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Thursday, January 16, 2025

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Inside this week!

INSIDE

WINTER 2024-25
EAT, STAY, AND PLAY
IN BEAUTIFUL NORTHERN LOWER MICHIGAN

- NEWS**
- Weather - Page 2
 - Ask Laura - Page 4
 - Dave Says - Page 5
 - ECS Middle/High School - Lancer Of The Month - Page 4
 - News Briefs - Page 6
 - Boyne Falls Public School - Student Of The Week - Page 6

- SPORTS**
- GIRLS BASKETBALL**
- Ellsworth streak reaches six of seven - Page 7
 - Boyne City girls get home wins over Charlevoix, Kalkaska - Page 7
- BOYS BASKETBALL**
- Ellsworth Boys move back over the .500 mark - Page 8
 - East Jordan boys roll to win over Pellston - Page 8
- BOYS BOWLING**
- Varsity Boys Win 1 and Lost 1 - Page 10
 - Ramblers Girls win two in Rogers City
- WRESTLING**
- Rayders Wrestle Well; Despite Injuries - Page 10

- CLASSIFIED ADS - Pages 12-15
- Auctions - Page 12
- Help Wanted - Pages 12-13
- Legal Notices - Page 13

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BOYS BASKETBALL

Boyne City Boys Outlast Charlevoix In Rivalry Battle, 56-45

BY BEN MURPHY

It was a fun Friday night for the Boyne City boys basketball team. The Ramblers were hosting rival in-county Charlevoix in a Northern Shores Conference battle, and they outlasted the Rayders to claim a hard fought 56-45 victory, in front of an extremely excited home crowd.

"We know this game versus Charlevoix is always intense and we had a great crowd to show for it," Boyne head coach Rob Jensen said. "We have been playing with great intensity and executing much better. We are starting to find out who we are and playing well."

The game was deadlocked at 8-8 after the first quarter, though Boyne was able to gain a 25-20 lead at the half. They still led by five after three, 38-33 and they put a little more distance on Charlevoix in the fourth.

"They just beat us in every facet of the game," Charlevoix head coach Anthony Troshak said.

"We played hard, fought back a few times but it was not our night."

The Ramblers were led by Jaden Alger who had 21 points and seven rebounds and Ben Stanek had a season high 13 points. Ryan Spate, Drew Neer, Rider Peck and Luke Vanzee all had five points each.

For The Rayders, Joe Gaffney netted 17 points and Logan Wadkins hit double digits as well, getting 11.

BC vs. Kalkaska

On Tuesday, Jan. 7 Boyne won another league game, this time on the road at Kalkaska, 61-41.

They held a 15-8 lead after the first quarter. At the half it was 32-22 and after three their advantage was 46-36.

They had Alger lead things with a solid double-double, getting 19 points and 12 rebounds. Spate poured in 13 points and VanZee and Hewitt had eight points apiece.

RIVALRY, CONTINUED ON PAGE 7



Logan Wadkins takes a shot between two Rambler defenders. Photo Scott Richards

Boyne District Library Celebrates the Grand Reopening of the Children's Department; Thanks to Generous Contributions

We had a wonderful time celebrating the Grand Reopening of the Boyne District Library Children's Department.

This beautiful learning sanctuary invites children of all ages to enjoy cozy reading nooks, shelves of books, interactive computer games, and so much more!

This was all made possible by the Kiwanis Club of

Boyne City and the Friends of the Boyne District Library for their generous contributions, as well as the Boyne District Library Endowment at the Charlevoix County Community Foundation for its annual disbursement that helped fund this project.

We look forward to sharing this space for years to come!



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1/13/2025	10.4 Atlanta
1/13/2025	60.5 Boyne Falls
1/13/2025	33.8 Charlevoix
1/13/2025	24.3 Cheboygan
1/13/2025	80.2 East Jordan
1/13/2025	116.6 Gaylord
1/13/2025	83.5 Kalkaska
1/13/2025	21.9 Mio
1/13/2025	70.4 Petoskey

2023-24 AMOUNT	
1/15/2024	31.8 Alpena
1/15/2024	9.6 Atlanta
1/15/2024	33 Charlevoix
1/15/2024	18.5 Cheboygan
1/15/2024	36.4 East Jordan
1/15/2024	56.1 Gaylord
1/15/2024	51.5 Kalkaska
1/15/2024	25.1 Mio
1/15/2024	49.1 Petoskey

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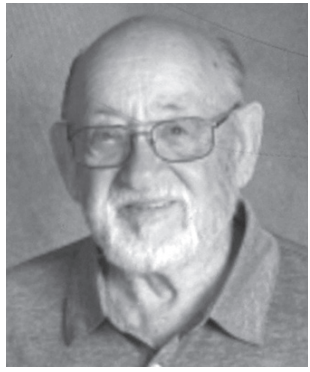
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weather forecast

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
HIGH: 33 LOW: 28	HIGH: 36 LOW: 24	HIGH: 27 LOW: 10	HIGH: 13 LOW: 5	HIGH: 8 LOW: 4	HIGH: 15 LOW: 12	HIGH: 18 LOW: 17

record temps

Day	Avg HIGH	Avg LOW	Record HIGH	YEAR	Record LOW	YEAR
Jan 16...24	11	49	1973	-16	1983	
Jan 17...24	11	48	1973	-22	1978	
Jan 18...24	10	53	1996	-20	2005	
Jan 19...24	10	47	1996	-22	1983	
Jan 20...24	10	39	2018	-15	1983	
Jan 21...24	10	43	2018	-25	2019	
Jan 22...24	10	47	2002	-17	1954	



Frank D. Dycus, 84
(Oct. 25, 1940 - Jan. 13, 2025)
ELMIRA

Franklin D. Dycus of Elmira passed away on January 13, 2025, at the Blissful Cottage in Petoskey.

Son of George and Julia (Wallen) Dycus, Frank was born in Flint, Michigan. He grew up in Flint and graduated from Flint Central High School.

On April 23, 1969, he married the love of his life Leona DeButts at Holy Rosary Catholic Church in Flint.

Frank worked as a painter and maintenance technician for McDonald Dairy for 35 years. He also perfected dog obedience training as a trainer for many years.

Frank was an avid golfer and part-time deer hunter. He loved to grow roses and was proud of his outdoor garden.

He was a member of the St. Augustine Catholic Church in Boyne Falls, Michigan, and sang and played guitar in the choir. Frank was also a member of the Companion Dog Club.

Frank had a quirky personality that could make anyone smile. He was always nice, loving, considerate and generous.

He is survived by his wife Leona Dycus; his children Kelly Darger, Shari (Mark) Little, Frank Dycus, and David Kinney; nine grandchildren and two great-grandchildren; his brother Doug (Sarah) Dycus; sister-in-law Evelyn Star; brothers-in-law Don, Gary, and Dewayne DeButts; and many nieces, nephew, and cousins.

Frank is preceded in death by his parents George and Julia Dycus; his sister Lois Palmer; and his brothers Duane and Gerald Dycus.

Those wishing to make a charitable donation in Frank's memory are asked to consider St. Augustine Catholic Church.

A funeral mass officiated by Father Dennis Stilwell will be at St. Augustine Catholic Church on January 16, 2025, at 11:00 AM. Rosary will begin at 9:30 AM and visitation will begin at 10:00 AM.

Arrangements are in the care of Stackus Funeral Home of Boyne City.



M. Inis (Howard) Harmon, 95
(Nov. 6, 1929 - Jan. 11, 2025)
BOYNE FALLS

Inis Harmon, a beloved wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, sister, aunt and friend, passed away peacefully on January 11th, 2025, at the age of 95. Born on November 6, 1929, in Chandler Township, Boyne Falls, to Roscoe and Bertha (Frale) Howard.

Inis lived a life that was rich in love, faith, and heartfelt relationships with those around her. Inis was united in marriage to the love of her life, Ralph Harmon, on August 12th, 1950, marking the beginning of a love that would last a lifetime.

Together, they built a family that was a source of pride and joy for many years. Inis's heart was filled with love, and she shared it freely with everyone she met. She was known for her kindness and unwavering faith, characteristics that defined her throughout her life.

In addition to her family, Inis was passionate about gardening, cooking, and sewing. She found joy in tending to her beautiful flower gardens, where her green thumb brought forth vibrant blooms that mirrored her personality. In the kitchen, she created meals that brought her family together, sharing not just food, but love and cherished memories.

Inis's life was not without its sorrows. She was preceded in death by her parents, Roscoe and Bertha, beloved husband Ralph, and her two cherished sons, Howard and Patrick. She also mourned the loss of several of her brothers and sisters, but through her grief, she remained a pillar of strength for her family, instilling in them the values of love, faith, and resilience.

As we celebrate the remarkable life of M. Inis Harmon, we remember her as a loving, kind, and faithful woman who devoted her life to her Lord and her family. Though she has left this world, her spirit lives

on in the hearts of all who were fortunate to know her. M. Inis Harmon is survived by her: daughter, Maureen (John) Hausler of Boyne Falls, son, Kelly Harmon and Mickey Hoffman of Boyne Falls, and daughter, Kathee Harmon of Lowell, Michigan, daughter-in-laws: MaryEllen Harmon and Rebecca Palmiter. Inis is also survived by her grandchildren: Nicole (Thomas) Horseman, Christa (Allen) Martin, Ali (Zach) Holm, MelodyAnn Harmon and Branden, Miriah (Derick) Hudson, Austin Harmon and Janelle, Zoe Harmon and many great-grandchildren. Inis is also survived by three of her twelve siblings: Keith (Jane) Howard, Judy Marie (Stewart) Smith, and Shirley (Francis) Hiar, brother-in-law Bill StAmand, sister-in-law Nancy Howard and many nieces and nephews.

A visitation at Stackus Funeral Home will be on January 16, 2025, from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM. The funeral will be officiated by Pastor Paul Wise on January 17, 2025, at 11:00 AM with visitation beginning at 10:00 AM at Stackus Funeral Home. A luncheon will follow the funeral at the Chandler Hill Township Hall, formally the Red School House where Inis attended grade school, at: 7620 Chandler Hill Road, Boyne Falls, MI 49713. A graveside service will be at the Boyne Valley Township Cemetery on May 9, 2025 at 3:00 PM.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorial donations be directed to the Nehemiah Project: 36 Bridge Street PO Box 2457 Petoskey, MI 49770.



James "Jim" Burk, 80
(Aug. 23, 1944 - Jan. 9, 2025)
CHARLEVOIX

James Walter Burk of Charlevoix, formerly of Saginaw, passed away on Thursday, January 9, 2025, at his home with his loving family at his side. He was born on August 23, 1944, in Saginaw, the son of Walter and Leona (Datte) Burk.

Jim graduated from Arthur Hill High School in Saginaw, and went on to earn an Associate's Degree from Northwood University. Shortly after, he enlisted

in the United States Air Force and served his country for four years. Upon returning home to Saginaw he worked several jobs before carving out a career at the wastewater treatment plant, eventually becoming a shift foreman. He was a longtime member of the American Legion post in Saginaw. Eight years ago, he and his wife Susan moved to Charlevoix, spending their winters in Naples, FL.

Jim was always looking for his next project as he had many interests and was always willing to help others in any way he could. He loved deer hunting and looked forward to spending time every year with his extended family at their deer camp in Mio. He enjoyed fishing but especially enjoyed salmon fishing on Lake Michigan. He looked forward to his annual, week-long salmon fishing trip with his cousin Kevin Datte on Lake Michigan. Jim worked tirelessly to restore his sailboat Lasata and spent time in the summer vacationing on it with his wife every summer. He loved to entertain family and friends by cooking, baking and grilling for them. His latest passion was preparing meals on his flat top griddle and baking homemade bread. Jim was also a skilled woodworker, and had recently begun working with his CNC machine to create customized images on wood and acrylic. He was eager to learn something new every day and was able to do just about anything he set his mind to because of this trait. He will be deeply missed by all who knew him.

