

EAST JORDAN Journal

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VOL. 4 NO. 11

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1995

EAST JORDAN, MICHIGAN

Bridge upgrade plan raises some fears

BY IRENA GRANAAS
Contributing Writer

It sounds like a good deal.

Through a cooperative effort between a gas company and several county and local agencies, a deteriorating bridge can be replaced with a minimum amount of cash.

But the proposed plan to replace the aging Penny Bridge (located on Pinney Bridge Road in Chestonia Township) has sparked concerns among some in the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Friends of the Jordan River Watershed (FOJ).

The plan is a cooperative effort between Lees Petroleum, the Antrim County Road Commission, Calvin College Civil Engineering Department, Northwest Design Group, Inc., and the Northwest Michigan Resource Conservation and Development Council, Inc.

It calls for replacing the old bridge over the Green River in the Jordan Valley with a modern Michigan timber bridge.

"We had an engineering firm do a site plan and a rough estimate ... We took that plan and started to work with all the parties involved," said RC&D Council Associate Director Amy Beyer.

The RC&D is seeking grant funding to cover about 20 percent of the cost, with the rest to be split between the road commission and Lees Petroleum.

The gas company has offered to pay about half of the remaining cost, with the road commission contributing an equal value of in-kind services - labor, supplies and use of equipment.

Beyer noted in addition to providing safe, reliable transport over the river, the bridge can help improve water quality. An older draft of the bridge proposal calls sand and sedimentation being carried into stream beds and spawning areas a primary threat to water quality and fish habitats.

The RC&D Council's summary explains that especially with older culverts which are undersized and higher than the natural



"It sets a huge precedent for future development of the forest."

John Richter

Friends of the Jordan River Watershed

MOST PARTIES AGREE the old Penny Bridge (pictured) needs to be replaced, but the DNR and Friends of the Jordan River Watershed worry its proposed replacement may increase access to sensitive natural areas by petroleum extractors.

stream bed or perpendicular to the road, runoff and road grading activities can cause hundreds of tons of sediment to enter streams at crossings each year.

"When the local community decides to replace or upgrade a crossing, we often encourage them to choose a timber bridge or box culvert," said Beyer. "It makes sense to select Michigan timber instead of importing steel or concrete.

"We believe that industries like the Michigan Timber Bridge industry can help maintain our rural quality of life by providing markets for our natural resources. This may mean a landowner can keep his land in forestry production rather than converting it to a less-desirable use."

■ Traffic access concerns many

The estimated cost of the proposed project is about \$100,000. Unlike the existing bridge, the new bridge would be capable of carrying heavy vehicle traffic, and that worries some watershed monitors.

The bridge question is about more than just a bridge, said FOJ vice president John Richter.

"It's providing access into the forest. The implications of increasing access are what concerns us - if it were just a bridge, it would be no problem," he said. "As we

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Changes threaten DNR's "watchdog" capability

A DNR official believes the recent splitting of the department into the DNR and the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) may leave the DNR less able to protect natural areas like the Jordan River Valley from gas and oil drilling activity.

"The department does not want any drilling within the Jordan Valley management area," said Bill O'Neill, area forester for the DNR. "The management plan was developed 25 years ago, and in that plan we spelled out we didn't want any gas or oil exploration."

O'Neill said when the department was one unit, he and DNR personnel recommended against any drilling in the forest area. Then Terra Energy sought permits for three well sites within the forest.

"The department split, and the geology division went to the Department of Environmental Quality," he said. "They went back and changed their recommendation on two of three wells. On one they kept their recommendation for no drilling, but they changed their recommendation on the other two."

Asked who has the final say, O'Neill said the DNR administrators

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No drilling in Jordan Valley - for now

■ Petroleum company pulls its drilling permit requests, but gives no promise state forest won't be targeted in future

BY KEITH MATHENY
Contributing Writer

Opponents to natural gas well-drilling in the pristine Jordan River State Forest are cautiously optimistic after a local petroleum extractor withdrew permit requests to drill in the area.

Terra Energy, Ltd., a Traverse City subsidiary of CMS Nomeco, which in turn is owned by Consumers Power Company, asked the state Department of Environmental Quality Nov. 30 to no longer consider its drilling permit requests on two parcels within the forest in Star Township near the Jordan River Fish Hatchery.

Though the land is state-owned, its mineral rights are privately held. The DEQ this fall reversed longstanding DNR policy against drilling in the Jordan River Watershed by considering the permit requests.

Concerns of local residents and environmental groups regarding the delicate nature of the watershed led to Terra Energy's decision, according to Bill Stephens, executive vice president and general counsel for CMS Nomeco.

"Despite what many of the environmental advocates in this state believe, we do have a sensitivity to the environment," he said.

Stephens said DEQ Director Russell Harding personally contacted Terra Energy officials, asking them to reconsider their permit requests. Stephens said Harding cited environmental concerns spelled out in a letter to him by the Michigan Energy Reform Coalition, a grassroots group con-

sisting of several environmental organizations, public officials and others.

