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# Charlevoix County News

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## Daylight hours lengthen after Winter Solstice

BY JIM AKANS

While here in the north we've experienced shortening daylight hours in recent months; the arrival of the Winter Solstice signals a reversal of that trend. It will occur at 5:02 am next Monday, December 21, as the earth's axis begins to tilt

back toward the sun in the Northern Hemisphere. Notably the shortest day (in terms of sunlight) of the year, the "glass half full" perspective is that every day thereafter will bring greater amounts of sunlight through mid-June. That's right; despite a full winter ahead we can start looking forward to longer hours of daylight

very soon. Yet, as Newton's Third Law indicates: for every action there is an equal and opposite reaction. The same Winter Solstice that begins the slow march toward summer in Michigan also notifies old man winter it's time to think about sauntering back to southern hemi-

See **Solstice** – Page 5



There's still plenty of winter ahead, but at 5:02 am next Monday, December 21, the earth's axis will begin to tilt back toward the sun, resulting in greater amounts of sunlight here in the north every day until mid-June. Photo by Jim Akans



# MDHHS announces priority groups for COVID-19 vaccination

Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) officials today provided additional information about COVID-19 vaccination plans for Michigan, including priority groups for vaccination administration, the vaccine development and safety process and where Michiganders can find more details.

A U.S. Food and Drug Administration advisory panel has recommended approval for one of the vaccines that could be ready for distribution as early as next week. Gov. Gretchen Whitmer also signed Executive Order 2020-193, creating the bipartisan Protect Michigan Commission to help educate Michiganders about an approved vaccine. Michigan health officials have set a goal of vaccinating 70% of Michiganders 18 years of age or older, about 5.4 million adults, by the end of 2021.

"The COVID-19 vaccine will help all our communities eliminate the virus," said Dr. Joneigh Khaldun, MDHHS chief medical executive and chief deputy for health. "Because initial allocations of vaccine will be limited, we must prioritize how the vaccine will be distributed across the state and will use the guidance and principles outlined by the CDC and national experts. We want every adult to be planning now for how they will get their vaccine once it becomes available to them."

MDHHS is following the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommendations for prioritization of distribution and administration of COVID-19 vaccines. CDC recommendations are based on input from the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP).



Image courtesy of deepagopi at FreeDigitalPhotos.net

Distribution of the vaccine will be in a phased approach, with an emphasis on both ensuring the continuing functioning of the health care system and essential services in the community and protecting people at increased risk for severe COVID-19 illness.

ACIP is a federal advisory committee made up of medical and public health experts who develop recommendations on the use of vaccines in the United States. MDHHS has also obtained input from a stakeholder group of Michigan public health and health care leaders and reviewed correspondence from the public.

Distribution of the vaccine will be in a phased approach, with an emphasis on both ensuring the continuing functioning of the health care system and essential services in the community and protecting people at increased risk for severe COVID-19 illness. These prioritizations may change as more information on vaccine effectiveness and addi-

tional vaccination products become available.

Phases are as follows:

Phase 1A includes paid and unpaid persons serving in health care settings who have direct or indirect exposure to patients or infectious materials and are unable to work from home, as well as residents of long-term care facilities.

Phase 1B includes some workers in essential and critical industries, including workers with unique skill sets such as non-hospital or non-public health laboratories and mortuary services.

Phase 1C includes people at high risk for severe COVID-19 illness due to underlying medical conditions, and people 65 years and older.

Phase 2 is a mass vaccination campaign for all adults.

MDHHS has provided additional prioritization guidance within these categories. It is important to note that vaccination in one phase may not be complete before vaccination in another phase begins. Vaccination in these phases will likely overlap. The timing of the start of vaccination in a phase is dependent on guidance from CDC and ACIP, the supply of vaccine from the manufacturer, how vaccine is allocated from the federal level to Michigan and the capacity to administer the vaccine to populations.

Vaccine distribution will roll out over a series of weeks, and current estimates are that by late Spring 2021 enough vaccine will be available for everyone who is recommended to receive it. A variety of partners will be engaged in the distribution and administration process, including hospitals, pharmacies, local health departments, EMS providers and outpatient clinics. The Michigan National Guard is also supporting vaccination efforts in some settings.

There will be no out-of-pocket costs to individuals for the vaccine, however, healthcare providers may bill insurance for administrative costs. The COVID-19 vaccine will require two doses, separated by three or four weeks depending on the manufacturer. Michiganders should receive both doses in order to have full protection from the virus. Individuals who receive the vaccine may experience mild side effects such as low-grade fever, sore arm and fatigue, which indicate that the vaccine is working. There is a robust state and national process

See **Vaccine** – Page 5

## Get your flu shot! It's not too late

Every year, flu is responsible for millions of illnesses, tens of thousands of hospitalizations, and thousands of deaths. Last flu season, 9 out of 10 adults hospitalized with flu had at least one reported underlying medical condition. The most commonly reported underlying medical conditions in patients hospitalized for flu include heart disease, diabetes, obesity, and chronic lung disease. A flu shot reduces your risk of getting sick with flu, but even if getting a flu shot does not completely prevent flu infection, some studies show that it can help reduce the severity of illness and prevent complications that can result in hospitalization and death.

Getting vaccinated against flu is always extra important for people with certain chronic conditions, but as the U.S. battles the COVID-19 pandemic, it's more important than ever. Flu and COVID-19 together could overwhelm our medical systems. A flu shot this season can help protect you from flu and reduce your risk of needing medical care for flu-related complications. We can all do our part to reduce the spread of flu and protect our loved ones and our community from flu, saving medical resources to care for COVID-19 patients.

There's still time to get a flu shot. "Flu season is upon us, but we haven't seen a large influx of cases yet, which means a flu shot can still help reduce the risk from flu," says Dr. Jennifer Morse, Medical Director for District Health Department #10. Hundreds of millions of flu shots have been safely given in the United States for decades. Data show that getting a flu shot is the best way to protect against flu.

Reduce your risks from flu this season. Get vaccinated now to protect yourself, your loved ones, and your community from flu. We can all fight flu. Make it your priority today.

Call 888-217-3904 to schedule your flu shot with DHD#10.

Residents with questions about vaccines, including the flu vaccine, can visit IVaccinate.org. For more information about flu activity in Michigan, visit Michigan.gov/flu.

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# News

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## weather forecast

| THURSDAY            | FRIDAY              | SATURDAY            | SUNDAY              |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
|                     |                     |                     |                     |
| HIGH: 31<br>LOW: 21 | HIGH: 34<br>LOW: 30 | HIGH: 36<br>LOW: 27 | HIGH: 35<br>LOW: 30 |

## snowfall

| 2019-20  | AMT"  | CITY         | 2020-21  | AMT"  | CITY         |
|----------|-------|--------------|----------|-------|--------------|
| 12/16/19 | .8.9  | .ATLANTA     | 12/14/20 | .2.2  | .ATLANTA     |
| 12/16/19 | .20.5 | .BOYNE FALLS | 12/14/20 | .1    | .BOYNE FALLS |
| 12/16/19 | .19.7 | .CHARLEVOIX  | 12/14/20 | .3.3  | .CHARLEVOIX  |
| 12/16/19 | .22.4 | .CHEBOYGAN   | 12/14/20 | .6.1  | .CHEBOYGAN   |
| 12/16/19 | .41.4 | .EAST JORDAN | 12/14/20 | .2.4  | .EAST JORDAN |
| 12/16/19 | .46.8 | .GAYLORD     | 12/14/20 | .25.1 | .GAYLORD     |
| 12/16/19 | .55.2 | .KALKASKA    | 12/14/20 | .23.3 | .KALKASKA    |
| 12/16/19 | .16.5 | .LEWISTON    | 12/14/20 | .0.5  | .LEWISTON    |
| 12/16/19 | .16.8 | .MIO         | 12/14/20 | .11.5 | .MIO         |
| 12/16/19 | .24.2 | .ONAWAY      | 12/14/20 | .2.9  | .ONAWAY      |
| 12/16/19 | .39.5 | .PETOSKEY    | 12/14/20 | .11.2 | .PETOSKEY    |

## record temps

| DAY    | AVG LOW | AVG HIGH | RECORD LOW      | RECORD HIGH  |
|--------|---------|----------|-----------------|--------------|
| DEC 10 | .21°    | ...35°   | ....-2° (1977)  | ..51° (1971) |
| DEC 11 | .21°    | ...35°   | ....-2° (1995)  | ..55° (1971) |
| DEC 12 | .20°    | ...34°   | ....-13° (1989) | ..56° (1949) |
| DEC 13 | .20°    | ...34°   | ....-13° (1995) | ..50° (1991) |
| DEC 14 | .20°    | ...34°   | ....-8° (1954)  | ..59° (1975) |
| DEC 15 | .19°    | ...34°   | ....-7° (2007)  | ..51° (1997) |
| DEC 16 | .19°    | ...33°   | ....-4° (1961)  | ..56° (1984) |
| DEC 17 | .19°    | ...33°   | ....-11° (1973) | ..54° (1984) |
| DEC 18 | .19°    | ...33°   | ....-1° (1973)  | ..47° (1949) |
| DEC 19 | .18°    | ...32°   | ....-13° (2004) | ..50° (2002) |

## OBITUARIES

### Marlene Makayla Evan, 23

(FEB. 14, 1997 – NOV. 28, 2020)

Beloved Marlene Makayla Evan was born on February 14, 1997, a Valentine's gift to the world. She unexpectedly passed away on November 28, 2020 at the age of 23 on Beaver Island.

Marlene was a mother, sister, daughter, aunt, cousin and friend to all

She grew up in Lower Kalskag, Alaska with her adopted parents Phyllis and Michael Evan, her brothers Michael and Nicanoff and sisters Joann Evan and Michelle Nicanoff.

Marlene is survived by her many other brothers and sisters including Michael and Charlotte Evan, Andrew and Michelle Kameroff, Joann Evan, Ryan and Nicole Haglund, Shaylee, Jade, John III, Sherilyn and Gracen Haggard and Sgt. Dillon Scott Hughes. Her two sons, Dakota Michael Jace John Evan and Harvey Gene Pitka, her parents Phyllis and Michael Evan, her grandparents John Haggard Sr. and wife Phyllis, her aunts Betsy

Haggard Svanda, and Barbara Haggard Hall, Godparents Nick and Christina Changsak.

She is joined in heaven with her grandparents Jimmy Wassily, Margarey Simeon "Gung", Nicanoff and Teresa Evan, Uncle Ronald W. Haggard.

Marlene emanated a golden aura and a boundless love for everyone she came into contact with. She was a fashion enthusiast and was often referred to as "glamour girl" by those closest to her. She could light up a room with her dancing and had a deep appreciation for music and poetry.

Marlene was a wild child and lived for adventures. She loved her children, her nieces and nephews with total admiration. They brought sunshine into her world and they gave her pure joy. She wanted nothing more for them than to have a wonderful life.

When you think of Marlene remember her distinct laughter and celebrate the endearing memory you have of her. Let her spirit live on through the things she shared with all of us and embody the wonderment she

brought to all of our lives.

Donations in memory of Marlene can be made to the Ronald W. Haggard Scholarship fund, Care of the Charlevoix County Community Foundation. PO Box 718, East Jordan, MI 49727

### Steven Humphrey Schaefer, 55

JULY 9, 1965 - DEC. 10, 2020



Steven Humphrey Schaefer of Lansing and Charlevoix died December 10, 2020 after a brief illness surrounded by his loving family and, in spirit, by all of those who loved him.

Steven's parents, Richard Schaefer (Valerie) and Patricia Runquist (Jon), his siblings Ricky Schaefer, Patrick Schaefer (Gwen), and Stacey Gasior (Marc Swoish), and his nieces and nephews Adam, Andrew, Carson, Matthew, Carly, Grace, and Julia, and his entire extended family will forever cherish each day spent with him.