Jim is survived by his beloved wife of 44 years, Susan (Noey) Burk; four children, Lisa (Alan) Redding of Bloomington, MN, Michael (Morgan) Baker of Minneapolis, MN, Stephen (Maggie) Burk of Lebanon, TN, and Susan (Tony) Zikovich of Mt. Juliet, TN; and nine grandchildren, Alexander, Logan, Evan, Theodore, Harriet, Hallie, Katie, Ryan, and Anna. He was preceded in death by his parents; his grandson, Braden; and three sisters, Joan Burk, Jane Monge, Judith Lindsey. Jim's family would like to extend their utmost gratitude to special friends Ann Peterson, Lynn and Judy Sprout for their assistance and support during this difficult time.

A celebration of Jim's life will take place in the summer of 2025.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

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



Richard Jolliffe, 94
(Oct. 4, 1930 - Jan. 8, 2025)
ELLSWORTH

Richard L. Jolliffe of Ellsworth passed away on January 8, 2025 at the American House in Charlevoix. He was born on October 4, 1930, in Charlevoix, the son of William and Frances (Lord) Jolliffe.

Richard served his country during the Korean War and was honorably discharged in 1953.

In his younger years, he enjoyed camping, going on motorcycle trips with his family and was a long-time volunteer at Good Samaritan in Ellsworth.

Surviving are 4 children, Susan (Dave) Maas of Jamestown, MI, Kevin Jolliffe of Jenison, MI, Rhonda (Amy) Jolliffe of Akron, OH, Laura (AL) Elhart of East Jordan, a brother Bob (Noreen) Jolliffe as well as many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Preceding him in death were his wife Esther Jolliffe, his parents and several siblings.

Funeral services took place on Saturday, January 11, 2025 at the Ellsworth Chapel of Mortensen Funeral Homes. Pastor Chris Wallace officiated.

Burial will be in the spring at Norwood Cemetery.

Memorial contributions can be made to Advicare Hospice at 4234 Cascade Rd SE Grand Rapids, MI 49546 or to The Front Porch at PO Box 37 Ellsworth, MI 49729.

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

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LEADERSHIP

Please Tell Me Something I Do Not Want To Hear

BY JOHN KEYSER

I wish I could remember who wrote the article suggesting leaders ask this question.

“Please tell me something I do not want to hear.” I would certainly credit the author.

When I read this, I immediately took note, and am totally in agreement with the value of this request.

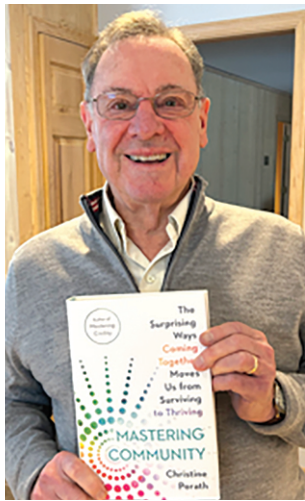
We want to lead with humility and empathy, and it takes humility to want to hear how we and our team may improve. This signals our strength. We all, every one of us, have areas of potential improvement, and allowing ourselves to be vulnerable and sincerely wanting to learn how we may be more effective is very important. It’s a path to success.

Generally, as a boss or a manager, the less honest feedback we receive. People tend to tell us what they think we want to hear.

Sheila Heen, co-author of Thanks for the Feedback, offers an idea. Knowing that people are hesitant to deliver unfavorable feedback, and especially to those who may have positions above theirs, she suggests an approach. She suggests sharing with people with whom we work and trust that we are trying to improve, as we all should, and to ask them “Please tell me two things you feel I am doing well, and also two things you think I could do better.”

If they realize we are genuine, that we want their help and will not be defensive or angry, the pressure is off, and we will gain valuable ideas.

Of course, the request “Please tell me something I do not want to hear” will also lead to our gaining rich information, information that could well help us be-



John Keyser

come better, be it our self, our team, business.

The most effective leaders I have been fortunate to work with do not have big egos.

They know they may be good at what they do, and they know they can be even better, and they seek honest and timely feedback.

In a conversation with a pastor, he said everyone he greets after church says “Nice homily,” and while he certainly loves seeing that, he wishes for feedback that could help him improve. He is genuinely striving to be as effective as he can possibly be as a priest/minister in serving his people.

Let’s embody humility, seeking honest and timely ideas for improvement.

Let’s consider requesting selected people to “Please tell me something I do not want to hear.”

John 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. His wife, Kerry, teaches at St. Mary School in Charlevoix and heads Encounter School of Ministry, Charlevoix campus.

COMMUNITY LEADER

RILEY PETERSON

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BY JOHN KEYSER

Thank you, Annie Oosthuizen for the recommendation that I meet Riley Peterson as she does right work with our students at Charlevoix High School and at our hospital, and that she is very, very popular with a great many. I was barely into my conversation with Riley when I realized this is definitely true and why our students and others she helps like her so much. She has high standards, just wants to help. She deeply cares about others and our community, and has no personal agenda.

Riley grew up in Boyne Falls, attended Boyne City schools, and then on to North Central Michigan College where she attended their nursing school. Her Mom is a school social worker with Char-Em ISD and arranged for Riley to help teach nursing aide, which Riley very much enjoyed. Her leader at Char-Em was Jim Rummer and he was very encouraging and gave Riley the confidence that this was the field for her and that she has much to offer.

Her husband, Nathan, grew up in Ellsworth and is with 4Front. They live in Charlevoix.

Riley worked out a position as a health occupations teacher and school nurse at our Charlevoix Middle/High School.

She is wearing a lot of hats, as she teaches three courses and is a nurse, and she arranges for her students who have an interest in the healthcare field to



RILEY PETERSON

shadow doctors, nurses, other healthcare providers, and other care givers to gain a real sense of what they do, what their days are like, and how their feel, e.g., their fulfillment. Riley loves being an influencer herself and helping those in need.

Riley brings students to various facilities to gain a sense of the learning resources available to them after high school. In fact, she brought a group of students up to Northern Michigan University in Marquette.

One of the students is now in healthcare program there and two have committed for after they graduate. Also, her former students come back to speak at Riley’s classes, explaining

what they are learning and how much they value and appreciate the field. One of her former students gave a very informative and well received talk about her fulfillment as an oncology nurse.

I was impressed when Riley explained that she aims to be encouraging every day, for example, some days they focus on the curriculum, and other days they discuss life. This commitment is similar to my wife, Kerry, who teaches religion at St. Mary School. Some days they discuss the required resources of the course and other days her students pray for each other, family, friends, and those in need, and they are deepening their experience of God’s presence.

Riley now has the benefit of high-tech manikins, and her students learn head to toe assessments, and how to speak with the patient represented the manikin, develop muscle memory skills, e.g., washing hands thoroughly before and each visit and make sure to give patients their call light before exiting their room.

Her students also get time and teaching from Lake Charlevoix EMS about emergency skills. Some of Riley’s students are from East Jordan’s School. It is terrific that our schools share resources as our enrollments are small due to our lack of affordable housing situation.

I asked Riley about her principle challenges, which are...

- Staying highly organized as she has so much she wants to do
- Wondering if she is doing enough to keep her students engaged and challenged
- Time to take interested students on trips to experience colleges and other health science programs

Riley is very appreciative of our hospital, doctors, nurses, and other health care providers who partner with her to invite our interested students to shadow them to learn and experience their care giving lives and fulfillment.

I assure you, we are blessed to have Riley and her unwavering commitment to our students and our care giving field. She is a special resource!

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News

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House Republicans set to continue efforts to save tipped-workers and small businesses

Rep. Fairbairn, select committee slated for hearings this week

State Rep. Parker Fairbairn on Monday joined his House Republican colleagues in announcing the Select Committee on Protecting Michigan Employees and Small Businesses will hold its first hearing Tuesday, January 14. Fairbairn, who was named to the committee last week, has heard from a multitude of servers and small business owners throughout the Northern Lower Peninsula and Eastern Upper Peninsula about the importance of this issue.

“As we gear up for the committee process to begin this week, it’s essential we remember that this work cannot occur solely within an echo chamber in

Lansing,” said Fairbairn, R-Harbor Springs. “My wife and I have spent months visiting restaurants and small businesses throughout our community. When we’re sitting in committee this week, I’m committed to speaking for the server in Charlevoix whose tips will pay for rent this month and the small business owner in St. Ignace who fears laying off trusted employees because of burdensome new requirements.

The creation of the select committee was the first legislative action taken by the new House Republican majority last week, underscoring the importance Fairbairn and his col-

leagues place on passing legislation that will restore the tip credit and protect small businesses from additional burdensome and confusing government regulations.

“Speaker Hall said saving our tipped workers and small businesses would be a top priority this term and he continues to live up to that pledge,” Fairbairn said. “I’m grateful to be entrusted with the responsibility helping to carry out House Republicans’ first major focus in the 103rd Legislature. There simply is no more immediate concern facing our small businesspeople and tipped-wage workers than the issues coming before this

committee. Everyone has a favorite local restaurant or business that will be threatened if we do not act.”

Legislative action is needed to address the issue after a Michigan Supreme Court decision from last summer negated a previous Republic fix to these unrealistic mandates on small businesses regarding wages and sick leave while phasing out the tip credit, which provides a key source of income for workers. Without legislative intervention, the changes will go into effect Feb. 21.

The committee is set to meet at 10:30 a.m. in room 519 of the Anderson House Office Building.

Northern Caucus Republicans stand united to save tipped workers and small businesses

House Republicans in the Northern Michigan Caucus on Tuesday released the following statement outlining their support for recently introduced legislation which will help bring solutions to a Michigan Supreme Court decision from last summer. The ruling puts unrealistic mandates on small businesses regarding wages and sick leave while phasing out the tip credit, which provides a key source of income for workers and in many cases is more than someone would make with an increased minimum wage – notably in the service industry. Without legislative intervention, the

changes will go into effect Feb. 21.

“From Clare to Houghton, we all have small, locally owned restaurants that are staples of our communities. These are restaurants we brought our kids to after sporting events and marked special occasions with loved ones. Now, these same places are forced to choose between hiking their prices, laying off staff, or shutting down altogether. If we do not act, these local operations may never be able to employ high school kids or sponsor local t-ball teams again – they won’t be able to afford it.

“In Northern Michigan and the U.P., almost

every business is a small business. Their operations keep our economies alive. Business owners should be focused on the incredible goods and services they provide to our communities, not on complicated and confusing court rulings that might land them fighting a lawsuit. We want our farmers focused on cows, crops, and cherries and our lumbermen focused on timber; they shouldn’t have to bury their noses in legal documents to figure out whether their sick time policies comply with new regulations.

“We want everyone to know the Northern Caucus is standing together on this

one. There isn’t a more significant issue facing our state today than saving our restaurants and small businesses. These operations, and the people who run them, are what give our communities character and life. We refuse to let that go away. The deadline is just over a month away – it’s time to get to work.”

The Northern Caucus includes state Reps. Mike Hoadley, R-Au Gres; Tom Kunse, R-Clare; Joseph Fox, R-Fremont; Curt VanderWall, R-Ludington; John Roth, R-Interlochen; Ken Borton, R-Gaylord; Cam Cavitt, R-Cheboygan; Parker Fairbairn, R-Harbor Springs; Dave Prestin, R-Cedar River; Karl Bohnak, R-Deerton; and Greg Markkanen, R-Hancock.

ASK LAURA

YOUR DOSE OF POSITIVITY AND INSPIRATION

Vision with Purpose: Turning Dreams into Reality

Dear Readers, as we step into the new year, I want to share something that has profoundly impacted my journey: the power of visualization. Setting goals is one thing, but visualizing them breathes life into your dreams, giving them shape and substance.



Laura Jasurda

One of my favorite ways to visualize is through vision boards. I love creating them for all nine areas of my life: Career, Love Life, Family/Friends, Hobbies, Personal Development, Health & Wellness, Community, Financial, and Spirituality. By seeing my dreams every day, I’m reminded to take intentional steps toward making them a reality.

I once read a story about a man who moved into his dream home. While unpacking, his grandson discovered a box of his old vision boards. As they looked through them together, they found a vision board with a picture of the very house they were now standing in. It’s a beautiful example of how powerful our visions can be when we believe and take action.

