

**AT A GLANCE**

**Antrim County man arraigned after car chase, accident**

A 20-year-old East Jordan man led Boyne City police on a high-speed chase around 5:25 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 20, before he lost control of his vehicle in the snow and struck a Ford pickup truck head-on.

Rollie Royce, who was a suspect on an outstanding warrant for larceny and malicious destruction of property, was arraigned on multiple felonies in Charlevoix County District Court on Dec. 21.

According to Boyne City assistant police chief Jeffery Gettel, a warrant for Royce's arrest had been obtained by the Charlevoix County Sheriff's Department. The man's location was identified at an apartment building in Boyne City, with surveillance done at the residence throughout the afternoon. When Royce left the building and drove away, Boyne City police pursued and made a traffic stop on the vehicle on M-75.

When one of the officers approached the driver's door, Royce accelerated, dragging the officer a few feet before the officer was able to release himself from his door, Gettel said. The officer was not seriously injured.

Police pursued the suspect heading south on M-75 towards Boyne Falls, along with units from the Michigan State Police and Charlevoix County Sheriff's Department. Royce eventually lost control of his 1991 Buick on M-75 and struck a westbound 2000 Ford pickup truck driven by East Jordan resident Sharon Pardee, 53.

Pardee was not injured, however, her passengers, Jacquelyn Thill, 54, and Sue Hardy, 48, both of East Jordan, received treatment at Charlevoix Area Hospital and were later released. Royce remains at Charlevoix County Jail.

Following the crash, Royce fled on foot but was eventually apprehended. He received treatment at Charlevoix Area Hospital for minor injuries and then was immediately arrested, Gettel said.

Royce's passenger, 17-year-old Nicole Crain, of East Jordan, received minor injuries during the crash, but refused treatment.

The crash remains under investigation.

**North Boyne Yard open for tree disposal**

Need to get rid of your Christmas tree?

Free Christmas tree disposal is available for Boyne City residents at the North Boyne Yard. The yard is located at the end of Robinson Street, off of Boyne City Charlevoix Road, when traveling out of town toward Charlevoix.

For more information contact city hall at 582-6597.



**Holiday skiers**

After celebrating Christmas, skiers and snowboarders flocked to the slopes of Boyne Mountain on Monday to take advantage of near-perfect winter conditions. "We have had a phenomenal holiday period so far and we expect it to continue," said Boyne Mountain General Manager Ed Grice. Record-breaking cold weather the week before Christmas helped Boyne Mountain establish a good base and then Mother Nature cooperated with several inches of fresh powder.

**An early present**

**With Buy Into Boyne, 'everyone is a winner'**

Gathered around the gazebo in Boyne City's Old City Park last Wednesday, close to 500 people watched in anticipation as the winner of the \$2,500 Buy Into Boyne jackpot was chosen.

While waiting for the drawing to begin, the Boyne City Middle School choir led the crowd in Christmas carols, while some onlookers huddled around fire pits to keep warm.

Buy Into Boyne is an initiative of the Boyne City Main Street Program to encourage residents to support downtown businesses by shopping locally.

A total of \$3,500 was awarded to seven winners whose names were drawn out of a vault. The Grand prize winner of \$2,500, JoEllen Trixler of Boyne City, estimated that she entered between \$3,000 and \$4,000 worth of receipts into the contest. "I'm just in shock," she said after receiving her prize money.

Other prize recipients include \$500 winner Susan Stanley of Boyne City; \$250 winner Al Lawson of Boyne City; \$100 winner Clayton Boone of Boyne City; and \$50 winners Steve Anderson of Essexville, Rachelle Stefanic of Boyne Falls and Dawn Zimmer of East Jordan.

Leslie Neilson, owner of *ball living imports* and the organizer of the event, didn't know what to expect but was very excited with the community's response.

Please see WINNERS on page 7

**SCHOOL FUNDING: A LOOMING CRISIS?**

**Districts facing a grim financial future**

By LAURA CASSIDY  
Contributing Writer

Michigan schools are facing a financial crisis. For three years in a row, state funding to public schools has been cut and it may be cut again this year.

The question facing local school districts is what can they do to protect the quality of their programs?