For those who were lucky enough to enter his world, possibly as part of his constant shenanigans, Stevie made a lasting and indelible impression. With his infectious smile and the heart of a giant, whether it was a one-time encounter or a life-time friendship, his impact on those he touched was profound. His ability to make each person feel special and loved is legendary. Stevie graciously left each and every one of us a piece of himself as a gift to cherish forever. Stevie will live on through each of us.

A private family funeral will be held in Charlevoix on Thursday, December 17, 2020. Arrangements are being made to celebrate our larger-than-life son, brother, uncle, and friend in both Lansing and in Charlevoix during the summer of 2021. Details will be provided when plans are finalized and will be announced via Facebook and other social media platforms.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation in support of Steve's life-long friend, Valerie Fox, as her son battles cancer at www.ugift529.com; code U2B-Q1A and raise a glass in Steve's honor.

Arrangements are in the care of the Winchester Chapel of Mortensen Funeral Homes. Please sign his online guestbook at www.mortensenfuneral-homes.com

### Juanita VanHorn, 79

(AUG. 3, 1941 - DEC. 7, 2020)

Juanita VanHorn of Boyne City passed away Monday, December 7, 2020 with family at her side.

Juanita was born on Au-

gust 3, 1941 in Detroit, MI the daughter of Dionisio and Margarita M. (Martinez) Salas.

At this time the family will be honoring Juanita's wishes and holding a private mass at St. Matthews Catholic Church in Boyne City and burial will take place in the spring at Maple Lawn Cemetery.

Catholic Church of Charlevoix.

Arrangements have been handled by the Charlevoix Chapel of Mortensen Funeral Homes. Please sign her online guestbook www.mortensenfuneral-homes.com.

### Olivia Marie Toorman, 18

(JULY 18, 2002 - DEC. 6, 2020)



Olivia Marie Toorman was born July 18, 2002, together with her beloved twin sister, Alexis. Olivia, a resident of Boyne City, 18, passed away unexpectedly on Sunday evening, December 6, 2020.

Olivia was born in Greenville, South Carolina and later moved to Michigan where she most recently lived in Boyne City. She had a deep love for her family and cherished the times they would spend together. She leaves behind her mother and stepfather, Leia and Joe Diesenroth, sisters Alexis and Daisy, brother Declen, grandparents Joe (Cathy) Fischl, all of Boyne City. She is also survived by her Aunt Hattie (Devin) Eriksen of Charlevoix, Uncle Cory Fischl-Toorman (Jennifer Hampton) and cousins Marlee and Bowie Fischl of Boyne City. Olivia was predeceased by her beloved Nana, Carolyn Toorman.

Olivia graduated from Boyne City High School, class of 2020 where she was a proud member of the band. She had begun taking classes at North Central Michigan College to pursue her education.

More than anything, Olivia was passionate about music. She loved all genres, but especially loved learning it. Whether she was playing her clarinet, trumpet, saxophone or creating tunes on her keyboard, music was indeed her "happy place" – the place where she was most at home and expressive. She excelled

in clarinet and performed in district and regional band finals where she won honors. It seemed whatever instrument she put her mind to, she would unlock beautiful music.

Olivia loved to discuss just about anything. Her mind would often race ahead of her conversations and out would come tumbling her thoughts on nearly any subject. Most recently she had taken a course in ethics and loved discussing moral dilemmas, "rights and wrongs" and all the gray areas in between. Olivia always left you thinking!

Olivia had a twin sister, Alexis. They were each other's first playmates and throughout their lives, they shared a very special connection. While they were two unique individuals, they had a deep devotion for each other.

Olivia left us so suddenly, and much too soon, but she will continue to stay with us in the many memories we had the joy to share with her. Love lives on.

Olivia's family and friends will plan a Celebration of Life at a later date -- when the sun is shining and we can share hugs and stories about the beautiful girl we knew and loved. The date, time and location will be announced on this site and via the Facebook pages of Olivia's friends and family. The family requests that anyone wishing to send flowers wait until the time of the service.

In order to best honor Olivia, her family is gratefully accepting contributions to create a scholarship fund in her memory to assist Boyne City Middle and High School students in purchasing musical instruments. Checks can be made out to Leia Diesenroth and mailed to her attention at 315 Mckinley Street, Boyne City, MI 49712.

### Merla "Sandy" (Mueller) Amesbury, 88

(JUNE 30, 1932 - DEC. 9, 2020)

Merla J. "Sandy" Amesbury of Boyne City passed away peacefully in her home on December 9th, 2020.

Daughter of Emil and Violet Mueller, Merla was born June 30, 1932 in Petoskey, Michigan where she was raised. She moved to Boyne City around 1962 and lived in the same home for 59 years.

Merla loved playing cards

See **OBITS** – Page 9

# County News

## VOLUME 12 ISSUE 26

E-Mail News Releases and Announcements to  
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### MICHIGAN MEDIA INC.

PO BOX 1914, GAYLORD, MI 49734-5914  
PHONE 989-732-8160 • FAX:888-854-7441

The Charlevoix County News is published weekly on Thursdays.  
Published by Michigan Media, Inc., PO Box 1914, Gaylord, Michigan 49734.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Charlevoix County News,  
PO BOX 1914, GAYLORD, MI 49734-5914

Distributed to Boyne City, East Jordan, Charlevoix,  
Boyne Falls, Walloon Lake, Ellsworth and Atwood.

Available on News Stands: 75 cents a copy.

Subscriptions:  
Local Home Delivery of the News: \$55.00/year.  
Out-of-County Delivery of the News: \$75.00/year.  
(Local area includes Boyne City, Boyne Falls, Charlevoix, East Jordan, Ellsworth, Petoskey, Gaylord)

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# NOTICE

## EARLY DEADLINE

**Deadline for advertising and editorial for the 12/24 issue of the Weekly Choice & Charlevoix County News will be Saturday, December 19.**

**Deadline for advertising and editorial for the 12/31 issue of the Weekly Choice & Charlevoix County News will be Saturday, December 26.**

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# News

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## Michigan finalizes election results during Electoral College meeting



On December 14, Michigan convened its meeting of electors in the Senate chamber of the Michigan Capitol Building to cast all 16 electoral votes for President-elect Joe Biden and Vice President-elect Kamala Harris in the Electoral College.

"Today, Michigan has spoken with one voice as the 16 electors voted unanimously to finalize Michigan's election results in the Electoral College," Governor Whitmer said. "During the worst public health crisis we have seen in our lifetime, more than 5.5

million Michiganders from all walks of life and all corners of the state cast their votes during this historic election. In the end, Michigan has chosen a clear winner for the office of president of the United States, and for every elected office down the ballot. No matter your party or who you cast your ballot for in November, now is the time to put this election behind us and focus on eliminating COVID-19 together."

"Michigan has proven that the foundation of our democracy and the principles that we collectively cherish can withstand even the most divisive of times," Lt. Governor Gilchrist said. "Today's Electoral College vote caps off an historic election that was safe, fair, and secure. It is time for our state and our nation to come together to solve

our most immediate challenges and look to create countless opportunities for future generations."

In total, more than 5.5 million votes were cast during the General Election — with 2,804,040 votes (50.62 percent) for Biden/Harris compared to 2,649,852 votes (47.84 percent) for Trump/Pence. Under Michigan law, the electors are required to cast their ballots for the candidate who won the most votes during the General Election.

As stipulated by the U.S. Constitution, Michigan's representation in the Electoral College consists of 16 electors, which is equal to the cumulative number of Michigan's two members of the United States Senate and 14 members of the United States House of Representatives.

On December 14, Michigan convened its meeting of electors in the Senate chamber of the Michigan Capitol Building to cast all 16 electoral votes for President-elect Joe Biden and Vice President-elect Kamala Harris in the Electoral College. Courtesy photo

### Health Department updates COVID-19 quarantine procedures

On December 2, the CDC updated its procedure for quarantine. Individuals that are exposed to a positive COVID-19 case are asked to quarantine. Based on new research, and to help lessen the burden on our communities, quarantine periods may be shortened from 14 days to 10 days in specific situations. You can determine when an individual can return to work by the following guidance, which aligns with the Michigan Public Acts of 2020, Act No. 238. While quarantine periods may end for other activities after 10 days if criteria are met, the above Michigan Public Acts of 2020, Act No. 238 requires that all employees continue to quarantine from employment for 14 days.

While the standard 14 day quarantine period remains best practice, quarantine can be reduced to 10 days (except in the case of employment) if the following two conditions exist:

- The individual does not develop any symptoms or clinical evidence of COVID-19 infection during daily symptom monitoring for the 10 days after the last exposure;
- and
- Daily symptom monitoring continues through day 14 after the last exposure

For explanations of several scenarios with illustrations of how to calculate the days, see <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/quarantine.html>

An individual or employee who tests positive for COVID-19 or displays the principal symptoms of COVID-19 is asked to isolate. There has been no change in isolation guidance. Individuals shall not resume normal activities or

report to work until all of the following conditions are met:

- If the individual has a fever, 24 hours have passed since the fever has stopped without the use of fever-reducing medications.
- Ten days have passed since either of the following, whichever is later:

- The date the individual's symptoms first appeared.
- The date the individual received the test that yielded a positive result for COVID-19.

The individual's principal symptoms of COVID-19 have improved.

If they tested positive for COVID-19 but had no symptoms:

- Can return to normal activities when it has been:
  - 10 days since the date the positive test was performed
  - If symptoms develop after test date, then follow the guidance above for "If symptoms were present..."

It is very important to remember that the best way to reduce risk of further spread is to continue with a 14-day quarantine. Employers shall not discharge, discipline, or otherwise retaliate against an employee who complies with the above COVID-19 exposure guidance, displays symptoms of COVID-19 and does not report to work but later tests positive, opposes violations to the Public Act No. 238, or reports health violations related to COVID-19.

Employers must comply with guidance for return to work detailed in the Michigan Public Acts of 2020, Act No. 238. Visit [www.dhd4.org/covid19](http://www.dhd4.org/covid19) for additional guidance or call DHD4 COVID-19 Hotline at 989-335-8793 or email [covid19@dhd4.org](mailto:covid19@dhd4.org).

### Late antlerless firearm season now underway

Michigan's late antlerless firearm deer season in the Lower Peninsula started December 14! The season is open on private lands only through Jan. 1 and hunters may take only antlerless deer (see exception below) — regardless of the type of license you are using.

Valid licenses include:

- A private land antlerless license valid for the deer management unit in which you are hunting.
- A deer management assistance permit valid for that DMU.
- A deer license or deer combo license (valid for antlerless deer only during the antlerless-only seasons).
- A deer kill tag issued under the mentored youth license (valid for antlerless deer only during the antlerless-only seasons).

An additional opportunity is available for deer hunters in Zone 3 (see page 11 of the



Hunting Digest for hunting zone maps and descriptions) who want to hunt with a muzzleloader on public land during the late antlerless season. If you're hunting with a muzzleloader on public land in Zone 3 only, you may take any deer (antlerless or antlered) with a mentored

youth hunting license, a deer license or a deer combo license. Hunters hunting with a muzzleloader on public land in Zone 3 may also hunt with their public land antlerless deer license valid for the DMU in which they are hunting, but an antlerless deer license is valid for an

antlerless deer only. Archery deer season also continues through Jan. 1 statewide.

DNR deer check stations are still available on a limited basis. Check station locations and hours of operation are available at [Michigan.gov/DeerCheck](http://Michigan.gov/DeerCheck). The DNR especially needs deer heads from Alcona, Alpena, Cheboygan, Crawford, Iosco, Montmorency, Ogemaw, Oscoda, Otsego, Presque Isle and Roscommon counties. If you hunt in these areas, please bring your deer to a DNR check station!

Find CWD testing options (depending on harvest location) at [Michigan.gov/CWD](http://Michigan.gov/CWD) under "For Hunters."

For a map of open DMUs and antlerless firearm deer season information, see page 40 of the 2020 Hunting Digest, available at [Michigan.gov/Deer](http://Michigan.gov/Deer) and [Michigan.gov/DNRdigests](http://Michigan.gov/DNRdigests).

