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Inside this week!

WEEKLY CHOICE & CHARLEVOIX COUNTY NEWS NAME GIRLS SOCCER ALL-AREA

DREAM TEAM

GAYLORD'S CLAIRE GOBNO IS THE PLAYER OF THE YEAR. ZACH JUNKER IS COACH OF THE YEAR.

COACH OF THE YEAR
Zach Junker

PLAYER OF THE YEAR
Claire Gobno

HAPPY INDEPENDENCE DAY!

Here is a list of towns around Northern Michigan that are having Fireworks this week. All Fireworks begin around 10:00 to 10:30pm unless otherwise indicated.



HARBOR SPRINGS - JULY 3, 4
Weiner Dog Races at 11 AM on July 3rd. 48th Annual Art in the Park 9 AM - 4 PM. 4th of July Celebration. Join Harbor Springs for their annual 4th of July Independence Day festivities. Paul Revere 5K & 10K Run - 8 AM, American Legion Breakfast - 8 AM - 11 AM. Art in the Park Harbor Springs 9 AM - 4 PM (Zorn Park). 4th of July Parade sponsored by the Harbor Springs Area Chamber of Commerce - 1 PM start. Fireworks at dusk.

ONAWAY - JULY 4
Full day of events. Onaway's Independence Day celebration has to be experienced to be believed. Why the "Biggest Little 4th in the North"? Because we are a small, quiet town of 900 residents, except for several hours on the 4th of July. Then our little town gets its groove on and swells to estimates of 10,000 or more people who come to enjoy the Grand Parade as well as craft shows, Fireman's Water Fight, food, reunions and a wide variety of activities all day long and into the evening, climaxing with a gigantic Fireworks Display.



PHOTOS BY:
KAREN WALKER

GRAYLING - JULY 4
Parade at 11am. Down Michigan Ave. and Peninsular St. Fireworks will be launched from the Grayling Country Club but will be able to be seen throughout Downtown, facing the Country Club. You'll have a great view from the City Park!

CHEBOYGAN - JULY 4
Parade at 10am along Main Street from the Cheboygan County Building to the Eagles. Parade Registration Form Music on Main Summer Concert in Washington Park at 7pm featuring Alter Ego Rehab. Fireworks at dusk. Fireworks are shot off at the Cheboygan County Fairgrounds.

MACKINAW CITY - JULY 4
Celebrate an all American 4th of July in Mackinaw City. Scheduled Events 1pm to 3pm - Enjoy games on the Marina Lawn (Fun for all ages). 9pm to Dusk - Straits Area Concert Band to perform at Conkling Heritage Park. At Dusk - the largest fireworks display in Northern Michigan



PETOSKEY - JULY 5
Brilliance over the Bay Fireworks show. Double-Feature. After a day of Fourth of July celebrations, Petoskey will conclude its festivities with a firework display over Little Traverse Bay at dusk. Bayfront Park is recommended as the best spot to view the show. 6 pm - Parade - Grandpa Shorter's Fourth of July Parade 7-10pm - Live Entertainment. Beginning with a street concert by the Petoskey Steel Drum Band (sponsored by Drost) following the parade. The band will perform on Lake Street near the gazebo from its Double Decker Performance Trailer. The approximate performance time will be 7:00. Starting at 7:30 pm, and continuing until the fireworks show live musical entertainment takes place along the waterfront. Petoskey Area Visitors Bureau Main Stage (Festival Place, behind Public Safety Department near the Breakwall) 7-9pm - Little Traverse Historical Society Ice Cream Social At Dusk - approximately 10:30 PM - Brilliance over the Bay Fireworks Show. The Fireworks Show is Petoskey's grand celebration that will conclude with a spectacular fireworks display along the shores of Little Traverse Bay. The best viewing area is in Petoskey's Bayfront Park.

BEAVER ISLAND - JULY 4
Parade, 1pm - Celebrate Independence Day like no place else does with the Beaver Island Independence Day Parade. The Big Parade kicks off at 1:00 with an Island Airways Flyover. Line up for the parade beginning at 12:30 starting at Holy Cross Church along Kings Highway. Fireworks - For a fantastic fireworks show after the Fourth, take a trip to Beaver Island where the show will start at 10pm. Suggested viewing spots include Whiskey Point, the Public Beach, or by boat near Paradise Bay.

WALLOON LAKE - JULY 4
The Big Show Over The Little Village. Live Music in Village Green Park. Face Painting & Kids Activities with Tommy's Walloon. Firework Show over Walloon Lake begins at 10:30 PM

INDIAN RIVER - JULY 4-5
Fireworks Display - July 5. Parade - July 4. The parade takes place on South Straits Hwy, right through the heart of town and features floats and fire departments from both Indian River and Topinabee.

HORTON BAY - JULY 4
Horton Bay Horton Bay's July 4 parade this year is themed Horton Bay 2024 Election - WE NEED MORE PARTYS! Having a cocktail party? Pajama party? Toga party? Tea party? Fighting for your right to party? Bring it on July 4! The parade will take place at 1 p.m. on Horton Bay Road.

MACKINAC ISLAND - JULY 4
4th of July festivities on the island begin with a Stone Skipping Competition at Windermere Point, followed by fun family games in the afternoon, and two fireworks displays that will go off simultaneously at dusk. There is a lot of fun to be had throughout the day at island attractions and businesses.

FIFE LAKE - JULY 4-6
Best 4th in the North. Join us for three full days (Thursday through Saturday) of fun in Fife Lake. 8am - Fife Lake Warrior Run 10k Run and 5k Run/Walk. 9-4 - Farm and Craft Market. 11:30-2 - Buffalo BBQ and Ice Cream Social. Noon - Forest Area School band. 2pm - Parade. 5-9:30 - Live Music - 9:50pm - Fireworks July 5 - Kids Game. July 6 - Car Show

JOHANNESBURG - JULY 4
The 2024 4th of July Parade starts at 11 am on Thursday, July 4th in Downtown Johannesburg. Fireworks begin at dusk!

Obituaries Inside

Check inside this week's paper for local Obituaries.

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JULY 6 GAYLORD
Fireworks & Drone show over Otsego Lake
Head out on a boat or grab a spot at Otsego Lake County Park to watch the Independence Day fireworks the weekend after the Fourth. The show begins at 10 p.m.



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News

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weather forecast

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
HIGH: 75 LOW: 63	HIGH: 73 LOW: 62	HIGH: 69 LOW: 62	HIGH: 75 LOW: 64	HIGH: 73 LOW: 63	HIGH: 73 LOW: 61	HIGH: 71 LOW: 61

record temps

Day	Avg HIGH	Avg LOW	Record HIGH	YEAR	Record LOW	YEAR
July 4	77	55	94	2018	38	1963
July 5	78	55	94	1988	39	1979
July 6	78	55	95	1988	33	1983
July 7	78	55	95	1988	39	1997
July 8	78	55	94	1988	36	1954
July 9	78	55	94	1988	39	1963
July 10	78	55	92	1988	40	2014

OBITUARIES



Gary Armstrong Sr., 82

Oct. 31, 1941 – June 30, 2024

ELLSWORTH

It is with great sadness that we, the family, announce the passing of our beloved Gary Clayton Armstrong Sr. He was born to Leo and Hazel Armstrong on Halloween day 1941.

Gary was a graduate of Clarkston High School in 1959. He joined the coast guard with his brother Ronald and served 4 years. He was stationed in Charlevoix and assigned aboard the U.S. Coast Guard Cutter Sundew. He met his sweetheart Hilda (Snooks) Bruce in Charlevoix and they were soon married. After serving in the Coast Guard, they decided to relocate to Oxford Michigan where he soon became a police officer for Oakland County. He served Oakland County for 33 years. He was a larger than life police officer and earned the nickname "Big Garloo" because of his strength and bravery. He was also a longtime and important member of Oakwood Community Church in Oxford.

He and his wife raised their 5 children in the Oxford area. He retired in 1993 at the age of 52 and was able to make his dream of owning a Belgian Draft house farm come true and he genuinely enjoyed every moment of it. In 1997 Gary and Hilda decided to come back to where it all began and bought themselves a home in Northern Michigan where he lived out the rest of his days. He passed away peacefully at home surrounded by family. He will be so dearly missed by everyone that knew and loved him.

Gary Clayton Armstrong Sr was preceded in death by both of his parents Leo and Hazel Armstrong, his brother Ronald Armstrong, his brother Larry Armstrong, his sister Barbara Dockery, his son Duffy Jay Armstrong, and his grandson Kyle Jay Armstrong.

Gary was survived by his loving wife Hilda (Bruce) Armstrong, his sister Naomi Pannell (John), brother Randall Armstrong (Shawn), his sister Diane (Terry), his brother Richard (Kathy), sister in law Jean Armstrong, brother in law Coy Dockery, his daughter Angie Brunk (Bob), son Theodore Armstrong (Alma), son Gary Armstrong Jr. (Cami), and daughter Beth Swenson (Ted).

His grandchildren

Jamie, Brian, Sara (Dave), Joshua, Alec (Caressa), Jake (Paige), Lillii, Jessica, Shane (Kate), Megan (Jean Pierre), Dalton (Katelyn), Leah (Tanner), Terry.

Great grandchildren Destiny, Faith, Gabriel, Christian, Grace, Archer, Charlotte, Augustin, Madeline, Ivy, Ella, Sunday, and Nolie.

There will not be any formal services at this time per Gary's specific request. In lieu of flowers please forward donations to The Good Samaritan Food Pantry in Ellsworth.

Arrangements are in the care of the Ellsworth Chapel of Mortensen Funeral Homes. Please sign his online guestbook at www.mortensenfuneralhomes.com

Catherine Novotny, 85

April 19, 1939 - June 30, 2024

CHARLEVOIX

Catherine J. Novotny of Charlevoix passed away on Sunday, June 30, 2024 at McLaren Northern Michigan Hospital in Petoskey. She was born April 19, 1939, to Ellen (Hartlep) and Frank Steffel. She attended St. Francis Xavier High School and graduated in June of 1957. Growing up, she was involved in Girl Scouts, 4H, and sang in the choir at St. Francis Xavier.

Cathy was a member of the Petoskey Eagles Auxiliary where she held various offices over the years, and also maintained a charter membership of the Kalkaska Auxiliary. She became a Golden Eagle for being a devoted member for over 30 years. Cathy was a member of the Northwest Barrel Benders Horse Club, worked in the cook shack, and annually helped set up events. She also competed in the events and held the office of Vice President.

