

# JORDAN Journal

Vol. 9 No. 8  
East Jordan, Michigan

Wednesday, December 6, 2000

Serving East Jordan, Boyne City and surrounding areas

## at a GLANCE

### Tree will glow with Hospice lights of love

On Wednesday, Dec. 6, the Eta Nu chapter of the Beta Sigma Phi Sorority will hold the tree lighting for its annual Lights of Love, a benefit for the Charlevoix County Hospice.

The ceremony will be held at 6:30 p.m. at Stafford's One Water Street in Boyne City.

To participate, a light or heart may be purchased for the tree. Lights run from \$3 to \$25, and a heart of love ornament can be purchased for a donation of \$35. The keepsake ornament will be sent to the contributor after the holidays.

The tree will stay lit throughout the holiday season. The public is invited.

Proceeds from Lights of Love will be used to provide hospice patient care.

For more information, call the hospice office at 536-2842.

### Early dismissal for BC schools on Dec. 12

Boyne City Public Schools will be holding staff development meetings on Tuesday, Dec. 12.

The elementary and high schools will be dismissed at 11:13 a.m. and the middle school will be dismissed at 11:28 a.m.

Students who normally attend kindergarten in the afternoon will attend in the morning that day. The students who normally attend kindergarten in the morning will not have classes.

Kindergarten students will ride home on the buses with the older students. Breakfast will be available for all students.

### Program helps with the 'art of visiting'

Nursing home visitation can be difficult even for close family members.

Grandvue Medical Care Facility recently announced that the Michigan Public Health Institute will present "The Art of Visiting" for residents, family, volunteers, and staff members, as well as interested community members.

The program is Monday, Dec. 11, at 3:30 p.m. at the facility located at 1728 S. Peninsula Rd. in East Jordan.

For more information, call Grandvue at 536-2286.

### New deadlines for the Citizen-Journal

Due to production changes, The Citizen-Jordan Journal will be moving its deadline for news items and display advertising to Friday at 5 p.m.

The deadline for classified ads will remain Monday at 10 a.m.



Jordan River Arts Council members John Stevens, Peggy Midener and Howard Ellis welcome guests into the newly-renovated art center, through doors crafted by local woodworker Andy Poineau.

## HISTORIC CARNEGIE BUILDING GETS A FACELIFT

# New look for the art center

This past weekend the Jordan River Arts Council hosted a grand opening event to celebrate recent renovations, and the kick-off of their latest exhibit, "Art For Sale."

With a strong turnout the event was a resounding success.

Funded by grants from the Frey Foundation and the Charlevoix County Community Foundation, in addition to private donations, the council undertook its recent renovations in an attempt to preserve the building while improving its functionality.

Last year, the council formed a building committee, which then put together a proposal of things needed to be done to update and improve the historic Carnegie Library building in which the Jordan River Art Center is housed.

According to JRAC board member Jane Diller, things really began to take shape when local builder Andy Poineau was

refinishing the floors in the basement, also referred to as the lower gallery.

While restoring the wood, solid maple, Poineau suggested that it was likely that the floor upstairs, in the main gallery, was also maple. And indeed, under five layers of carpet and other floor coverings, Poineau, along with the assistance of JRAC members uncovered the original, and remarkably well-preserved, maple floors, which have since been refinished.

Another major renovation that Poineau has had a major role in was the addition of new, more aesthetically pleasing front doors.

"The [front] doors were functional, but not very aesthetically compatible to the building," said Diller. The new doors have been stained to match the interior doors and woodwork, and include leaded glass, similar to that of the rest of the building.

The stage which was once a permanent

structure at the far end of the main gallery has been removed, replaced with eight versatile 4 foot by 4 foot faux-painted blocks, which can be combined to create one big stage or used in various combinations to use as smaller stages or for displays.

In addition, the walls have been refinished, all the woodwork has been cleaned and restained, and repairs have been made to the stairwell.

All the renovations don't mean, though, that major changes aren't an effort to change the essence of the building.

"We're really trying to take advantage of the best that was here," said Diller. And in fact, she said, the building is not owned by the Jordan River Arts Council, a non-endowed, non-profit organization made up of volunteers; rather, it is owned by the

Please see ART CENTER on page 3

## Scaling back

### Iron Works eliminates eight salaried positions due to slow sales

Eight salaried positions were recently eliminated at the East Jordan Iron Works, due to slower than expected sales through the year.

The move, however, is not indicative of a trend, according to executive vice president Tad Malpass.

"It's more of a fallout from the last six or nine months," he said. Previously, he noted, the company had added a lot of workers to meet production levels, but more recently, had made reductions in the hourly

*"Things are not as robust as they were a year ago."*

--Tad Malpass

East Jordan Iron Works  
executive vice president

workforce, mostly by attrition.

"Things are not as robust as they were a year ago," Malpass said, citing a "tremendous slowdown" in the foundry industry.

"We seem to have fared a lot better than [some of the other companies]," he added.

According to Malpass, the company attempted to make adjustments for the slowdown in sales without impacting jobs, but eventually the cutbacks became necessary.

"It's not something anybody's proud of," he said.

The recent restructuring involved eight supervisory and professional positions.

The company's workforce is currently at about 650 employees at its East Jordan location, down from around 700 a year or so ago.

"At this point," said Malpass, "there are no plans to further reduce that anybody is aware of right now."

The East Jordan Iron Works was established in 1883, and manufactures fire hydrants, manhole covers, storm grates, construction castings, and truck and trailer brake drums.

## Music makers celebrating

### Community Band's holiday concert has special meaning

By ANGELA SHULTIS

With its annual holiday concert rapidly approaching, the Jordan Valley Community Band has been busy practicing and perfecting holiday tunes for the community's enjoyment.



Members of the Jordan Valley Community Band were hard at work last week, practicing for their holiday concert on Dec. 10; the event will mark the band's 10th anniversary.

This year's concert, though, has special meaning for the group, marking its 10th anniversary.

The group started small, as the brainchild of Rita LaVictoire, a former music teacher, and Jeff LaRoux, who at the time was the principal at East Jordan Middle School.

In September of 1990, LaVictoire and LaRoux, who both have backgrounds in music, thought it would be fun to start up a band for local residents to take part in. So along with

their respective spouses, Dr. Steve Wisniewski, who plays the trumpet, and Emilie LaRoux, a clarinetist, they started the ball rolling.

"There were no bands at that time in this area in the fall and winter, except for the Gaylord Community Band," said LaVictoire.

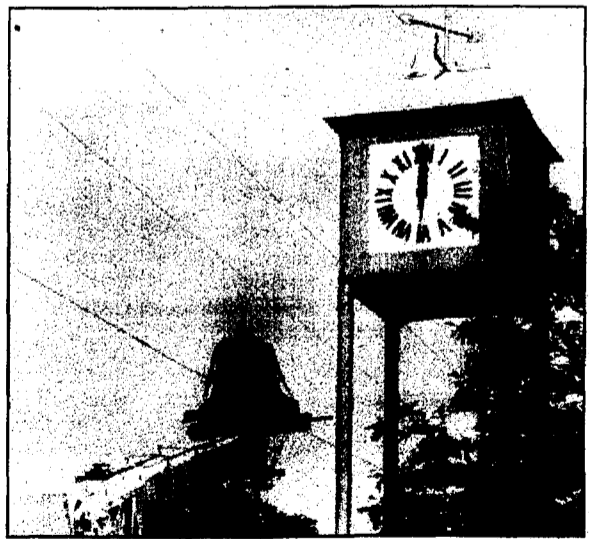
The group sent out mailings to anyone they knew who played an instrument, and put out public service announcements that a community band was forming.

So, with 13 members that first year, a community band was born.

Though LaVictoire laughs at the memory of such a small group, she said that by the time they played their first concert, in December of 1990, they were up to 23 members. And with sponsorship from the Jordan River Arts Council, of which LaVictoire is a founding member, the group was able to pull together the necessary materials to make a go of it.

"We decided we would do a Christmas and spring concert," said LaVictoire, noting that with nine to eleven weeks of rehearsal for each concert, most folks couldn't commit time to do more than two concerts a year. Even so, the group traditionally makes an appearance in the Freedom Festival Grand Parade, and in past years, a small group of members has performed at the Lights of Love

Please see BAND on page 3



Moving the bell from its old home at Huntington Bank in Boyne City was tricky work. The clock was moved in August 1998.

## Tower will house clock

It looks as if the Old City Clock will celebrate its 100th birthday with a new home, prominently displayed in downtown Boyne City.