### Application for Pure Michigan Small Business Relief Initiative grants are now live

Michigan's small businesses that have been disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 virus will be able to apply for grants of up to \$15,000 through the Pure Michigan Small Business Relief Initiative beginning at 9:00 a.m. EST on Tuesday, December 15, the Michigan Economic Development Corporation announced today. The program will utilize \$10 million in federal U.S. Housing and Urban Development (HUD) CARES Act funding to provide economic assistance to small businesses across Michigan.

Grants will be awarded in the amount of up to \$15,000 per eligible business on a "first-in" basis. Information on how to apply — including application questions and instructions and a video tutorial on the application process — as well as eligibility criteria and program guidelines are available at [www.michiganbusiness.org/relief](http://www.michiganbusiness.org/relief).

"The Pure Michigan Small Business Relief Initiative puts federal funding to work for many of the small businesses in Michigan hardest hit by the COVID-19 pandemic," said Governor Gretchen Whitmer. "My administration will continue working to support our small businesses and their employees as they continue to navigate and persevere through this pandemic, through the Pure Michigan Small Business Relief Initiative and all of the COVID-19 business relief efforts MEDC has implemented this year. As we head into the holiday season, I also want to remind Michiganders to support your favorite local businesses by shopping small. And as always, mask up, practice social distancing, and wash your hands frequently."

Approved by the Michigan Strategic Fund on Nov. 30, the Pure Michigan Small Business Relief Initiative allocates \$10 million of federal



CARES Act funding to provide support to Michigan's small businesses that have experienced a loss of income as a result of both the COVID-19 crisis and the recent DHHS epidemic orders, which were recently extended to December 20.

The program is intended to meet the urgent need of Michigan businesses including restaurants and bars, lodging providers, live event venues and movie theaters, conference and meeting facilities, indoor recreation facilities, and gyms and fitness centers. The grants under the program will support those businesses facing drastic reductions in cash flow and the continued support of their workforce and may be used for working capital to support payroll expenses, rent, mortgage payments, or utility expenses.

MEDC has selected the Michigan Municipal League (MML) Foundation as the single, statewide grant administrator for the Pure Michigan Small Business Relief Initiative. MML Foundation will review submitted applications from all 10 prosperity regions across the state once the application window opens on December 15.

"The Michigan Municipal League Foundation is excited to serve as the administrator of the Pure Michigan Small Business Relief grant program," said Helen Davis Johnson, president of the MML Foundation. "These grants aim to support job retention in small businesses particularly impacted by the recent three-week shutdown caused by COVID-19. Small businesses are key to building community wealth, and

the League is committed to supporting these activities and more in Michigan communities."

Funds will be awarded on a first-in basis and the application window for small businesses will close once the targeted allocations within each of the state's prosperity regions are reasonably expected to be met. Funding allocated for Emmet, Charlevoix, Antrim and Kalkaska counties is \$500,000 and for Cheboygan, Otsego, Crawford, Roscommon, Montmorency and Oscoda counties the amount is \$400,000.

To qualify for grant support, businesses must meet a number of criteria, including but not limited to:

- Being a business in one of the targeted industries;
- Identifying a need for payroll, rent, or mortgage payments, and/or utility expenses necessary to continue or restart business operations;
- Having at least two employees (including the owner) but fewer than 50;
- Be a for-profit business, per HUD guidance;
- Meet the HUD National Objective for Job Retention by retaining jobs that would otherwise be lost without assistance through employment verification;
- Additional eligibility requirements can be found on [Michiganbusiness.org/relief](http://Michiganbusiness.org/relief).

In addition, applicants will be required to self-certify that they are following all state and local orders related to COVID-19, including, but not limited to, those issued by DHHS and county health departments. These federal CARES Act

dollars were distributed by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to the Michigan Community Development Block Grant program. A complete list of Pure Michigan Small Business Relief Initiative grant recipients will be posted to [michiganbusiness.org/relief](http://michiganbusiness.org/relief).

In further support of Michigan's small businesses and their employees, MEDC launched a new "Support Local" campaign in November, reminding Michiganders of the importance of supporting local businesses during the upcoming holidays and throughout the winter season. As efforts continue to combat the ongoing spread of the COVID-19 pandemic, the campaign is intended to inspire Michiganders to shop, eat, and travel safely in their own neighborhoods and downtowns during the holiday season and beyond.

"We remain focused on getting critically-needed relief into the hands of those businesses that need it most," said MEDC CEO Mark A. Burton. "The Pure Michigan Small Business Relief Initiative builds on our commitment to getting funds to small businesses across Michigan and creating a strong foundation for the success of Michigan's workers and economy."

In total, the MEDC has now launched 20 COVID-19 relief and recovery programs that have supported more than 18,500 businesses in the state and helped to retain nearly 147,000 jobs across all 83 counties. To learn more about MEDC's COVID-19 response programs and the impact they are having on economic recovery efforts, visit [michiganbusiness.org/covid19response](http://michiganbusiness.org/covid19response). Other resources for economic reopening efforts as well as businesses across Michigan struggling with economic losses as a result of the COVID-19 virus can be found online at michi-

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# News Briefs

ONLINE AT WWW.CHARLEVOIXCOUNTYNEWS.COM

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### CHARLEVOIX COUNTY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE

Have you experienced financial hardship due to the COVID-19 crisis? Northwest Michigan Community Action Agency (NMCAA) has funding from the federal CARES Act to assist with various needs (utility help, car repairs, housing costs, diapers, baby formula, phone bills, etc). You may be eligible for assistance if you meet income guidelines and live in NMCAA's service area (Antrim, Benzie, Charlevoix, Emmet, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska, Leelanau, Missaukee, Roscommon, and Wexford Counties) To apply for help, please contact our CARES Intake Specialist at 800-632-7334.

### EAST JORDAN WIFI LOCATIONS

In an effort to help our local students that need to access the internet for their school lessons, we are starting a list of places where wifi is available for them to use from outside. If you are a business owner and have wifi that is accessible from your parking lot and you are willing to let students use it please let us know. info@ejchamber.org

Wifi Locations: East Jordan DDA - First two blocks of Main Street, Downtown East Jordan - Harbor/Marina Parking Lot, City of East Jordan - East Jordan Tourist Park near the log building, EJ Laundry Station - 128 S. Lake Street, Jordan River Arts Council - Outside - username: jrագuest, password: jrագuest, East Jordan Public Schools - High School & Elementary School parking lots, JRAC To fulfill a request from the East Jordan Schools the Jordan River Art Center has made it's patio a free WI-FI hotspot. Anyone can sit on the patio and access the internet. The username is: jrագuest and the password is: jrագuest. Feel free to sit there and enjoy spring.

Church, 6781 M66 North. This program is open to anyone in our community looking for assistance in their grief process and is facilitated by Rev. David Behling. There is no charge to attend. Please feel free to call Hospice at 231-547-7659 to register or for more information.

children 0-60 months and their preschool-age siblings. Playgroups help you learn about your child's developmental stages, learn new children's games/activities and share parenting concerns/experiences with other parents and the playgroup facilitator. Playgroups are held in various northern Michigan communities. For current playgroup locations/times, visit www.wrcnm.org or call (231) 347-0067.

### NORTHERN MICHIGAN

Women's Resource Center of Northern Michigan provides counseling and support services at no cost to survivors of domestic abuse, sexual assault, child abuse, child sexual assault and adults molested when they were children. Support services include crisis counseling, individual counseling, support groups, trauma therapy (EMDR), play therapy for children, safety planning, advocacy and resources/referrals. If you or someone you care about has been a victim of crime, contact the WRCNM's main office at (231) 347-0067.

### BOYNE CITY BOYNE DISTRICT LIBRARY PROGRAMS

- Toddler Tales & Tunes every Monday at 10am and Preschool Storytime every Tuesday at 10am. Check website for any date changes. No registration is required.
- Yoga with Reb Andrews 9am every Monday, 8 week sessions/\$5 per week
- Tai Chi every Wednesday, 9am beginners class, 10am advanced class, cost is \$5 per session
- The Boyne District Library Book Club meets at 7pm. Information at www.boynelibrary.org.

### NORTHERN MICHIGAN

Women's Resource Center of Northern Michigan offers free playgroups for



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### BOYNE CITY INDOOR FARMERS MARKET

Saturdays, 9am - Noon, Pavilion, 207 N. Lake Street. Our indoor season home in the pavilion is ready for you all. We hope to have a great season and look forward to a lot of fun. Over 20 vendors with a variety of produce, baked goods, crafts, coffee and more. For more information on the market, visit the Boyne City Farmers Market Facebook page or email farmersmarket@boynecity.com

### BOYNE CITY KINDER CLOSET

At Christ Lutheran Church is open from 10am to noon on the second Saturday of every month. Free baby items are provided, including diapers; wipes; clothes and more, for any Charlevoix County parent with a newborn to 24 month-old-child. Christ Lutheran Church is located at 1250 Boyne Avenue in Boyne City. For more information, call 231-582-9301.

### CHARLEVOIX

Hospice of Northwest Michigan invites you to join our Monthly adult grief, loss & bereavement support group, which takes place the 2nd Sunday of each month from 4-5pm at the First Baptist

**CLASSIFIEDS AS LOW AS \$2.00 CALL 989-732-8160**

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# MERRY CHRISTMAS



from the Thompson Family of Gaylord

# MERRY CHRISTMAS



Steve, Jennifer and Julia

# Readers and Businesses

You can wish everyone a Merry Christmas and also support your local Food Pantry.

Send a Christmas Greeting from your family or business to readers of the Weekly Choice, Charlevoix County News or Michigan MoneySaver all over Northern Michigan.

Email your color family photo or business photo to us along with your Christmas message to [Office@WeeklyChoice.com](mailto:Office@WeeklyChoice.com) or [Office@CharlevoixCountyNews.com](mailto:Office@CharlevoixCountyNews.com)

**Deadline to publish in the December 23rd edition is Saturday, December 19**

**Cost is \$90 per edition. THEN - we will donate \$50 to your Local Food Pantry**

Depending upon where your business is located or family lives Donations will be sent to:

- Otsego County Food Pantry - Gaylord
- Mancelona Food Pantry - Mancelona
- Giving Tree Food Pantry - Johannesburg
- Christian Help Center - Grayling
- Care & Share Food Pantry - East Jordan
- Good Neighbors Food Pantry - Boyne City
- Community Food Pantry - Charlevoix
- Manna Food Project - Harbor Springs

- Brother Dan's Food Pantry - Petoskey
- Cheboygan County United Way - Cheboygan
- Benzie Area Christian Neighbors - Beulah
- Father Fred Foundation - Traverse City
- Bellaire Community Food Pantry - Bellaire
- KAIR - Kalkaska Area Interfaith Resources - Kalkaska
- Food Distribution Center - Au Gres

For more info Contact  
Dave Baragrey at 989-732-8160



EAST JORDAN CITY COMMISSION MEETING, DECEMBER 15, 2020.

# Peck honored as he retires from East Jordan city commission

BY DOM SANTANA

EAST JORDAN - The East Jordan City Commission started their bi-weekly meeting in a special way. They started the meeting by having a presentation ceremony for Russ Peck, who was honored for his 22 years of service to the city, including some time as Mayor. Now current Mayor Mark Penzien, presented Peck with a key to the city, a certificate, and a copy of a picture that will be hung up in the City Hall. The picture featured a picture of when Peck was born and a current picture of the city and featured a picture of

Peck with a description of his service. Peck will be leaving the Commission at the end of 2020.

