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JORDAN Journal

Vol. 9 No. 35
East Jordan, Michigan

Wednesday, June 13, 2001

Serving East Jordan, Boyne City and surrounding areas

at a GLANCE

Legion Post plans Flag Day ceremonies

The Boyne City American Legion Post #228 will hold Flag Day ceremonies on June 14 in Veteran's Memorial Park. As part of the ceremony, unserviceable flags will be properly disposed of in the park at 7 p.m. Anyone with a flag that is no longer serviceable is invited to drop it off at the American Legion Post at the corner of Lake and Main Streets in Boyne City on Thursday, June 14, between 3-6 p.m.

Gymnastics classes now registering

Boyne Area Gymnastics and Dance Center is now registering students for summer programs for boys and girls ages three and older, along with some adult classes. Classes to be offered include an all-boys conditioning and tumbling class; Tumble Tots; Adult Aerobics; Yoga; Creative Movement Modern Dance; a cheerleader tumbling class, and many levels of gymnastics. The eight-week summer session will begin the week of June 18 and end Aug. 9. Classes are offered Monday-Friday with many different class times available. Tuition fees begin at \$48 for a 40-minute class one day a week for ages 3-5, and \$56 for a 55-minute class for ages six and above. The classes will be held in the organization's new 7,200 square foot facility located on Beardsley Street in Boyne City. For more information, call Kari Strelman at 582-9787.

Paul Taylor to speak at Walloon library

On Thursday, June 14, the Crooked Tree District Library in Walloon Lake will present a program on the Paul Taylor Space Collection. In 2000, Taylor donated his extensive collection of books and memorabilia about the United States space program, from the first manned flights through the present, to the library. Recently, Taylor has added material he has been collecting since that time. The original gift consisted of 96 volumes spanning from early space exploration to the space shuttle missions. The Petoskey-born Taylor had originally amassed the collection out of his own personal interest; the gift to the library grew out of a desire, he said, to simply "do something with it." Taylor is now a resident of Sun City, Ariz., though he and his family have spent summers on Walloon Lake for many years, and his children have settled in the area. The program will cover information about the collection in general, and will highlight material included in the latest addition to the collection. The event will begin at 7 p.m. and is free to the public. For more information, call the library at 535-2111.

Area school election results are in

Area residents turned out at the polls on Monday, June 11, to cast their votes for school board candidates and millage proposals in the regular school election.

IN BOYNE CITY, a hot race for four open board seats turned up to incumbent winner and two new faces. Elected to another four-year term was Jim Stackus, with 526 votes. Taking the other four-year seat

was Scott Hausler with 767 votes. Stackus and Hausler beat out two other candidates on the ballot, Wendy Brunel and incumbent Anne Thurston, who received 411 and 294 votes respectively.

Write-in candidate Floyd Wright received 414 votes.

For the three-year seat, Debra Noblett bumped incumbent Janet Froats-Shepherd, 725 to 526.

In the closest race of the election,

incumbent Ken Schrader edged out challenger Ed Grice by a mere 20 votes, 647 to 627.

Voter turnout for the Boyne City School District was 1,343, 21.29 percent of the 6,307 total registered voters for the district.

IN EAST JORDAN, Mary Jason and Korinna Kreschmann Holt ran unopposed for the two open board seats, each with four-year terms.

According to schools superintendent Chip Hansen, voter turnout was "consistent with what we might have expected with two candidates running unopposed."

Boyne Falls had only one uncontested race, with incumbent Marv Schwem, board president, up for reelection.

VOTERS IN the Char-Em Intermediate District passed a vocational-

education millage renewal by a wide margin.

In Boyne City, voters supported the renewal with a 781-430 vote overall.

In East Jordan, said Hansen, the district was "pleased with the outcome," noting that "we were pleased that the East Jordan community saw the value of [the millage renewal], and that it saw the support of the ISD voters."



Making friends

Friends of the Boyne River carried off a successful river run last weekend, despite an untimely shower that, according to organizer Tom Sheets, "delayed the start but did not dampen the finish" of the event. Here, FOBR members and friends gather at the water's edge while enjoying the afternoon's bright sunshine.

Aaron Nichols 'will be sadly missed'

Students and staff at East Jordan High School were stunned last week after being notified that sophomore Aaron Nichols had been killed in a car accident.

Nichols, 16, of East Jordan, died June 5 when his vehicle hit a tractor trailer head-on on M-66 between Old State and Webster Bridge Roads.

"I knew Aaron as a bright student," said high school principal Tammy Jackson, who noted that Nichols was academically gifted with strong interests in technology, science, and math.

Nichols, she said, "will be sadly missed." When the news of Nichols' death reached the school, administrators pulled together the crisis team in place for such an event.

Jackson said that the administration "was extremely happy on how thoroughly the plan had been detailed. You always hope you don't have to use that, but when you do you're thankful that it's thorough."

The crisis plan includes arranging for multiple counselors to be available in the school building, connecting with

appropriate agencies, and notifying staff members. The counselors, which were present at the school through the last day of classes on Wednesday, were utilized by many of Nichols' classmates.

"We had a lot of sad students," said Jackson. Jackson noted how grateful the staff is for the assistance they received from affiliated agencies assisting during the crisis.

"All the support we received and assistance was really overwhelming," she said. At press time, the school was in the process of setting up a support meeting for families, though no date had been finalized. Any parents interested in the meeting or in extended services for their children should call the school at 536-2259 for more information.

A preliminary investigation of the accident indicated that Nichols' vehicle, a mid-size four door car was traveling south on M-66, when it crossed the center line, hitting a tractor trailer and exploded into flames. The tractor trailer veered off the roadway and traveled into an open field where it came to

rest. When rescue personnel arrived, Nichols was declared dead at the scene.

The driver of the tractor trailer, Dennis Henry Hoffman, 45, of East Jordan received minor injuries and was transported to Charlevoix Hospital by East Jordan EMS. Hoffman was treated and released.

