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## Charlevoix County News

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## Char-Em ISD special education millage renewal on the ballot May 7, 2024



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CHARLEVOIX - Voters in Charlevoix, Emmet and northern Antrim counties will be asked to consider renewing the long-standing Char-Em ISD special education millage on May 7, 2024. Polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. at your usual voting location.

"This millage was originally approved by voters in 1980 and has been renewed every four years since," said Char-Em ISD Superintendent Scott Koziol. "This millage impacts the lives of thousands of students and their families in our region, from newborns to students up to age 26, including their lives beyond school. It provides critical services to students with disabilities in every Char-Em ISD district."

Char-Em ISD serves more than 1,330 students with special needs in 11 public school districts, two charter academies, and 5 private schools each year. Of that total, 124 infants and toddlers with disabilities receive direct and classroom-based instruction, and 107 students with significant emotional needs attend ISD-operated classrooms. Across the region, 16 special education classrooms, including 2 early childhood classrooms, are operated in the ISD's 2.5 county service region.

The ballot issue seeks renewal of 1.4606 mills for four years, 2024-27, generating approximately \$10.3 million per year for special education operational funding. For a home with



Students in Char-Em ISD special education programs participated in the "Arts are for Everyone" performance at the Great Lakes Center for the Art in spring 2023.

a market value of \$100,000, it would cost the taxpayer about \$75 per year.

Koziol said funding from this millage goes directly to local schools to reimburse about half of their special education expenses, as well as to Char-Em ISD-operated classrooms and the Patricia A. Taylor School in Petoskey. It also provides specialized training for teachers, evaluation services, and highly specialized transportation for students with disabilities, along with career and college readiness preparation.

In Michigan, special education services begin at birth and are provided until a person with a disability reaches the age of 26. Koziol noted that ISDs are mandated by state law to provide special education services, as well as support to local districts serving students with disabilities.

Costs associated with providing those services not covered by the millage are



Specialized transportation and trained staff ensure students with disabilities are transported safely each school day across the Char-Em ISD region.

supported by state, federal, and other local dollars and grants. Without this voted millage, districts would need to reallocate funding from existing student programs to comply with state and federal laws that mandate the provision of special education services, Koziol said.

Voters in the following school districts will be asked to vote on this request: Alanson, Beaver Island, Boyne City, Boyne Falls, Central Lake, Charlevoix, Ellsworth, East Jordan, Harbor Springs, Pellston, and Petoskey. Learn more at www.charemisd.org.

### Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council Calls for Volunteers for Spring Stream Monitoring

Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council is excited to kick-off this year's Volunteer Stream Monitoring (VSM) program with the highly anticipated spring training session scheduled for Saturday, April 27, from 10:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The training session will be held at the Watershed Council's downtown Petoskey office and lunch is provided before participants embark on an immersive field training session along the Bear River.

The VSM program offers an unparalleled opportunity for individuals to become citizen scientists, actively contributing to the health and preservation of our waterways. Volunteers will receive comprehensive training on collecting macroinvertebrates and identification and sorting techniques. This crucial data collection aids in assessing the ecological health of streams and rivers within our community.

Christopher Knickerbocker, the Watershed Council's 2023 Volunteer of the Year, expressed his passion for the program, stating "I enjoy Volunteer Stream Monitoring because it is citizen science in action. We get together as a team and get to catch and identify aquatic life. We can demonstrate if a stream is healthy or in need of help based on trends of what macroinvertebrates are present or missing. The information we collect is important and I feel like I am doing something worthwhile when I volunteer with Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council."

To register for the VSM spring training session and delve deeper into the program's details, interested individuals are encouraged to visit the Watershed

**VOLUNTEERS ON PAGE 00000**

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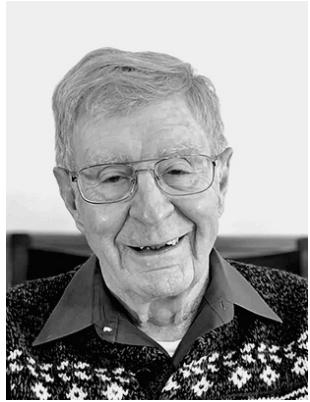
# News

OFFICE@CHARLEVOIXCOUNTYNEWS.COM

## weather forecast

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	record temps
							Day.....Avg HIGH...Avg LOW...Record HIGH...YEAR...Record LOW...YEAR
<b>HIGH: 41</b> <b>LOW: 33</b>	<b>HIGH: 44</b> <b>LOW: 34</b>	<b>HIGH: 46</b> <b>LOW: 31</b>	<b>HIGH: 52</b> <b>LOW: 37</b>	<b>HIGH: 51</b> <b>LOW: 40</b>	<b>HIGH: 57</b> <b>LOW: 43</b>	<b>HIGH: 56</b> <b>LOW: 42</b>	April 4.....45.....26.....71.....1981.....4.....2018
							April 5.....46.....26.....76.....1988.....-3.....1982
							April 6.....46.....26.....77.....2021.....-5.....2003
							April 7.....47.....27.....81.....2021.....-4.....1982
							April 8.....47.....27.....81.....2021.....-4.....1982
							April 9.....47.....27.....74.....2017.....5.....1982
							April 10.....48.....27.....75.....1977.....6.....2007

## OBITUARIES



**James H. Matthew, Sr., 95**  
Feb. 1, 1929–March 24, 2024  
BOYNE CITY

James H. Matthew of Boyne City passed away on March 28, 2024, at Grandvue, with his family by his side.

Son of John M. and Zola A. (Easton) Matthew, James was born on February 1, 1929, at home in Melrose Township, Michigan. He was a lifelong resident of Boyne City. James attended school in Melrose Township and then Boyne City Public Schools, graduating in 1946.

On January 23, 1954, he married Barbara May Busing at the United Methodist Church in Boyne City. James served in the United States Army from December 1950 to November 1952 stationed in Germany.

James owned Jim and Charlie's Auto Service in Boyne City. He later retired from Essex (United Tech) in Boyne City.

Family, woodworking, camping and golf were a few of the things James loved. He always showed up to help. He enjoyed helping friends and family with projects and remodeling.

He was a member of the Lions Club, the American Legion and Antique Flywheelers Club. James was also a longtime member of Christ Lutheran Church and served in various capacities within the church. He had a second family at the church with many close friends there.

His family is his legacy. He always looked forward to the annual family camping trip and family gatherings during the holidays. James is survived by his children: Jim (Kathy) Matthew, Jane (Jerry) Noble, Becky (Jeff) Cooper, Chris Hayden and Sarah (Tom) Towne; his grandchildren: Mike (Casey), Katie (Eric), Chelsea (Christopher), Laura (Derek), Sam, Dan (Stephanie), Jennifer, Andrew (Kyla), Elizabeth, Aaron (Heather), Tracy (Nick) and Haley (Chase); his 13 great-grandchildren (one more due soon); his two great great-grandchildren; his dear and special friend Lilly Banner; several nieces and nephews, including Barbb (Mike) Young who lived with the family; and sister-in-law Leatha Wilgus.

He is preceded in death

by his beloved wife Barbara; his parents; his siblings: Ira (Margaret) Matthew, Perry (Violet) Matthew, Delores (Ted) Hull, Mildred (Burt) Burns, Helen (Forest) Cantor, and Lillian (John) Dollarhide.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggest a donation in James's memory to Christ Lutheran Church or Grandvue Medical Facility. A visitation at Christ Lutheran Church will be on April 5, 2024, from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM. A funeral officiated by Rev. Chuck Hoffman will be on April 6, 2024, at 11:00 AM, visitation will begin at 10:00 AM and burial will follow the service at Maple Lawn Cemetery.

The family would like to thank the staff at Grandvue for their love and care.

Arrangements are in the care of Stackus Funeral Home.



**Kathleen Ann Murdick, 67**  
March 9, 1957–  
March 21, 2024  
CHARLEVOIX

Kathleen Ann Murdick slipped away peacefully, surrounded by family, on March 21, 2024, at the age of 67. Born in Detroit on March 9, 1957, to Marcela Ann (Hanselman) and Francis G. Murdick, Kathy was for most of her life, a Charlevoix resident, and one of its sweetest.

After high school, Kathy traveled, settling for a time in Philadelphia and then Daytona Beach, where she and her partner Everett Brewer welcomed two beautiful babies, Kristi and Devin. Kathy returned to Charlevoix with her young children in 1990 to stay for good.

Kathy loved spending time with her family, listening to music (especially Tom Petty's Wildflowers), reading the Bible, and praying for, and with, others. A devoted mother, grandmother, daughter, sister, and friend, she was known for her twinkling smile and her passion for, and calling to, caregiving. She was employed as a caregiver for many years, and for over a decade dedicated herself to the care of her aging mother. An active and respected member of Charlevoix's recovery community, Kathy was loved by many, especially the younger women whom she encouraged.