## ART WALK

The commission approved the motion for the Jordan Art Walk committee to move forward with the project of the Jordan Art Walk. The committee gave an update on how the project is going and what the plan continues to be. A few of the many things that were mentioned is that they are compiling a list of artists in northern Michigan to send a letter too for people to submit artwork. The artists will have to submit images to the

committee to be considered for consideration for the Art Walk. The committee will be looking for artists from northern Michigan down to no lower than Lansing. The committee will be giving a \$500 stipend to each artist for their work and expenses getting them to the walk. If a piece of artwork needs to have a concrete slab to help secure it, then one will be provided. The artwork will be for sale while in the walk. The artwork will be in the walk for up to three years before being cycled out for new artwork. The goal of this is to keep the park updated, fresh and having people come

back.

## 2021 SEASONAL ITEMS

The new 2021 camping rates for Tourist Park were approved by the commission. There were a few changes to the 2021 sheet from 2020. What was called a "pop site with electric" will now be listed as electric and water only. The full hook up sites with 30 Amp service had their rates changed to \$38 per day. The monthly full hook up rates has increased to \$925. There are no longer any just electric sites anymore and no more monthly tent site rentals.

The commission also ap-

proved another motion approving the Lions club to continue to sell firewood at Tourist Park in 2021. The firewood sales allow the Lions club to directly help the community. Some of the activities it helps with are Easter Fun and Games, Christmas Candy for Kids, Freedom Festival, High School Scholarships and more.

The commission also approved the transient rates for 2021. The rates start with 25-foot boats for \$31 a night up to \$92 for 74-foot boats, anything bigger has its own pay scale. They also approved the seasonal prices. The slips start at a 20-foot slip at \$1,540

and goes up to 60-foot slips at \$4,620. For any boat needing a slip bigger than 60 feet, the price is \$77 per foot.

East Jordan Sophomore Macey Hamilton has been named the Student Representative for the DDA.

The City Hall will be closed on 12/24, 12/25, 12/31 and 1/1 during the holiday break.

This was the final Commission meeting of 2020. The Commission is scheduled to have their next meeting on January 5 and then on January 19, 2021

## SOLSTICE

FROM PG. 1

sphere in places such as Australia.

The word "solstice" comes from a Latin phrase that means; "sun stands still." After months of crossing lower and lower in the sky the sun appears to stop before beginning to arc higher in the sky each day for the next six months. Alas, it takes a few months before the increasingly prevalent sun actually warms things up, resulting in a period we refer to as "winter" around these parts, but it's comforting to know there will be more and more light at the end of the snowy tunnel.

The winter solstice is also known as Midwinter, the Solar New Year, the Longest Night, Yule, DongZhi, Soyol...and many more tongue-twisting handles that reference the same celestial event in differing cultures. The message for us, however, is clear; the trail toward summer is about to be broken in.

Though there is lots of great outdoor fun to come during the beautiful northern Michigan winter ahead, we can take some solace in the solstice as it brings summer a little closer.

The world looks a little brighter every day after the Winter Solstice.

## VACCINE

FROM PG. 1

for tracking vaccines and reporting side effects.

MDHHS stresses Michiganders should continue to wear masks, social distance from those not in their household and wash their hands often, even after receiving the vaccine.

Khaldun said it is important to note that while scientists worldwide are working to develop a COVID-19 vaccine faster than any vaccine before, they are still following the proven process. Scientists had already begun research for coronavirus vaccines during previous outbreaks caused by related coronaviruses such as SARS (Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome) and MERS (Middle East Respiratory Syndrome). That earlier research provided a head start for rapid development of vaccines to protect against infection with COVID-19.

"The process for approval of a COVID-19 vaccine is scientifically sound, and no steps have been skipped," Khaldun said. "People should know what to expect when they get a vaccine- such as mild side effects like a sore arm or low-grade fever. They should also plan on making sure they get their second dose to make sure they get the full benefit of the vaccine."

Michigan residents seeking more information about the COVID-19 vaccine can visit [Michigan.gov/COVID-vaccine](https://www.michigan.gov/COVID-vaccine). As additional information and resources become available, it will be posted to this site.

Information around this outbreak is changing rapidly. The latest information is available at [Michigan.gov/Coronavirus](https://www.michigan.gov/Coronavirus) and [CDC.gov/Coronavirus](https://www.cdc.gov/Coronavirus).

## Some traditions surrounding the Christmas story aren't exactly in line with the Bible

BY MIKE DUNN

Here's a simple question with a surprising answer. Where did the wise men find Jesus with his parents? If you answered a stable in Bethlehem, you are incorrect.

Speaking of the wise men who traveled from the East to pay homage to the One born king of the Jews, how many were there? If you answered three, you are incorrect.

Here's another one. Who sang to the shepherds while they tended their flocks by night? If you answered the angels, you are incorrect. That is sort of a trick question.

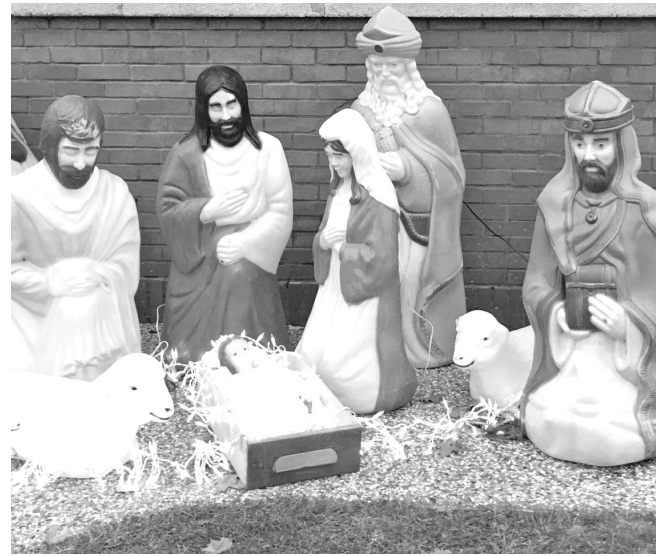
For the correct answers and to uncover some other well-accepted traditions surrounding the Christmas story that we don't actually find in the Bible, read on.

While almost everyone agrees that the birth date ascribed to Jesus is not accurate, it brings a question to mind. If he wasn't born in late December, then when was he born? Are there any clues in scripture?

No one knows the day when Jesus was actually born, but there are indications as to the time of year. We know from the account of Luke's gospel that the shepherds were watching their flocks at night. This means that the weather in Bethlehem was neither too cold nor too rainy. Many Bible scholars believe that this suggests late summer or early fall (though some suggest the spring). Another factor pointing toward autumn is the life cycle of the sheep. They typically had their young in the fall and that would be a reason for the shepherds to be out in the fields with them.

Another clue as to time of year comes again from Luke's gospel and it is the reference to the Roman census. The census decreed by Caesar Augustus played a critical role in the unfolding of events that very first Christmas.

The census was the reason that Joseph and his pregnant wife Mary left Nazareth



You rarely see a Nativity scene without the Magi present bearing gifts but did they come to the stable on the night Jesus was born? (photo by Mike Dunn)

in the north part of the country to make the arduous journey to Bethlehem 80 miles to the south just before Jesus was born. It had been prophesied centuries before (Micah 5:2-5) that Bethlehem would be the birthplace of the Messiah. The census was the vehicle used for bringing Joseph and Mary to that city at just the right time.

The census would almost certainly have been undertaken when the weather was conducive to traveling.

Many in Israel were like Joseph and Mary and had to travel a long distance over mountainous roads to get to the city of their birth to register. The census almost certainly would have occurred after the spring rains. So we see once again a likely time frame for the birth of Jesus to be summer or fall.

Here are a few other little tidbits from the original Christmas story that have been accepted as fact through long centuries of tradition, but do not actually line up with the facts.

### \* THE ANGELS DID NOT SING TO THE SHEPHERDS.

Much as we love the old Christmas standard, "Hark, the Herald Angels Sing" and the romantic idea of the angels appearing in the night sky as a heavenly choir, the plain vanilla truth is that the angels who appeared didn't sing at all, but rather spoke their wonderful message to

the shepherds.

Note what it says in Luke 2:13-14: "Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests."

### \* THE INNKEEPER WAS NOT BEING RUDE TO JOSEPH AND MARY.

Whenever we see the Christmas story portrayed, the innkeeper is usually painted as a black-hearted villain. The poor guy has been hammered for his insensitivity for 2,000 years but, in truth, we've probably been a bit too hard on the fellow.

Consider this: Bethlehem was teeming with people when Joseph and Mary arrived, many of them visitors just like them who had arrived to enroll in the Roman census. The inn of the First Century was not the kind of inn we envision in our minds. It did not offer individual rooms to lodgers with air conditioning and cable TV. In Bethlehem's Holiday Inn, everyone stayed in a common area. It was crowded and it was smelly. It was not very sanitary and it was certainly not commodious to a woman about to give birth.

If there had been room at the inn for Joseph and Mary,

the Son of God would have been born in these less-than-desirable conditions. God the Father did not allow this to happen. Joseph and Mary were providentially directed to the stable, where accommodations were much better. There was privacy for one thing. When Mary gave birth to Jesus, she was in the physical presence of only her husband. The intimacy of that timeless moment when God came into the world in human form was preserved.

### \* THE MAGI DID NOT VISIT JOSEPH AND MARY AT THE STABLE THAT FIRST CHRISTMAS NIGHT.

This is another shocker for a lot of folks. Whenever we see a Nativity scene, it almost always includes the three Magi from the east, bearing their gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh in the humble stable in the company of the shepherds and the animals. It's quaint and it's traditional -- but it isn't accurate.

According to the gospel of Matthew, wise men (Magi) from the east came to worship him who was born King of the Jews because they had "seen his star." The wise men went first to the palace of Herod in Jerusalem, figuring that the young king would reside there. When they learned that Messiah would be born in Bethlehem, they made the brief journey there from Jerusalem.

Note what it says in Matt. 2:11: "And they came into the house and saw the young child with Mary his mother; and they fell down and worshiped him; and opening their treasures they offered unto him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh." By the time the Magi arrived in Bethlehem, Joseph and Mary were living in a house and Jesus was no longer an

infant. He was now a young child.

Here's something else interesting to note: there is never any mention of the number of wise men, though there was definitely more than three. Traveling from the east with valuable gifts was a dangerous thing to do in ancient times. The wise men would no doubt have been part of a large caravan with their own hired servants.

### \* JESUS WAS NOT BORN IN THE DESIGNATED YEAR OF HIS BIRTH.

Extra-biblical evidence points to Jesus actually being born in 4 B.C. or earlier. We know this because Herod, who was king of Judea at the time that Jesus was born, died in 4 B.C., not long after his infamous decree that the male children in Bethlehem two years and younger be put to death.

This would seem to put the birth of Jesus in the summer or early fall of the year 4 B.C. or thereabouts.

No matter when Jesus was born, or what day, or whether the angels sang or simply announced their message in the night sky above Bethlehem, it doesn't change the simple truth surrounding the birth of Jesus or the essential tenet of faith that it establishes for all Christians: Jesus, the Son of God, came into the world as had been promised.

As the angel of the Lord so eloquently told the shepherds: "I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord."

After 2,000 years, this incredible proclamation remains the foundation stone upon which the Christian faith is built.

## Businesses affected by COVID-19 Epidemic Orders provided tax assistance

Businesses that require social gatherings for customers and have experienced disrupted operations due to COVID-19 epidemic orders now have additional time to make their December sales, use and withholding tax monthly payment, according to the Michigan Department of Treasury.

Effective immediately, most entertainment and recreational venues and restaurants that depend on indoor dining scheduled to make their monthly sales, use and withholding tax payments on Dec. 20, 2020, can postpone filing and payment requirements until Jan. 20, 2021. The state Treasury Department will waive all penalties and interest for 31 days.

"Allowing small businesses affected by COVID mitigation protocols more time to pay their taxes will provide some crucial support to business owners that are struggling right now," said Governor Whitmer. "My administration will continue working around the clock to provide more support for our businesses as we head into the cold winter months and continue working to eradicate COVID-19 in Michigan. I also urge the Michigan Legislature to

work with me to pass a \$100 million relief package for our small businesses and families that have been hit hard by this pandemic. Remember, Michiganders: be smart, wear a mask, practice safe social distancing, and support your local small businesses this holiday season."