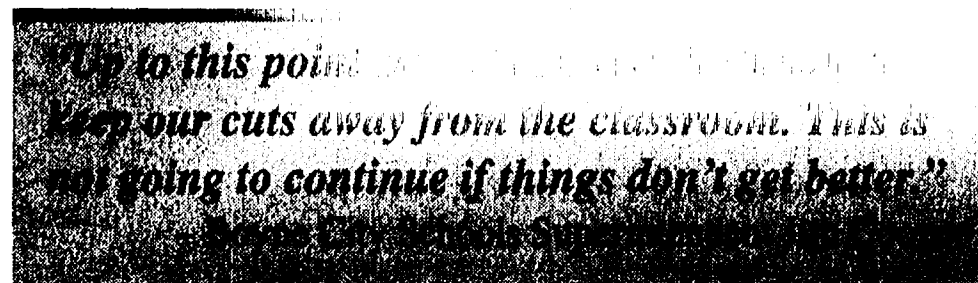
Char-Em ISD Deputy Superintendent Richard Diebold and East Jordan Superintendent Chip Hansen addressed the school-funding issue at the East Jordan Board of Education meeting on Dec. 20, familiarizing the board with the factors that have influenced and continue to influence the funding of public schools in Michigan, with emphasis on the impact the state's financial crisis is having on school districts in the Char-Em ISD.

Diebold explained that since Proposal A was passed 10 years ago, more than 70 so-called "tweaks" have been instituted. When legislators authorize tax policy changes, the School

Aid Fund, which provides funding for the public schools, loses a source of its funding. Tax cuts in such areas as income tax, sales tax, and property tax cost the School Aid Fund more than \$550 million annually, reducing the amount of revenue schools have available per student by \$320 per year. In addition, Diebold said, Michigan's economic slump and the resulting increased unemployment levels have contributed to the financial crisis, which has resulted in reductions in funding for public schools over the past three years.

Public schools receive funding from the state in the form of a Student Foundation Grant. East Jordan and Boyne Falls school districts currently receive the minimum of \$6,700 per student; Boyne City receives \$7,027 per student. This amount normally increases each year to keep up with cost of living allowance increases. However, for the past three years, the Student Foundation Grant has been frozen by the state.

For the East Jordan School District,



this has equated to a loss of more than \$590,000 in anticipated revenue, Hansen said. Furthermore, in each of the past two years, the state has ordered mid-year reductions of this amount in order to balance Michigan's School Aid budget. Mid-year reductions have cost the East Jordan schools an additional \$167,000 that was promised but not delivered.

In response to the reduced state funding, schools have been forced to implement permanent budget cuts, Hansen said. According to Hansen, schools in the CharEm ISD have made \$6,055,650 in permanent cuts over the past four years.

Reductions have come by laying off employees, not hiring to fill vacant positions, freezing staff salaries,

reducing supply and textbook budgets, and contracting out business services, he said. The problem is that schools are running out of places to make these permanent cuts; the next step will be cutting back programs, Hansen said.

Boyne City has implemented budget reductions of \$1.3 million. Thus far these cuts have not affected the programming Boyne City is able to offer.

"Up to this point we've been very fortunate to keep our cuts away from the classroom," said Boyne City Schools Superintendent Jim Cooper. "This is not going to continue if things don't get better."

Boyne Falls Schools have not had to cut programs, but according to Su-

perintendent Gary Urman they may have to.

"If we want to stay financially solvent for the next couple years and not get into deficit spending mode, we will have to make some reductions," Urman said.

Another way that local school districts have funded their budgets in light of state funding cuts is by delving into their fund balance, or rainy day fund.

This year Boyne City is projecting that \$350,000 of its fund balance will be used; East Jordan has planned to use approximately \$279,000 of its rainy day fund.

"Our strategy of cutting expenses and reducing our fund balance to cover ongoing expense increases while waiting for Michigan to develop a financial recovery plan has worked for two years," Hansen said.