Kathy is survived by her

son, Devin (Bud) Brewer and his life partner, Leann Loxas, both of Boyne Falls MI; brothers, John (Marcia) and Jerry (Carol); sisters, Celeste Perron, Julie Murdick, Rebecca Murdick, and her twin, Karen Ann Pizzorni; granddaughter, Serenity Bartha; 14 nieces and nephews, and many friends, including her dearest friend, Kim C..

Kathy was preceded in death by her daughter, Kristi Marie; parents, Marcella and Francis; brother, Joseph; and brother-in-law, Leon (husband of Celeste).

The childlike sweetness of Kathy will linger in the hearts of all who had the good fortune to know her. A Funeral Mass is scheduled for 11 am on Saturday, May 18 at St. Mary's Catholic Church, in Charlevoix, with visitation beginning at 10 am.

Memorial contributions may be made to Serenity House – Alano Club of Charlevoix online at [www.charlevoixalano.org/Virtual-Basket](http://www.charlevoixalano.org/Virtual-Basket), or to Hospice of Northern Michigan online at <https://www.mclaren.org/northern-michigan-foundation/donation-mclaren-northern-michigan-foundation>.

Arrangements were entrusted to Nelsons Funeral Home, PO Box 1548, Gaylord MI 49734.

**Mary J. (Bricker) Muma, 97**  
June 29, 1926–April 2, 2024  
EAST JORDAN

Mary Jeanette Muma of East Jordan, died on Tuesday, April 2, 2024, at the American House in Charlevoix.

Arrangements are pending.



**Paula Marie Goodenough Sweet, 80**  
July 16, 1943–March 25, 2024  
EAST JORDAN

Heaven gained an angel on Monday, March 25, 2024, Paula Marie Sweet of East Jordan.

She was born on July 16, 1943, in Alba, Michigan. Paula Marie Goodenough married Sanford "Sandy" H. Sweet on January 29, 1966.

Paula had worked many years at Dura, previously known as Gulf & Western, Wickes Mechanical Company and Mount Clemens Metal Products, in East Jordan.

She was a member of the Lighthouse Missionary Church in East Jordan and previous member of the V.F.W. in East Jordan. She loved to be with her family, knitting, crocheting, quilting, music, camping, bowling and attending the fly-ins at Oshkosh, Wisconsin.

She loved her family and friends enormously, and will be missed by many. Paula was a very generous woman with a "Big Heart".

She is survived by four children; Brent (Rachelle) Sweet of East Jordan, Robin (Tom) Peters of East Jordan, Shandra Sweet-Hock of East Jordan and Sanford Lee Sweet of Tawas; nine grandchildren, Shalea (Alex) Backe, Timothy Sweet, Brent Tanner Sweet, Kyle (Betsy) Peters, Shaina (Ryan) Peterson, Valerie (Matt) DeWise, Andrew (Christina) Sweet, Hayden Sweet and Landon Sweet; six great grandchild, Lincoln Backe, Brody Allan Peters, Sullivan Kyle Peters, Huxley Thomas Peters, Quinn Jean Peterson and Bridger Thomas Peterson; She was preceded in death by her husband of 50 years, Sanford "Sandy" H. Sweet, her parents and one son-in-law, Christopher Hock.

Funeral service was held on Friday, March 29, 2024, at the Lighthouse Missionary Church, East Jordan. Rev. James Jordan, Sr. officiated with interment following at the Morris Cemetery, Jordan Township, Antrim County, Michigan.

Memorial contributions may be directed to East Jordan Ambulance Association or Hospice of Little Traverse Bay.

The family was served by the Penzien Funeral Home in East Jordan.



**Daniel O'Connell, 77**  
March 21, 1947–  
March 30, 2024

Daniel Patrick O'Connell entered into the hands of God surrounded by family on March 30, 2024. He was born March 21, 1947 to Joseph and Mary (Merschman) O'Connell in Lansing, Michigan.

A full obituary with service information will be posted in the near future.

Arrangements are under the care of the Charlevoix Chapel of Mortensen Funeral Homes. Please sign his online guestbook at [www.mortensenfuneral-homes.com](http://www.mortensenfuneral-homes.com).

**John M. Frey, 84**  
Nov. 23, 1939–March 28, 2024  
CHARLEVOIX

John M. Frey of Charlevoix, passed away on March 28, 2024.

Private services will take place at a future date.

A full obituary will be posted in the near future.

Arrangements are in the care of the Charlevoix Chapel of Mortensen Funeral Homes.

Online guestbook [www.mortensenfuneralhomes.com](http://www.mortensenfuneralhomes.com)



**Cort Esenther, 72**  
Jan. 1, 1952–March 25, 2024  
CHARLEVOIX

Let us all remember Cort, who passed away peacefully on March 25th at his home in Charlevoix. Born on January 1, 1952, he grew up in Brookfield, IL attending Brookfield Riverside High School and graduating from University of Illinois-Champaign Urbana with a Bachelor in Business.

He raised his family in La Grange, IL and is survived by his loving wife Debra and son Brandon. He remained closely connected to his fraternity brothers at Sigma Alpha Epsilon and never passed up the opportunity to listen to live music performances. Throughout his career at Flexivan, he loved golf outings with his colleagues.

He requested for his ashes be spread with his grandparents in Greenwood, IL and for those closest to share a good meal in his memory.

In Lieu of flowers, Cort desired kindness be spread and to donate to those in need.

Arrangements are in the care of the Charlevoix Chapel of Mortensen Funeral Homes. Please sign his online guestbook at [www.mortensenfuneral-homes.com](http://www.mortensenfuneral-homes.com)

**Dennis B. LeVasseur, 79**  
Oct. 18, 1944 – April 2, 2024  
CHARLEVOIX

Dennis B. LeVasseur of Charlevoix passed away Tuesday, April 2, 2024 at Boulder Park Terrace in Charlevoix.

No services are planned at this time.

Please share your memories and personal messages on his guestbook at [www.GaylordFuneralHome.com](http://www.GaylordFuneralHome.com)



**Richard "Dick" Selissen, 85**  
June 24, 1938–  
March 25, 2024  
EAST JORDAN

Richard Lee Selissen Sr. of East Jordan passed away on March 25, 2024. He was born on June 24, 1938, in Green Bay, WI, the son of Herbert and Catherine (Brouillard) Selissen.

On May 16, 1959, at St. Mary Catholic Church in Charlevoix, Dick and Mary "Noreen" Cross joined hands in marriage. They would go on to be married for 64 years and have two children together. Over the years, the two of them would own two legendary Northern Michigan establishments, the Flight Deck in Charlevoix, and The Nordic in Boyne City. Dick was a proud veteran of the United States Coast Guard, in which he served for 22 years. In his free time, he enjoyed traveling, golfing and spending time with his family. Dick was quick witted and enjoyed life to its fullest, bringing a smile to everyone's face.

He is survived by his loving wife, Noreen, son, Richard "Rick" Selissen Jr of Boyne City, daughter, Sharon "Sherrie" (Arlin) Selissen-Kallman of Charlevoix, brother, Edmond (Edith) Selissen of Green Bay, WI, Elaine Macdonald of Fish Creek, WI, four grandchildren, Troy Selissen, Jessica Selissen, Jennifer Thompkins, Tristen Selissen, two great-grandchildren, Jesse Thompkins, Addison Thompkins.

Preceding Dick in death are his parents, sister, Jeanette Degroot.

A Celebration of Life will be held in the summer. In lieu of flowers please donate to a local animal humane society.

Arrangements are in the care of the Charlevoix Chapel of Mortensen Funeral Homes.

Sign his online guestbook at [www.mortensenfuneralhomes.com](http://www.mortensenfuneralhomes.com)

## OBITUARIES

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5





**Jennifer Burr**  
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# News

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## COMMUNITY LEADERS

# BLACK BIRCH DESIGN & BUILD GET INVOLVED!

Justin Roberts is a highly regarded architect in Northern Michigan. With his partner, Matthew Chaperon, they lead the Black Birch Design & Build, a firm which they founded in 2017.

Justin is a native from East Jordan. When he graduated from high school, he went on to Lawrence Tech, where he majored and received his masters degree in architecture. Graduating in the midst of the Great Depression in 2009, Justin was among the very few from his graduating class that immediately received a job offer from a future-forward architectural firm downstate, Designhaus. He got know Matthew, who had received his civil engineering degree from Michigan State. Both of their fathers were builders. Justin and Matthew knew that our area needed a firm that designs and builds, as so many houses are commissioned by owners who are seasonal, and so a firm that does it all is advantageous, e.g., one phone call versus numerous.

In fact, Black Birch also offers interior design and landscaping design, so again, it simplifies the building process for out-of-towners, i.e., one phone call, and Justin and Matthew have control and keep a project on track and on budget.



Black Birch Design & Build team

Justin talks about our community, and how it is critically important to be involved. He feels our area could become even more of a known vacation area, and that will mean the need for more hotels, larger marinas and airports – and absolutely, the necessity to protect our watershed, lakes and streams.