James and Catherine were married August 6, 1977, at the Congregational Church in Charlevoix. Then on April 15, 1982, they renewed their vows at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Charlevoix. She loved to camp, fish, and hunt with the love of her life, James.

Cathy is survived by six children, Victoria Rhine of Fayetteville NC, Pat (Sarah) Rhine of Parkton, NC, Kathleen (Timothy) of Charlevoix, Chery (Robert) Ripley of Traverse City, James Novotny Jr. of Charlevoix, Jeffery (Cynthia) of Charlevoix; eight grandchildren; eleven great grandchildren; one great-great grandchild; her brother, Bill (Sandy) Steffel; and her devoted caregiver, Maxine Miller.

She was preceded in death by her beloved husband, James Novotny; sons, Lawrence Rhine, Antonio Rhine, and George

Rhine; parents, Ellen and Frank Steffel; and brothers, Donald and Bruce Steffel.

Funeral details will be announced in the near future.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Hospice of Northern Michigan.

Arrangements are in the care of the Charlevoix Chapel of Mortensen Funeral Homes. Please sign her online guestbook at www.mortensenfuneralhomes.com



James "Joe" Kilmartin, 97

June 22, 1927 – June 26, 2024

CHARLEVOIX

James Joseph "Joe" Kilmartin of Charlevoix passed away peacefully on Wednesday June 26th 2024 at Boulder Park Terrace. Joe was born in Caledonia, Michigan on June 22nd 1927 to Helen and Edmond Kilmartin.

He was the middle of three brothers. Joe left home to join the Navy in May 1945. He spent a large portion of his Naval career aboard a minesweeper patrolling the Pacific Ocean. He fought in both World War II and the Korean War, earning the Victory Medal and Asiatic Pacific Ribbon.

Following his time in the Navy Joe moved back to the Grand Rapids area and started a career driving truck. He was a proud member of the Teamsters Union and loved to travel to as many places as he could, making many lifelong friends along the way.

Joe met his love, Sandy in 1974. They were married January 7th, 1976 and in 1982 they decided to leave the city life and moved to Beaver Island where they resided for nearly 20 years. Joe was an avid outdoorsman who had many friends and connections to the Island where they were quick to settle in. He became a member of the Beaver Island Wildlife Club and passed along his love and knowledge of the woods to his grandkids and anyone who wanted to tag along. He met lots of new faces delivering fuel with Gillespie Oil & Transit before becoming a deckhand with the Beaver Island Boat Company. In 2001 they moved back to the "big city" of Charlevoix. Not one to slow down, Joe retired and work for a number of years at Island Airways, becoming a memorable face to all those heading to and from Beaver Island. He was especially

close to his Island Airways family and stopped by "just to check in" as often as he could.

He had a love for life, his family, and his friends that became family that is unmatched by most.

Joe was preceded in death by his parents, brother Bernard Kilmartin, wife Sandra Kilmartin, daughter Lynn McIntee-Paulsen, and great granddaughter Harper Marie Simko.

He is survived by a brother, Edmond Kilmartin, children James (Deborah) Kilmartin, Mitch (Dawn) Kilmartin, Bernie (Sandy) Kilmartin, Tarry (Joe) McDonough, Kelly Collins, Luke (Sandy) Oliver, Darlene Risner, 17 grandchildren, and 18 great grandchildren.

Joe will be laid to rest Saturday, July 6th at Holy Cross Cemetery on Beaver Island.

Arrangements are in the care of the Charlevoix Chapel of Mortensen Funeral Homes. Please sign his online guestbook at www.mortensenfuneralhomes.com



Doyle Warner, 74

Feb. 8, 1950 – June 26, 2024

BOYNE CITY

Doyle Everet Warner, Jr. passed away on June 26, 2024 at his home in Boyne City. He was born on February 8th, 1950 to Doyle L. and Bernice (Stone) Warner and was the oldest of nine children. He graduated from Charlevoix High School in 1968 and resided in northern Michigan for the majority of his life where he spent 46 years working at East Jordan Iron Works until his retirement in 2014.

Doyle was an avid outdoor enthusiast and spent countless hours hunting and fishing throughout Michigan, Alaska, and North America. One of his greatest joys was taking his kids and grandkids hunting and fishing. Throughout his life, Doyle frequently commented how fortunate he was to have the opportunity to travel around and share experiences. He spent lots of time in Michigan and Alaska, but also Saskatchewan, Ontario, Quebec, Newfoundland, Alberta, Mexico, Wyoming, Colorado, and Wisconsin.

Wisconsin was a special place for Doyle, and he enjoyed taking many of his grandkids there for deer hunting. He was especially proud of playing a part in the first buck for so many of his grandkids. Doyle genu-

inely loved his annual deer camp trip to Drummond Island, and cherished the time spent over the years with family and friends. Stories and laughter followed Doyle to every camp and they will be dearly missed. Harwood Lake was simply Doyle's happy place; he spent over 65 years fishing there. Many an evening was spent sitting on the ice, starting at a bobber, hoping to catch some tasty bluegills for supper. Later in life, Doyle spent as much time as possible playing in the woods and waters of Alaska chasing adventure. He and Kathleen held Eagle Creek near Coffman Cove as a special place in their hearts.

Doyle was also a devoted gardener, and he took pride in the fact he always had the most beautiful gardens around. While the size of the gardens may have shrunk as Doyle's free labor moved on and there were less mouths to feed, he still planted gardens big enough to feed a small country. Giving away his delicious home grown veggies filled him with joy.

Doyle is survived by his wife Kathleen Louise Gill Warner; children Kelly (Jeremy) Neeser, Mitchell (Melissa) Dykstra, Kristi (David) Sedlock, Everet "Rick" Warner, Michael (Sarah) Warner, Amanda (Jason) Terryberry, and step-sons Brad and Andrew Louiselle; grandchildren Jonathon (Katrina), Kaylee, Joshuah, Charles, Annelise, Thomas, John, Amanda, Nikki, Lane, Chase, Hailey, Cole, Jack, and Wyatt; brothers Ken, Brian, Kelly, and Bradley; sisters Donna (Marc) Cross, Patti (Terry) Left, and Melissa Shay Warner; as well as seven great-grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

Doyle was preceded in death by his father Doyle Sr., wife Debra, infant son Doyle Kevin, and brother Gaery.

A Celebration of Life will be held September 21st.

Arrangements are in the care of the Charlevoix Chapel of Mortensen Funeral Homes. Please sign his online guestbook at www.mortensenfuneralhomes.com

Charlevoix
County News

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Water Service Line Inspections Under Way in Boyne City

BOYNE CITY – Work began on Monday June 24, for examining water service line connections at properties in Boyne City as part of Michigan’s required Drinking Water Asset Management (DWAM) program.

The purpose is to help insure the safest possible City provided drinking water. This involves inspecting what service lines are made of both outside and inside of a customer’s building.

To do this the City’s contractor, MEC Underground Services, excavates a small hole outside near the street and the exterior shut off valve. This typically does not effect a customer’s water supply.

Information about the water connections at property on both sides of the water meter are also required, usually inside of the building served. This can be done by City personnel or by the property owner providing photos similar to the one shown.

Properties are randomly selected to come up with the minimum 300 sample locations that need to be checked. If you have questions regarding this please contact our Deputy Treasurer, Jacob Duncan at 231.582.0335 or jduncan@boyneccity.com.

You can also find answers from the recording of our informational meeting on this topic at www.facebook.com/watch/?v=1646472632755065.

COMMUNITY LEADER

SIERRA ROBERTS DUNLOP

PROUD OF EAST JORDAN AND OUR SCHOOL

BY JOHN KEYSER

Mel Lindenthal recommended that I meet Sierra Roberts Dunlop, thank-fully! When I met with Sierra, it was obvious why Mel thought she would be a good fit. Two women with outstanding values and dedicated doers giving back to our community.

Sierra teaches business at East Jordan High School, middle school technology, and middle and high school swimming – and that is just the start. She formerly has been the middle school basketball, junior varsity volleyball, and varsity track coach at EJPS.

Having grown up in East Jordan, she played seven sports and earned 16 varsity letters. Sierra went on to Adrian College, where she played basketball, ran cross country, and played lacrosse. She transferred to Central Michigan to study business, play lacrosse, and student taught and then spent a school year teaching in Indiana; the summer after which, she moved back to East Jordan as she knew she wanted to live here. She loves our community and people here!



Sierra Roberts Dunlop

Sierra has now been teaching at East Jordan 12 years. During this time, she also earned her MBA in marketing at Baker College.

Just a few other worthy activities of Sierra’s are the National Business Honor Society, Business Professionals of America, which Sierra has extended

from our high school to our middle school, is responsible for the school store and successfully encourages Red Devil pride of our students and families, and this summer she will be teaching girls basketball on Tuesday and Thursday mornings. She started a Job Fair and Career Day for students at EJMHS.

Also, having someone die from cancer when Sierra was young, she has always been helping raise funds for causes to fight the disease. She started the annual EJPS purple game fundraiser for volleyball and basketball games in which money donated at the game is given to members of the community with cancer in the form of gas cards from the Helping Hearts of EJ.

I loved that Sierra mentioned that her best friends are her Mom and Sister. Very special.

In fact, when I said I admire all she is doing in our community, Sierra immediately said she learned that from her Mom and Dad, that as she was growing up, they were continually active, giving back.

Sierra has a three-year-old daughter, Gianna, the love of her life.

And for certain, Sierra is proud to be from East Jordan and our East Jordan School.

Very thankfully, Sierra is devoted to preparing our students for success after they graduate. She is a treasure to our community and our students and families.

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News

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Gov. Whitmer, Legislative Leaders Celebrate Passage of FY25 Budget Bipartisan, balanced budget will support students, boost public safety, and build affordable housing

LANSING – Today, Governor Gretchen Whitmer, Senate Majority Leader Winnie Brinks, Speaker of the House Joe Tate, and other legislative leaders celebrated passage of a balanced and bipartisan budget for fiscal year 2025 that supports students, boosts public safety, builds affordable housing, and will help anyone “make it” in Michigan.

“We are once again setting Michigan up for success by making record investments that will benefit everyone across the state without raising taxes by a penny,” said Governor Gretchen Whitmer. “This budget will grow our economy, fix the damn roads, ensure first responders have the funding to keep our neighborhoods safe, and build a heck of a lot more affordable housing, while also bringing down costs and putting more money back in people’s pockets. As a parent, I know our kids are our number one priority, which is why this budget puts students first by making historic investments to improve learning outcomes from pre-K through college, so that every child can get a world-class education. Together, we are getting things done that make a real difference in people’s lives and ensuring everyone can ‘make it’ in Michigan and will continue to improve learning outcomes so every student can succeed.”