The Old City Clock once again dominated discussion at the Nov. 28 Boyne City Commission meeting. This time, however, it was decided by a 4-1 vote to move the historical timepiece into its new home in the clock tower at the corner of Lake and Water streets.

Controversy over how the clock should be placed in the tower — with or without a pit — took center stage at the meeting. John Talboys

Please see OLD CITY CLOCK on page 8

## BETWEEN the LINES

### It's history in the making

By ANGELA SHULTIS

It's becoming the year of the chad. As much as I try not to think about it, my mind keeps coming back to this year's presidential election, perhaps aided by endless media coverage, most of which amounts to generally a whole lot of analysis of nothing.

It is, on the one hand, exasperating. Yes, we impatient Americans are being forced to sit on our hands while we await the word of yet another court ruling, which will, in most cases, just remand the case at hand to yet another court.

And each time one court makes a decision in favor of one candidate, the next court rules in favor of the other. It seems endless, and here we are, only about a month away from inauguration.

But, on the other hand, there's something to be said about living through history. Real, noteworthy history, that is, the kind that other folks years to come will be reading about, and hopefully learning from.

We as Americans often seem to be witnessing history from afar. Many of the more impactful historical events of the last couple of decades have happened a world away, it seems, and we, though watchful, have been spectators nonetheless.

Those high profile moments in our own nation over the last 20 years or so have mostly been embarrassments we'd rather not own. And they certainly have not been anything we, as a people, have had a part in, in any tangible way.

Until Nov. 8, this election appeared as though it would travel the same course, more or less. Irritating, unsavory at times, but ultimately, predictable. On Wednesday morning, they'd announce the winner, and all would go on as usual.

Instead, we all got a surprise. And not the kind we really wanted. Nonetheless, what we're witnessing now may very well change voting in this country as we know it. Then again, nothing may change, but this will certainly be an election for the history books, and the outcome will be one for political analysis to last for all time.

So while we've lived with political shake-ups from time to time, they've been pretty much exclusive to the poor judgement of one or two folks in power. This shake-up, though, involves an entire way of doing things, the way we've always done things. No matter which side of the fence you're on, it's a moment in history in which we've all participated in some small way, and which may certainly affect each of us in the long haul, and perhaps, the future of our electoral system, how we chose our nation's leader in years to come. And even if nothing changes, we've all gotten quite a lesson on our system, something which many of us were in need of anyway, in the interest of being more informed American voters.

So while our gut reaction may be to sigh and complain over the lengthiness of the process, or our perception of who or what's to blame, perhaps we might take the higher road and simply take the situation for what it is. Because, for better or worse, it's history in the making. Maybe not the exciting, earth-shaking, single moment in time sort of history. But history nonetheless.

And as a bonus, we now know what those little bits of punched-out paper are called. And you thought nothing useful would come out of this.

### 'Why all the recounts?'

TO THE EDITOR:

What's taking so long? Why all the recounts? Or why all the talk about "14,000 uncounted votes" that have in fact been counted and recounted at least three times and in some instances four times?

Perhaps the answer is quite clear. Perhaps Al Gore's stubborn streak has been activated because he can't believe that he paid all that money to round up all those voters to follow his directions on how to punch all those ballots and they did it wrong. It's enough to make anyone lose their faith in their fellow human beings.

Oh well.

Ira Breneman

## 12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS



## A MOM'S LIFE

### As children grow, goals change

By CINDI PLACE

Throughout our lives as parents, we find ourselves reaching for different goals. When the children are babies, all we want is some sleep. We would give almost anything for one night of uninterrupted snoozing. Unfortunately, as we've discovered, the sleep just never comes back.

Once they're old enough to sleep through the night, either another child makes an appearance, or you get a puppy, or an older child gets their driver's license. So sleep, as we knew it before children, is no longer an attainable goal.

Worry is another emotion that introduces itself, pretty much the second you discover a child is "on the way." Will the baby be okay, will he or she have all its fingers and toes, will it be a he or a she? All legitimate concerns, and our introduction into the bane of parental existence: fear.

And the fear doesn't go away once you are able to remove the safety devices from your bathroom fixtures. Children go to school, spend the night at friends' homes, learn to drive, DATE. They go away to college, move out of the house (and seemingly out of our lives), find jobs, grow up. All we, their parents, really want for them is to be happy. And yes, if possible, stay employed.

We spent some time recently, with friends whose children aren't quite as old as our own kids. Nothing,

we've discovered, can make you feel old faster than having someone ask you parenting advice.

Especially once you realize that, yes indeed, you have been there and (gulp) done that. Makes you want to run home and grab that youngest kid (who is already earning money for every time you call him "baby") and hold on for dear life. The poor kid still wants to know why we had him last.

We've learned to enjoy each stage of our children's development, some more than others of course. For example, we'd much rather spend time talking with our "senior boy" about his plans for the future than waiting for what seems like an interminable amount of time for him to drive home from a friend's house during the first snow storm of the year.

And watching our son playing in a basketball game is certainly preferable to trying to help him with a math homework problem.

We can't imagine that we are as old as our parents were at this same point in their lives. We can still remember being kids ourselves.

Of course, there's the rub. We know what it's like to want to do something that we know we shouldn't want to do. But we're old enough (and probably a little smarter) to know that things don't always work out the way you want them to.

The trick is telling our kids that without sounding like our parents.

## LETTERS

### Circular was not sponsored by Boyne school board

TO THE EDITOR:

As a trustee on the Boyne City School Board I received an anonymous letter concerning the circular inserted in the Nov. 22 issue of the Citizen. The writer was critical of the circular's appearance and presentation.

As it is impossible to address the concerns of an anonymous writer on a one-to-one basis I can only hope the person will read this reply.

I was unaware the circular had been prepared. I do not believe any other board members knew of the circular. Written and paid for by the board's president, the insert should have borne his signature, not that of the board.

I applaud his effort to share with the community the everyday miracle of education happening within our district's classrooms. It is truly amazing the talent, skill, hard work, love and dedication prevalent in each classroom through the efforts of the district's staff and administration. Every project listed reflects hours of preparation and ability on the part of a teacher. We are so blessed.

Mr. Moody, president of the board of education, is known throughout the community for his many volunteer hours on behalf of our schools. He believes in Boyne City's fine public schools, their staff, students and leadership.

We are all working hard to prepare every graduate for his or her future in an increasingly complex world.

Anne Thurston  
Trustee, Boyne City School Board

### Much interest for trek

TO THE EDITOR:

Thank you very much for your recent article on my trip to the North Pole. It has generated a lot of interest in the Polar Trek program.

I feel this expedition is a great way to show our schools and our community in a positive light.

I would like to thank the following businesses and community members for their support: SEE North, Boyne City Education Association, The Pencil Pushers, and Pat O'Brien.

Susan Martin

## Regional Ride provided an important service to the area

TO THE EDITOR:

As a community planner in northern Michigan, I work with a number of municipalities throughout the region. I have known of and referenced the existence of the regional transit system in many community master plans in recent years.

Last week I rode The Regional Ride for the first time to attend an outstanding traffic-related workshop in Traverse City. Ironically, upon my arrival in Traverse City I learned that was the final week for this transit service. The Regional Ride has provided an important, albeit little known about, service linking various parts of the region. I was extremely impressed with the system and the courteousness of the drivers.

During this round-trip riding experience, I spoke with fellow riders, most of whom were regular riders, and learned of the importance of this system to them. This transit service has provided mobility and access for many people who either cannot or choose not to drive.

The elimination of this service will seriously impact the regular riders (many of who rely on this as their means of transportation for work or school) and will inconvenience occasional users.

The system needs to be continued and publicized - NOT discontinued. A significant issue is the lack of awareness of the service. Although I was aware of the system, I had to make an excessive number of calls to track down accurate schedule and route information, as follows:

1. A call to information requesting the number for The Regional Ride in Traverse City - Response: The operator stated there was no such listing;
2. A call to the Boyne City Chamber of Commerce - Response: The person on the phone knew nothing about such a system, but did ultimately provide the phone number for the Charlevoix County Transit Authority;
3. A call to the Charlevoix County Transit Dispatch - Response regarding scheduled pick up time in Charlevoix: dispatcher stated, "I think it is around 7:30 a.m.," when I mentioned I thought it was roughly 6:30 a.m., the response was, "maybe it is." When I requested a contact number where I could get actual schedule information, I was provided with the number for The Regional Ride (finally!);
4. Called The Regional Ride - Response: Accurate schedule information was provided.