"He didn't demand; he asked us as responsible citizens to reconsider, based on those concerns (in the MERC letter)," Stephens said.

Harding was unavailable for comment. MERC's letter to Harding called allowing drilling in the Jordan River State Forest "shortsighted and irresponsible resource management policy" that would:

- directly violate the Jordan Valley Management Plan and DNR precedent on managing the valley.
- "degrade one of the finest remaining wilderness areas in the lower peninsula."
- threaten local economies reliant upon recreational tourism attracted by the state forest.
- "set a damaging precedent for further mineral development within the Jordan Valley."

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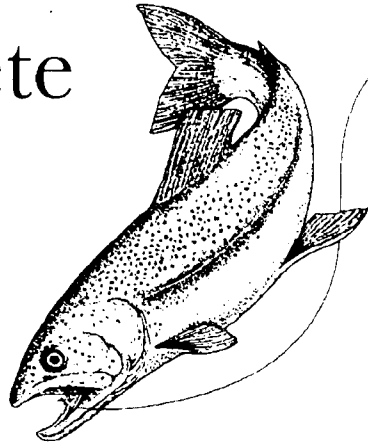
Photo courtesy of Emily Clark



Swan City memories

-A 1950 view of the East Jordan Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.

Boyne River restoration nearly complete



This fall, fishermen and other recreationists may have noticed some big changes along stretches of the North Boyne River. Thanks to Boyne USA and a Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) Inland Fisheries grant of \$20,000 to improve water quality and fish habitat, bank stabilization began on designated areas from the dam downstream to the Dam Road crossing.

Partners in this project, including Boyne USA, Charlevoix County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD), members of the Boyne City Rotary Club, MDNR Fisheries Division, and the Northwest Michigan Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) Council, are matching this grant with labor, materials, and supervision.

When streambanks erode in rivers such as the North Boyne, sediment, primarily sand, can severely degrade fish habitat and water quality in a number of ways. Sand covers gravel beds necessary for spawning, and can bury the rocks and wood that provide habitat for aquatic insects that trout feed on.

Sand can also alter the shape and depth of a river, and can contribute to warmer water temperatures deadly to the fish that live in those waters. Much of the designated erosion on the Boyne River is caused by constant foot traffic up, down, and along the sides of the river.

Boyne USA, which provided most of

the labor for the project, began the restoration efforts mid-summer by moving existing footpaths further from the river and placing woodchips along the newly constructed paths.

In September, Boyne USA continued the stabilization work by providing equipment and in-house labor to place field stone (rock riprap) along the toe of several banks to decrease present erosion and increase bank stabilization. The Northwest Michigan RC&D Council facilitated the agreement and provided supervision, while the Charlevoix SWCD supplied local contacts and support.

Camp Pellston has also agreed to help finish hand placing rock riprap at two sites this winter or spring.

Also this spring, the Boyne City Rotary Club will continue this river restoration project by planting trees and shrubs, improving river access, and organizing a river clean-up day. The combined efforts of those involved with the North Boyne River Project will benefit the river, its inhabitants, the community, and the public that enjoys the resources provided by the river.

Reader writes

Encouraging young writers

THANK YOU SO much for printing the wonderful article about *Kreative Kidz* in the *Torch* and the *East Jordan Journal*. It was very well written, and I hope that it brings in more submissions. *Kreative Kidz* does hope to put out its next issue in April, and the advertising

should encourage young authors who may feel that they're writing is "not good enough."

Again, thank you very much for the story. I truly appreciate it.

Laura Jayne Warren
Editor, *Kreative Kidz Magazine*

Senior nominated for award

A local volunteer has been nominated for a Citizens Insurance Seniors Award in a statewide call to recognize the exceptional contributions of senior volunteers throughout Michigan.

William T. Bridge of East Jordan was nominated for the award, formerly known as the Concerned Citizens Award. The program, now in its seventh year, is sponsored by Citizens Insurance Company of America.

"It is inspiring to see how much is given, how much is accomplished through the efforts of this year's nominees," said corporate communications manager Peter Logan. "We are glad to offer some recognition to these outstanding men and women who brighten the lives of many others."

This year more than 170 men and women across the state have been nominated by friends, volunteer organizations, business associates and representatives of service agencies. Nominees must be at least 60 years old, and a

Michigan resident.

Bridge was nominated by the staff at the East Jordan Senior Center in recognition of his extraordinary volunteer activities, including: St. Joseph Catholic Church, East Jordan Family Health Center, East Jordan Senior Center, Grandvue Medical Care Facility, Charlevoix County Hospice, Charlevoix Area Hospital Guild, and RSVP of Charlevoix and Emmet counties.

A former telephone company employee, as a retiree, Bridge has made nearly a full-time job of volunteering. In the winter months, he serves as a volunteer in Lehigh Acres, Fla., and is president of the East Pointe Hospital Auxiliary.

A panel of judges representing business and public agencies will choose 10 finalists to receive Citizens Insurance Senior Awards. Each recipient will win a \$500 cash award and a \$500 donation to the charity of his or her choice.