The FY25 budget totals \$82.5 billion, including a general fund total of \$15 billion and a school aid budget total of \$19 billion.

“Today, we passed a historic, balanced state budget that truly serves and uplifts Michigan families, students, schools, workers, and communities,” said Senate Majority Leader Winnie Brinks, D-Grand Rapids. “By placing the hardworking people of our state at the forefront of our budget negotiations, we are building up a Michigan where everyone has an equitable opportunity to succeed.”

“This budget represents our core Democratic values — keeping residents safe, creating equitable housing, and making life more affordable so families can flourish,” said Speaker of the House Joe Tate, D-Detroit.

“However, passing a smart, responsible budget is not by any means just an illustration of what we stand for — these investments will provide tangible stability Michiganders can truly depend on. Every hometown from Detroit to Grand Rapids to the Upper Peninsula will benefit with tens of millions to establish a Public Safety Trust Fund, \$100 million for innovative housing programs, and tax relief for families and seniors. Michigan Dems are making transformative investments for every main street and every household — Michigan continues to be on a stronger and brighter path forward.”

“This ‘Make it in Michigan’ budget will help kids learn, reduce crime, lower costs for families, and fix our roads and bridges,” said State Budget Director Jen Flood. “This budget will benefit Michiganders for decades to come and builds on our proven track record of fiscal responsibility while creating jobs and powering economic development.”

“By making equitable and innovative investments in free community college,



support for educators, enhanced healthcare services, local infrastructure, and more, we’re laying a foundation for sustainable growth and prosperity,” said Senate Appropriations Chairwoman Sarah Anthony, D-Lansing. “Together, we are building a stronger, more resilient Michigan where every resident can prosper and thrive.”

“This budget continues our commitment to put people over politics. We are making fiscally responsible investments in communities across Michigan, ensuring our state is a place everyone can find a job, start a family, open a business and live safely,” said state Representative Angela Witwer, D-Delta Township, chair of the House Appropriations Committee. “These investments lay the groundwork to make real improvements to local infrastructure and create strong hometowns for Michiganders. Through investing in community revitalization, education and public safety, we are working to deliver stability people can depend on.”

A total of \$75 million is invested in a new revenue sharing trust fund, which supports local communities and the services they provide including first responders, transportation, and water infrastructure, as well as placemaking and recreation opportunities for residents.

Balancing Michigan’s Budget

The budget makes critical investments to ensure Michigan’s budget is balanced:

- Pays off a “mortgage” early (certain Michigan Public School Employees’ Retirement System liabilities), while protecting teacher pensions and retirement benefits, freeing up \$670 million that can be invested into classrooms to help children learn.
- \$50 million deposit into the Budget Stabilization Fund, which will bring the grand total in the rainy day fund to nearly \$2.2 billion by the end of FY25.
- \$20 million deposit (\$10 million in FY25 and \$10 million in a FY24 supplemental) into the Disaster and Emergency Contingency Fund to cover current and identified expenses and safeguard against the risks of future disasters.
- \$3.3 million to improve turnaround time and public outreach for environmental permitting.

A Better, More Affordable Education

Record investments in education, from preschool to postsecondary, are continued, including:

K-12 Education – Helping Kids Learn

- \$589 million spread across districts, ISDs, libraries, and community colleges to offset retirement costs. This saves K-12 districts the equivalent of more than \$400 per pupil, equivalent to a 4.2% foundation allowance increase.
- \$133 million, including \$25 million in new funding, to continue historic investments for student mental health and school safety needs.
- \$181 million to help students reach their full academic potential, including continuation of payments for literacy grants and literacy coaches.
- \$200 million to continue providing universally-free breakfast and lunch to Michigan’s 1.4 million public school students, helping students focus on learning and saving families \$850 per year.
- \$130 million for continued expansion of free pre-K to every 4-year-old in Michigan—two years ahead of schedule—saving

families \$10,000 a year.

- \$54 million to serve an estimated 5,300 additional children.
- \$31 million to increase the full day per child allocations to \$10,185.
- \$25 million to open new classrooms in underserved areas.
- \$18 million to continue higher payments for student transportation (total funding of \$28 million).
- \$2 million to provide marketing and outreach support to ensure families are aware of program options in their area.
- \$100 million in recognition of the crucial role high-quality teachers play in the success of their students.
- Continued support of the MI Future Educator Program, a tuition-free program for college students to become certified teachers and to provide stipend payments to student teachers.
- Funds to retain and develop existing teachers through mentorship programs.
- Continued support for payments to offset the cost of student loans for educators.
- \$97 million in funding to support academically at-risk students (9% increase), English language learners (26% increase), career and technical education students (6% increase), and students in rural school districts (6% increase).
- \$125 million to continue reimbursements to districts for transportation costs, helping ease the disproportionate financial impact some districts face—freeing up dollars available for the classroom.
- \$75 million to support students through before and after school programming.
- \$65 million to fund a 15% rate increase for childcare and bonuses for childcare workers.

Higher Education & Workforce Development

- A 1.5% ongoing and a 1% one-time increase for university and community college operations to support higher education learning and to advance the Governor’s goal of 60% of working adults earning a degree or skills certificate by 2030.
- \$30 million investment to increase funding for the Michigan Achievement Scholarship, the state’s flagship scholarship program, providing a pathway to community college, tuition guaranteed.
- Expands the Michigan Achievement Scholarship with the Michigan Guarantee to ensure every Michigan high school graduate can receive an associate degree or skilled certificate tuition-free at a community college, saving more than 18,000 students up to \$4,820 on tuition each year.
- Equivalent of up to \$27,500 toward the cost of attendance for a bachelor’s degree for eligible high school graduates.
- \$52 million to continue Michigan Reconnect, providing a tuition-free pathway to adult learners 25 and older.
- \$20 million increase in the Tuition Incentive Program, which provides tuition support to lower income students in Michigan’s community colleges, public universities, and private universities.
- \$14.5 million for the North American Indian Tuition Waiver, to provide tuition-free education to eligible Native Americans at Michigan public universities and community colleges.

Lowering Costs

The FY25 budget puts money back in people’s pockets, including:

- \$3 million to create the Secure Retirement program, a state-managed retirement plan marketplace that allows small businesses (fewer than 100 employees) to participate and provide retirement savings plans to their employees at no cost to the employer.
- \$500,000 to continue the federal EBT summer food benefit program, which distributes \$108 million in

federal funds to ensure children have access to nutritional food throughout the summer months, saving families \$120 per child.

- Continues the Working Families Tax Credit, which was quintupled last year, delivering tax relief to working families, directly benefiting half of all Michigan kids.
- Continues providing tax relief to Michigan seniors, following the 2023 repeal of the retirement tax, putting money back in the pockets of hundreds of thousands of households.

Making it in Michigan

The budget powers economic development, rebuilds our roads and bridges, builds strong communities, replaces lead pipes and more, including:

Economic Development

- \$45.5 million for Talent and Growth to support Michigan’s current and future workforce needs and population growth, including specialized economic assistance to businesses locating or expanding in Michigan to meet their talent and workforce needs, developing customized talent solutions to fill identified talent gaps, and grow Michigan’s population.
- \$2.5 million for the Economic and Worker Transition Office to aid Michiganders with the transition to electric vehicles and clean energy, and prepare for the jobs of the future.
- \$50 million in continued funding for the Revitalization and Placemaking program, including support for a new program to implement transformational public space development projects that will increase the population by creating high-density, high-amenity, walkable, vibrant neighborhoods and business ownership opportunities for locals.
- \$10 million for Minority Owned Business grants.
- \$100 million to construct more affordable housing, building on the historic \$1.4 billion investment to build or rehabilitate almost 10,000 homes and the unprecedented \$50 million set aside for housing.
- \$3.3 million for the Housing Readiness Incentive Grant Program to provide grants to local communities to cover the costs associated with master plan updates, zoning amendments, and other actions to encourage increasing housing supply and affordability.
- \$3 million to establish a Farm to Family program, focusing on building agricultural diversity, fueling economic growth in agriculture, increasing food security, providing healthy food options, and cultivating climate resiliency across the industry.
- \$500 million in continued investment in the Strategic Outreach Attraction Reserve fund to attract new manufacturers and industries to Michigan helping to diversify our economy and compete nationally for high-paying jobs.
- \$60 million to establish an Innovation Fund to invest in scalable startups and help launch hundreds of new Michigan-based companies, creating thousands of jobs.
- \$15 million to build off the iconic Pure Michigan campaign, on top of the \$15 million in existing general fund for the program.
- \$2.5 million for the Office of Rural Prosperity to expand outreach and grant funding in rural communities throughout the state.
- \$75 million in a new Revenue Sharing Trust Fund to continue support for all cities, villages, townships, and counties across the state.

Rebuilding Our Infrastructure

- \$150 million to support the reopening of the Palisades Nuclear Facility in Southwest Michigan, protecting 600 high-paying jobs at the plant and 1,100 additional jobs throughout the community while helping Michigan reach its clean energy goal.
- \$509.4 million for water infrastructure to fund lead service line replacement and water infrastructure, and climate change mitigation.

- \$48.3 million to provide loans and grants to local communities to support projects associated with lead service line replacement.
- \$74.5 million of new one-time funding for local roads and bridges and other critical infrastructure projects.
- \$247.6 million of new funding to improve state and local roads, highways, and bridges across the state. The FY25 budget includes a total of \$4.2 billion for road and bridge construction projects, including \$1.7 billion in federal highway aid from the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.
- The new investments in roads and bridges will add to \$700 million from the final tranche of Rebuilding Michigan Plan bonds to be issued later this year. Key upcoming Rebuilding Michigan projects include work on I-94 near Detroit Metro Airport, I-696 from Southfield through Warren, and a critical bridge project in Erie Township.
- \$75 million of additional funding to support local transit operating expenses, federal transit capital grants, marine passenger services, rail operations and transit capital matching funds.
- \$20 million of federal American Recovery Plan funding to support local transit operating expenses.
- \$24 million to support new technology and mobility projects, including drone infrastructure projects, e-bike incentives, and an inductive charging pilot project.
- \$7.1 million of additional funding for Michigan airports and air service retention and enhancement.