Both vehicles were destroyed in the crash and it is unknown if seatbelts were used. There was no indication of alcohol use by either driver.

The accident closed M-66 from Old State Rd. to Webster Bridge Rd. for approximately seven hours while the crash site was cleared of fuel leaking from the fuel tanks of the tractor trailer.

The rig was transporting sand to a foundry in East Jordan. Assisting the Antrim County Sheriff's Department were Michigan State Police Kalkaska Post and Motor Carrier Division of the MSP from Traverse City and Gaylord. EMS from East Jordan and fire departments from both East Jordan and Central Lake.

Mediation in the works for EJ Fire Department

Debate over operations at the East Jordan Fire Department continued at last week's meeting of the city commission, as city commissioner Shane Williams reacted to a review of the department conducted by city administrator David White along with fire chief Glen Thorman.

"My overall response to this memo is that it is basically a list of things that haven't been addressed or are going to be addressed," said Williams. "I'm frustrated with the lack of response to very serious issues."

The review addressed several specific areas presented to the commission and White by Williams in letter form last month, the culmination of what Williams has termed an "ongoing fire department issue." In the memo, White responds specifically to memos from Williams dated Dec. 18, 2000 and May 7, 2001, regarding specific safety and administrative issues within the fire department.

While Williams maintains that "nothing has been done" over the last 18 months about issues he has raised, according to White, he and Williams sat down to discuss the issues in de-

tail on two separate occasions, following the December and May memos. White also notes that two inspections of the fire department were conducted by safety consultant Jan Hetrick within the last six months, on Dec. 28, 2000, and on May 27, 2001.

"Ms. Hetrick's inspections address many of the issues raised in the Dec. 18 letter regarding station cleanliness/maintenance, hose testing, training and proper records," said White in his memo.

At the meeting, Williams took issue with the safety inspections, saying that even with all the discussion regarding the issues of the fire department he had never been notified that the December inspection had taken place, and commenting that each inspection took place only "after a commissioner brings the issue to your door."

According to White, the inspections were part of their regular safety inspection schedule.

In answer to Williams' concerns over a "lack of training and proper records," Thorman said that all of the firefighters in the department are

Firefighter 1 certified (with the exception of one member, who as a new hire has two years to obtain his certification), meeting MIOSHA requirements.

The chief also maintained that the fire department is following policy in terms of the physical fitness of fire service personnel, and that the lack of drug testing in the department is based on the fact that Thorman, as chief, has "never felt a concern or... suspected anyone on the department of using drugs, nor has anyone ever brought to me a concern or proof of anyone using drugs." According to White, the City of East Jordan does not do drug testing on non-CDL licensed employees.

Thorman does admit that the department has not followed policy that requires truck checks after use, weekly, monthly, and annually, but that the requirement by the Department of Labor Part 74 Section R.408.17461, which states that fire trucks be inspected monthly, is met. The memo further states that bi-weekly checks by all fire personnel will be implemented to continue to

"keep them familiar with the equipment." The memo also noted that hose testing is not currently being done. "All departments struggle to get this done, and we are no exception," White said in the memo. Hose testing is scheduled for this summer.

White and Thorman also suggest in the memo that the city review the need for a dive program, with dive training currently not up to Department of Labor requirements. "Maybe it is time to review it and decide if this is a service the City wants to continue to offer," White states in the memo. "...the total dive program should be reviewed and brought into compliance or stopped to reduce the City's liability."

Another major issue Williams brought to the City is a concern over the pump for the Jaws of Life not starting. According to Thorman, "the Jaws of Life have never not started. A delay in starting, yes." According to the memo, the department has since had another training session, to assure that members of the department are up to speed in operating the equipment.

While the memo did address the concerns brought forward by Williams, at the meeting, the commissioner expressed his frustration at the lengthy timeframe in which the situation has been handled.

"It took taking this to the public eye to get most of the testing scheduled," he said. "Why so long?"

Williams also took issue with a statement in the memo which indicated that another issue that has not, according to White, "been addressed to [Williams'] satisfaction, is the termination of Chief Thorman and Tom 'Tinker' Breakey."

"In all correspondence and conversations he has demanded the release of these two fire personnel," said White's memo.

The accusation, said Williams in the meeting, "is totally untrue... All I wanted was a reprimand."

"I've stated with reference to Tom that he should retire," Williams continued. "I never once asked him to be terminated."

In addition, Williams voiced con-

Please see FIRE DEPT on page 4

OPINION

MANY THANKS

4-H Soccer board grateful for use of Concord fields

The Boyne Area 4-H Soccer Board and the children of the spring soccer program kindly thank the staff of Concord Academy Boyne for the use of their fields this spring.

Families with children in both age groups really appreciated keeping their family "under the same roof." We appreciate your willingness to be involved in community activities.

Robin Reynolds
4-H Soccer board member and coach

BC High School baseball program thanks all raffle supporters

A raffle drawing was conducted at Boyne City High School sponsored by the Boyne City High School baseball program and the Boyne Valley Lions Club with the following results:

Two prizes of greens fee and cart for two at Dunmaglas - Jason Page; Randy Zipp; Sony PlayStation 2 - Donna Prested.

We would like to extend our appreciation to Dunmaglas for donating the golf passes. We would like to thank all participants for supporting the Boyne City High School baseball program.

Beano Archey, Head coach
BCHS varsity baseball team

Boosters Memorial Day breakfast a big success

The Boyne City All School Booster Memorial Day Breakfast was a great success. We served a near-record number.

We want to thank the community for their continued support. And a great big THANK YOU to all the volunteers who make the breakfast a success and a lot of fun, thank you to the student volunteers representing the National Honor Society. We appreciate everyone's efforts.

And as always, Tom and Debbie Neidhamer were the organizing force behind this successful community event. Thank you.

The Boyne City All School Boosters

BC Chamber Auto Raffle received great support

On behalf of the Boyne City Chamber of Commerce we wish to thank the following for helping make the 21st annual Auto Raffle a huge success! Bob Munn, our emcee; Boyne Mountain Resort and its staff; Bob Mathers Ford; Tallberg Chevrolet; Travel Central; our band, the Sun Dogs; the readers from Capricorn Moon; and last but not least the volunteers who sold tickets and worked the event all evening.

