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EAST JORDAN CITY COMMISSION MEETING, FEBRUARY 2, 2021

East Jordan reviews presentation of wastewater plant

BY DOM SANTINA

EAST JORDAN - The meeting started off with an update on the county-wide EMS service. The service that seemed like it had a lot of support, even just a month ago, is now looking like it may never happen. The conversations are starting to stall and Charlevoix is looking toward making their own authority with the surrounding townships. As mentioned two weeks ago, in the commission meeting, things started to go south over how the financial aspect of the authority was going to work. The commission then saw

a presentation about the East Jordan Wastewater Plant. The plant saw a 3.6 percent decrease from last year in the amount of raw sewage that came through in 2020. The plant saw an average of 202,500 gallons a day. The plant saw an above-average of its designed flow of 239,000 gallons per day for a total of 35 days in 2020. Which is down 50 percent from 2019. The plant did see three sanitary sewer overflows, which was two more than in 2019. There were 35 discharge permit violations, for a variety of reasons such as 1 for pH at monitoring well, 13 for exceeding the number of gallons allowed to be

discharged, 8 were for exceeding mg/1 of total inorganic nitrogen allowed to be discharged, 1 for a testing lab not being completed and 12 were not technically violation but were reported in the wrong month. This was 17 percent fewer permit violations compared to 2019. They also saw 45 percent of the sewage coming in was non-revenue water from rain and snowmelt entering the system. The total came to a loss of \$313,080 for treating the water but not being able to charge anybody for it. This was a 1.9 percent increase from last year. The plant did not receive any walleye fingerlings to raise in pond 2

due to COVID interrupting egg collection. They do expect to receive some fingerlings in 2021.

The Commission would then pass a resolution for the support of Sportsman's Park river access site. The resolution requests \$10,000 from the Charlevoix County Board of Commissioners for the city to meet the needs of users of the park in Charlevoix County. This includes construction, operation and maintenance of the park.

The City Commission would go on to introduce four new ordinances that would change the zoning on 15 properties from professional office to single-family resi-

dential, 20 properties from single-family to single-family residential, 5 properties from waterfront to the central business district and 28 properties from single-family residential to single-family properties.

Finally, City Manager Tom Cannon gave an update on the boat launch site, as phase II of the environmental review has been completed. The city is currently working with MDOT as an easement swap is being surveyed for a development site that makes sense for everyone.

The next City Commission meeting will be held on February 16, 2021, at seven o'clock on Zoom.

Trout Fishing Tournament and a Lighted Snowshoe Walk events on Thumb Lake

BY JIM AKANS

Get ready to enjoy Northern Lower Michigan's great outdoors with two upcoming events at the Lake Louise Camp on Thumb Lake. The first is a Trout Fishing Tournament to be held on Saturday, February 13 and the second is a Lighted Snowshoe Walk on February 20.

The Trout Fishing Tournament on Thumb Lake on February 13 will run from 9:30am-12:30pm (during Michigan Free Fishing Weekend). There is a \$10 entry fee. Registration begins at 9am, prizes awarded at 1pm. Prizes include longest Trout in six categories (Boys/Girls age 7 and under, Boys/Girls ages 8-12 and Men/Women ages 13 and up). There will also be door prizes. Organizers will drill the fishing holes. Ages 12 and under free with parent entry. Participants can bring their own shanty if they want.

The next winter adventure is an evening of snowshoeing on a lit path through the woods of Lake Louise Camp and along the shores of Thumb Lake. There will be a limited number of adult and children size snowshoes available. They will be distributed on a first come, first serve basis. Participants can also bring their own snowshoes.

The Lighted Snowshoe Walk will take place from 6 to 9pm on February 20. Dur-

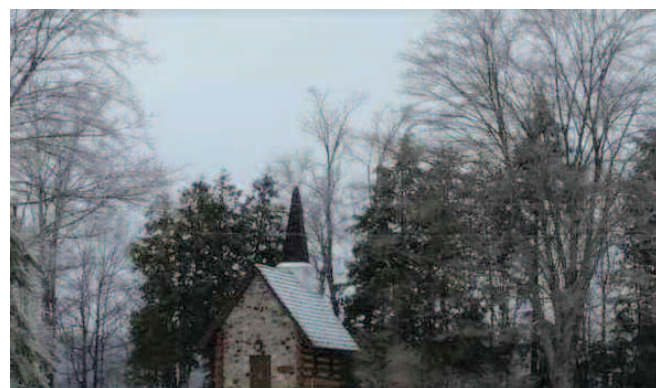


During the Snowshoe Hike there will be a camp fire and chili, coffee and hot cocoa will be served in front of the Retreat Center on the lower level. Photo by Vicki Reinhardt

ing the event there will be a camp fire and chili, coffee and hot cocoa will be served.

One of the event organizers, Vickie Reinhardt, states, "This is a great way to have family fun or a date night and enjoy the beautiful northern woods and still social distance. We plan to do another event in March with earlier hours.

Lake Louise Camp is located at 11037 Thumb Lake Road in Boyne Falls. For information call (231) 549-2728,



Strong Chapel can be seen from Thumb Lake Road and is a good landmark to look for to find the camp. Photo by Vicki Reinhardt



Celebrate all that is Chocolate at Chocolate Covered Boyne

There are many reasons to spend the day in Boyne City, but nothing as sweet as chocolate indulgences throughout downtown. This is your chance to experience chocolate desserts and specials at participating businesses on February 12 & 13 during regular business hours, in celebration of Valentine's Day.

Spend the day shopping in downtown's unique shops and then get a dessert to take home with you from one of the many eateries. While the public dessert contest will not be able to be held this year, due to COVID-19, restaurants will be offering special desserts. Be sure to add a dessert when calling to order a to-go meal or dining in. A judged portion will still take place, with the winner announced on the Boyne City Main Street social media and in the weekly newsletter. Front liners from the Health Department of Northwest Michigan will be our judges.

To view a full list of participating businesses visit, www.boynecitymainstreet.com

Chocolate Covered Boyne is the best way to chase away the winter blues and indulge in delectable creations, all conveniently located in downtown Boyne City.

For additional information and details, please contact Kelsie King-Duff, Boyne City Main Street Executive Director at 231-582-9009 or via email at mainstreet@boynecity.com.

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weather forecast

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
HIGH: 17 LOW: 7	HIGH: 19 LOW: 4	HIGH: 19 LOW: 3	HIGH: 12 LOW: 6

snowfall

2019-20	AMT"	CITY	2020-21	AMT"	CITY
2/10/20	.38.5	.ATLANTA	2/8/21	.17.9	.ATLANTA
2/10/20	.60	.BOYNE FALLS	2/8/21	.43	.BOYNE FALLS
2/10/20	.52.1	.CHARLEVOIX	2/8/21	.30	.CHARLEVOIX
2/10/20	.49	.CHEBOYGAN	2/8/21	.24.1	.CHEBOYGAN
2/10/20	.84	.EAST JORDAN	2/8/21	.50.9	.EAST JORDAN
2/10/20	.103.1	.GAYLORD	2/8/21	.68.4	.GAYLORD
2/10/20	.124.2	.KALKASKA	2/8/21	.55.7	.KALKASKA
2/10/20	.44	.LEWISTON			
2/10/20	.44.3	.MIO	2/8/21	.31.5	.MIO
2/10/20	.63.2	.ONAWAY	2/8/21	.34.6	.ONAWAY
2/10/20	.84.2	.PETOSKEY	2/8/21	.54.38	.PETOSKEY

record temps

DAY	AVG	LOW	AVG	HIGH	RECORD LOW	RECORD HIGH
FEB 11	.11°	...31°	...20°	(1958)	.52°	(1984)
FEB 12	.11°	...31°	...23°	(1968)	.56°	(1999)
FEB 13	.11°	...31°	...27°	(1982)	.49°	(1990)
FEB 14	.11°	...32°	...27°	(1971)	.48°	(2002)
FEB 15	.11°	...32°	...25°	(1963)	.56°	(1999)
FEB 16	.11°	...32°	...28°	(1963)	.50°	(1981)
FEB 17	.11°	...32°	...41°	(1979)	.52°	(1981)
FEB 18	.12°	...33°	...13°	(1989)	.57°	(1994)
FEB 19	.12°	...33°	...21°	(1979)	.56°	(1994)
FEB 20	.12°	...33°	...21°	(1950)	.57°	(1983)

OBITUARIES

Roberta Jane Korthase, 57

(DEC. 4, 1963 - FEB. 8, 2021)



Roberta Jane Korthase of Boyne City died at her home in Wilson Township surrounded by family on February 8, 2021 after a long battle with cancer.

Born on December 4, 1963 in Petoskey, Roberta was the youngest child of Norval and Alma (McCallum) Korthase. She was baptized and confirmed at Christ Lutheran Church in Boyne City. Starting in High School, you could find Roberta in the choir balcony playing the organ.

After graduating from Boyne City High School in 1982, Roberta received her BA

from Valparaiso University and Master of Social Work from Michigan State.

Roberta worked with birth mothers in Chicago for a few years before moving back home to help take care of her mother. She also worked at the Women's Resource Center in Petoskey. For the past 9 years she has been a social worker at Grandvue Medical Care Facility. Roberta loved working with the residents and their families.