Reducing Crime & Keeping Michigan Healthy

The budget includes funding to keep Michigan families safe and healthy, including:

Public Safety

- \$75 million to establish a Public Safety Trust Fund to provide cities, villages, and townships with additional resources for police services and to support community violence intervention efforts.
- \$75 million in a new Revenue Sharing Trust Fund to continue support for all cities, villages, townships, and counties across the state.
- \$15 million for capital improvements and infrastructure projects at Selfridge Air National Guard Base.
- Hire and train 120 Michigan State Police troopers, and \$5.5 million to support salary and equipment costs of the 145th state police trooper recruit school, anticipated to graduate 50 new troopers this summer.
- \$25 million for lifecycle upgrades to the state’s safety communication system, ensuring this critical infrastructure supports state and local emergency personnel.
- \$5.4 million to continue implementing recommendations based on recommendations of the Task Force on Juvenile Justice Reform.
- \$17 million to fund grants for local prosecutors to reduce caseload per attorney in the counties with the highest levels of violent crime.
- \$8.8 million to support various investments to increase offender success through education, training, and reentry programs.
- \$4.4 million for a new National Guard armory in the Grand Rapids area.
- \$1.4 million to protect the State Capitol by increasing MSP’s capacity to safeguard those who work in and visit the Capitol and Heritage Hall.
- \$7.8 million for firearm injury and violence prevention grants, and community violence intervention services to reduce gun violence and save lives.
- \$3.2 million for disaster recovery in communities affected by natural disasters.

Public Health

- \$161.5 million to establish new Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics sites across the state to serve as many as 35,000 additional individuals, providing them with behavioral health services.
- \$18.1 million in funding to continue the Healthy Moms, Healthy Babies program which helps new and expectant mothers receive the

care they need and reduce racial disparities in infant and maternal mortality.

- \$37 million in new funding for the Family Independence Program, including the first meaningful change to the FIP payment rate since 1990, and expanded supplemental payments to families with young children.
- \$28.7 million to fund a 20-cent an hour raise for direct care workers.
- \$2 million to fund sexual assault victim services.
- \$40 million for federally qualified health centers and \$17.2 million autism Medicaid rate increases.
- \$8.1 million for a Medicaid rate increase for private duty nursing services.
- \$7 million to provide vaccinations to young children.
- \$5.6 million funding to expand contraceptive coverage and family planning services.
- \$20 million to provide new funds to communities that identify innovative approaches to support expectant parents and newborns.
- \$1.8 million to ensure children have access to health care through MIChild, saving families \$120 a year per child.
- \$5 million to help low-income households with pre-weatherization and improve the energy efficiency of their homes, reducing utility bills.
- \$7.3 million to ensure individuals experiencing behavioral health crises have access to the Michigan Crisis and Access Line 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
- \$2.5 million for smoking cessation and tobacco prevention programs to expand current efforts in addressing tobacco use among Michigan’s adult and youth population.
- \$1.5 million to increase the clothing and holiday allowances for children in foster care. This investment is the first increase in state support to foster parents for clothing and holiday presents in over 20 years, increasing the clothing allowance by 40-50% (depending on the child’s age) and tripling the holiday allowance.
- \$500,000 for technical assistance and equipment to ensure the water is safe to drink in the state’s child care centers.
- \$4 million additional in internet gaming, internet sports betting, and state lottery funds to support Problem Gambling services.

A Fairer and More Equitable Michigan

The budget recommendation calls for investments that will build a fairer and more equitable Michigan, including:

- \$37.4 million of new funding for local trial courts to support the effective and fair assistance of counsel for indigent criminal defendants across the state. In addition, \$1 million of new one-time funding is included for the University of Michigan Law School to support competent legal representation for juvenile defendants in felony cases.
- \$18.5 million total to implement recommendations of the Racial Disparities Taskforce, including neighborhood health grants, mobile health units, sickle cell support and more.
- \$2.5 million to fund grants to nonprofit organizations to reduce veteran homelessness.
- \$5 million to continue the MI Contracting program to assist small and disadvantaged businesses in securing equipment and insurance to help them compete for contracts.
- \$2.4 million to make state government more accessible by ensuring information and materials are provided in the languages spoken by Michigan residents.
- \$800,000 for state certification, credentialing, and endorsement of approximately 1,000 interpreters serving the deaf, deafblind, and hard of hearing community.
- \$1 million for district courts to help individuals regain their driving privileges.

— Submitted by Michigan Executive Office of the Governor

News

OFFICE@CHARLEVOIXCOUNTYNEWS.COM

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

To the Editor,

Our community has a public library that has earned the title, "The Living Room of the Community."

The 1927 historic elementary school that was renovated as our present library has served our citizens of all ages in many ways. The library staff is welcoming to visitors and citizens, providing education, a variety of programs, meeting rooms, and many other services.

Thousands of guests visit our library because someone has advised them that they "can't miss seeing such an amazing library." I was entering the library just the other day and overheard a woman, who was obviously a first-time visitor, exclaim about how beautiful the library was.

The community of Charlevoix voted in 2004 to support the transformation of the middle school to our present library by supporting a twenty year bond and operating millage.

You, the taxpayer have finished paying off the loan and now it is time to renew the operating millage. The library board of trustees is requesting an operating millage of 0.8 mills. This will result in an overall reduction in taxes for our property owners.

I am supporting our library with a "yes" vote on August 6th.

A "yes" vote will allow our wonderful library to continue the outstanding services that it provides for Charlevoix.

Susan Van Wieren
Long-time Member of the Charlevoix Library

The Veteran of the month for July 2024 is Raymond Pierre Speltz. Born July 26, 1940 to parents Theodore and Mildred Reinhardt Speltz. He grew up on his family farm of which he cared for throughout his life. After graduating from Boyne City High School in 1958, he would soon enlist into the United States Army on September 19, 1963.

After completion of basic training, Ray was sent for 8 weeks schooling in Light Wheel Driver training, and also Wheel Vehicle Mechanic training. He was then assigned to the 605th Transportation company and sent to the Republic of Vietnam. Completing one year, six months and ten days of overseas duty in Vietnam and South Korea, at the United States Army Personnel Center, Oakland

VETERAN OF THE MONTH

Raymond Pierre Speltz



Raymond Pierre Speltz

California, Ray received an Honorable Discharge from Active Military Service,

transferred to the Army Reserves and was awarded the National Defense Service

Medal; Vietnam Service Medal; Vietnam Campaign Medal; Good Conduct Medal.

Returning home to Boyne City Michigan, Ray's patriotism continued with his involvement in the Ernest Peterson Post #228 of the American Legion in Boyne City.

On September 23, 1967 he married Irene White and together would raise a son and daughter in the Boyne Area. Ray retired in 2006 after a long career as custodian for Boyne City High School. He was a man of many skills and passions including building; fishing; hunting; masonry; and farming.

On September 5, 2023, Raymond Pierre Speltz answered the final call and is being honored by his extended family.

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The Municipal Harbor offers 27 seasonal boat slips, 27 transient boat slips, shopping docks, full-service Midgrade (87 Octane) and Premium non ethanol (91 octane); both have Valvteck Marine fuel additive, pump-out station, ice and restrooms. Shower facilities are available for seasonal and transient slip holders.

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News

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Concerns Rise as Walgreens Considers Store Closures Amid Rite Aid Shutdowns

BY LAURA JASURDA

In light of Rite Aid's recent announcement to close all its Michigan stores, including our Charlevoix location, Walgreens' potential plan to close hundreds of additional stores over the next three years has sparked local concern.

According to Local9and-10News.com, Walgreens CEO Tim Wentworth indicated that changes are imminent for about 25% of their stores due to underperformance and market chal-



Charlevoix Walgreens (Photo Credit: Laura Jasurda)

lenges. Wentworth stated, "We are at a point where the current pharmacy model is not sustainable, and the

challenges in our operating environment require we approach the market differently."

To address these concerns, I spoke with an employee at the Charlevoix Walgreens, who assured me, "No, we won't be one of the ones closing. In fact, we're being moved up a tier." While this is reassuring, the broader implications of Walgreens' strategy remain uncertain.

As the situation develops, residents can continue to rely on Charlevoix Walgreens and Central Drug Store for their pharmacy needs.

Attorney General Nessel Releases Response to SCOTUS Ruling in Trump v USA

LANSING – Today, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in Trump v. United States that a former president has absolute immunity from criminal prosecution for exercising their core constitutional powers, and at least presumptive immunity for other official acts. The Court has tasked the lower Courts to review the pending cases and apply its holding to the various crimes of which former President Trump is accused.

Michigan Attorney General Dana Nessel released the following statement in response to today's decision:

"President Trump's unprecedented actions on January 6th were an insidious effort to undermine the U.S. Constitution he took an oath to uphold, a direct attack against American democracy, and certainly not an official act of the Presidency. He attacked our founding values in an effort to maintain power for himself. Regardless of which



cabinet cronies he pleaded or conspired with in doing so, it was not Constitutionally protected activity of an American President, but a damnable, contemptible, and criminal strike at the soul of our nation.

"The following inscription stands above the sixteen marble columns flanking the entrance to the United States Supreme Court: 'Equal Justice Under Law.' Those words stand as a promise to every American citizen that before the court we are all equal. Today's decision by the U.S. Supreme Court undercuts the foundation of that promise and our nation. It sends the message that the President of the United States may stand above the law and may be able to skirt justice. In this matter, such a message undermines one of the cornerstones of our

democracy – a peaceful transition of power.

"Still worse is the Court's holding that the official acts of a president may not be admitted in evidence at a criminal trial, even when they are relevant to unofficial acts of which the former president is accused. The majority has bent over backwards to shield former President Trump from any consequences of his crimes.

"It is incumbent to the rule of law and the future of our great nation that the district court holds that Trump's efforts to cling to power – in defiance of the results of the election – were not official acts of the office of the Presidency, but the personal acts of a desperate want-to-be King. It is not the official role of any President to ignore the results of free and fair elec-

tions in favor of their own preference to stay in office, or to try to improperly influence state and federal officials to assist in that, or to incite his followers to insurrection.

"In a truly equal nation, no one is above the law, or immune from it."

Justice Sotomayor opened her dissent by noting that this decision "makes a mockery of the principle, foundational to our Constitution and system of Government, that no man is above the law. Relying on little more than its own misguided wisdom about the need for 'bold and unhesitating action' by the President . . . the Court gives former President Trump all the immunity he asked for and more. Because our Constitution does not shield a former President from answering for criminal and treasonous acts, I dissent."