They are both givers! Just a few examples of community involvement are supporting as needed day care for young families, sponsoring scholarships for Camp Daggett, sponsoring East Jordan's Scholarship Pageant, Charlevoix Youth

Soccer, our treasured Women's Resource Center, specifically their "Women Can and Women Do" Event, and St Francis Xavier School in Petoskey. Justin served on the East Jordan Downtown Authority and Matthew the Planning Commission.

By the way, I have previously written about Josephine Roberts, Justin's wife, definitely one of our county's treasured community leaders!

It was a pleasure to visit with Justin, meet Matthew, and Kara and Kevin, also on the Black Birch Design & Build team.



## EAST JORDAN LIONS HAD THEIR ANNUAL EASTER FUN AND GAMES EVENT ON SATURDAY, MARCH 30TH

Pictured are Ayla Miller and Myles Greenman who won the two bikes. The Easter Bunny was Layla Forester. This is an annual event for the EJ Lions Club held at the East Jordan Elementary School with candy, games, and prizes. East Jordan Lions would like to thank the EJ Community Schools, community sponsors, and volunteers for making this event possible.

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Business Expo & Taste of Boyne

**APRIL 17, 2024**  
4:00 PM - 7:00 PM

# Sign Up TODAY

to have a booth at the Business Expo & Taste of Boyne 2024

One of the largest business networking events in Northern Michigan is organized by the Boyne Area Chamber and is back by popular demand!

This is the 12th Annual Business Expo & Taste of Boyne, and will include about 50 exhibitor booths from area businesses and organizations

Registration is now open for booth space (only available to chamber members in good standing) \$200 - Not for profit members and \$300 for regular members

This exciting event includes great food, networking, music, business exhibits and more, from 4 to 7 p.m. at the Boyne Mountain Civic Center

With your booth registration, you will have an 8x10 table and at least 2 chairs but let us know if you think you'll need more. Anything else will be up to you such as banner stands, sign holders, etc. Since we are bringing this event back after a few years, we're not certain of how many will attend but we are hoping for somewhere between 300 to 500 attendees. Lastly, we are asking all of our booths to be set up by 3 PM as we are going to do a business-to-business hour before opening up the expo to the public.

There are still a few booths available Sign up today before they are gone

Registration deadline is April 8 But don't wait to sign up... We expect them to sell out

Register Online at:

<https://www.boynechamber.com/events/details/business-expo-and-taste-of-boyne-2024-18681> or call the Boyne Area Chamber of Commerce at 231-582-6222



# News

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## Participate in the Broadband, Equity, Access, and Deployment Map Challenge

BY DAVE BARAGREY

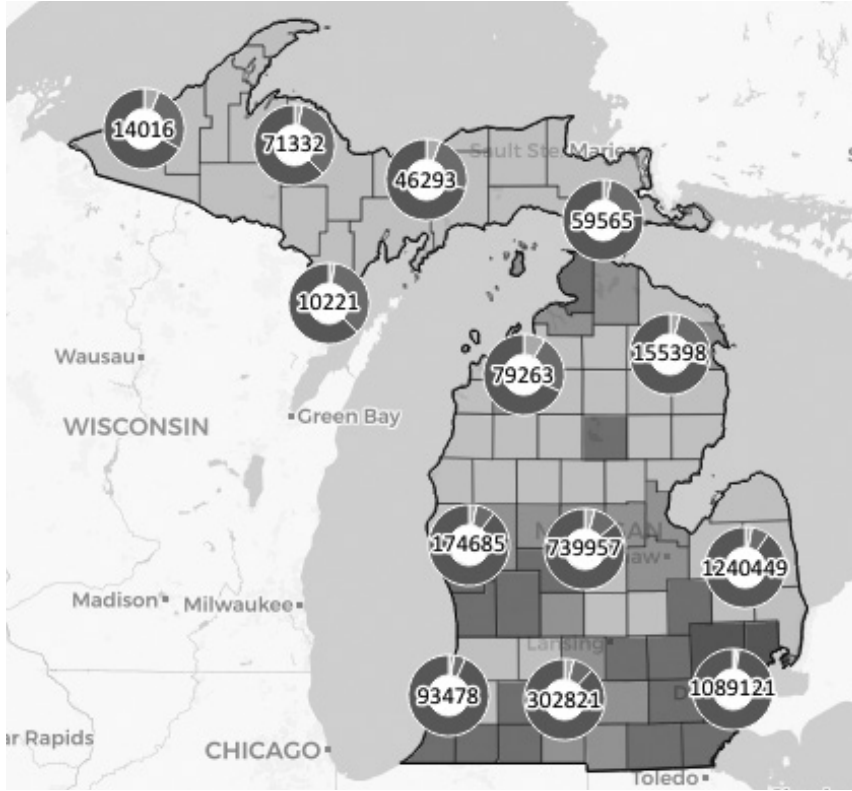
According to current mapping, Northern Michigan is only partially covered by high-speed internet access, and we need community support to cover the remaining unserved and underserved areas.

Here is a breakdown of Northern Michigan Counties and the percent of addresses with full broadband coverage.

- Alpena County – 80.87%
- Antrim County – 75.27%
- Charlevoix County – 88.15%
- Cheboygan County – 81.03%
- Crawford County – 50.2%
- Emmet County – 93.01%
- Kalkaska County – 54.75%
- Montmorency County – 59.06%
- Oscoda County – 57.2%
- Otsego County – 63.17%
- Presque Isle County – 52.63%

Michigan was awarded over 1.5 Billion dollars from the NTIA's Broadband, Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Program to fund connecting our homes, businesses, and institutions. The Michigan high-speed Internet Office is urging communities to ensure their maps are accurate regarding 'who has high-speed internet' and 'who needs high-speed internet'.

We urge you to take a moment to go to their Internet Map and help us verify connectivity!



You can learn more about BEAD by visiting the website at [www.michigan.gov/leo/bureaus-agencies/mihi/funding-opportunities/bead/bead-challenge-process](http://www.michigan.gov/leo/bureaus-agencies/mihi/funding-opportunities/bead/bead-challenge-process).

You can simply visit the BROADBAND MAP and type in an address in the bar on the top left and it will show whether it is listed as connected or not. If no service, inadequate service, or provider service is wrongly listed

you may issue a 'CHALLENGE' by clicking the 'REPORT SERVICE ISSUE' button at the bottom of the page.

In this way, BEAD funding is hoping to identify gaps in connectivity and then direct funding to these locations.

All homes, businesses, and community anchor institutions are eligible and encouraged to double-check the map.

## City Commission moves ahead on water pipes and housing

The Boyne City Commission held its regular meeting Tuesday and awarded a contract for Water Service Material Investigation field work to the low bidder Monchilov Sewer Service in the amount of \$89,575. The water pipes of some city water users will be inspected this summer as part of a statewide Drinking Water Asset Management grant program to help communities locate and identify lead/galvanized drinking water service lines. The city sent letters to 20% of water users via a random number generating process, in order to obtain statistically significant data that

can be used for possible replacement of lead pipes.

City staff updated the Commission on progress towards possible future development of housing on city-owned properties. Per the direction of the City Commission at a March 15th special meeting, staff is following up on these items regarding the two properties near the DPW facility off West Court and Robinson Streets:

- Get pricing for boundary surveys.
- Get pricing for wetlands surveys (a survey could not be done until around June).
- Get pricing for any soil borings or environmental assessments needed. Phase

1 study may be needed.

- Determine cost to extend sanitary sewer on Robinson Street.
- Investigate alternate locations for the compost site, including off-site and determining how long it would take to relocate the site.
- Determine if a property owner on Division Street would be willing to talk about selling property for housing.
- Contacted the MEDC to determine if funding for any of the above is available.

In other action Tuesday, the City Commission also heard a presentation from Gail Kloss, executive director of the Women's Re-

source Center of Northern Michigan on that organization's services. Kloss's presentation grew out of discussion from the March 12th meeting, when the City Commission declared April as Sexual Abuse Awareness Month.

When Commissioner Sandy Pritchard asked how the city could help the Women's Resource Center, Kloss said their website includes a list of items that their Safe House needs, including gift cards and financial donations.

The next regular Commission meeting will be held at 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 9.

### ASK LAURA

YOUR DOSE OF POSITIVITY AND INSPIRATION

## Refilling the Glass: A Lesson in Perspective

Dear Readers, recently, I came across a quote that truly inspired me: "The glass isn't half empty or half full; it's refillable." This got me thinking beyond the usual 'half full' mindset I've embraced for years. Life, indeed, is full of choices and endless opportunities.

I had the chance to impart this wisdom to my college-aged son, Donny, during an unexpected situation this week. He was involved in a minor fender bender near campus.

While he was understandably shaken, and more so at the thought of filing a police report, my immediate reaction was gratitude



Laura Jasurda

that nobody was hurt.