In September 2017, Roberta married Edward Boyer. The two of them enjoyed renovating their home and hosting family gatherings.

Roberta is survived by her loving husband, Ed Boyer; two stepsons: Brad (Alexis) and Eric; one granddaughter: Collins; mother-in-law Maxine and her husband William Aten of Boyne Falls; two sisters: Anne Korthase (Bob Simpson) of Walloon Lake, Marilyn (Jack) Wainio of Wellington, OH; five brothers: Bruce (Nancy), Randy (Jane), Kim (Jan), Darryl, and Brian (Jonna) of Boyne City; brothers-in-law: Brent (Amy) Boyer of Katy, TX, Rick (Kathy) Boyer of Marshall, MI; sister-in-law Robin Boyer of Hillsdale, MI; many nieces and nephews: Shane Rider, Jacob (Amanda)

Wainio, Elizabeth Wainio, Amanda Korthase, Gabe Korthase, Taylor Korthase, Spencer Korthase, Katharine Korthase, Molly Korthase, Eli Korthase and Evan Korthase; and great-nephews and great-niece: Corbin, Riley, Carter, Clayton and Cambriyah.

Roberta was preceded in death by her parents, her father-in-law Jack Boyer of Katy, Texas and nephew Logan.

A Celebration of Life for Roberta will be held at a later date.

The family requests that memorials be donated to the Grandvue Medical Care Facility in East Jordan.

Patricia A. Bennett, 84

(JUNE 19, 1936 - FEB. 6, 2021)

Patricia A. Bennett of Boyne City passed away on Saturday, February 6, 2021 at home.

The family has chosen to remember her privately.

Please share your memories and personal messages with the family at www.gaylordfuneralhome.com

Michael Boyd Heaton, 80

(NOV. 23, 1940 - FEB. 3, 2021)



My best friend and dear husband Michael Boyd Heaton passed away Wednesday February 3rd.

Michael was born on November 23, 1940.

Michael graduated from Michigan State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Education and Fisheries and Wildlife. Michael retired from Rogers City Public Schools and went on to work for the Conservation Department in Onaway.

His passion was the outdoors, especially hunting. He was the greatest hunter I ever knew. He loved dogs and all wild life. He loved his friends and family and was always there for them when they needed him.

Michael was a very hard worker, always looking out for the Environment. He helped with the Charlevoix County Recycling department because of his care and concern for the environment.

Michael is survived by his wife Ina Coser Heaton, his two sons, Boyd & Peter Heaton, his daughter Rebecca McGeorge. Four sisters, Patty Sue Buxton, Gail Lynn (Carl) Ames, Kristine (Greg) Heaton, and Clarissa (Gregory) Wright and his Mother-In-Law, Vera Coser.

The family is requesting Memorial Donations to the Charlevoix County Hospice.

A celebration of Mike's Life will be held when COVID-19 allows sometime

next summer. Rest in Peace my dear Michael.

Alexander Wolff, Jr., 92

(SEPT. 13, 1928 - FEB. 1, 2021)



Alexander Wolff Junior peacefully passed to his heavenly home February 1, 2021.

Alex's parents emigrated from Poland and he was raised in Toledo, Ohio. He had eleven siblings. He earned his Bachelor's degree in Journalism from the University of Toledo, and served in the Korean War. He met Sally Parish, wed, and moved Up North. He was one of the first fathers to obtain fifty percent custody of his three girls. He introduced us to fishing, hunting, golf, swimming and tennis. He always told us, "Don't let anybody tell you that you can't do something because you are a girl."

He met and married Rosemary, who shared his love of the outdoors, and her love for family. Alex loved to watch the sunsets with his bride and he will always be right on the other side of one for us.

"Fly Rod Alex" as he was known by so many, and Boyne Bamboo Fly Rods was his retirement legacy. He gave lessons and talks as a guest speaker at fly fishing associations. He has been featured in many newspapers and magazines and is known around the world for his fine craftsmanship.

Alex is survived by his loving wife Rosemary Wolff, Bill & Ann (Wolff) Holland, Eric & Koni (Wolff) Johnson, and Ken & Karin (Wolff) Giegler, Clifford Taylor, Richard Taylor & Lesa Nickerson, and Raymond Taylor. He also took great delight in his grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Alex will be loved and remembered by his great love for his girls, who are so grateful for his faith in Jesus Christ and an enduring dedication to family that will live on in each of us. Alex was the best father that three little girls could ever have. "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you." Matthew 15:12. Dad, you loved well and we love you!

Wilbur Fosmore, 84

(JULY 24, 1936 - FEB. 7, 2021)

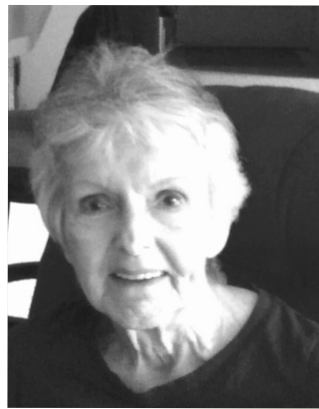
Wilbur Fosmore of Charlevoix passed away Sunday, February 7, 2021 at home.

The family has chosen to remember him privately.

Please share your memories and personal messages with the family at www.gaylordfuneralhome.com

Frances Fay (Pemberton) Wheeler, 90

(NOV. 21, 1930 - DEC. 9, 2020)



Fran was born on November 21, 1930 in Dearborn, MI, lived to see her 90th birthday and passed from this world on December 9, 2020 at Boulder Park Terrace in Charlevoix.

She graduated from Mackenzie High School, Detroit, MI in 1949. The following June she married George Richard (Dick) Wheeler (from Detroit, as well) and in 1958 they moved to Boyne City. They divorced in 1975.

Fran worked at Burns Clinic in the Pathology Department as a Medical Transcriptionist for eight years, then she moved downstate and worked as a Medical Transcriptionist for the Macomb Hospital Radiology Department in Mt. Clemens for eighteen more years, retiring in 1996.

She moved back to Boyne City in 2010 and lived at Deer Meadows for ten years.

Fran was very creative. She drew paper dolls, their clothing and accessories for her young daughters, sewed and knitted clothing for her children and grandchildren and she also sewed and knitted clothing for her daughter's dolls - even for Barbie and Ken! After retiring, she sewed and created outfits for American Girl dolls and sold them. She enjoyed home decorating and she was an avid flower gardener.

Fran also enjoyed bowling on leagues for many years. She was ever and always a cat lover and owned and enjoyed many them over the years, one at a time. She also enjoyed watching, identifying and feeding birds and ultimately, the squirrels in the process. She loved listening to music (especially Dixieland Jazz) and she sang tenor as a member of a Sweet Adelines (the women's branch of Barbershoppers) quartet.

Fran is survived by her five children: Diane Kightlinger, Lynn (Dave) Amato, Carol Shepherd, Lisa (Joe) Howie and Ken Wheeler. She enjoyed her children and all of her eleven grandchildren immensely. Although she didn't get to visit with her fourteen great grandchildren as often as she would have liked, she thoroughly enjoyed hearing about them and looking at pictures of them.

Fran is also survived by three sisters: Patsy Pemberton, Mary Jo (Vince) Spadafora and Beth (Nels) Thompson as well as many nieces, nephews and grandnieces and grandnephews.

Fran was pre-deceased by her grandson, Jessie Howie and her son in law, Rick Kightlinger.

Her family brought her

great joy. A memorial service will be held in the spring or summer of 2021 - whenever it becomes safe again to travel and gather together.

Ella Hoffman, 94

(JUNE 17, 1926 - JAN. 30, 2021)



Ella Hennip was born on June 17, 1926, to John and Jennie Hennip. She was said to be only 3 pounds, tiny and fragile, and they kept her in a shoebox in a dresser drawer. She said many times, when she spoke of this, that she not only made it, but whoever thought she'd still be here!

Ella grew up on a farm close to Ellsworth. She retold many times tales of life then growing up on a farm, walking to school, swimming in a pond, and all the many friends she made along the way.

She met and fell in love with William (Bill) Hoffman, shortly after WW II ended. He was her brother Pete's friend, who had brought him home to meet her. They married on June 28, 1947, and remained together throughout life until Bill's death in 2001. They had 3 children: Kathy, Nancy, and Ron.

Ella was a very talented knitter and enjoyed crocheting. We all received a sampling of her gorgeous doilies, afghans, slippers, blankets and hats, through the years. She had a great love for animals, and always instilled in her children and grandchildren kindness towards them. She had a fun sense of humor at times, making those who might be with her to laugh, because what she said was not really expected!

She had a deep faith in God, and through her struggles in life counted on this. She lived her life in such a way, that we were all very influenced by this faith.

Left to cherish her memory are her children: Kathy Luther (Rick) of Vacaville, California; Nancy Whitley of Charlevoix; Ron Hoffman (Mary) of Greensboro, North Carolina and many grandchildren and great grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

Preceding her in death were her husband, William Hoffman (Bill), her son in law Jerome P. Whitley (Jigs), her parents, John and Jennie Hennip, sister, Johanna Busler, and her brother Peter Hennip.