Submitted by: Michigan Department of Attorney General

LEADERSHIP

Try to be early, Always

BY JOHN KEYSER

I believe an important way to live is to try to always be early, like 15 minutes early.

When one is early, it shows desire. Decisions are often influenced by a gut feel: "Who wants it the most?"

And, of course, the opposite is true – being late is not impressive. Sure, people make excuses, think they get away with it – maybe they do, maybe they don't. Seldom will someone say they were not impressed that we were late arriving, though really, they are disappointed.

My experience was and is that things seem to take a favorable turn when I arrive early. Often the person I am meeting sees me, seems surprised and pleased, and invariably our meetings get off to a good start.

Maybe my being early is taken as a sign of respect or maybe as a sign of desire.

And in both cases, they are correct. It is respect and desire on my part!

I mentioned I was writing this article to Michael Balter, Charlevoix writer and retired senior executive. He mentioned that he had worked closely with a highly successful and admired CEO, who believed our being early was our obligation. In fact, five minutes after his meetings started, he would walk to the door of the room and lock it.

Extreme?

Yes, but it makes the point.



John Keyser

One of the greatest football coaches, I believe it may have been Vince Lombardi, insisted his team members to be early to practice, that if they arrive at the time practice was begin, they were late!

I also believe when we arrive early, very often good conversations happen.

Many years ago, I read a quote "The reason for my success is that I am always 15 minutes early." The wrote that on a card, put it in my wallet, where it is today. That was more than 40 years ago, and I believe it has served me well.

"Who wants it the most?" matters! Being early is a sign of wanting it!

John and his wife, Kerry, live in Charlevoix, was a senior executive in the corporate world in NYC, Chicago and DC, then founded Common Sense Leadership, a leadership coaching and consulting practice, helping senior people in the business, academic, and religious worlds improve leadership, their own and their team's. John is a graduate of Georgetown's Institute for Transformational Leadership and Life Purpose Institute. Kerry teaches at St. Mary School in Charlevoix and heads Encounter School of Ministry, Charlevoix campus.

ASK LAURA

YOUR DOSE OF POSITIVITY AND INSPIRATION

The Power of Believing

Dear Readers,

"If you believe you can or you can't, you're right." This quote by Henry Ford is one of my favorites because it perfectly encapsulates the power of our mindset.

Our beliefs shape our reality and can either propel us to success or hold us back.

When I first started my business, I had the privilege of meeting with a New York Times bestselling author and industry expert. I was eager to get his advice on what I should do to find success.

During our conversation, he asked me to rate my belief in three areas on a scale of 1-10: the products I represent, the industry I am in, and belief in myself. After sharing my numbers, he looked at me and said, "You'll find success when you achieve 10, 10, 10."

He also mentioned that most people rate their belief in themselves the lowest. He told me, "Work for on yourself than you do your business."

This was a turning point for me. I realized that my journey to success was not just about the products or the industry but about my belief in myself. This revelation started my journey as a mindset student, which eventually led me to become a mindset coach.

Through this journey, I learned the power of the mind. It's crucial not to let negative self-talk, naysayers, challenges, or situations dictate your life. Your background, whether it's your family, city, or socioeconomic status, does not de-



Laura Jasurda

fine your potential. Instead, cultivate an expectant belief and faith in the dreams that may seem invisible.

Believe in the abundance, impact, health, wealth, and rich life that you seek. Speak empowering words over your life and out loud if you can. The power to achieve all of this is within you.

Remember, our thoughts, words and beliefs are incredibly powerful. They can shape our reality and determine our success.

So, dear readers, believe in yourselves. Believe in your dreams. Know that with the right mindset and faith, you can achieve anything you set your mind to. Stay inspired and keep believing!

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.

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-PET OF THE WEEK-

BARNABAS (BARNEY)

Hi there, I'm Barnabas, but my friends call me Barney. I don't really care what you call me as long as you've got a treat in your hand. I hecking love food! My last family was unable to take care of me and my high energy so they brought me here to the shelter. It was so very scary at first, but I quickly learned that everyone here is really nice and almost always keep cookies in their pockets.

I am a little unsure of other dogs right now and would need a very slow introduction to any new dog friends. I've gotten to see a few cats in my time here, but I don't know quite how I feel about living with one, they are strange little creatures. I did live in a home with children so I'm used to those strange little creatures, but I get so excited I may knock them over.

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BOYNE CITY PAVILION SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

The Boyne Area Chamber of Commerce Pavilion Summer Concert Series is located at the pavilion in Veterans Park for the 2024 summer season. Concerts will take place each Wednesday evening, 6:30pm-8pm, through August 28.
7/3/2024 - No Concert this week!
7/10/2024 - Billy McAllister
7/17/2024 - Charlie Millard Band
7/24/2024 - Greg Vadnais Quartet
7/31/2024 - James Michael Duo
8/7/2024 - Crosscut Kings
8/14/2024 - Lavender Lions Duo
8/21/2024 - Delilah DeWylde
8/28/2024 - Nelson Olstrom

EAST JORDAN MUSIC IN THE PARK SUMMER 2024

July 5th – Pine River Jazz
July 12th – Two Beats
July 19th – RPM
July 26th – Union Guns
All Shows 7:00 p.m. - Memorial Park Bandshell

ELLSWORTH CONCERTS ON THE SQUARE

July 3-Country Thunder
July 10-Cyndel Thompson
July 17-Two Beats
July 24-OJ Adkins
July 31-Strings Attached
August 7-Foghorn Jazz
All Shows 7:00 PM - Ellsworth Community Square

CHARLEVOIX LIVE ON THE LAKE

A free Summer Concert Series takes place in picturesque East Park at the Odmark Performance Pavilion located in downtown Charlevoix. The amphitheater is nestled along the shores of Round Lake overlooking the Charlevoix Marina and offers tiered seating with grassy knolls large enough for lawn chairs and picnic blankets. So grab the family,

get some carry-out from a nearby restaurant, and enjoy the show!
July 4, 7pm - IPR Sound Garden Project
July 11, 7pm - Hazel James Band
July 18, 7pm - The Marsupials
Aug. 1, 7pm - Pocket Watch
Aug. 8, 7pm - Levitator w/ Super Nuclear
Aug. 15, 7pm - Ryan Curtis

EAST JORDAN MONTHLY DINNER FUNDRAISER

The American Legion, Rebec-Hosler-Sweet Post #227 (305 Main Street) hosts a monthly dinner fundraiser the 1st Saturday of the Month hosting a Monthly Dinner Fundraiser for the G.A.R. Park upgrades on the first Saturday of each month. 4:30PM - 7PM. Suggested donation: Adult - \$12, Children - \$8, Under 5 Free. Dine in or take-out available. July 6, Aug. 3, Sept. 7, Oct. 5, Nov. 2, Dec. 7

VANDERBILT ASTRONOMY LORE & LEGENDS

The Pigeon River Country Discovery Center is hosting a free "Astronomy Lore & Legends" workshop on July 6th from 6 to 8PM. Star Lore Historian Mary Stewart Adams will take you on a riotous astronomical ride, following Odysseus through the stars and imaginations of some of history's most well-known figures. Registration required at <https://qrco.de/bf7m8Y> or go to pigeonriverdiscoverycenter.org and look under the "Events" tab. This will be an outdoor workshop, unless it rains (then we will go inside). Bring a camp chair, bug spray and dress for the weather.

CHARLEVOIX SUMMERTIME MUSIC AT THE CHARLEVOIX PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Charlevoix Public Library is once again the place to be for live music in the summer! We are thrilled to announce that SummerFolk and Jazz @ The Library (JATL) continue this summer during June, July and August. Billy McAllister also returns to present Frankie and the Crooners. Concerts are outside in the Children's Garden – bring your own chair! Rain location in the Community Room. SummerFolk Concert Series: Second Monday of the Month beginning at 6:30PM
July 8: Laura Thurston
August 12: Jessica Dominic
September 9: The Rhythmskool

CHARLEVOIX JAZZ AT THE LIBRARY (JATL)

Wednesdays in July & August from 7 – 8PM
The Library is excited to continue hosting Jazz at the Library (JATL) this summer as it has for many years

past, featuring the Steve Stargardt Trio with Andy Evans, bass; Jon Lindeneau, drums; and Steve Stargardt, piano.
July 10: Jack Stargardt on Bass & Nick Birchler on Piano
July 16: Bill Sears on Sax
(July 24: Venetian Week: No Concert
July 31: Mike & Michelle Davis, Sax & Flute
August 7: Rick Stewart on Trumpet & Vocals, Mike Hunter on Trombone, & Bill Sears on Sax
August 14: Nancy Stagnitta on Flute
August 21: Family & Friends
JATL is sponsored by the Dion Family Charitable Fund, Melvy Lewis, Bobbie Rassieur Williams - in memory of Bob Williams, Lynne and Mason Rosenthal, and Patrons of JATL

EAST JORDAN JORDAN VALLEY COMMUNITY BAND

Thursday Evenings in July 11th, 18th, 25th at the Memorial Park Bandshell

ELLSWORTH WATERFRONT PARK IMPROVEMENTS

The Village of Ellsworth values your input. We in the process of making plans to improve our two waterfront parks in the future. We invite you to complete the following survey. www.surveymonkey.com/r/Ells-Park

HARBOR SPRINGS 42ND ANNUAL BLISSFEST

The Annual Blissfest Music Festival is a celebration of music, culture, art, and community featuring a world of diverse and innovative folk, world and roots music, and dance at the Festival Farm in picturesque rural northern Michigan. July 12-14.

BOYNE CITY BOYNE THUNDER FRIDAY NIGHT STREET SHOW

Our downtown comes alive Friday, July 12 as we welcome Boyne Thunder Poker Run families and friends to "stroll the streets" check out some amazing boats, listen to music, enjoy entertainment, children's activities and so much more.

BOYNE CITY 21ST ANNUAL BOYNE THUNDER POKER RUN

Join us for the Boyne Thunder Poker Run that takes our 120 participant boats on a 150 mile journey in Lake Charlevoix and Lake Michigan. In Boyne City on Saturday, July 13 at approximately 10am you can watch these boats do a parade lap in Lake Charlevoix.

CHARLEVOIX ART & CRAFT SHOW

Saturday & Sunday, July 13 & 14 in East Park, downtown.

EAST JORDAN SOUTH ARM CLASSIC CAR SHOW

The annual show that will be held on Saturday, July 13th in Memorial Park, downtown. South Arm Classics Car Show is sponsored by the East Jordan Lion's Club. For more information on the Car Show email southarmclassics@gmail.com.