The Auto Raffle is the chamber's largest fund-raiser and we thank everyone that purchased a ticket this year. Your support is vital to our existence.

Deborah Thompson
Executive Director
Boyne City Chamber of Commerce

Participation in Freedom Festival fund-raisers helps to make event possible

Fund-raisers were a big success! The Jordan Valley Freedom Festival would like to thank all the volunteers and community support for the great response for our "Pizza Night" done in conjunction with Little Caesars Pizza and our "Canister Days."

Local business participated in "Red, White and Blue Day" on Friday, May 25, and encouraged customers to donate to their canisters throughout the day. The Marathon Gas Station was the big winner going to great efforts to encourage customers to donate. Along with special thanks they will receive a free quarter-page advertisement compliments of the Jordan Journal.

Our individual canister volunteers also did a terrific job. Margaret Thomson brought in the most donations and will receive a Freedom Festival T-shirt.

The Freedom Festival buttons and schedules are now here and will be distributed among local business.

Once again many thanks to all who help make the festival possible. We are still in need for volunteers for the Freedom Festival and the Car Show. If you can help, please call 536-9886.

Anne Crick, president
Jordan Valley Freedom Festival



Boyne junior master gardener program keeps on growing

By SYLVIA HYLAND and KAREN MCNALLY

On May 30, the second class of Junior Master Gardeners in Boyne City graduated at the Boyne City Elementary School, after eight weeks of study.

The junior program is designed to interest young people (grades 3-5) in horticulture, environment and ecology, with areas of study including plant and soil science, predators and pests, houseplants, flowers, vegetables and fruits, trees and shrubs and composting. A strong emphasis is put on organic gardening and awareness of the earth around us. Perhaps you have seen these young people out and about doing volunteer work in town, cleaning up the park on Buff Up Boyne Day, planting flowers at the school, etc. If not, keep your eyes open throughout the summer for the kids in dark green shirts!

After the completion of the course, the children were required to do 10 hours of related community service. In addition to lectures, field trips and demonstrations, the students also get to do a fun project related to each class. They have made "wormeries," brought home plants after visiting the Boyne Avenue Greenhouse, made stepping stones, been on a nature hike with a forester and planted trees and flowers on the Boyne City Elementary School grounds - just to name a few!

Upon completion of their community service hours and classes, they were then presented with an official certificate and badge from Michigan State University, had a graduation party, were awarded a Junior Master Gardener T-Shirt and given various small gifts that had been donated to help with future work or interests. Nicole Elzinga and Joshua Burns were each awarded a "Miss Kim" lilac shrub for a tie in a race to complete their community service hours first.

This year's coordinator for Boyne City was Sylvia Hyland, an MSU Certified Advanced Master Gardener, with assistance from Karen McNally, Tracy Wilmot, Sheri Drake and Linda Force, all Advanced and/or Certified Master Gardeners themselves. Expertise in other areas was provided by Jinny Heick (composting)



Junior Master Gardeners recently celebrated their graduation in Boyne City.

of Boyne City, Dwayne Farmer (predators) of Charlevoix and Doug Drake (forester) of Boyne City as guest speakers. Classes were also offered at Boyne Falls School and Concord Academy Boyne, under the direction of Bernice Mandeville, as well as in East Jordan by Ginny Carey and Charlevoix by Sue Kissingier.

Because this was entirely a volunteer supported effort, the children relied totally on donations for classroom and project supplies, T-shirts, snacks, handbooks and other related items. The leaders' coordinated efforts in our local area brought in an amazing amount of support from various businesses and private donors. The entire class of the Boyne City Junior Master Gardeners 2001, and leaders, would like to take this opportunity to thank the community for giving them this opportunity and for inviting them to take part in the beautification of it.

Special thanks go out to: Boyne City Elementary School and PTO; Medicap Pharmacy; Lester's BBQ; Radio Shack/B & L Sound; Ace Hardware; Boyne Avenue Greenhouse; One Water Street; Boyne Valley Garden Club; Charter Communications; Northern Michigan Master Gardeners Association; Charlevoix County MSU Extension/4-H office staff; St. Francis Solanus Altar Society; Christ Child Society of Northern Michigan; Young State Park (nature hike); and private donors.

GUEST COLUMN

Four young men who set a good example

By NORM PROBERT

I have read many stories about our American youth.

Young men getting into trouble with the law, robberies, stealing drugs, drinking, etc.

I would like to tell you a tale of four young U.S. Coast Guard crewmen from the ship Acacia under Lieutenant Commander M. W. Shomin.

The crewman are Ensign Marc Vanzetta from Hampton, Va., Lance Sapp from Fargo, N.D., Nate Miller from Chicago, Ill., and Don S. Bisesi of Detroit.

The four U.S.C.G. crewmen volunteered two days of their time.

They instructed, entertained, and enlightened over 200 sixth grade middle school boys and girls about water safety. They had many students put on wet suits and safety items. You had to be there to see a young boy/girl in an outfit that looked like they were dressed for a moon shot while learning the problems of hypothermia.

The four exemplify outstanding control and student interest in a subject of water safety.

I, being a retired teacher, recognized many young boys and girls leaving the station with bright smiles and wanting more presentations from the crewmen.

These young men did an excellent job of instructing our youth. They exemplify the best example of a man in uniform working for the U.S. Government and serving the youth of the future.

I salute these crewmen who represent a cross section of the United States from Virginia next to the Atlantic Ocean to the plains of North Dakota and areas in between. It is great to tell a story about American youth who have done something good in a community.

I look forward to see more of this in our newspapers.

WE WELCOME YOUR LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

The best read letters are brief and on a topic of local interest. Our deadline is Friday at 5 p.m. Letters will be printed on a space-available basis.