This was when I shared the "refillable glass" quote with him. To my delight, it resonated, cutting through his nervousness and sparking a bit of inspiration. Later the same day, he

shared an experience that he thought truly embodied the concept of the 'refillable glass.' In preparing for his police station visit, he realized he didn't have his current insurance card in the car. This prompted him to call the insurance company, get a new copy, and avoid potential future issues had he not had the card. The fender bender, a seemingly half-empty moment, turned into an opportunity to prepare better - his very own experience of a silver lining.

Witnessing my son grasp and apply this 'refillable glass' perspective was another highlight of my day. It's moments like these that

remind us of the fluidity and the resilience of life.

So, dear readers, remember that life is filled with moments that can be seen as setbacks or steps forward. It's all about how we choose to refill our glass.

Laura Jasurda is not just a writer and columnist; she's also a certified John Maxwell Leadership Trainer and Mentor, as well as a highly accomplished global business development executive and entrepreneur. Her passion lies in spreading positivity, nurturing personal growth, and fortifying our community bonds. Laura's mission is to empower you to unlock your full potential and lead your best life, both individually and as an integral part of your community.



Boyne Falls Public School

## STUDENT OF THE WEEK



## Braiden Pinney

Grade: 12

Parent's Name(s): Linda Pinney

Future Plans:

Braiden plans to move out west to work on the oil field for a few years, then return to Michigan to work in the automotive field.

Favorite Book: "The Shining" by Stephen King

Hobbies and Interests:

Braiden enjoys hanging out with his friends, jumping his moped, working on his truck, mudding and fishing.

School Activities:

Braiden enjoys utilizing the gym to play football, basketball and thoroughly enjoys hanging out with his favorite teachers and his best friend, Kaiden.

Staff Comments:

Throughout this year, Braiden has exemplified what it means to be responsible, respectful, and dedicated to his academic pursuits. Despite facing numerous challenges, he has demonstrated unwavering determination and resilience, always striving to be the best version of himself.

Braiden's commitment to his studies has been truly commendable, as he has worked tirelessly to ensure his graduation before May. Moreover, his willingness to lend a helping hand in the classroom and serve as a positive role model for younger students is both inspiring and uplifting.

We are incredibly proud of Braiden's achievements and the remarkable efforts he has shown. As he prepares to embark on the next chapter of his journey, we have no doubt that he will continue to excel and make a positive impact in all his future endeavors.

Congratulations, Braiden, on being named our Student of the Week! Your dedication and hard work are truly deserving of this recognition. Keep shining bright!

Submitted By:

Amber Menara, Quincianne Castle, Maddison Pfizer and Mary Smith

### VOLUNTEERS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Council's website at [watershedcouncil.org](http://watershedcouncil.org) or contact Water Resources Specialist Anna Watson at (231)489-7274 or [awatson@watershedcouncil.org](mailto:awatson@watershedcouncil.org). Please note that attendance at a training session is mandatory for individuals wishing to join a VSM team and actively participate in monitoring events.

The Watershed Council is in particular need of volunteers from the Cheboygan area to join Little Black River or Elliot Creek teams. Your involvement can significantly contribute to the preservation and enhancement of these vital waterways.

For further information or media inquiries, please contact: Andrea Coronado,

Director of Communications and Development at [acoronado@watershedcouncil.org](mailto:acoronado@watershedcouncil.org) or (231) 489-7272

Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council: Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council speaks for our members including full-time and seasonal residents, lake associations, and businesses. We work to maintain the environmental integrity and economic and aesthetic values of lakes, streams, wetlands, and groundwater in Northern Michigan, as well as statewide and throughout the Great Lakes Basin. As the lead organization for water resources protection in Antrim, Charlevoix, Cheboygan, and Emmet Counties, the Watershed Council is working to preserve the heritage of Northern Michigan – a tradition built around our magnificent waters.

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# News

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## LEADERSHIP

### Motivating Our Team Members

BY JOHN KEYSER

To be a highly effective leader, we must motivate our people. Some may say that people should motivate themselves; that it is their responsibility to do well.

It is important for us to realize that we can help our people by inspiring them, and is our responsibility! Isn't this what leaders do?!

It is important that we learn and commit to what people want and need from us as their leader. It goes a long way in helping us heighten their motivation. **Here is what people want:**

- To feel appreciated
- To feel that they are an important member of the team
- To feel they are heard
- To know their ideas matter
- To have the assurance that they are being helped to advance and succeed

Our people need to know we genuinely care about them, their success and well-being.

Let's have conversations with the people doing the work of our business – each of them – of all levels. This is how we help our people truly engage with our work, team, and mission.

President John F. Kennedy was visiting the Space Center at Cape Canaveral in the early 60s. He was walking past a janitor, stopped, and asked him about his work, to which the janitor thought and replied, "I am helping to put a man on the moon." This is the attitude and spirit we want, that everyone is positive and pitching in, with enthusiasm and pride!

In order to foster this spirit, we need to realize that as a leader, we



John Keyser

need to demonstrate to our people that we genuinely care about them. We need to spend time in conversations, even short conversations with our team members. We need to ask questions and listen attentively to understand and appreciate. They will do their best if they believe we genuinely care.

We should also share information as much as possible. This helps people feel trusted and valued.

If they sense they are in the dark that could cause them to feel a lack of trust and lessen their enthusiasm.

#### Other principles and practices to bear in mind are:

- Be kind. Kindness helps us gain and maintain the respect of our people.
- Thank people for their dedication and good work.
- Celebrate successes, even small ones, without seeking credit.
- Do what we say we will, even the small things.

Empower others with work and responsibilities so they may learn and grow. And be a giver.

It is true that we cannot be the sole source of motivation for others, yet we can help inspire a positive commitment to do their best. To have this influence, we have to connect with them. This is our responsibility as a leader!

# East Jordan Rotary Club Plans 15th, and Final, Variety Show

After 15 years, the curtain is coming down on the Rotary Club of East Jordan's annual Variety Show. This year's show, the 15th annual, will be the Club's last. The final shows will be held on Friday and Saturday, May 3rd and 4th. Held at the Community Auditorium at East Jordan High School, show time is at 7:00 p.m. each night, and doors open at 6:00 p.m. "We're not getting any younger," said Chip Hansen, the Show's long-time Master of Ceremonies, adding, "and our audience is changing, too, so we just felt like this year should be our last, and we should go out on top."

Judy Zorn is the show Director and, with Mark Penzien, selects the chorus medleys and puts the music together. The show features the fabulous Rotary Chorus, supported by a great band. "The chorus and the band headline the show," Penzien said, noting, "the medleys will have you dancing in your seats." "Bob Bryan and the Rotary Show Band basically play a pre-show concert too," Zorn commented, "so if you like great music, come early!"

Tammy Jackson coordinates the Production Team, which writes the skits and crossover acts, manages the rehearsals, and, in general,



The fabulous Rotary Chorus is the heart of the Rotary Variety Show.

plans the entire show. "The show will feature our trademark slapstick comedy," Jackson said, adding, "and we guarantee an evening full of belly laughs!"

The pre-show begins at 6:00 p.m., so guests are encouraged to come early to enjoy music provided by the Rotary Show Band. General admission tickets are priced at just \$10 each and are available in East Jordan at Charlevoix State Bank and from any member of the Rotary Club. Reserved seats for each show are available for \$15 each plus fees at [www.mynorthtickets.com](http://www.mynorthtickets.com). Tickets may also be available at the door, but in very limited quantities. According to Jackson, the show normally sells out. "The show has a following," she said, "so it's important to



Longtime Master of Ceremonies Chip Hansen at the 2023 Variety Show.

get your tickets early, especially this year."

Proceeds from the show will be utilized in support of the good work the East Jordan Rotary Club does

throughout the year including scholarship support for local students, youth leadership training programs, community improvement projects and more.



## 2024 Northern Lakes Economic Symposium & Showcase

Friday, May 17, 2024  
Doors open at 8:00 am

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# News

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## CHARLEVOIX PUBLIC LIBRARY APRIL CALENDAR EVENTS

For more information about any of these programs, please feel free to contact the Charlevoix Public Library at 231-237-7340 or email us at [reference@charlevoixlibrary.org](mailto:reference@charlevoixlibrary.org) and visit our website at [www.charlevoixlibrary.org](http://www.charlevoixlibrary.org).

### Adult Programming:

**SOLO PLAY:  
OLD WILBUR  
BY RAYMOND GOODWIN**  
Tuesday, April 2 • 6:00 pm  
In our Community Room

Join us for a one-man play written and performed by Raymond Goodwin. Fifteen years ago, an accident changed Wilbur Long's life forever. His electrical contracting business went belly up, he lost the esteem of his fellow citizens, and maintained only a distant connection with his family.

He has chosen to live his life in near squalor and among people he never dreamed he'd come to know. Now, he stands before a group of strangers with a letter in his hand. The letter could change everything. Please note: This play has some heavy emotional content and imagery related to loss and grief after a horrific accident.