EAST JORDAN FISH AND FOWL EXHIBIT

From fins to feathers, this exhibit at the Jordan River Arts Council thru July 27 and showcases our delight and fascination with fish and birds. Participating artists have considered the unique traits, beauty and symbolism associated with these species in ways that are realistic, whimsical and abstract. The Jordan River Art Center is located at 301 Main St. Open Friday - Monday, 12:30 - 4:40PM.

EAST JORDAN PORTSIDE ART FAIR

August 3, 4, 10am - 4pm at Elm Pointe, just 1/5 miles north of East Jordan, 01656 S. M-66. Juried art show, live entertainment, historical museum, snack booth, homemade pies. www.portsideartfair.org.

CHARLEVOIX COUNTY GARDEN PARTY

August 8th, 5-7:30 pm, stroll through our Native Plant Educational Garden as you enjoy BBQ from Stiggs, sip on libations from Stiggs Beer Truck (cash bar) and listen to live music from Boyne City's own, Nelson Olstrom. Learn about our newest project, Barn Raising for Conservation Campaign, as you bid on fun Silent Auction items featuring great prizes from local businesses. Grab a door prize just for stopping by, and pick up tons of conservation resources for landowners too.

EAST JORDAN SUMMER ADVENTURE CLASSES

Summer Adventure Classes for Kids (SACK) programs #1-9. Classes are scheduled Mondays through Thursdays each week. SACK programs run through August 22. AM classes run from 10:30AM to noon. PM classes run from 12:30PM to 2PM.

CHARLEVOIX FREE SUMMER MOVIES AND FOOD DRIVE

Charlevoix Cinema free summer movies series & food drive lineup. Join us for free weekly movies and bring along a canned/dry good to donate to Charlevoix Rayder Den. We can't wait to see you at the movies!

BOYNE CITY SPLASH PAD

The Splash Pad is open for the season at Peninsula Beach, 310 Front Street. Aside from normal amounts

of sand from a user's feet, please do not carry sand or dirt onto the splash pad or its fountains. This can cause issues with clogging and interrupt or delay use of the splash pad.

EAST JORDAN FARMERS MARKET

The East Jordan Garden Club's Farmers Market, held each Thursday from 10AM - 2PM at the East Jordan Tourist Park. Fresh veggies, fruit, baked good, handmade items, fresh cut flowers and much more.

CHARLEVOIX COUNTY CHAMBER CASH RAFFLE

The awesome Charlevoix County Chamber Champion Cash Raffle is underway! Only 400 tickets will be sold at \$100 each. First place is \$10,000, second place is \$2,000 and third place \$1,000. Drawing to be held on November 1st. Tickets available at the East Jordan Area Chamber of Commerce and from Board Members and at Charlevoix Chamber of Commerce & Board Members. Raffle license #R75404

CHARLEVOIX COUNTY ADVERTISING FUNDS THE CHARLEVOIX COUNTY NEWS

We love to run community announcements and news releases about all the things happening in Northern Michigan in the Charlevoix County News. We help publicize hundreds of events and activities all across our area. The Charlevoix County News is distributed by mailed subscription and at locations throughout Boyne City, Boyne Falls, Charlevoix, East Jordan, Ellsworth and Petoskey. Our main source of revenue comes from advertising. If your business or organization has an advertising budget, be sure to include the Charlevoix County News. While other newspapers in the area are quickly fading, the Charlevoix County News is growing. Our news-stand prices and advertising rates are far less than any other paper and your message will reach readers all across the area. Contact us at Office@CharlevoixCountyNEWS.com or call 989-732-8160. One of the few Locally Owned and Locally Operated newspapers in the state.

CHARLEVOIX FARMERS MARKET

The downtown farmers market is held every Thursday thru October 31 on Bridge St. 8am - 1pm. 34 vendors plus music organized by Blissfest Music Organization and sponsored by Pat O'Brien & Assoc. Real Estate.

BOYNE CITY FARMERS MARKET

The market now meets at the Veterans Park Pavilion every Saturday, 9am - 12:30pm. Fresh produce, local artists and live music.

EAST JORDAN FARMERS MARKET

The East Jordan Garden Club's Farmers Market, held each Thursday from 10AM - 2PM at the East Jordan Tourist Park. Fresh veggies, fruit, baked good, handmade items, fresh cut flowers and much more.

CHARLEVOIX FREE BREAKFAST CLUB TEAMS UP WITH COA

Collaboration Between The Free Breakfast Club & Commission On Aging has begun. Anyone can come to the Shirley Roloff Center (old Elementary School on Division), between 8-9am and get a free breakfast sponsored by Safe Haven and our volunteers. You may dine in, take out or get curbside pick-up. This will happen at the Shirley Roloff center every Tuesday and Friday for all ages at no cost.

NORTHERN MICHIGAN CHILD CARE PROGRAM

The MI Tri-Share Child Care Program help companies retain their employees by participating and pay 1/3 of the cost of childcare, the OCEA (Grant from the State of MI) pays 1/3, leaving the parent only to pay 1/3 of the childcare cost. We are looking for smaller businesses that want to help their employees. We can help self-employed families by paying 1/3 of cost. They would be responsible for 2/3 of the cost. Non-Profits can participate with this program to help their employees. For more information call 989-731-7510 or email Brandy@Gaylord-Otsego.com

EAST JORDAN TEEN CENTER


The Depot Teen Center Located in the Teen Zone at 214 Main St. Serving 6th-12th Graders throughout Northern Michigan Wednesdays & Fridays after school until 6PM. EJDepot.org. (231) 222-2224. DepotJVTeenCenter@gmail.com

CHARLEVOIX GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

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. There is no charge to attend. Please feel free to call Hospice at 231-547-7659 to register.

EAST JORDAN CANCER SUPPORT GROUP

Cancer and Caregiver Support group meets at 10am the 3rd Saturday of each month at Lighthouse Missionary Church.



Charlevoix County News

15th Anniversary


To recognize our 15th Anniversary of the Charlevoix County News, we are donating \$15 to local charities from every subscription to the Charlevoix County News during June and July. Subscribers can select one of the 6 charities they would like the \$15 donation to go to.

The Charlevoix County News is the area's only locally owned newspaper and is filled with local news and sports from our area.

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You may order your subscription by phone, email or by mail. Contact Dave Baragrey to order your subscription and make a donation to a local charity.

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WEEKLY CHOICE & CHARLEVOIX COUNTY NEWS NAME GIRLS SOCCER ALL-AREA



GAYLORD'S CLAIRE GORNO IS THE PLAYER OF THE YEAR; ZACH JONKER IS COACH OF THE YEAR

BY BEN MURPHY

The Weekly Choice and Charlevoix County News take great pride in presenting our sport specific dream teams after each season. Soccer gets to have their time in the spotlight in this issue, while softball and baseball will get their moments in the coming weeks.

As always, this area was rich with talent on the soccer field this spring.

Claire Gorno, Gaylord's standout senior forward has been recognized as our player of the year. Gorno had eight goals and an impressive 16 assists for the Lady Blue Devils this spring. They had a strong season in the challenging Big North Conference and had a huge win over Petoskey in the district final to claim a district championship, and Gorno was a major contributor all along the way. For her career she had 49 goals and 85 assists; both are believed to be program records.

She is joined by teammate Haiven Gautreau, another forward to our first team, though her stats were not provided.

Petoskey had a great season as well, going 13-3-3 overall. Their head coach Zach Jonker has been named our coach of the year as a result. They were an impressive 7-1-3 in the Big North Conference, to give themselves the league championship.

The Lady Northmen have three first teamers on our Dream Team. Sadie Corey, a junior goalkeeper, Lauren Cole, a senior midfielder and Annika Gandhi, a junior forward.

Corey was one of the area's top goalies, getting 11 shutouts and allowing just one goal in six other contests. Cole had a great season as well, getting seven goals and six assists and Gandhi managed 11 goals and seven assists.

Cheboygan was strong this spring as usual as well. Senior midfielder Taylor Bent and sophomore forward Jaelyn Wheelock get spots on the first team. Bent

missed about one-third of the season with an injury, but she still put up great stats for the Lady Chiefs, getting 11 goals and five assists. Wheelock led the team in goals with 13, and she assisted on two; she could be one to watch in future seasons for Cheboygan.

Alpena was able to get a pair of first team honorees as well. Faith Dragiewicz had an impressive 17 goals and she was able to chip in with six assists. Wisniewski also had 15 goals and 10 assists.

Boyer City, Grayling and Charlevoix had one first teamer each. Boyer City had Braydin noble, and the junior midfielder had a great spring with 17 goals and six assists. Edith Boik of Grayling gets a first team nod, and after she saw time as a midfielder and forward, she racked up 14 goals and two assists. Addison Boop, Charlevoix's goalkeeper, had 147 saves this spring and was able to get five shutouts.

PLAYER OF THE YEAR Claire Gorno

BY BEN MURPHY

Gaylord's Claire Gorno did whatever it took to help her team win; and she was happy to do it. So, when Gorno was asked to move from forward to midfield before her junior season, she embraced it. She flourished at that position too, and in her senior season in 2024, she had eight goals and 16 assists for the Lady Blue Devils, and has been named the Weekly Choice and Charlevoix County News girls soccer player of the year.

"The beginning of my career I started more as a forward and was scoring pretty



All-Area Player of the Year Claire Gorno takes the ball up the field. RDSportsPhoto.com

much every game," Gorno said. "As people graduated and our team changed, I moved back to midfield and had some great forwards in front of me. It was fun at the beginning of my career to score the goals, but it was fun to play midfield and get the assists too."

Athletes don't always adapt so quickly to their roles changing, but Gorno, who finished with 49 career goals and 85 assists, did so without batting an eye.

"My team has always been really supportive," she said. "My coach Chris Adams was really helpful, helping me make the switch. (With the players around me) it was really easy to make the

switch."

A major season highlight for the Blue Devils was defeating Petoskey in the district championship game, 2-1 in a shootout. Gaylord had lost to the Big North Conference champion Lady Northmen in two close regular season contests, but got their revenge in the post-season.

"That was great, every kid dreams of winning districts, the last time we won was 2006," Gorno said. "I think we were truly the better team. I feel like we just had heart, not that Petoskey didn't but we had a great coach behind us and we just wanted it really bad."

The good news for Gorno

is that she isn't done just yet playing soccer. She is set to join the soccer program at Albion College, where she will study elementary education. From her first visit to the campus in October, she felt it was the place for her.