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Moving forward, on time and on budget

With work on the new high school moving along on schedule, and bids coming in lower than expected for renovations on the current high school, things are looking bright for the Boyne City schools' construction project.

"In general, things are going really well," said project manager Tom Tennesen of The Christman Company. According to Leigh Woodbury, also of The Christman Company, materials have been coming in on time, and the project, on the whole, is "going along good."

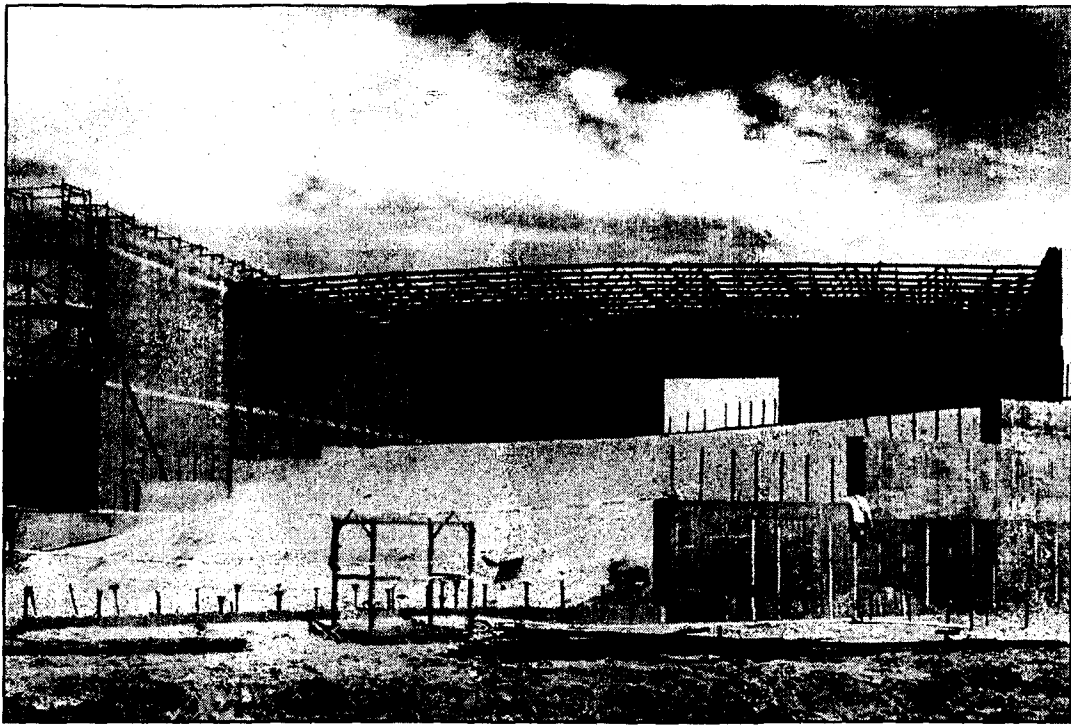
Areas currently taking form are science rooms, including a fully equipped chemistry lab; a visual imaging/computer lab; a business computer lab; the school store; the media center; upstairs classrooms including a Responsible Thinking Center and Student Support; the 1,500-seat gymnasium; a commons dining area; mechanical rooms; and the vocational wing.

The back wall of the 600-seat auditorium has been erected, and much of the balance of the current work hinges on the arrival of the colored block which will be used to build a key wall to connect all the elements currently in progress. "Everything depends on that," said Woodbury. "When that block goes up, it changes everything from that point on." The blocks, which are coming from Midland, are being made specifically for the Boyne City High School project. A preview of the colors can be seen already, on the gym wall at the back of the project.

The goal, at this point, is to have the roof and block-work done, said Woodbury, "by the time the snow flies."

The design of the building taking shape, which includes window walls between some rooms for optimum supervision, collapsible walls to allow for integrated classroom experiences, and versatile computer stations and networking, has been created with an eye towards progression. "The design elements you see," said Compton, "were developed with [the idea of] moving the curriculum forward."

The extensive remodeling of the existing high school, slated to serve as the new middle school, has just



The framework for the 1,500 seat gymnasium has been rapidly taking shape in recent weeks. The impressive structure is just one component of the state of the art high school building currently under construction. The school is scheduled to be completed for the 2002-03 school year.

been higher. Instead, according to Tennesen, the work on the building will be completed in two phases, both this summer and in the summer of 2002. The job, he said, "is literally cut in half," so as not to disrupt classes during the next school year.

With bid packages recently accepted coming in lower than anticipated, the district was able to incorporate extra work designated as alternate bids, which would not have taken place had the cost of the initial work

been higher. Instead, according to schools superintendent Dana Compton, all the alternates have been added back into the project, including some repainting, flooring, and lighting to bring all the classrooms "up to the same level." The inclusion of the alternate bids will also allow for some exterior field areas, including a soccer field. The district will also be able to replace all of the exterior doors and include air locks for most of the doors.

When completed, said Compton,

the building will have "sufficient classroom space to handle grades 5-8."