However, "It isn't likely that such a strategy will continue to work since our fund balance has been reduced to

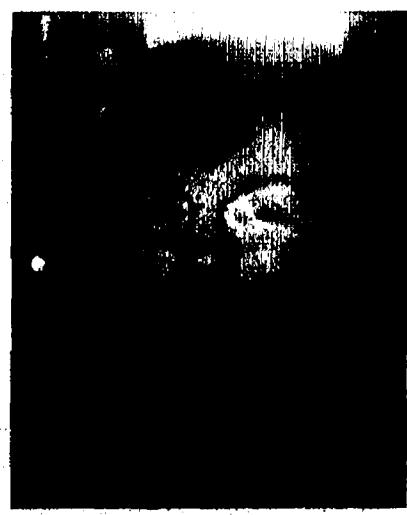
Please see CRISIS on page 7

**NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS**

With 2005 around the corner, Boyne area residents resolve to make the new year better than the last. When asked about their new year's resolutions, here are their thoughts:



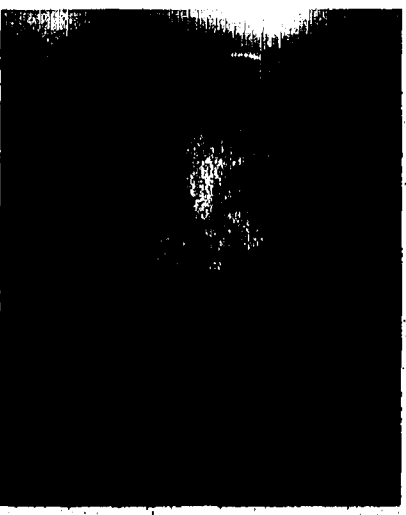
"I want to make sure to do something nice for someone each day, make someone smile if I can."  
- Joyce Neville, Boyne City



"Be more organized."  
- Kathy Anderson, Boyne City



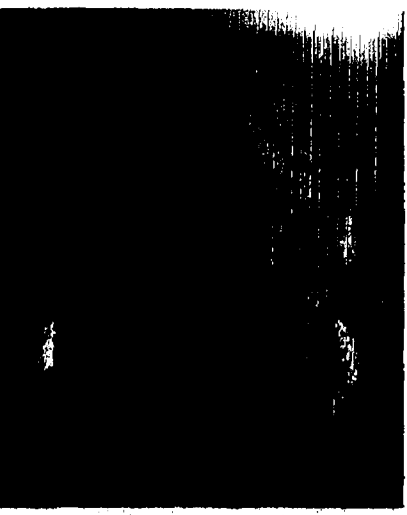
"Bring my grades up."  
- Matt Puroll of Boyne Falls



"Try not to be so reactive."  
- Jodie Adams, Boyne City



"Get my book published."  
- Jullanna Hamilton of Prescott, Ariz., visiting her sister, Jodi Adams. She has written a memoir on her experience working at a child maltreatment center.



"With those lips I've touched, I've always tried to leave them with more than I've taken."  
- Boyne City resident Bob Sayer's thoughts for 2005.



Brothers Tyler and Eli Barsy work together to move finished Christmas boxes to the delivery truck.

# Spreading Holiday Cheer

Volunteers of all ages from Boyne City, Boyne Falls, East Jordan, Charlevoix and Petoskey partnered up to pack boxes of food, clothing and toys for needy families in the Boyne City area.

"We've had a nice turnout. People have come from all over wanting to help deliver and pack," said Ruth Witek, president of Boyne Community Christmas.

This year 319 families received boxes, helping 600 children. Witek is especially thankful to the school-aged volunteers who help each year. The Boyne City High School Student Council donated \$1,000 to Community Christmas.



Chris Duff, left, packs a box as Andrew Crumbaugh reviews the packing list. Duff and Crumbaugh, seniors at East Jordan High School, traveled to Boyne City to help with Community Christmas.



Hanna Olsen, a sixth grade student in Boyne City, replenishes the supply of canned vegetables to go into Christmas boxes. At left, Drew Mittig carries a box to the loading area.