"I immediately liked it," Gorno said. "It is a great area and a great fit for me soccer-wise, and the coaches are amazing. The program is good right now, but I think (with) the people we are bringing in we are supposed to be really good. I really like the school and the people I know who have gone there have said great things about it."

COACH OF THE YEAR Zach Jonker

BY ANDY SNEDDON

PETOSKEY – Adapt or perish.

Seems a little harsh, no? True though, particularly when it comes to coaching. There's also something to be said for staying true to oneself and to loyalty.

Zach Jonker has been the ideal combination of both. And he's flourished.

The 2024 Weekly Choice girls soccer Coach of the Year led Petoskey to the Big North Conference championship, finishing 7-1-3 in league play and 13-3-3 overall after a heartbreaking 2-1 shootout loss to Gaylord in a Division 2 district championship game.

"Winning the league means we were the most consistent team over those six weeks of the league season which I think says a lot about the type of kids we have," said Jonker, who, in 15 seasons in charge of the Northmen girls program has compiled a 121-73-36 record, 92-46-33 Big North.

"It's got to be about the journey and it was a really fun journey throughout the regular season. We were bummed out not to find one more goal there in the district championship game, but I think we can reflect back on the season and say it was a huge success how we performed in the league."

Jonker, who retired just weeks ago from Petoskey High School after a 25-year career teaching economics, is a PHS grad who was a soccer and basketball standout at the school. He earned four letters on the pitch at Hope College and then returned to Petoskey after

See All-Area .10

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2024 CHOICE PUBLICATIONS ALL-AREA GIRLS SOCCER DREAM TEAM

DREAM TEAM GIRLS SOCCER FIRST TEAM

PLAYER OF THE YEAR



CLAIRE GORNO (12) GAYLORD



HAIVEN GAUTREAU (12) GAYLORD



TAYLOR BENT (12) CHEBOYGAN



JAELYN WHEELOCK (10) CHEBOYGAN



ADDISON BOOP (12) CHARLEVOIX



BRAYDIN NOBLE (11) BOYNE CITY



FAITH DRAGIEWICZ (11) ALPENA



REESE WISNIEWSKI (12) ALPENA



EDIE BOIK (12) GRAYLING



LAUREN COLE (12) PETOSKEY



SADIE COREY (11) PETOSKEY

PETOSKEY GIRLS PHOTOS COURTESY OF SANDRA THOMAS

ANNIKA GANDHI PHOTO UNAVAILABLE.



Sports

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2024 CHOICE PUBLICATIONS ALL-AREA GIRLS SOCCER DREAM TEAM

DREAM TEAM GIRLS SOCCER SECOND TEAM



MARIAH TURNER (12) GAYLORD



KAITLYN PANOSSO (11) GAYLORD



BRIDGET MCHUGH (10) BOYNE CITY



MACKENSY WILSON (12) BOYNE CITY



KARLEE EATON (12) CHARLEVOIX



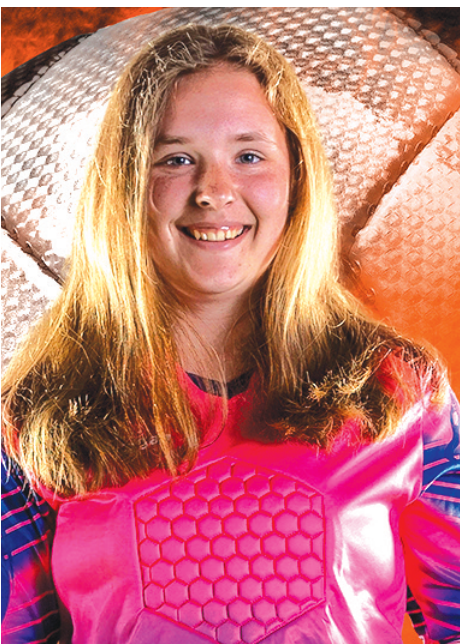
HAI DYN WEGMANN (10) PETOSKEY



BRYNN JONKER (11) PETOSKEY



KAYMAN MCCOLLEY (12) GRAYLING



MIA DAVIS (11) CHEBOYGAN



JILLIAN MCKINLEY (10) CHEBOYGAN



ALISON BOROWSKI (12) ALPENA

Honorable Mention

- Alpena:** Annabelle LaCross, Sophie Kindt
- Boyne City:** Gabby Dunlap, Jacky Dunlap
- Charlevoix:** Ava Boss, Kylee Rice
- Cheboygan:** Bella Lail, Ava Baldwin, Addie Baldwin
- Gaylord:** Lilly Willbee
- Grayling:** Emma Kuziel
- Petoskey:** Lilly Premo, Madi Smith

All-Area

Continued...

earning his degree in 1999. He succeeded legendary Scott Batchelor as the Northmen boys and girls soccer coach and has kept both programs among the very best in Northern Michigan. Jonker credits not only Batchelor, but his PHS basketball coaches, specifically Dennis Starkey and Matt Tamm, for helping mold him into the leader he has become. "There are a lot of people that I could look to as role models and lean on for advice," he said. "That was a big part of it. "I think each year it's been about becoming better with how our training sessions were run and finding the proper rhythm with the season. I've gotten better at balancing the workload over the course of the season with training. "We stopped having practices on Fridays; everybody was burned out on Fridays because you typically play Tuesday (and) Thursday in the league and we've got really high-level student-athletes who are taking tough classes so now on Fridays we just do



Petoskey's Zach Jonker is the All-Area Coach of the Year.

yoga. "I've been a lifelong learner on the soccer side and there's been a lot of continuing education to become better tactically. It's been a lot of fun and I've had the good fortune to coach a lot of

incredible kids and there's a lot of really special families in the community." Six of those 'incredible' kids comprised his 2024 senior class, a core that helped deliver Petoskey its first Big North title in a dozen years. "Our senior leadership was exceptional," Jonker said. "Also, they were phenomenal students and led by example in the classroom for our younger kids. Our team GPA this year was 3.82." Jonker, like any successful coach, recognizes that it's never about just what the athletes learn and how they develop once they hit the doors of the high school. The foundation is the Petoskey Youth Soccer Association. "The Petoskey Youth Soccer Association is in its 45th year and it's still a grassroots community-based program that's super affordable and creates incredible opportunities for kids to get introduced to the game and grow," Jonker said. "Obviously both our (Petoskey High School) boys and girls programs have benefitted immensely from that. "Any success our boys and girls teams have ever had has been the direct result of all the efforts of the volunteers in our Petoskey Youth Soccer Association."

Coaching Staff:

- Zach Jonker- Petoskey - Coach of the Year
- Chris Adams- Gaylord
- Tom Markham- Cheboygan

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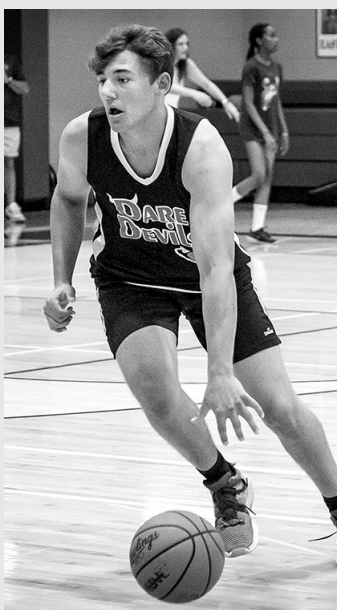
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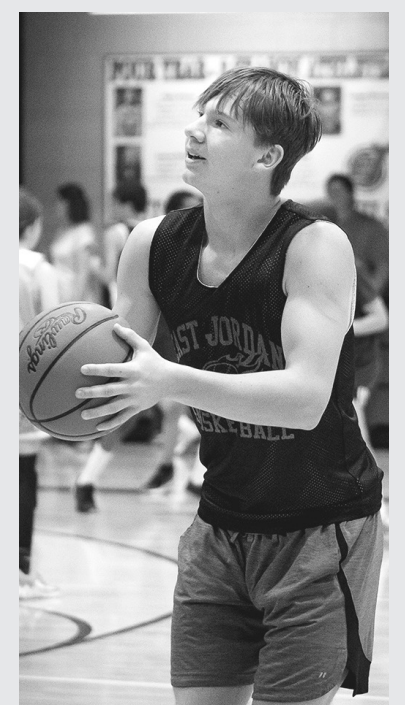
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A couple “tips” for enjoying the outdoors...safely and comfortably!

BY JACOB VANHOUTEN

“STAY COOL!”:
Beat the heat...Utilize Fieldsheer’s new technology to keep safe and cool during the long hot summer.

One thing that can really ruin your time outdoors during the sunny (and sometimes not so sunny!) summer weather in Michigan, it to suffer adverse effects of sunlight and heat. Heat stress and stroke as well as painful sunburn can turn any good time outside into a not so nice, or even dangerous, experience. And no one wants that! So how do we avoid the consequences? Instead of a gallon of sun-screen or other greasy or spray-chemicals, try using a “coverup” ... that is, a technology driven garment like a long sleeve, hooded shirt. A company call Fieldsheer has developed a wonderful new product for being safe outdoors... which leads to a more enjoyable experience all around... even after you come in from outside!

The company sells several products/garments that work well but I know I’ve use the long sleeve hooded shirt to cover up to protect my skin from harmful UV rays and to maintain a cool core body temperature. They work great because most the time when outside, I’m pretty active. Well, most the time! And I don’t like sweating too much.



Keep these products in mind to protect yourself and loved ones while enjoying yourself in Michigan’s numerous opportunities. Especially on the water or during those cloudy days when sun burn and heat stress can “sneak up on you.”

Designed for even the warmest climates, Fieldsheer’s cooling clothing for men (and women) wicks moisture away, keeping you cool, dry, and comfortable no matter the weather conditions. They offer a versatile selection of cooling shirts so that you can stay cool during any outdoor activity. Whether you spend the summer enjoying long hikes or working at a hot construction site, their cooling clothing will keep you safe from harmful UV rays, heat exhaustion, and dehydration.

From long summer-time hikes to any of your favorite outdoor activities, their cooling apparel delivers powerful protection from harmful UV rays. Overheating is not only uncomfortable but can be unsafe. Fieldsheer’s cooling



apparel allows you to stay outside longer without harmful effects or fatigue associated with heat exposure.

They also make “mobile heating” products as well for when Michigan turns cold again!

Contact:
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Consumers:
cs@fieldsheer.com

Let Nature be your guide... and your salve! How Jewelweed can help stop what’s itching you!