Arrangements are being made for a graveside service in the Atwood Cemetery on Church Road, where her husband is now laid to rest, on July 28th.

Donations in her name can be sent to Antrim, Charlevoix, or Emmet County Humane Societies or The Good Samaritan Resale Shop in Ellsworth.

Arrangements are in the care of the Winchester Chapel of Mortensen Funeral Homes. Sign her online guestbook www.mortensenfuneralhomes.com

County News

VOLUME 12 ISSUE 34

E-Mail News Releases and Announcements to Office@CharlevoixCountyNews.com

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.
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MDHHS to provide weekly COVID tests to educators

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) is moving forward with plans to offer a voluntary COVID-19 testing program that will provide weekly tests to educators. The MI Safe Schools Testing Program will help achieve Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's goal of having all Michigan school districts offer an in-person learning option for students by March 1.

The COVID-19 rapid antigen testing program began in early February. The program is for Michigan educators from both public and private schools. MDHHS is providing testing supplies to schools at

no cost.

Approximately 300 schools and 9,000 staff have signed up for testing so far.

"Voluntary testing of educators is part of the larger state strategy of keeping students, staff and communities safe while giving children the in-person instruction that they need to learn, develop and grow," said MDHHS Director Elizabeth Hertel. "Our dedicated teachers are among the frontline workers who have stepped up during this pandemic. Giving them an opportunity to be regularly tested recognizes their sacrifices and keeps everyone safer."

The rapid antigen testing program is modeled after Michigan's successful pilot project that tested student-athletes and coaches who were participating in playoffs for high school fall sports such as football. In that program more than 8,300 people were tested. The rigorous testing program resulted in the detection of 69 asymptomatic COVID-19 cases that otherwise could have been missed.

On Jan. 8 MDHHS announced COVID-19 guidance for schools that went along with the goal of an in-person instruction option in all school districts by March 1.

The guidance included availability of testing for educators.

Hertel and Dr. Joneigh Khaldun, chief medical executive and MDHHS chief deputy director for health, signed orders authorizing testing in non-health-care settings such as schools.

"Testing is the way we are going to be able to identify cases of COVID-19 and reduce the spread of this virus. Signing this order today helps make sure we are eliminating as many barriers to testing as possible," Khaldun said. "We encourage everyone who has symptoms of COVID-19, or who has been

exposed, to be tested. Everyone has a role to play in ending this pandemic."

MDHHS and the CDC continue to emphasize the use of scientifically proven methods of reducing the risk of COVID-19 spread, include wearing masks, ventilation improvements in schools, frequent hand washing and social distancing.

In November, MDHHS paused in-person learning in high schools as part of an order to limit indoor gatherings to address an alarming increase in COVID-19 cases and deaths and in hospital occupancy rates.

After case numbers de-

creased, high schools were permitted to resume in-person classes effective Dec. 21.

The guidance is subject to change. The new orders can be found on the MDHHS website. More information about the MI Safe Schools Testing Program can be found at www.michigan.gov/school-COVIDtesting.

Information around this outbreak is changing rapidly. The latest information is available at Michigan.gov/Coronavirus and CDC.gov/Coronavirus.

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NORTHERN MICHIGAN NCMC LUNCHEON LECTURE; VETERANS' COURT

February 5, noon-1pm, online. 90th District Court Judge Angela Lasher, elected to office by the voters of Emmet and Charlevoix counties in November, is developing a special court to address the unique needs of veterans with legal problems. She is building on the proven success of a sobriety court for defendants facing second convictions for drunk driving. Judge Lasher will explain how these programs offer productive alternatives to incarceration. Register at www.ncmlifelonglearning.com/events.

EAST JORDAN EJ CHAMBER CHAT

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Please contact the Chamber Office to get the Zoom code; 231-536-7351 or info@ejchamber.org

BOYNE CITY CHOCOLATE COVERED BOYNE

February 12 & 13, downtown. Featuring treats, activities and specials at several downtown locations, including: Up North Imagewear, Spuds Boyne, Duncan Studios, Inspired Living, Mary's of Boyne, Boyne District Library, Boyne Farmers Market.

NORTHERN MICHIGAN NCMC LUNCHEON LECTURE; REDISTRICTING THE NEW WAY

February 19, noon-1pm, online. In November 2018, Michigan voters approved the "Voters Not Politicians" constitutional amendment, which makes a commission of 13 randomly selected citizens responsible for drawing district lines for the Michigan Senate, Michigan House of Representatives and U.S. Congress. The Secretary of State serves as the secretary without a vote of the commission and administrator of the new redistricting process. Sally Marsh, director of special projects for the Michigan Department of State, explains the process and what it will mean for Michigan voters. Register at www.ncmlifelonglearning.com/events.

EAST JORDAN EJ CHAMBER CHAT

February 24, noon-1pm. Proudly Sponsored by: Consumers Energy

Please contact the Chamber Office to get the Zoom

News Briefs

code; 231-536-7351 or info@ejchamber.org

BOYNE CITY SMELTANIA

February 27, 1-6pm, Veterans Park Pavilion. The Boyne Area Chamber is excited to announce that Smeltania is making a comeback! A huge winter festival in the 40's and 50's, Smeltania was a popular winter event hosted by Boyne City. The whole community came together and actually built a small town on frozen Lake Charlevoix consisting of fishing shanties and other miscellaneous "shacks". Of course, due to Covid-19, we are planning a small scale, socially distance event for 2021; with the hopes of expanding in future winters as the social distance guidelines allow. So save the date.

NORTHERN MICHIGAN NCMC LUNCHEON LECTURE; TALKING TRASH

March 19, noon-1pm, online. Orchestras across the world had planned to celebrate the 250th birthday of Ludwig van Beethoven in 2020 before COVID-19 struck. Although he is often hailed as a hero who overcame deafness to compose some of the greatest music ever written, there is much more to his story. Amanda Sewell, Ph.D., music director of Interlochen Public Radio, will survey his life and music, focusing on some less well-known facets, including his long affair with a married woman known as "Immortal Beloved." Sewell. Register at www.ncmlifelonglearning.com/events.

NORTHERN MICHIGAN NCMC LUNCHEON LECTURE; BEETHOVEN AND THE ODE TO JOY

March 19, noon-1pm, online. Do you ever wonder what happens to the stuff you put out to the curb every week? Chris Gee knows. He got his start in the trash business at age 9. Today he runs the landfill in Onaway owned by Toronto-based GFL Environmental Inc., which takes all of the trash collected in Emmet County. He can also tell you some surprising things about eagles, and how he's looking at ways to turn some of your waste into electricity. Register at www.ncmlifelonglearning.com/events.

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

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: jracquest, password: jracquest, 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: jracquest and the password is: jracquest. Feel free to sit there and enjoy spring.

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 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.

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.

NORTHERN MICHIGAN

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

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.

A guide to getting a COVID-19 vaccine in Antrim, Charlevoix, Emmet, Otsego counties

Many residents are wondering: "When am I going to be able to get a coronavirus vaccine?" Here's a guide to help you understand who's eligible for a shot now, and the different ways to sign up to get one if you work or live in Antrim, Charlevoix, Emmet or Otsego counties. "The supply of vaccine is limited, and it will take time to vaccinate everyone," said Lisa Peacock, Health Officer with the Health Department of Northwest Michigan. "We recognize that it is very difficult to wait and be patient during this challenging time," she said.

Who is eligible for a COVID-19 vaccine in the health department's four-county jurisdiction?

The Health Department of Northwest Michigan follows the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and Michigan guidelines for priority groups, which determines the order of who receives vaccinations and currently only these groups are eligible to be vaccinated:

PHASE 1A: Paid and unpaid persons serving in healthcare settings who have the potential for direct or indirect exposure to patients or infectious materials as well as residents in long term care facilities.

Approved segments of PHASE 1B: some frontline essential workers including: child care and pre-K through high school staff, workers in

congregate care facilities (homeless shelter, juvenile justice, child care staff), firefighters, law enforcement, corrections workers and inspectors.

Currently approved segment of PHASE 1C: Individuals 65 and older.

How do I register for a shot? What if I'm a senior?

There are several ways to register for vaccination through the Health Department of Northwest Michigan.

Pre-registration form: Anyone with access to a computer and internet should complete the COVID-19 online pre-registration form on the health department's website. Please double-check that all information is accurate, especially your email address as this is how we will contact you to make an appointment. After clicking submit, you will receive a confirmation email notifying you that your pre-registration form has been received.

Phone: Seniors who are unable to access the form or have any other barriers to receiving the vaccination should call the senior hotline at 231-715-5557. This hotline is experiencing extremely high call volume, so when prompted, you may request a call back instead of staying on the line. Seniors may also call their local Council on Aging or senior citizen center for assistance in signing up. Staff there will assist seniors in registering.

I'm registered at several locations. Is this OK?

Yes. It is very acceptable for you to pre-register with the health department, and your local hospital and pharmacy.

I've pre-registered with the health department. How do I find out where I am on the list?

The health department is currently scheduling appointments for eligible individuals that pre-registered in early to mid-January. More than 29,000 people have pre-registered. Individuals who pre-registered later still need to be patient as we work with the vaccine supply available to schedule appointments.