Castle Farm receives contract

Castle Farm, Inc. recently received a contract proposal to rent the facility to the Michigan Renaissance Festival, based in Holly, for the July 4, 1996 weekend.

"Castle Farm, Inc., will be evaluating the contract proposal after the acquisition of the property," said executive director John E. Porter. "Our first priority is to secure the property prior to the Dec. 18 deadline."

The European Renaissance was a reawakening of the creative spirit of mankind - it is the same spirit which guides the Renaissance Festival. The enthusiasm and artistry of the period are recreated as the village of artisans, food purveyors, and performers comes to life with the arrival of the king and queen.

The festival represents a great event for the northern Michigan area, as a

source of entertainment, employment, and education, according to Porter. It offers the opportunity to witness and participate in theater, art, handmade crafts, food, games, and equestrian events as they may have been 400 years ago.

"This is a wonderful opportunity for the whole area," said Porter. "We need this kind of event at Castle Farm to replace the rock concert venue. This is a healthy activity for the entire family that not only benefits Castle Farm, Inc., but enhances the summer activities for everyone."

Those interested in supporting this type of activity and others through Castle Farm, Inc., can send tax deductible contributions for the acquisition of Castle Farm to CB North, c/o Castle Farm Escrow Savings Account #1700006221, 201 State St., Charlevoix, MI 49720.

EAST JORDAN Journal

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Voice an opinion - write a letter to the editor.
Deadline is Friday, 5 p.m.

sports

BY RICH CLARK
Journal Sportswriter

Devils defeat Onaway Cardinals

It was a dark and stormy night, but the Red Devils boys basketball teams made it to Onaway to play the Cardinals, Dec. 5. They came up with a 69-54 victory.

The varsity Devils got off to a slow start, and the score read 24-14 in favor of the Cardinals after one quarter of play.

"We did not match up well at first," said Coach Del Ingalls. "We missed a lot of easy baskets in the first half."

Sophomore Scott Haley kept East Jordan in the game with scoring and key rebounds.

At the half, the Devils were close but still behind by a 34-27 margin.

The second half was all East Jordan.

"The press wore them down. Jim Malpass and Josiah Middaugh came on strong," said Ingalls.

Onaway only scored 20 points in the second half and East Jordan got stronger with 42 points in the same two quarters.

Leading the scorers for East Jordan was Malpass with 20, followed by Middaugh with 13. Haley added 12, and Josh Spears canned 10. The boards were dominated by Haley with 12, Malpass snagged seven, and Middaugh grabbed six.

Malpass had five deflections and Middaugh had four assists. East Jordan drained six triples and shot 16-of-24 free throws.

The junior varsity also took a 60-55 overtime win over Onaway.

The JV Devils looked like they had the win in the bag, but the Cardinals came from a 51-38 deficit with 1:59 left to tie it 51-all at the end of regulation.

In OT, East Jordan changed the momentum and held on for the win. Matt Mogan led the scoring for the Devils with 16. Denzel Wilson added 15. Mike Mazzella chipped in with nine points and nine rebounds. Josh Luck also slammed the boards with nine.

Ed's and DARE roll to victory

Two teams in the East Jordan Men's over-35 basketball league had all the pieces tuned up, Dec. 6. Ed's Used Cars defeated Tom's Diesel 116-67 in game one. DARE came up on the winning end in game two with a 97-57 victory over the Insurance Shop.

Kevin Keenon scored 18 points in the third quarter and Rick and Ed Roberts combined 10 points each in the fourth quarter to put the nails in the coffin for Ed's. Tom Reid had four triples for Tom's. Leading scorers

for Ed's were Keenon with 34, Versal Spence adding 21 and Ed Roberts with 20. For Tom's Diesel, leading point-getters were Bob Veatening with 15, Reid draining 12 points and Kim Korthase adding 11.

In game two, Ken Doty led the charge for DARE with four triples and 26 points. Randy Kruzzel added 21, and Scott Gibbs came up with 10.

Steve Hines led the Insurance Shop with 21. Brian Sweet and Blake Woodard added 10 each.

East Jordan wins nailbiter hoops game

East Jordan played solid defense and Andrew Otis had a big fourth quarter as the Devils pulled out a 59-54 win over a tough McBain basketball team, Dec. 8.

East Jordan started the game with an 11-3 run in the first three and a half minutes, capped by a Jim Malpass triple. The Devils had a great inside-outside game going.

McBain pulled closer after one quarter of play, but the Devils led 14-12 as both teams were feeling each other out like two boxers in a big bout. The best was yet to come as McBain led at the half, 25-24.

In the third, East Jordan and McBain took turns swapping the lead, and McBain held on to a 36-35 lead after three quarters, each teams' defense doing an outstanding job. McBain was scoring on pullup jumpers and the Devils were still doing well on the board.

When the fourth quarter started it felt like playoff time. The tension was high, the cheerleaders were igniting the crowd, and everybody was on the edge of their

seats.