Visualization isn’t magic; it’s about focus. By aligning your thoughts and actions with your goals, you’ll

start to see opportunities you might otherwise miss. Whether it’s a vision board, journaling, or quiet moments imagining your future, take time to see yourself living the life you desire.

What do you dream of this year? I encourage you to envision it boldly and take that first step. You might be amazed by what unfolds.

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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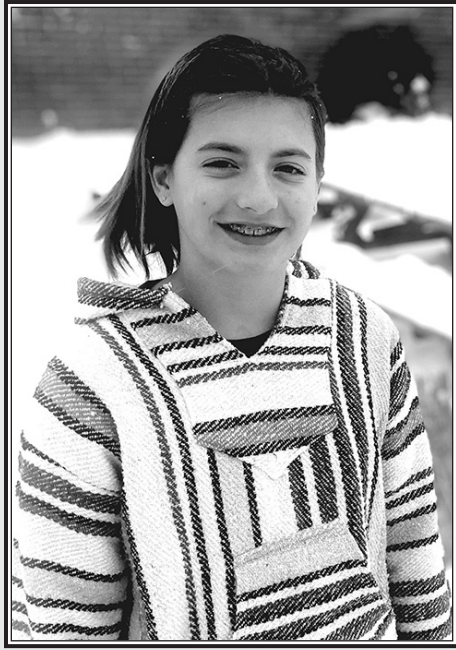
Northern Michigan Chorale

MORE INFO: NMCHORALE.ORG



ECS Middle/High School

LANCER OF THE MONTH



Kate Chellis

CONGRATULATIONS to Kate Chellis, our December Lancer of the Month!

Kate works diligently to encourage others to follow our Lancer Values: Value Safety, Value Others, Value Self. In the classroom, she is supportive and encouraging and always willing to volunteer to help others. A star student, Kate is acknowledged for helping to maintain a positive atmosphere at Ellsworth Elementary. Way to go Kate!

DRY FIREWOOD

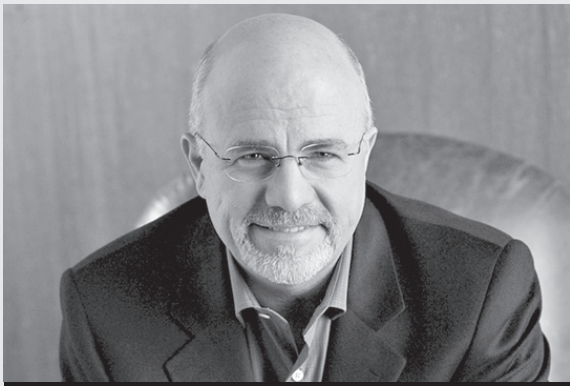
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DAVE

Says...

By Dave Ramsey

Approach It Like a Sales Call

Dear Dave,

I had an interview for a sales management position during the first week of January. Since then, I've sent two follow-up emails. One was to thank the human resources representative for their time and for considering me for the job. In the second, I reiterated my interest in the position and desire to work for the company. Was this a proper and professional approach? If not, how would you suggest handling things after a first interview?

—Tiffany

Dear Tiffany,

In this situation, I would recommend sending another email. You want to walk right up to that fine line that separates bold and confident from pushy, because that's one of things a good sales manager should be able to do. Thank them again for their time, and respectfully tell them you understand any hiring decision can be a lengthy process, but you'd like to know when you can expect an answer.

I'm talking about using your experience and the idea that you're a great sales person, who has transformed herself into a great sales manager. In other words, treat it almost like a professional sales call. And don't be afraid to have a little

fun with it. If you're still under consideration, that means they like you and you have a shot at the position. You might even hint at the fact they don't want to hire a sales manager who doesn't know how to follow up.

You obviously have sales skills if you worked your way up to a manager's position. So, put those skills to work. If you're on a sales call, and the customer needs to perform some due diligence before deciding, a smart salesperson will request to schedule a follow-up. In your email, ask if checking back on a certain day in the next couple of weeks will work. You don't want to be obnoxious, but you're looking for an appointment of sorts—a time frame—so you'll know when to follow up without seeming pushy or desperate.

I hope this helps, Tiffany. Good luck!

—Dave

Dave Ramsey is an eight-time national bestselling author, personal finance expert and host of The Ramsey Show. He has appeared on Good Morning America, CBS This Morning, Today, Fox News, CNN, Fox Business and many more. Since 1992, Dave has helped people take control of their money, build wealth and enhance their lives. He also serves as CEO for Ramsey Solutions.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

To the Editor,

The Christian Nationalist agenda of Project 2025 is un-Christian.

Rabbi Jesus, the central figure of Christianity, taught the centerpiece of earth's great faiths: treating others as one wishes to be treated. He taught the centrality of care for "immigrants, orphans and widows"—the most vulnerable.

Jesus set women free from oppressive rules. He ate with social and religious outcasts. He told a wealthy Temple leader to "sell all you have, and give to the poor." He taught that one's eternal destiny is determined by the way one treats those who are homeless, hungry, sick, and imprisoned.

By contrast, in the Christian Nationalist agenda, families will be separated, immigrants deported, and many will die. Women's bodies will be controlled as state property—even though history

teaches that nations rise and fall by the way women are treated. Billionaires seem poised to shred the social safety net to gain more wealth for themselves. Through leadership gained by mistruths and messianic promises, the antithesis of Christianity may soon be implemented.

This authoritarian playbook has been used before to gain the support of people disgruntled with their economy. It led to a world war that took the lives of 70 million people and left lasting physical, moral, and emotional wounds in those who survived. Those who forget this sad history are likely to repeat it.

Now is the time to speak truth, resist evil, and live the Golden Rule. As Desmond Tutu said, "Do your little bit of good, where you are; it's those bits of good put together that overwhelm the world."

Celia Hastings, Ellsworth



The River's Delight Nature Preserve is a new 55-acre nature preserve near Harwood Lake now owned and managed by Little Traverse Conservancy.

Trees, Trails, and Tranquility

2024 HIGHLIGHTS FROM LITTLE TRAVERSE CONSERVANCY

The mission of the Little Traverse Conservancy is to protect the natural diversity and beauty of northern Michigan by preserving significant land and scenic areas, and fostering appreciation and understanding of the environment.

In 2024, 24 landowners worked with the Little Traverse Conservancy to protect more than 1,100 acres around the five-county region using a variety of land protection tools. These lands include new nature preserves and working forest reserves, additions to existing protected lands, conservation easements that protect privately-owned lands, and an assist to local government. The lands also include:

- nearly four miles of frontage along creeks, rivers, and lakes;
- half a mile frontage along the North Central State Trail; and
- two and a half miles of scenic road frontage.

Conservancy trail highlights from last year included the following:

- Two new, designed mountain bike trails were opened.
- 18 work bees were held to remove invasive species.
- 235 volunteer hours resulted in planting trees and wildflowers



Almost 17,000 acres of habitat were inventoried and mapped in 2024 by the Little Traverse Conservancy as part of their Ecological Conditions and Reporting program.

- and collecting native seeds (7,627 trees were planted at four preserves).
- Almost 17,000 acres of habitat were inventoried and mapped.
- Through iNaturalist, 221 people made 4,269 observations of 1,223 species on Conservancy lands.
- Nine miles of new trail were created in 2024.

In addition to new lands and trails, more than 6,500 students from 21 schools participated in more than 400 programs led by the Conservancy's environmental education staff. Over 40 organized nature outings that were open to the public were held at

Conservancy preserves and reserves throughout the year, sponsored by the Conservancy and its partners.

Highlights from Charlevoix County included:

- The new 75-acre Michael Family Nature Preserve outside of East Jordan in South Arm Township;
- The new 55-acre River's Delight Nature Preserve in Norwood Township southeast of Charlevoix with more than 2,000 feet of frontage on Harwood Lake and 1,300 feet along Inwood Creek;
- A total of 100 acres on Beaver Island protected through a new, unnamed preserve as

well as additions to the Sarah A. Martin Nature Preserve;

- Students from St. Mary's Academy and the Round Lake Education Center participated in environmental education field trips with the Conservancy.

"The trails and woods of the nature preserves and reserves of Little Traverse Conservancy remain places that are open for ANYONE to enjoy," said Executive Director Kieran Fleming. "This organization exists to protect our beautiful outdoors – the primary driver of our quality of life and health that we in northern Michigan are so fortunate to enjoy."

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So many newspapers in the area have dropped 30% and as much as 50% in circulation over the past year. Our newspaper distribution has remained steady and in many towns has grown in circulation.

We of course REALLY appreciate the advertisers. That is our primary source of revenue that allows us to publish our popular newspapers every week covering all over Northern Michigan.

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If you want to reach more consumers with your advertising and pay less money for advertising, give Dave Baragrey a call or email. You can even stop into our office (we still have our office open).

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News Briefs

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CHARLEVOIX COUNTY SUBSCRIBE TO THE ONLY LOCALLY OWNED NEWSPAPER IN THE COUNTY

Local News, Local Sports, Locally Owned. The Charlevoix County News is distributed by mailed subscription or at tons of locations throughout Boyne City, Boyne Falls, Charlevoix, East Jordan, Ellsworth and Petoskey. While other newspapers in the area are quickly fading, the Charlevoix County News is growing. Our newsstand prices, subscription rate and advertising rates are far less than any other paper and your message will reach readers all across the area. Contact us at Office@Charlevoix-CountyNEWS.com or call 989-732-8160. One of the few Locally Owned and Locally Operated newspapers in the state.

EAST JORDAN BLOOD DRIVE

January 17, 10am - 2pm at East Jordan EMS, 555 Maple St. Donors get a free 1 topping pizza from BC Pizza.

CHARLEVOIX DOGMAN CHALLENGE FAT BIKE RACE JANUARY 18TH

The Dogman Challenge Fat Bike Race is a 1.5 hour (45 minutes for Juniors) winter endurance event held entirely on the multi-use trails around Mt. McSauba Recreation Area and North Point Nature Preserve.

The course consists of a challenging 2 mile loop through rolling and wooded terrain. Mass start at Noon on the bunny hill for all divisions. The 2025 event is slated for January 18th.

Registration and packet pickup is in the Ski Lodge closing at 11:15. Day of registration is not available! Pre-registration is required. Online Registration ends at 10AM Friday 1/17

BAY HARBOR SENSORY FRIENDLY PERFORMANCE

On January 18, Great Lakes Center for the Arts, in partnership with Great Start Collaborative, welcomes Mermaid Theatre of Nova Scotia as they present a live, puppet-based performance of Margaret Wise Brown's children's classics "Goodnight Moon and The Runaway Bunny."

Great Lakes Center for the Arts proudly offers the community two opportunities to experience this thoughtfully designed show at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m.

CHARLEVOIX BERGMANN CENTER PLAY AND WORK CAFE SURVEY

We are thinking of different way to help the community. We are considering opening a work and play cafe. A work and play cafe is a unique space designed to support both parents and their children. It offers a clean, safe, and comfortable environment where parents can enjoy a cup of coffee, connect with other parents, or work while their children play and explore. The cafe is equipped with comfortable seating, free Wi-Fi, and plenty of power outlets, making it an ideal spot for parents to catch up on tasks. Would you be interested in bringing your child to a play and work cafe where you can work or socialize while your child plays? Please take our survey: www.surveymonkey.com/r/X8TZ65G

NORTHERN MICHIGAN DO YOU LOVE TO SING?

