

# JORDAN Journal

Vol. 9 No. 10  
East Jordan, Michigan

Wednesday, December 20, 2000

Serving East Jordan, Boyne City and surrounding areas

## at a GLANCE

### Clock should be ticking in new location by next spring

Plans to install the old city clock into the tower at the corner of Water and Lake Streets are moving forward.

At last week's meeting of the Boyne City City Commission, discussion focused on the logistics and timeframe of the clock's placement.

According to Jeff Wellman of the REAP corporation, owners of the Tower Center, REAP would like to see the clock installed in the spring of 2001.

The city, said city clerk and assistant city manager Sue Hobbs, has indicated it "would like to work within that time frame."

City manager Eric Strahl has suggested that a rough frame approximately the size of the clock, about two feet by four feet, be constructed and placed in the tower, to "make certain that the clock will fit right," said Hobbs, before bringing the actual clock out.

"It's nothing that will be very time consuming," said Hobbs, and so should not interfere with the timeline currently set for installing the clock.

At a meeting earlier this month, the commission approved the easement for the overhang of the tower by a vote of 4-1. The approval was necessary before the clock could be installed in the structure.

### BC Chamber announces decorating winners

The Boyne City Chamber of Commerce recently announced the winners of the annual Christmas Window Decorating Contest. Winners are:

First place - The White Rose of Women's Fashions, 118 Water St.; second place - The Outside Edge, 112 Water St.; third place - North Country Cycle Sport, 104 S. Park St.; honorable mention - Sunburst Marine, 101 Water St.

### Snowmobile council looking for alternate trail route

The Charlevoix County Snowmobile Council has announced that it will not be grooming the Jordan Valley trail from the Fair Road/M-32 area into East Jordan, in compliance with a landowner's request that grooming equipment no longer be run over his property.

"The snowmobile council is looking for an alternative route," said council member Lee Symonds.

Anyone with a suggestion for a viable alternate route should call Symonds at 582-3311 or 582-3312.



### Sights of the season

This smiling snowman seated in the Boyne City yard of Judy Anthony seems right at home amid the mounds of snow the area has enjoyed of late. Many area homes and yards are decked out for the holidays, bringing a little extra dose of Christmas cheer, and color, to the community.



## Lending a helping hand

### 'Generous donations' make it possible for Community Christmas, Care and Share to spread holiday cheer

It's been a wonderful season so far for Boyne City's Community Christmas, but there's always room for more.

"The love in this community is overwhelming every year," said volunteer Ardith Hawley. "It's coming beautifully."

Donations will continue to be accepted up until the morning of Friday, Dec. 22, when boxes will be packed at The Knights of Columbus Hall on M-75 South. Volunteers are needed to assist with packing, which will begin at 10 a.m., and also to assist with deliveries.

The program has been collecting donations of toys, food, and other items for area families in need for over 50 years. In recent years, nearly

1,000 people have benefited annually from the holiday boxes.

While donations have been generous, Hawley said that for last minute and future donations, community members should keep in mind that gift items for older children and teenagers are often overlooked.

"Our creed is that every family in the Boyne City and Boyne Falls school districts have Christmas dinner and gifts for their children," said Hawley.

For more information, call 582-7880.

IN EAST JORDAN, collections for the Care and Share Food Pantry's annual holiday baskets have been brisk as well. "It's been wonderful,"

said Care and Share volunteer Kathy Reed, who noted that "as far as the food end of it, we're really set."

The pantry has received names of about 225 families in need, and will be packing and distributing baskets on Thursday, Dec. 21.

According to Connie Roberts, a volunteer in charge of toy collections for the baskets, it looks as though they should have no trouble filling baskets with Christmas gifts for the kids.

Like the Boyne Community Christmas, Roberts finds that there is often a lack of gifts for children 12 and older. Of course, last minute donations of food, toys, mittens, hats, scarves, and money are always welcome, and the pantry accepts donations year round.

## Foundation sets sites on auditorium

### It sets \$100,000 fundraising goal to support extras for new BC facility

At a recent meeting of the Boyne City Board of Education, the Boyne City Foundation for Educational Excellence announced its intention to raise \$100,000 towards upgrades for the planned auditorium at the new high school.

"The foundation is continuing on with its long range plan," said foundation president Pete Friedrich. The plan first focused on the sports complex, which, said Friedrich, "is up and running."

"We're not going to abandon [the complex]," he said. "We'll keep moving forward through the phases. But we wanted to do more."

More, beginning with a commitment to raise funds to support the fine arts. The foundation kicked off its new fine arts focus in September with the 24-Hour Relay, raising over \$20,000, which has been set aside as sponsorship money to fund community entertainment events at the new auditorium.

"[Funding] an auditorium is something the foundation always had on its list," said Friedrich.

"Fortunately, the taxpayers are taking care of that." A 600-seat auditorium is part of the plan for the high school, currently under construction

as part of an \$18.8 million proposal passed by voters in September of 1999.

With the burden of actually funding the auditorium taken care of, Friedrich said the foundation began to look at, instead, "what kind of upgrades can we make in the auditorium to make it that much better?"

The \$100,000 the foundation pledged will be earmarked for upgraded rigging. The rigging currently included in the school's plan is a "dead hung" rigging; the foundation intends to purchase what is called a "flown" rigging, or one that can be raised and lowered.

The advantages of a flown rigging are that equipment can be lowered down to the stage level for adjustments like light and color changes. Also, scenes may be raised and lowered, rather than rolled on and off stage.

Improvements in the technical aspects of the auditorium, said Friedrich, will allow for better performances, and also will draw better entertainment to the area. "Performers will ask what type of rigging and things [an auditorium has] and that

Please see FOUNDATION on page 3

## EJ condos get final approval

The East Jordan Planning Commission has given final approval to site plans for a 27-unit condominium development on Lake Charlevoix's South Arm in East Jordan.

The development will be located on the waterfront between Smuggler's Cove and the city's Tourist Park.

According to East Jordan city administrator David White, the commission granted its approval with two stipulations, that the developer obtain a permit from the Department of Transportation for highway curb cuts, and that a drainage plan be submitted. The developer agreed to fulfill these stipulations, said White.

Developer Stuart Kaufman expects that construction won't begin until the spring of 2001, and that the project should be completed in about a year's time.

Kaufman, along with partner Craig Singer, has developed several

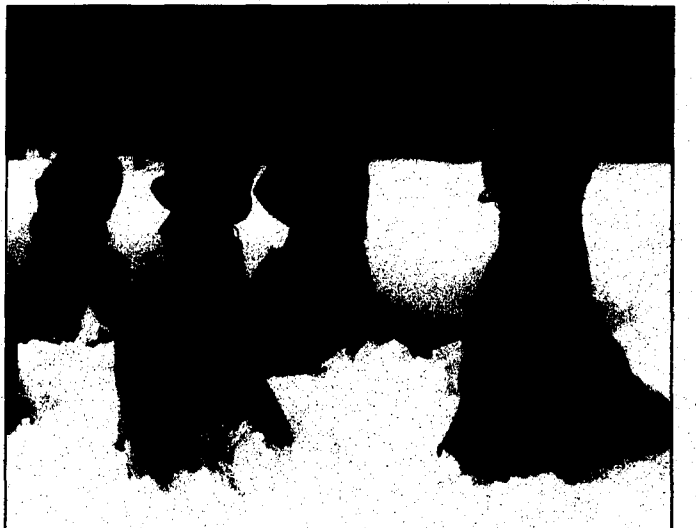
projects in recent years on the Lake Charlevoix waterfront, including The Harborage in Boyne City. This will be their first project in East Jordan. "I do think East Jordan should be the next place [for development]," said Kaufman.

The developers had previously submitted a site plan for the property in October of this year, only to later withdraw it for modifications based on comments from the city's consultant in terms of number of units and other adjustments.

The plan was resubmitted in November, when it received preliminary approval from the planning commission, pending approval of some needed zoning variances.

Earlier this month, the zoning board of appeals approved the variances, including a 182 foot building length variance, a 15 foot building

Please see EJ CONDOS on page 3



### Winter wear

Members of the Boyne Valley Garden Club have made sure that these rose bushes in front of city hall will sleep in style this winter, with a covering of burlap and some cozy hats and scarves for good measure.

## BETWEEN the LINES

### Remembering those missing at the holidays

By ANGELA SHULTIS

Lately, even as I've been wrapped up in all of the exciting yet hectic preparations for our family's much-anticipated Christmas celebration, I find myself thinking more and more about those folks for whom the holiday festivities are colored by not so much who's there, but who's missing.

I am, knock on wood, truly blessed to have those closest to me still with me to enjoy at this special time of year. I can't help but think, though, about those folks I know who've lost a spouse, a parent, a child, who are celebrating the season without them.

I know it's a thoroughly melancholy thought, decidedly out of place at this time of rejoicing, but it's a true and undeniable presence for many of us, most especially I'm sure at a time when "family" is the word on everybody's lips.

The problem is, I think, that while losing loved ones is a fact of life, none of us who are still here ever really know what to do to help those who've been left behind, especially at the holidays. It's often easier, less uncomfortable, to do or say nothing, to avoid the topic, assuming that to bring it up will be to remind them of the hurt, as though they'll not think of it until it's mentioned.

I know I'm as guilty as anyone else of not knowing what to say or do, afraid to make a mistake, a misstep, at a time when doing the right thing seems of the utmost importance. Even as I write this, there's a part of me that's afraid of saying the wrong thing, of upsetting someone without meaning to.

I see obituaries of community members come into our office here at the paper every week, and it's always sad to see, but this time of year, I find it most distressing. Perhaps it's just that as I'm growing older, I'm becoming more aware of the shortness of time, of the truth of mortality. Perhaps it's just that the longer I live in this community, the more familiar I am with the names on those particular pieces of news, and so the closer to home they seem. I've seen the names of acquaintances, of neighbors, of friends.

I guess the hard and fast truth of it is that life continues on, beginning and ending, at Christmas time as at all others.

The point of this is not to be overly morbid, though it may seem so, but rather to call attention to the fact that it is up to all of us, perhaps at this time of year more than any other, to help those around us remember and celebrate their own loved ones, as many of us are celebrating the birth of Christ.

This isn't meant to be an attempt to get up on my soap box, either, or to wax philosophical — it's as much a practical reminder for myself as anything else, to take just a moment out of my own busy holidays to check in with those folks around me who may really appreciate knowing simply that they're thought of.

It's up to all of us, as we're amassing gifts and decorations and dozens of Christmas cookies for our own little family, to put some energy also into extending our own hand in kindness and comfort to those who may need it, in whatever way we're able. Just a word, perhaps, a hug, or a laugh, better yet.

And remember, too, to rejoice, truly rejoice, in the blessings that are ours, both past and present. They are all around us.