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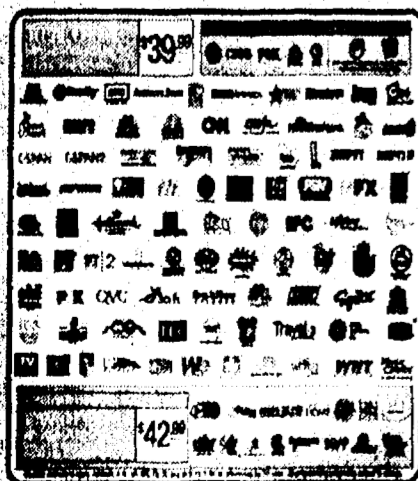
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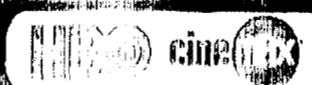
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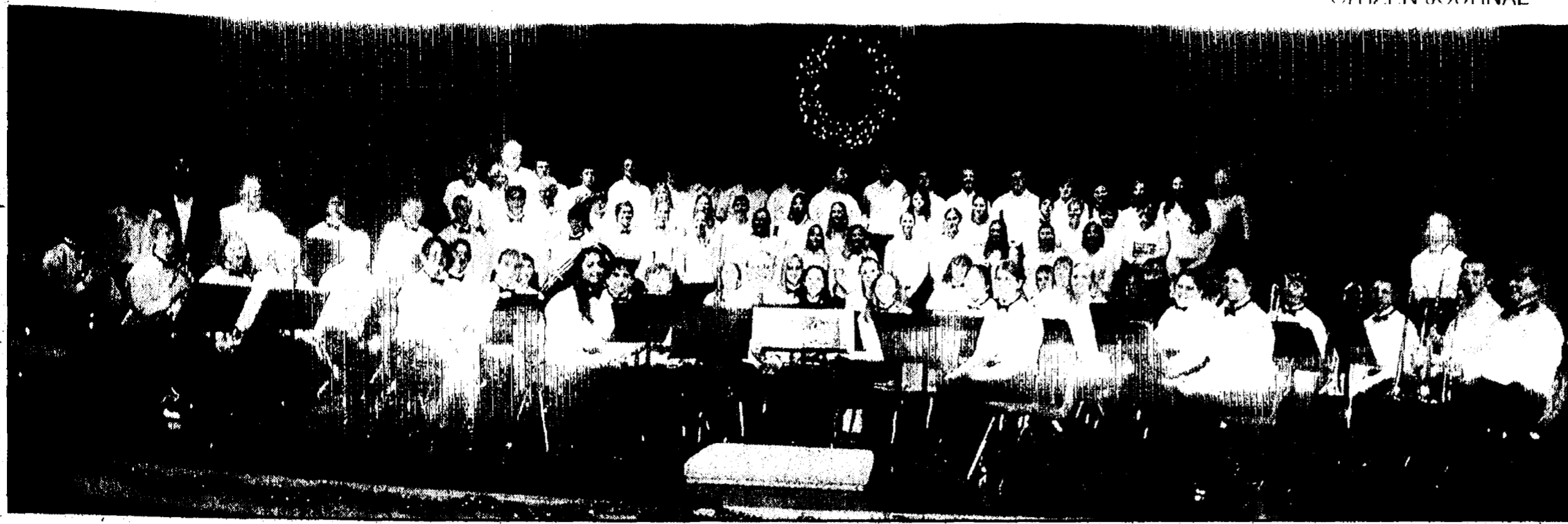
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The East Jordan High School band and choir filled the Community Auditorium with music for the season at its annual concert last week.

# Music for the holiday season

**E**ast Jordan High School's annual Christmas Concert on Dec. 20 provided a great way to celebrate the season for the more than 300 patrons who attended the event, held in the Community Auditorium at East Jordan High School. The high school jazz band opened the evening with classic Christmas tunes including "Feliz Navidad" and "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas." Following

the jazz band, the 38-member choir sang a variety of holiday favorites, closing with a rendition of "Frosty the Snowman."

The concert band opened its set with "Jingle Bell Rock" and closed with the challenging "Themes from the Nutcracker Suite" by Tchaikovsky.

To close the evening, the concert band and choir were joined by members of the community band and chorale

to perform Leroy Anderson's "Sleigh Ride" and Handel's "Hallelujah Chorus."

"We were really happy to bring the students and community members together for the finale," said Bill Sommerfeldt, director of bands.

"Seeing nearly 100 musicians on stage and witnessing their collective talent was a thrill for the audience and for me."