From a limited and informal survey of people around the Charlevoix, Petoskey and Boyne City area, very few people (not involved in planning or transportation) had any knowledge of this service.

If such a service is continued or restarted, there are obviously some issues to be addressed. I am willing to contribute my time to serve on a volunteer committee or board to examine such issues and propose potential resolutions to keep the service operating.

I urge the decision-makers to reconsider the continuation of this transportation system. Thank you.

Mary H. Campbell, ASLA, AICP  
Principal Planner and Registered Landscape Architect

## The Citizen and Journal

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Local resident Rita LaVictoire has conducted the Jordan Valley Community Band for about eight years, following the departure of the band's original conductor, Jeff LaRoux.

## Community Band celebrating 10th anniversary

Continued from page 1

event. LaVictoire has served as the band's conductor since LaRoux's departure eight years ago, along with help from Becky Palminter and Seraphim Mike.

The band currently boasts a membership of about 50 musicians, with a core group of people providing continuity. "When we lose people, it's mainly because [they are] moving," said LaVictoire.

But the group has been successful in picking up new members along the way, and even finds some of those departed members returning.

She relates the story of one musician, who began his stint with the band as a high school student, but then left to join the service. Re-

cently, he returned to the area and rejoined the band. "I take that as a compliment to the group," she said.

The group's membership isn't limited to only the most accomplished musicians, and is open to a wide range of ages.

"We're open to everybody," LaVictoire said. "There are no auditions." In fact, she added, if they hear of anyone who plays an instrument, they're more likely than not to try to recruit that person. "Our goal is to get people to play," LaVictoire said. "We adapt to anything."

And in fact, one of the reasons for starting the band was to give everyone a chance to play the instrument they love. Many people start an instrument in high school, but after they've graduated and moved on, they have no outlet for their interest.

"I'd like them to know there's a group [that they can join]," said LaVictoire.

And, "even if people are just learning an instrument, there's somewhere for them to go."

And plenty of people over the years have done just that, coming not just from East Jordan, but from all over the area, including members from Boyne City, Charlevoix, Petoskey, Harbor Springs, Gaylord, and Bellaire.

Their common bond, though, is a love for music, which LaVictoire hopes she can continue to keep alive in the group.

"I hope that when I conduct I convey how much I love music," she said. "I hope that's what comes across."

The Jordan Valley Community Band will hold its annual Holiday Concert on Sunday, Dec. 10, at 2 p.m. in the East Jordan High School Auditorium.



Visitors to the art center's opening last Sunday enjoyed a delectable spread of fine food, and a chance to peruse, and even purchase, works created by council members.

## Jordan River Art Center gets a new look

Continued from page 1

Jordan Valley District Library, and rented out by the JRAC for \$1 per year.

But the fact that they don't own the building hasn't lessened the group's commitment to making it as attractive and functional as possible. The work they've undertaken so far is just the first stage of a long-term

renovation, with future work to include repainting outside, repairs to the chimney, and new landscaping.

The objective is to make the center that much more inviting to both patrons and artists. "We do support all the artists in the area," said Diller, "and we try to make it a home for them, where they'll want to come and exhibit their art here."



It's appropriate, then, that the first show the center is hosting since recent renovations is a member exhibit/sale titled, "Art For Sale," featuring pieces created by members of the council, all of which are available for sale.

For more information, call the center at 536-3385 or Jane Diller at 582-6399.

## CORRECTION

In last week's Citizen-Jordan Journal, an article about the Boyne City Community Christmas program stated that the event would take place on Friday, Dec. 10. It should have read Sunday, Dec. 10. Also, in the article, an organizer was listed as Howard Darby. Devere Middleton is the correct name of the organizer. We regret the errors.

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## Benefit concert set for teacher's trek

Barbara Bailey Hutchison, the Grammy-award winning singer/songwriter, is most recognizable to northern Michigan residents as a five-time "sold-out" artist at Boyne Falls' Aten Place summer concert series.

But this Monday, Dec. 11, local folks will have a chance to see another side of Hutchison, as she performs a Christmas concert to benefit Boyne City Middle School teacher Susan Martin and her plans to join the WomenQuest Polar Trek expedition to the North Pole.



Bailey-Hutchison

The all-woman excursion from north of the 88th parallel in Russia to the North Pole is a two week trek of skiing, science, and teamwork.

The group will be performing science experiments and collecting scientific data along the way, and will have lessons posted on an interactive website for students to participate in.

Each member is required to raise their own funding for the trip, including airfare, for a total of \$10,000.

Martin is applying for grants and accepting donations to meet the funding requirement.

For the benefit concert, Bailey Hutchison will be performing songs from her popular Christmas CD.

Besides being a recipient of the music industry's highest recognition, a Grammy award, Hutchison has been voted "Best Solo Performer" and "Best Acoustic Performer" by a national magazine poll of colleges and universities throughout the United States and Canada.

Her voice is also familiar to millions of television and radio listeners across the country: the hundreds of commercials she has sung for include McDonald's, Hallmark Cards, and other national advertisers.

The concert will take place at 7 p.m. at the Boyne City Elementary School cafeteria.

Tickets are \$6 for adults and \$4 for children and high school students. Advanced tickets can be purchased at Boyne Country Books in Boyne City, Plaid Petunias in East Jordan, and the Grain Train in Petoskey, and at Pizza Hut in Charlevoix.

For more information, call Nancy Decker at 582-9655.

## CURIOSITY HAS TURNED TO CONSUMING PURSUIT

# In search of family

By ANGELA SHULTIS

When Boyne City resident Chuck Stutzman set out to discover his family's roots, he had no grand ambitions, and no inkling of what he would find. But, as his work has progressed from a curiosity to a consuming pursuit, he is, as he puts it, "addicted."

The project started out simply enough. When Stutzman's mother passed away almost two years ago, he decided that it was time to start looking into the family history. He began with the Internet, looking around and checking out genealogy websites, of which, he said, there weren't many at the time.

Still, Stutzman was able to make contact with someone through a message board on one of the sites who referred him to a book, titled "The Descendants of Barbara Hochstetler and Christian Stutzman." Stutzman acquired a catalog from the Masthof Bookstore, ordered the book, and from there the journey began.

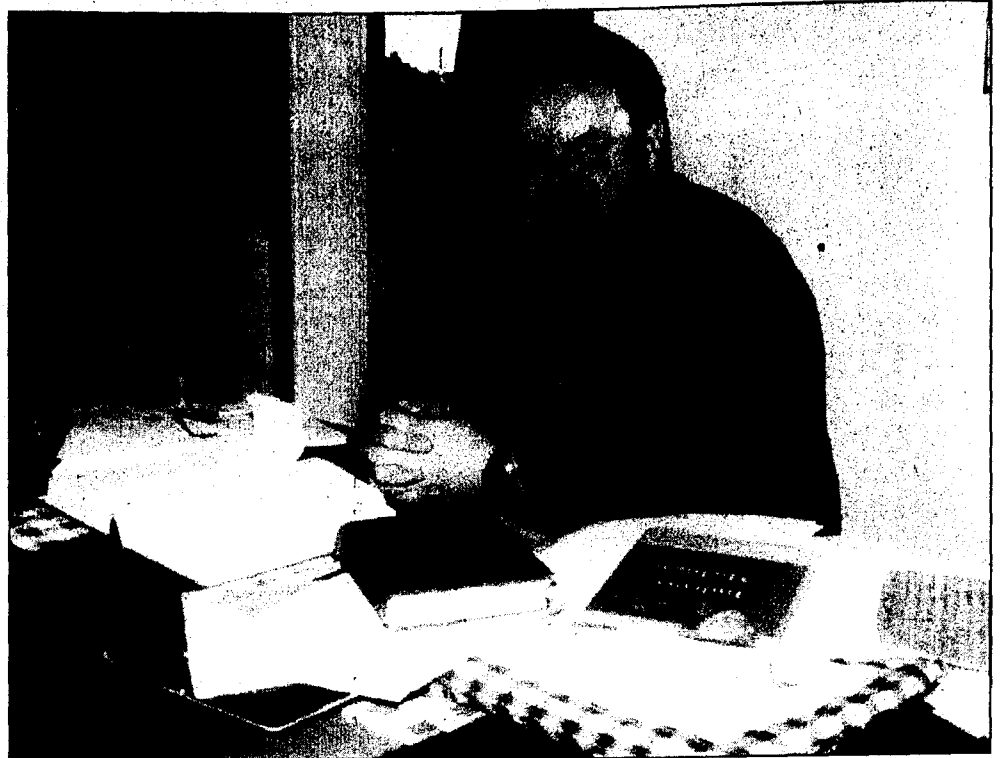
In the book, he was astonished to find listed the name of his grandfather, Joseph M. Stutzman. "Grandpa married three times," said Stutzman, noting that the multiple marriages made for some uncertain family connections. A little more research gave Stutzman added information about his father's half-brother, as well as connections to Antrim County, which he confirmed at the Antrim County Courthouse, where he located land deeds titled in his grandfather's name.