### ARTS & CRAFTS IN THE FOYER - EARTH DAY SEED BOMBS

Thursday, April 11  
2:00 - 4:00 pm or while supplies last  
Who's ready for spring wildflowers? WE ARE! Make a handful of "seed bombs," set them aside until Earth Day, Monday, April 22, 2024, then BOMBS AWAY!  
• Materials and instructions provide  
• No registration required  
• Recommended for adults; children 8+ must be accompanied by an adult

### BOOKTALKERS: TOM LAKE BY ANN PATCHETT

Monday, April 15 • 6:00 pm  
Armstrong Conference Room  
Registration Required:  
Register online or call (231)237-7340 for this Book Discussion  
In the spring of 2020, Lara's three daughters return to the family's orchard in Northern Michigan. While picking cherries, they beg their mother to tell them the story of Peter Duke, a famous actor with whom she shared both a stage and a romance when

she was young, at a theater company called Tom Lake (read Interlochen). As Lara recalls the past, her daughters examine their own lives and relationship with their mother, and are led to reconsider the world and everything they thought they knew. This novel by Ann Patchett is a beautifully layered meditation on love, family, and the choices we make.

### THE BARDS OF NORTHERN MICHIGAN: LIVE POETRY READING EVENT

Tuesday, April 16 • 6:00 pm  
In our Community Room  
In recognition of National Poetry Month, join us at the library for a celebration of spoken word.

Some of our talented regional poets will read from their published works featured in (but not limited to) the following anthologies: Walloon Review; UP Reader; Dunes Review; and Peninsula Poets. Some of the poets will also have individual books for sale. We will have light refreshments to enjoy. Poets will be available after the event to chat, sell, and sign books.

### THE WONDERS OF WILDFLOWERS WITH JAMES DAKE, EDUCATION DIRECTOR AT GRASS RIVER NATURAL AREA, INC.

Tuesday, April 23 • 6:00 pm  
In our Community Room  
Grass River Natural Area's Education Director, James Dake, will be helping us think spring with this colorful and warm photography presentation that looks at over a dozen of our local species.  
The wildflowers of our region have amazing adaptations for their survival. We will see how their beauty is only outmatched by their wondrous feats, like their abilities to melt snow, change from male to female, shoot seeds long distances, cure ailments, or trick insects into helping with their survival. Discover methods of seed dispersal, pollination, medicinal and edible properties, and reproduction of our beloved wildflowers

### that rival exotic plants around the world. WINTER BLUES CONCERT SERIES: DEACON EARL

Monday April 29 • 6:30 pm  
In our Community Room  
Deacon Earl, also known as Swervin' Ervin, was born and raised in Lansing, MI. The son of a preacher who grew up with gospel music in the home, he ventured into the blues in his twenties.  
Since then he has been playing Mississippi influenced blues with roots in gospel around the Lansing, MI area. He plays electric and acoustic guitars, bass, banjo, lap steel, harmonica, keys, and more. His main influences are Muddy Waters, Howlin' Wolf, Lightnin' Hopkins and Deacon Arnold.

### LET'S TALK ENERGY & SOLAR WITH RIC EVANS, PRINCIPLE AT PARADIGM ENERGY SERVICES, LLC

Tuesday, April 30 • 6:00 pm  
In our Community Room  
We are hearing more and more about Energy ~ clean energy, energy efficiency, going green, carbon free power, EV's, beneficial electrification, solar, energy storage/batteries, and the list goes on. Come learn about some energy system basics, how all that stuff fits together, and how it relates to all of us with lots of real-life examples. Ric has been an energy consultant and educator on home energy efficiency for over 20 years. In addition to doing energy assessments through the State of Michigan's Weatherization program, Ric serves on the Great Lakes Energy Cooperative board of directors, and on the Wolverine Power Cooperative board.

### Youth Programming:

**LEGO BRICK CLUB**  
Tuesdays: April 2, April 16  
3:30-5:00 pm - Ages 6 and up  
Youth Activity Center  
Calling all Lego lovers! Join us in the Youth Activity Center and make new friends

while you get creative with Legos and Duplos. Enjoy free-play and imaginative building or follow fun prompts to create something new. This is a drop-in activity; no registration is required.

### SOLAR ECLIPSE FUN

Monday, April 8 • 12:00 - 2:00 pm  
All Ages - Youth Activity Center  
Stop by the Youth Activity Center between 12pm and 2pm for Solar Eclipse Fun! Enjoy fun activities for kids, a craft, and a free pair of solar viewing glasses. Limit one per person, available while supplies last. Fingers crossed we will have clear skies to view this cosmic event! No registration required.

### TEEN TIME: PROM CLOSET

Thursday, April 11 • 4:00 - 6:00 pm  
Trustees Room  
Find your perfect prom outfit for free! Browse our beautiful, gently used formal dresses and garments of many sizes and cuts. Enjoy refreshments and snacks while you mingle with friends and try on new looks. Attendees will be entered to win great prizes! This is a drop-in program, no registration required.

### GLCO: LITTLE WAVES

Saturday, April 13 • 1:00 pm  
Ages 4 - 10 • Youth Activity Center  
Dive into the enchanting world of music with 'Little Waves,' a children's program presented by the Great Lakes Chamber Orchestra (GLCO). Designed for curious minds aged 4 to 10, this innovative initiative invites young explorers to discover the wonders of music and instruments in a relaxed and informal setting. No registration required.

### CRAFTERNOONS FOR KIDS

Monday, April 15 • 4:00 - 5:00 pm  
Ages 6+ • Youth Activity Center  
Stop by the Youth Activity Center any time between 4pm and 5pm to create a unique and fun piece of art to take home. While supplies last. No registration required. Recommended for ages 6 and up.

### RAVEN HILL DISCOVERY CENTER "ANIMALS TO GO"

Saturday, April 20 • 11:00 am  
All Ages  
In our Community Room  
Families are invited to this interactive "Animals To Go" presentation from Raven Hill Discovery Center! Learn about and meet live animals, including snakes, lizards, and turtles. No registration is required. Learn more about Raven Hill Discovery Center at [www.miravenhill.org](http://www.miravenhill.org).

### TEEN TIME: MOVIE MATINEE

Thursday, April 25 • 4:00 pm  
Ages 13 & up  
Calling all teens! Cozy up in the YAC for a Teen Movie Matinee! Snacks will be provided. Be sure to stop by the Teen Lounge during the month of April to vote for which movie we watch. No registration required. For teens ages 13 and up.

### LIBRARY PLAYGROUP

Wednesday, April 24  
10:30 am - 12:00 pm • Birth - 5 years  
Youth Activity Center  
Parents and caregivers and their children are invited to gather in the Youth Activity Center for casual, free-form play for kids ages birth to five years old. Books, toys, music, sensory activities, and crafts will be available for families to explore while they connect with each other. This is a drop-in program, no registration is required.

### STORY TIME

Thursdays at 10:30 am  
Birth - 5 years • Youth Activity Center  
Join us on Thursdays in the Youth Activity Center for Story Time! Gather with new friends as we read stories, shake our sillies out, sing, learn fingerplays, and have tons of fun! Enjoy playtime and connect with other families afterwards. No registration required.

For more information about Youth Programs, contact us at 231-237-7340 or email us at [youth@charlevoixlibrary.org](mailto:youth@charlevoixlibrary.org).

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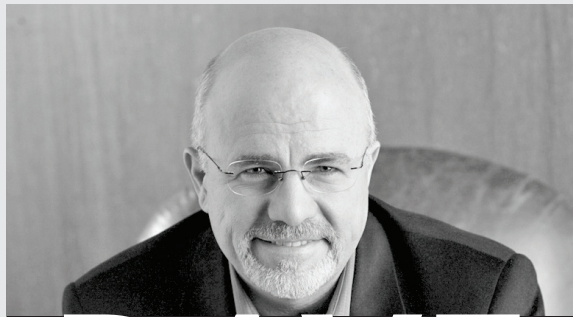
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# News

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# DAVE

## Says...

By Dave Ramsey

### You're a Great Big Brother

Dear Dave,

My mother died about a year and a half ago, and she left me and my younger sister \$75,000 each. My sister is 16, and she plans on enlisting in the military after high school, then using the G.I. Bill to pay for college afterward. She won't receive the inheritance money until she's 18. What advice can I give her to ensure she makes good decisions with the money?

—Davis

Dear Davis,

I'm truly sorry to hear about your mom. At the same time, I'm so proud of you for stepping up to help your little sister. You know, \$75,000 sounds like a lot of money—especially to a teenager. But that kind of cash can disappear in a heartbeat if she's not careful. And then, all she'd have left where her inheritance is concerned is a lifetime of regret.

If she'll be smart with this money, and by that, I mean investing wisely and having a little bit of fun, she could end up a rich, little old lady one day. Not only that, but she can honor the memory of your mother and change her family tree forever. Her family will think differently, and be able to live differently, all because she had the maturity to not blow the money.

You said she'll get \$75,000, right? Think about this. She could just have fun with \$15,000 or so, and invest the rest in good, growth stock mutu-

al funds. If the stock market continues to average what it has since its start, she'll be a multi-millionaire—and then some—by retirement. Even if I'm half-wrong on the math, the advice still stands. She'd have millions waiting for her. The point is that investing a big lump sum of money, and leaving it there for her golden years, is a great idea.