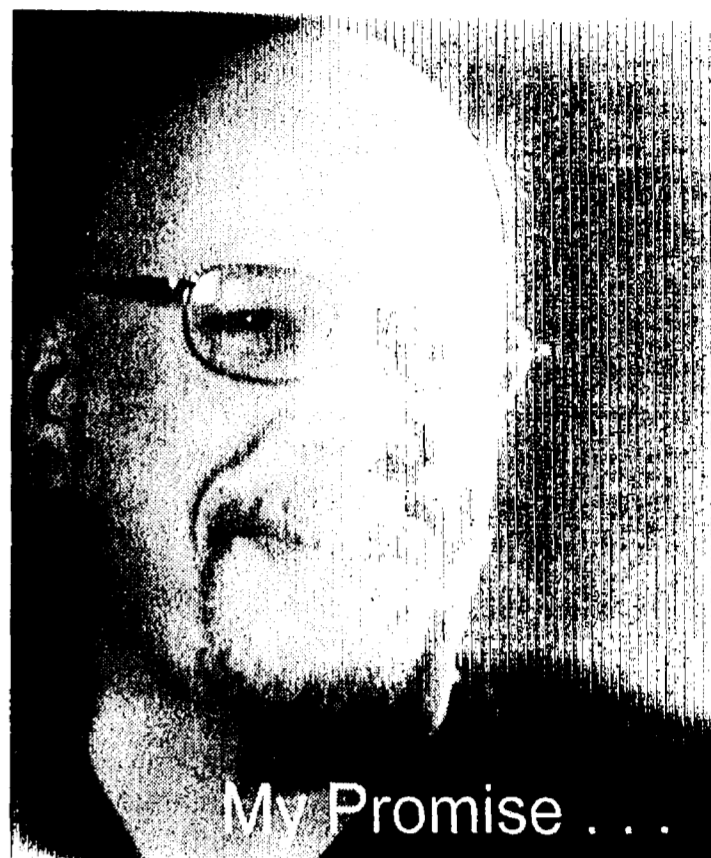
## Hospital offers Freedom from Smoking program

Charlevoix Area Hospital, in association with the American Lung Association, is sponsoring a Freedom from Smoking program.

The free, eight-week series of classes begins Jan. 11 at 3:30 p.m. at the hospital.

Participants will learn how to break the nicotine habit; get practical tips for handling stress, maintaining weight, and making changes in daily routines; and receive plenty of encouragement and support in adjusting to post-smoking life.

To register, call Charlevoix Area Hospital's Freedom from Smoking coordinator Michelle Potter at 547-8672. Space in the classes is limited.



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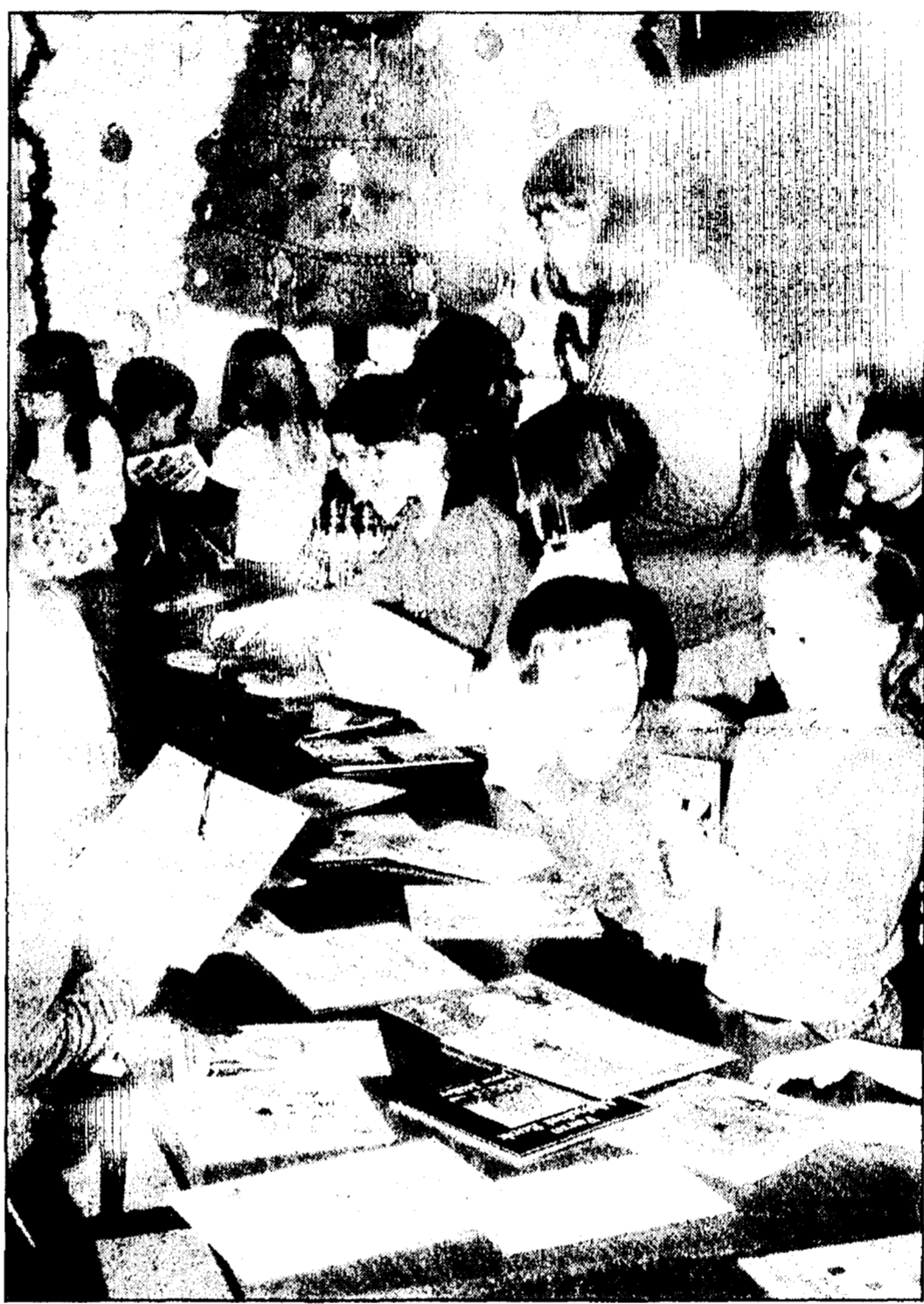
**Happy New Year**  
from the CITIZEN-JOURNAL