At that point, said Stutzman, delving into the past became less of a pursuit of names and more of a pursuit of history. "For some people, to have more people in their database is a feather in their cap," said Stutzman. From his perspective, it's not the numbers that matter, though he does have about 700 so far, but more a fleshing out of the history of the people, including the environment in which they lived.

And for history, Stutzman's family has turned out to be a jackpot. As it turns out, Stutzman's direct family line are descendants of some of the first Amish settlers in Pennsylvania. His ancestors were progressive Amish Mennonites, meaning that they were of a faction with slightly more radical notions of updating their Amish practices.

A grand uncle, J.S. Hartzler, helped build a Mennonite college in Indiana, and co-authored an historical reference, "Mennonite Church History," which Stutzman came across by accident, needing the book but not realizing initially that the author was a relative.

Much of the information Stutzman acquired about his family's local history has been gleaned from old copies of the Boyne Citizen, which he has



Chuck Stutzman has sometimes spent as much as four hours a night reading and writing in an effort to learn about, and preserve, his family's intricate history.

spent hours perusing on microfiche at the Boyne District Library.

"I relied on the paper for a lot of local information," he said. Among other things, he found his grandparents' wedding announcement (1911), an obituary for his grandmother (in 1926) an item about his father's half-brother's visit to Charlevoix in April of 1927, and even a small piece about his grandfather's broken nose, the result of an accident when he was employed at White's Mill.

The newspaper articles not only gave Stutzman a few items about his family but also a timeframe for their activities in Boyne City. And, a lesson in the area's history on the whole. "It was a really valuable resource," he said. "[People can find] the history of the high school, electric lights, when the roads came in." Sometimes, he said, he'd become so engrossed in reading up on the activities of a bygone era. "I'd forget about what I was looking for."

Though Stutzman has found the project personally enriching, he's also making an effort to put what he's discovered down on paper for posterity. He's currently working on a book of the family's history, an aspect of the project that started out originally as an idea for a Christmas gift for his family members in 1999.

"It started out as 30 pages," he said. But then he'd be trying to finish up, just to find more information to take things a step further. "I'm still working on it," he said laughing.

"I'm going to have to put a stop to it." Still, he added, "I don't think I'll have it done for Christmas [this year]."

For other folks interested in taking on a similar project in their own family, Stutzman recommends starting on the Internet, where there is now, he said, an abundance of information. "It's the best way to do it," he said. "Before a lot of people had computers, they'd write letters [for information], and there was a long lag time."

Now, he said, with sites such as ancestry.com, along with sites containing the social security death index and census information, "it has never been easier." The ease of e-mail is a boon, as well; through it, Stutzman has been able to connect quickly with others willing to assist him in his research, as well as family members.

But, he warns, while the Internet is a great resource; family history buffs need to be on guard. "The problem with the Internet is that it spreads bad information with the good," Stutzman said. The most important thing is to always verify the information received from second-hand sources, by double checking things like courthouse records and social security records personally.

Which is not always easy, Stutzman concedes. "If everybody's done everything the way they're supposed to [it shouldn't be difficult]," he said, meaning including sources with their posted or published research. Stutzman intends to "do it right," and is including footnotes with

his own work, citing sources for future genealogy buffs to verify for themselves.

The real fun of it, though, is that the potential discoveries are endless. And often unexpected. For instance, in Stutzman's family line, a relation "back five or six generations" is J.M. Smoker, whose name is also spelled variously Schmucker and Smucker. As it turns out, J.M. Smucker is also the name folks will find on the back of their Smucker's jam and jelly jars, noted as having started the company in 1897. "I guess he had a good recipe for apple butter," Stutzman said.

Stutzman hopes there are even bigger discoveries ahead.

"I want to be the one to make the big breakthrough," he said, in finding the name of the first Stutzman to come to the United States, a point of some contention between Stutzman genealogists.

To make those types of discoveries, though, the pursuit can become time-consuming, said Stutzman, who has spent sometimes four hours a night writing and researching.

His family has been supportive, though his wife Kathy, he laughed, drew the line at listening to a tape of Amish music he'd ordered. Shrugging, he said, "I've taken it to the extreme."

Not that he's remiss to spend a significant portion of time on the project. Said Stutzman, "To know who your ancestors are gives you a feeling of satisfaction."

## CALENDAR

### PEACE COFFEE HOUSE

**Saturday, Dec. 9**  
The Wagbo Peace Center presents its folk music program at the Jordan River Art Center, 301 Main St. in East Jordan. The December performance will feature: Rick and Sarah Anderson and Mission Road. Open stage follows performers. Cost: \$5 donation and coffee and treats are available. This is a smoke and alcohol-free event. Information: 536-0333.

### COAST GUARD AUX. MEETING

**Wednesday, Dec. 13**  
U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 16 2, Charlevoix will hold its regular meeting at the Coast Guard Station, Charlevoix at 7 p.m. Interested parties are invited to attend.

### BLOOD DRIVE

**Tuesday, Dec. 26**  
The American Red Cross and the East Jordan Community will hold a blood drive from 1-6:45 p.m. at the East Jordan Middle School, 901 Mill Street.

### BOYNE FOOD PANTRY

**First & third Mondays**  
Food pick-up hours are on the first Monday of the month from 10 a.m.-

noon and third Monday from 5-7 p.m., or on Tuesday if a holiday falls on Monday.

### BCFFEE

**First Wednesday**  
The Boyne City Foundation for Excellence in Education meets the first Wednesday of each month at 5:45 p.m. at Boyne City High School.

### TOPS CHAPTER

**Every Monday, 10-11:30 a.m.**  
A new chapter of TOPS meets every Monday from 10-11:30 a.m. at the Northern Michigan Hospital Health and Education Center classroom #3.

### VETERAN ASSISTANCE

**Thursdays**  
A Service Officer will be at the American Legion Post every Thursday from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. at the Post at the corner of Lake and Main streets in Boyne City or call 582-7811 at that time.

### AL-ANON

**Tuesday nights**  
Al-Anon meetings are held at 8 p.m. at St. Matthew's Church, 1303 Boyne Ave., Boyne City.

## OBITUARIES

### Oarmel G. Griffin

Oarmel G. Griffin, 75, died Nov. 20, 2000 at The Pines nursing home in Gladwin, Mich.

An interment was held at the Evangeline (Griffin) Cemetery in Boyne City.

Mr. Griffin was born and grew up with his parents, Earl and Mabel (Barkley) Griffin and seven siblings on the Griffin farm north of Boyne

City. He is survived by two brothers, Charlie (Shirley) Griffin of Boyne City, and Delbert (Mary) Griffin of Gladwin; two sisters, Audrey (Lloyd) Meadows of Walloon Lake, and Bethel Siddigi of Crown Point, Ind.; and many nieces and nephews. He is preceded in death by his parents and three brothers Olen, Everette, and Jim.

## CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS

### Grandvue Auxiliary

The Grandvue Auxiliary is exhibiting nativity scenes and angels for the residents and their families on Dec. 14 from 2-4 p.m.

Anyone with either of these ar-

ticles, please have them at Grandvue at 1:30 p.m.

Members will be serving fruit bread, crackers and cheese and cookies.

All auxiliary members please bring one of these Christmas treats.

### Study Club

The Boyne City Monday Study Club will meet for a Christmas luncheon at One Water Street Restaurant at noon on Dec. 11. Everyone will bring an unwrapped gift for a teen-

age girl or boy for the Community Christmas Baskets. Boyne City students will present a "Song and Dance" program.

Hostesses will be Thelma Behling, Arlene Tooley-Moore, and Maryann Watkins.

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# HOLIDAY Calendar

## Boyer City

### LIGHTS OF LOVE Wednesday, Dec. 6

The Eta Nu Sorority Lights of Love will be held at One Water Street beginning at 6:30 p.m.

### VISIT WITH SANTA Dec. 8 and 15

At Needfull Things, 124 Water St., from 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

### COOKIE WALKS Saturday, Dec. 9

Episcopal Church of the Nativity, 8 a.m.-1 p.m., located at 209 E. Main. Free coffee and juice.