Join the Northern Michigan Chorale, a choir group for adults, college and high school students. No auditions required. Rehearsals for our spring concert are Mondays 7 - 9 PM starting January 20th at Cross of Christ Lutheran Church, 1450 E. Mitchell Rd., Petoskey. New members come early to register. Spring concert is at the Great Lakes Center for the Arts May 3rd and 4th, featuring music from Broadway, cinema, pop classics and more. Visit nmchorale.org for more info

EAST JORDAN ANNUAL AWARDS DINNER AUCTION

The East Jordan Chamber annual meeting, dinner, auction & awards presentation is Saturday, January 25 at the Boathouse, 204 Water St. Social hour and silent auction begin at 5:30, dinner at 6:30 followed by live auction and awards. \$65 person. Reserve your ticket by January 17. No phone reservations. Mail your reservation with payment to East Jordan Chamber of Commerce, P.O. Box 137, East Jordan, MI 49727

EAST JORDAN WINTER OPEN HOUSE AT THE DON & EILEEN KLEIN TRAIL

January 24, 5 7 PM. Join Little Traverse Conservancy and Friends of the Jordan River Watershed Center along with other partners who brought the Don & Eileen Klein Nature Trail to reality this past summer. Light refreshments will be offered and the solar lanterns will lure you to explore the trail as darkness falls. You can either walk the trail by yourself or with a local guide leaving on the half hour.

BOYNE CITY FAT BIKE FUNDRAISER TO BENEFIT THE MANNA FOOD PROJECT

Feb. 1, 11am - 3pm at Avalanche Preserve Recreation Area, 1129 Wilson St. Come out and try the ultimate adventure bike. \$5 donation per rider for Manna Food Project. Latitude 45 will match up to \$200. Bonfire, hot cider, snacks, friends and fat bikes.

CHARLEVOIX FIRST FRIDAY COFFEE CONNECTION

Join us Friday, February 7 at Walstrom Marine, 105 E. Clinton St. for our First Friday Coffee Connection with special guest, Parker Fairbairn. A Charlevoix Chamber event.

EAST JORDAN FREE 2ND SATURDAYS

Free admission from Noon - 4pm at Raven Hill Discovery Center, 04737 Fuller Rd, the 2nd Saturday of each month. Feb. 8, March 8, April 12, May 10, June 14, July 12, Aug. 9, Sept. 13, Oct. 11, Nov. 8, Dec. 13. Enjoy hands-on science, history and art. Explore the museum and animals. Discover outdoor exhibits, Strengthen creative and critical thinking skills. Find opportunities for problem solving. All ages, abilities and interests. Admission for families on Free 2nd Saturdays is in memory of Diane Strzelinski.

CHARLEVOIX PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Unlimited pancakes by donation at St. Mary Parish Center to support St. Mary School. Sundays, 9am - Noon. Feb. 9, May 4.

BOYNE CITY BUSINESS AFTER HOURS

February 15, 5:30 PM - 7 PM. You're invited to an evening of networking at Great Lakes Energy's new office building, home to the programs and services offered by Great Lakes Energy and Truestream, their amazing fiber internet business. Great Lakes Energy is a long-time community supporter and this event will be co-hosted by Boyne City Public Schools and Char-Em ISD.

BOYNE CITY ICE RINK IS OPEN

We're excited to announce that the ice rink is now open for this season at Avalanche. Winter Season Warming House Hours: Monday-Friday: 4 PM - 9 PM, Saturday & Sunday: 11 AM - 9 PM. Weekend hours apply on holidays and school snow days. Come enjoy the rink and kick off the winter season with us!

EAST JORDAN SUNDAY BREAKFAST

Please come and join the East Jordan Trailblazer club, 5586 Mt. Bliss Rd on Sunday morning for breakfast now thru March 30 from 7am-Noon. Adults \$10, Children 6 and under \$6.

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. Readers love the fact that the Charlevoix County News is distributed by mailed subscription or at tons of locations throughout Boyne City, Boyne Falls, Charlevoix, East Jordan, Ellsworth and Petoskey. However, it is expensive to publish this newspaper each week filled with tons of local news and sports. 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 in your plans. While other newspapers in the area are quickly fading, the Charlevoix County News is growing. Our newsstand 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.

BOYNE CITY MARKET AT THE PAVILION

Join us every Saturday at Veterans Park Pavilion from 9am-12pm to shop local vendors. Northern Michigan's most talented farmers, bakers, entrepreneurs and artists create a market unlike any other in the region. Live music brightens up the morning starting at 10am

EAST JORDAN ROTARY CLUB MEETINGS

The Rotary Club of East Jordan has updated dates and times for their monthly meetings. The Rotary Club will meet the 1st & 3rd Tuesday of the month at 12:15 PM and the 2nd & 4th Wednesday of the month at 5:15 PM. Both meeting times and dates will be at the Friends of the Jordan River Watershed Building (FRJ). The club is always looking for new members. If you are new to the area or have always wondered how to get involved with Rotary, contact the Chamber Office and we will get you the contact information. 231-536-7351.

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 prepared for you by COA chefs 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. Right now, some of the companies participating are Treetops Resort, Albies Foods, Gaylor Insurance. 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@GaylorOtsego.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 MONTHLY ADULT GRIEF, LOSS & BEREAVEMENT 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 and is facilitated by Rev. David Behling. There is no charge to attend. Please feel free to call Hospice at 231-547-7659 to register or for more information.

EAST JORDAN CANCER SUPPORT GROUP

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



Boyne Falls Public School STUDENT OF THE WEEK



Simon Nusser

Grade: 12th Grade
Parent's Name(s): Anita Nusser/Brian & Brooke Fenske (Host Parents)
Future Plans: When Simon goes back to Germany, he plans to get an apprenticeship in wholesale and foreign trade.
Favorite Book: Diary of a Wimpy Kid by Jeff Kinney
Hobbies and Interests: Podcasts, Basketball, Drones, Cross Country
School Activities: Basketball, Cross Country, Helping in the 4th Grade class, Hollywood to Harbor
Staff Comments: Congratulations to Simon, our Student of the Week! Simon truly embodies what it means to be a Logger. He's always ready to lend a hand with a smile, setting a positive example for his peers in and out of the classroom. When he is not running cross country or playing basketball, he is enthusiastically cheering on fellow Logger athletes from the sidelines. Even beyond his athletic pursuits, Simon generously contributes his time to help with our Logger Loot Locker and helping in the fourth-grade classroom. He has been a fantastic addition to our Logger family, and we're so proud to recognize him this week.
Submitted By: Mrs. Loper

PET OF THE WEEK PEACH



This pretty lady is Peach. Peach is a redbone/coonhound puppy. She loves to play with toys, and she likes play-fighting with her sister, Daisy. She's a little hyper, being a puppy, and we're not sure how she'd do with cats. Peach loves every person she meets, and would likely do well with older children, probably 12 or older. She's not potty-trained, and tends to pee a lot out of excitement.

If you're interested in this sweet girl, fill out an application online or in person!



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athletes of the week



Jaden Alger
Boyne City Ramblers
Boys Basketball

In a 56-45 win over Charlevoix, Jaden Alger who had 21 points and seven rebounds. Later in the week in a 61-41 win over Kalkaska, Alger led things with a solid double-double, getting 19 points and 12 rebounds.

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Ruby Pletcher
Ellsworth Lancers
Girls Basketball

In a 61-18 win over Alba, Ruby Pletcher scored a varsity career high 17 points.

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GIRLS BASKETBALL

Ellsworth streak reaches six of seven

BY BOB DELONG

The Ellsworth varsity basketball team continues to improve as they won a pair of games to start the new year.



Ruby Pletcher



Hannah Essenberg



Nora Puroll

The Lady Lancers beat Alba 61-18 and Wolverine 52-10 to win their third game in a row and six of the last seven contests. The only loss over the last month for Ellsworth was a 44-43 OT loss to Bear Lake just after Christmas. The Lancers

are now 6-3 overall for the season and 4-0 in the Northern Lakes Conference West Division.

In the game against the Wildcats from Alba, Ellsworth sprinted out to a 20-2 lead after one quarter of play and coasted to the finish line over the final three frames. Head coach Nick Hopp played all 10 of his players significant minutes with nine of them scoring at least two points.

Ruby Pletcher scored a varsity career high 17 points; Hannah Essenberg was also in double figures with 13 points; Nora Puroll had eight; Bella Essenberg chipped in with seven; Sam Pallman had a half dozen; Maddie Nagy had four points; Kerri DeYoung, Jasmin Kaufman and Lauren Rasmusen each had a two-point basket and Kyler Fuller also played valuable minutes.

The only contest on the schedule this week for the Lancers is a game at Alanson on Tuesday against the 4-4 Vikings.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Boyne City girls get home wins over Charlevoix, Kalkaska

BY BEN MURPHY

After dropping their first three games of the season, the Boyne City girls basketball team has flipped the script. After defeating visiting rival Charlevoix 54-28 on Friday, the Lady Ramblers have now won five straight contests.

“Always a good feeling to beat your rival,” Boyne head coach Mike Wilson said. “We had great bench energy and great senior leadership on the floor.”

In the first quarter, Sidney Bush hit two threes and Addy Burns and Elly Wilcox each had six points as well in the frame, helping the Ramblers get off to a solid 22-6 lead after one. A bit of a slow second quarter saw that margin dwindle slightly to 32-18 at the half, but in the third Burns had nine points and Braydin Noble scored eight, helping them extend the gap to 50-22 entering the fourth.

“Despite early foul trouble affecting some of the Lady Ramblers, the team embraced a next person up mentality, showcasing their depth and resilience,” Wilson said. “The girls are hitting their stride and solidifying who they want to be this season.”

The Lady Rayders while unhappy with the loss, were still pleased with their play for the most part.

“I was very happy with our effort in the first half,” Charlevoix head coach Reece Koepke said. “I think we let the game get away from us in the third, but we came out strong and had a lot of passion and hustle and I think that’s a huge thing to build on going forward we cut (into the lead). I think we’re starting to move the ball a lot better as a team and some girls are starting to put some good basketball together.”



Boyne City's Kaelynn Matelski, Allie Wilson and other Rambler and Rayders players battle for a rebound. Photo credit: Scott Richards

Boyne also won a home Northern Shores game on Kalkaska on Tuesday, Jan. 7. They claimed this one in convincing fashion, 70-28.

“Nine different Ramblers contributed to the scoring effort, showcasing their dominance on the boards, in steals, and assists,” Wilson said.

Leading the way was Noble with 17 points, Delaney Little poured in 16, Wilcox was able to net 11 and Bush netted nine. Kaelyn Matelski chipped in with six, Burns finished with five while Allie Wilson, Elle Wilson and Cambryne Giem were able to score two points apiece.

Boyne (5-3 overall, 2-0 Northern Shores) had a game at Kingsley on Tuesday, hosts Elk Rapids today (Thursday) and will make the trip over to Cheboygan on Tuesday.

Charlevoix also had a road league game at



Elle Wilson drives toward the basket. Photo credit: Kim Culver

Kingsley on Tuesday, Jan. 7. They dropped this one, 57-21.

The Rayders raced an 18-2 deficit after one and trailed 31-11 at the half and 46-13 entering the fourth.

Maggie Sheaffer hit two threes in the fourth quarter to lead the team with six points. Emma Meadows scored five points and with

four apiece was Ayla Kemp and Sarah Wyglendowski. Ella Boss added two points.

Charlevoix (1-7 overall, 0-3 Northern Shores) had a home contest with Kalkaska on Tuesday and will battle at home with Cheboygan today (Thursday). They will also be at home against Elk Rapids on Tuesday.

RIVALRY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Boyne (4-5 overall, 3-1 Northern Shores) was at home with Kingsley on Tuesday, heads to Elk Rapids on Friday and will play at home against Cheboygan this coming Tuesday. CHX vs. Kingsley

Charlevoix also had a home league game with Kingsley on Tuesday, Jan. 7. They claimed a victory in this one, 61-37.

“We played solid on the defensive end and it helped jumpstart our offense,” Troshak said. “We moved the ball well on offense and got some good looks. It was a complete team effort.”

The Rayders took a double digit lead after one, 16-3 and they also led 34-14 and 47-25 after the other quarter breaks.

Gaffney led the way with 21 points, and he passed out four assists as well. Wadkins added 12 points and Vitale Collins had 11 points and five assists.

Charlevoix (6-4 overall, 2-2 Northern Shores) played a road game at Kalkaska on Tuesday, plays at Cheboygan on Friday and will make the trip to Elk Rapids on Tuesday.