## READING CELEBRATION



Photos by Vic Ruggles

It was a celebration of reading at the Boyne City Elementary School recently and the highlight of the event was the presentation of "The Polar Express," written by Chris VanAllsburg. The book was read by Wendy Thomas who was assisted by Marty Moody, dressed as one of the book's characters. In addition to the presentation, students received a book and bell and were treated to hot chocolate and treats prepared by the high school hospitality class.



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# OPINION

## LETTERS

### Buy Into Boyne a great success

TO THE EDITOR:

To anyone and everyone who participated in the Boyne City Main Street's "Buy Into Boyne" promotion, I send my sincere thanks.

The event was a huge success and it would not have been possible without your support. Buy Into Boyne has raised the awareness of the power of purchasing locally and supporting our hometown businesses. It's amazing how a dollar spent in one store and another couple dollars spent in another store can add up to be almost \$400,000 in two months!

Boyne City's merchants work hard every day to keep our community together by supplying our residents and visitors with what it needs. For Buy Into Boyne a few businesses acting as redemption sites, worked even harder to add to its success and for that I am even more grateful.

A giant thank you goes to the following businesses, the owners, and their employees: bali living imports, Boyne Area Chamber of Commerce, Boyne Avenue Greenhouse, Country Now & Then/Up the Lazy River, Curves for Women, Mary's of Boyne, Needfull Things, and North Country Cycle Sport.

I would also like to specifically thank Leslie Neilson of bali living imports. She was the brainchild behind Buy Into Boyne and she worked tirelessly to make it happen. Thanks also go to the City of Boyne City and their crew for helping to clear away the snow and prepare Old City Park for the big drawing.

Once again, thank you to everyone who participated in Buy Into Boyne and have a very Happy New Year.

Kelly Larson, manager  
Boyne City Main Street



## MANY THANKS

### Support for EJ Holiday Baskets was 'unbelievable'

The preparation and distribution for the East Jordan Christmas Holiday Baskets went very well with the unbelievable support and help from numerous people.

We would like to thank all of the local businesses that gave food, money, toys, hats and mittens. A special thanks to the businesses that hosted a Toys For Tots Box or a Hat and Mitten tree. We also would like to thank all of the non profit groups that helped out, by giving or volunteering. Last but not least, a huge thanks to everyone else in our community, that gave big or that gave small, we appreciate everything you do.

We would like to thank our new and old friends and family that volunteer and help make the distribution day go as smoothly as possible.

Happy holidays to you all.  
East Jordan Care & Share Food Pantry and Toy Program

### Proceeds from Labor Day Show put to good use

The Boyne City Labor Day show staff would like to give a huge thank you to all the local businesses that sponsored our show. Without their support, the show would not happen.