I already got my shot somewhere else, but pre-registered with the health department. What should I do?

Anyone receiving a vaccination at a provider other than the health department, but pre-registered with us, should email COVID19vaccination@nwhealth.org to inform us that you have received the vaccine and can be taken off our list. Doing so will allow health department staff to more quickly reach the individuals who still need to be vaccinated.

May I get a COVID-19 vaccine in a county where I don't live? Or if

I live in a county only part-time?

Yes. The Health Department of Northwest Michigan encourages you to register for a vaccine in the county where you work or live – even on a part-time basis.

How do I sign up for my second COVID-19 dose?

The Health Department of Northwest Michigan is registering individuals for their second dose at the time of their first vaccination. If you received your vaccination with another provider (hospital/health care providers/pharmacy), please ask at the time you receive your first dose.

I registered for a vaccine, now what?

We understand your frustration in the process and ask for your patience. You

will be contacted when a vaccine is available for you. The number of people who have registered and are requesting a vaccine far exceeds the supply we have received at the health department. It could be weeks or months before an appointment is available for you.

Today, February 9, the health department is reporting 8 new cases: Antrim (1), Charlevoix (1), Emmet (6), and Otsego (0) counties. One new death was reported in Antrim County. As of 4 p.m. today, the Health Department of Northwest Michigan is reporting:

Total COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Antrim (882), Charlevoix (1,017), Emmet (1,447), and Otsego (1,126).

Recovered COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Antrim (734), Charlevoix (862), Emmet (1,190) and Otsego (957).

Confirmed COVID-19 associated deaths in the following counties: Antrim (19), Charlevoix (11), Emmet (35), and Otsego (25).

The State of Michigan is reporting 569,980 cases and 14,965 deaths. As of February 5, 2021, cumulative recovered cases statewide are 498,495.

Stay up to date on the latest information in the Health Department of Northwest Michigan 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.

NCMC announces support for Michigan Reconnect Program

North Central Michigan College announced that it will serve as a Champion to support the Michigan Reconnect program unveiled today by Gov. Gretchen Whitmer. The program aims to help address a widening skills gap within the state's workforce. Hundreds of leading Michigan business, community, and legislative leaders say Reconnect is exactly what state employers need to alleviate the shortage of highly skilled and capable workers.

"We believe Michigan Reconnect will not only help individuals and families pursue their dreams, but it will also help build a strong economy that requires a talented and modern workforce to compete for the jobs of the future," said David Roland Finley, North Central's president.

As a Champion, North Central has committed to spreading the word about the opportunity Michigan Reconnect is providing for eligible adults locally and statewide. The program is specifically designed for residents who are 25 years or older and have obtained a high school diploma or equivalent. Michigan Reconnect will help pay the costs of tuition or training for eligible adults who want to pursue an associate degree or technical degree. The program also offers skills scholarships to help cover the cost of tuition at more than 70 private training schools with 120 programs to earn certification in manufacturing, construction, information technology, health care, or business management.

In order to be eligible for Michigan Reconnect, adults must meet the following criteria:

- Age 25 or older
- High school graduate or equivalent
- Michigan resident for at least one year
- Not yet completed a college degree (associate or bachelor's)
- Michigan Reconnect pays the remaining bal-

ance of tuition and mandatory fees after other state and federal financial aid have been applied.

As of 2019, only 42 percent of Michigan's working-age residents had an associate degree or higher. Michiganders without a college degree or training credential often face economic challenges. A 2020 analysis by the American Association of Community Colleges reports the median earnings of full-time employees with a high school degree is \$40,510 annually, while those with an associate degree make \$50,079 per year, based on U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics data.

Michigan employers' ability to find highly skilled employees is more difficult than ever and is cited as a top concern in the most recent Michigan Future Business Index Report. Michigan Reconnect will help address the dual challenges of the state's widening talent gap and aging workforce.

"We encourage area residents who want to secure

their future by pursuing a satisfying, in-demand career to take advantage of what Michigan Reconnect is offering," said Corey Lansing, North Central's director of admission.

The application and additional program information are available now on North Central's website and at Michigan.gov/Reconnect, with enrollment in classes beginning May 2021.

North Central Michigan College is an open-door community college based in Petoskey, with additional locations offering classes and services in Cheboygan and Gaylord. North Central's mission is to provide exceptional, accessible, relevant higher education of and for the community. North Central is an Achieving the Dream Leader College with a designation of Veteran Friendly Silver by the Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency.

For more information: Corey Lansing, Director of Admission, 231-439-6349.

BERGMAN BRIEF

WEEK IN REVIEW

After a great week at home in the western UP, I was busy in Washington this week voting, working on new legislation, and reintroducing bills we had begun working on in the 116th Congress. Yesterday, I was joined by my Democrat colleague Rep. Ed Case and 32 other Members, to send a letter to President Biden asking him to address the growing national debt by establishing a modern-day Grace Commission, which would root out government waste and inefficiencies. Americans deserve a government that can multi-task. We can address both the economic issues brought on by the coronavirus and

our mounting national debt.

I've worked on legislation that focuses on our debt over the past few years in Congress - requesting a re-convening of the Grace Commission can be a much needed additional step for Congress and the Executive Branch to find a path forward to end government waste and address our looming debt problem.

Earlier this week, I voted in opposition to H.Con.Res.11, a budget resolution that will ultimately be used to force through a partisan stimulus bill. While I support some of the proposed relief measures individually - such as further investment in vaccine distribution and an additional \$1,400 in direct stimulus for

individuals - this bill paves the way for far more government overreach, new burdensome rules and regulations on small businesses, a blanket minimum wage increase, and nearly \$2 trillion in coronavirus spending while recent reports have shown that over \$1.3 trillion in previous relief dollars has gone unspent. This is irresponsible and reckless governing, and Americans deserve a far better plan from Congress that provides targeted relief and bipartisan agreement.

Thank you for taking the time to read today's update. I look forward to seeing you soon.

Respectfully,
Jack Bergman



#OurHearts
stay active together



Aim for
150 minutes
of physical
activity
each week.

INTERESTED IN GETTING YOUR COVID-19 VACCINE?

The Health Department of Northwest Michigan has an online form for community members wishing to receive their COVID-19 vaccine. Information and form can be found online at: nwhealth.org/covid19imm.html.

SENIORS AGES 65+ can also call 231-715-5557 (Michigan 211) for more information regarding vaccine scheduling.

DRIVE-THRU CLINICS AVAILABLE

Flu Shot Clinic & Diabetic Testing

Appointments Required Call: (231) 536-2206

COVID Testing

COVID Hotline & Scheduling: (231) 222-2320

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Holeshot Hauger earns first career best finish at Fargo National

BY: DOM SANTINA

FARGO, ND - A week ago, Inanna Hauger and her team figured out her starts. She started pulling holeshot and getting herself up-front at the All Finish Concrete National in Fargo, North Dakota. In fact, she had it so dialed in the last two weeks, the social media team at Amsoil Championship Snocross deemed her Holeshot Hauger.

Hauger used the start advantage to help her take her first ever win in qualifying. It was easy to see her gain confidence in the previous two rounds. She used that confidence to not only pick up her first every qualifying round win, but come second in round num-

ber two. She would then cap the day off with her best ever finish in the final. Hauger would once again pull another holeshot. She would hold the lead for a couple of laps until defending champion and now current points leader Megan Brodeur. Hauger would be able to hold on to the second place spot. This would be Haugers career best finish.

She would have to recover from falling off her sled in Saturday night's final. She got a decent start but a competitor would cross lines and Haugers ski would hit the competitors track. The two snowmobiles coming together would knock Hauger off of her snowmobile. She would remount her snowmobile but would only be able

to recover to a ninth place finish.

"It was extremely cold with temperatures of -40 degrees with wind chill. I get amazing holeshots and lead for half the race, I just have to lead the whole race. We are getting there" Hauger said after reflecting on her career best finish.

The rough night on Saturday moves Hauger back to fourth in points. She sits two points behind third place and is 73 points out of first. Hauger will look to build on the success this season when the series travels to Sioux Falls, South Dakota on February 20 and 21. You can catch all of the series action and all of the Pro Women's class at Snocross.com/stream



Hauger riding her Polaris through the rhythm section at Days of 76 Event Complex in Deadwood South Dakota. Picture was taken by Papperazzi Imaging

BOWLING

Deming Leads the way for Ramblers with Perfect Game

BY: DOM SANTINA

PETOSKEY- The Boyne City Boy's Bowling team was so close to bringing home a State Championship one year ago. While the team did lose one of its top bowlers, Jack Wicker, to graduation. They still have one of the key pieces that helped them get there, in senior Michael Deming. While also having a lot of young bowlers, who put in a lot of time over the summer and fall.

Both the Boy's and Girl's teams open the season at Northern Lights Recreation in Petoskey on Saturday. It would not take long for Deming to make his mark on his Senior year. Deming would end up rolling a perfect 300, making him the first-ever Rambler to accomplish the feat. The team also might have found someone to step up in Wicker spot as well. Senior Hank Archey would finish in second place in the conference on Saturday of over thirty bowlers. Deming would finish the day with a high average of 257.5, while Archey would have an average of 223, to lead the way for the Boy's team.