Specific information about Treasury providing tax assistance to affected businesses due to COVID-19 epidemic orders can be found in SUW Penalty and Interest Waiver Notice.

"We understand the operational challenges being faced by restaurants and entertainment venues," State Treasurer Rachael Eubanks said. "Changing some tax deadlines will provide some help to businesses as they navigate their way through the COVID-19 pandemic."

The waiver is not available for accelerated sales, use or withholding tax filers. Businesses with questions should call the Treasury Business Tax Call Center at 517-636-6925 or through Michigan Treasury Online.

To learn more about Michigan's taxes, go to [www.michigan.gov/taxes](https://www.michigan.gov/taxes) or follow the state Treasury Department on Twitter at @MITreasury.

## Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan to provide \$0 cost sharing for COVID-19

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan and Blue Care Network will waive all copays, deductibles and coinsurance for administration of COVID-19 vaccines to commercial members during the government's multi-phased approach to vaccine distribution. This action includes Blue Cross and Blue Care Network commercial plans. Medicare is covering the vaccine costs for Medicare members.

"The availability of FDA-authorized vaccines for COVID-19 is a critical phase in our shared effort to defeat the virus, improve the health of our communities and resume our pre-pandemic routines," said Daniel J. Loepp, BCBSM president and CEO. "Blue Cross wants to ensure that the copy doesn't stand in the way of our members having

ready access to vaccinations when the time comes."

Blue Cross is closely monitoring developments as more information becomes available from federal and state authorities on the vaccines and logistical planning for distribution.

"The history of vaccines has documented that widespread vaccination is a key contributor to slowing, stopping and even eliminating the risk of diseases spreading widely in our communities," said James D. Grant, M.D., BCBSM senior vice president and chief medical officer. "We encourage our members to consult with their physicians now about COVID vaccines to learn about their potential benefits and side effects."

Employer groups subject to the Affordable Care Act are required to cover admin-

istration of the vaccine. BCBSM will work with employers to guide them through applicable requirements.

As an enterprise, BCBSM has put more than \$1.3 billion behind a multifaceted response to the COVID-19 crisis, including more than \$230 million behind COVID treatment.

The company is posting helpful information on COVID-19 online at [www.MIBluesPerspectives.com](https://www.MIBluesPerspectives.com) and [www.bcbsm.com/coronavirus](https://www.bcbsm.com/coronavirus) to inform customers and members of the latest on the national impact of coronavirus and provide counsel on what to do and where to seek care if members come down with symptoms.



# Sports

SPORTS@CHARLEVOIXCOUNTYNEWS.COM

Charlevoix County News

## Section B

Thursday, December 10, 2020

CALL (989) 732-8160  
FAX (888) 854-7441

### MITCA 2020 Cross Country Individual Academic All-State Teams

The Michigan Interscholastic Track Coaches Association has released its 2020 boys and girls cross country individual academic all-state teams.

#### BOYS

Division 2  
Cooper Rokop, Jr., Petoskey  
Sam Smith, Jr., Petoskey

Division 3  
Tyler Guggemos, Jr., Kalkaska  
Lance Smar, Jr., Harbor Springs

Dominic Schwein, Jr., Charlevoix  
Luke Baker, Sr., Harbor Springs  
Jack Gaffney, Jr., Charlevoix  
Jacob Drayer, So., Harbor Springs  
Tyler Guggemos, Jr., Kalkaska

Division 4  
Lawrence Huffman, So., Mackinaw City

#### GIRLS

Division 2  
Cambrie Smith, Sr., Petoskey  
Sarah Liederbach, Sr., Petoskey

Chloie Musta, Sr., Cadillac  
Emma Squires, Sr., Petoskey  
Noel Vanderwall, Jr., Petoskey  
Chloe Jones, Jr., Ogemaw Heights  
Caroline Farley, Jr., Petoskey  
Paige Harris, Sr., Petoskey

Division 3  
Annie Bergmann, Sr., Charlevoix  
Ella Deegan, Sr., Harbor Springs  
Jordan Drayer, Sr., Harbor Springs  
Leah Rohrer, Jr., Charlevoix  
Josie Baker, So., Harbor Springs

### NLC 2020 Cross Country All-Conference

The Northern Lakes Conference has announced its 2020 boys and girls cross country all-conference teams.

#### BOYS FIRST TEAM

Lars Huffman ..... Mackinaw City  
Tyler Gellis ..... Boyne Falls  
Jacob Romeyn ..... Ellsworth  
Zeek Glazier ..... Boyne Falls  
Graham Oliver ..... Ellsworth  
Evan Cary ..... Ellsworth  
Doug Canistra ..... Ellsworth

#### Boys Second Team

Gaige French ..... Alanson  
Roy Cool ..... Boyne Falls  
Patrick Puroll ..... Ellsworth  
Aidan Wiser ..... Wolverine  
Wesley Giem ..... Boyne Falls  
Cooper Whipkey ..... Mackinaw City  
Edward Backett ..... Alanson

#### GIRLS FIRST TEAM

Maia Romeyn ..... Ellsworth  
Christy Figueroa ..... Ellsworth  
Judith Veldboom ..... Ellsworth  
Kayla Switzer ..... Wolverine  
Avery Strange ..... Ellsworth  
Caroline Somers ..... Mackinaw City  
Larissa Huffman ..... Mackinaw City

#### Girls Second Team

Gabi Bell ..... Mackinaw City  
Katie Cary ..... Ellsworth  
Brooke Essenberg ..... Ellsworth  
Jillian Lidy ..... Mackinaw City  
Isabella Essenberg ..... Ellsworth  
Emma DeYoung ..... Ellsworth  
Olivia Strange ..... Ellsworth

#### ACADEMIC ALL-CONFERENCE

#### BOYS

Gage Bigger ..... Alba  
Blake Brunmeier ..... Boyne Falls  
Aidan Wiser ..... Wolverine

#### GIRLS

AnnMarie Sherwood ..... Alanson  
Jasmin Adams ..... Ellsworth  
Kaitlyn Cary ..... Ellsworth  
Emma DeYoung ..... Ellsworth  
Jenna Drenth ..... Ellsworth  
Brooke Essenberg ..... Ellsworth  
Lillian Sundstrom ..... Ellsworth  
Judith Veldboom ..... Ellsworth  
Caroline Somers ..... Mackinaw City  
Jillian Lidy ..... Mackinaw City  
Gabriella Bell ..... Mackinaw City

### MITCA 2020 Cross Country Academic All-State Teams

The Michigan Interscholastic Track Coaches Association has announced its 2020 cross country academic all-state teams.

Division 1 Boys Lower Peninsula  
Traverse City Central 3.836

Division 1 Girls Lower Peninsula

Traverse City Central 3.88

Division 2 Girls Lower Peninsula  
Petoskey 3.9683  
Cadillac 3.617

Division 3 Boys Lower Peninsula  
Charlevoix 3.93  
Harbor Springs 3.928

Traverse City St. Francis 3.881

Division 3 Girls Lower Peninsula  
Harbor Springs 3.94  
Charlevoix 3.86

### COLLEGE BASKETBALL TOP 25

| TEAM             | RECORD | .PTS   | .PREV. | 13 | ILLINOIS        | 4-2 | .742 | .6  |
|------------------|--------|--------|--------|----|-----------------|-----|------|-----|
| 1 GONZAGA (54)   | 3-0    | .1,541 | .1     | 14 | TEXAS TECH      | 6-1 | .669 | .17 |
| 2 BAYLOR (7)     | 4-0    | .1,491 | .2     | 15 | FLORIDA STATE   | 3-0 | .619 | .20 |
| 3 IOWA (1)       | 6-0    | .1,427 | .3     | 16 | MISSOURI        | 5-0 | .491 | .NR |
| 4 MICHIGAN STATE | 6-0    | .1,307 | .4     | 17 | VIRGINIA        | 3-1 | .456 | .18 |
| 5 KANSAS         | 6-1    | .1,289 | .5     | 18 | SAN DIEGO STATE | 5-0 | .455 | .24 |
| 6 HOUSTON        | 4-0    | .1,169 | .7     | 19 | RUTGERS         | 4-0 | .396 | .21 |
| 7 VILLANOVA      | 5-1    | .1,163 | .9     | 20 | OHIO STATE      | 5-0 | .392 | .22 |
| 8 WEST VIRGINIA  | 6-1    | .1,113 | .11    | 21 | DUKE            | 2-2 | .345 | .10 |
| 9 CREIGHTON      | 4-1    | .1,037 | .8     | 22 | NORTH CAROLINA  | 4-2 | .328 | .16 |
| 10 TENNESSEE     | 2-0    | .941   | .12    | 23 | LOUISVILLE      | 4-0 | .164 | .25 |
| 11 TEXAS         | 5-1    | .873   | .T-13  | 24 | CLEMSON         | 5-0 | .156 | .NR |
| 12 WISCONSIN     | 4-1    | .846   | .T-13  | 25 | MICHIGAN        | 6-0 | .142 | .NR |

OTHERS RECEIVING VOTES: RICHMOND 140, SAINT LOUIS 121, VIRGINIA TECH 115, XAVIER 55, OKLAHOMA STATE 48, OREGON 31, INDIANA 22, FLORIDA 18, ARIZONA STATE 13, UCLA 9, CONNECTICUT 7, ARIZONA 5, SYRACUSE 4, GEORGIA 4, ARKANSAS 4, SMU 1, MINNESOTA 1

### COLLEGE FOOTBALL TOP 25

| TEAM                   | RECORD | .PTS  | .PREV. | 13      | SOUTHERN CAL   | 774 | .16  | .5-0  |
|------------------------|--------|-------|--------|---------|----------------|-----|------|-------|
| 1 ALABAMA (62)         | 1,550  | .1    | .10-0  | 14      | BYU            | 724 | .14  | .10-1 |
| 2 NOTRE DAME           | 1,482  | .2    | .10-0  | 15      | NORTHWESTERN   | 691 | .15  | .6-1  |
| 3 OHIO STATE           | 1,405  | .3    | .5-0   | 16      | NORTH CAROLINA | 631 | .20  | .8-3  |
| 4 CLEMSON              | 1,388  | .4    | .9-1   | 17      | LOUISIANA      | 566 | .17  | .9-1  |
| 5 TEXAS A&M            | 1,286  | .5    | .7-1   | 18      | IOWA           | 502 | .19  | .6-2  |
| 6 CINCINNATI           | 1,248  | .7    | .8-0   | 19      | MIAMI (FLA.)   | 454 | .9   | .8-2  |
| 7 INDIANA              | 1,140  | .8    | .6-1   | 20      | TULSA          | 408 | .18  | .6-1  |
| 8 IOWA STATE           | 1,059  | .10   | .8-2   | 21      | TEXAS          | 227 | .23  | .6-3  |
| 9 COASTAL CAROLINA 994 | .11    | .11-0 | 22     | LIBERTY | 184            | .22 | .9-1 |       |
| 10 GEORGIA             | 968    | .12   | .7-2   | 23      | BUFFALO        | 183 | .24  | .5-0  |
| 11 FLORIDA             | 940    | .6    | .8-2   | 24      | NC STATE       | 137 | .NR  | .8-3  |
| 12 OKLAHOMA            | 902    | .13   | .7-2   | 25      | SAN JOSE STATE | 124 | .NR  | .6-0  |

OTHERS RECEIVING VOTES: OKLAHOMA STATE 83, MARSHALL 47, BOISE STATE 12, UCF 11, WASHINGTON 9, ARMY 9, AUBURN 8, TCU 3, APALACHIAN STATE 1