Merry Christmas.



## HOLIDAY GREETINGS

--From the staff of the Citizen-Jordan Journal

### A MOM'S LIFE

#### Friends bring new things to our lives

BY CINDI PLACE

Friendship is a pretty important part of our lives. The friends our children choose to hang with have been a strong indication of just what kind of ride we parents are in for during adolescence. And, as children will, they have chosen all kinds of friends.

Each of the kids, at some time in their young lives, spent time with a buddy that for want of a better word got them in trouble. These friends were always nice kids and fun to be around. Lots of fun to be around. They were just greater risk-takers than our own children. Which, I'm sure, was the attraction. Without the friendship of these people, I'm sure our kids would never have experienced skateboarding down a busy city street, or snowboarding through the trees, or even checking to see just how late was too late to come home at night. Without our children's friendship with these buddies, we parents would probably never have experienced late-night anxious phone calls or numerous visits to the emergency room.

Then there are the friends that basically came to

our house to live. These kids are great. They help clean up the house, do the dishes and say please and thank-you without prompting. We've been told that our children have been known to do the same at someone else's house, but we've yet to have that truly corroborated.

We've enjoyed friendships that last a few weeks as well as those that appear to be forever. Interestingly, our sons' best friends have usually been girls, at least until they figured out that the friend was a girl. This has given our older son a unique insight into the workings of the female mind. Something he plans to use to his advantage in the future, I'm sure.

Whatever the type of kids our children have "brought home to dinner," we've always been struck with how much fun our kids have with their buddies. Each of these people has brought something new and different into our children's lives. And for that we are grateful.

Except, of course, when we are wide awake in the wee hours of the morning waiting for that front door to slam.

#### Reaffirming the joy that comes from giving

TO THE EDITOR:

##### The Spirit of Christmas

As Christians, we celebrate Christmas to proclaim our joy for the birth of the Christ-child. He came into our world as Redeemer and showed us, by deed and word, the personal fulfillment and inherent satisfactions that can be found in a life lived with gratuitous acts of kindness and spontaneous offers of charity toward our fellow travelers on the journey through life.

##### The Joy of Christmas

Christmas time reaffirms the joys that can be found in giving from the heart. Every year we tend to ignore those who deplore the commercialization of Christmas, as if that took away from the meaning of the day. Instead, we throw ourselves into the season wholeheartedly, because we anticipate the wonder in the eyes of a child, the warmth of a

loved one's kiss or the clasp of a dear friend's hand on my shoulder. We do it because it feels good and it makes us happy and, well, after all, it is Christmas.

##### The Wonder of Christmas

For most of the year we tolerate emotional conflicts and petty hostilities, generation gaps and spiteful bickering. And then the weather turns crisp, the days are shorter and before we know it, Thanksgiving is here and gone. It's Christmas time and our thoughts turn outward as we plot pleasant surprises for our family, greet friends with a new warmth and even find that we can understand our growing children. Christmas is truly the cement that binds together the family of man and the families of men.

May your holidays be the merriest and the coming year one of familial happiness, personal fulfillment and inner peace!

Ira Breneman

### GUEST COLUMN

#### Holy Nativity celebrating 15th anniversary

By JOAN STRAWBRIDGE

On Saturday, Nov. 16, 1985, Father Jim Hempstead of Emmanuel Episcopal Church in Petoskey led a group of 17 followers, known as the nervous Episcopalians, in canvassing homes in Boyne City.

The group, made up of Petoskey and Boyne City Episcopalians, waded out in teeming rain to spread the news that a new Episcopal church was being formed in Boyne City.

The first service was held Dec. 22 in Judge Harvey and Gen Varnum's recreation room. Hence the name Episcopal Church of the Nativity was suggested by Rev. Hempstead.

In the beginning, the new mission was under the wing of Emmanuel Church in Petoskey, then rose in stature under the Diocese of Western Michigan and in less than two years became the first new Episcopal parish in Western Michigan in 25 years.

We shall always be grateful to Dr. Walter Webber for his generosity in offering Nativity his church on Main Street without obligation until we could afford to buy the building. We are also indebted to the many folks at Emmanuel Episcopal Church for their time and love. With a great deal of work from the parishioners and help from the Whittemore Foundation, we have a beautiful, barrier-free country Episcopal church.

We celebrate our 15th Christmas Eve candlelight service at 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 24. Father Jim Hempstead will again be offering the Eucharist. Christmas carols will be sung with the beautiful accompaniment of piano and organ at 6:30 p.m.

Please join us in joyfully welcoming Christmas.

### Paper will publish late due to holidays

Due to the Christmas and New Year's holidays, The Citizen-Jordan Journal will be published a day late for the next two weeks.

The paper will be delivered to subscribers on Thursday, Dec. 28, and Thursday, Jan. 4. The paper will be available on newsstands on those days as well.

Deadlines for all materials will be Tuesday, Dec. 26, and Tues, Jan. 2, at 12 noon.

## The Citizen and Journal

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# Creating a 'giving tree'

Students find a way to give to others at Christmas time

Third grade students at East Jordan Elementary have found a way to give a little at Christmas this year, with their creation of The Giving Christmas Tree.

As part of the project, which began on Dec. 11, students are amassing hats, gloves, mittens, and neck warmers for other community children in need this holiday season. Rather than just taking donations, though, the students have been charged with earning the money themselves.

According to teacher Mary Sivula, she decided to talk to her students about "how we do so much thinking about gifts we're getting, it would be nice if we could give something up." The students were receptive, and began brainstorming ideas. The Giving Christmas Tree, they decided, was a way that they could give of themselves and help other area kids.

A committee of eight students helped draft a letter home to parents, suggesting ways in which the students could earn some extra money towards the



Some of the students participating in the project are, front row from left: Josh Williams, April Wakeham, and Erika Shuler. Back row: Jacob Kovel, Shaina Peters, Erin Poindexter, Kyle Dunson, and Dylan Snyder.

cause. The committee also was responsible for contacting the third-grade classrooms of Karen Sweet and Margo Brandell, to give them an opportunity to participate as well.

According to students, the project has been very successful. They've taken on chores such as cleaning the house, taking care of pets, washing dishes, shoveling snow, and helping out with

younger siblings, and have then shopped for needed items.

Items collected will be distributed to kids in their own school, and any leftover items may be donated to community causes, such as the Care and Share Pantry. "We'll try to keep as much as we can at the school," said Sivula, in part so the students can have an opportunity to see what a difference their hard work can make.

# EJ condos get final approval

Continued from page 1

width variance, a 4.5 foot building height variance, and three fewer parking spaces than required by zoning.

The zoning board received 12 letters opposing the development as presented, most citing a loss of lake view for citizens and neighbors, but, said zoning board committee chairman Mike Burr, after reviewing the comments, the board was still bound to make their decisions based on the zoning code for the property.

The property in question is zoned as waterfront, meaning that one of the allowable uses for the property is for residential condominiums.

In this particular zoning area, said Burr, the code allows for a building no longer than 100 feet, with sideyard requirements.

The piece of property is 600 feet long; the zoning board reasoned that denying the variances, which included allowing an additional 182

feet in length, would not stop the development of the condominiums, but instead would likely encourage the developer to build more, smaller buildings on the property.

"If we say no [to the variances]," said Burr. "They can build three buildings [of 100' each]." Knowing this, said Burr, the committee's job is to make a decision based on "what is in the overall best interest of the city of East Jordan. If it's going to happen, make it happen in the best interest of everyone concerned."

According to Burr, the board felt it was preferable to have a single building with a larger view corridor on either end than have several buildings with narrow views in between.

"These are just hard, tough questions," said Burr.

"Whether I personally like it or not has no bearing on whether [the variances are] granted," he said.

The board looks at the criteria, and "if [the plan] meets it, you basically

have to grant the variance. If you don't grant it and you didn't use the right criteria, you end up in court."

Kaufman said that in developing a site plan, they attempted to take these concerns into consideration.

"There's no question that the view will be affected by what we're doing," said Kaufman.

"The other side of the coin is that people who own that land are entitled to use it. Almost anything they do with it will affect their neighbors' view."

Still, in designing the structure, he said, "we tried very hard to locate the building design to minimize the effect on people's views. We certainly took that into consideration and did the best we could."

"I do believe from the perspective of energizing the economy of East Jordan, this is going to be a good thing," said Kaufman.

"If we're successful, it could bring more development into East Jordan."

# Foundation raising funds for auditorium

Continued from page 1

can determine whether they'll perform there," said Friedrich.

"We're positioned between Traverse City and Sault Ste. Marie [where many entertainers perform]," said Friedrich.

"We'd be a natural stop-off in between, if we have the auditorium that meets their needs."

To raise the bulk of the \$100,000, the foundation will be selling name plaques to be attached to the auditorium seats as an acknowledgment of the donation of an individual, family, or business. Plaques will be sold for

\$150 each, and will be engraved with the name requested by the purchaser.

While still working out the details (the size of the plates and number of letters allowed is yet to be determined), since the announcement last week over 20 plaques have been sold.

"With the interest that's gone on so far," said Friedrich, "I don't think it will be hard [to sell all 600 available plaques]."

The sale of name plaques will raise about \$90,000. For the rest of the funding, Friedrich said the foundation is looking at creating some type of a permanent structure to be placed outside of the auditorium, which would

display name plaques for donors at different levels, starting out "with something in the \$50 range."

"The wall thing would be more of a memorial, dedicated-to type of a place for people to donate," he said.

In addition, the group is planning a spring fund-raiser, a dance and entertainment event counting down the 100 greatest rock and roll songs.

"It will cover many generations," said Friedrich, who said the event will likely take place sometime in April.

For more information about the fund-raisers, call Friedrich at 582-3100, Pat O'Brien at 582-2400, or Jill Compton at 582-1058.

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**OBITUARIES**

**Regina Frances Barden**

Regina Frances Barden, 87, of Boyne City and Petoskey, passed away on Monday, Dec. 11, 2000 at her home.

A funeral mass was held on Dec. 14 at St. Matthew Catholic Church in Boyne City. The Rev. Francis Partridge officiated.

Regina was born in Petoskey on May 9, 1913, the daughter of John B. and Mary Hofbauer Saller. She graduated from Petoskey High School in 1933. On Oct. 11, 1937 she married N. Aldwyn Barden. After her marriage she lived in Boyne City.

She was a member of St. Matthew's Church, St. Matthew's Altar Society, Charter Member of Child Study Club, and was an avid bridge

player.

Survivors include her husband, Aldwyn Barden of Boyne City and Petoskey; three children, Barbara (Richard) Monacell of Rochester, N.Y., J. Edward (Glory) Barden of Boyne City, and Carole (Stanley) Huffman of Harbor Springs; 12 grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by four sisters, Barbara, Catherine, Ann and Mary, and three brothers, Fr. Sylvester, Louis, and Fred.