The Girl's team would have Xzandria Jozwiak and Emily Davison finish in the top 10 for conference play as well. Jozwiak would bowl a 153 average, while Davison would bowl a 151.5 average. The team would also see high games from Hailey Looze with a 141 and Ella Seelye with a 137.

The Girl's team will travel to Grayling on Wednesday, February 10 for their next match. While the Boy's team will travel to Grayling on Saturday, February 13 for their next match.



Michael Deming after bowling a perfect game on Saturday February 6 at Northern Lights Recreation

Enjoy the Free Fishing Weekend Feb. 13-14



Take your valentine fishing during Free Fishing Weekend, Feb. 13-14. Whether you're a beginner or an avid angler, make sure you review ice fishing safety tips at Michigan.gov/IceSafety. (courtesy of DNR)

Winter weather is the perfect opportunity to cuddle up with your loved ones, but you don't have to stay inside to have an awesome Valentine's Day weekend! Take your valentine fishing during Free Fishing Weekend, Feb. 13-14.

Michigan residents and out-of-state visitors can enjoy world-class fishing – without a fishing license – on both inland and Great Lakes waters for all species. Just keep in mind that all fishing regulations still apply.

The Recreation Passport fee for vehicle entry into state parks and boating access sites also is waived during this weekend.

This time of year brings more anglers out on the frozen waters to fish because, unlike warmer months, it's easier to get just about anywhere on a lake during ice fishing season without a boat. Regardless of the season, you should always make safety

a priority. Whether you're a beginner or an avid angler, review ice fishing safety tips at Michigan.gov/Ice-Safety.

Before you head out on the water, visit Michigan.gov/Fishing for fishing tips, regulation information and the weekly fishing report. New to ice fishing? Check out our how-to videos, which cover ice fishing basics, demonstrations on how to drill a hole in the ice and suggested gear and equipment.

Take advantage of Free Fishing Weekend with the ones you love (as long as you're at least 6 feet apart from those outside your household) to get outdoors and experience some excellent fishing. Keep a face mask handy for times when social distancing isn't possible.

Want to share photos of your catch or your time on the ice? Use #MiFreeFishingWeekend on social media.

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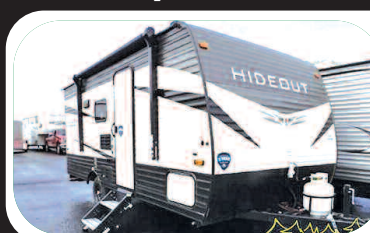
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Sports

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MDDHS Order allows contact sports to resume as of Monday, Feb. 8, provided masks are worn during practices and competition

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) updated its current epidemic order to allow contact sports to resume as of Monday, Feb. 8, provided masks are worn during practices and competition. If masks cannot be worn, participants must be regularly tested for COVID-19 consistent with guidelines issued by MDHHS. Safety protocols like wearing masks and testing will help keep kids, coaches and families safe and allow our schools to remain open for in-person instruction. The order remains in effect through Monday, March 29.

“We continue to make progress in reducing cases and hospitalizations, helping protect our families and frontline workers and saving lives. Now, starting February 8, contact sports can resume with safety measures in place,” said Gov. Gretchen Whitmer. “Michigan continues to be a national leader in fighting this virus, and we must continue using a fact-based approach so we can return to a strong economy and normal day-to-day activities. One of the most important things Michiganders can do is to make a plan to get the safe and effective vaccine when it’s available to you. And as always, mask up and maintain six feet of social distancing. We all have a personal responsibility to slow the spread of the virus so we can end this pandemic together.”

“We are pleased at our continued progress in Michigan that has allowed us to take this step forward in a phased approach,” said Dr. Joneigh Khaldun, chief medical executive and chief deputy for health at MDHHS. “As a parent and former student-athlete myself, I get how important athletics are to our children’s physical and mental health.

However, parents and athletes need to understand the risk involved with contact sports if they choose to participate. Sports that require frequent closeness between players make it more difficult to prevent disease transmission even when mitigation measures are in place, including masks. Even when not required, we urge teams to implement a testing program to protect athletes, coaches and their families.” MDHHS had been closely monitoring three metrics for stabilization or declines over the past several weeks, and Michigan continues to see improvements. In recent days:

Hospital capacity dedicated to COVID-19 patients has been in 10-week decline, with current capacity at 6.6% for beds with COVID-19 patients. Peaked at 19.6% on Tuesday, Dec. 4.

Overall case rates: Currently at 159 cases per million after peaking at 740 cases per million on Saturday, Nov. 14. Rate has been in solid decline for 24 days. Three MERC regions in the state are now below 150 cases per million people: the Detroit, Traverse City and Upper Peninsula regions.

Positivity rate: currently at 4.9% and declining. This is the first time positivity has been this low since mid-October


Contact sports are allowed as long as participants are masked during play or practice. For sports where masks cannot be worn and social distancing cannot be maintained all participants must be tested consistent with the program specified in the Testing and Additional Mitigation Measures for Athletic Practice and Play section of MDHHS’s Interim Guidance for Athletics which will be available online at michigan.gov/coronavirus on

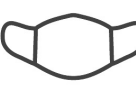

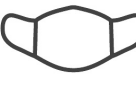
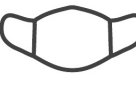

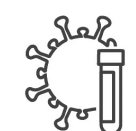
FEB. 8

SPORTS AND COVID-19

- Contact sports that can be played with a mask can proceed with contact practice and competition beginning Monday, Feb. 8.
- Where contact sports participants cannot remain masked, they must be tested consistent with the testing protocol specified in MDHHS’s Guidance for Athletics issued February 7, 2021.
- Non-contact sports where distancing can be maintained and a mask is not possible can continue with no changes.

For more information about sports and COVID-19, visit Michigan.gov/Coronavirus. Questions or concerns can be emailed to COVID19@michigan.gov.



	Indoor	Outdoor
Non-contact sports		 <small>*Where athletes are playing a non-contact sport outdoors and can consistently maintain social distance, a mask is not required.</small>
Contact sports		
Contact sports and cannot mask safely		

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) updated its current epidemic order to allow contact sports to resume as of Monday, Feb. 8, provided masks are worn during practices and competition. Courtesy image



Gov. Gretchen Whitmer and Dr. Joneigh Khaldun, chief medical executive and chief deputy for health at MDHHS, at the press conference. Courtesy photo

Sunday, Feb. 7. Sports organizers are encouraged to administer a testing program even if it is not required.

Participants need to maintain six feet of distance when not actively engaged in play and wear face masks at all times. Spectators are allowed

with up to 250 people in stadiums that seat less than 10,000 and up to 500 people at venues that seat over 10,000 people.

“Today’s announcement is possible because of our progress over the last two months,” said Elizabeth Her-

tel, MDHHS director. “Michiganders need to remain vigilant, however, as we now have a new more easily transmitted variant of this virus present in our state. All Michigan residents need to minimize their risk by avoiding gatherings, wearing

masks properly, social distancing, and making a plan to get the safe and effective COVID-19 vaccine when it is their turn.”

“I want to thank Governor Whitmer and her administration for the decision to begin winter contact sports competition,” said Dr. Michael Shibley, superintendent of Rockford Public Schools. “I applaud their priority to keep students and adults safe during the pandemic and for the decision to provide student-athletes the opportunity to compete.”

Indoor residential and non-residential gatherings are limited to 10 people and two households. MDHHS continues to urge families to avoid indoor gatherings or to pick a single other household to interact with consistent with guidance already released by the department. Families are encouraged to stay home as much as possible to maintain momentum and to protect loved ones. Families are also encouraged to Mask Up, Mask Right, using guidance for what masks to wear and how to wear them.

The epidemic order continues to temporarily pause other venues and activities where participants have close physical contacts and are not consistently masked, like water parks.

As before, employees who work in jobs that cannot be performed from home can continue to go to work, while employees who can work from home should continue to do so.

Information around this outbreak is changing rapidly. The latest information is available at Michigan.gov/Coronavirus and CDC.gov/Coronavirus. To learn more about the COVID-19 vaccine, visit Michigan.gov/COVID-Vaccine.

Winter Contact Sports Start Dates and Precautions

Last week the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS), Michigan High School Athletic Association member schools may begin full practice activities in the Winter contact sports of girls and boys basketball, competitive cheer, ice hockey and wrestling on Monday, Feb. 8, with some precautions to continue limiting the spread of COVID-19.

Competition in those four sports also will begin next week, with basketball and hockey able to play Feb. 8 and cheer and wrestling able to compete starting Feb. 12.

Those four Winter contact sports have been able to practice since Jan. 16, but only with non-contact activities. MHSAA Tournament dates for all four sports previously were rescheduled into late March and early April to accommodate a later start to the regular season, and those dates appear below. All four Winter contact sports also must participate with some level of masking and/or rapid testing, also detailed sport-by-sport below.

All testing will be coordinated between schools and MDHHS or their local health departments. Following are specific precautions and key dates for those contact sports at the high school level. Participants are defined as athletes, coaches and other team personnel active in practice and competition. For the sports detailed below, regular-season contests may be played up until the date of the MHSAA Finals in that sport.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Masking/testing: All participants must wear face coverings at all times – during all practices and non-game activities, and during games. A testing requirement may

allow participants to remove masks while in active participation on the floor if they test negative that game day; more details will be provided to schools when confirmed.