### NFL WEEKLY SCHEDULE

| THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17     | 8:20PM |      | 1:00PM | CBS |
|---------------------------|--------|------|--------|-----|
| LA CHARGERS AT LAS VEGAS  |        |      | 1:00PM | CBS |
| FOX/NFLN/AMAZON           |        |      | 1:00PM | CBS |
| SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19     |        |      | 1:00PM | FOX |
| BUFFALO AT DENVER         | 4:30PM | NFLN | 1:00PM | CBS |
| CAROLINA AT GREEN BAY     | 8:15PM | NFLN | 1:00PM | FOX |
| SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20       |        |      | 4:05PM | FOX |
| TAMPA BAY AT ATLANTA      | 1:00PM | FOX  | 4:25PM | CBS |
| JACKSONVILLE AT BALTIMORE | 1:00PM | CBS  | 8:20PM | NBC |

### NFL FOOTBALL CONFERENCE STANDINGS

| AFC EAST  | W-L-T   | AFC SOUTH | W-L-T | NFC EAST   | W-L-T  | NFC SOUTH  | W-L-T |
|-----------|---------|-----------|-------|------------|--------|------------|-------|
| BILLS     | .10-3   | TITANS    | .9-4  | WASHINGTON | .6-7   | SAINTS     | .10-3 |
| DOLPHINS  | .8-5    | COLTS     | .9-4  | GIANTS     | .5-8   | BUCCANEERS | .8-5  |
| PATRIOTS  | .6-7    | TEXANS    | .4-9  | EAGLES     | .4-8-1 | FALCONS    | .4-9  |
| JETS      | .0-13   | JAGUARS   | .1-12 | COWBOYS    | .4-9   | PANTHERS   | .4-9  |
| AFC NORTH | W-L-T   | AFC WEST  | W-L-T | NFC NORTH  | W-L-T  | NFC WEST   | W-L-T |
| STEELERS  | .11-2   | CHIEFS    | .12-1 | PACKERS    | .10-3  | RAMS       | .9-4  |
| BROWNS    | .9-4    | RAIDERS   | .7-6  | VIKINGS    | .6-7   | SEAHAWKS   | .9-4  |
| RAVENS    | .8-5    | BRONCOS   | .5-8  | BEARS      | .6-7   | CARDINALS  | .7-6  |
| BENGALS   | .2-10-1 | CHARGERS  | .4-9  | LIONS      | .5-8   | 49ERS      | .5-8  |

### Registration for 'Happy Little 5K' now open

Online registration for the Run for the Trees / Happy Virtual 5K is now open.

Taking place April 22-30, 2021, this virtual race - bookended by Earth Day and Arbor Day - supports state parks, with all proceeds going toward Happy Little Tree-planting and preservation efforts in the parks.

You can choose to walk, run or hike, and you pick the pace and the place, as long as it's outdoors. Cost is \$34 per person. Everyone who participates gets a keepsake Happy Little T-shirt, commemorative bib and finisher's medal featuring a real Bob Ross painting. The 2021 event is capped at 20,000 participants. Entries to the Bob Ross-inspired Happy Little Virtual 5K also make great holiday gifts!

Through a partnership with Bob Ross Inc. and funding from the U.S. Forest Service Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, the DNR's Happy Little Trees program helps state park campgrounds recover from invasive forest pests/diseases, like emerald ash borer and oak wilt, that damage or kill trees. Learn more at Michigan.gov/DNRHappyLittleTrees.



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# Sports

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courtesy photos

## Inanna Hauger commits to play collegiate soccer with NCAA Division 2 University of Minnesota-Crookston

BY: DOM SANTINA

BOYNE CITY - Boyne City High School Senior Inanna Hauger has made the choice to continue her soccer career. Hauger announced her decision late last week that she would play for the University of Minnesota -

Crookston Golden Eagles. The U of Minnesota - Crookston is a Division 2 school that competes in the Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference. The NSIC is comprised of teams such as the University of Mary, University of Minnesota - Duluth and St.

Cloud State University to name a few. "I choose this school because immediately as I stepped on campus, I felt at home. Coach Halfpop, the team, and the staff were very friendly and welcoming. In addition to that, the facilities

at UMC are top-notch. A great and successful place to continue my academic and athletic career." In her sophomore year, Hauger had 24 goals and 28 assists for the Ramblers. While earning all-conference, all-district, all-region and all-state honors. Hauger

is eager for her senior season after being injured last winter and having the season cut short due to COVID-19. "I am very grateful for my teammates. I devote my success to them, my coaches, my family and my hard work.

Without my teammates, I would not have improved into the player I am today. We were able to push each other in practice every day. Hauger will be studying health sciences while at the University of Minnesota - Crookston.

## All-State Volleyball

The Michigan Interscholastic Volleyball Coaches Association has released its 2020 all-state teams. Listed below are players in our distribution area who earned all-state honors.

### DIVISION 1

Honorable Mention  
Peyton Miller, Sr., .....Setter .....Petoskey

### DIVISION 3

Honorable Mention  
Zoe Brodin, Sr., .....Setter .....Charlevoix  
Avery Zipp, Sr., .....Outside Hitter .....Charlevoix

### DIVISION 4

Honorable Mention  
Breya Domke, Sr., .....Outside Hitter .....Onaway  
Cloe Ehrke, Jr., .....Setter .....Onaway  
Jordyn Daily, Jr., .....Outside Hitter .....Pellston

## Volleyball All-Region Players named

The Michigan Interscholastic Volleyball Coaches Association has released its 2020 all-region teams. Listed below are area all-region recipients.

### REGION 3

Peyton Miller .....Sr. ....Petoskey  
Faith Bailey .....Jr. ....Petoskey  
Katelyn Wodek .....Jr. ....Petoskey  
Molly Anderson .....Sr. ....Petoskey  
Jamiyn Karr .....Sr. ....Petoskey  
Morgan Deming .....So. ....Boyne City  
Grace Dawson .....Jr. ....Boyne City  
Ava Tarsi .....Fr. ....Boyne City  
Hailey Dorey .....Sr. ....Cheboygan  
Cassie Barton .....Sr. ....Cheboygan  
Kyla Thater .....Jr. ....Cheboygan  
Natalie Gibbons .....Sr. ....Cheboygan  
Grace Lentz .....Jr. ....Charlevoix  
Avery Zipp .....Sr. ....Charlevoix  
Zoe Brodin .....Sr. ....Charlevoix  
Claire Scholten .....So. ....Charlevoix  
Delaney Hogle .....Jr. ....Johannesburg-Lewiston  
Tara Madej .....Sr. ....Johannesburg-Lewiston  
Jayden Marlatt .....Fr. ....Johannesburg-Lewiston  
Jamie Burke .....Sr. ....Johannesburg-Lewiston  
Breya Domke .....Sr. ....Onaway  
Cloe Ehrke .....Jr. ....Onaway  
Jordyn Daily .....Jr. ....Pellston  
Natalie Wandrie .....So. ....Inland Lakes  
Ryann Clancy .....So. ....Inland Lakes  
Lexi Horton .....Jr. ....Onaway  
Lainey Shimel .....Jr. ....Onaway  
Madison Brown .....Jr. ....Pellston  
Megan Bricker .....So. ....Pellston

### REGION 4

Emma Turnquist .....Sr. ....Traverse City Central  
Ally Jo McKenna .....Jr. ....Traverse City West  
Kailey Parks .....Jr. ....Traverse City Central  
Natalie Bourdo .....Fr. ....Traverse City Central  
Sara Schermerhorn .....Jr. ....Traverse City West  
Rebecca Lane .....Jr. ....Traverse City West  
Leah Allen .....Sr. ....Traverse City West  
Macy Brown .....Sr. ....Cadillac  
Renee Brines .....Jr. ....Cadillac  
Julia Jezak .....Jr. ....Cadillac  
Ellie Wagner .....Jr. ....Grayling

## Real Estate Feature Property BEAUTIFUL HOME OVERLOOKING LAKE CHARLEVOIX NEAR BOYNE CITY



BY JIM AKANS

Set on a hill overlooking northern woodlands and Lake Charlevoix beyond, this beautiful, spacious home is located just outside of Boyne City. This five bedroom, four bath home has approximately 4,157 square feet of space on the main two floors and walk-out basement level. The list of interior highlights and custom options goes on and on, including a custom kitchen, a winding grand staircase, log ceiling accents, wood floors, gorgeous fireplace

and a full walkout basement that could make a perfect in-law suite, retreat or an ideal spot for out-of-town guests. The incredible outdoor views can easily be enjoyed from the living room, dining area, kitchen and master suite. Outdoors, the spacious and well landscaped property offers lots of room to relax and play. A large open deck is a great spot to entertain or take in the views. Storage space abounds with a three-car garage attached to the home plus a 32x32 foot heated pole building. There is plenty of space to park an RV, the yard includes a built-in

trampoline, plus there is a serene pond right next door! This spacious, beautiful home with expansive views of the northern woodlands and Lake Charlevoix is located at 1009 East Court Street just outside of Boyne City, and it is listed at \$499,900. 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



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## WHAT IS THE MLS?

MLS stands for "Multiple Listing Service," which is usually a computerized listing of virtually all the homes that are for sale in a specific area. When a Realtor lists your property for sale, they pay a fee and your home is placed on the MLS system. The big advantage to sellers is that the MLS is the #1 resource used by buyers (and agents) to locate homes. Properties that are not listed (usually those being sold by their owners) are not on the MLS-thus there are

many buyers and Realtors who will not be exposed to the home. The MLS has become such a standard in real estate that no serious broker would think of trying to sell real estate without it. It would be like an accountant trying to work without a calculator. About the only residential brokers who might not use the MLS are those who exclusively handle foreclosed properties, or high-end homes owned by celebrities and the like. The MLS provides a surprising

amount of detail, depending upon the area of the country it may include the location (by zip code); size of the home (square footage); size of the lot; number of bedrooms and bathrooms; extra rooms such as a den, family room, formal dining room, or enclosed patio; amenities such as a backyard, fireplace, hot tub, pool, kitchen features, new carpet and drapes; capacity of garage; age of home; and, of course, the selling price and terms. Buyers can narrow their house-hunting searches dramatically by using the MLS. For instance, their real estate professional can do a computer search and ask for a listing of all homes within a certain location and price range that have two or three bedrooms and that are not more than ten years old. Not only will this request generate a brief list of viable possibilities, it also helps buyers gauge, roughly, what they can expect to get for their money, and to compare the value of the homes listed. Thus, the MLS is more than a system that lists properties. It's an aid to both buyers and sellers, and is a definite asset to consumers when it comes to real estate.

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## 4 WHEEL DRIVE

1984 Ford Bronco XLT. Full size, moonroof, 4x4. Sale Price \$5,000. Rivertown Auto Sales & Leasing. 989 VFW Rd, Cheboygan. 231-627-6700. www.rivertownautosales.com. Need a car a day or a week. We rent vehicles.

2002 Chevy Avalanche. 4x4. Sale Price \$6,499. As low as \$235 a month. Rivertown Auto Sales & Leasing. 989 VFW Rd, Cheboygan. 231-627-6700. www.rivertownautosales.com. Need a car a day or a week. We rent vehicles.

2005 GMC Sierra. 4x4, fiberglass cap. Sale Price \$7,995. As low as \$229 a month. Rivertown Auto Sales & Leasing. 989 VFW Rd, Cheboygan. 231-627-6700. www.rivertownautosales.com. Need a car a day or a week. We rent vehicles.

2006 Toyota Tundra Limited. 4x4, quad cab, tow pkg, fold up tonneau cover, V-8, 176 K miles. Sale Price \$12,595. As low as \$289 a month. Rivertown Auto Sales & Leasing. 989 VFW Rd, Cheboygan. 231-627-6700. www.rivertownautosales.com. Need a car a day or a week. We rent vehicles.