First Presbyterian Church, 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m., located at 401 S. Park St. Beverage and cookie, \$1.

### SANTA LUNCH Saturday, Dec. 9

Have lunch with Santa from 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m. at One Water Street.

### CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY Sunday, Dec. 10

The Knights of Columbus will hold its annual Children's Christmas Party at the hall on M-75 at 12 noon. Santa will be there to hand out gifts and entertainment and snacks will be provided.

### COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS AND CAROL SING Sunday, Dec. 10

A community Christmas and carol sing program will be held at St. Matthew's Fellowship Hall on Boyne Avenue in Boyne City at 4 p.m. Families are welcome.

### TROLLEY TOUR OF LIGHTS Dec. 14-23

Take a tour of area lights with tours at 6:30 and 7:30 p.m. Pickup at Boyne Country Books.

### CHRISTMAS RETAIL WINDOW JUDGING Friday, Dec. 15

Sponsored by the Boyne Area Chamber of Commerce.

### SANTA PICTURES Saturday, Dec. 6

Kids and pets will be welcome at Once Upon a Time in Boyne City to have their pictures taken with Santa Claus from 12-3 p.m. The cost is \$8 per sitting; each sitting includes up to nine pictures in your choice of sizes. Once Upon a Time is located at 102 W. Water St. The event is a fundraiser for the Charlevoix County Humane Society. For more information, call 582-9591.

### VISIT WITH SANTA Saturday, Dec. 16

Visit Santa at Carter's Food Center from 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

## East Jordan

### HUMANE SOCIETY DISPLAY Dec. 1-Dec. 31

A display during the month of December at the Jordan Valley District Library. Presents for the animals of the humane society may be dropped off during this time.

### RINGING OF THE BELLS Through Dec. 8

Participating businesses offer special sales and promotions during evening hours. Check individual businesses advertising for details.

### HOLIDAY CONCERT Wednesday, Dec. 6

The seventh-twelfth grade bands will hold their holiday concert at 7:30 p.m. at the high school gym.

### COMMUNITY NIGHT Thursday, Dec. 7

Celebrate the holidays with family and friends in downtown East Jordan. Participating businesses will be hosting open houses from 5-8 p.m. Groups and individuals are encouraged to join caroling.

### SOUP COOK-UP Thursday, Dec. 7

Participating restaurants cook up their tastiest soup to compete for the "People's Choice Award" at Darlene's Restaurant from 5-7 p.m. Cost: \$1 donation, proceeds to benefit Care & Share Food Pantry.

### TROLLEY RIDES Thursday, Dec. 7

Trolley leaves East Jordan Senior Center on Main Street at 5 p.m. and 6 p.m. to view decorations around town. Cost: free. Sponsored by Rupp & Keen Better Homes & Garden Real Estate. Information: 536-9600.

### DESSERT THEATRE Dec. 7 & 8

"The Best Christmas Pageant Ever." Doors open at 7 p.m. at the Jordan River Art Center. Curtain time is 7:30 p.m. Dessert to follow. Cost: \$4 adult, \$1 children. Information: 582-6399 or 536-3385.

### FAMILY CHRISTMAS CRAFTS Saturday, Dec. 9

11 a.m.-1 p.m. at Jordan River Art Center.

### SANTA PARADE/VISIT WITH SANTA Saturday, Dec. 9

Parade at 11 a.m. down Main Street, line up by East Jordan Fire Department. Visit with Santa at the Senior Center from 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Refreshments will be served. There will also be free fire truck, police car, and ambulance rides beginning in



## Holiday tunes

Kelsi Brewer, Jennifer Compton, Mallory O'Brien, Katie Grice, Jessica Kline, and Emma Dunne, members of the Boyne City High School drama department, belt out a song a capella during rehearsals last week for this Sunday's fall show, *The Holiday Extravaganza*. Two shows are scheduled for Dec. 10, at 2 p.m. and 5 p.m., at Boyne City Elementary School. Tickets are \$2.50 per person. For more information, call the school at 439-8100.

front of the Senior Center.

### COMMUNITY CAROL SING Sunday, Dec. 10

Evangelical Lutheran Church of East Jordan will hold a community Christmas Carol sing-along at 4 p.m. at the church located at 7855 Rogers Road. Bob Bryan and Cindy Willson will be leading the singing of Christmas carols and songs. A fellowship time will follow the sing-a-long.

### COMMUNITY BAND HOLIDAY CONCERT Sunday, Dec. 10

2 p.m. at the East Jordan High School auditorium.

### CHRISTMAS SING-A-LONG Sunday, Dec. 10

4 p.m. at the East Jordan Lutheran Church. The public is invited.

### LIVE NATIVITY SCENE Sunday, Dec. 17

6-8 p.m. at the Presbyterian Church, 207 Williams St., East Jordan.

### LIVING NATIVITY SCENE Sunday, Dec. 17

The First Presbyterian Church of East Jordan plans to present a living nativity scene from 6-8 p.m. on the front lawn of the educational building next to the church. The church and educational building are located at the corner of third and Williams St. in East Jordan. The public is invited to attend.

### WINTER FROSTIVAL READING PROGRAM Starting Dec. 21

The seventh annual Winter Frostival reading program begins at the Jordan Valley District Library. Each time participants return books, their name can be entered into drawings for prizes including books and winter theme items. Program goes through March 20, 2001.

### CANDLELIGHT SERVICE Sunday, Dec. 24

The First Presbyterian Church of East Jordan is planning a Christmas Eve Candlelight Service at 7 p.m. The church is located at the corner of Third and Williams St. in East Jordan. The public is invited to attend.

### CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES Sunday, Dec. 24

Children's Christmas Program at 11 a.m. at the East Jordan Lutheran Church; also, a candlelight and carol service with Holy Communion will be held at 7 p.m. St. Joseph Catholic Church, Children's Mass at 5 p.m., and a Christmas Eve Midnight Mass at 11 p.m. The East Jordan Methodist Church will hold a Christmas Eve Cantata.

## Trinity Fellowship Choir presents 'The Gospel According to Scrooge'

The Trinity Fellowship Choir will present "The Gospel According to Scrooge" on Dec. 8, 9, and 10, at 7 p.m. each evening. Admission is free.

The two-hour musical shows the three phases of Ebenezer Scrooge's life and how he regressed from a loving child (Sean Mills), to a disillusioned adult (Jeffre Kelts) into a hum-bugging bitter old man (Henry Wittenmeyer). "New faces have joined the group this year, adding a different dimension to many of the characters," said choir member Rachelle Wittenmeyer.

The Trinity Choir has been presenting free musicals to the community since 1980. No reservations are necessary, and seating is on a first-come basis. No nursery is provided, and parents are encouraged to not bring small children.

The church is located at 401 State St. in Boyne City.

For more information, call Rachelle Wittenmeyer at 582-5810.

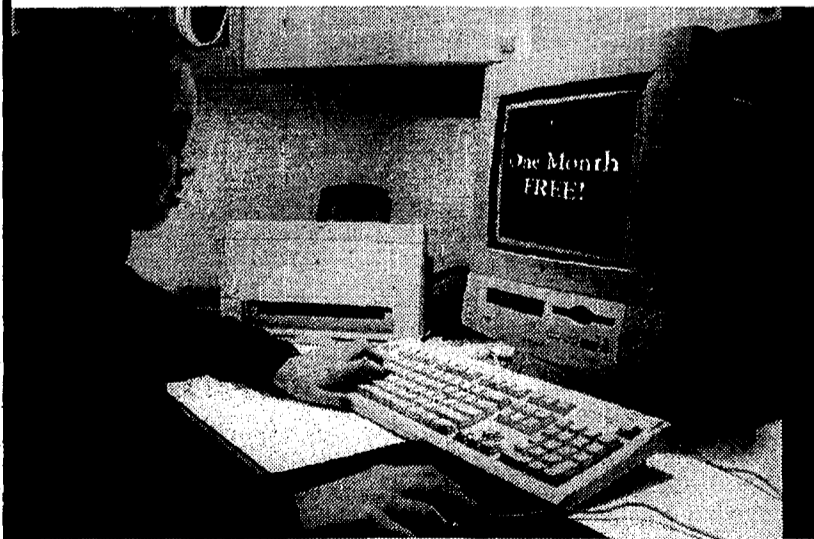
"Touched by a Child, Touched by a King," at 7:30 p.m. formation: 582-2770 or 536-7534.