Competition limit: Teams may play up to three games per week, Monday through Sunday.

First contest: Feb. 8
Districts: March 22, 24, 26
Regionals: March 29, 31
Quarterfinals: April 5
Semifinals: April 7
Finals: April 9

BOYS BASKETBALL

Masking/testing: All participants must wear face coverings at all times – during all practices and non-game activities, and during games. A testing requirement may allow participants to remove masks while in active participation on the floor if they test negative that game day; more details will be provided to schools when confirmed.

Competition limit: Teams may play up to three games per week, Monday through Sunday.

First contest: Feb. 8
Districts: March 23, 25, 27
Regionals: March 30, April 1
Quarterfinals: April 6
Semifinals: April 8
Finals: April 10

COMPETITIVE CHEER

Masking/testing: Teams may compete without testing or face coverings, but must wear masks at all times outside of active competition or stunting/tumbling practice.

Competition limit: Teams may participate in 12 days of competition, not counting MHSAA Tournament events.
First contest: Feb. 12
Districts: March 17-20
Regionals: March 23-24
Finals: March 26-27

ICE HOCKEY

Masking/testing: All participants must wear face coverings at all times – during all practices and non-game activities, and during games. A testing requirement may allow participants to remove masks while in active participation on the ice if they test negative that game day; more details will be provided to schools when confirmed.

Competition limit: Teams may play up to three games per week, Monday through Sunday. Teams also may play two games on one non-school day twice; during those two weeks, teams are allowed up to four games Monday through Sunday.

First contest: Feb. 8
Regionals: March 15-20
Quarterfinals: March 23-24
Semifinals: March 25-26
Finals: March 27

WRESTLING

Masking/testing: Testing is required for wrestling, but competitors will not be required to wear face coverings.

Competition limit: Teams may compete two days per week, Monday through Sunday, with no more than four teams at a site (with each individual competing in up to three matches per day.)

First contest: Feb. 12
Team Districts: March 17-18
Individual Districts: March 20
Team Regionals: March 24
Individual Regionals: March 27
Team Finals: March 30
Individual Finals: April 2-3

The same masking and testing requirements will be in place for all junior high/middle school teams wishing to participate in the four Winter contact sports.

NBA STANDINGS - 2/6/21

EASTERN CONFERENCE

TEAM	W-L	PCT	GB	PF	PA	CONF	DIV	L10	STRK
76ERS	17-7	.708	-	114.1	110.1	15-4	5-1	8-2	W1
BUCKS	16-8	.667	1.0	121.3	111.4	12-5	8-0	7-3	W5
NETS	14-11	.560	3.5	121.5	118.2	9-8	3-2	5-5	L2
CELTICS	12-10	.545	4.0	111.0	109.2	9-6	1-4	4-6	L1
PACERS	12-12	.500	5.0	113.1	111.9	7-6	2-1	4-6	L3
HORNETS	12-13	.480	5.5	110.8	110.4	9-9	5-1	6-4	W2
HAWKS	11-12	.478	5.5	112.6	111.1	7-7	1-2	5-5	W1
RAPTORS	11-13	.458	6.0	113.3	111.5	8-6	2-2	6-4	W1
KNICKS	11-14	.440	6.5	102.7	104.1	8-8	1-3	4-6	L1
CAVALIERS	10-15	.400	7.5	104.0	110.3	8-9	2-4	2-8	L4
BULLS	9-14	.391	7.5	114.5	115.7	5-7	0-2	4-6	L1
HEAT	9-14	.391	7.5	107.3	110.7	6-11	2-3	3-7	W2
MAGIC	9-15	.375	8.0	105.0	112.2	7-10	4-1	3-7	L1
WIZARDS	6-15	.286	9.5	113.8	120.1	4-11	1-6	3-7	W1
PISTONS	5-18	.217	11.5	108.4	113.7	3-10	0-5	2-8	L4

WESTERN CONFERENCE

TEAM	W-L	PCT	GB	PF	PA	CONF	L10	STRK
JAZZ	19-5	.792	-	114.2	105.7	10-3	9-1	W4
LAKERS	19-6	.760	0.5	113.1	104.9	12-4	8-2	W5
CLIPPERS	17-8	.680	2.5	114.8	107.8	11-5	6-4	L2
SUNS	14-9	.609	4.5	109.8	107.0	9-7	6-4	W3
SPURS	14-10	.583	5.0	111.0	111.3	11-10	6-4	W3
TRAIL BLAZERS	12-10	.545	6.0	114.9	116.2	6-6	5-5	L1
KINGS	12-11	.522	6.5	113.7	118.2	6-9	7-3	W4
NUGGETS	12-11	.522	6.5	115.3	112.7	9-9	6-4	L3
WARRIORS	12-12	.500	7.0	113.9	113.8	8-7	4-6	L2
ROCKETS	11-12	.478	7.5	110.3	109.3	8-9	7-3	L2
GRIZZLIES	9-10	.474	7.5	109.9	110.7	4-5	6-4	L4
PELICANS	10-12	.455	8.0	111.6	112.3	5-9	5-5	W3
MAVERICKS	11-14	.440	8.5	111.2	113.6	6-9	3-7	W2
THUNDER	10-13	.435	8.5	107.7	114.1	5-10	4-6	L1
TIMBERWOLVES	6-18	.250	13.0	107.5	115.5	4-12	3-7	L2

COLLEGE BASKETBALL TOP 25

1	GONZAGA (55)	18-0	1,567	.....1	17	FLORIDA STATE	10-3	514	.....20
2	BAYLOR (8)	17-0	1,520	.....2	18	VIRGINIA TECH	14-4	486	.....16
3	MICHIGAN	13-1	1,438	.....4	19	CREIGHTON	14-5	465	.....15
4	OHIO STATE	15-4	1,365	.....7	20	SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA	15-3	411	.....
5	VILLANOVA	12-2	1,281	.....3	NR				
6	ILLINOIS	13-5	1,239	.....12	21	WISCONSIN	14-6	358	.....19
7	TEXAS TECH	14-5	1,102	.....13	22	LOYOLA CHICAGO	17-3	200	.....NR
8	HOUSTON	16-2	1,060	.....5	23	OKLAHOMA STATE	12-5	181	.....NR
9	VIRGINIA	13-3	969	.....14	24	PURDUE	13-7	85	.....24
10	MISSOURI	13-3	966	.....18	25	RUTGERS	11-6	65	.....NR
11	ALABAMA	15-5	911	.....10					
12	OKLAHOMA	12-5	863	.....9					
13	TEXAS	11-5	841	.....6					
14	WEST VIRGINIA	13-5	824	.....17					
15	IOWA	13-6	757	.....8					
16	TENNESSEE	13-4	690	.....11					

OTHERS RECEIVING VOTES: COLORADO 41, SAN DIEGO STATE 38, XAVIER 37, UCLA 35, FLORIDA 29, LOUISVILLE 28, BELMONT 25, KANSAS 18, DRAKE 16, MINNESOTA 12, NORTH CAROLINA 8, ST. JOHN'S 7, TOLEDO 6, CLEMSON 6, ARKANSAS 3, BOISE STATE 3, SAINT LOUIS 2, UAB 1, VIR-

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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.

2000 Chevy Suburban 2500. 4WD, tow pkg. Perfect to haul your larger travel trailer. Sale Price \$2,995. 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 Hummer H-3. 4x4, leather, moonroof. Sale Price \$11,495. As low as \$249 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.

2008 Jeep Wrangler 4x4. Recent Arrival, 3.8L V6, 18 Aluminum Wheels, Power Locks/Windows, Remote Keyless Entry, Security Alarm. \$13,990. Dave Kring Chevy Cadillac. 1861 US 31 North, Petoskey, 231-347-2585

2014 Chevy Silverado 1500 LT. 4x4, tow pkg, double cab, high miles. Sale Price \$14,595. As low as \$249 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.

2015 Ford F-150. 4x4, double cab, tow pkg, soft tonneau cover, seats 6, 182 K miles. Sale Price \$19,995. As low as \$329 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.

2018 CHEVROLET Tahoe 4WD LS. CARFAX one owner, Rear Vision Camera, All-Season Package, Bluetooth, USB, V8, Max Trailering Pkg., 20 Wheels. \$39,950. Dave Kring Chevy Cadillac. 1861 US 31 North, Petoskey, 231-347-2585

ADVICE FROM GOD

Dear friend, I pray that you may enjoy good health and that all may go well with you, even as your soul is getting along well. It gave me great joy when some believers came and testified about your faithfulness to the truth, telling how you continue to walk in it. I have no greater joy than to hear that my children are walking in the truth. 3 John 1:2-4. _NIV_

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LOWEST COST IN MICHIGAN! CLASSIFIED ADS ARE JUST \$2 for a 8-word ad in the Weekly Choice, Charlevoix County News or Michigan MoneySaver. The area's widest distribution paper and the lowest cost for advertising. E-mail your ad to Office@WeeklyChoice.com or call 989-732-8160. The Weekly Choice is distributed weekly from Mackinaw City to Grayling. 11 zones of the Michigan MoneySaver distributed from Traverse City to Tawas City. Northern Michigan's best choice for buying and selling.