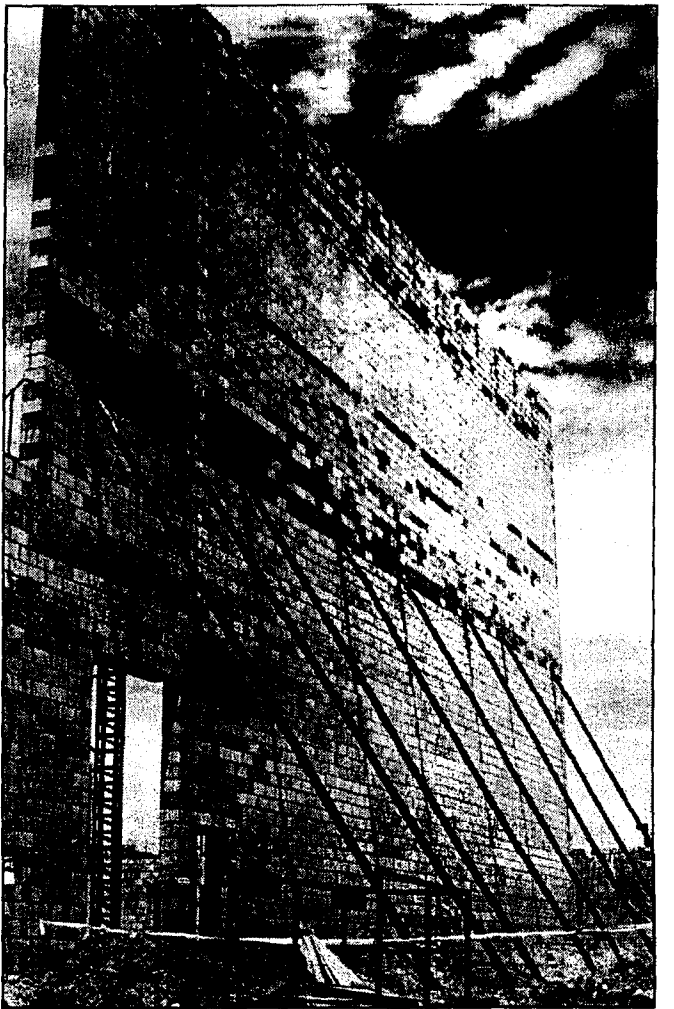
Plans for the renovations include the elimination of current district administrative offices, with that space being utilized for additional classrooms. More classrooms will be added thanks to the alternate bids, and others will be expanded. Science classrooms will be upgraded, and the high school office complex will be reconfigured. "A lot of work is going to be done," Compton said.

Though portables are scheduled to be removed, the status of work to be done on the current middle school and elementary school is still in flux, and will "evolve over the next couple of months," said Compton. Money, he added, is designated for the buildings, but no specific work is targeted at this time.

Groundbreaking for the project took place in June of 2000, with plans for the building to be completed for the 2002-2003 school year. The construction is part of a \$18.8 million bond proposal passed by Boyne City voters in September of 1999 to build a new high school and renovate existing school buildings.



The curve of the school store, above, echoes the design in place for the new school media center.



Currently looking more like part of a fortress than of a school, this structure will become the back wall of the auditorium.



Schools superintendent Dana Compton, right, confers with Leigh Woodbury of The Christman Co. at the work site.

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M-F 9:00 a.m. - NOON
Parsonage: (231) 536-7596

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TAKING THEIR FINAL BOW



Seniors at East Jordan High School celebrated commencement indoors last weekend, after a rainstorm put a damper on the planned outdoor ceremony. Regardless, graduates enjoyed their day with good humor and lots of smiles. Pictured at top, graduates Ellie Priest, Kattie Brooks, Josie Krause, and Paige Watson joined the choir to sing "I Will Remember You." Siblings Ken and Linda Slough, above, had the joint honor of serving as co-salutatorians for the class of 2001. At right, seniors Patricia Murray and Melissa McKenzie pause before entering the gym to "Pomp and Circumstance."



EJ Fire Department

Continued from page 1

cerns at the meeting over the recent firings of two nine-year veterans of the department, Jim Nowka and Jon Sumner, noting that the two were terminated without, he said, "due process." Both firefighters had no previous disciplinary action taken against them in the department, and were not officially notified in regard to the reasons for the dismissals until three weeks after they were terminated by the fire chief.

Nowka and Sumner were notified in a letter on June 5 that the reasons for their dismissal included two violations of department policy, including failure to use the proper chain of command procedures, and engaging in "any conduct that tends to bring discredit to the fire department."

Shortly before they were dismissed, Nowka and Sumner were involved in an informal off-premises meeting of firefighters to discuss issues within the department, an action which they believe led to the dismissal.

Concerns over the firings were compounded by the fact that the commission had issued a directive at their regular meeting, the day before the firefighters were terminated, that a mediation take place before any further action be taken.

Said commissioner Ruth Gee, "I'm very disappointed... I feel that directive from the commission was violated when [the chief] took it upon himself to fire these two people [prior to mediation]."

Mediation, however, is still in the works, according to White. All fire

personnel who were on the active register as of Jan. 1, 2001 will be invited to "sit down and talk" once a date has been finalized. In his memo, White stated, "This facilitation is a time to speak, being quiet will help nothing. We must get back to fighting fires, not each other."

"The issues have been addressed and the personnel issues will be addressed as needed per the Charter and adopted personnel policies."

It was suggested in the meeting that Nowka and Sumner could initiate an appeals process regarding the firings, as allowed by the City Charter.

As Williams continued to express frustration over the situation, commissioner Bernard Hammond noted that most of the issues being discussed were administrative, and therefore "shouldn't be in front of the commission."

"If we think Dave White let the fire chief do something wrong, we can fire him," said Hammond.

As the discussion continued, commissioner Jeanette Norton spoke up. "I do want this discussion ended," she said. "[We need to] leave it up to the administration to follow through with mediation plans. I will make a motion to leave everything to Chief Thorman and Administrator White."

The motion was made with the intention that discussion of the issue will be closed, at least until mediation and some of the scheduled maintenance and training are completed.

The motion passed 7-0. Williams, for his part, agreed to suspend discussion of the fire department for now as commission business as long as the commission is assured a response on the mediation issue.

Boyne City Public Schools want you to know:

That the Boyne City Public Schools have excellent services providing clean buildings, healthy meals, on-site nursing care, reading and math support, and a transportation program that has received perfect safety inspection scores for ten consecutive years.

Brought to you by the Boyne City All School Boosters



You can e-mail us at: citizen@voyager.net

Melrose Township Residents! Announcing Spring Cleanup 2001

Saturday, June 16, 2001 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. At the Melrose Township Transfer Station

Drop off your residential trash (no commercial) for \$10 per load (pick up truck or 8 ft. trailer)

Volunteers will be available to help unload.

This is for residents only and requires a coupon.