For those who do not know, our proceeds all go back to the community and we would like to share with everyone where our monies went this year: \$1,000 went to the Charlevoix County Community Foundation (a long-term investment); \$1,000 went to Boyne City High School for two \$500 scholarships; \$500 went to the Boyne City Chamber of Commerce; \$500 went to Boyne Falls School for a scholarship; \$500 went toward a scholarship for the best support of a student who works at the show (Amy Burns was the 2004 winner); \$250 went to the Boyne City Rotary Club for youth development; \$200 went to the Boyne District Library; \$200 went to Boyne City Swim School; \$200 went to the Boyne City Fire Department; \$200 went to Camp Daggett; \$200 went to the Boyne City Historical Society; and \$25 went to the Boyne City Buck Pole. And for the outstanding support of the City of Boyne employees (street crew, police department, office staff, etc.) we are buying them pizza for lunch.

I would like to personally thank Mark Wuerth for all of his time and effort into our show and our staff here at Classic Instruments, Inc. and Great Lakes Motor Works.

The 2005 Downtown Invasion will be Sept. 2 and the Auto/Motorcycle show will be at Veteran's Park on Sept. 3. For information contact me at 582-9100. See you next year!

John McLeod, Great Lakes Motor Works

## GUEST COLUMN

### The fine art of resolution-making

By ZACK LOEPRICH

I've never been one to make New Year's resolutions. If I have, they've always been a little absurd: I resolve to forget about my resolution after two months; I resolve to proclaim once a week that I plan on exercising three times a week; with my new credit card, I resolve to pay off my old debt.

I have often said that around November, I need to start smoking just so that I have something to quit. With the exception of pop, my diet doesn't include a lot of sugar and my fast food intake is fairly minimal (at least compared to previous years in my life).

Reducing the amount of caffeine we put into our bodies is often the target of a resolution. I do enjoy coffee and a couple glasses of diet pop. I guess I could give those up, but then I'd find myself tired during the day and that would lead to a resolution to get more sleep. I've already found that there are not enough hours in the day, so getting more sleep would mean I'd have to cut time elsewhere. I'd probably spend less time cooking. That would lead to more fast food. Well, that's not very healthy, so I'd have to make another resolution to eat better. Then, just as a majority of Americans do, I'd forget about my resolutions after two months. Then I'd feel like a quitter, so I'd have to make a resolution to follow through on my goals.

After a seemingly endless line of resolutions, I'd be reduced down to a wired quitter who oversleeps and is addicted to fast food. This is why I don't make resolutions.

Experts say to make obtainable resolutions. First off, who could possibly be a New Year's resolution expert and second, who dictates obtainable. I believe if you're going to go the resolution route, you may as well go for broke, go for the complete absurd. "I resolve to help the Lions win the Super Bowl!" Alright, I may just ask to become a trillionaire.

A recent survey indicated that, to no surprise, resolutions pertaining to health and fitness are made most. Of those, 43 percent deal with weight loss and

15 percent deal with increased exercise.

The second most popular category of resolutions pertained to careers. Individuals sought new jobs, promotions, increased production and income.

Next to losing weight, the second most popular specific resolution is paying off debt. The survey also revealed some other specific financial resolutions. They include: Becoming a millionaire by 50; to stop spending money on motivational tapes; and to make a budget to live on for two years. If you have a problem over spending on motivational tapes, maybe a resolution isn't the best way of addressing it. Professional help may be necessary, but then again that will cost money.

I like the millionaire by 50 resolution. Why not go for it all? Who cares about exercise and weight loss if you're rich. I'd rather be fat and wealthy than poor and in shape.

It's always struck me as convenient that New Year's is placed at the tail-end of the holiday season. After more than a month of giving and overeating, it seems logical that debt reduction and weight loss are the most popular resolutions.

If New Year's found itself tucked somewhere in the summer, resolutions might deal more with lower golf scores and better tans.

With all that said, I'm going to make a couple resolutions for next year, just so that I can join the 65 percent of other Americans who participate in this holiday tradition.

Resolution one: I'm going to gain weight during next year's holiday season. Everyone is always complaining about putting on a few extra pounds during the holidays. Not me. It's going to be my goal. I will embrace the fat. At the very least, I can say I achieved one resolution.

Resolution two: By age 50, I'm going to become a fat millionaire who gets rich by selling motivational tapes addressing financial security. I hear there's a market.

(Zack Loeplich is the editor of the Antrim County News, a sister publication to The Citizen-Journal.)

## VETERAN OF THE MONTH

### Lewis Cameron Archer Sr.

The Veteran of the Month for December is Lewis Cameron Archer Sr.