Now, I'm going to give you some homework, Davis. I want you to talk to a bunch of rich, old folks. Learn what they did to build wealth and hang onto it. Also, make sure the friends and family you both have around you are quality people—the kind who have your best interests at heart. Remember, the Bible says, "In the multitude of counsel there is safety."

Your sister is very lucky to have a big brother like you. Walk her through this advice. Be there for her. Look out for her. She needs you right now, and she'll need you in the years to come.

God bless you both!

—Dave

Dave Ramsey is an eight-time No. 1 national best-selling author, personal finance expert and host of The Ramsey Show, heard by more than 20 million listeners each week. He has appeared on Good Morning America, CBS Mornings, Today Show, Fox News, CNN, Fox Business, and many more. Since 1992, Dave has helped people regain control of their money, build wealth and enhance their lives. He also serves as CEO for the company, Ramsey Solutions.

## VETERAN OF THE MONTH

# Dean Earl Kleinschrodt



Dean Earl Kleinschrodt

The Veteran of the month for April 2024 is Dean Earl Kleinschrodt. Born April 5, 1940 on the family farm in Boyne Falls Michigan to parents Richard G. and Elsie I. Miller Kleinschrodt. He grew up in the area and attended schools in Walloon Lake, and Petoskey graduating in the class of 1958.

September 16, 1959, Dean enlisted into the United States Army, and received basic and advanced training at Ft. Leonard Wood, Missouri, receiving a Sharpshooter Badge with the M1 Carbine, and Expert Badge with the M1 Rifle. He would continue training for Steel Structure and Pipeline Specialist with duty stations at Ft. Hood, and Ft. Wolters, Texas.

On February 19, 1960 he married his sweetheart Deana Wiegandt, During his enlistment Dean attended training for Combat Readiness and Non-Commissioned Officers Academy Leadership and promoted to

the rank of SGT E-5.

After his six year military obligation was up, at Fort Wolters, Mineral Wells, Texas, September 15, 1965, Dean received an Honorable Discharge completing 6 years of service, and received his second award for good conduct.

Returning with family back to Boyne Falls, he worked briefly at Petoskey Manufacturing; Howes Tannery in Boyne City, Camp Sea Gull, then East Jordan Iron Works now EJ, retiring in July 2002 after thirty two and a half years with the company.

After almost six decades of marriage Deane passed away on February 6, 2018. On October 27, 2018 at the Walloon Lake Community Church, he would mar-

ry Martha Tillotson, and together they enjoyed travelling, cooking, gardening, swinging on the porch, and attending church. Dean enjoyed hunting; fishing trips to Canada, and Pike Lake; recycling cans, and caring for his wife Martha.

Dean was a Paid Up For Life American Legion member, and was dedicated to serving the Ernest Peterson Post #228 of the American Legion in Boyne City, Michigan holding many Officer positions including Commander.

On January 15, 2024, Dean Earl Kleinschrodt answered the final call and is being Honored by his Wife Martha, Son Don, Daughter Donna, and family.

## Discovery Center 2024 Community Event Series Set

The Pigeon River Country Discovery Center has announced their 2024 Community Event Series. Beginning in April, the Discovery Center will hold eight free workshops in the heart of the Pigeon River Country State Forest (PRC).

First up is the "Michigan's Raptors" workshop on April 20th. Representatives of the Skegemog Raptor Center will bring some of their rehabilitated birds for viewing. They will talk about the birds' adaptations and how to help conserve them. Two workshops will be held that day - 1 pm is a youth program; while the one at 3 pm will be adult focused. Registration is required at: [pigeonriver-discoverycenter.org](http://pigeonriver-discoverycenter.org). Look under the "Events" tab.

Next up on May 15th is "Hemingway's Last Good Country: the PRC", beginning at 6 pm. Chris Stuble of the Michigan Hemingway Society will discuss how northern Michigan, including the PRC, influenced Ernest Hemingway's life and writing. Registration is required at the Center's



Handler Esther Broadwing with hawk at last year's event.

website, where you will find the rest of the 2024 Community Event Series.

The Pigeon River Country Discovery Center is located behind the DNR Headquarters building in the Pigeon River Country State Forest, east of Vanderbilt. The Center is located in an historic 1935 Civilian Conservation Corp-built log cabin. Discovery Center exhibits highlight the for-



Boy wearing a wing at last year's event.

est's history, varied forms of recreation and the unique management that preserves its wild character. Regular hours are May - October on Saturdays from 10 - 4 and Sundays from 12 - 4. Admission is free.

The Discovery Center and its programs are the result of a partnership

between the Discovery Center, the Department of Natural Resources and Huron Pines. For more information, go to [pigeonriverdiscoverycenter.org](http://pigeonriverdiscoverycenter.org).

For more information, contact Jan Kellogg (989) 370-2347 or [jkkellogg108@gmail.com](mailto:jkkellogg108@gmail.com)

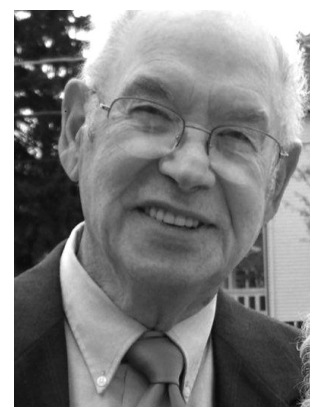
## Northern Symphonic Winds Annual Spring Concert, April 14

Immerse yourself in the enchanting melodies of the Northern Symphonic Winds at their Annual Spring Concert on Sunday, April 14, 2024, 4:00 P.M., at the Boyne City High School's Center for the Performing Arts.

We will be showcas-

ing the region's top wind instrumentalists, it's a must-attend event. Admission is free, with heartfelt donations welcomed at the door.

Don't miss the chance to meet and chat with the talented group members at the post-concert reception!



Frank William Shaler, 92

July 18, 1931–April 1, 2024  
BOYNE CITY

Frank William Shaler of Boyne City passed away on Monday, April 1, 2024 at Grandvue Medical Care Facility in East Jordan. Recitation of the Rosary will be held 5:30 pm Monday, April 8, 2024 at St. Matthews Catholic Church in Boyne City followed by visitation at the church from 6:00 to 8:00 PM.

Mass will be celebrated 11:00 am Tuesday, April 9, 2024 at St. Matthews Catholic Church with a gathering of family and friends to begin at 10:00 am until the time of service.

A full obituary will soon



Joseph Frank Richards, 99

March 5, 1925–  
March 25, 2024  
BOYNE CITY

follow.

Joseph Frank Richards of Boyne City passed away at his home on March 25, 2024.

Son of Elmer and Hattie (Schenk) Richards, Joseph was born on March 5, 1925, in Alpena, Michigan. Around the age five, he and his family moved to Boyne City. He attended the Morgan-Shaw School until eighth grade.

On August 21, 1942, he married the most beautiful girl in the world, Jeannette Shepherd, in Gaylord, Michigan.

Joseph served in the United States Army during World War II from 1943 to 1945. He was a Technician Fourth Grade and he served as part of an artillery crew, motor pool truck driver, and mechanic. Joseph was stationed in Northern Africa, Sicily, and Italy.

He was a hardworking man. Joseph worked long, hard days doing seasonal work in road construction building roads. Then in the winter, he worked long, hard days ice fishing to bring home lots of fish for his children to clean. Joseph was an avid fisherman. He supplied many people with fish over the years.

He also enjoyed doing mechanical work on cars. Joseph was a gentleman and to the point. He had a great memory and was good at listening. He was a real jokester with a good sense of humor. Joseph was fun to talk to and was easy to have nice conversations with. He will be greatly missed.

He was a member of the Boyne City American Legion, Post 228, and the International Union of the Operating Engineers 324. Joseph is survived by his

children: Billie Jo (John) Hjellum, Jacquelyn Kaye (Howard) Pinney, Joseph L. (Jean) Richards, Kathy Richards Gilmore, Cindy (Gary) Viers, Michael (Robin) Richards, and Todd (Judy) Richards; his daughter-in-law Loretta Richards; his 18 grandchildren; and his numerous great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren. He is preceded in death by his wife Jeannette Richards; his parents Elmer and Hattie Richards; his sons James "Don" Richards and Ricky Richards; and his grandson Kelly Logan, who passed while serving active duty in the United States Army in 2019.

Those wishing to make a charitable donation in Joseph's memory are asked by family to consider Hospice of Northwest Michigan. A graveside service officiated by Rev. David Belling will be on April 4, 2024, at Maple Lawn Cemetery at 11:00 AM. A luncheon will be at the Boyne City Eagles following. Arrangements are in the care of Stackus Funeral Home.