2013 CHEVY SILVERADO 1500 CREW CAB LT 5.3L V8. \$16,921 or \$320/MO or 60 MOS. Jim Wernig Chevrolet. 2401 Old 27 South, Gaylord. 989-732-5161. www.ChevyCentral.com

2017 CHEVY SILVERADO 1500 DBL CAB LT 271 5.3L V8. \$28,836 or \$452/MO 72 MOS. CERTIFIED PRE-OWNED. Jim Wernig Chevrolet. 2401 Old 27 South, Gaylord. 989-732-5161. www.ChevyCentral.com

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2019 CHEVY SILVERADO 1500 CREW CAB LTZ SUNROOF, NAV. \$47,903 or \$750/MO 72 MOS. CERTIFIED PRE-OWNED. Jim Wernig Chevrolet. 2401 Old 27 South, Gaylord. 989-732-5161. www.ChevyCentral.com

## ADVICE FROM GOD

Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. \_\_\_ 1 Peter\_ 4:10 \_NIV\_

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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ROCK MUSIC AT CHURCH. Not rock n roll, but music celebrating Jesus Christ, the rock of our salvation. Encouraging, Uplifting and Challenging. Join us Sunday morning at 11am for great music and ministry and discovering what the Bible says. It is really a lot of fun. Pigeon River Baptist Church, 2 blocks south of the blinker in Vanderbilt. Watch on Facebook Live Sundays at 11AM, search Pigeon River Baptist Church.

## ANTIQUES & COLLECTIBLES

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PIE SAFE, 1907 ANTIQUE WITH 13 SHELVES. Many other uses, \$375. Large 500 watt floodlight with telescopic stand. \$65. 231-436-5387. Mackinac City

Vintage EDISON Diamond Disc Victrola Phonograph. Hand crank power. \$175. Gaylord. 989-350-9235

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WANTED: Collectors, Re-sellers, Bargain Hunters NOTICE: Weekly Online estate sales & collector auctions. Full homes, themed collections, commercial. Local pickup or Worldwide Shipping. Check out our Current & Upcoming Auctions: EstateAuctionExperts.com

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## AUTOMOBILES

1995 Corvette Convertible. Only 89 K miles, runs and drives. Project car. Sale price \$6,588 cash. Rivertown Auto Sales & Leasing. 989 VFW Rd, Cheboygan. 231-627-6700. www.rivertownautosales.com. Need a car a day or a week. We rent vehicles.

2003 Honda Accord. 120K, 5 speed. Sale Price \$3,900. Rivertown Auto Sales & Leasing. 989 VFW Rd, Cheboygan. 231-627-6700. www.rivertownautosales.com. Need a car a day or a week. We rent vehicles.

2004 Lincoln Town Car. Presidential Town Sedan. Florida car, vinyl roof, leather seats. Sale Price \$5,999. As low as \$219 a month. Rivertown Auto Sales & Leasing. 989 VFW Rd, Cheboygan. 231-627-6700. www.rivertownautosales.com. Need a car a day or a week. We rent vehicles.

2005 Chrysler 300. Leather. Sale Price \$7,995. As low as \$225 a month. Rivertown Auto Sales & Leasing. 989 VFW Rd, Cheboygan. 231-627-6700. www.rivertownautosales.com. Need a car a day or a week. We rent vehicles.

2007 Ford Mustang Convertible. Automatic. Very nice. Sale Price \$6,499. As low as \$225 a month. Rivertown Auto Sales & Leasing. 989 VFW Rd, Cheboygan. 231-627-6700. www.rivertownautosales.com. Need a car a day or a week. We rent vehicles.

2012 Mini Cooper. Leather, only 79 K miles. Sale Price \$8,995. As low as \$219 a month. Rivertown Auto Sales & Leasing. 989 VFW Rd, Cheboygan. 231-627-6700. www.rivertownautosales.com. Need a car a day or a week. We rent vehicles.

2013 Dodge Charger 5.7L Hemi. 134k miles. \$9,000. Rivertown Auto Sales & Leasing. 989 VFW Rd, Cheboygan. 231-627-6700. www.rivertownautosales.com. Need a car a day or a week. We rent vehicles.

2013 FORD FLEX AWD SEL LEATHER, SUNROOF. \$8,976 or \$207/MO 48 MOS. Jim Wernig Chevrolet. 2401 Old 27 South, Gaylord. 989-732-5161. www.ChevyCentral.com

2017 CADILLAC XTS AWD PREMIUM LUXURY, NAV, SUNROOF. \$29,899 or \$468/MO 72 MOS. Jim Wernig Chevrolet. 2401 Old 27 South, Gaylord. 989-732-5161. www.ChevyCentral.com

2017 CHEVY CRUZE LT. \$13,995 or \$219/MO 72 MOS. CERTIFIED PRE-OWNED. Jim Wernig Chevrolet. 2401 Old 27 South, Gaylord. 989-732-5161. www.ChevyCentral.com

2018 FORD FLEX SEL AWD LEATHER, NAV, SUNROOF. \$22,934 or \$359/MO 72 MOS. Jim Wernig Chevrolet. 2401 Old 27 South, Gaylord. 989-732-5161. www.ChevyCentral.com

2018 Subaru Impreza. AWD. Sale Price \$17,995. As low as \$299 a month. Rivertown Auto Sales & Leasing. 989 VFW Rd, Cheboygan. 231-627-6700. www.rivertownautosales.com. Need a car a day or a week. We rent vehicles.

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2017 CHEVROLET TRAVERSE AWD LEATHER, NAVIGATION, BOSE. \$24,958 or \$391/MO 72 MOS. CERTIFIED PRE-OWNED. Jim Wernig Chevrolet. 2401 Old 27 South, Gaylord. 989-732-5161. www.ChevyCentral.com

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2018 CHEVY EQUINOX LT AWD. \$19,991 or \$313/MO 72 MOS. CERTIFIED PRE-OWNED. Jim Wernig Chevrolet. 2401 Old 27 South, Gaylord. 989-732-5161. www.ChevyCentral.com

2018 CHEVY EQUINOX LT FWD. \$16,196 OR \$254/MO 72 MOS. CERTIFIED PRE-OWNED. Jim Wernig Chevrolet. 2401 Old 27 South, Gaylord. 989-732-5161. www.ChevyCentral.com

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NEW 2020 CHEVY Traverse 3LT. AWD, leather. Lease as low as \$322 a month. Stock #G0688. Jim Wernig Chevrolet. 2401 Old 27 South, Gaylord. 989-732-5161. www.ChevyCentral.com

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2003 Chevy Avalanche. Sale Price \$4,995. As low as \$149 a month. Rivertown Auto Sales & Leasing. 989 VFW Rd, Cheboygan. 231-627-6700. www.rivertownautosales.com. Need a car a day or a week. We rent vehicles.



## OBITS

### FROM PG. 2A

with her friends and family. She also loved taking walks, traveling, and watching the evening sunset.

Merla is survived by her children: Dennis (Janie) Amesbury, Kris (Doug) Leist, Michele (Bryce) Hewitt, and Kim (Amy) Amesbury; her grandchildren: Damien Leist, Stacy (Andrew) Bearss, Robert (Nancy) Hewitt, Ryan (Aby) Amesbury, Wade (Helen) Leist, Aimee (Jason) McCary, Jacob Amesbury, and Ryder Amesbury; her eleven great-grandchildren; and her siblings Karl (Lyla) Mueller and Loretta Go-fourth.

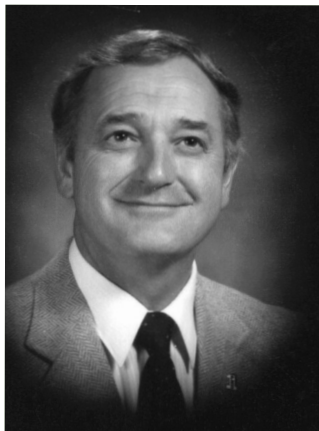
Those wishing to make a charitable donation in Merla's memory are asked by family to consider Hospice of Petoskey or Cancer Crusaders.

A memorial service for Merla will be held in late spring of 2021.

Arrangements are in the care of Stackus Funeral Home.

### Robert "Doc" Wayne Doctor, 83

(JAN. 6, 1937 - DEC. 12, 2020)



Robert Wayne Doctor passed away at his home on Crooked Lake surrounded by his family on December 12, 2020; he was 83 years old.

Bob "Doc" Doctor was born on January 6, 1937, in a farmhouse between Ellsworth and Atwood, the son of Silas and Johanna (Veenstra) Doctor. Growing up in those small communities and working on the family farm helped shape a lifelong appreciation of hard work, family, faith and a love for the outdoors.

Bob graduated from Ellsworth High School where he excelled in basketball and track. He then attended Central Michigan University where he received his BS degree in teaching in 1959. He went on to attain his MS and Specialist in Education degrees from Michigan State University.

Bob married Darlene Houck on January 31, 1956, and together they raised three children. He began his educational career in Northport, Michigan where he was a teacher and basketball coach. Shortly thereafter, he was hired as teacher and principal in Interlocken and later transitioned to an administrator at Interlocken Arts Academy—with the distinction as the only faculty member that couldn't read music! He served as principal at Boyne City High School for two years before becoming principal at Petoskey High School in 1967; a position he held for 26 years. During his tenure at PHS, Bob served on the Michigan High School Athletic Association (MHSAA) Representative Council for 10 years including two years as

President. He also served on the Michigan Association of Secondary School Principals Association, including a role as president of this group. Having played a key role in the success of Petoskey athletics, he was inducted into the PHS Athletic Hall of Fame in 2016.

After retiring from PHS in 1993, Bob was principal at Duran High School until 1998. Upon full retirement, he returned north to his home on Crooked Lake.

He was a devoted father and a cherished grandfather. His grandchildren will fondly remember their times with Grandpa tubing on Crooked Lake, fishing on Lake Michigan, riding the four-wheeler and playing many spirited games of euchre at deer camp.

With many hobbies and interests, Bob enjoyed his retirement thoroughly, especially gardening and growing his wonderful sweet corn at Back Acres, fishing for lake trout and salmon on Little Traverse Bay and woodworking in his shop.

Bob loved sports! He closely followed the Detroit Tigers and Red Wings and, most of all, his beloved Michigan State Spartans. He was a founding member of the Gunnel Grabbers—a group of local canoe enthusiasts that explored the wild rivers and lakes of Ontario each spring. Hunting, however, was his greatest passion. He loved his time hunting for rabbits in the swamps around Ellsworth, elk in the Rocky Mountains, and pheasants in South Dakota. Bob was a proud member of the Yes Deer Hunting Club for 46 years where he treasured hunting whitetail deer, bear and turkey, as well as the camaraderie of 17 other members, including some of his dearest friends, son and grandson.

He was a member of the First Presbyterian church of Petoskey for 33 years where he served as Elder. He was a former member of the Petoskey Kiwanis Club as well as the Lions Club of Duran. An avid golfer for most of his life, he was a long-term member of Petoskey-Bay View Country Club. Bob was also involved in basketball officiating at many levels for over 30 years.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Silas and Johanna Doctor and his younger brother, Ken.

He is lovingly remembered by his wife Peggy Tittle, his children Debbie (Michael) Davies, Terrie (Steve) Briley and Michael (Monica) Doctor, siblings Fay (Ted) Sessler, Vangie (Mel) Willie, Silas (Mary) Doctor as well as 10 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. He also leaves behind many cousins, nephews and nieces.

Bob's family is very grateful to Cheryl Goodrich and the staff of McLaren Hospice for the loving care they provided in Bob's final months.

Those wishing to make a memorial contribution may do so at the First Presbyterian Church of Petoskey or the Top of Michigan Trails Council.

A celebration of life memorial ceremony will be held at the First Presbyterian Church of Petoskey next summer.

Arrangements are by Stone Funeral Home.

### Darren Scott Wellman, 55

(AUG. 17, 1965 - DEC. 11, 2020)

On Friday December 11,

2020 Darren Wellman, son, brother and uncle passed away suddenly at the age of 55 years.

Darren was born August 17, 1965 in Charlevoix. He grew up in the Burt Lake area and graduated from Inland Lakes High School.