The family wishes memorials to the St. Matthew's Church Building Fund, Alzheimer's Association, or the St. Augustine Center-Sacramentine Sisters.

**Percy Lewis Brown**

Percy Lewis Brown, 83, died Tuesday, Dec. 12, 2000 at his home in East Jordan.

Funeral services were held on Saturday, Dec. 16, at the Penzien Funeral Home in East Jordan. Pastor Gary Coleman of the Herring Lake Baptist Church in Frankfort officiated. Interment was in Brookside Cemetery in Charlevoix.

Percy was born on Feb. 16, 1917 in Ironton, the son of Lewis and Winifred (Greenman) Brown. On April 30, 1938 in Petoskey, he married Myrta Thomson.

Percy had worked for General Motors in Pontiac for 36 years. He retired as a production engineer in 1974 and then moved to East Jordan.

Percy enjoyed fishing, hunting, and gardening. He also loved to play guitar and make music.

He is survived by his wife, Myrta Brown of East Jordan; two daughters, Marilyn (Gary) Eley of Frankfort and Carol (Don) Phillips of Central Lake; eight grandchildren; 11 great grandchildren; one brother, Wilbur Brown of Petoskey; as well as several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents; one son, Robert Brown in 1992; one grandson, Craig Eley in 1984; four sisters, Eva Peterson, Marjorie Soloman, Bessie Allen, and Agnes St. Charles; and two brothers, Ernest and Forrest Brown.

Memorials may be given to the American Cancer Society.

**Anna Beryl Scott**

Anna Beryl Scott, 96, of East Jordan, died Saturday, Dec. 9, 2000, at Grandvue Medical Care Facility.

A memorial service was held at the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints in East Jordan. Burial was in Sunset Hill Cemetery in East Jordan.

Anna was born July 19, 1904, in East Jordan, the daughter of John and Anna (Doerr) Whiteford. On June 20, 1925, she married Theo Scott in Gaylord. They made their home in East Jordan.

She was a lifetime member of the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ

of Latter Day Saints in East Jordan. Anna was the Michigan Bell Telephone operator in East Jordan for many years.

She enjoyed working with children, camping and music. The Scotts were caretakers at the East Jordan Tourist Park from 1957-1967.

Surviving are her children, Elizabeth Ann (J.D.) Sigman of Belton, Mo., Theo "Ted" (Hazel) Scott of Independence, Mo.; four grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; and several nieces, nephews and friends. She was preceded in death by her husband in 1967, and a son Robert Scott.

**EJ schools offering enrichment classes**

The East Jordan Public Schools recently announced a schedule of evening enrichment classes to be held for the first time this winter.

Classes offered include the following:

**Microsoft Word**, an introductory course covering the basics of the word processing program.

The class will be held on Wednesdays, Jan. 17, 24, and 31, 2001, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the East Jordan High School BEST lab. The cost is \$35. The instructor for the course is Becky Miller.

**Internet Searching and E-Mail** will

instruct students on how to efficiently use the Internet as a tool to gain access to information and to communicate through the use of e-mail.

**Taught by Teresa Hart**, the class will be held on Wednesdays, Jan. 17, 24, and 31, 2001, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. in the East Jordan Elementary media center. The cost is \$35.

**Dog Obedience** will teach basic obedience and socializing for your pooch. Puppies are welcome, and all dogs must have current vaccines, with documentation required at the first session.

The class will be held on Wednes-

days, Jan. 17, 24, 31 and Feb. 7, 2001, from 6:30-8 p.m. in the East Jordan High School commons area.

The instructor for the course is Laura Beth, and the fee for the class is \$35.

**American Red Cross Babysitter's Training** will be taught by Mark Moody, and is targeted for current and future babysitters, ages 11-15.

Training will include leadership and caregiving skills, safety skills, and managing problems and emergencies.

The class will be held on Saturday, Jan. 20, from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. at the East Jordan Middle School, room 141. The cost is \$45.

Registration for these classes will begin on Jan. 3, 2001.

Walk-in registration will be held at the high school office Monday-Friday, from 8 a.m.-3 p.m.

For a mail-in registration form, or for more information, call Debbie Harm at 536-0053 ext. 5371.

**CRADLE CALL**

**TAYLOR IVY HANSMA** was born to Daniel and Holly Hansma of Boyne City on Dec. 9, 2000 at the Charlevoix Area Hospital. Taylor weighed 6 lbs. 13 oz. at birth.

**CALENDAR**

**IN GOOD COMPANY**

**Thursday, Dec. 21**  
A newly-formed group of individuals who are single, divorced, or widowed, will be having a Christmas holiday get-together at Ansted's by the Lake in East Jordan at 7 p.m. Hors d'oeuvres will be served, and there is a \$5 cover charge.

**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.

**BLOOD DRIVE**

**Monday, Jan. 8**  
American Red Cross and the Boyne City Community will hold a blood drive from 1-6:45 p.m. at the Christ Lutheran Church, 1052 East Division Rd in Boyne City.

**EJ LEARNING ALLIANCE**

**Second Monday**  
The East Jordan Learning Alliance will meet at 6:30 p.m. in Heather Ballien's office every month through the school year, with no meeting in December. Also, the April meeting will be held on the third Monday because of Easter. Membership is open to all East Jordan School district residents 18 years or older.

**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.

**AA MEETINGS**

**Weekly**  
The Boyne Valley Group of Alcoholics Anonymous meets in the basement of St. Matthew's Catholic Church, 1303 Boyne Ave., Boyne City. All meetings are closed and non-smoking. Times: Sunday 1 p.m.; Monday 12 noon, 8 p.m.; Tuesday 12 noon; Wednesday 12 noon (Big Book Study); Thursday 12 noon, 6:30 p.m. (Big Book/Step Study), 8 p.m.; Friday 12 noon, 8 p.m. The first Friday of each month, an "Open Speaker" meeting is open to family and friends.

To submit items for the calendar, please call Amanda at 582-6761. The deadline is Friday at 5 p.m.

**FILM FILM FILM FILM**

**Gaslight Cinema • Petoskey-347-9696**

**Cast Away** - PG-13 (144 min)  
Starring Tom Hanks & Helen Hunt  
Fri at 7:00 & 9:30 • Sat at 2:30, 7:00 & 9:30  
Sun at 2:00 • Mon at 7:00 & 9:30  
Tues-Thurs at 2:30, 7:00 & 9:30  
**The Emperor's New Groove** - G (78 min)  
Voices: David Spade & John Goodman  
Fri at 7:15 & 9:00 • Sat at 2:15, 4, 7:15 & 9  
Sun at 2:00 • Mon at 7:15 & 9:00  
Tues-Thurs at 2:15, 4:00, 7:15 & 9:00  
**Vertical Limit** - PG-13 (108 min)  
Starring Chris O'Donnell & Scott Glenn  
Fri at 7:00 & 9:20 • Sat at 2, 4:20, 7 & 9:20  
Sun at 2:00 • Mon at 7:00 & 9:20  
Tues-Thurs at 2:00, 4:20, 7:00 & 9:20  
**Miss Congeniality** - PG-13 (110 min)  
Starring Sandra Bullock  
Fri at 7:00 & 9:15 • Sat at 2, 4:15, 7 & 9:15  
Sun at 2:00 • Mon at 7:00 & 9:15  
Tues-Thurs at 2:00, 4:15, 7:00 & 9:15  
**What Women Want** - PG-13 (127 min)  
Starring Mel Gibson & Helen Hunt  
Fri at 7:00 & 9:20 • Sat at 2, 4:20, 7 & 9:20  
Sun at 2:00 • Mon at 7:00 & 9:20  
Tues-Thurs at 2:00, 4:20, 7:00 & 9:20

**Bellaire Theatre**

**533-8725**  
**Cast Away** - PG-13 (144 min)  
Starring Tom Hanks & Helen Hunt  
At 7:00 nightly  
**(WE WILL BE CLOSED SUNDAY)**

**Gaylord Cinema West**

**(517) 731-9766**  
**The Emperor's New Groove** - G (78 min)  
Voices: David Spade & John Goodman  
Fri at 7:15 & 9:00 • Sat at 2, 4:15, 7:15 & 9  
Sun at 2:00 • Mon at 7:15 & 9:00  
Tues-Thurs at 2:00, 4:15, 7:15 & 9:00  
**Family Man** - PG-13 (126 min)  
Starring Nicolas Cage & Tea Leoni  
Fri at 7:00 & 9:20 • Sat at 2, 4:20, 7 & 9:20  
Sun at 2:00 • Mon at 7:00 & 9:20  
Tues-Thurs at 2:00, 4:20, 7:00 & 9:20  
**Vertical Limit** - PG-13 (108 min)  
Starring Chris O'Donnell & Scott Glenn  
Fri at 9:15 • Sat at 4:15, 7, 9:15  
Mon at 7 & 9:15 • Tue-Thu at 4:15, 7 & 9:15  
**What Women Want** - PG-13 (127 min)  
Starring Mel Gibson & Helen Hunt  
Fri at 7:00 & 9:20 • Sat at 2, 4:20, 7 & 9:20  
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Tues-Thurs at 2:00, 4:15, 7:00 & 9:15

**Dec. 22nd - Dec. 28th**

*To the wonderful people of Boyne City...  
Our many thanks for all of the support, comfort, prayers, cards, food and for sharing our sadness.  
We will miss Dick and Don.  
Yvonne and Doris Hocquard*

**Lynda's Real Estate Service** is pleased to welcome **Rick Casper** to their staff

Rick brings with him 30+ years of experience in the Real Estate industry including owning his own firm for the past 12 years. Rick has been a Real Estate Broker for 27 years. He is a member of the Antrim-Charlevoix-Kalkaska Association of Realtors, the Michigan Association of Realtors and the National Association of Realtors along with a member of the Northern Michigan Multiple List Association.

Rick is a retired educator from the Boyne City Public Schools, and a Boyne City native. He lives with his wife Kay in Boyne City and they have three grown children and six grandchildren.

Stop by the office at 112 S. Park Street and say hello to Rick and help Bill and Lynda welcome him to their office. We're in the old Railroad building, just across the hall from The Citizen newspaper

Enjoy a safe and happy holiday season.

**MARK PATRICK, AGENT**  
219 S Lake  
Boyne City, MI  
231/582-6829

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**CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS**

**Ernest Peterson Post #228**

The regular meeting of Ernest Peterson Unit 228 was held on Dec. 7, after a joint potluck with the Legion.

A donation was voted for the Community Baskets. It was also approved to order poppies for the May Poppy Distribution.

The Auxiliary decided to serve hot chocolate and cookies to the Girl Scouts after they finish caroling the evening of Dec. 15.