Otis and the rest of the team felt the electricity of the crowd and turned it up a notch.

With 5:46 remaining, Otis ran down the court, shook off McBain's determined Ryan Price, and hit a triple to tie the game at 40-all.

McBain then scored on another short jumper. Otis brought the ball down and was fouled on a three-point attempt. He made all three free throws to put East Jordan up 43-42.

On the next possession, Otis canned another triple to put the Devils up 46-42 with five minutes remaining.

Four minutes later McBain had come back to just one point behind, 53-52, by using pullup jumpers and good ball movement.

Then with the game on the line, McBain's Price went to the free throw line. The score was 55-52 in favor of East Jordan. Price hit the first one. The second bounced off the backboard and came into the hands of Otis, who was fouled immediately. He hit both free throws, and after McBain shot another jumper, was fouled again. He put the game away with the last two points.

Leading scorers for East Jordan were Otis with 33, Malpass adding 13, and Josh Spears with 10.

McBain won the junior varsity 67-54. Leading scorers for East Jordan were Matt Mogan with 20, and Denzel Wilson with 7. McBain's leading scorer was Kip McNally with 20. Ken Bochy and Chad Farr added 11 each.

Varsity scores by quarters

East Jordan	14	10	11	24 = 59
McBain	12	13	11	18 = 54

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Man thrown from snowmobile

A downstate man remained hospitalized four days after a snowmobiling accident Dec. 2 in Jordan Township.

Michael Earley, 33, of Attica, was snowmobiling with friends, traveling westbound on Old State Road about 11:45 a.m. He ran the stop sign at Adams Road and struck a snow bank, throwing him into a stand of trees.

Witnesses reported visibility limited by blowing snow. Earley was taken to Charlevoix Area Hospital, and later transported to Northern Michigan Hospital in Petoskey.

MSU names fall grads

Renee M. Ruhlman of East Jordan was one of 1,476 graduates receiving a bachelor's degree from Michigan State University this fall.

Ruhlman earned a bachelor of science in social sciences and inter-

national studies from the East Lansing university.

Deadline for events is Wednesday, 5 p.m.

East Jordan Chamber of Commerce Raffle Tickets Make Great Gifts! \$10 per ticket 4-\$100 winners each month for one year. Call or write P.O. Box 137, E.J. 536-7351 Lic.#X27321

EJ athletes named for post-season honors

Several East Jordan High School athletes were recently named to post-season honors.

Named to the Lake Michigan Division conference first football team are seniors Steve Burks and Dan Harris. Conference honorable mention went to seniors Brendan Ingalls and Josh Spears.

In girls basketball, juniors Amanda Pepin and Sara Malpass were named to the conference first team, and senior Kristie Loviska earned an honorable mention. This is the second year Pepin was named to first team.

Former EJHS runner Tina Richards also received conference honors as a student at Sienna Heights College in Adrian. Sophomore Richards finished second overall at the final conference cross country meet this fall, qualifying for the NAIA National Championships, Nov. 18. She went on to place a respectable 61st against runners from across the nation.

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mark your calendar

Grandvue party set

The annual Christmas party sponsored by the Grandvue Auxiliary will be held at Grandvue Medical Care Facility, Peninsula Road, Thurs., Dec. 14, at 10 a.m.

Auxiliary members are requested to bring fruit bread for refreshments.

Cook-Off benefits pantry

A new event for the annual Festival of the Bells Community Night will benefit the East Jordan Care and Share Emergency Food Pantry.

Chefs from several local eateries will compete in the first annual Soup Cook-Off, hosted by J&J Bakery and Deli. Diners can try samples of soups prepared by Darlene Bolser of Darlene's Restaurant, Jackie Eiben of J&J Bakery and Deli, Debbie Peck of the East Jordan Senior Center, Cheryl Rebec of Rainbow Bar, and Mary Ann Stewart of the Round Table Restaurant.

After taste-testing the soups, participants may cast their vote for their favorite—\$1 allows one vote for the People's Choice soup, and the chance for a donation to Care and Share. The pantry will receive all the proceeds of the event.

The cook-off will be held Thurs., Dec. 14, from 5 to 8 p.m., at J&J Bakery and Deli, 128 Main St., adjacent to East Jordan Pharmacy.

Girls hoops registration

The Girls PeeWee Basketball program registration for the upcoming 1995-96 winter season will be held Sat., Dec. 16, from 10 a.m. to noon, at East Jordan Middle School.

Registration is open to all area girls in third through sixth grades. Those who have a conflict with other Saturday morning activities should contact Dan Pepin, at 547-4963, before registration day.

Snowmobile safety class

The Department of Natural Resources will sponsor a free snowmobile safety course Sat., Dec. 16, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the VFW Hall on M-88 in Central Lake.

The course is required for youths age 12 to 16. Adults who wish to learn more are also welcome.

Participants should bring their Social Security number, warm clothing and a helmet if they have one.