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## BOYS ALL-STATE BASKETBALL

Here is the 2024 Michigan Associated Press All-State basketball team, which was selected by a panel of 15 sports writers:

### DIVISION 1

**PLAYER OF THE YEAR**  
Trey McKenney, Orchard Lake St. Mary's, Jr.

**ALL-STATE FIRST TEAM**  
Trey McKenney, Orchard Lake St. Mary's  
Tyler Ode, Saginaw Heritage, Sr.  
Jonathan Sanderson, Saline, Soph.  
Macari Moore, Ann Arbor Huron, Jr.  
Cam Hutson, East Lansing, Jr.  
Merritt Alderink, Zeeland West, Sr.  
K.J. Torbert, East Lansing, Soph.  
Lance Stone, Detroit Renaissance, Jr.  
Keshawn Fisher, River Rouge, Sr.  
Greg Lawson, Davison, Jr.  
Cam Ryans, Grand Rapids Northview, Soph.

**COACH OF THE YEAR**  
Todd Negoshian, North Farmington

**SECOND TEAM** (nominees receiving at least two votes)  
Tyler Spratt, North Farmington, Sr.  
**Charlie Howell, Cadillac, Sr.**  
**Luke Gelow, Gaylord, Sr.**  
Jaxon Whitaker, Muskegon Reeths-Puffer, Sr.  
Warren Marshall IV, Bloomfield Hills Brother Rice, Sr.  
Noah Vanlaningham, Mattawan, Sr.  
LeBron Campbell, Battle Creek Lakeview, Jr.  
Sam Dillard, Fenton, Sr.  
Craig Hureskin, Grand Rapids Ottawa Hills, Sr.

**HONORABLE MENTION** (nominees receiving one vote)  
Travis Ambrose, Muskegon Reeths-Puffer, Sr.  
James Martin, Muskegon, Soph.  
T.J. Davis, Muskegon, Sr.  
Mason Parker, Troy, Jr.  
Landon Williams, North Farmington, Sr.  
Jah Hatchett, East Kentwood, Jr.  
Karter Richards, Grosse Pointe South, Sr.  
Cam Harju, Port Huron Northern, Soph.  
Humoody Mashhour, Dearborn, Jr.  
Nassim Mashour, Dearborn, Sr.  
Derrick Miller, Detroit Cass Tech, Sr.  
Jordan Sigmon, Detroit Renaissance, Soph.  
Kaeson Frost, Bay City Western, Sr.  
E.J. Ryans, Grand Rapids Northview, Sr.

### DIVISION 2

**PLAYER OF THE YEAR**  
Durrall Brooks, Grand Rapids Catholic Central

**ALL-STATE FIRST TEAM**  
Durrall Brooks, Grand Raids Catholic Central, Sr.  
Ayden Davis, Onsted, Sr.  
Markus Blackwell, Warren Lincoln, Jr.  
Jake Stephens, Chelsea, Sr.  
Stevie Elam, Adrian, Jr.  
Carson Vis, Grand Rapids South Christian, Jr.  
Cam Thompson, Whitehall, Jr.  
Braiden Whitaker, Dundee, Sr.  
Joey Cabana, Chelsea, Sr.  
Jaylan Ouwinga, Grand Rapids Christian, Sr.  
David Shillinger, Ludington, Sr.  
Josiah King, Benton Harbor, Sr.  
Jalen Kampen, Parchment, Jr.  
Lyna Brooks, Saginaw Arthur Hill, Sr.

**COACH OF THE YEAR**  
Eric Taylor, Grand Rapids Christian

**SECOND TEAM** (nominees receiving at least two votes)  
Braylon Frantz, St. Clair, Soph.  
Dumanye Smith-Powe, Detroit University Prep, Jr.  
Da'Kari Neely, Flint Kearsley, Sr.  
Mike Phillips, Niles, Sr.  
Xander Wedlow, Detroit University Prep, Sr.  
Javontae Ross, Flint Powers, Sr.  
Parker LePla, Goodrich, Jr.  
Gavin Andres, Belding, Jr.  
Graham Junge, Flat Rock, Jr.

**COACHES**  
Justin Freeland, Midland Bullock Creek  
Tony Davis, Saginaw Arthur Hill

**HONORABLE MENTION** (nominees receiving one vote)  
Bo Lincoln, Olivet, Sr.  
Keyshawn Summerville, Lansing Sexton, Soph.  
Gavin Grondin, Kingsford, Jr.  
Nate Johnson, Grand Rapids Christian, Sr.  
Gavin Espinoza, Crosswell-Lexington, Sr.  
Zander Nash, Imlay City, Jr.

**COACH**  
Joe Corkran, Kearsley

### DIVISION 3

**PLAYER OF THE YEAR**  
Zander Woodruff, Laingsburg

**ALL-STATE FIRST TEAM**  
Shane Rykse, Schoolcraft, Sr.  
Zander Woodruff, Laingsburg, Sr.  
Oskar Kangas, Iron Mountain, Jr.  
Carter Patrick, Cass City, Sr.  
Grady Eklund, Pewamo-Westphalia, Soph.  
Evan Haverkamp, McBain, Sr.  
Mekhi Wingfield, Concord, Sr.  
JaQuan Stennis, Detroit Old Redford, Soph.  
Jareemiah Palmer, Niles Brandywine, Sr.  
Nick Sobush, Riverview Gabriel Richard, Jr.  
Jacob Pleyer, Watervliet, Soph.  
Gabe Schnoor, Blissfield, Sr.  
Lamarkis Graham, North Muskegon, Sr.  
Zeekeal Jackson, Grand Rapids Wellspring Prep, Sr.  
Michael Janssen, Bad Axe, Jr.

**COACH OF THE YEAR**  
Nathan Knapp, Niles Brandywine

**SECOND TEAM** (nominees receiving at least two votes)  
Mason Struck, Chesaning, Sr.  
Brad Coleman, Millington, Jr.  
Benson Harper, Harbor Beach, Soph.  
DaMarcus Burke, Flint Beecher, Sr.  
Jack Bowles, Hillsdale, Sr.  
Matthew Swanwick, Centreville, Jr.  
DeVonta Habern, Napoleon, Sr.  
**Braeden Flynn, Harbor Springs, Soph.**  
Levi Frahm, Painesdale Jeffers, Sr.  
Tanner Theuerkauf, Menominee, Soph.

**COACH**  
Ray Reeves, Detroit Old Redford.

**HONORABLE MENTION** (nominees receiving one vote)  
Jacob Pleyer, Watervliet, Soph.  
Gabe Schnoor, Blissfield, Sr.  
Lamarkis Graham, North Muskegon, Sr.  
Zeekeal Jackson, Grand Rapids Wellspring Prep, Sr.  
Michael Janssen, Bad Axe, Jr.

**COACHES**  
Josh Tropea, Jackson Lumen Christi  
Kris Daiek, Riverview Gabriel Richard  
Aaron Fernald, Cass City

### DIVISION 4

**PLAYER OF THE YEAR**  
Jonny Ingalls, St. Ignace

**ALL-STATE FIRST TEAM**  
**Trenton Taratuta, Hillman, Sr.**  
**Jonny Ingalls, St. Ignace, Sr.**  
Brian Everhart, Marine City Cardinal Mooney, Sr.  
Jaxon Salenbien, Adrian Lenawee Christian, Soph.  
Jordan VanKlombenberg, Wyoming Tri-unity Christian, Sr.  
Owen McLoughlin, St. Joseph Lady of the Lake, Sr.  
Bradley Richards, Fruitport Calvary Christian, Jr.  
Landon Kulawiak, Buckley, Jr.  
M.J. Yeager, Saginaw Nouvel Catholic Central, Sr.  
Ethan Esse, Allen Park Inter-City Baptist, Soph.

**COACH OF THE YEAR**  
**Doug Ingalls, St. Ignace**

**SECOND-TEAM ALL-STATE** (nominees receiving at least two votes)  
Reece Broderick, Traverse City Christian, Jr.  
Caleb Betz, Bellevue, Sr.  
Noah Zeien, Mount Pleasant Sacred Heart, Soph.  
Ethan Bennett, McBain Northern Michigan Christian, Sr.  
Miles Shannon, Climax-Scotts, Sr.  
Anthony Buford, Detroit Douglass, Sr.  
Brandon Summer, Adrian Lenawee Christian, Sr.  
Jacob Plamondon, Maple City Glen Lake, Soph.  
Demonic Scharer, Hillsdale Academy, Sr.  
Quintin Sartin, Marlette, Sr.

**COACHES**  
Darren Shiels, Britton Deerfield  
Mark Keeler, Wyoming Tri-unity Christian

**HONORABLE MENTION** (nominees receiving one vote)  
KeyMarryon Fishburn, Taylor Trillium, Sr.  
Logan Shiels, Britton Deerfield, Sr.  
Jonathan Morgan, Vandercook Lake, Fr.  
**Jadin Mix, Onaway, Sr.**  
Alex Ortman, Norway, Sr.  
Gabe Popko, Lake Linden-Hubbell, Sr.  
Trevor Nolan, Munising, Jr.  
Owen Corlis, Kingston, Sr.  
Brayden Franzel, Ubly, Jr.