Otsego County Food Drive Weekend

January 18th & 19th, 10AM-6PM • Treetops Resort

We are raising awareness, and asking for help raising funds to help feed hungry people in Otsego county!

The Otsego County Food Pantry volunteers will be onsite at Treetops Resort in Gaylord to collect funds and non-perishable food items. We will be stationed in our cozy 2024 Jayco Sizmec 359 Toy Hauler. It is also available to tour!! If you decide to purchase, a portion of the profit will go directly to the Otsego County Food Pantry.

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The Red Devils Boys and Girls team shows unity before the games at Crisler Arena. In Motion Images

East Jordan Red Devils at Crisler Arena

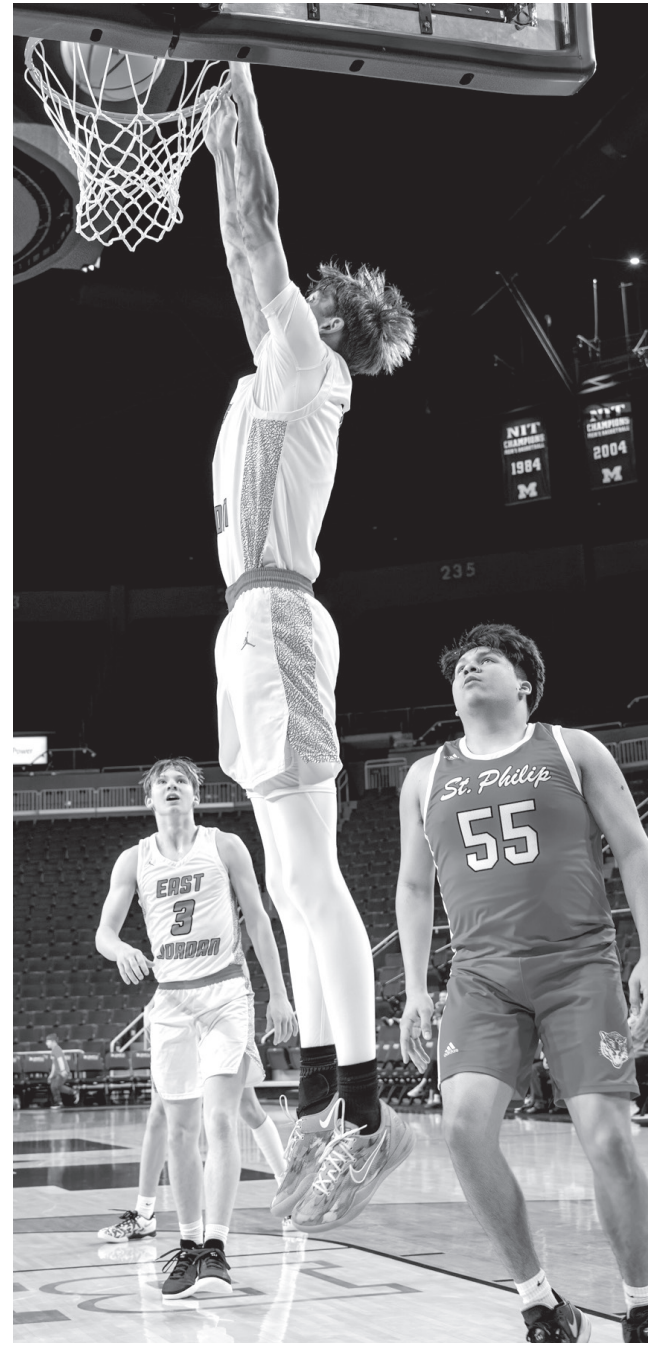


Brenden Aenis grabs a rebound.



Brenden Aenis grabs a rebound.

PHOTO CREDIT:
IN MOTION IMAGES



Ellis Malpass dunks in the rim at University of Michigan Crisler Arena.

Despite Launching Before 3-Point Line, Smith Still Tops Scoring List

SPECIAL FROM MHSAA

The list of NBA players who starred for MHSAA member schools is impressive, featuring names like Magic Johnson (Lansing Everett 1977), Dan Majerle (Traverse City 1983), Glen Rice (Flint Northwestern 1985), Rudy Tomjanovich (Hamtramck 1967) and Jason Richardson (Saginaw Arthur Hill 1999).

However, one name stands above the rest in terms of scoring: Jay Smith of Mio.

Remarkably, Smith achieved his legendary point total a decade before the 3-point line was introduced.

During his four years at Mio (1975-76 to 1978-79), Smith scored an astounding 2,841 points. His senior-year total of 952 points ranks fourth all-time, while his junior-year total of 912 points sits in seventh place.

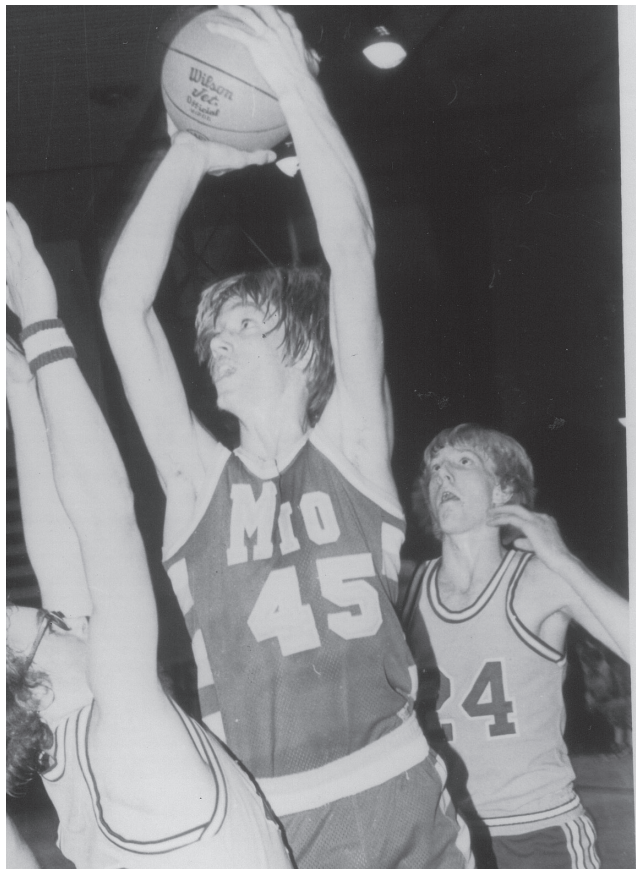
Smith also put up memorable performances, scoring 48 points in a 1978 District game and following up with a 47-point effort the next year — both of which remain in the top 20 for most points scored in a single MHSAA Tournament game. Sim-

ply put, no one scored as prolifically as Smith. His extraordinary career earned him the title of “Retro Mr. Basketball 1979,” awarded by the Basketball Coaches Association of Michigan (BCAM). (Note: The Mr. Basketball Award was first presented in 1981, with BCAM later recognizing past players with Retro honors).

After high school, Smith played one season at Bowling Green University and three at Saginaw Valley State College. Upon graduating, he transitioned to coaching college basketball, serving as an assistant at Kent State and Michigan before becoming the head coach at Grand Valley State. Smith later guided Central Michigan to the second round of the 2003 NCAA Tournament, before losing to Duke. Currently, Smith is in his 39th season in college basketball, serving as the director of player development at Eastern Michigan.

And the next time you are in Mio, you can drive on Jay Smith Drive, located on the north side of town, off West 8th Street.

The MHSAA added a 3-point line in 1987-88.



Jay Smith. Photo credit - MHSAA archive photos

MHSAA Career Scoring Leaders

- 2,841 – Jay Smith, Mio (1976-79)
- 2,789 – Mark Brown, Hastings (1982-85)
- 2,782 – Dylan Jergens, Marcellus Howardsville Christian (2016-19)
- 2,522 – Christopher Haas, Pellston (2009-12)
- 2,518 – Tory Jackson, Saginaw Buena Vista (2003-06)
- 2,490 – Mark Macon, Saginaw Buena Vista (1984-87)
- 2,462 – Drew Neitzel, Wyoming Park (2001-04)
- 2,449 – Matt Stuck, Manton (1989-92)
- 2,448 – Marcus Taylor, Lansing Waverly (1997-00)
- 2,421 – Marcus Matelski, Boyne Falls (2013-16)

BOYS BASKETBALL

Ellsworth Boys move back over the .500 mark

BY BOB DELONG

The Ellsworth High School boys' varsity basketball team got above the .500 mark, (5-4), overall, for the year with a nice win over Wolverine last week. The Lancers are still in contention for the league title as they sit 2-1 in the Northern Lakes Conference.

Ellsworth's defense pitched a shutout in the opening quarter as they led 11-0 after eight minutes of play. The Wildcats Lawrence Prieskorn heated up over the final three quarters, scoring all 26 of his game high points over the game's final 24 minutes, however, the Lancers countered with a lot of balanced scoring.

Head coach James Willingham was able to play all of his players multiple quarters and 10 made the scorebook as Ellsworth won every quarter in route to the 24-point victory. The Lancers led 30-14 at the half and 53-30 after three quarters of play.

Ben Strange led the Lancers with 16 points,



Ben Strange



Evincio LaCount



Cam Snyder

seven rebounds and three blocks; Evincio LaCount was also in double figures with 15 points, four rebounds and a pair of steals; Cam Snyder had 16 points and seven boards; Jakob Pahler score half a dozen points; Jack Puroll, Ezra Wallis, Skyler Seaney and Nolan Essenberg each had four points; Josiah Chellis scored three and Billy Hopp added a two-point basket to round out the scoring.

Ellsworth travels to Alanson, (5-3), to take on the Vikings on Tuesday of this week and Thursday they will host Wolverine, (1-5), in a rematch of the game they played just last week.

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BOYS BASKETBALL

Energetic East Jordan boys roll to win over Pellston

BY BEN MURPHY

Some solid passing. Some good energy. A whole lot of offense. The East Jordan boys basketball team had all three on Friday, as they were able to dismantle visiting Pellston. The Red Devils won the Ski Valley Conference game, 82-33.

“A total team effort as we had 24 assists on the night,” head coach Nate Dzwik said. “We came out fast and made a point to turn up our pressure more for the second quarter to try to stop that loss of energy we have been seeing in our last couple of games. I thought our guys really did a great job of playing with energy and taking that challenge to heart. The bench came in and played with a ton of energy and really provided that spark in the second quarter.”

The Red Devils held a 23-9 lead after the first quarter and that only grew in the second, and they led 38-18 at the half. Entering the fourth the margin was 63-27.

“In the second half we just kept turning up the pressure and the kids really worked hard all game,” Dzwik said. “It was great to kid so many kids some quality minutes as they have been working really hard in practice.”

Ellis Malpass led the way with 14 points. Austin Sneed netted 13 points, Max Beal had 12 points and five steals and Ryler Malpass had 11 points and four assists. Korbyn Russell had nine points and he hit the glass for eight rebounds, Miles Raymond also had nine points and Eli Burns



Korbyn Russell heads to the basket. Photo Kim Culver

and Jack Grzebyk netted three apiece. William Webb and Brandon Caldwell both scored two points.

Brenden Aenis scored four points and grabbed 10 boards.

On Wednesday, Jan. 7 E-J went to Inland Lakes, where they played their way to another Ski Valley win, 63-45.

“Another game we started out quickly but had a rough second quarter that had the game tied at the half,” Dzwik said. “In the second half we finally made the adjustments we had been talking about the kids really locked in defensively. We had a goal for the night of limiting them to only four offensive rebounds and we did that by limiting them to only two. Brendan came up big in the paint and Korbyn definite filled up the points both inside and out. We played with a great sense of urgency

in the second half and it showed on the stat sheet and scoreboard.”

The Red Devils led 15-7 after the first quarter, before the Bulldogs were able to get some momentum in the second to tie it at 22-all at the half. E-J outscored I-L 21-17 in the third and 20-6 in the fourth to pull away.