The morning portion of the course will cover laws, first aid and rules of the road. Lunch will then be provided by the VFW Ladies Auxiliary, and a bus will then take participants to Big Meadow Equipment in Jordan Township, where snowmobile riding will be incorporated into the class.

Send Santa letters now!



Kids! There's still time to get those letters off to Santa — and the *East Jordan Journal* can help make sure the jolly old elf pays special attention to yours.

Here's what you do — write down your favorite Christmas wishes, and be sure to include your name, age and town. Tuck them into an envelope addressed like this:

Santa Claus, c/o The East Jordan Journal
PO Box 405
East Jordan, MI 49727

We'll print all the letters (and we'll try to print your drawings or photos, too!) we get by **Dec. 14** in our special Christmas issue Dec. 20, and then we'll send them on to Santa in plenty of time!

Volunteers needed for tax assistance program

The 1995 Filing Season will begin in a few short weeks and the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) is beginning to plan their tax assistance program. RSVP will be offering free tax assistance to moderate — and low-income taxpayers 60 years and older. The tax aide volunteers are trained to complete basic income tax forms and answer your tax questions. The tax aide program is sponsored by RSVP and AARP in cooperation with the Internal Revenue Service Tax Counseling For The Elderly.

This year RSVP will expand this free tax service to surrounding counties. More tax counselors are needed.

Tax training classes will be held in Gaylord at 116 S. Elm St. in the Gaylord Community Education Building. Classes will run Jan. 8 through 12, 1996, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. At the completion of the classes a take-home test and answers booklet is given to each tax counselor to complete. For more information, please call RSVP at (517) 732-6232 and register for tax aide classes. Registration deadline is Dec. 20.

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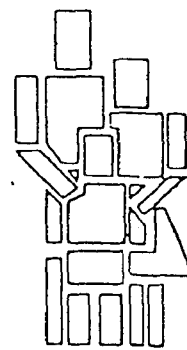
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7 Nightly, Sat. 9:10

Gaylord Cinema

Jumanji - PG - Starring Robin Williams & Bonnie Hunt
7 & 9 Nightly, Sat. & Sun. 2 & 4

Toy Story - G - Voices of Tom Hanks and Tim Allen - 7 & 9, Sat. & Sun. 2 & 4

Money Train - R - Starring Wesley Snipes & Woody Harrelson
7 & 9:15, Sat. & Sun. 2 & 4

Gaslight Cinema

Goldeneye - PG13 - Starring Pierce Brosnan - 7 & 9:20,
Sat. & Sun. 2 & 4:15

It Takes Two - PG - 7 Nightly, Sat. & Sun. 2 & 4

Casino - R - Starring Robert DeNiro & Sharon Stone - 8:50 Nightly

Sabrina - PG-13 - Starring Harrison Ford & Julia Ormond
7 & 9:25 Nightly, Sat. & Sun. 2, 4:15

Jumanji - PG - Starring Robin Williams & Bonnie Hunt
7 & 9 Nightly, Sat. & Sun. 2 & 4

Toy Story - G - Voices of Tom Hanks and Tim Allen - 7 & 9,
Sat. & Sun. 2 & 4

17, 21, 45, 51, 11-16

word fitly spoken

Peace in our hearts

Life consists of peaks and valleys, but faith and trust in Jesus Christ gives us the hope, courage and strength to overcome our adversities.

God wants only the best for each of us. The key is, as the old hymn says, "Trust and Obey," for there is no other way.

There are no "ifs and or buts" in God's Holy Word. The message is simple, profound and very clear.

God teaches us to be obedient to His Word, to love one another, forgive one another, do for one another, and emulate Jesus Christ in our daily lives.

Many of us have felt unloved, abandoned, or ill-treated, and wonder why. Does God love us? Are we deserving of His love?

We carried or buried our hurts, tainting our memories and creating problems around us, making our families dysfunctional.

Although we may wish to go back and undo some of the mistakes in our past, to forgive those who injured us, it may seem a hopeless idea. But it is never too late for God is in control.

Accept His free gift of salvation – go to any Christian layman or pastor, and let them show you how to be saved. Then live in accordance to God's Holy Word.

As a new being in Christ we dramatically change for the better. We are able to rid ourselves of many bad habits, and enjoy a positive attitude. Above all, prayers will be answered, relationships will be healed, and new friends will be gained.

To God be the glory!

By Anne F. Messerschmidt
Anne Messerschmidt is a 73-year-old "joyous Christian." Readers can expect to see more of her writings in future issues.

Kids Count report shows more children at-risk

Children in Michigan are at greater risk at critical periods in their lives, according to the latest data released by Kids Count in Michigan. From birth through school-age years and into adulthood, indicators of child well-being show substantial risks for the state's children, according to the study.

"More children are born to women who have had inadequate prenatal care, more children are poor enough to receive free or reduced price lunches at school, and more of our children are dropping out of high school," said Kids Count in Michigan Project Director Jane Zehnder-Merrell.

Kids Count data shows nearly one of every 10 mothers giving birth in Michigan in 1993 received inadequate prenatal care – the largest share of all mothers giving birth without appropriate care in the past 13 years. In addition, the high school dropout rate doubled in just three years and participation in the free and reduced price lunch program increased by nearly a third.