Coupons are available from the following people:

Sue Herrington	Bob Genson	Dan Peck
Ernie Fitzpatrick	Mike Webster	Al Reeves
Susan Gilmette	Annette Longcore	Midge Barnes

Coupons will also be available at the transfer station during regular business hours and at the Township Board Meetings on May 8th and June 12th.

Instructions are included with the coupon.

HUGE 13th ANNUAL CHURCH RUMMAGE SALE

(to benefit the youth program)

Friday • June 15th • 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Christ Lutheran Church

M-75 South • Boyne City (near McDonald's Restaurant)

Furniture, lamps and other household items, lots of clothing in all sizes, bicycles, games, puzzles, books, kitchenware, baby and children's toys, furniture and clothing, hand & power tools, boat with motor, stove.

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Boyne Fourth of July celebration needs community support

Though its parade was recently named one of Michigan's top five favorites (in Michigan Living magazine), Boyne City's Fourth of July Festival is in need of more community support to continue the tradition of family fun.

With only weeks until the Fourth, organizers are still looking for volunteers willing to donate even an hour or two of their time on the big day. Help is especially needed during the running race that registers at 7 a.m. in Veteran's Park and for parade line-up, to meet at the library at 8 a.m.

Both of these duties will be over before the parade starts at 10 a.m., and no special skills are required to lend a hand.

Financial help is also still sorely needed to fund the day's many events as well as the always-popular fireworks display over Lake Charlevoix.

According to committee member Liz Kroondyk, the financial goal to

fund the festival is \$12,000, and with the Fourth of July less than a month away, the festival has only reached 40 percent of that goal.

Several levels of sponsorship are available, with special benefits to those donating. Area residents, organizations or businesses can, for instance, "adopt" their favorite fireworks, or become a Gold, Silver, or Bronze sponsor.

The Boyne City Fourth of July Festival committee's next and last meeting will be Monday, June 25, at 7 p.m. at the Wolverine Dilworth Inn. Anyone interested in helping out or just finding out more information is invited to attend.

For more information about assisting with the running race, call 582-2385. To help with parade line-up, call 582-7124.

For general information, to volunteer, or to make a donation, call Kroondyk at 582-9701.

Riding through summer

By AMANDA RUIS

The newly-formed North Country Bike Club, a small association of bike enthusiasts from around the state, will be sponsoring the first annual bicycle ride around Lake Charlevoix, called "Ride the Charx," on Saturday, June 30.

Three rides of different difficulties are offered for the "Ride the Charx" event. One, a 20-mile ride, will go from Boyne City through Advance to Hemingway Point, and back to Boyne City. The terrain is fairly flat, and good for riders who like a leisurely pace.

The second ride is 39 miles long, starting in Boyne City, going through Horton Bay and Charlevoix, then taking the Ironton Ferry across the lake, and back through Advance to Boyne City.

The third ride is a 57-mile ride, designed for the most serious of riders. This route starts in Boyne City, heading north through very hilly terrain toward Bay Harbor, then turns west toward Charlevoix. From Charlevoix, the bikers will travel to Ellsworth, East Jordan, and back to Boyne City.

"Our longest ride is for the hard charging rider who likes to attack the hills going up and loves the rush coming down," the club says.

All three rides begin and end at Veteran's Park in Boyne City. The 20-mile ride leaves between 10 and 10:30 a.m., with map pick-up at 9:45 a.m. The two longer rides depart between 8 and 8:30 a.m., with map pick-up at 7:45 a.m.

Lunch will be catered by Lester's and served from noon to 2 p.m. in the pavilion at Veteran's Park in Boyne City. Non-riders are also invited to join the riders for lunch, but are asked to pre-register so organizers can plan for enough food for everyone.

Ward Collins, a founding member of the North Country Bike Club, is excited about the event, and says the club is expecting a moderate turnout. "We have flyers distributed in Lansing, Petoskey, Traverse City, and other areas around the state," he says. "The area around Boyne is magnificent, and we really need a bike ride here."

Mike Sheehan, another member of the club, says that any local bicycle enthusiasts are welcome to join their club anytime. "We'd like to get more

active participation from the riders in the community," he says.

Sheehan also says that this event is designed to have "something for everybody", and is open to anybody who wants to ride, no matter how experienced they are.

Registration for "Ride the Charx" is \$14 per person before June 24, or \$19 after June 24. Registration on the day of the event will only be allowed if food is available. Non-rider registration is \$11 before June 24, or \$16 after.

For more information on the event or about North Country Bike Club, visit the web site at www.my.freeway.net/~mccornell/ or pick up a brochure at any area business or restaurant. Registration forms are included in the brochures.



Members of the newly-formed North Country Bike Club are busy organizing a ride around Lake Charlevoix to be held on June 30.

ADVENTURE PROGRAM

The Adventure Program at Young State Park is underway, with programs running Tuesday through Saturday. Sessions are open to the public and all ages are welcome. A motor vehicle pass is required. All programs meet at the pond by the camp store unless otherwise specified.

Wednesday, June 13, 10:30 a.m.: Discovery Hike - check out the trails and let's see what we can discover; **3 p.m.:** Forest Frenzy - investigate animals' secrets to survival. Travel into the forest and become an animal and see if you can survive!

Thursday, June 14, 10:30 a.m.: Leaf Printing - bring a T-shirt and create a print using natural items like leaves and ferns. Be prepared to use acrylic paint; **3 p.m.:** Rot Trot - discover the mini-ecosystem of a dead log and all its community members.

Friday, June 15, 3 p.m.: Stream Stomp - wear your water shoes and search for life in a stream. Bring a net if you have one; **9:40 p.m.:** Family Night Hike - hike the trails at night with Ranger Holly and experience your senses in a new way. Children under 12 MUST be with an adult.

Saturday, June 16, 11 a.m.: Squish, Plop, Dip! - discover the world of pond ecology. Bring a net if you have one; **2:30 p.m.:** Natural Fire Building - learn to start a fire using flint and steel. Leave the matches behind and kids under 10 bring your parents.

Tuesday, June 19, 6:30 p.m.: Fishin' Fun - poles and bait provided!