Seven members attended the district meeting at East Jordan on Sunday, Dec. 10. Brenda Dees, department president, was present and spoke about her special projects this year.

One is Girls State, and the other is a Safe School Project. The district made a donation to her for these projects. Boyne City is planning to send two girls to Girls State this year.

Pic Webster, last year's department president, was also present and brought greetings from National.

The joint Christmas Party for the Legion and Auxiliary will be held on Friday evening, Dec. 29. The hall will be open at 5:30 p.m., and the party will start at 6 p.m. All Legionnaires and Auxiliary members are invited to attend.

Members will play bingo after the social hour. Bring finger food to pass, also two or three small items, wrapped, to use as bingo prizes.

Rather than a gift exchange, it is suggested that members make a small donation which will be given to charity. The charity to receive this donation will be determined at the time of the party.

The next regular meeting will be Jan. 4, 2001, after the regular joint potluck.

**Boyne City School Boosters**  
**300 Club Drawing**  
and the \$100 winner is...  
**Denny & Yvonne Looze**  
**December 16th**  
Thank you for your support.  
- All proceeds benefit the Booster project -  
Tickets still available for next drawing - Call 582-9555

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Nina Leib

## NEIGHBORS

By NANCY NORTHUP

**THE WINDJAMMERS** Chorus of Charlevoix, under the direction of Roger Waters, was very well received by Litzenger Place residents this past week. They sang many seasonal favorites, some beautiful new ones and all enjoyed joining in at times. They were funny too, especially the recitation by "poet" Ron Willey, from the Tales of Lake Wobegone. A fun time of refreshments, provided by the kitchen committee, a round-the-table visiting and then the added pleasure of an impromptu quartet, taking more requests, made it a really fun evening.

A **LUNCHEON** was held at the Boyne City Eagles Hall on Saturday, in memory of the late Boyne City native, Margaret Wasburn Moore. Many family members and friends were there to share in this event, which was hosted by her family. Margaret, 68, died in Florida on Friday, Dec. 8.

**HILDA JOHNECHECK** of Greenwood, Ind. was scheduled to arrive on Thursday, to spend until after Christmas at the Camp Daggett Road home of her mother, Irene Johnecheck and family.

**BRANDON MCQUEEN** had a great time at the Old Town Playhouse in Traverse City. He was "Big Deal" in the play "West Side Story" for 14 shows. He and his family would like to thank all the friends and family that attended the play and showed their support. Brandon just got a new role in the play "City of Angels" at the Old Town Playhouse which will run March 15 - April 7. Great job Brandon.

**HEIDI AND HERB CONNOR** of Wyoming, Mich. spent a three-day weekend

here with her mother, Jean Korhase, who is feeling much better. They had dinner out, did last minute holiday shopping in Boyne and shared an early celebration of Christmas, with a gift exchange, as they can't get back here next week.

**THE CONGREGATION** at the United Methodist Church enjoyed "an especially well done" program by the Sunday School classes and Christmas party this past Sunday. "The costumes, the wise men, the shepherds, just all of their program was just so beautiful!" said my caller.

**THERE WAS A** good turnout for the resident Christmas party and gift exchange on Friday night in the Litzenger Place community room. Lots of delicious finger food, plus a large beautifully decorated cake, donated by Glen's, coffee and eggnog and card bingo made it a festive time of laughter and good cheer. They were also pleased with the Garden Club's gift, a much needed garbage disposal.

**THE XI GAMMA** sorority celebrated their annual Christmas gathering and gift exchange with dinner at the Dilworth Inn on Wednesday night.

**THE BOYNE CITY** School Boosters are glad to let the community know that they have donated to the Basketball Camp so students have a shirt to wear proudly. The Boosters are still selling savings certificates. They make great stocking stuffers, so call Pat O'Brien at 582-2400, to get them in time! Something new for the Boosters is their sale of vests with the Rambler emblem. They are available at the home basketball games or by contacting Debbie Neidhammer at the high school. The next boosters meeting will be held on Jan. 10.

A **REMINDER** goes out about the wonderful Christmas Day meal hosted by the Presbyterian

Church in Boyne City. This free, full-course dinner, from 12 noon until 4 p.m., is for anyone wishing to attend.

**THE CHRIST LUTHERAN** Church worship service, with its beautiful music of Christmas, was enhanced by the Dec. 17 Baptism of Jillian Paige Spierling, the five-month-old daughter of Natalie and Len Spierling and also John Henry Clausen, the six-weeks-old son of Sandy and Steve Clausen, officiated by the Rev. Ken Bernthal.

**THE GRANDVUE** Auxiliary enjoyed sharing the joy of Christmas with the residents on Thursday at their annual party, as they hung angels and set up the Creche (Nativity). All enjoyed the singing and piano playing of Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus.

A **NOTE** from me goes out to "Wally" with the unfamiliar last name. Please call or try the e-mail again. I would like to welcome you and your wife to the Boyne Falls/Boyne City area.

**THE AACA** (Antique Auto Club of America) of the north region gathered at The Mackinaw in Boyne City on Saturday night for their annual Christmas party. There were 50 there, for a fun evening of dinner and gift exchange.

**BOB AND SHIRLEY MATHERS** hosted their annual employee and friends and family Christmas dinner party on Friday night. All of their children and 10 of their 11 grandchildren were there for the good time, too!

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

## STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

### Boyne City

**NAME:** Ben Place  
**PARENTS:** Andy and Cindi Place  
**GRADE:** Freshman  
**SCHOOL ACTIVITIES:** Basketball  
**HOBBIES AND INTERESTS:** Soccer, 4-H, reading  
**FUTURE PLANS OR GOALS:** "To finish high school and go on to college to study engineering."  
**NOMINATING COMMENTS:** "Ben Place is a pleasure to have in my English class," said Jeanne Heath. "He demonstrates a great work ethic and attitude. He contributes to the class by participating in group situations and by working on his own. He is insightful and industrious."

"Ben is an extraordinary student in U.S. History," said Michele Deming. "He is detail-oriented, hard working and a pleasure to have in class. I am also looking forward to his participation in Michigan Youth in Government. Nice job Ben!"

"Ben is an excellent student in geometry," said Dale Parsons. "He got the highest grade in class. Way to go Ben."

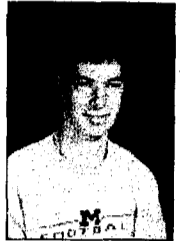


Ben Place

**NAME:** Jason Rostar  
**PARENTS:** Jim and Sue Rostar  
**GRADE:** Senior  
**SCHOOL ACTIVITIES:** Basketball, football, track and National Honor Society  
**FUTURE PLANS AND GOALS:** "I plan on attending a smaller university for the first two years, then transferring to Michigan to study architecture."

**NOMINATING COMMENTS:** "Jason is a thoughtful student," said Jeanne Heath. "He displays both a strong work ethic and a creative ability in college English 101. He volunteers to assist others with his technological prowess in class projects."

"Jason does a great job working hard in physical education," said Bob Wollenberg. "He is a fine student and acts like a gentleman."



Jason Rostar

### Boyne Falls

**NAME:** Craig Reynolds  
**PARENTS:** Janice and Duane Reynolds  
**GRADE:** Sixth  
**SCHOOL ACTIVITIES:** Basketball  
**HOBBIES AND INTEREST:** Drawing, reading, hiking and math  
**FUTURE PLANS OR GOALS:** Be a chef, or a doctor, or an artist  
**FAVORITE COLOR:** Green  
**FAVORITE HERO:** My dad  
**FAVORITE MOVIE:** The Matrix  
**FAVORITE QUOTE:** "If something is worth doing, it's worth doing well."

**NOMINATING COMMENTS:** "Craig is the most polite student I've had in class," said Mr. Hamilla.

"He's a great student with a great attitude," said Ms. Luca.

"Craig is a hard worker and dedicated to do well," said Mrs. Smith.



Craig Reynolds

## WEDDING



Kelly Staley and Joel Abbey

### Staley-Abbey

Kelly J. Staley and Joel C. Abbey were married Saturday, Sept. 9, 2000 at St. Leo the Great Catholic Church in Flint.

The bride is the daughter of Harold and Sandy Fick and Gloria Staley of East Jordan. The groom's parents are Mary Abbey and the late Lewis Abbey of Flint.

Matron of honor was Ann Lake. Bridesmaids were Tracy Abbey, Shelby Reddington, Meghan Kildee, Melissa Sopko, and Charis Reddington.

David Reddington was best man and Dean Abbey, Patrick Reddington, Benjamin Abbey, Jamie Staley, and Ian Reddington served as groomsmen.

Flower girl was Emily Reddington and Aaron Staley was ring bearer.

Ushers were Timothy Sweeney and Douglas Hill.

Kelly and Joel are planning a honeymoon to Canada. They reside in Flint where Kelly is a homemaker and Joel is self-employed and a drummer/vocalist for "VooDoo Blues" band.

## ENGAGEMENT



Andrea Evans and Matthew Myaard

### Evans-Myaard

Mr. and Mrs. Joel Evans of East Jordan and Mr. and Mrs. Alan Myaard of Zeeland announce the engagement of their children, Andrea Dawne Evans of East Jordan and Matthew Alan Myaard of Zeeland.

A Saturday, July 7, 2001 wedding at the Charlevoix Assembly of God Church is planned.

The bride-to-be received her bachelor's degree from Michigan State University and will earn her master's degree in social work from the University of Illinois in Chicago in May of 2001.

The groom-elect received his bachelor's and master's degrees in accounting information systems from Michigan State University. He is currently a certified public accountant employed at the firm of Crowe Chizek in Grand Rapids.

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*Season's Greetings*

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582-6621

To old friends, new friends and friends yet to be made, we send our best wishes for a glorious holiday and a prosperous new year.

Hoel!  
Joell!

Wishing you a very merry holiday season.

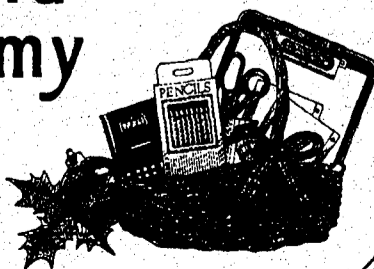
Thank you for your friendship and patronage.

BOYNE VALLEY  
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Merry Christmas!

from the family at

Concord  
Academy



*Season's Greetings*

At this Holiday season, our thoughts turn gratefully to those who have made our progress possible.

Thank You

and

Warmest Wishes for this Holiday Season

Bill & Lynda Christensen & Rick Casper

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### Christmas tunes

East Jordan's fourth and fifth grade students gave Christmas a little country western flavor with their production of "Santa's Holiday Hoedown." Here, student David Grundy leads the cast as a jolly, and very cool, singing Santa. The musical show was just one of many presented by area students for family and friends in celebration of the holiday season.