"The most critical transitions for children occur at the beginning and end of childhood," said Zehnder-Merrell. "These data clearly show a worsening of conditions at these points in a child's life."

The Kids Count data also show signs of improvement for some children, however. Fewer teenagers are dying as a result of accidents, homicides or suicides, and the state's infant mortality

rate has improved as well, according to the project's latest findings.

"The steady long-term commitment to bringing the state's infant mortality rate down illustrates how focused and comprehensive strategies can make a difference," Zehnder-Merrell stated.

Zehnder-Merrell expressed concern over the growing numbers of children in poverty, as evidence by the increase in the free school meal participation.

"Participation in this program is the most recent and reliable indicator of poverty," she said. "The growing lack of economic security in many families relates directly to the state's worsening performance on several indicators."

According to Zehnder-Merrell, the lack of health care coverage and limited funding for at-risk school populations contribute directly to the increases in mothers without prenatal care and the high school dropout rate.

Kids Count in Michigan is a collaborative project of Michigan's children, Michigan League for Human Services and Michigan State University.



Death notice

Harvey W. Watros, 70, of Ellsworth, died Dec. 1, 1995, at Charlevoix Area Hospital. Funeral services were held Dec. 4, at Ellsworth Nondenominational Church of God, with burial in Fairview Cemetery, Manclona.

cradle roll

• Elizabeth and Jenny Lancaster would like to announce the birth of their baby brother, Jonathan Robert Hart, born Nov. 10, 1995, at Munson Medical Center, Traverse City. Jonathan weighed 7 pounds, 5 ounces, and was 20 inches long.

The proud parents are Bill and Mary (Kucharek) Hart of Central Lake. Grandparents are Robert and Karen Kucharek of Central Lake, and Wilma Hart of East Jordan.

• Rex and Sharon Greenawalt of East Jordan are parents of a daughter, Ciiarra Nicole, born Nov. 23, 1995, at Charlevoix Area Hospital. Ciiarra Nicole weighed 8 pounds, 6 ounces at birth.

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ATWOOD CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

Rev. James Evenhouse. April thru Nov: Services 10 a.m. & 7 p.m.; School all ages 11:15 a.m. Dec. thru March: Services 10 a.m. & 4 p.m.; Church School, all ages 11:15 a.m. 599-2581.

BELLTOWER REFORMED CHURCH

Rev. Thomas J. Welscott. Sunday School 9:45 a.m., Worship Service 11 a.m. (June, July & Aug. 10 a.m.), Evening Service 6 p.m. Church: 588-2844, Home, 588-2206

BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH

1407 Bridge St., Charlevoix. Pastor Merlin R. Wellhousen. 9:30 a.m. Bible Study & Sunday School, 10:45 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service. Church 547-9446, Home 547-1062.

EAST JORDAN BAPTIST CHURCH

407 Water St., corner of Water & McKenzie. Rev. Mike Allen, pastor – Rev. Delbert Nixon, co-pastor. Sunday School 10 a.m., Worship service 11 a.m., Evening service 6 p.m., Wed. Prayer Meeting & Bible Study 7 p.m.

EAST JORDAN FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Rev. David Downton. Sunday Worship Service: 9:30 a.m. Church 536-2941, Manse 536-2635.

EAST JORDAN MISSIONARY CHURCH

Rev. Peter A. Elliott, Sunday School 10:00 a.m., Morning Worship 11 a.m. Evening Praise 6 p.m., Wed. Prayer meeting 7 p.m. Church 536-2128, Parsonage 536-7824

EAST JORDAN REORGANIZED CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS

202 Jordan Street, Elder Nancy Olson, Pastor. Church school 9:45 a.m. Sunday worship service – 11 a.m.

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Yet even while we celebrate
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Just what our celebration's worth;
So let's enjoy this holiday,
And let's all pray for peace on earth.
— Gloria Nowak

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EAST JORDAN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Rev. Merlin K. Delo. Office 536-2161. Parsonage 536-7596. Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m. Church School 9:15 a.m.

ELLSWORTH CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

Rev. David Weemhoff. Church School 11:30 a.m., Sun. Service: 10 a.m., Evening Worship 6:00 p.m. 588-7805.

ELLSWORTH WESLEYAN CHURCH

Rev. William Lyons. Sun. School 10 a.m. Morning Worship 11 a.m., Eve. Service 6 p.m., Wed., prayer groups 7 p.m. 588-7455.

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GRACE BIBLE CHURCH

Pastor Dick Sommer, 544-6184. Old State (Co. Rd. 624) at Finkton, East Jordan. Sunday School 10 a.m.; Worship Service: 11 a.m.; Evening Service: 6 p.m.; Wed. prayer meeting 7 p.m.

HARVEST BARN CHURCH

Pastor Kimon Criner, 3rd & Nichols, East Jordan. Services: Sunday 10:30 a.m., Wednesday 6:30 p.m. study of the Word, Thursday 6:30 p.m. prayer meeting.