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CAST IRON plow, 75 years old, \$175. Text 231-340-9863

Oak Antique Craftsman One Drawer Desk Top File Cabinet. 14.5 wide, 24.5 deep, 13 high. \$250 each. 6 available. Call 989-350-9235. Gaylord Vintage EDISON Diamond Disc Victrola Phonograph. Hand crank power. \$175. Gaylord. 989-350-9235

AUCTIONS

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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.

2005 FORD MUSTANG Fastback. Beautiful car. 191K, leather seats, 6 cyl, good tires, 5 speed, new JVC stereo with bluetooth, 2 door, cruise, power windows and locks, tinted windows, traction control, rear spoiler. \$6,600. Gaylord. Call or text 989-350-9235

2009 Ford Fusion. Only 92 K miles. Sale Price \$5,995. As low as \$199 a month with \$999 down. 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 Ford Fusion SEL AWD. 6-Speed Auto, Satellite Radio, 17 Aluminum Wheels, Heated Front Seats, Keyless Entry, Side-impact air bags. \$6,950. Dave Kring Chevy Cadillac. 1861 US 31 North, Petoskey, 231-347-2585

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 Toyota Camry SE. 6-Speed auto, Tire Pressure Monitor, Bluetooth, 2.5L I-4, Smart Stop Technology, Rear Side Impact airbag. \$9,450. Dave Kring Chevy Cadillac. 1861 US 31 North, Petoskey, 231-347-2585

2014 BUICK LaCrosse. FWD, 6-Speed Automatic 3.6L V6, Power Heated/Cooled Seats, BOSE Sound, NAV, Sunroof. \$12,950. Dave Kring Chevy Cadillac. 1861 US 31 North, Petoskey, 231-347-2585

2018 Toyota Camry. Only 43 K miles. Nice. Sale Price \$22,995. As low as \$389 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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SINGLE SHOT 20 gauge shotgun, \$175. 231-882-0440

SINGLE SHOT 410. New in the box. \$175. 231-882-0440

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RECREATIONAL VEHICLES

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2021 Keystone RV Hideout Single Axle 175BH Travel Trailer. Bunkhouse sleeps 5, power awning. MSRP \$19,999. Sale Price \$14,995. Northern Michigan RV. 277 Expressway Court, Gaylord. 989-448-8700. www.NorthernMichiganRV.com

Used 2004 Forest River RV Cardinal 29 WB Fifth Wheel. 2 Slideouts, rear living room, beautiful RV. Sale Price \$8,995. Northern Michigan RV. 277 Expressway Court, Gaylord. 989-448-8700. www.NorthernMichiganRV.com

Used 2011 Coachmen RV Freedom Express 291QBS Travel Trailer. Slideout, Quad Bunkhouse, front bedroom, sleeps 10. Sale Price \$11,995. Northern Michigan RV. 277 Expressway Court, Gaylord. 989-448-8700. www.NorthernMichiganRV.com

Used 2013 Keystone RV Cougar X-Lite 26BHS Travel Trailer. Bunkhouse, slideout, sleeps 8, Sale Price \$16,995. Northern Michigan RV. 277 Expressway Court, Gaylord. 989-448-8700. www.NorthernMichiganRV.com

Used 2015 Skyline Retro 188S Travel Trailer. Slideout. Perfect for most minivans and mid to large-sized SUVs. Blowout Price \$7,995. Northern Michigan RV. 277 Expressway Court, Gaylord. 989-448-8700. www.NorthernMichiganRV.com

SUV

2007 Mercedes ML 350. AWD, 100 K miles, runs and drives great. Needs some body work. Sale price \$5,900 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.

2008 Toyota 4 Runner SR5. 4 wheel drive. Sale Price \$3,995. 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.

2010 Dodge Journey R/T. AWD, tow pkg. 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.

2011 Ford Explorer 4x4. CARFAX one owner, 3.5L V6, 3rd Row Seats, Remote Keyless Entry, Heated bucket seats, Rearview Camera. \$13,450. Dave Kring Chevy Cadillac. 1861 US 31 North, Petoskey, 231-347-2585

CITY OF EAST JORDAN CITY COMMISSION MEETING

The City Commission will hold an electronic meeting on Tuesday, February 16, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. via zoom due to the current Covid-19 situation and consistent with the State Legislation. The agenda packet can be found on our website at

www.eastjordancity.org/resources/city-meetings
The Public wishing to participate during the public hearings or public comment section of the meeting or view the meeting electronically, may call the toll-free call-in number: 877 853 5257 or use ZOOM and use Meeting ID: 853 3044 0714 and use passcode 101069.

Any questions or comments regarding agenda items can be directed to City Hall prior to the meeting to info@eastjordancity.org or 231-536-3381. If you would like to speak to a Commissioner directly, their contact information can be found at the City's website at https://eastjordancity.org/about/city-officials/

CITY OF EAST JORDAN ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS MEETING

The Zoning Board of Appeals will hold an electronic meeting on Monday, February 22, 2021 at 5:15 p.m. at City Hall due to the current Covid-19 situation and consistent with the State Legislation. The purpose of this meeting. The agenda can be found on our website at www.eastjordancity.org/resources/city-meetings

This meeting will be to hear public comments regarding a variance request from Ross and Maryann Sanders for a 5 foot side yard variance and a 5 foot front yard variance at the property located at 522 North Lake Street, East Jordan, MI 49727.
The Public wishing to participate during the public hearings or public comment section of the meeting or view the meeting electronically, may call the toll-free call-in number: 877 853 5257 US or use ZOOM and use Meeting ID: 889 3876 7797 and use passcode 699892.

Any questions or comments regarding agenda items can be directed to City Hall prior to the meeting to info@eastjordancity.org or 231-536-3381.

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2012 Ford Escape. Nice. Sale Price \$6,995. As low as \$199 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 Jeep Grand Cherokee. Sale Price \$9,995. As low as \$249 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 Ford Escape. AWD, leather, Sony sound, rearview camera, SYNC. Sale Price \$12,995. As low as \$249 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.

2018 Buick Encore AWD. CARFAX one owner, ABS, Air, Cruise, 1.4L I-4, Rear Vision Camera, OnStar, Keyless Start, Bluetooth, Air Filter. \$18,950. Dave Kring Chevy Cadillac. 1861 US 31 North, Petoskey, 231-347-2585

2018 CHEVY Equinox AWD LT. Certified Pre-Owned, CARFAX one owner, Blind Zone Alert, Heated front seats, USB, Rear Vision Camera. \$19,900. Dave Kring Chevy Cadillac. 1861 US 31 North, Petoskey, 231-347-2585

2018 Ford Edge SEL. AWD, rear camera, leather, 100 K miles. Sale Price \$18,995. 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.

2019 Ford Edge Titanium. Loaded. Sale Price \$26,500. As low as \$399 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.

2019 Hyundai Kona SE AWD. CARFAX one owner, 6-Speed Auto, Remote Keyless Entry, Security System, Back-Up Camera, Curtain Airbags. \$17,950. Dave Kring Chevy Cadillac. 1861 US 31 North, Petoskey, 231-347-2585

2019 Jeep Cherokee Limited. CARFAX one owner, Back-Up Camera, Curtain Airbags, Blind Spot Monitoring, ABS, Leather Seats, Heated Front Seats. \$20,950. Dave Kring Chevy Cadillac. 1861 US 31 North, Petoskey, 231-347-2585

2019 Mitsubishi Eclipse Cross ES. Super All Wheel Control, backup camera, only 39 K miles. Sale Price \$19,995. As low as \$369 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.

TIRES

1 Goodyear Wrangler tire. p265/50r20. Mud & Snow. reduced to \$5. Text Dave at 989-350-9235

4 TIRES. 14 inch ATV tires. Text 231-340-9863

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TRUCKS

2001 Ford Ranger 4x4. Supercab, Styleside, 6' Box, 5-speed, Front Bench seats, Front Tow Hooks, Full Size Spare, Recent Arrival. \$7,450. Dave Kring Chevy Cadillac. 1861 US 31 North, Petoskey, 231-347-2585

2002 Chevy Silverado 1500 LS. Z-71 off road, Sportside, double cab, 4x4, bedliner, tow pkg. Only 98 K miles.

Sale Price \$8,999. 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.

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.

2003 Dodge Dakota SLT. Quad cab, bedliner. Sale Price \$5,995. 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.

2005 Ford F-150. 4x4, double cab, bedliner. Tow pkg, 189 K miles. \$4,988 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.

2011 Dodge Ram SLT. Quad cab, 4x4, bedliner, tow pkg, 5.7 L Hemi, 123 K miles. Sale Price \$19,995. As low as \$349 a month with \$2,400 down. 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.

2015 Chevy Silverado. Sale Price \$19,995. 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.

2016 Ford F-150 XL. 4x4, ext. cab, spray in bedliner, seats 6, tow pkg. Sale Price \$19,995. As low as \$379 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.

TOYOTA Mud truck. Cab, frame, title. \$375. 231-340-9863

VANS

2013 Dodge Grand Caravan. Sale Price \$5,995. As low as \$179 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.

2016 Ford Transit 350 XLT. 12 passenger. 1 ton. Sale Price \$19,999. As low as \$374 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.