### LIONS CLUB CHRISTMAS TREE SALES

Every weekend through Dec. 17  
At the corner of Main and Mill St. In-

formation: 582-2770 or 536-7534.  
If you would like to have your event listed in the calendar, submit them to THE CITIZEN-JOURNAL BY NOON FRIDAYS. CALL 582-6761 FOR MORE INFORMATION.

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Northern Michigan Hospital in Petoskey is pleased to welcome Vern J. Campbell, MD, to our medical staff. Dr. Campbell, a board certified ophthalmologist from the Detroit area, joins Timothy Van Every, MD, of North Bay Ophthalmology in Petoskey.

Dr. Campbell most recently practiced general ophthalmology in southeast Michigan, and was an attending physician at the Beaumont Eye Institute Laser/LASIK Center. He is certified in VISX Laser surgery and LASIK (Laser In-situ Keratomileusis). He is a Fellow of the American Academy of Ophthalmology and a member of the Michigan State Medical Society.

Dr. Campbell sees patients by appointment in Petoskey and at a satellite office in St. Ignace. To schedule an appointment with Dr. Campbell, please call North Bay Ophthalmology at 231-487-2370.

For more information about Dr. Campbell or any of our physicians, please call HealthAccess at 1-800-248-6777.

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1. The **FREE \$500 Citizen-Journal Christmas Shopping Spree** contest runs for four weeks beginning in Citizen-Journal Nov. 15, 2000, through Dec. 6, 2000.
2. Persons 18 years and older may register once each day at any participating Sponsor. No purchase necessary. Employees and family members are not eligible to enter at employer's business.
3. All entries must be received by **Thursday, Dec. 7, 2000**. One ticket will be drawn at each Sponsor's store, as the Store finalist will be eligible for the **\$500 Grand Prize**. All store finalist names will be published in the Citizen-Journal Dec. 13, 2000.
4. All eligible Store Finalists' tickets will be entered in the **Grand Prize Drawing** to be randomly drawn by the staff of the Citizen-Journal. The winner receives \$500 in Shopping Certificates. Good at any sponsor's store(s). Winners must agree to use the name and photo for promotional purposes.
5. **Grand Prize Winners** will be announced in Citizen-Journal Dec. 20, 2000. Prizes must be utilized by Dec. 31, 2000.

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COUNTRY NOW AND THEN  
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1115 E. Division

DESTRESS EXPRESS  
118 Front St.

MEDICAP PHARMACY  
104 S. Lake St.

KILWINS  
102 E. Water St.

BALI AND BEYOND  
119 Water St.

BOYNE CITY LANES  
1199 W. Boyne Rd.

SUNBURST MARINE  
101 Water St.

BOYNE COUNTRY PARTY SHOP  
127 Water St.

HUFF PHARMACY  
121 E. Water St.

OUTSIDE EDGE  
112 Water St.

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UNDERWOOD AUTOMOTIVE  
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205 S. East St.

OLD KENT BANK  
102 Lake St.

WOLVERINE DILWORTH  
300 Water St.

STUDIO ONE  
105 Water St.

LESTER'S  
151 Ray St.

CD'S DOT COM  
Lakefront Square Mall

BOYNE CO-OP TRUE VALUE  
113 S. Park St.

BOYNE RIVER BAIT  
500 N. Lake, Suite G

TRAVEL CENTRAL  
05 W. Main St. (Water St. Mall)

SUNNYDAZE TANNING  
202 S. Lake St., Unit H

REH ACRES  
437 Boyne Avenue

NEEDFULL THINGS  
123 Water St.

### EAST JORDAN

EAST JORDAN TRUE VALUE  
201 Mill St.

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105 Second St.

LUMBER JACK'S FOOD AND SPIRITS  
101 Main St.

JORDAN VALLEY SATELLITE  
106 Mill St.

VINCENT'S YAMAHA  
215 E. Main St.

WATER STREET GAS  
101 Water St.



A small cast will be featured in the arts council's intimate production "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever."

## JRAC to serve up a Dessert Theatre

The Jordan River Arts Council will present a Dessert Theatre, Dec. 7 and 8 at the Art Center, 301 Main Street, East Jordan.

A favorite play for theatre goers, "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever" by Barbara Roberson will be presented as reader's theatre. This version, adapted from the full length play by the Van Wert Civic Theatre, Van Wert, Ohio, has a narrator relating the story, who is often interrupted by actors acting out the highlights of the story. Most often each play several roles. Minimum set and costuming is used.

Jeanne Buick, of Boyne City, will serve as narrator, with Terri Warnos, (director), Beth Ann Leonard, Christy Alward, and Howard Ellis of East Jordan, and Suzann Dalton, of Ellsworth, portraying the character roles.

The play will be introduced by a monologue, "Mrs. Sorken," by Christopher Durang. This role will be

played by Dalton who, since being in the JRAC production of "Goodbye Howard" last fall, has been in eight productions with major roles in "Charlie's Aunt" and "Tony 'n' Tina's Wedding" with the Old Town Playhouse, Traverse City.

This is a family-oriented event, with gourmet desserts and beverages being served following the performance.

Curtain time is 7:30 p.m. with doors opening at 6:30 p.m., allowing theater-goers the opportunity to view the art for sale exhibit presented by JRAC members. Tickets are \$4 for adults and \$1 for children under 12. Seating is limited. Tickets may be purchased at the Busy Bridge in East Jordan, Boyne Country Books in Boyne City, from cast members, and at the door.

For more information call the art center at 536-3385 or Jane Diller at 582-6399.

## NEIGHBORS

By NANCY NORTHUP

**AT HOME** in their new home on Clute Road, with her parents Kevin and Connie Smith, is little Hannah Marie Smith, who was born Nov. 26, 2000. Hannah Marie weighed 7 pounds 1 ounce, and measured 20 1/2 inches in length, with long brown hair and blue eyes at her birth. Grandparents are Barbara Beasley of East Jordan and the late Richard Hull Sr. and Stephen and Joann Smith of Boyne City. Great-grandparents are Elsie Lauer, and Donnell and Drew Ann, all of Harbor Springs.

**WORD CAME** in about summer resident Tom Smith, a State Farm agent here for many years. He has been hospitalized in Yuma, Ariz. for about three weeks. Old friends and neighbors might like to send him a card. They may be sent to Tom and Irene Smith, 7201 E. Hwy 80, Space 127, Yuma, AZ 85365.

**ELAINE RENNEKAMP**, who has been a patient in Northern Michigan Hospital since the day before Thanksgiving, was released to the home of her sister, Arlene Inman of Anderson Road, on Sunday. Her grandson, Bobby

Rennekamp, arrived from California over the weekend to visit his grandmother, his mother Cheryl and sisters.

**THANKSGIVING DINNER** guests of Sue and Morrie Hobbs of Boyne City were Kari and Tracy Reinhardt and children Megan and Kaelyn, their daughter Kim Matelski and children Ben and Britany of Boyne Falls, and Sue's mother, Hilda Reinhardt.

**A SPECIAL DINNER** party honoring Gen Varnum for her 75th birthday of Dec. 7 was held at the Dilworth Hotel on Saturday night. All her family was here for the long holiday weekend, and many friends shared the celebration, which was hosted by her children.

**RECENT HOUSEGUEST** of Morrie and Sue Hobbs of Boyne City was his niece, Dawn Hobbs, of Huntington, Calif., enjoying a week's visit.

**PHYLLIS HARDY** of Boyne City spent a couple of days in Gaylord at the home of her daughter and son-in-law, Janet and Ron Geiger. While there, she helped care for her great-grandchildren, while their mother, Kelly Styles, took one of her

twin daughters, nine-month-old Bryanne, to Grand Rapids for a check up.

**MANY RESIDENTS** of Litzenburger Place gathered for a soup and sandwich lunch and tree trimming party in the community room on Saturday. A family spirit of Christmas was there, as Inga Casper played seasonal favorites on the piano as others, including the grandchildren of Elinor Dubin and Jessie Moose, helped out with decorating the tree. It was good to see Phyllis Tison out, as she has had another hospital stay and recuperation time at her daughter's home but should be coming back to her own apartment the first of the week. Appreciation goes out to her two daughters who made delicious vegetable soup and helped make it a good time for all.

**CARLAND SUE CHARON** of Nelson Road entertained Morrie and Sue Hobbs on Saturday evening.

(To submit an item for Nancy's column, please call her at 582-9174 or e-mail her at nanup@mail.unnet.com.)



Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Bajko



The Bajkos on their wedding day in 1960.

## Bajkos celebrate their 40th anniversary

Mr. and Mrs. Bernard "Bernie" Bajko of Boyne City recently celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary.

Bernie Bajko and Mary Ann Wolf were married Oct. 29, 1960, at the Sacred Heart Church in Grand Rapids by Monsignor Edmund Falicki.

In 1961 they started Bayko Concrete which became a corporation in 1969. In 1972 Bernie and Mary Ann moved to Boyne City.

Bernie retired in 1990 and then later opened Bayko Mobile Mix in 1997.

Mary Ann is the secretary for

Bayko Concrete and Bayko Mobile Mix.

They have three children, Michael and Diane Bajko of Boyne City, Thomas Bajko of Boyne City, and Daniel and Susan Bajko of East Jordan.

Bernie and Mary Ann also have six grandchildren.

## Art history brought to life at Concord

By LAURA WARREN

Concord Academy Boyne Art teacher Julie Stoppel is bringing art history to life in a creative way for her elementary students by becoming famous artists from past centuries.

As her students study historical art movements and techniques, Stoppel dresses, acts, and talks as if she is an artist of that time.

"I used to teach art history, but I couldn't tell if kids were paying attention," she said. "Art history can be dull, so I asked, 'How can I make this come alive?' When I do an active demonstration, they're riveted."

Her method of characterization has proven successful. Students are both entertained and educated, Stoppel said, as she tells the life story of the artist she is portraying with vivid detail and expression.



Concord Academy Boyne teacher Julie Stoppel brings artists to life for her students.

Most recently, she played the part of Leonardo daVinci. Other artists that have come to Concord through Stoppel include Mary Cassatt, Pablo Picasso, Winslow Homer, John James

Audobon, Gilbert Stuart, and Hokusai. Her presentations, she said, have inspired the students and have certainly piqued their interest in the world of art history.

## Old City Clock

Continued from page 1

felt a pit would be in everyone's best interest so they could see more of the workings of the clock.

Steve Voice, who represented REAP, which owns the Tower Center, assured the commission that without the pit only a tiny fraction of the clock would be hidden from view.

"We've built a case to display the clock," said Voice. "We've engineered it, we've reengineered it for the bell, and we think we've done a pretty good job."

REAP originally came before the commission in 1996 with a request to build a tower to hold the original Old City Clock. Since that time there have been questions about the use of the

original clock and the whether it would fit in the space provided.

"We're looking to get this behind us to house the clock," Voice said.

## STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

### Boyne City

**NAME:** Scott McDowell  
**PARENTS:** Evan and Kathy McDowell  
**GRADE:** Sophomore  
**SCHOOL ACTIVITIES:** Baseball  
**HOBBIES AND INTERESTS:** "Besides baseball, I also play hockey. When I'm not doing one of those I like to play video games or read."  
**FUTURE PLANS:** "I plan to go to college but beyond that I'm not sure yet."  
**NOMINATING COMMENTS:** "Scott earned an 'A' the last nine weeks in advanced algebra," said Dale Parsons. "He works very hard and shows a lot of talent in mathematics. He is well deserving of this award. Congratulations Scott!"  
"Scott is doing a great job in world geography," said Michele Deming. "His dedicated work ethic and willingness to help others are to be admired. Thank you for your hard work Scott."



Scott McDowell

**NAME:** Jessica Raber  
**PARENTS:** Joy and Jim Raber  
**GRADE:** Sophomore  
**SCHOOL ACTIVITIES:** Basketball and softball  
**HOBBIES AND INTERESTS:** "I love to go skiing and I also like to read and do things with my friends."  
**FUTURE PLANS OR GOALS:** "I plan to attend college after high school but I'm not sure what I would like to major in yet."  
**NOMINATING COMMENTS:** "It has been my pleasure getting to know a fine young student named Jessica Raber," said Lee Ewald. "She is serious about her studies and always has a wonderful smile for me each day."  
"Jessica is a joy to have in world geography and on the JV girls basketball team," said Michele Deming. "She always has a smile on her face, is polite and works very hard. Nice job Jessica."



Jessica Raber

### Boyne Falls

**NAME:** Sydney Plona  
**PARENTS:** Sara Plona  
**GRADE:** Third  
**HOBBIES AND INTERESTS:** Bicycling, swimming, ice-skating and bowling  
**FAVORITE COLOR:** Blue  
**FAVORITE FOOD:** Macaroni and cheese  
**WHAT I LIKE BEST ABOUT SCHOOL:** "Music because the Christmas program is on my birthday!"  
**NOMINATING COMMENTS:** Sydney has been working very hard," said Mrs. Gregory. "She is willing to try new challenges and works to improve herself every day. Keep up the good work Sydney!"



Sydney Plona

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## WINTER SPORTS PREVIEW



The Ramblers have been hard at work in recent weeks, practicing in preparation for their opening matchup with Rogers City on Tuesday.

### BOYNE CITY BASKETBALL

## Gaining early season experience important



Boyne City's Cole Andrews and Kyle Gibbons put their all into drills at practice last week, honing skills for use on the court.

The Boyne City Ramblers boys basketball team has been hard at practice for the last three weeks, preparing for an opening game against Rogers City, scheduled for Tuesday evening.

"It's a pretty tough schedule," said head coach Kevin Fitzpatrick.

The team opens the season with two non-conference games against Rogers City and Petoskey, followed by a pre-Christmas tournament with Benzie Central, Glen Lake, and Detroit East.

With 13 players, the team has five returning players from last year, including Ryan Amesbury, A.J. Spaay, Kellan Smith, Dylan Hall, and Jason Rostar.

With four seniors and nine juniors, the Ramblers start the season with eight players lacking varsity experience.

Still, the team is "pretty excited," Fitzpatrick said. "We've got quite a bit of talent, although they're young and inexperienced."

The task at hand, then, is "to slowly pull that together," said Fitzpatrick.

"We'll be a far better team in February than we are now in December." In practice and upcoming games, the coach's biggest concern is "building some team chemistry" and getting players working together.

And while one goal is always to "hopefully be competitive enough to be in the middle of a league race," the team is focused on getting experience at this point.

"It's always been our philosophy to play up," said Fitzpatrick.

"It makes us better. We might not get as many wins, but we'll be a better team for it."

### BOYNE CITY VOLLEYBALL

## Tournament will be good sneak preview

Boyne City High School's girls varsity volleyball team is looking forward to two early league matches and this week's "early bird" tournament for a sneak preview of what the competition has in store.

The team will meet up with both Kalkaska and Elk Rapids early in the season, and will see East Jordan at the tourney. "We'll see three [other league teams] before Christmas," said head coach Dorine Britton. "It will give us an idea of where we'll fit in the league."

League competition will be fairly stiff, but a few changes thrown into the mix might make for an interest-

ing season. "This year there are two or three new coaches in the league," said Britton, noting a couple of long-time coaches who retired this past year.

"East Jordan will be tough again. League competition in itself is pretty evened out."

With five returning seniors, the balance of the 14-girl squad is rounded out with some newer talent. Seniors Aubrey Fry, Char Brandt, and Ali Swaim all saw quite a bit of playing time last season, said Britton, and will "bring experience to the floor." Also returning are Amanda Bargas and Erin Hennessy. New faces in-

clude senior Kriste Gaiter, juniors Kelly Spaniak, Ashley Hadix, Nikki Erickson, Jen Whitley, Wendy Chrysler, and Melissa Persons, and sophomores Meredith Clemens and Samantha Bricker.

Practices, said Britton, have been "going pretty good." She's looking at filling two spots for setters, vacated by graduating players last season, for her typical 6-2 offense. "I pulled up Sam Bricker to fill one role, and will probably utilize Char (Brandt) and Aubrey (Fry)," said Britton.

She's looking to the team's height to make them a defensive force to be reckoned with. "Our front line is go-

ing to be pretty big," she said, naming Swaim, Gaiter, Clemens, and Chrysler as defensive standouts.

With no specific goals set at this point in the year, Britton is working on pulling the team together as a whole. "We're looking strong," she said. "We've got strong players in each area." The upcoming tournament will not only allow the team to get a look at the competition, but also to work on "getting the right combinations, and see if my formulas work out," Britton said.

The Ramblers open their season on Saturday, at the Inland Lakes Tournament.

### EAST JORDAN VOLLEYBALL

## New players have big shoes to fill

Coming off a strong season can be tough on a team, leaving a lot to live up to.