PLEASANT VALLEY FREE METHODIST

Rev. Dave Scott. Sun. School 10 a.m., Hearing Impaired Class, Morning Worship 11 a.m., Evening Service 6 p.m., Wed. prayer meeting 7 p.m. Handicapped facility.

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St. John Road & M-32 Hwy., East Jordan. Rev. William McKeon. Rectory phone 536-2934. Sunday morning service 8 a.m.

ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH

203 Nichols St., East Jordan – Rev. William McKeon. Rectory phone 536-2934. Evening service Sat. 5 p.m., Sunday 10:30 a.m.

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Honor students serve the community with food drive

The members of the National Honor Society at East Jordan High School are making a difference, not just academically, but as dedicated members of the community. The group's holiday season has been a busy one with many community activities.

NHS members sponsored a food drive during November that reaped over 1,200 canned and boxed goods for East Jordan Care and Share Emergency Food Pantry. Individual classes at the high school competed to donate the most cans for a pizza party reward.

Through December, the NHS has sponsored gift collections for needy children and youths in Charlevoix County. Each class is given a general description of a youngster and the students act as Secret Santas, collecting donations of toys, clothing and other needs for that individual.

NHS students can also be found ringing the bell for the Salvation Army at Glen's Market through the season.

The group's members will continue their community activities after the holiday season, as they strive to be both academic and community leaders. They have committed to a total of 68 hours of community service each month through the school year.

Following in the footsteps of their older role models, seventh-graders at East Jordan Middle School proved themselves community-minded as well.

Members of Teresa Noirot's advisory class sponsored a food drive in their school, collecting 1,027 cans of food. The collection was also donated to East Jordan Care and Share, helping to make possible the 246 Thanksgiving baskets distributed to community families in need.



MEMBERS OF THE East Jordan High School National Honor Society with some of the 1,200 canned and dry goods recently donated to East Jordan Care and Share. The group members strive for community service as well as academic excellence.

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WANTED LOCAL WRITER

Reporter needed immediately to cover Alba School District beginning Dec. 11 (usually one night monthly, on second Monday). Accuracy, dependability a must. Experience preferred, but will train person with good writing skills. Call Keith or Mary, (616) 533-8523 to discuss possibilities. 11-17-21-c51-1-tfnc

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BABY SITTERS - Minimum age 16 years. Apply in the Guest Services Department located at the Front Desk in the Summit Village or call (616) 533-8621, ext. 7685. 10,16,tc50,52-2tc

NOTICES

Belltower Reformed Church Community Christmas Musical Pageant RESCHEDULED Sat., Dec. 16, 7 pm, Church & Essex Rds., Ellsworth. 11,17,tc51-1tc

LUKE 2:10 & 11 10 And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. 11 For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord. 11,17,tc51,1-1tp

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PUBLIC NOTICE

CITY OF EAST JORDAN VOLUNTEERS FOR CITY BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

The City of East Jordan is seeking volunteers interested in serving on various City boards and commissions. Currently two vacancies exist, one on the Planning Commission and one on the Board of Review. City residents interested in volunteering their time to community service are invited to submit letters to interest to: City of East Jordan City Clerk, P.O. Box 499, East Jordan, MI 49727. Information regarding qualifications and duties of boards and commission may be obtained by calling City Clerk Kathy O'Rear at 536-3381. 11-1tc

PUBLIC NOTICE

CITY OF EAST JORDAN AMENDMENTS TO UTILITY ORDINANCES

The East Jordan City Code of Ordinances, Chapter 26, entitled Utilities has been comprehensively amended. Amendments to the code include the following:

Requires expansion of both sewer and water systems to be at the sole expense of those who benefit from the extensions.

Establishes options for funding extensions. Requires the Commission to review, establish and/or amend utility rates on an annual basis.

Reflects current City Charter as it specifies city management structure.

Limits private well development. Reinforces rules and procedures. Emphasizes a flat rate charge prior to use.

A copy of the complete amended code is available for public inspection and purchase at a reasonable price at City Hall during normal business hours. The amendments will take effect 7 days after publication. 11-1tc

Bridge upgrade plan raises some fears

continued from front

speak, Antrim gas development is occurring all around the forest and in the forest."

Richter conceded the bridge may help the area's water quality if it's done properly. He cautioned, however, if the bridge allows increased load limits and traffic, it may have the opposite effect.

"At this point we're against the project," he said. "That bridge replacement is an open gateway into the forest. Right now, the old bridge is a limiting factor because it won't tolerate heavy equipment."

Richter said FOJ is putting together a protest to the governor to stop the permits being granted.

"It sets a huge precedent for future development of the forest," he said. "If gas leasing is allowed in the forest, the new and improved bridge will provide the ability to cross that river for bulldozers, derricks and heavy equipment," said Richter.

There was a strong argument years ago when the DNR's forest management plan was developed to close off that road altogether, according to Richter.