Russell had a monster game with 29 points and seven rebounds. Aenis had 10 points and seven boards and Webb had seven points, eight assist and six rebounds. E. Malpass added six points and five rebounds and R. Malpass was able to get five points and three assists. Beal chipped in with three points and 10 boards and Burns added three points.

E-J (5-3 overall, 4-2 Ski Valley) played over at Onaway on Tuesday, heads to Forest Area on Friday and is at Bellaire on Tuesday.



Max Beal goes strong to the hole over Pellston Josh Grondin. Photo Kim Culver

GIRLS BASKETBALL

EJ girls struggle with Gaylord St. Mary in home loss, beat Joburg

BY BEN MURPHY

With a win over visiting Gaylord St. Mary on Thursday, the East Jordan girls basketball team might have felt like they were in the drivers' seat for the Ski Valley Conference championship.

Unfortunately for the Lady Red Devils it was the Lady Snowbirds who claimed the win, as they controlled the game to hand E-J a 60-21 setback.

St. Mary led 23-2 after the first quarter and never looked back. The scoreboard read 39-10 at the half and 49-16 entering the fourth.

The Red Devils were led by June Kirkpatrick who had 10 points.

Things went much better for East Jordan on Tuesday, Jan. 7. They were playing a



JoJo Kirkpatrick puts a rebound up for an easy lay-up. In Motion Images

home Ski Valley game with Johannesburg-Lewiston, and they pulled off a 54-35 victory.

It was tied at 14-14 after the first quarter, and the Lady Cardinals held a 22-19 lead at the half.

The Red Devils took off in the second half though, using a big third quarter to take a 37-29 lead entering the fourth and they only pulled away from there.

June Kirkpatrick had a big game, torching the nets for 43 points and she tied a single game school record with nine three pointers in the process. Sydney Guerriero added four points, Madison Bearden netted three and with two apiece was JoJo Kirkpatrick and Avari McCoy.

E-J (6-3 overall, 5-1 Ski Valley) had a league game at Inland Lakes on Wednesday, will be at home with Pellston on Friday and they'll head to Onaway on Wednesday, Jan. 22.

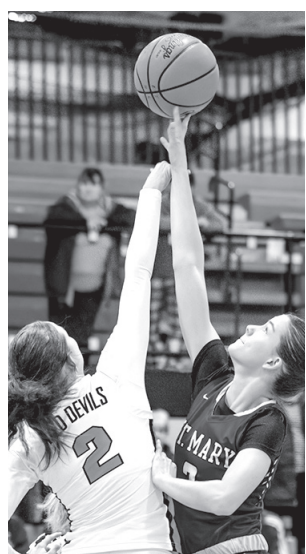
East Jordan's June Kirkpatrick voted High School on Sports Illustrated's Michigan Athlete of the Week

Kirkpatrick wins for the week of January 6-12.

Senior guard June Kirkpatrick produced a good performance to help East Jordan in a big win over Battle Creek St. Philip Catholic Central, 49-25. Kirkpatrick finished with a double-double as she notched 29 points and 11 rebounds while adding two steals and one block.



June Kirkpatrick was surrounded by St. Mary Snowbirds all night. In Motion Images



Lily Snyder (EJ) and Payton Glasby (GSM) open the game with a jump ball. In Motion Images

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BOYS BOWLING

Varsity Boys Bowling Win 1 and Lost 1

The Boys competed at Nautical Lanes January 11 in Rogers City. The boys started the day off strong winning against Elk Rapids 22-8. The second match against Cheboygan. The boys lost by a score of 12-18. The boys are now 3-1 in the conference.

Match One – High Scores
 Brennan Dart – 193
 Sidd Vanslebrouck – 123
 Zac Karlskin – 129
 Ben Mathers – 183
 Zach Piechan – 259
 Jonathan Shepherd – 234

Zac Karlskin – 135
 Ben Mathers – 209
 Zach Piechan – 178
 Jonathan Shepherd – 218

The Boys bowling team come home with the win on January 13. They traveled to Grayling and won the match 22.5 to 7.5.

High Scores for the night:
 Zac Karlskin - 138
 Brennan Dart - 174
 Sidd Vanslebrouck - 105
 Ben Mathers - 173
 Zach Piechan - 223
 Jonathan Shepherd - 167

Match Two – High Scores
 Brennan Dart – 203
 Sidd Vanslebrouck – 169

The team will travel to Cheboygan on Saturday, January 18

GIRLS BOWLING

Ramblers Girls win two in Rogers City

Saturday was the game of splits in Rogers City across the house.

BC Girls put a strong foot forward in the first match against Cheboygan winning 23 to 7.

High games of the first match were Lauren LaBute 225, Victoria McGeorge 219, Whitney Root 182, Audrey Joyner 162 and Brynn Sero 155.

Second match of the day

brought even more splits. The pins were not in our favor and the girls had to dig deep to pull out the win of 22 to 8.

High games of the match were Victoria McGeorge 179, Lauren LaBute 158, Brynn Sero 157, Whitney Root 154, Marlee Fischel 138 and Audrey Joyner 123.

This week's matches are in Cheboygan.

WRESTLING

Rayders Wrestle Well; Despite Injuries

On January 8th, the Charlevoix Varsity Wrestling team competed in dual meets with Grayling and Cheboygan. The Rayders fell to Grayling 36 to 41.

Coach Hinkle commented he was pleased with the results given the team had 4 starters out of the lineup due to injuries etc. in addition to one typically unfilled weight class. The score was close considering the team gave up 30 points right out of the gate to forfeits.

The Rayders won 6 of the 8 matches actually wrestled. The team went on to defeat Cheboygan 42 to 36.

Individual results were as follows:

Eva Noirot, freshman, 106 lbs. – Injured
 Huntley Thorson, freshman, 120 lbs. – 0 and 2
 Raigan Swadling, freshman, 126 lbs. – 2 and 0
 Kalen Titus, freshman, 132 lbs. – 2 and 0
 Max Reynolds, Junior, 138 and 144 lbs. – 1 and 1
 Ben Schultz, Junior, 138 and 144 lbs. – 2 and 0
 Collin Jess, freshman, 150 lbs. – 2 and 0
 Grubb, Parker, freshman, 157 lbs. – DNW
 Logan Wilks, Senior, 165 lbs. – Injured
 Brady Warchol, Senior, 175 lbs. – 2 and 0
 Ryan Glass, sophomore, 190 lbs. – Injured
 Sawyer Blaszczyk, Junior, 215 lbs. – 2 and 0
 Connor Ortiz, Senior, Hwt. - 1 and 1

Exhibition:

Kate Matter, sophomore, 138 lbs. – 1 and 0
 Lauralee Rhode, freshman, 144 lbs. – 0 and 1
 Jakob Simons, freshman, 126 lbs. – 0 and 1
 Phat Nguyen, freshman, 215 lbs. – 1 and 0

On January 11th, the Charlevoix Varsity Wrestling team competed in the Annual Pine River Fallen Bucks Memorial Team Tournament. The Rayders went 3 and 2 for the day, taking 3rd place in the 8-team Tournament. The Rayders defeated Mason County Central and Montabella before falling to Pine River in first phase of the tournament. Then fell to Central Montcalm before defeating Benzie Central in the second phase of the tournament. Individual results were as follows:

Eva Noirot, freshman, 106 lbs. – Injured
 Huntley Thorson, freshman, 120 lbs. – 4 and 1
 Raigan Swadling, freshman, 126 lbs. – 2 and 3
 Kalen Titus, freshman, 132 lbs. – 2 and 3
 Max Reynolds, Junior, 138 and 144 lbs. – 3 and 2
 Ben Schultz, Junior, 138 and 144 lbs. – 1 and 4
 Collin Jess, freshman, 150 lbs. – 4 and 1
 Grubb, Parker, freshman, 157 lbs. – 2 and 3
 Logan Wilks, Senior, 165 lbs. – Injured
 Brady Warchol, Senior, 175 lbs. – 3 and 2
 Ryan Glass, sophomore, 190 lbs. – Injured
 Sawyer Blaszczyk, Junior, 215 lbs. – 4 and 1
 Connor Ortiz, Senior, Hwt. - 4 and 1
 Exhibition:
 Kate Matter, sophomore, 138 lbs. – 2 and 1
 Lauralee Rhode, freshman, 144 lbs. – 0 and 2
 Jakob Simons, freshman, 126 lbs. – 0 and 2
 Phat Nguyen, freshman, 215 lbs. – 4 and 0

On Wednesday, January 15th, the Rayders travel to Cheboygan, where they will compete in dual meets with Boyne City and Kalkaska.

BCAM'S MICHIGAN HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS BASKETBALL RANKINGS JANUARY 13, 2025

DIVISION 1

1. Rockford (10-1)
2. Belleville (9-0)
3. Saginaw Heritage (8-1)
4. Grand Haven (7-1)
5. Detroit Renaissance (10-1)
6. Wayne Memorial (5-4)
7. Hartland (8-1)
8. Dexter (6-4)
9. Holt (7-2)
10. Saline (8-1)

DIVISION 3

1. Grass Lake (5-3)
2. Monroe St. Marcy Catholic Central (9-0)
3. McBain (4-1)
4. Leslie (5-2)
5. Blissfield (8-1)
6. Pewamo-Westphalia (9-0)
7. New Lothrop (7-1)
8. Jackson Lumen Christi (6-2)
9. Harbor Springs (7-2)
10. Hart (8-1)

DIVISION 2

1. Ann Arbor Father Gabriel Richard (9-1)
2. Tecumseh (7-1)
3. Detroit Country Day (10-0)
4. Grand Rapids West Catholic (8-1)
5. Chelsea (6-1)
6. Negaunee (11-0)
7. Grand Rapids South Christian (8-2)
8. Parma Western (8-1)
9. Freeland (6-2)
10. Haslett (7-1)

DIVISION 4

1. St. Ignace (8-1)
2. Fowler (7-1)
3. Morenci (9-0)
4. Munising (8-0)
5. Ewen-Trout Creek (9-1)
6. Mount Pleasant Sacred Heart (7-0)
7. Clarkston Everest Collegiate (6-1)
8. Concord (7-2)
9. Adrian Lenawee Christian (6-3)
10. Mio (5-1)

BOYS BASKETBALL STATE RANKINGS AP POLL 1/7/25

DIVISION 1

1. Detroit U-D Jesuit (5-1) – 75 – {5}
2. Muskegon (6-0) -- 67
3. Orchard Lake St. Mary's (6-3) -- 64
4. E. Lansing (7-1) -- 62
5. Rockford (7-1) -- 52
6. Bloomfield Hills Brother Rice (9-1) -- 50
7. Detroit King (8-1) -- 41
8. Detroit Cass Tech (5-1) -- 36
9. Clarkston (8-1) -- 27
10. Wayne Memorial (4-2) -- 26

DIVISION 3

1. Jackson Lumen Christi (8-0) – 53 – {1}
2. Millington (5-0) -- 51
3. Maple City Glen Lake (5-1) – 50 – {1}
4. Riverview Gabriel Richard (6-2) – 43 – {2}
5. Ithaca (8-1) -- 38
6. Harbor Beach (6-1) -- 34
7. McBain (5-1) -- 25
8. Harbor Springs (7-1) -- 22
9. Kalamazoo Hackett (7-1) -- 21
10. Grass Lake (7-0) -- 19

Others receiving votes: Birmingham Groves 15, Hudsonville 13, Ann Arbor Huron 10, Flint Carman-Ainsworth 8, Grand Rapids Northview 7, Byron Center 7, Kalamazoo Central 5, Detroit Catholic Central 5, Okemos 4, Traverse City West 4, Belleville 4, Clinton Township Chippewa Valley 4, Waterford Mott 3, River Rouge 3, Muskegon Mona Shores 2, Dearborn 2, Macomb Dakota 2, Marquette 1, Canton 1.

Others receiving votes: Pewamo-Westphalia 19, Ishpeming Westwood 14, Beal City 14, Leroy Pine River 13, Pinconning 11, North Muskegon 10, Schoolcraft 8, Munising 7, Ottawa Lake Whiteford 6, Iron Mountain 6, Charlevoix 5, Ovid-Elsie 4, Ironwood 3, Elkton-Pigeon-Bay Port Laker 3, Advanced Technology Academy 1.