Jewelweed. Ever heard of it? Well you might want to check it out the next time you or your little one decides to roll in stinging nettle or poison ivy. Maybe even the time you get anemic after a “non-consensual blood draw” with the help of black flies or mosquitos. If you live in Michigan, you know about these and other fun “itchy”

things we run into while enjoying the outdoors.

I am lucky enough to have found a simple solution to my problem with biting flies and plants that like to leave me scratching. And you my dear readers are lucky that I am about to share it with you. It’s no secret that “all natural” is the latest rage ... but remember not everything natural is good for us! Especially when it’s a nice patch of stinging nettles we run into. Yes, it’s edible, but why would you? Ok here’s why:

Stinging nettle offers a variety of vitamins, minerals, fatty acids, amino acids, polyphenols and pigments — many of which also act as antioxidants inside your body. Not to mention it’s been indicated for treatment of high blood pressure and enlarged prostate and inflammation. But it’s a real stinker when it causes that burning itch when human

skin comes in contact with the tiny hairs on the leaves and stem.

I can remember numerous encounters as a kid running amuck in the wild... large stands of the weed growing taller than me grew along Plaster creek and surround wetlands. Yikes, it sure felt like fire on my skin. If only I knew about jewelweed.

Yup, that usually orange flowered plant growing along wetlands/streams/ponds. It’s been used for centuries for tea and medicinal purposes. Less common form is the yellow jewelweed which also grows in moist areas, sometime right alongside the more common orange flowered version.

So, if you don’t feel like finding your own jewelweed, making a tea or slave to rub on your itchy spots (yes, from nettle, poison ivy, bug bites, or other skin irritants)... you may want to just purchase some.

In today’s world that is quite easy. A good spot on-line is a place called “Willowtreeoagery.com”. Full disclosure: I happen to know it’s good stuff and handmade because it’s done by one of my nieces... Brooke Cousins! Along with other things like being a mom and teaching. Yes, I’m a proud Uncle! Check ‘em out on Facebook or you can shop Etsy: www.etsy.com/shop/WillowTreeSoapery also.

Their Jewelweed salve (it also comes as a spray-on) is of course

“all natural”...made from Jewelweed stems, leaves and flowers. The salve also has soothing olive oil, beeswax, Vitamin E, and essential oils of Clary Sage, Lavender and Lemongrass. Sounds good enough to eat... but don’t. Use it on your itch!

I highly recommend it and here are a couple quotes from online reviews:

“Every time I get bit by mosquitos, I welt and bruise, the bites itch for days to weeks. This stuff works amazingly! I tried it on two different bites shortly after getting bit and didn’t have any itching or welts!! Highly recommend. Shipping was fast too!”

—E. Tippet

“I could not decide if I wanted the spray or the salve, so I just went with both!!! I love the spray for poison ivy. That way you don’t have to touch the rash. I’m here to tell you, this stuff is a miracle! My daughter reacts very strongly to anything itchy. This stuff has saved our summer!” —L. Solomon

Might be worth a try next time you or your loved ones get all “itchy”! Stay well my friends and enjoy the summer months without many potential itch-inducing encounters.

But remember, yes, you can still get poison ivy in the fall and winter! I got a pretty good itch while cutting firewood (the vines that grow quite thick on tree trunks remain itch-producing all year).



SAVE \$14,152

2024 COACHMEN NORTHERN SPIRIT ULTRA LITE 2963 BH TRAVEL TRAILER

Bunkhouse sleeps 9, outdoor kitchen, slideout, Dual Ducted Air Conditioning System, "Easy Up" Quick Connect Stabilizer Jack Bit, Exterior Dog Leash Clip, wireless phone charger. Lot of extra features. MSRP \$47,147.

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SAVE \$23,978

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2019 FORD ECOSPORT HATCHBACK
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2014 Subaru Outback
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110 K miles.



2018 FORD ESCAPE SEL
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Used 2022 Coachmen RV Freedom Express Liberty Edition 320BHDSLE Travel Trailer. 3 slideouts, bunkhouse sleeps 8, outdoor kitchen, kitchen island, fireplace. OUR PRICE \$37,995. LIST PRICE \$42,995. DISCOUNT \$5,000. As low as \$369 a month. Northern Michigan RV. 277 Expressway Court, Gaylord. 989-448-8700. www.NorthernMichiganRV.com. MON-SAT: 9AM - 5PM. Closed Sunday

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2012 GMC Yukon. 3rd row seat, 4x4, 187 K miles. Sale Price \$8,995. As low as \$249 a month. Rivertown Auto Sales & Leasing. 989 VFW Rd, Cheboygan. 231-627-6700.

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2011 Ford F-250 Super Duty. 6.7L Power Stroke Diesel, soft tonneau cover, tow pkg, 296 K miles. Sale Price \$16,495. As low as \$550 a month. Rivertown Auto Sales & Leasing. 989 VFW Rd, Cheboygan. 231-627-6700.

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2015 GMC Sierra 1500. Regular cab, tow pkg, bedliner, 8 foot bed, 192 K miles. Sale Price \$7,995. As low as \$219 a month. Rivertown Auto Sales & Leasing. 989 VFW Rd, Cheboygan. 231-627-6700.

2018 Chevy Colorado. 4x4, 120 K miles. Sale Price \$23,995. As low as \$429 a month. Rivertown Auto Sales & Leasing. 989 VFW Rd, Cheboygan. 231-627-6700.

2018 Toyota Tacoma TRD Sport. 4x4, fiberglass topper, tow pkg, rear camera, bedliner, 132 K miles. \$24,995. As low as \$409 a month. North Fin Automotive located at Byrider - 2215 US Hwy 31 N, Petoskey. Call Zeke Eberly, 231-347-3200. Buy. Finance. Drive On.

2020 Ram 1500 Classic. 4x4, double cab, rear camera, tow pkg, Leer Topper. 178 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.

2022 Ram 3/4 ton. 4x4, crew cab, long bed, 55 K miles. Sale Price \$32,995. As low as \$499 a month. Rivertown Auto Sales & Leasing. 989 VFW Rd, Cheboygan. 231-627-6700.

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2010 Dodge Caravan. Rear load wheelchair ramp. Sale Price \$5,995. As low as \$249 a month. Rivertown Auto Sales & Leasing. 989 VFW Rd, Cheboygan. 231-627-6700.

2010 Dodge Caravan. Rear load wheelchair ramp. Sale Price \$5,995. As low as \$249 a month. Rivertown Auto Sales & Leasing. 989 VFW Rd, Cheboygan. 231-627-6700.

2016 Ford Transit Connect. Cargo van, 255 K miles. Sale Price \$9,995. As low as \$249 a month. Rivertown Auto Sales & Leasing. 989 VFW Rd, Cheboygan. 231-627-6700.

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2017 Ford Transit Connect XLT. 7 passenger, 160 K miles. Sale Price \$11,995. As low as \$239 a month. Rivertown Auto Sales & Leasing. 989 VFW Rd, Cheboygan. 231-627-6700.

2019 Chrysler Pacifica. Double moon roof, rear camera, bluetooth, 4 captain chairs, 110 K miles. Very nice. Sale Price \$23,995. As low as \$419 a month. Rivertown Auto Sales & Leasing. 989 VFW Rd, Cheboygan. 231-627-6700.

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REAL ESTATE FEATURE



**PRICE REDUCED ON BEAUTIFUL HOME ON
TWO ACRE SETTING NEAR EAST JORDAN**

BY JIM AKANS

This week's feature listing is a wonderful ranch style home in a beautiful northern Michigan two-acre setting centrally located between East Jordan, Boyne City and Ellsworth.

This three bedroom, two bath home offers just over 1,350 square feet of nicely designed space on the main level plus a full basement. Highlights include an open floor plan, ideal for family comfort and for entertaining family and friends, gorgeous wood flooring and tongue and groove wood ceilings, fireplace with stone surround, spacious

kitchen with plenty of countertop work space and cabinetry storage, a huge finished basement space and more.

A covered front porch and open deck on the back of the home provide great spots to sit back and enjoy the natural beauty of the surroundings. In addition to the attached garage, the two-acre property includes a second detached garage, a large outbuilding with overhead door and a workshop. The amenities and location are simply amazing.

This ranch home in a gorgeous private, two-acre setting is located at 96 North Advance near East



Jordan and the listing price has just been reduced to \$399,900.

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 HollyUpNorth@gmail.com



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**Who Needs Title Insurance?
You do, but make sure you
know your options**

During the real estate transaction (especially if you're a first-time buyer), you're hit with so many foreign terms, fees and requirements your head spins. One of those strange and unfamiliar costs is title insurance. In most cases, borrowers have no option—either you get title insurance (among other requirements) or you don't get a loan.

The lender says you need it, you want the loan to go through, so you buy title insurance. Great. So what is title insurance?

When you buy a home you want to make sure that the people selling it actually have full and legal title. The party who conducts closing will check this out by going down to the local property records office to re-search the history of ownership.

But those records down at the property office may be official, but they may also be wrong. It's also possible that the person who does the title search can make a mistake and also that important information may simply not be recorded.

For instance, maybe a bill against the property was not recorded or some taxes were not been paid. Or, suppose that 40 years ago the property you want to purchase was owned by Smith. Let's also imagine that Smith was a bigamist with an extra spouse. Will this matter show up on the local property records? Not likely. Does the additional Smith spouse have an ownership claim against the property? That may only be clear after a lot of legal wrangling—and if you lose, you could lose the house.

There may be other odd and bizarre claims as well. Was an owner an alcoholic? Insane? A drug user? Is there a contractor with a claim against the property? Such issues can "cloud" titles and neither lenders nor owners want clouds.

One form of title insurance, "lenders" coverage, is designed to protect (who else?) your lender in case of title problems. "Lenders" coverage is required and generally provides protection up to the original mortgage amount—if you buy a home for \$300,000 and get a \$250,000 mortgage, then \$250,000 is as much coverage as you can get with a lender's policy. If there's a claim, the title insurer will fight on your behalf and if there's a claim the policy will pay off the loan if necessary. This is good news for you because you won't owe the lender a dime if you lose in court.

But there are also some options.

For instance, you can also get "owners" coverage. This will protect your equity—that \$50,000 in the example above not covered by the lender's policy. And you can often get an "inflation rider" with an owner's policy—as the value of your home goes up, so does the value of your title coverage.

While title insurance is required by virtually all lenders, there is one big exception: Loans made in Iowa. In Iowa, the state says that attorneys and others who do title work must participate in a title guarantee program. If there's a title error, the state fund provides coverage.



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