## Twelfth Night brings winter to life

Folk legend says that on the twelfth night after Christmas, animals are given the gift of speech. That night, creatures of the forest speak in a language that people can understand.

SEE-North created the Twelfth Night celebration nearly 10 years ago, and thousands of children and adults have enjoyed the special evening during the holiday season.

Families hike a candle-lit trail and talk with the forest animals, to hear the story behind a porcupine's quills, learn the legend of the wise old owl, and discover how a snow flea jumps so high.

"Twelfth Night has become a treasured tradition for many families in our area," said Mary Whitmore, Director of SEE-North.

Anticipating large crowds again this year, Whitmore said that the friendly and articulate forest animals have agreed to speak with humans on not just one but two nights this year, Jan. 5 and Jan. 12.

The animals will tell their stories in the Bay View Woods from 6-8:30 p.m. each night. Families will meet at Stafford's Bay View Inn, ride a horse-drawn sleigh to the trailhead, and walk along a candle-lit trail. Those with young children may bring

a small sled, and everyone should come dressed for a short hike. SEE-North will provide snacks and hot beverages, and offer face-painting and mask-making activities indoors. Registration is required and space is limited. Call 348-9700 to reserve a time slot. The cost is \$6 per person.

**Happy Holidays!**  
from The  
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**Holiday Wish!**  
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Season  
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of the  
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Dear Friends  
Thank You  
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from  
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Tammy & Tamara  
of  
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**WEEKLY  
Health Tips**  
By  
Steve  
Czerkes  
Pharmacist

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and  
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**"Miss Junior Boyer City Queen"**  
Tiffany Elaine McIntire  
Tiffany's parents are John & Shirley McIntire of Boyer City, Michigan. Tiffany likes to play soccer and baseball, loves animals and wants to design her own clothes. She has received honors in citizenship, bowling, art fairs, baseball and track.  
Her sponsor's are Bob Mathers Ford, F.O. Barden & Son, Inc., Subway, Studio One, B.C. Co-op, Mr. Grunch, and her Mom and Dad.

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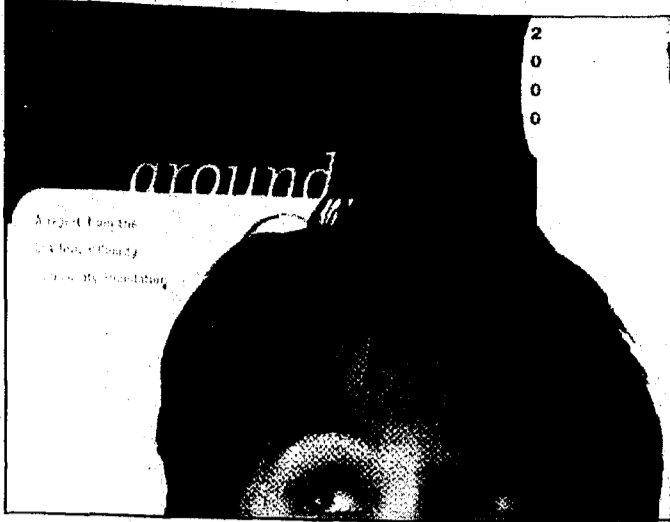
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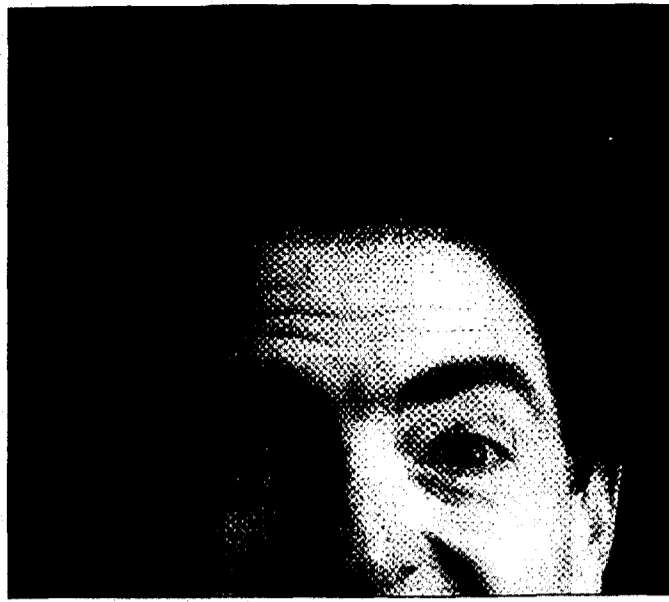
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Our Gratitude**  
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The cover of the Charlevoix County Community Foundation's annual report features Terri Warnos of East Jordan and Adam Kennedy of Boyne City.



## Report reviews foundation's success

The title of an annual report recently published by the Charlevoix County Community Foundation invites readers to "Look Around" and see all the many good things that are happening throughout the area—many of them with an assist from the Foundation.

It's been eight years since the local Community Foundation was started by a group of citizens, and each year the organization's assets and grantmaking have increased. With a \$7 million endowment, the Foundation made grants last year totaling more than \$700,000 to support environmental projects, cultural activities, recreational programs, scholarships, health initiatives, youth activities, and a variety of human service programs.

More than 750 individuals from the area contributed to the Foundation, and a number of new funds were

established by donors, bringing the total number of funds managed by the organization to 115.

The annual report highlights several of those new funds, describes some of the projects that received support from the Foundation, and introduces readers to a few of the families who have created special funds to carry out their charitable goals. Information about applying for grants and a financial statement are presented.

Included too are a list of contributors, trustees, and examples of some of the grants made by the Community Foundation's Youth Advisory Committee, a group of area high school students who oversee a \$1.3 million fund dedicated exclusively to benefit Charlevoix County's young people.

The report's bold graphics and lively photos make it very appealing to read. As in the past, the Commu-

nity Foundation publication features photos of people — kids and adults alike — from throughout the county. Larry Mattox, chairman of the organization, says photos help emphasize the Community Foundation's local roots, and the fact that all Charlevoix County residents, from every walk of life, benefit in some way by the Foundation's good works.

"If you look around, you'll see that many positive things are happening here in our area — from environmental clean-up efforts and enriched school programs, to health and safety initiatives, expanded sports, civic improvement projects, and more," Mattox said. "Thanks to Charlevoix County's bountiful resources, boundless energy, and benevolent spirit, there's no limit to what we can accomplish."

Founded in 1992, the Charlevoix County Community Foundation is

dedicated to enhancing life for all who live in the area, and championing the spirit of philanthropy.

To carry out its mission, the Foundation accepts donations of all sizes and for many purposes. Gifts are pooled and professionally invested, building a permanent endowment that serves as a source of charitable capital to benefit the entire community. Every year, part of the income earned on the investment is distributed in the form of grants to support a variety of local programs. Since it began, the Foundation has made grants totaling more than \$2.3 million.

For more information about the Community Foundation, or to request a copy of the 2000 annual report, please call the Foundation office (231) 536-2440, or write the Foundation, P.O. Box 718, East Jordan, MI 49727.

# HOLIDAY Calendar

### Boyne City

#### TROLLEY TOUR OF LIGHTS Through Dec. 23

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

#### VISIT WITH SANTA Friday, Dec. 22

Visit Santa at Huntington Bank from 2-5 p.m. Cookies and drinks will be served.

### East Jordan

#### HUMANE SOCIETY DISPLAY Through 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

#### 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, "Touched by a Child, Touched by a King," at 7:30 p.m.

### Horton Bay

#### LIVE NATIVITY Dec. 20, 22, and 23

A live nativity scene will be held on Horton Bay Road, a half-mile off of Boyne City-Charlevoix Road, every half-hour from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Several local families will represent the holy family, shepherds, wisemen, and angels, as the story of Christmas is told through scripture and song. Hot chocolate and cookies will be served.

**Happy Holidays**  
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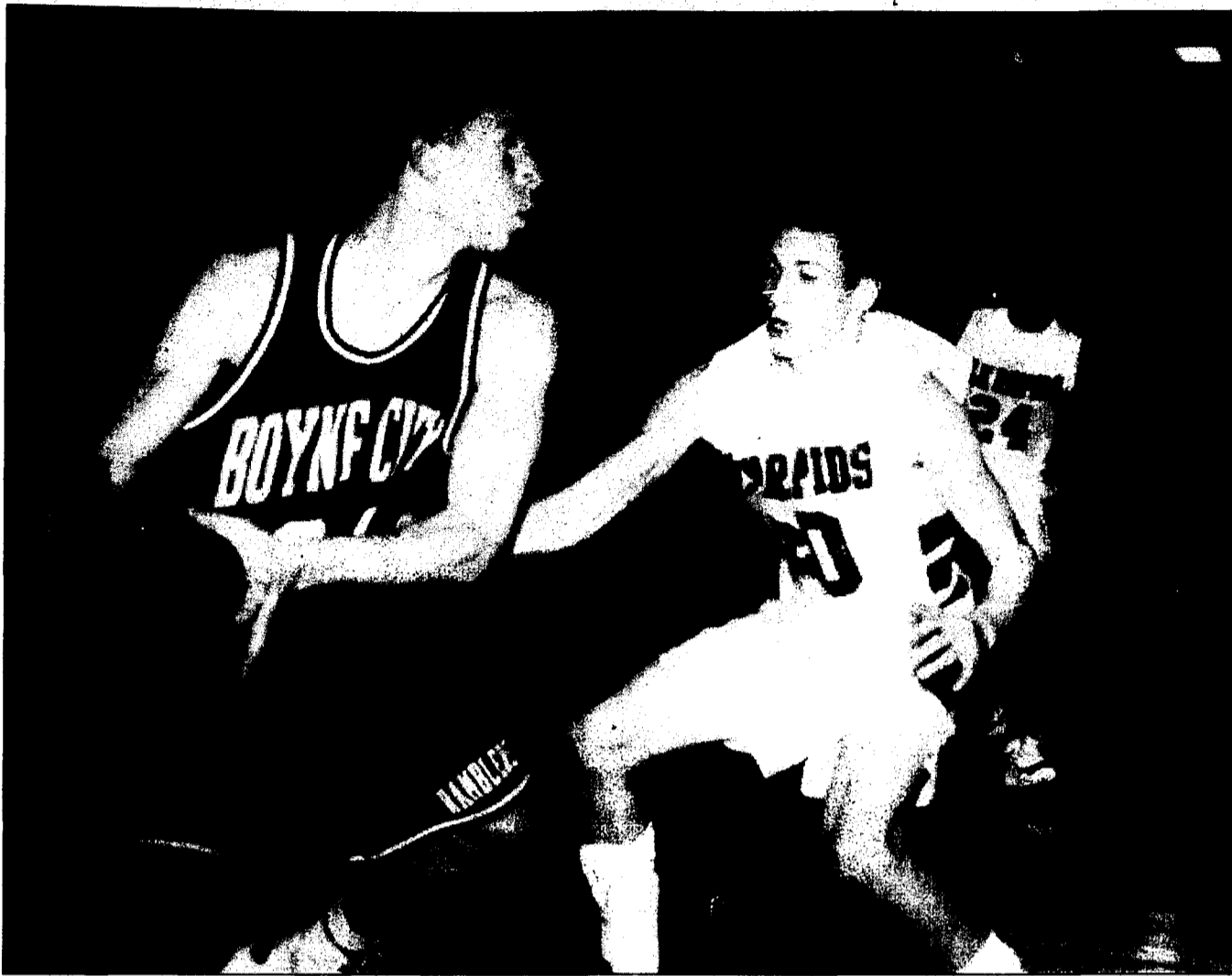
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## First win comes at the buzzer



Under defensive pressure, Boyne City's Ryan Amesbury looks for a pass inside during last week's victory against Elk Rapids.

