predation on the young is common with those wily coyotes being the biggest culprits. Cannibalism also occurs when wandering adult bobcats, usually males, prey on the helpless infants. Fully-grown bobcats have few natural predators. However, cougars are known to kill bobcats that tread on their territory.

Tuff and Ruff Relatives: While bobcats are members of the lynx family, that common name is more generally associated with the Canadian lynx. On the surface, these two felines look somewhat alike as both are mid-sized cats with stumpy tails and hairy tufts at the tips of their pointed ears. A distinctive feature of both species is a fluffy “ruff” of fur that protrudes from either side of the face. Differences between the two include the Canadian lynx being slightly bigger with longer limbs,

larger feet, and longer ear tufts. Another distinct discrepancy is that bobcats have short, reddish-brown coats with well-defined spots while lynx are grayer, shaggier, and have faded spots. Their posteriors also differ as the bobcat displays black bands on its tail whereas a lynx's tail sports only a solid, black tip. Because they're found further north, Canadian lynx have enlarged paws that act like snowshoes, enabling them to hunt more stealthily in the deep snow.

Happy Hybrids: Bobcats and lynx are genetically very similar. Over the past several years a handful of confirmed hybrids have turned up in the northern U.S. The result is an animal with the bobcat's general build, a combination of colors from both species, and the larger ear tufts of a lynx. Using the now popular portmanteaux names bestowed on hybrid animals it's dubbed a blynx!

Crepuscular Creatures: Known as the, “cats of the shadows” bobcats are rarely seen during daylight and are much more active at dawn and dusk. In ecological terms animals who favor these low-light conditions are called crepuscular. Bobcats usually wake up three hours before sunset and then go back to sleep around midnight; they rise again roughly an hour before dawn. In the early morning, the felines return to their slumber. When food gets scarcer in our cold northern winters, however, bobcats tend to change their schedules and spend more time tracking down prey in broad daylight. They're persistent in this quest and have been known to travel as far as eight miles while hunting.

Nine Lives? Afraid Not: Life in Northern Michigan forests can be hard as the average bobcat only survives to be six or seven years old. Specimens reaching 12 years in the wild are documented as are cats surviving to a quarter century in captivity.

Ranging Rascals: Graceful and stealthy, bobcats are extraordinary hunters who can survive in many habitats. In Michigan the bobcat is an adaptable predator that inhabits wooded areas, forest edges, and swampland environments. Like most cats, they're largely solitary and territorial. Territory sizes vary greatly from 1 to 20 square-miles in size with boundaries that the cats mark with deposits of urine and feces. Males rule over the largest home ranges while the fiercest territorial battles occur between adjacent females.

Climbing Characters: Bobcats will often scurry for the safety of a nearby tree if threatened by a larger animal. These frisky felines have also been known to pounce onto unwary prey from overhanging tree limbs.

Caching Cats: Bobcats can't always consume their victims in one meal. In these cases, they'll bury portions and will return periodically to dig up their leftovers. This behavior is known as “caching.” Unfortunately, burying a corpse won't assure that it won't be discovered by other carnivores. Crows, eagles, coyotes, bears, and cougars will gladly raid a bobcat's stash if the opportunity arises!

Feisty Felines: In captivity bobcats tend to be much more aggressive than the larger lynx. In fact, some zookeepers call them the “spitfires of the animal kingdom!” None of our Michigan zoos currently house bobcats. Our buckeye-loving friends to the south, however, feature these felines at the Columbus and Cincinnati zoos.

Precious Pets? In the 1980's the remains of a young bobcat were discovered in a 2000-year old man-made burial mound in western Illinois. It was part of a much larger burial site created by Native American groups in the Hopewell tradition. Scattered around its body were the beads of a necklace, which might have been used as a collar in life. Given these clues, some experts speculate that the young bobcat was once a beloved pet!

Those are a few fascinating, fun facts about those fabulous felines known as bobcats. Hopefully, you'll steal a glimpse of one of these evasive and lovely creatures while exploring the woods and waters of the Wolverine State!



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You can't have it all - peace of mind, a large mortgage, and burgeoning expenses all at the same time. Something has to give and the way to do that is simply to prioritize your goals. In what order of importance do you want things to happen? What is most important to you? Whether you are planning a family, returning to graduate school, paying off a student loan, or buying a new car, you surely realize that your financial pie can only be sliced so many ways. Your mortgage is the largest, and the larger it is the smaller the other pieces.

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with. But just as you are listening to your instincts about the amount of money you should spend on your new home, you should be paying even more attention to your feelings about your marriage. And only you can answer the question - will we still be together in five years? You should at least be able to predict being together long enough to pay off the interest on your loan! Or you'll be selling your home without the benefit of building any equity and equity only comes with appreciation and mortgage reduction.

Buying a home will not fix a poor relationship. It will only make things worse. So you have a decision to make and it isn't which house to buy. It is whether or not you want this relationship to survive. If you decide you want the marriage, then you must pour your efforts into fixing its problems, including your share of the blame. Be willing to change some things, compromise on others, or accept many things as they are. If you can't do all of those, then to dissolve the partnership is your only other choice. After you have solved the problems in your relationship, you will find your home more easily.

Real Estate Feature Property EAST JORDAN HOME WITH AMAZING LAKE CHARLEVOIX VIEWS



BY JIM AKANS

Situated on a beautiful lot with amazing Lake Charlevoix views, this wonderful East Jordan home is a great vacation getaway, retirement home or rental.

This two-bedroom, one-and-a-half bath, two-story home has approximately 1,652 square feet of space. It features an open concept design with wood floors in

the entry, kitchen and dining areas. The kitchen has plenty of wood cabinetry storage, lots of countertop work space and a handy snack bar. The large master bedroom features a huge walk-in closet, and the floor plan also features a convenient main level laundry/utility room. There is a detached two car garage to keep vehicles safe and provide additional storage. A covered deck on the

front of the home is an ideal spot to relax and take in the Lake Charlevoix views, enjoying lake life right out your front door. The spacious back yard

is ideal for BBQ's, gardening or family games. The Lake Charlevoix beach is just steps away, and the many dining, entertainment and shopping offered is downtown East Jordan is also nearby.

This wonderful home

with amazing Lake Charlevoix views is located at 303 Lake Street in East Jordan and it is listed at \$275,000. For more information or to arrange a home tour, call Jennifer Burr, Realtor, at Coldwell Banker Schmidt, 231 Water Street in Boyne City, at 231-582-6554 or email at jennifer.burr@cbgreat-lakes.com.



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