**COACH**  
Justin Sherlock, Mount Pleasant Sacred Heart

## GIRLS BASKETBALL ALL-STATE TEAM DIVISION 4

The 2024 Michigan Associated Press Division 4 All-State girls basketball team, which was selected by a panel of 15 sports writers:

**PLAYER OF THE YEAR**  
**Mia McGregor, Mio**

**ALL-STATE FIRST TEAM**  
**Mia McGregor, Mio**  
Reese Williams, Colon, Sr.  
Delaney St. George, Kingston, Sr.  
Emily Jokela, Lake Linden-Hubbell, Jr.  
**Ella Szatkowski, Posen, Sr.**  
Jenna Maki, Ishpeming, Sr.  
Ava Mallar, Pittsford, Jr.  
Annaka Neetz, Bay City All Saints, Sr.  
Katie Spicer, Fowler, Jr.  
Tamerah Peterson, Sterling Heights Parkway Christian, Jr.

**COACH OF THE YEAR**  
Ryan Reichel, Ishpeming

**SECOND-TEAM ALL-STATE** (nominees receiving at least two votes)  
Evelyn VanTol, Frankfort, Sr.  
Laynie Meredith, Portland St. Patrick, Sr.  
Aubrey Rogers, Morrice, Sr.  
Emersyn Bacheelder, Morenci, Jr.  
Eleanor Valkner, Maple City Glen Lake, Sr.

Jenessa Eagle, Ishpeming, Soph.  
Audrey Johnson, Livingston Christian, Jr.  
Haven Chapman, Genesee Christian, Jr.  
Molly Walker, Kingston, Soph.  
Madeline Langenburg, Ubly, Sr.  
Libby Tank, Deckerville, Soph.  
Anyieth Nhial, Wyoming Potters House, Sr.

**COACHES**  
Nathan Goerge, Fowler  
Ashley Joughin, Morenci  
Arshawn Parker, Concord  
Jay Green, Kingston

**HONORABLE MENTION** (nominees receiving one vote)  
Bradie Lehman, Concord, Fr.  
Sadie Day, Midland Calvary Baptist, Soph.  
Megan Goward, Breckenridge, Sr.  
**Gracie Beauchamp, Mackinaw City, Sr.**  
**Payton Glasby, Gaylord St. Mary, Soph.**  
Emma Besonen, Ewen-Trout Creek, Soph.  
Makenna Hendrickson, Baraga, Sr.  
Keira McGarvie, Kingston, Sr.



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# Sports

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## Take black bear precautions in the spring Remove bird feeders and grills

Spring brings blooms, bugs and black bears. This time of year, bears are leaving their dens and will be searching for food sources to replenish their bodies after eating very little since last fall. To prevent a bear encounter in your backyard, take bird feeders down, bring garbage cans inside and remove outdoor pet foods.

As bears leave dens, they will first pursue water and fresh vegetation to flush their systems. While those foods are abundant and accessible, the calorie-rich offerings of bird seed, garbage, beehives and pet foods are a mighty prize to a hungry black bear.

Allowing bears to eat from food sources near homes can often lead to problems for both the people who live there and the bears. Feeding from these types of food sources can turn bears into repeat visitors that may lose their fear of humans, cause damage to property or create dangerous situations for people, livestock and pets.

"The spring is a critical time to think strategically about your backyards and outdoor spaces," said Rachel Lincoln, Michigan



The Michigan Department of Natural Resources encourages northern Michigan residents to remove food sources like bird feeders now to help keep black bears at a distance and prevent bear conflicts. (courtesy of DNR)

Department of Natural Resources wildlife outreach coordinator. "Removing food sources now before

they attract wildlife can save you time, money and stress, and keep wildlife safely foraging at a distance for the rest of the year."

Lincoln said that, fortunately, avoiding problems with bears and other wildlife is easy if you take a proactive approach, and suggested the following steps.

**Remove bird feeders**  
Birds will soon have an abundance of natural food sources available. If you enjoy watching birds in your

yard, consider replacing feeders with bird baths or nest boxes or planting native flowers and grasses to attract birds year after year. Visit the Audubon website to learn more about native plants that birds love.

**Bring in outdoor pet foods and keep grills and patio furniture clean**

A bear's nose is so strong it can smell food up to a mile away. While you may not be able to smell the spills on your patio, a bear certainly could.

**Secure garbage cans indoors overnight**

Taking the trash out in the morning may seem inconvenient, but it's far easier than cleaning up scattered trash from a torn bag left out overnight.

**Protect beehives and small apiaries with electric fencing**

Apiaries – locations where beehives are kept – are a calorie jackpot for bears. Keep your bees and beehives safe by installing an electric fence.

Bears are an essential species in our ecosystems because of their critical roles as seed dispersers. As spring arrives and we spend more time outside, keep in mind that human behavior affects bear behavior.

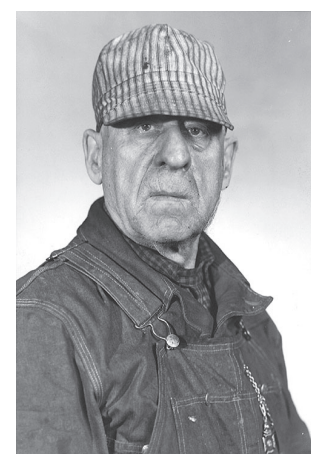
Don't wait until you see a bear to act. Remove food sources now and keep Michigan's black bears at a distance.

To learn more about preventing conflicts with bears this spring, visit Michigan.gov/Wildlife or contact the DNR Wildlife Division at 517-284-9453.



## The iconic Stormy Kromer

It was 1903 when George "Stormy" Kromer watched another wool cap blow away as his head protruded from his R.R. engine car. A problem solver, Stormy decided to "engineer" this problem away. The one-time minor league baseball player returned home and had his bride Ida sew an ear flap onto the back his wool baseball cap. As a result, the cap not only stayed on, it kept him warm. Coworkers and others asked where they could get one. Ida kept sewing...



George "Stormy" Kromer

and sewing! The iconic Stormy Kromer was born.

Something about this cap works well since its been around for 120 years. Long known in hunting and lumber camps throughout the Midwest, especially northern Michigan and Wisconsin, it has slowly spread nationwide. Born in the north woods, it's proudly made in the USA in Ironwood, Michigan, a small upper peninsula (UP) town. The family run business continues to produce the cap protecting the noggin of outdoors men and women, including famous folks as diverse as actor Jeff Daniels and Ned Flanders from the Simpsons!

CEO and manager Gina Jacquart-Thorsen, one of two daughters of Bob Jacquart, the cut and sew manufacturing mill owner,

keeps the tradition alive. Many legends surround the Stormy Kromer. One of the best, confirmed by Gina, involves the classic/traditional red and black plaid cap which sports a "six point" pattern with checkerboard squares coming together forming a 6 pointed star. "Back in the day" R.R. engineers traveling the country, proud Stormy Kromer owners, would enter a local bar or saloon and call out: "Any six pointers in here?" If so, they would gather and enjoy conversations... and more than one "ginger ales!" If so inclined, maybe become a stormy Kromer owner and proudly call out "Any six pointers in here?" Who knows who you might meet?! stormykromer.com

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# Sports

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# NCAA DIVISION 1 MEN'S BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT



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**VOLUME 15 ISSUE 42**  
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**MICHIGAN MEDIA INC.**  
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The Charlevoix County News is published weekly on Thursdays  
 Published by Michigan Media, Inc., 112 East Sixth St., Gaylord, MI 49735

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to  
 Charlevoix County News, 112 East Sixth St., Gaylord, MI 49735

Distributed to Boyne City, East Jordan, Charlevoix,  
 Boyne Falls, Walloon Lake, Ellsworth and Atwood  
 Available on Newsstands: 75 cents a copy

**Subscriptions:**  
 Local Home Delivery of the News: \$55.00/year  
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Immerse yourself into the enchanting melodies  
 of the Northern Symphonic Winds at their  
 Annual Spring Concert on  
 Sunday, April 14, 2024, 4:00 P.M.,  
 at the Boyne City High School's Center  
 for the Performing Arts.

We will be showcasing the region's top wind  
 instrumentalists, it's a must-attend event.  
 Admission is free, with heartfelt donations  
 welcomed at the door.

Don't miss the chance to meet and chat  
 with the talented group members at the  
 post-concert reception!

**PET OF THE WEEK**  
**LESTER**

This droopy faced fellow is Lester! Lester found himself  
 with us after being transferred from another county.  
 He has the sweetest face and will win you over with his big  
 loving eyes. Lester is pretty short but stocky, weighing in  
 around 65 pounds. Lester seems to walk well on a leash.  
 He is not a fan of being picked up or having his paws  
 touched so we think Lester would do best in a home  
 without young children, and one without other dogs.  
 Lester is around 2 years old, neutered and up to date on  
 all vaccinations!

**CHARLEVOIX AREA  
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