2019 Dodge Grand Caravan SXT. CARFAX one owner, 40GB Hard Drive, Touring Suspension, Back-Up Camera, Remote Keyless Entry, Air Filtration. \$18,950. Dave Kring Chevy Cadillac. 1861 US 31 North, Petoskey, 231-347-2585

2019 Dodge Grand Caravan. Leather, rear camera, 51 K miles. Sale Price \$17,495. As low as \$270 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.

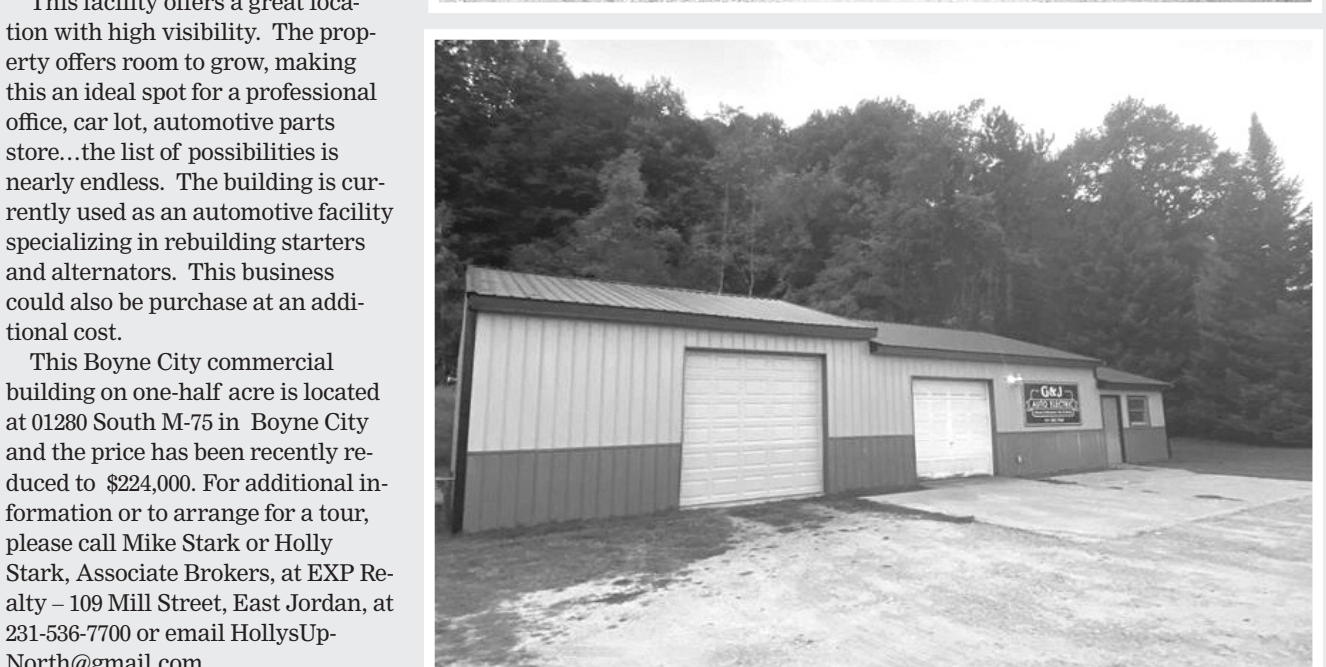
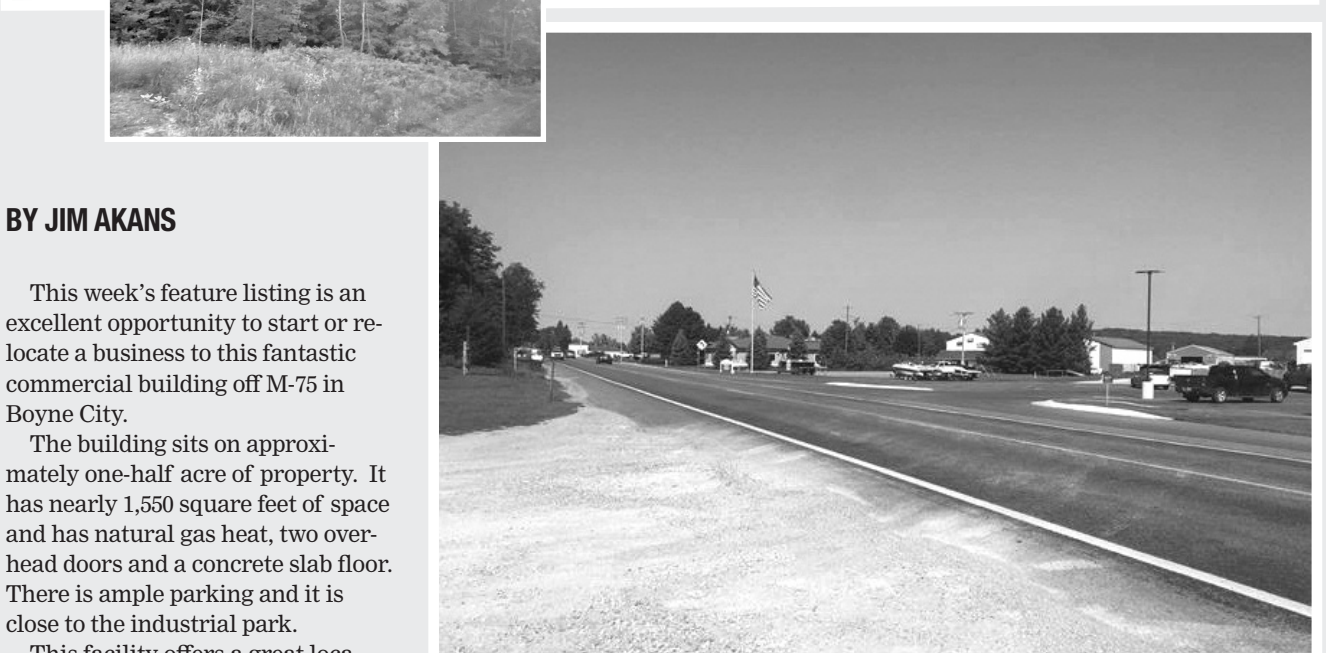
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Real Estate Feature Property

BEAUTIFUL, SPACIOUS HOME JUST OUTSIDE OF BOYNE CITY



BY JIM AKANS

This week's feature listing is an excellent opportunity to start or relocate a business to this fantastic commercial building off M-75 in Boyne City.

The building sits on approximately one-half acre of property. It has nearly 1,550 square feet of space and has natural gas heat, two overhead doors and a concrete slab floor. There is ample parking and it is close to the industrial park.

This facility offers a great location with high visibility. The property offers room to grow, making this an ideal spot for a professional office, car lot, automotive parts store...the list of possibilities is nearly endless. The building is currently used as an automotive facility specializing in rebuilding starters and alternators. This business could also be purchase at an additional cost.

This Boyne City commercial building on one-half acre is located at 01280 South M-75 in Boyne City and the price has been recently reduced to \$224,000. For additional information or to arrange for a tour, please call Mike Stark or Holly Stark, Associate Brokers, at EXP Realty - 109 Mill Street, East Jordan, at 231-536-7700 or email HollysUpNorth@gmail.com

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BUYING A HOME WITH RESALE VALUE

PART 1 OF 2

BUYING A HOME WITH A VIEW

Homes with a pleasant view of the horizon often sell at a premium above similar homes without the view. However, if a view is important to you, buy it mostly for your own pleasure and not as an investment. Though you may place a considerable dollar value on the view, future buyers may not be so like-minded. It may take you longer to find a buyer when it comes time to resell the house. Or you may end up dropping your price to more nearly match other sales prices in the neighborhood.

In short, if you are buying a house with a view, try to pay as little extra as possible. Otherwise, you might not get your money back.

LOT AND LANDSCAPING

Even though most real estate value is usually concentrated in the building, the lot is important, too. Obviously, it should be as level as possible. Assuming the property is in a typical neighborhood, the lot should be rectangular - no odd shaped lots or oddly situated lots.

Yard sizes are smaller in modern homes than in older homes, but there should still be a decently sized front and back yard. Do not buy a house

where the entire back yard is taken up by a swimming pool, for example.

Do not purchase an over-landscaped property, either. You would normally pay a premium for that, which you may not be able to recover when you sell. You will get your best value if the house is moderately landscaped or under-landscaped for the area. You can always improve the landscaping during your ownership by improving the grass and adding bushes and trees. Just do not spend too much.

HOUSE SIZE

In each residential neighborhood, houses will vary in size and rooms, but they should not be too different. If resale value is an important consideration, you should not buy the largest model in the neighborhood. When determining market value, the homes nearest to yours are most important. If most of the nearby houses are smaller than your house, they can act as a drag on appreciation.

On the other hand, if you buy a small or medium house for the neighborhood, the larger homes can help pull up your value. This is one of those times where determining your "wants" versus your "needs" can be extremely important. Buying what you need in a more prestigious neighborhood may provide more financial reward than getting what you want in a less desirable neighborhood.

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