The Boyne City Ramblers traveled to Elk Rapids last week for their first victory of the season, narrowly pulling out a 52-50 win.

"We had an idea of what Elk Rapids would do," said head coach Kevin Fitzpatrick. "We knew they would play a multitude of defenses."

Elk Rapids took an early lead, with the Ramblers fighting back to find themselves within two points at half-time, going to the locker room down 24-22.

In the third quarter, Boyne pulled out ahead, leading by 10 points. By the last three minutes, Boyne still had the lead, but the game see-sawed, and Elk Rapids ended up with the ball with 40 seconds to go in a tied game.

The Ramblers' Ryan Amesbury forced a turnover with seven seconds to go, with A.J. Spaay getting off one final shot at the buzzer to give Boyne

the win.

Spaay finished the night with a total of 22 points, as well as six rebounds, five assists, and five steals. Kellan Smith contributed nine points including free throws to tie the game in the fourth.

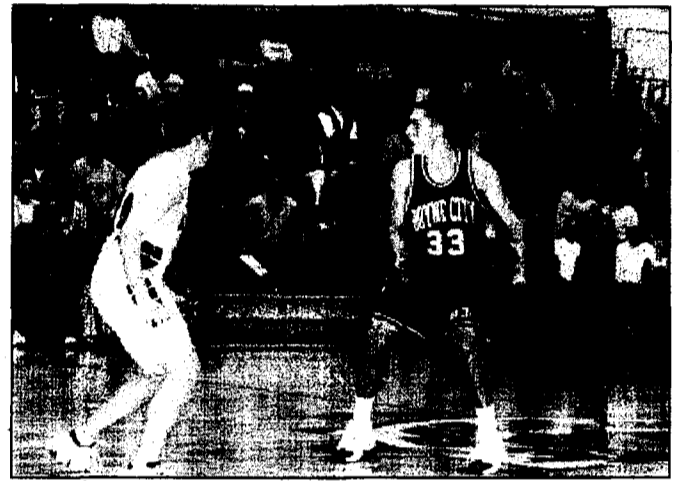
Jason Rostar led the team in rebounds with six, and also scored five points for the Ramblers.

The team's percentages were "much better" than last week, said Fitzpatrick. The Ramblers were about 50 percent from the floor, and eight of 12 at the free throw line.

"We turned the ball over too many times," said Fitzpatrick, "but we played hard defensively."

The team is now 1-3 in the league, and 1-0 in the conference.

The Ramblers were scheduled to play Kalkaska at home on Tuesday evening.



After crossing half court, the Ramblers' Brian Metzger directs traffic.

## East Jordan netters finish second at tri-meet, top TCSF

The East Jordan Red Devils began their week finishing second in a tri-meet between East Jordan, Benzie Central, and Suttons Bay, and ended it with a victory over Traverse City St. Francis.

The East Jordan volleyball team started strong, defeating Benzie in the opening match 15-9, 11-13, 15-13. Facing Suttons Bay was much more difficult, as the Red Devils found themselves on the losing end 15-2, 15-1.

"It's still early in the season and we still have some details to work out," said East Jordan coach Duane Kujat. "We didn't move well on the floor but did well enough to take Benzie. Suttons Bay is a great ball club." Kujat noted that the game was a great opportunity for the girls to see some strong competition which they will run into in district play.

Wendy Walczak earned top serv-

ing honors, going 15/16; she also led the team in passing. Jamie Baker finished with 13 assists and one block kill, while Kristin Haley added five kills and two block kills. Jessica Peverall contributed seven kills.

East Jordan hosted Traverse City St. Francis on Dec. 14, defeating them 15-7, 15-7.

"Our team played an upbeat match with the communication we need to succeed," said Kujat.

"We moved the floor well and served at 93 percent."

Baker served 9/9 with two aces and five assists, while Rachel Bennett served 6/6 with three aces. Kristin Haley and Peverall were East Jordan's top passers. Peverall and Walczak each finished with three kills on the night.

East Jordan's JV lost in two games. The Red Devils' next game is Jan. 4 when they host Charlevoix.



East Jordan's Wendy Walczak makes a power move at the net, with teammate Jackie Haley at the ready, as two St. Francis players attempt to block the kill.

## Slow start costly for Red Devils

After a strong start last week, the East Jordan Red Devils suffered a tough loss to Traverse City St. Francis, 79-42.

"We got off to a slow start in the first quarter and couldn't dig ourselves out of the hole," said head coach Steve Hines.

Top scorers for the game were Ken Slough with 12, Bill Tison with eight, and Corban Shaw with seven. Leading the Red Devils in rebounds were Shaw and Tison with five apiece, followed by Jeremy Boozie

with four. "Bill Tison and Peter Warnos came off the bench and really played well," said Hines.

The team was 18 of 54 from the floor, and five of eight from the line.

"Our turnovers hurt us but our poor rebounding gave them too many easy baskets," said Hines. "We need to be more aggressive on the defensive end."

The Red Devils are 1-1 for the season and 0-1 in the conference. They were scheduled to face St. Ignace on Tuesday evening.

## Mike Dunlop burning the nets for Loggers

Boyne Falls has started its season with a 2-1 record, as Mike Dunlop has averaged 21 points a game.

The Loggers played their first game of the season in their new gym against Leelanau School, winning 56-46. Dunlop led Boyne Falls with 20 points, followed by 12 points from Matt Skop and ten points from Archie

Griffin.

On Dec. 12, the Loggers hosted Burt Lake Northern Michigan. It was a close contest, as the Loggers just managed to pull out a 58-54 victory after a strong third quarter comeback from NMCA.

The Loggers came out strong, with eight points from Adam Utley.

Boyne Falls held NMCA to five second-quarter points and led at the half, 26-16. The teams entered the final quarter separated by only three points. Free throws were the key down the stretch, as the Loggers shot 80 percent, compared to NMCA's 25 percent.

Dunlop scored 15 of his 28 points in the final quarter, while Utley contributed 16 points.

On Dec. 15 the Loggers traveled to Mackinaw City, losing 59-45.

Dunlop and Griffin led Boyne Falls with 14 and 12 points respectively.

## Boyne City beats Kalkaska in Rambler volleyball action

Boyne City netters took home a two-match win over Kalkaska on Tuesday night, with scores of 15-3 and 15-4.

Leading in blocks and kills for the Ramblers was Kriste Gaither with five blocks and seven kills, followed by Ali Swaim with three blocks and four kills.

Wendy Chrysler and Meredith

Clemens contributed two kills apiece.

Top scorer for Boyne was Chrysler with ten points, followed by Jen Whitley and Gaither with seven points each.

Top defensive players were Whitley and Gaither, and coach Dorine Britton cited Char Brandt and Samantha Bricker for "excellent setups."

## BC freshmen win at Elk Rapids

The Boyne City freshmen kept at their winning ways as they defeated Elk Rapids, 64-44. The Ramblers are now 3-0 overall and 1-0 in conference action.

"The whole team has been working real hard," said Rambler coach

Scott Hausler. "This is a good way to start the season, but we still have 17 more games and they are all going to be tough games."

Robert Noeske led the Ramblers with 19 points, while Nick Follente and Brenton Rozycki each contributed 12.

## EJ YOUTH BASKETBALL

Two games were played in the East Jordan Youth Basketball League on Saturday, Dec. 16.

In the Third and Fourth Grade Division, the Black team took a close game from the Gray team, 24-18. Darryl Bingham led the Blacks with 16 points, supported by Michael Hines with four. Chelsea Carson and Zach Crothers had two apiece. Nate Peters and Tony Pentecost led the defense.

For the Grays, Beau Fuller had 12 markers, with Jared Danbert, Andrew LaCount and Zach Shuler each adding two. Kevin LaVanway was the top play maker and Dillon Hughes led the defense.

Also in the Third and Fourth Division, the Reds topped the Teals, 22-16. Jeb Doebel paced the Reds with 10 points, with Neil Schneider scoring four. Levi Warnos, Johnathon Leech and Marlon Yaldo added two each. Mike Manville and Josh Williams led the defense and John Thompson was the top rebounder.

For the Teals, Tyler Ingalls hit for 10 markers and Grayson Myas added six. Cody Morris and George Patton led in rebounds and Tanner Olstrom and J.D. Bennett led the defense. Jordan Richards was the top passer.

## BOYNE AREA HOCKEY

The Boyne Area Mite team sponsored by East Jordan Iron Works and Subway played four games over the weekend on home ice.

On Saturday, they faced the Char-Em Stars and lost by a score of 6-2. With Spencer Korthase in the net, Trevor Price scored both goals for Boyne, with one assist by Andrew Clark.

In game two, Boyne tied the Char-Em Blades 3-3. Michael Messina scored the first goal of the game with an assist from Gavin Porter. Price scored the other two goals for Boyne, again with one assist from Clark.

On Sunday, the team played the Mackinaw City Rockets, winning game one 9-2. Scoring for Boyne was Price with five goals, one assisted by Neil Anderson and another by Clark. Porter scored two unassisted goals. Billy Kraemer scored one unassisted goal, and Clark scored one goal assisted by Levi Messina. Korthase was between the pipes.

In game two, Boyne beat the Rockets 6-4, with Trevor Price in the net. Scoring for Boyne were Porter with a hat trick of three goals, one assisted by Michael Messina, Kraemer with two goals, one assisted by Clark, and Michael Messina with one goal assisted by Porter.

THE PEEWEES played the Char-Em travel team last week, losing 5-1. Josh Aown scored for

Boyne with an assist from Russell Williams. Nick Feree was in goal.

Later in the week, Boyne played two games against Mackinaw, losing game one 4-1. Scoring for Boyne was Aown with an assist from Aaron Hardy.

In game two, Boyne lost 3-2, with scoring by Gabe Korthase and Williams, with an assist from Aown. The team is sponsored by Dan's Concrete.