Wednesday, June 20, 10:30 a.m.: Habitat Sweet Habitat - come play a game that discusses the components of habitat! Bring a friend and become a carnivore, or an omnivore, or even an herbivore; **3 p.m.:** Forest Frenzy - Meet some of the local fungi and explore the world of decomposition!

Crews working hard on Community Park

Construction is underway at the new East Jordan community park, and although slightly behind schedule, continues to move forward.

Currently, workers are putting in drainage systems and installing the underground electrical wires. The next project will be to grade the three soccer fields and to install irrigation systems, and then put grass seed down on the soccer fields and the four Little League softball fields.

City Administrator David White hopes that this phase of the park con-

struction will be completed in time for the fall soccer season. He added that the little league fields may be ready before the end of this summer, so that some games could be played on them.

The second construction period will include the development of an in-line skating rink, which would serve as an ice skating rink in the winter, and a concession and pressbox building in the center of the Little League fields. There is also an area designated for a new base-

ball field to be constructed. Because of budget constraints, these projects are on hold for the moment, but will be completed in the future.

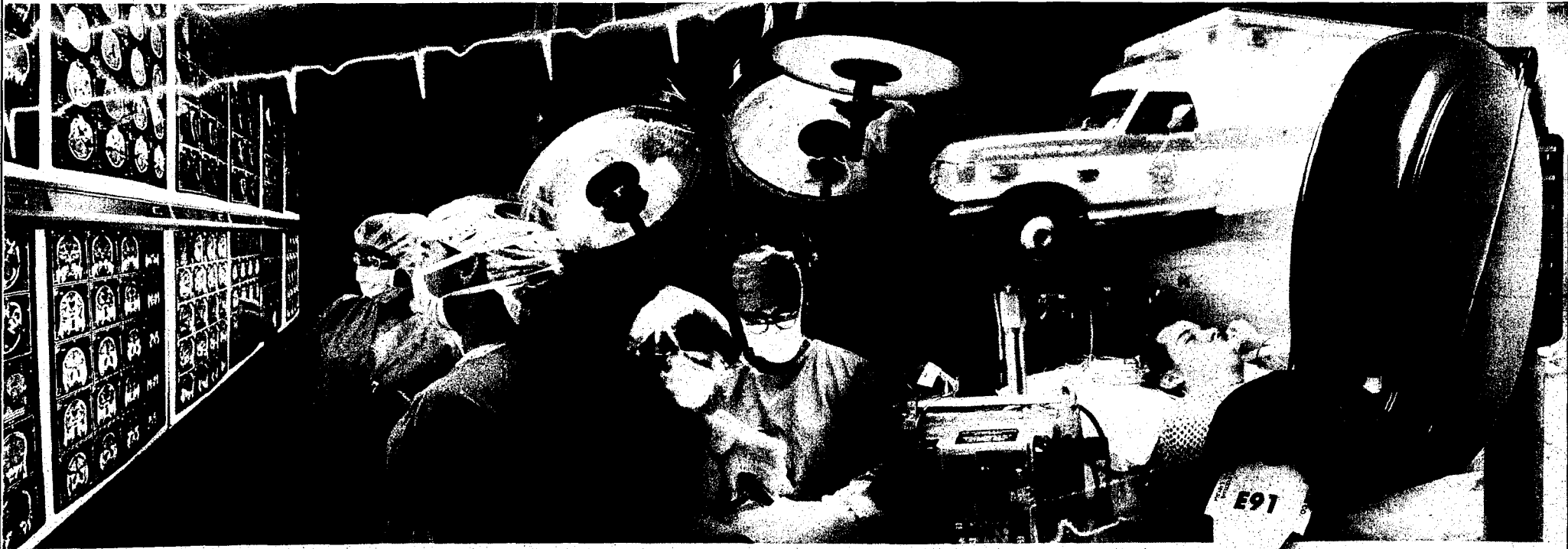
The entire 40+ acre facility, when completed, will include three soccer fields, four Little League fields, a skating rink, a baseball field, a sledding hill, two parking lots, a public restroom and concession building near the soccer fields, and a pressbox and concession building in the center of the little league fields.

The park is being funded in part

by a Natural Resources Trust Fund grant from the DNR, which White says will cover almost 60 percent of the total expenses.

Wiesel Construction, Inc., of Gaylord, is handling the construction of the park, since the city accepted its bid last October. Petrie Construction of East Jordan is handling the renovation of the old concession building and restrooms, as well as the construction of the pressbox and concession building near the Little League fields.

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Red Devils lose heartbreaker

EJ runner makes his mark at Midwest Meet

By TED KARASZEWSKI

The road to the State Division 3 Baseball Quarterfinals came to a halt for East Jordan this past Saturday as the Rogers City Hurons provided the road block with a hard fought 3-2 win in the Regional Finals.

Rogers City scored all of their runs in the first inning before EJ settled down and stifled the Hurons the rest of the way. As it turned out, that was all they needed.

"We knew from the start that this would be our biggest test of the season," said Red Devil coach Bruce Harger. "The boys are really disappointed, we expected to win. Sometimes in games like this the ball has got to bounce your way. We didn't get the timely hit when we had the opportunity."

Nate Skop got the Red Devils on the board in the fourth inning with a towering solo blast for his 14th home run of the season.

With no outs in the sixth inning, East Jordan loaded the bases with no outs, senior Jeff Kraemer blooped one over the second baseman's head for an rbi single. Huron pitcher Mark Paschke then struck out the next batter, got an infield pop-up and a ground out to end the threat.

"That was a great opportunity for us to break the game open," Harger said. "My hats off to Paschke, he battled through it."

The seventh inning saw the Red Devils threaten again when Paschke walked Robert Grover to lead off. Pitcher Bobby Nichols then popped out, followed by a strike out to Jon Bennett. With EJ down to its last out, Senior slugger Skop came up and blooped a single to right center sending Grover to third. Skop then stole second setting up a perfect situation for the next batter, Nate Diller, to drive in a couple runs. It didn't happen though as Diller grounded to shortstop to end the game.