"That was meant to be a natural area," he said. "Increased vehicle traffic into the forest violates the forest management plan."

Richter said the crucial issue is whether the state will offer up the lands for gas well leasing.

"Our problem isn't with the RC&D; our problem is with the implications of the project. There are few if any forests like the Jordan that exist anymore, and they are being carved up even as we speak, so I feel it's worth protecting," he said.

■ Gas driller responds

Lees Petroleum representative Dan Agee confirmed the draft agreement is ready for company officials to sign.

"We're looking forward to having this whole thing over and completed," he said.

Agee noted when Lees Petroleum first proposed replacing the bridge, the company expected to use it to obtain access for heavy equipment to well sites.

"But that's changed. We were going to bore under the Green River, but it turns out we're looking at a new area that won't impact on the Green River area, except for the bridge itself," said Agee. "We don't need it for traffic. We've moved our river bore further south."

Agee said the company decided to go ahead with the partnership project anyway, since the county eventually plans to replace the old bridge, and because Lees Petroleum may find the bridge useful for access to future gas well sites.

Agee reported the company has 30 wells drilled, eight east of the Green River. Agee said they will probably wait until spring to turn on the currently inactive wells.

Agee said he understands concerns of Friends of the Jordan and others about the implications of the project for drilling within the forest.

"It is natural, pristine country," he said. "The State of Michigan has the controlling interests within that area ... It's the state that has to look out for its own interests and the public's interest."

Agee said the company sees the bridge replacement as something positive for the community, offering improved accessibility to the public, and improved safety to users due to its guardrail.

"I kind of hate to see it tinged with a lot of bad attitudes toward the gas and oil companies," he said.

Irena Granaas is a staff writer for the Antrim County News.

Changes threaten DNR's capability

continued from front

land use, but the DEQ issues leasing permits.

"They're coming to us for a permit to use the land, and we're not going to give it to them," he said.

O'Neill said he hopes the gas and oil industry will realize the long-term good publicity impact of backing off drilling plans in this one small area where the DNR owns the land but not the mineral rights.

"It would be a possible win-win situation if the company can see reason ... If not, they'll probably get hammered on bad publicity," he said. "We tried to make it clear 20 years ago (there was to be no drilling)."

Mark Cromell, area geologist for the DEQ's geologic survey division, confirmed business is done differently since the departments split. Whereas before decisions were made as a whole, so the survey supported forest management's decision, the DEQ now looks at permit issuing requests strictly on environmental acceptability.

"Those permits have not been issued, but it's being looked at at a higher level ... After the split of the departments, I was asked (by geologic survey division field coordinator Floyd Layton) to review the existing sites under new criteria, within proprietary interests and with the state as the landowner," said Cromell.

"Surface ownership issues are not going to come into play," he added.

Requests withdrawn: No drilling in Jordan Valley — for now

continued from front

DEQ Geological Survey staff had recommended approval of the two permits. A third permit request was denied due to the well site's proximity to wetlands.

The Department of Natural Resources' Real Estate Division leased two state-owned parcels adjacent to the proposed well sites, which would have enabled drillers to enter the area and lay pipeline. It also would have provided the 80 acres of spacing between wells now required by law.

The Jordan River Watershed consists of 22,000 acres of woodlands, with many hills and valleys. It includes the Jordan and Green rivers, many other smaller streams and an abundance of wildlife.

Friends of the Jordan (FOJ), which helps oversee and manage the vast watershed, was part of the MERC group which wrote to Harding. While expressing delight that the two permits are being withdrawn, FOJ vice president John Richter warned a threat to the area still exists.

"There are 39 parcels within the forest where the state owns the land but the min-

eral rights are privately held," he said. "The same situation could arise again."

Stephens confirmed the reversal on the two permits should not indicate a promise not to drill in the forest.

"I don't think we've adopted any across-the-board procedure," he said. "We will look at each (drilling possibility) on a case-by-case basis, but we would not do that without taking into serious consideration the same environmental issues."

"Neither the DEQ nor the company have made any sorts of commitments to stop all drilling there," said Keith Schneider, executive director of the Michigan Land Use Institute and coordinator of MERC.

"We call on them to voluntarily adopt a policy not to drill in the Jordan River Forest," he said.

Schneider called the forest "one of the jewels of the state."

"There should be parts of Michigan that are industry-free zones in perpetuity, and this should be one of them," he said.

Keith Matheny is editor of the Antrim County News.

ejpd

■ November 25

Cynthia Beak of Grand Rapids was traveling north on Lake Street near Bridge Street in her 1993 Cadillac when a deer ran into the roadway and Beak was unable to avoid striking it. The incident occurred about 5:45 p.m.

■ December 1

At approximately 8:50 p.m., Glendora Gettel was traveling north on Maple Street near Bartlett when a deer ran into the path of her 1989 Chevrolet and she was unable to avoid striking it. Gettel was wearing a seatbelt and no injuries were reported.

Re-writing it

In last week's preview of the 1995-96 high school basketball season, team member Jim Malpass was identified incorrectly.

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