DIVISION 2

1. Flint Powers Catholic (8-0) – 69 – {2}
2. Hudsonville Unity Christian (7-1) -- 63
3. Detroit Old Redford (6-0) – 55 – {2}
4. Romulus Summit Academy (7-1) – 53 – {1}
5. Freeland (6-1) -- 40
6. Detroit University Prep (5-2) -- 36
6. Warren Lincoln (3-3) -- 36
8. Whitehall (7-2) -- 23
8. South Haven (8-0) -- 23
8. Grand Rapids Covenant Christian (8-1) -- 23

Others receiving votes: Onsted 22, Cheboygan 22, Gladwin 21, Kingsford 19, Grand Rapids Catholic Central 18, Grand Rapids Christian 14, Grand Rapids South Christian 13, Adrian 9, Portland 8, Benton Harbor 7, Chelsea 6, Detroit Denby 5, Paw Paw 5, Yale 4, Tecumseh 2, Grant 2, Ferndale 1, Imlay City 1.

DIVISION 4

1. Fowler (7-2) – 58 – {1}
2. Wyoming Tri-Unity Christian (6-2) – 57 – {1}
3. Mt Pleasant Sacred Heart (8-0) – 56 – {2}
4. Crystal Falls Forest Park (7-1) – 50 – {1}
5. Adrian Lenawee Christian (6-1) -- 49
6. Petersburg Summerfield (8-0) -- 46
7. Bellaire (7-1) -- 36
8. Clarkston Everest (7-1) -- 35
9. Allen Park Inter-City Baptist (5-1) -- 34
10. Southfield Christian (6-1) -- 31

Others receiving votes: Dollar Bay 27, Kingston 21, Pickford 15, Sterling Heights Parkway Christian 11, Detroit University Prep Art & Design 10, Detroit Douglass 10, Frankfort 10, Lake Leelanau St Mary 9, Rogers City 6, St. Joseph Michigan Lutheran 6, Saginaw Michigan Lutheran Seminary 5, Marion 5, Onkama 4, Pentwater 4, Felch North Dickinson 3, Norway 2.

CONFERENCE STANDINGS HOCKEY 1/13/25

BIG NORTH CONFERENCE

Team	W-L-Tie (Conference)	W-L-Tie (Overall)
Alpena	5-0-0	11-6-0
Petoskey	4-1-0	10-2-0
Traverse City Central	3-1-0	8-8-0
Traverse City West	1-2-0	4-10-0
Cadillac	2-5-0	7-7-0
Gaylord	0-7-0	1-12-0

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CONFERENCE STANDINGS BOYS BASKETBALL 1/13/25

Big North Conference			Northern Lakes Conference		
Team	W-L (Conference)	W-L (Overall)	West Division		
Traverse City West	3-0	8-1	Team	W-L (Conference)	W-L (Overall)
Cadillac	3-1	6-4	Harbor Springs Harbor	3-0	8-2
Gaylord	2-1	5-3	Light Christian	2-1	5-4
Traverse City Central	0-1	6-3	Ellsworth	0-1	0-0
Petoskey	0-2	7-5	Alba	0-2	0-7
Alpena	0-3	2-8	Boyer Falls	0-2	0-7
			Petoskey St Michael	0-0	0-0
Northern Shores Conference			Northern Lakes Conference		
Team	W-L (Conference)	W-L (Overall)	East Division		
Harbor Springs	4-0	9-1	Alanson	2-0	5-3
Cheboygan	3-1	8-1	Burt Lake Northern		
Elk Rapids	3-1	6-4	Michigan Christian	2-2	6-3
Boyer City	3-1	4-5	Mackinaw City	1-2	4-6
Charlevoix	2-2	6-4	Wolverine	0-3	1-5
Kalkaska	1-3	5-5	North Star League-Big Dipper		
Grayling	0-4	5-4	Alcona	1-0	8-2
Kingsley	0-4	0-9	Rogers City	1-0	6-2
			Oscoda	1-0	5-4
Ski Valley Conference			North Star League-Little Dipper		
Team	W-L (Conference)	W-L (Overall)	Oscoda	1-0	7-0
Bellaire	8-0	9-1	Rogers City	1-0	5-3
Gaylord St Mary	5-1	5-2	Alcona	1-0	1-6
Mancelona	5-1	5-4	Tawas	0-1	4-3
Indian River			Whittemore-Prescott	0-0	2-5
Inland Lakes	4-3	4-5	St Helen Charlton		
East Jordan	2-2	5-3	Heston Academy	0-2	0-7
Onaway	3-3	3-5	North Star League-Little Dipper		
Central Lake	1-4	1-8	Mio	2-0	5-3
Pellston	1-5	2-7	Hillman	2-1	6-5
Fife Lake Forest Area	1-6	2-7	AuGres-Sims	2-1	4-4
Johannesburg-Lewiston	0-5	0-9	Fairview	3-2	5-8
			Hale	1-2	2-6
			Posen	1-2	2-7
			Atlanta	0-3	0-7

CONFERENCE STANDINGS GIRLS BASKETBALL 1/13/25

Big North Conference			Northern Lakes Conference		
Team	W-L (Conference)	W-L (Overall)	West Division		
Traverse City Central	4-0	4-5	Team	W-L (Conference)	W-L (Overall)
Cadillac	2-1	5-3	Ellsworth	4-0	6-3
Alpena	1-2	4-4	Harbor Springs Harbor		
Gaylord	1-2	4-4	Light Christian	2-3	3-5
Traverse City West	1-2	2-6	Alba	1-3	1-4
Petoskey	1-3	5-4	Boyer Falls	0-4	0-6
			Petoskey St Michael	0-0	0-0
Northern Shores Conference			Northern Lakes Conference		
Team	W-L (Conference)	W-L (Overall)	East Division		
Harbor Springs	3-0	7-2	Burt Lake Northern		
Boyer City	2-0	5-3	Michigan Christian	5-0	6-4
Kingsley	2-0	3-4	Mackinaw City	2-1	3-7
Elk Rapids	2-1	5-4	Alanson	2-3	4-4
Grayling	1-1	6-2	Wolverine	0-4	0-6
Cheboygan	0-2	3-4	North Star League-Big Dipper		
Kalkaska	0-3	2-4	Oscoda	1-0	7-0
Charlevoix	0-3	1-7	Rogers City	1-0	5-3
			Alcona	1-0	1-6
Ski Valley Conference			North Star League-Little Dipper		
Team	W-L (Conference)	W-L (Overall)	Tawas	0-1	4-3
Gaylord St Mary	6-0	7-1	Whittemore-Prescott	0-0	2-5
Indian River			St Helen Charlton		
Inland Lakes	6-0	7-1	Heston Academy	0-2	0-7
East Jordan	5-1	6-3	North Star League-Little Dipper		
Bellaire	3-3	5-3	Mio	2-0	5-1
Central Lake	3-3	5-3	AuGres-Sims	3-0	6-2
Johannesburg-Lewiston	3-3	4-3	Hillman	2-0	6-3
Onaway	3-3	4-4	Atlanta	1-1	2-3
Pellston	0-5	1-5	Hale	1-2	4-4
Fife Lake Forest Area	0-6	1-7	Posen	0-2	4-4
Mancelona	0-5	0-8	Fairview	0-4	1-6

2024-2025 GIRLS BASKETBALL 1/13/25

Girls Basketball rankings are derived from the MHSAA Michigan Power Ratings used to seed District brackets.

DIVISION 1

Rank	Team
1	Rockford
2	Grand Haven
3	Saginaw Heritage
4	Detroit Renaissance
5	Dexter
6	Saline
7	Belleville
8	Midland
9	Temperance Bedford
10	Hartland
11	Wayne Memorial
12	Detroit Cass Tech
13	Utica Ford
14	Holt
15	Riverview
16	Grand Rapids Forest Hills Northern
17	Rochester Hills Stoney Creek
18	Wyoming
19	Port Huron
20	St Joseph

DIVISION 2

Rank	Team
1	Tecumseh
2	Ann Arbor Father Gabriel Richard
3	Chelsea
4	Sault Ste Marie
5	Negaunee
6	Detroit Edison
7	Grand Rapids West Catholic
8	Detroit Country Day
9	Croswell-Lexington
10	Freeland
11	Parma Western
12	Detroit University Prep
13	Grand Rapids South Christian
14	Buchanan
15	Grand Rapids Catholic Central
16	Houghton
17	Gladstone
18	Haslett
19	Frankenmuth
20	Adrian Madison

DIVISION 3

Rank	Team
1	Blissfield
2	Sandusky
3	McBain
4	Grass Lake
5	Monroe St Mary Catholic Central
6	Leslie
7	Lawton
8	New Lothrop
9	Roscommon
10	Harbor Springs
11	Oscoda
12	Detroit Pershing
13	Cass City
14	Hart
15	Jackson Lumen Christi
16	Pewamo-Westphalia
17	Harbor Beach
18	St Charles
19	Saugatuck
20	Shelby

DIVISION 4

Rank	Team
1	Leland
2	Morenci
3	St Ignace
4	Munising
5	Fowler
6	Mount Pleasant Sacred Heart
7	Concord
8	Ewen-Trout Creek
9	Pittsford
10	Kingston
11	Adrian Lenawee Christian
12	Clarkston Everest Collegiate
13	Genesee Christian
14	Brimley
15	L'Anse
16	Gaylord St Mary
17	Pickford
18	Onekama
19	Indian River Inland Lakes
20	Lake Linden-Hubbell

2024-2025 BOYS BASKETBALL 1/13/25

Boys Basketball rankings are derived from the MHSAA Michigan Power Ratings used to seed District brackets.

DIVISION 1

Rank	Team
1	Detroit U of D Jesuit
2	Detroit Cass Tech
3	Orchard Lake St Mary's
4	Hudsonville
5	Rockford
6	Bloomfield Hills Brother Rice
7	Waterford Mott
8	East Lansing
9	Muskegon
10	Warren Fitzgerald
11	Ann Arbor Huron
12	Lansing Waverly
13	Flint Carman-Ainsworth
14	Oxford
15	Detroit Martin Luther King
16	Marquette
17	Wayne Memorial
18	Traverse City West
19	Mason
20	Grand Haven

DIVISION 2

Rank	Team
1	Flint Powers Catholic
2	Kingsford
3	Freeland
4	Grand Rapids South Christian
5	Warren Lincoln
6	Detroit Old Redford
7	Onsted
8	Hudsonville Unity Christian
9	Adrian
10	Romulus Summit Academy North
11	Tecumseh
12	Yale
13	Berrien Springs
14	Standish-Sterling
15	Grand Rapids Covenant Christian
16	Imlay City
17	South Haven
18	Paw Paw
19	Frankenmuth
20	Detroit University Prep

DIVISION 3

Rank	Team
1	Jackson Lumen Christi
2	Millington
3	Harbor Beach
4	Maple City Glen Lake
5	Harbor Springs
6	Grass Lake
7	Arts & Technology Academy of Pontiac
8	Schoolcraft
9	Alcona
10	Beal City
11	Ithaca
12	Munising
13	Elkton-Pigeon-Bay Port Laker
14	Ovid-Elsie
15	LeRoy Pine River
16	Kalamazoo Hackett Catholic Prep
17	Ironwood
18	Taylor Trillium Academy
19	Springport
20	Riverview Gabriel Richard

DIVISION 4

Rank	Team
1	Crystal Falls Forest Park
2	Mount Pleasant Sacred Heart
3	Allen Park Inter-City Baptist
4	Pickford
5	Adrian Lenawee Christian
6	Onekama
7	Southfield Christian
8	Traverse City Christian
9	Fowler
10	Frankfort
11	Clarkston Everest Collegiate
12	Rogers City
13	Harbor Springs Harbor Light Christian
14	Felch North Dickinson
15	Sterling Heights Parkway Christian
16	Norway
17	Battle Creek St Philip
18	Petersburg Summerfield
19	Lake Leelanau St Mary
20	Wyoming Tri-Unity Christian



OTSEGO COUNTY FOOD DRIVE WEEKEND



JANUARY 18TH & 19TH 10AM-6PM • TREETOPS RESORT

We are raising awareness, and asking for help raising funds to help feed hungry people in Otsego county!