Said Harger, "I felt bad for Diller having made the last out like that. He and the others have come through all season in situations like that, but today the well went dry. I really thought Rogers City gave us a gift when they walked Grover. Usually when the lead off batter gets walked, bad things happen to the other team. It was a perfect spot for us to pull off a dramatic win with the top of the batting order following Grover. We had the right guys up to the plate but couldn't come through."

"It's been a great year for us and we won't be hanging our heads."

Rogers City coach Howard Matson added, "They are a fine team, they had us on the ropes more than once. I thought we were going to lose for sure but our guys hung in there."

Senior pitcher Bobby Nichols tossed a five hitter in defeat striking out six while walking just one. Skop collected two hits while Kraemer and Diller each singled.

East Jordan finished their season 25-5-2.

The Red Devils got to the Regional Finals by bombarding Benzie Central 16-0 behind the perfect game pitched by Jon Reese.

The Huskies never had a baserunner as Bobby Nichols and Nick Karaszewski provided much of the firepower.

Nichols had two home runs and



The Red Devils congratulated Bobby Nichols on another home run.

a single while collecting four RBIs. Karaszewski had a grand slam homer in the first inning and later knocked in two more with a single to collect six rbi's.

Jon Bennett added a solo homerun

and a single while Reese had a double and a single.

Skop had a double.

Reese, a sophomore, faced the minimum 16 batters, striking out six of them.



Nichols had two home runs and a single while collecting four RBIs against Benzie earlier in the day.

East Jordan runner Tarn Leach took part in the Midwest Meet of Champions held in Delaware, Ohio last weekend, placing third in the 1600 run with a school record time of 4:15.38.

Competing in the meet were top senior track athletes from throughout the Midwest including Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, and West Virginia.

"Tarn ran a very tough and intel-

ligent race," said Red Devils coach Matt Peterson. "He came from 20 meters back with 200 to go and almost stole the race. He certainly proved that he belongs with some of the top runners in the Midwest."

Leach, whose time was a personal best by over four seconds, graduated from East Jordan High School last week as first valedictorian of the class of 2001.

Loggers take a beating at baseball, softball districts

By DAKOTA WILLSON
Student Writer

Baseball and softball districts were scheduled for Friday, June 1, but were postponed until Monday, due to the weather.

The Logger boys played Alanson but lost, with a score of 15-1. Caleb Olstrom pitched until the fourth inning, when Adam Utley took over. Utley, who stole home on a wild pitch, scored the loggers' solitary run.

The girls won their first game against Wolverine, 9-0. Jenny Kuhn was the winning pitcher, striking out 10 Wildcats in the first game. Rachael Lewin and Amanda 'Frankie' Raphael both had phenomenal games, with Lewin claiming three out of the teams' nine points and Raphael contributing two.

The girls went on to play Alanson and lost, 9-1. Amanda Raphael scored the run. The girls finished the season 19-3.

Local student takes third in Kingsley Motorcross races

Boyer City resident Jason Sykes, 6, placed third in both races at the Kingsley Motorcross Track last weekend. Sykes races in the 50CC class on a Z50 Honda. According to his dad, Nigel, "The practice was a learning experience with plenty of mud."

Sykes completed the race without goggles, and, said Nigel, when question as to why he replied, "When you're up front, you're not eating anybody's dirt."

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Voices: Mike Meyer & Eddie Murphy
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Library and schools make good partners

The Boyne District Library and area schools continue to foster an unofficial partnership, evident in some recent activities.

Last week, elementary and middle school classes from Boyne City Public Schools as well as Boyne Falls Public School spent some of their last precious hours of the school year becoming acquainted with the beautiful new library and the folks who make the place work.

"This morning we had [150] students from Boyne Falls through," said library director Nannette Miller last week, who also noted the 80 or so Boyne City Elementary students who took tours of the building, along with hearing a story or two, the Friday before.

While library staff members are taking time to foster a love of the library for area students, students are also playing their part in giving back to the library.

Fifth grade students at Boyne City Middle School, for example, decided on a recent trip to the library that some of those new shelves that still stand empty could use a little help getting filled. The students decided to collect pop cans, taking the deposits and donating them towards books for the library. According to fifth grade teacher Joe Leach, the collection became a bit of a competition between the classes, with students scurrying to see whose class could collect the most cans.

They were able to raise about 4-H Youth Sailing classes taking to Lake Charlevoix

Classes are currently in session for the Charlevoix County 4-H Youth Sailing program, with upcoming sessions scheduled for June 18-22 and June 25-29.

Classes are held at the Boyne City Municipal Marina, and are available to kids ages 8-18. Each day offers a separate morning or afternoon session. The cost is \$35 for Boyne City, Boyne Falls and East Jordan residents.

For more information, call the 4-H office at 582-6232.

\$200. That money, combined with some funds raised earlier in the year as part of the students' "community building" fund, came to a grand total of \$318, translating into more than 20 new books for the teen section.

The Endowment Fund, too, is benefiting from the interest of area students in a unique way. Anyone who has driven by the library recently may have noticed a colorful sign out front, keeping tabs on the progress of the library's endowment fund.

The sign itself is the brainchild

of local businessman John McClorey, owner of Fire & Clay Pottery in Boyne City, who generously took on the task of creating a sign to keep the community up-to-date on the fund's growth.

McClorey decided to get input from students in the form of a survey of important or favorite authors of the students at Boyne City Schools grades one through twelve. Each student was asked to write down the names of one or two authors he or she deemed to be interesting or important in their lives; students were

welcome to include authors they'd discovered in the classroom, but were also encouraged to name authors they have chosen to read on their own outside of school.

The names were then entered into a database by McClorey, who discovered that 37 authors appeared as choices in three or more grades. Those 37 "formed the core of the list of fifty authors" to be used for the sign, according to McClorey, which adds the name plaque of a favorite author for each two percent of the fund's goal raised.



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By Steve Czerkes Pharmacist

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