To Duane Kujat, head coach of the East Jordan High School varsity girls volleyball squad, having had their best season in many years in 1999-00 is a positive thing for this year's team.

"I think it's a positive," said Kujat. "They're used to winning, they like to win, it gives them more drive and determination. They've got to fill the shoes of kids that left."

With six girls graduated from last season, the team has some big shoes

to fill.

Fortunately, returning are five strong seniors, including Jessica Peverall, Wendy Walczak, Kristin Haley, Jamie Baker, and Kattie Brooks. While not all starters, "they all have seen quality playing time in the past," and Baker has been an all-region selection for the last two years.

Kujat also spotlights some girls coming up from the junior varsity ranks, including Jackie Haley. "We expect a lot of help from her," said Kujat. "The other [former] jv's are really going to fill in the holes."

He's also expecting a lot from

freshman Haley Shaw. "She's got the size we need," said Kujat. "We'll use her for more blocking, where we're weak. We're not real big, so Haley will help with that, and Jackie (Haley) will help with her hitting position."

The schedule for the season will be a challenging one. Said Kujat, "We're pretty much rid of all the easy parts of our schedule."

Starting with the tournament in Inland Lakes on Saturday, the team will then face a conference match-up with Charlevoix the following week, and a tough tournament in Petoskey fol-

lowing Christmas break, which, said Kujat, "is always a strong tournament."

"Nothing is going to be given to us," he said. "All the girls will have to work hard to achieve it."

Right now, practices are focused on "getting the kinks worked out."

"They're just a tight knit group of girls," he said.

"They want to play together, and they'll do whatever they have to do to make it work."

The season will open for the Red Devils at the Inland Lakes Tournament on Saturday.

### BOYNE FALLS VOLLEYBALL

## New head coach has a determined group

Boyne Falls' varsity girls volleyball team has a new head coach this year, Angela King, who was hired as a new teacher at the school on Oct. 30.

Though this is King's first outing as a volleyball coach, she's played intramural volleyball, and is work-

ing with a more experienced coach to learn the finer points.

The team, with 13 girls on the squad, "has been working very hard on drills for passing, serving, and hitting in general," said King.

At this point, "we're just worried about making sure the girls learn the

basics and are improving skill levels." The approach has long-term goals in mind. By working the basics, said King, "we're hoping next year to have a better start."

Returning this year are Erin Turner, the team captain, along with co-captain Kim Wagner.

The team, overall, is a group of "pretty determined young ladies," said King. "They've decided they really want to make something of this team."

The Lady Loggers will open their season at Ellsworth on Thursday, Dec. 14. Game time is 6 p.m.

### EAST JORDAN BASKETBALL

## Effort and attitude are keys to success

With 13 team members, a small roster will be a challenge for East Jordan High School's boys basketball team this winter. But, said head coach Steve Hines, the team is counting on using some of its strengths to balance the lack of depth, as well as a lack of height.

"We're not very big, so we're going to have small lineups," said Hines. "We hope our speed and quickness can offset our lack of height. It means we'll look to play an up-tempo game as much as possible."

The team has a few returning players, including seniors Ken Slough, Micah Middaugh, Nathan Skop, and junior Scott Jones, and Ryan Derenzy. Foreign exchange student Soren Low joins the team this year, and new faces coming up from the junior varsity ranks include Jessie Green, Jeremy Booze, Bill Tison, Steve Kempton, Kyle Brower, Peter Warnos, and Corban Shaw.

"I've been real pleased with what I've seen so far," said Hines. "They've been working extremely hard, trying to focus on what we're trying to do."

The season opens for the Red Devils this week, with two games at home, against Boyne Falls on Tues-

day, Dec. 5, and Bellaire on Friday, Dec. 8, both of which the team is regarding with guarded optimism. "We're kind of hoping we can finish the first week with two wins," said Hines. Opening the league next week against Traverse City St. Francis, Hines said the team would "really like to go into our first league game with two wins under our belt."

Overall, the schedule presents some challenges. "I think it's going to be a tough schedule," said Hines. "Our league is always tough. There won't be any easy league games, and there are a few tough non-conference games on our schedule," including a match-up against St. Ignace just before Christmas break. "St. Ignace is one of the better Class C teams around," he said.

In practice, the team is focusing on two things, effort and attitude. "If our attitude can be as positive as possible, and our work ethic, we would like it to be relentless," said Hines. "If we can do that, the wins and losses should take care of themselves."

The goal is, said Hines, to play hard, and not concentrate on winning or losing. "We want to finish every game by leaving everything on the floor."

### BOYNE FALLS BASKETBALL

## Young team needs patience early on

With only three returning players from last year's district champion team, Boyne Falls boys varsity basketball head coach Frank Hamilla has a young and inexperienced team on his hands.

"It looks like it will take a little time to rebuild," said Hamilla. "We as a coaching staff need to be patient early on."

Returning to the squad this season are Michael Dunlop, Adam Utley and Charlie Taylor, with Taylor being the only senior on the team.

Coming up from junior varsity are juniors Mike Matelski, Kurt Reynolds, Luke Simon, and Chris Cregl, and sophomores Archie Griffin and Matt Skop. While the players are enthusiastic, "it's a big jump from jv to varsity," said Hamilla.

Coming off of a streak of exceptional seasons, this year's team has big shoes to fill. But, stresses Hamilla, "this is a new ball club with a new identity. I think we can use it as a positive."

"A lot of people aren't expecting a lot from us," he said. "We want to

get the point across that we are a pretty good team."

So far in practice the team has struggled some with their half-court game.

"We're going to try to move the ball up a little bit quicker than we have in the past," said Hamilla.

While working on weak areas, the team is identifying its strengths as well. In a recent scrimmage, Hamilla said, "our defense was a lot better than expected. We're hoping to build from there."

Opening at East Jordan, the Loggers will face some tough non-conference games this season, including Alanson, which has the majority of their team back this season, and Central Lake, which is "always tough."

No team goals have been set, and, the coach noted, "we haven't set expectations exceptionally high." For now, it's about getting the team comfortable with each other, "and go from there."

The team traveled to East Jordan on Tuesday, and will play Leelanau at home on Friday, Dec. 8.

## BF players all-conference

Two Boyne Falls' students have been named to the All-Conference girls basketball team for the Northern Lakes Conference. Both Julie

Korthase and Kim Wagner were named members of the All-Conference team.

### BOYNE AREA HOCKEY

Boyne's Peewee team, sponsored by Dan's Concrete, skated with the Char-Em Grizzlies on Friday, Dec. 1, in a fast-paced game.

Defense ruled the first two periods, and Boyne's goalie Nick Feree stopped 26 shots. Russell Williams, scored twice in the third, with one assist by Dylan Clark. The Grizzlies scored with just 11 seconds left to tie the game 2-2.

Sunday, Dec. 3 the team traveled to play Gaylord Ford. Gaylord leaped to an early lead and beat Boyne 12-4.

Russell Williams got a hat trick with three goals, and Gabe Korthase scored the other. Earning assists were Shane Grunow, Josh Aown, and Evan Keller. Nick Feree was in goal.

THE BOYNE CITY Sky Electric Mini-Mites traveled to Mackinaw City on Dec. 3 to play the Bulldogs. The Boyne team won 5-0. Mitchell Carlson, Freddy Segraves and Keegan Reynolds combined for the shut out in goal.

In the second game Boyne lost 3-1. Bryan Wonski led all scorers with 3 goals on the day. Chase Kragenbrink had two goals, and Spencer Bajko had one. Tyler Messing and Keegan

Reynolds each had an assist.

BOYNE FIRESTORM went 3-0 this weekend. On Saturday, they played two games in Griffin Arena. They beat the Char-Em Canadians 6-2, with Tanner Kragenbrink, Brad Boyer and Travis Reinhardt scoring one goal each, and John Miller with a hat trick. Reinhardt had one assist and Miller had two. Charlie Courtright was the winning goalie.

In game two Firestorm beat the Char-Em Flames, with Matt Thomas and Boyer each scoring a goal. Beau Kroondyk had two goals and Miller had his second hat trick for the day. Taylor Korthase had one assist and Miller had four. Charlie Courtright was in goal.

On Sunday, Firestorm played its first game on home ice against Cheboygan. The team had strong offense from Cal Hoppe, Blake Kroondyk, Ken Bedford, and Justin Stoit. Scoring for Firestorm were Miller with five and Boyer with one. Playing tough defense were Thomas, Boyer, Keegan David, and Beau Kroondyk. Courtright was in goal.

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