His family and friends including his parents Karen and Chet, Brother Mark sister-in-law Heather and his niece and nephew Emma and Jacob will forever lovingly remember Darren. Numerous people including friends and extended family will also remember him.

He proudly served our country in the US Air Force domestically and overseas during the 1980s. No services are planned at this time.

### James Stewart Allport, 74

(MAY 21, 1946 - DEC. 11, 2020)



James Stewart Allport of Boyne City passed away on December 11, 2020 at Grandview Medical Care Facility in East Jordan, Michigan.

Son of William and Mildred (Eddy) Allport, James was born on May 21, 1946 in Detroit, Michigan at home. He grew up in Detroit and attended Detroit public schools.

On September 26, 2003 James married Deborah Knight in Horton Bay, Michigan.

James served in the Marines as a Lance Corporal in the Vietnam War from 1966 to 1967. He was very patriotic and would march in Memorial Day parades in the local area.

James worked for Honeywell for 31 years and retired from there.

He liked to bowl and loved watching wrestling.

James was the most wonderful father, stepfather, papa, husband, and brother there ever was. He had the kindest smile that was given by his whole being.

James was a member of the Nazarene Church and would ring bells for church donations.

James is survived by his wife Deborah Allport; his child Phoebe (Ken) Malkowicz; his stepchildren: Daniel Massey, Tami Balch, Steven Massey, and Rebecca (John) Miller; his grandchildren Aohoodan and Branwen; his step-grandchildren: John Norman (Kendra), Tracey, Maggie, Kendra, Kami, Kenneth Jr., Karl Robert, Kaiden, and Karla; his great-grandchildren Evie and Kennedy; his siblings: Mary Krushansky, John Allport, and Michael Allport; his nephew Joe (Ruth) Krushansky and family; and many cousins.

James is preceded in death by his parents William and Mildred Allport; his siblings: William Allport Jr., Robert Allport, Richard Allport, Evonne, David Allport and Donald Allport; and his nephews David and Daniel Krushansky.

Those wishing to give a charitable donation in James's memory are asked to consider the Wounded Warrior or VFW National Home for Children.

At this time, a private family memorial service will be held and a graveside service

at Maple Lawn Cemetery in Boyne City will be announced at a later date for spring 2021.

Arrangements are in the care of Stackus Funeral Home.

### Lewis Richard Poole, 75

(MARCH 19, 1945 - DEC. 10, 2020)



Lewis Richard Poole of Boyne City died Thursday, December 10, 2020 at McLaren Northern Michigan Hospital in Petoskey, Michigan surrounded by his loving family. He was born in Charlevoix, Michigan on March 19, 1945 to Elmer M. and Margaret L. (Simpson) Poole. Lewis graduated from Charlevoix High School in 1964.

Lewis Enlisted into the US Army in September 1967. He served with the 78th Engineer Bn. in Ettlingen, Germany and reached the rank of Sergeant. While serving in Germany he attended and graduated from the 7th Army NCO Academy.

On November 22, 1968 he married Dolores M. Anthony in Charlevoix at the United Methodist Church.

In 1969, using his GI bill, he took a three year course in Tool and Die Design and successfully completed it in 1972.

He worked for a machine shop in Charlevoix before going to work for Jervis B. Webb Co. on July 21, 1969. He retired on March 19, 2010 with over 40 years of service, was awarded with two US patents and retired as their Chief Mechanical Engineer.

After retirement, his hobbies were fishing, woodworking, photography, photo editing, genealogy, coin collecting and helping his wife with her craft projects.

He was a member of the Boyne City Lions Club for many years. Was a volunteer ambulance driver for over 10 years. Lewis also served on the Boyne City Economic Development Corporation board. He was a past President and lifetime member of the Northwest Michigan Industrial Association and a member of the Boyne City American Legion Post 228.

Lewis is survived by his wife Dolores M. (Anthony) Poole; his three children: Toni L. (Carolyn) Poole, Cynthia M. (Earl) Moore, and Lewis R. (Kristin) Poole II; his six grandchildren: Matt (Ashley) Poole, Halle Poole, Damian Moore, Kelsey (Josh) Stahl, Andrew Moore and Ethan Poole; his seven great-grandchildren: Isabella, Lillian, Olivia, Wyatt, Athena, Harmony and Melody; his mother-in-law Lila Anthony; his two sisters: Margaret K. Bushor and Elaine J. Budde; and his sister-in-law Beverly Poole.

Lewis is preceded in death by his parents; his daughter Heidi Louise; his father-in-law Lyle Anthony; his three brothers: Elmer E. Poole Jr., William H. (Helen) Poole and Wallace J. Poole; his four sisters: Wilma M. (Cal) Kuebler, Patricia L. (Hugh) Lamb,

Joan (Jack) McKenney and Nancy L. Eaton; and his brothers-in-law Ray Budde, Ivan Whitley, Bill Bushor, Leonard Niswander and Lyle Eaton.

In lieu of flowers, those wishing to make a charitable donation are asked by family to consider the Boyne City Ambulance.

At this time, a private family service for Lewis will be held and burial will be at Maple Lawn Cemetery in Boyne City, Michigan.

Arrangements are in the care of Stackus Funeral Home.

### Woodrow Benjamin Wilson, 101

(APRIL 6, 1919 - DEC. 12, 2020)

Woodrow B. Wilson, 101 of Charlevoix, passed away at his home. Woodrow was born April 6, 1919 in Lake Lynn, Pennsylvania, to parents William B. Wilson and Myrtle Franks.

No services are planned. A full obituary will be posted in the near future.

Arrangements are in the care of the Charlevoix Chapel of Mortensen Funeral Homes. Sign his online guestbook [www.mortensen-funeralhomes.com](http://www.mortensen-funeralhomes.com)

### Robert James Rowe, 65

(FEB. 22, 1955 - DEC. 12, 2020)



Robert J. Rowe, 65 of Charlevoix, passed away December 12, 2020 at Munson Medical Center in Traverse City. Robert was born February 22, 1955 in Toledo, OH to Robert J. Rowe SR. and Marjorie Retherford.

Private family services will take place.

A full obituary will be posted soon.

Arrangements are in the care of the Charlevoix Chapel of Mortensen Funeral Homes. Sign his online guestbook [www.mortensen-funeralhomes.com](http://www.mortensen-funeralhomes.com)

### Albert "Al" Ronald Kaepfel, 87

(NOV. 8, 1933 - DEC. 8, 2020)



Albert "Al" Ronald Kaepfel, of Sheboygan, WI, passed away on December 8, 2020 after 87 wonderful years of life. He was in the comfort and care of his family, friends and the amazing staff of Embrace Care Management and the Sharon S. Richardson Community Hospice.

He was born to Albert C.

and Elsa (Kesselring) Kaepfel on November 6, 1933. He was a graduate of Palmyra High School, Wisconsin State College UW - Whitewater (B.Ed.), Highlands University, New Mexico (M.S.), Louisiana State University (Astronomy) and the UW Madison (Engineering).

Al met his loving wife, the late Elaine Ardys Jones, while in school and they were married on June 30th, 1955 at the Pleasant Valley Methodist Church in the township of Sullivan, WI. Elaine preceded him in death on May 15, 2018.

He was truly an "Al of all trades" fixing cars, building homes, wind turbines and observatories, programming computers, golfing, tending his gardens and orchards but his passion for astronomy, physics and learning led him to a career of instruction. He first started teaching Cryptography at Fort Devens, MA then teaching high school in East Jordan, Michigan, where he maintained a close relationship with the students of his homeroom, the class of 1962. After teaching at Sheboygan Central and North High schools, he accepted a position in 1965 as the Assistant Professor of Physics at the University of Wisconsin - Sheboygan where he taught until his retirement in 1996. During his tenure at the UW, he took a two year sabbatical to observe the skies of the southern hemisphere from the islands of New Zealand. While there, he taught math at Newlands College and traveled the North and South Islands with his family.

Al served his country as a Cryptanalytic Specialist in the United States Army from 1953 through 1956 and was an avid member of the Sheboygan Astronomical Society, serving as co-chair for several years and managed the astronomical observatory at the UW Sheboygan Campus. He was a member of St. Luke's Methodist Church. In his later years, Al continued to garden but also enjoyed traveling with Elaine, visiting every state except Hawaii, golfing, blackjack, craps and spending time with his children, grandchildren (12) and great grandchildren (4).

Albert is survived by his two daughters, Susan (Luke Harned) Kaepfel of Mahomet, MN, and Ann (Jeff) Brill of Sheboygan; four sons, Albert Scott (Mary Lou) Kaepfel of Madison, David (Leslie) Kaepfel of Sheboygan Falls, Mark (Alice) Kaepfel of Cambridge, WI, and Nelson (Lorrie) Kaepfel of Sun Prairie, WI; twelve grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; and brothers Kenneth (Judy) and Donald (Sandra).

Albert was preceded in death by his wife, Elaine; siblings, Luise Iverson, Robert (Julia) Kaepfel, Audrey (Arthur) Willman, Marguete; Betty (James) Nezworski, Elizabeth (Norman) Harris, Dorothy (Robert) McCurdy, Marion Etta (infant) and John (Judy) Kaepfel; nephew, Dennis Wilman; Nieces, Becky (Wilman) DeLonay and Pam (Christensen) Shuman.

A burial will take place at Pleasant Valley Cemetery in Sullivan, WI.

A memorial fund is being established in his name.

For online condolences and additional information please visit [www.wenigfh.com](http://www.wenigfh.com).

The Wenig Funeral Home of Sheboygan Falls is serving the Kaepfel family with arrangements.

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### Health Department of Northwest Michigan COVID-19 Update

On December 15, the Health Department of Northwest Michigan is reporting 24 new cases in Antrim (6), Charlevoix (7), Emmet (9), and Otsego (2) counties, and 1 COVID-19 associated death in Otsego county. Case investigation and contact tracing are in progress, and relevant information will be shared when it is available.

Governor Whitmer and Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) launched a new campaign called Mask up, Mask Right. This campaign encourages individuals to wear a mask while targeting how to properly wear those masks. Masks should be

worn properly every time you are around someone outside your household. Properly wearing your mask includes covering both the mouth and nose.

Lisa Peacock, Health Officer, stated, "with the holiday season arriving, we are hopeful that community members continue being diligent, taking the safety precautions required by the Epidemic Order preventing the types of gatherings that typically lead to these increases in cases. For now, masking up and continuing to stay 6 feet from others are our best chances to avoid bringing the virus home, to keep our schools and workplaces

open, and contain COVID-19."

On December 15 we are reporting case investigation information for 296 COVID-19 cases. The following information is from case investigations completed from December 7th – 13th.

Age:  
0-12 years – 18 cases  
13-19 years – 18 cases  
20-29 years – 43 cases  
30-39 years – 34 cases  
40-49 years – 28 cases  
50-59 years – 46 cases  
60-69 years – 60 cases  
70-79 years – 26 cases  
80-89 years – 21 cases  
90-99 years – 2 cases  
Symptomatic: 259 cases;  
Asymptomatic: 36 cases; Unknown at the time of this report: 1 case

36 cases linked to travel either into or out of the area as reported during their case investigation

15 cases are currently or were hospitalized  
As of 4 pm on December 15, the Health Department of Northwest Michigan is reporting:

Total COVID-19 cases in the following counties:  
Antrim – 555, Charlevoix – 790, Emmet – 1,161, Otsego – 926

Recovered COVID-19 cases in the following counties:  
Antrim – 294, Charlevoix – 398, Emmet – 690, Otsego – 541

Confirmed COVID-19 associated deaths in the following counties:  
Antrim – 7, Charlevoix – 8, Emmet – 29, Otsego – 20

The State of Michigan is reporting 442,715 cases and 10,935 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. To locate a testing facility, visit the Michigan COVID-19 Test Finder website. To track the risk levels of COVID-19 pandemic indicators, visit the MI Safe Start Map website. For more information regarding the COVID-19 vaccine, visit the MDHHS vaccine website or the CDC vaccine website.

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