The Otsego County Food Pantry volunteers will be onsite at Treetops Resort in Gaylord to collect funds and non-perishable food items. We will be stationed in our cozy 2024 Jayco Sizemic 359 Toy Hauler. It is also available to tour!! If you decide to purchase, a portion of the profit will go directly to the Otsego County Food Pantry.

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REAL ESTATE FEATURE



CHARMING CHARLEVOIX HOME JUST A SHORT STROLL TO LAKE MICHIGAN

BY JIM AKANS

This week's feature listing is a charming ranch style home with a full basement situated just a short stroll from downtown and the shores of Lake Michigan.

This three-bedroom, two-bath home has approximately 1,200 square feet of beautifully remodeled space plus a full, block basement. Interior highlights include a gourmet kitchen with lots of cabinet storage, countertop work space and top-notch appliances. The kitchen opens to

the dining and living areas, with beautiful flooring throughout this space and the rest of the home. There is an attached garage and a huge full basement with the laundry/utility area and lots of space for storage or to finish.

The location is ideal. With downtown shopping, dining, entertainment, parks, schools as well as Lake Michigan within easy reach. Golf courses, skiing, Boyne City, Petoskey and East Jordan are also close at hand. What a great place to call home in Northern Michigan.



This charming ranch style home is located at 206 Sheridan in Charlevoix and is listed at \$414,900. For more information visit jenniferburrgroup.com or to arrange a home tour, call

Jennifer Burr, Realtor, at Coldwell Banker Schmidt in Boyne City, Realtor, at Coldwell Banker Schmidt in Boyne City, 231-675-0157 or email jennifer.burr@cbgreatlakes.com



REAL ESTATE CORNER

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How to Make a House Look 'Bigger and Better'

One sure way for your house to appear larger and more appealing is if clutter is eliminated and furniture and household goods are reorganized.

In fact, the time to have a garage sale is before you put your house on the market, not after it is sold! When you decide to sell, start going through your closets and cupboards, eliminating items you don't want to keep. Do the same in the garage and backyard.

Get rid of, or store, the odds and ends. It's interesting to note that the more someone lives in a home, the more used to the clutter they become.

Unfortunately, closets, cupboards and garages brimming with "old treasures" make a home look small and cramped to a prospective buyer. Sellers should also carefully examine their furniture, and consign items that are not needed to the storage or the garage sale. Most homes occupied by the same owner for several years tend to be somewhat over-furnished. Erring on the side of space, not clutter, makes for a more marketable home.

Another "item" that adds to the clutter of a home are excess knickknacks. Scru-

tinize the kitchen for rarely used utensils/gadgets; miscellaneous items in closets and cupboards, even small furniture and throw rugs, that can be neatly stored.

Pack or give away clothing that will not be worn as well.

Rearrange and organize.

Remove as many articles as possible from the kitchen and bathroom countertops to the cupboards below—they'll still be within handy reach in the newly created space.

Organize closets.

Clear off your night stands and bureaus.

Size up the arrangement of your furniture—any room for improvement there?

Examine the walls and windows. Do they need repainting or new window coverings?

For some expert, objective advice, have your real estate professional go through the home. Realtors know what enhances a property's appearance – and what hinders it.

One last hint – don't forget the outside. Sweep the garage and sidewalks, trim the lawn and bushes, wash all the windows, inside and out. It all helps to make your home look fresher, lighter-and larger.

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TRUCKS

2006 Ram Mega Cab. 1500, topper, tow pkg, 8' box, regular cab, 250 K miles. Sale Price \$5,995. Rivertown Auto Sales & Leasing. 989 VFW Rd, Cheboygan. 231-627-6700. Need a car a day or a week. We rent vehicles.

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 \$350 a month. Rivertown Auto Sales & Leasing. 989 VFW Rd, Cheboygan. 231-627-6700. Need a car a day or a week. We rent vehicles.

2014 Chevy Silverado 1500. 4x4, tow pkg, double cab, 250 K miles. Sale Price \$9,995. As low as \$249 a month. Rivertown Auto Sales & Leasing. 989 VFW Rd, Cheboygan. 231-627-6700. Need a car a day or a week. We rent vehicles.

2015 Chevy Silverado 1500 LS. 4x4, double cab, tow pkg, 121 K miles. Byrider - 2215 US Hwy 31 N, Petoskey. Call 231-347-3200. Buy. Finance. Drive On.

2015 Chevy Silverado 1500. ARE topper, roof rack, slideout tray in box, 167 K miles. Sale Price \$11,595. As low as \$269 a month. Rivertown Auto Sales & Leasing. 989 VFW Rd, Cheboygan. 231-627-6700. Need a car a day or a week. We rent vehicles.

2017 Chevy Colorado. 4x4, Diesel, club cab, rear camera, hard tonneau cover, tow pkg, 200 K miles. Sale Price \$16,995. As low as \$379 a month. Rivertown Auto Sales & Leasing. 989 VFW Rd, Cheboygan. 231-627-6700. Need a car a day or a week. We rent vehicles.

2017 GMC Sierra 1500. 4x4, quad cab, soft tonneau, tow pkg, bedliner, 223 K miles. Sale Price \$15,995. As low as \$359 a month. Rivertown Auto Sales & Leasing. 989 VFW Rd, Cheboygan. 231-627-6700. Need a car a day or a week. We rent vehicles.

2019 Ford F-150. Reg. cab, 8 foot bed, tow pkg, bedliner, rear camera, 111 K miles. Byrider - 2215 US Hwy 31 N, Petoskey. Call 231-347-3200. Buy. Finance. Drive On.

2019 Ram 1500. 4x4, 5.7L Hemi, Leer topper, quad cab, tow pkg, double moon roof, 136 K miles. Sale Price \$23,495. As low as \$419 a month. Rivertown Auto Sales & Leasing. 989 VFW Rd, Cheboygan. 231-627-6700. We rent vehicles.

2020 Ford F-150 XLT. 4x4, club cab, tow pkg, soft tonneau cover, rear camera, 140 K miles. \$25,995. As low as \$399 a month. Petoskey Auto Sales & Rental, Byrider. 2215 US Hwy 31 N, Petoskey. Call 31-347-3200. Buy. Finance. Drive On.

2021 Ram 1500 Classic. 4x4, double cab, rear camera, 5.7 L Hemi, 96 K miles. \$34,995. As low as \$519 a month. Petoskey Auto Sales & Rental, Byrider. 2215 US Hwy 31 N, Petoskey. Call 231-347-3200. Buy. Finance. Drive On.

VANS

2010 GMC Savana Van. Stabiltrak, extra long, high miles. Sale Price \$5,995. As low as \$199 a month. Rivertown Auto Sales & Leasing. 989 VFW Rd, Cheboygan. 231-627-6700. Need a car a day or a week. We rent vehicles.

2012 Chrysler Town & Country Handicap Van. Braun Ability pkg, 73 K miles. Sale Price \$8,995. As low as \$199 a month. Rivertown Auto Sales & Leasing. 989 VFW Rd, Cheboygan. 231-627-6700. We rent vehicles.

2014 Ford Transit Connect XLT. Roof rack, 3rd row seat, rear camera, 134 K miles. Byrider - 2215 US Hwy 31 N, Petoskey. Call 231-347-3200. Buy. Finance. Drive On.

2017 Chrysler Pacifica Limited. Leather, seats 8, 147 K miles. Sale Price \$12,995. As low as \$289 a month. Rivertown Auto Sales & Leasing. 989 VFW Rd, Cheboygan. 231-627-6700. www.rivertownautosales.com. Need a car a day or a week. We rent vehicles.

2017 Dodge Grand Caravan SXT. Leather, captain chairs, remoter start, 105 K miles. Byrider - 2215 US Hwy 31 N, Petoskey. Call 231-347-3200. Buy. Finance. Drive On.

2017 Dodge Grand Caravan. Remote start, 105 K miles. Byrider - 2215 US Hwy 31 N, Petoskey. Call 231-347-3200. Buy. Finance. Drive On.

2019 Chrysler Pacifica. 4 captain seats, Stow-N-Go, rear camera, leather, 96 K miles. Very Nice! \$21,595. As low as \$339 a month. Petoskey Auto Sales & Rental, Byrider. 2215 US Hwy 31 N, Petoskey. Call 231-347-3200. Buy. Finance. Drive On.

2019 Dodge Grand Caravan. 4 captain chairs, 7 passenger, Stow-N-Go seats, 107 K miles. Byrider - 2215 US Hwy 31 N, Petoskey. Call 231-347-3200. Buy. Finance. Drive On.

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Museum is paying cash for military firearms. Our museum wants to buy US, German, and Japanese military rifles and pistols. We will also buy military firearms from all the different countries around the world. We will buy one firearm or an entire collection. Please call or text the Michigan Traveling Military Museum at 989-798-8709 or email us at mtmm1@yahoo.com. To learn more about our museum please visit our website at mtmm.us.

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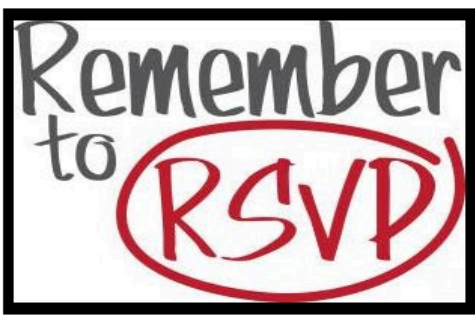
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 2021 Nissan Altima Rear camera, 65 K miles. Sharp. \$17,995 As low as \$273 a month	 2024 Mitsubishi Mirage Leather, 7275 miles. \$21,725 As low as \$339 a month.	 2019 Chrysler Pacifica 4 captain seats, Stow-N-Go, rear camera, leather, 96 K miles. Very Nice! \$21,595 As low as \$339 a month	 2020 Subaru Outback AWD, moon roof, huge screen, 173 K miles. \$17,495 As low as \$276 a month	 <p>Petoskey Auto Sales</p> <p>byrider</p> <p>BUY. FINANCE. DRIVE ON. byrider.com</p> <p>231-347-3200</p> <p>DAILY RENTALS</p>	
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JANUARY 2025

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Auction Items and Reservations Needed
 We are limited to 200 attendees for the January 25th event. Auction Items are needed for both the Silent and Live Auctions. If you need ideas or would like to be a sponsor, please contact Mary or Shannon at 231-536-7351

Please get us your Auction Items & RSVPs for the event by Friday, January 17th so that we have time to get everything ready for the event.



Don & Eileen Klein Nature Trail "Adopt A Trail" Steward Opportunity

We are looking for people and organizations to be volunteer stewards to help maintain our beautiful new boardwalk and trail.

- Adopt A Trail Responsibilities
- Vegetation trimming
 - Sweeping of debris, droppings, and cobwebs
 - Inspect for damage, trail erosion
 - Remove garbage

One Month Assignment - preferred (2 week assignments possible)

Walk weekly for visual inspection
 Vegetation trimming every other week or as needed
 Occasional "Big trim"

Interested? Please contact Karen Brennan at deercreekjunk@gmail.com for available time slots.

Families Reaching for Educational Excellence



FREE 2nd Saturdays



2025 DATES

- Jan 11
- Feb 8
- Mar 8
- Apr 12
- May 10
- Jun 14
- Jul 12
- Aug 9
- Sept 13
- Oct 11
- Nov 8
- Dec 13

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Please no groups. Free 2nd Saturdays are reserved for quality family time.



Admission for families on Free 2nd Saturdays is in memory of Diane Strzelinski.

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NATIONAL BLOOD DONOR MONTH

DONATE BLOOD

Friday
January 17
 10:00 AM - 2:30 PM

East Jordan Emergency Service Station Community Blood Drive

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