IN MIDGET action, Boyne played Traverse City's Sheriff Association team at Howe Arena, winning 5-3.

Zack Bajos scored first for Boyne, with an assist from Dennis Caderette. Also scoring for Boyne were Tyler Barsy, Kyle Price and Justin Rouleau, with assists from Caderette and Joe Houser. D.J. Adkison made the final goal for Boyne. Mike Bingham was in the net.

On Sunday, Boyne played in Alpena, winning game one 4-3. Chuck Bedford, Matt Moore, Rouleau, and Bajos scored for Boyne, with assists from Collin Keller, Gordie Selph, Aaron Westrick, and Neil Howie.

In game two, Boyne won 6-2, with scoring by Caderette, Adkison, and Moore with a goal apiece, and a hat trick by Aaron Westrick. Assists were given by Scott McDowell, Westrick, Rouleau, Moore, Adkison, and Scott Rau.

Mike Bingham was in goal.

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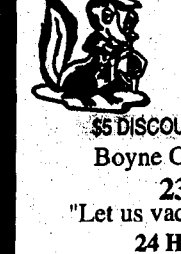
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**EAST JORDAN.** Two double lots, 120x160 each, within city limits, nearby lakes/streams. Land contracts. Loretta Hawley, DuMont. (231)348-7000.

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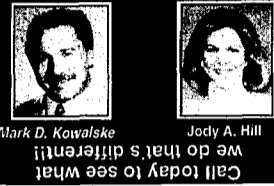
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## PUBLIC AUCTION

HOUSE FOR SALE  
CHARLEVOIX COUNTY COURT HOUSE

FRIDAY, JANUARY 5, 2001 at 11:00 a.m.

Property is located at 304 Bowen Street  
East Jordan, Michigan

The sale will be held at the main lobby of the Charlevoix County Court House which is located in Charlevoix, Michigan, and is the location of the Charlevoix County Circuit court

Minimum Bid: \$57,551.00

Property sells "As is"  
The house is a 3 bedroom, 1 bath home  
Lot Size: 9600 sq. ft.

The foreclosure sale is subject to thirty (30) days redemption period.

Terms: Certified funds delivered to the Sheriff at the sale.

For more details contact:  
USDA, Rural Development  
7192 E. 34th Road  
Cadillac, MI 49601  
(231) 775-4566, Ext. 4



## Happy Holidays

from Your Lake Charlevoix REALTOR®



Jeff and Julie Wellman and family

Thank you for all your business in 2000.

- Jeff

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Up North

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## PUBLIC NOTICES

**STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF CHARLEVOIX NOTICE TO CREDITORS Decedent's Estate File No. 00-010220-DE**  
Estate of **ALLIE RAY CHIPMAN, DECEASED.** Date of birth: March 29, 1915.

**TO ALL CREDITORS:** The decedent, **ALLIE RAY CHIPMAN**, who lived at 668 State St., Boyne City, Mich. died Nov. 15, 2000.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Samuel M. Chipman, named personal representative, or to both the probate court at County Bldg., 301 State St., Charlevoix, MI 49720 and the named/proposed personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

Date Dec. 15, 2000  
Barron & Golski, P.L.C.  
Harry K. Golski (P25177)  
309 Petoskey Ave.,  
P.O. Box 309  
Charlevoix, MI 49720 (231) 547-9950  
Samuel M. Chipman  
04436 Wildwood Harbor Rd.  
Boyne City, MI 49712 (231) 582-7843

**This firm is a debt collector attempting to collect a debt. Any information we obtain will be used for that purpose.**

**MORTGAGE SALE** - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by W. James Lindsay, Jr aka William J Lindsay Jr. and Christine C. Lindsay Husband and Wife (original mortgagors) to **BANK ONE f/k/a NBD BANK**, Mortgagee, dated Aug. 17, 1998, and recorded on Sept. 17, 1998 in Liber 346, on Page 557, Charlevoix County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof

the sum of SEVENTEEN THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED THIRTY AND 07/100 dollars (\$17,830.07), including interest at 11.250% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the Main lobby of the Charlevoix County Court-house in Charlevoix, Michigan at 11 a.m., on Jan. 12, 2001.

Said premises are situated in CITY OF BOYNE, Charlevoix County, Michigan, and are described as:

Unit 17, Boyne Hills, a condominium according to the Master Deed thereof, recorded in Liber 352 Pages 416 through 454, inclusive, and as amended in First Amendment to Master Deed recorded in Liber 367, Pages 487 through 493, Charlevoix County Records, and designated as Charlevoix County Condominium Subdivision Plan No. 76, together with rights in general common elements and limited common elements as set forth in said Master Deed and as described in Act 59 of the Public Acts of Michigan 1978, as amended.

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with 1948CL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

Dated: Nov. 29, 2000

For more information please call:  
248-593-1310  
Trott & Trott, P.C.  
Attorneys and Counselors  
30150 Telegraph Road, Suite 100  
Bingham Farms, MI 48025  
File # 200024417  
Gators

**This firm is a debt collector attempting to collect a debt. Any information we obtain will be used for that purpose.**

**MORTGAGE SALE** - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Alan Barnes, Aldene J. Barnes, his wife and Tammy J. Baudoux (original mortgagors) to NBD Mortgage company, Mortgagee, dated Feb. 22, 1996, and recorded on Feb. 27, 1996 in Liber 296, on Page 0506, Charlevoix County Records, Michigan and was assigned by said mortgagee to the Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., Assignee by an assignment dated June 1, 1999, which was recorded on Nov. 16, 1999, in Liber 377, on Page 082, Charlevoix County Records, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of THIRTY-FIVE THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED FORTY-ONE AND 42/100 dollars (\$35,741.42), including interest at 7.500% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the Main lobby of the Charlevoix County Court-house in Charlevoix, Michigan at 11 a.m., on Jan. 5, 2001.

Said premises are situated in TOWNSHIP OF MELROSE, Charlevoix County, Michigan, and are described as:

The West 2 acres of the following: The South 1/3 of the West 1/2 of the Northwest 1/4 of the Northwest 1/4 of Section 13, Township 33 North, Range 5 West, except that part lying south of Springvale Road.

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with 1948CL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

with 1948CL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

Dated: Nov. 29, 2000  
For more information please call:  
248-593-1302  
Trott & Trott, P.C.  
Attorneys and Counselors  
30150 Telegraph Road, Suite 100  
Bingham Farms, MI 48025  
File # 200021958  
Tigers

### MORTGAGE SALE

Notice is hereby given that Default has occurred in a Mortgage given by Diane T. Crain to the United States of America, acting through the Farmers Home Administration, United States Department of Agriculture. The Mortgage is dated Dec. 21, 1994 and was recorded on Dec. 27, 1994, in Liber 280 on pages 808 to 811 of the Charlevoix County Records. No proceedings have been instituted to recover any part of the debt which is now Ninety Thousand One Hundred Nine and 19/100 (\$90,109.19) Dollars.

The Mortgage will be foreclosed by selling the property described below at a public auction to the highest bidder. The sale will be held on Jan. 5, 2001 at 11 a.m., local time, at the main lobby of the Charlevoix County Court House which is the location of the Charlevoix County Circuit Court. The property will be sold to pay the amount then due on the Mortgage, including interest at the rate of 8 percent per year, legal costs, attorney fees and any taxes or insurance which may be paid by the mortgagee before the sale.

The property to be sold is located in the City of East Jordan, Charlevoix County, Michigan and is more specifically described in the Mortgage as:  
Lot 19, Block 1, BOWEN'S ADDITION TO THE VILLAGE OF SOUTH LAKE (now City of East Jordan, as recorded in Liber 1 of Plats, Page 44 of

the Charlevoix County Records.

The redemption period will expire thirty (30) days from the date of this notice unless a notice is received pursuant to MCL 600.3241 (1)(C) in which case the redemption period will expire six (6) months from the date of the sale.

Dated: Nov. 29, 2000  
United States of America,  
Acting through the Rural  
Development Agency,

F/K/A The Farmers Home Administration, of the United States Department of Agriculture  
Prepared by:  
John R. Tucker (P37348)  
Winegarden, Shedd, Haley, Lindholm and Robertson, P.L.C.  
Attorneys at Law  
501 Citizens Bank Building  
328 S. Saginaw Street  
Flint, MI 48502-1983 (810) 767-3600

### CHARLEVOIX COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

The Charlevoix County Board of Commissioners met for their regular meeting on Dec. 13, 2000, in Charlevoix, Mich.

Copies of the complete minutes of the Board are on file in the office of the County Clerk and are available for public inspection during regular business hours. Their regular meeting scheduled for Wednesday, Dec. 27, 2000, at 7 p.m., has been changed to Thursday, Dec. 28, 2000, at 9:30 a.m.

### BOYNE CITY COMMISSION SYNOPSIS OF MINUTES

**December 12, 2000, 7 p.m. meeting** - The Commission approved resolutions for two grant applications pertaining to the Boyne City Creative Playground; a resolution for the Boyne City River Walk Development; authorized the use of an easement agreement for 102 Water Street (Old City Clock Structure); discussed the use of a public building for the Boyne Ice Program at Avalanche Preserve; and went into closed session to discuss land acquisition.

### CITY OF EAST JORDAN REQUEST FOR REZONING

The City of East Jordan Planning Commission has received a rezoning application from Francis Themm and Christine Malpass to rezone the property commonly know as 210 South Lake Street, which is legally described by a metes and bounds description contained in property tax code #15-053-022-045-00, from C-1 (Local Commercial District) to PUD (Planned Unit Development).

A public hearing to receive comments on this request will be held on Thursday, Jan. 11, 2001 at 5 p.m. with the regular scheduled meeting immediately after in City Hall, 201 Main Street, East Jordan, MI. Written comments may be submitted to East Jordan Planning Commission, % City Clerk, P.O. Box 499, East Jordan, MI 49727.

## HOLIDAY SERVICES

### BOYNE CITY AND BOYNE FALLS

**THE UNITED METHODIST Church** will have a combined service at 10:30 a.m. in Boyne Falls on Sunday, Dec. 24, Christmas Eve Day. On the evening of Dec. 24, there will be a 6 p.m. candlelight service in Boyne City. The churches are located at 4047 Mill St. in Boyne Falls, and 324 S. Park St. in Boyne City.

**ST. MATTHEW and St. Augustine Catholic Churches** will hold a Christmas Eve Children's Mass at 5:30 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 24, in Boyne City. There will also be an 8 p.m. mass at St. Matthew in Boyne City. On Monday, Christmas Day, a 9 a.m. Mass will be held at St. Augustine in Boyne Falls, with an 11 a.m. Mass at St. Matthew in Boyne City. St. Matthew's is located at 1103 E. Division St. in Boyne City, and St. Augustine's is at the corner of Grove and Maple in Boyne Falls.

**THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH of the Nativity** will hold its Christmas Eve Candlelight Service with a celebration of the Eucharist at 7 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 24, preceded by Christmas carols at 6:30 p.m. The church is located at 209 E. Main St. in Boyne City.

**CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH** will hold a service at 10:30 a.m. on Christmas Eve Day, Sunday, Dec. 24. Christmas Eve Candlelight Services will be held at 5 and 11 p.m. The church is located at 1250 Boyne Ave. in Boyne City.

**THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN Church** will hold its Family Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service on Sunday, Dec. 24, at 7 p.m. The church is located at 401 S. Park St. in Boyne City.

### EAST JORDAN

**THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN Church** will hold a children's program at 11 a.m. on Sunday, Dec. 24, with Christmas Eve Carol and Candlelighting service, with communion, at 7 p.m. The church is located at 7858 Rogers Rd. in East Jordan.

**THE UNITED METHODIST Church** will have a Christmas Eve service at 7:30 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 24. The service will include a short worship service, a cantata titled "Touched by a Child, Touched by a King," and a candlelighting. The church is located at 201 Fourth St. in East Jordan.

**THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN Church** will hold its regular worship service at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday, Dec. 24, with a Christmas Eve service at 7 p.m. The church is located at 207 Williams St. in East Jordan.

**ST. JOSEPH AND ST. JOHN NEPOMUCENE Catholic Churches** will hold an afternoon Children's Mass at 5 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 24, followed by a Midnight Mass at 11 p.m., both at St. Joseph. Also at St. Joseph, a Mass will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Monday, Dec. 25, Christmas Day. An 8 a.m. Mass on Dec. 25 will be held at St. John Neponucene. St. Joseph's is located at 207 Nichols St., and St. John's is on M-32, both in East Jordan.

### HORTON BAY

**THE HORTON BAY and Greensky Hill United Methodist Churches** will hold their regular services on Sunday, Dec. 24, at 9 a.m. at Greensky Hill and 10:30 a.m. in Horton Bay. A Christmas Eve service will be held at the Horton Bay church, 4961 Boyne City-Charlevoix Rd., at 6 p.m., followed by a Christmas Eve service at Greensky Hill at 7:30 p.m.

### WALLOON LAKE

**THE WALLOON LAKE Community Church** will hold a Christmas Eve Candlelight Service on Sunday, Dec. 24, at 6 p.m. The church is located at 04320 M-75 North.

# CHRISTMAS THOUGHTS

Area pastors share their insights on the 'One born in Bethlehem'

By the Rev. Bob Faulman  
First Presbyterian Church, Boyne City

One of the highlights of Christmas for me is the Christmas Eve Candlelight Service. Ever since I was a boy, attending this special service was an event I looked forward to. The "reason for the season" came alive. It still does.

Now that I am a pastor, creating and leading a Christmas Eve service is a rare privilege. Looking out over the sanctuary with the glow of candlelight on each face as Silent Night, Holy Night is sung brings to me some very special emotions and thoughts. I feel safe and confident. The light of the world has indeed come with truth. Peace in the human heart is a reality. Love is made known from the heart of God.

Jesus Christ, the long awaited Messiah, has wonderfully invaded planet earth. There is hope. There is help. There is a home for every seeking heart. That hope is in Christ. That help is from Christ. That home is with Christ.

A Christmas Eve Candlelight Service is the place to be on Dec. 24. Listen to your heart and its yearning to connect with its Creator. Make your way to a church. Go and receive God's light and peace and love made known in Jesus. Surrender yourself to the One born in Bethlehem long ago. In so doing you will receive the gift of a new life with the Savior.

By the Rev. James L. Jordan  
Lighthouse Missionary Church

There is a song which speaks to me of the dilemma of Christmas. I first learned it from Johnny Cash, who sang it on a Christmas album he recorded. I listened to that album so often as a child that it is worn out. The haunting truth of the lyrics to the song, originally a poem by Longfellow, plays out in my mind each time I see evidence of the parts of the season I don't like.

You probably are asking "What's not to like about Christmas?" There is nothing at all wrong with the celebration of the birth of Jesus who was born to be the Savior of the world. I love the sights and the sounds of the celebration of the King. But there is the busyness, the frayed nerves which come from too many trips to over-crowded shopping malls to buy presents because we think we can communicate love through material items. There is the realization that depression, loneliness, and even suicide occur in the highest incidences around the holidays. There is the realization that while for one moment it seems that the entire world stops to celebrate the birth of the one man who has impacted history so much more than any other, that it will very likely go back to being the same old world tomorrow - a world of wars, and chaos, and drive-by shootings and road rage. Sometimes it seems that this old world of sin is almost beyond hope. It is then that I think of this song:

I heard the bells on Christmas Day  
Their old familiar carols play  
And wild and sweet, the words repeat  
Of peace on earth, good will to men

I thought, how as the day had come  
The bellies of all Christendom  
Had rolled along th' unbroken song  
Of peace on earth, good will to men

Then in despair I bowed my head  
"There is no peace on earth," I said  
"For hate is strong,

and mocks the song  
Of peace on earth, good will to men"

Then peeled the bells  
more loud and deep  
God is not dead, nor doth He sleep  
The wrong shall fail, the right prevail  
With peace on earth, good will to men

Till ringing, singing on its way  
The world revolved from night to day  
A voice, a chime, a chant sublime  
Of peace on earth, good will to men

This song tells me that Christmas is a celebration of the fact that although this world does have many flaws, and is sometimes horribly disfigured by sin and hate, that there is HOPE. When I sing the last two verses of that lyric, I remember that regardless of my perspective and in spite of the darkness of the days, that God is Sovereign and still in control. I am reminded to look, not at the size of the problems which loom, but at the incredible, awesome, mountain-moving wonder that is God. When I look at myself or at the problems of the world, I get discouraged, but when I turn my face to see that whatever the situation, God is bigger than what's the matter, it is then that I can celebrate the glory of "peace on earth, good will to men."

By the Rev. David Downton  
First Presbyterian Church, East Jordan

It's Christmas morning. A little girl comes down the stairs into the living room. Lights twinkle on the tree. Underneath boxes spill out in reckless, colorful abandon. She goes around and looks at each one, carefully picking out the ones that have her name written on them. "To Carrie from Mom." "To Carrie from Dad." "To Carrie from Santa Claus."

Impatient to get to the joy of unwrapping, Carrie squirms while breakfast is being prepared. Reluctantly she sets the table, anxious to get past this all to the real purpose of the day. Finally breakfast is over. The dishes are washed. Finally, the family gathers in the living room. Presents are passed around and the pile of wrapping paper grows. Children rush outside to try out new gifts. Soon cold weather and the desire to be with family brings them back in again. As quickly as it began, Christmas day comes to a close. The next day dawns. It is cold and gray. Life goes back to normal. Some presents Carrie asked for never came. Others, which seemed to offer hours of delight, now lie lifeless, forgotten in the closet. Already they are old.

Years later, Carrie reflects on Christmas past. She looks at photographs taken; sees family gathered. Food is being prepared, relatives smile as they work together in the kitchen. Carrie can't even remember most of the presents given and received. But she does remember the sense of belonging, the warmth and comfort of being a part of a group of people who loved her.

The memories cheer her as she goes about her life. She thinks about the Christmas story. In a display of heavenly glory that far outshines any Christmas pageant, an angel proclaims the birth of Christ and then all heaven's angels break out in song. A bright star guides kings and wisemen to bring fabulous gifts. It's so spectacular, so upscale, so awesome. Carrie knows there is another side to this story. She remembers how, cold and tired, Joseph and Mary look anxiously for a place to stay, fearful for themselves and their unborn baby. Will they be able to find a place to sleep tonight, let alone a place for the child to be born? In a cold, lonely, smelly stable, far from their own warm house, their new son is born. Before the child is two years old, Joseph and Mary will be refugees, fleeing to Egypt to escape Herod's soldiers. Yet, God is with them in the pain as much as in the glory, and through it all God brings to the world its greatest gift.

In her life, Carrie sees both highs and the lows. When she worked on her college newspaper, they sent her on a jet to a conference in New York. While there she saw Man of LaMancha, ate at Sardi's, watched street vendors sell hot roasted chestnuts. But there were also many anxious and lonely times. Would she pass the test? The term papers seemed impossible. There were holidays away from home in lonely army barracks. There were injuries. There was sorrow at the loss of friends. At times like these she thought of the homeless Christ in a stable. She thought of Christ, a refugee, fleeing away from all that was dear. She knew that God was with her even when she had good reason to be anxious or lonely.

That presence came in different ways. Once it was a note from the pastor's daughter, with a scripture verse from 1 Peter. "God cares about you," the note said. Once it was a visit from a member of the young adult group of a local church. In a more sustained way it was the friendship she shared with children she taught at a local church. It was the excitement and joy on the face of a girl she took to the church's mother-daughter banquet. It was the people with whom she worshipped. They were for her a ship on a stormy lake.

There had been times for Carrie when faith seemed like one of those stories that begins, "Long, long ago in a kingdom far, far away there lived a princess with her mother and father, the king and queen." As she reflected on her life, she realized that God was not far, far away, but very near, all the time, even when she was not aware of God's presence.

And she realized that the most valuable gifts were not the ones with which she soon became bored, which left her a little disappointed and with the feeling, "Is this all there is?" The gifts that lasted came through a family that loved her and a community of faith, that brought her into the presence of God's mystery and beauty, that challenged her to reach inside herself and reach outside to others. She realized that the almost intangible relationship with God was very real indeed and had brought her through one crisis after another.

Is there a subtle message in all this? I think so. Do not miss God's presence in your lives. Find joy in being part of a community of faith. Look forward with hope and expectation to what God is doing in your own life. And may God bless you always.

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Welcome Our New Physician

Susan Anderson, MD

NEUROLOGY & SLEEP DISORDERS

Northern Michigan Hospital in Petoskey is pleased to welcome Susan Anderson, MD, to our medical staff. Dr. Anderson, a neurologist from the Detroit area, will be accepting patients at her new practice, Bay Area Neurology and Sleep Disorders in Petoskey.

Dr. Anderson recently completed a fellowship in Neurophysiology and Sleep Disorders at the Veterans Administration Hospital and University Health Center in Detroit. She is a member of the American Academy of Neurology, American Medical Association, American Sleep Disorders Association, Michigan State Medical Society, Michigan Neurologic Association, Michigan Sleep Disorders Association and the American Neurophysiology Association.

Dr. Anderson sees patients by appointment in Petoskey and at satellite clinics in Cheboygan & Gaylord.

Patients should speak with their family physician about a referral to Dr. Anderson.

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