Born Dec. 15, 1940 in Petoskey, Archer left school and enlisted in the U.S. Navy on Jan. 18, 1957 in Detroit. Following basic training Archer was assigned to the U.S.S. Pritchett, with ports of call in Australia, during his three years at sea. He completed his active duty aboard the U.S.S. Cushing.

On Jan. 11, 1961 at the U.S. Naval Receiving Station, Norfolk, Va., Archer was transferred to the Ninth Naval District, Great Lakes, Ill., U.S. Naval Reserves. Archer received an Honorable Discharge on Jan. 21, 1963 having attained the rank of Seaman on Sept. 1, 1958.

In 1962 Archer went to work for Jim & Charley's Auto Service and attended school becoming certified in Chrysler air conditioning service and repair. On Nov. 14, 1963 Archer married Lois Marie McCurdy in East Jordan and built a home on Tompkins Road south of Boyne City. Archer was devoted to his wife and family and enjoyed roller skating, raising farm animals and riding his motorcycle. He died May 13, 1971 and is being honored by his wife Lois and family.

The Veteran of the Month Program is available for any deceased veteran who served honorably in the United States military. To honor a veteran, call the program chairman at (231) 588-6067 or on Tuesdays call (231) 582-7811 between 4-9 p.m. The ceremony may be witnessed on the first Thursday of each month in front of the American Legion Post located on the corner of Lake and Main in Boyne City at 6:15 p.m.



Lewis Cameron Archer Sr.

## 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.

# The Citizen Journal

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**OBITUARIES**

**Vera Caroline (Supnick) Avery**

Vera Caroline (Supnick) Avery, 94, was born to William and Wilhelmina "Minnie" (Abend) Supnick, July 20, 1910 in Detroit. She went to be with her Lord on Dec. 26, 2004.

She loved to share stories of spending her childhood summers on a farm with her Grandmother Abend, near Deckerville, and of how her grandparents had escaped from Germany.

A graduate of Smith High School in East Detroit, she also graduated from the Commercial School of Detroit.

On June 22, 1935, she married James E. Avery at Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Detroit.

She and her husband moved to Boyne City in 1946, where they owned and operated the historic "Parkers Grocery Store" on Pleasant Avenue for many years. Vera also worked as a bookkeeper and seamstress. She was employed by Singer Sewing Center in Petoskey and for Florenski's Upholstery and Draperies of Boyne City. She later worked at Foxes' Ben Franklin store in Boyne City until her retirement in 1978. A long time 4-H leader, she taught sewing and knitting to young women in the Boyne City area.

She and her husband, Jim, moved to Montverde, Fla., in 1979 where they made their home and enjoyed their retirement. She returned to Michigan in 2000, where she has made her home with her children.

Vera lived her life in the Lord. She was baptized and confirmed into the Lutheran Faith at Holy Cross Lutheran Church of Detroit.

She was a member of Christ Lutheran Church of Boyne City for more than 30 years where she taught Sunday School, was active in Mary Martha Circle, and other church activities. After moving to Montverde, she and her husband were members of Woodland Lutheran Church, and were involved in the work of building a new church there.

She is survived by seven of her nine children: Caroline (Gary) Psenicka, Bill (Jeanette) Avery, Ruth Becker, James Avery (Joanne Wilhelm), Jeanette (Mark) Behling, Richard (Toni) Avery, and Ann Ball. She is also survived by a son-in-law, George Hankins; her brother and wife, Wilbert and Dorothy Supnick; 18 grandchildren, 11 great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

Preceding her in death were her husband, Jim, who died Sept. 18, 1997; a daughter, Genevieve Hankins; a son, Larry Avery; granddaughter, Karen Boegeter; her parents, William and Wilhelmina Supnick; and a brother, Bernharte Supnick.

Funeral services will be held Thursday, Dec. 30, at 1 p.m. at Christ Lutheran Church in Boyne City. Burial will take place at Maple Lawn Cemetery at a later date. Visitation will be Wednesday, Dec. 29, from 2 to 4 p.m. and 6 to 8 p.m. at Stackus Funeral Home, Boyne City.

Memorials in her memory can be made to the Christ Lutheran Church of Boyne City or Hospice of Northern Michigan. Envelopes will be available at the funeral home.

**Carroll Joseph George**

Carroll Joseph George, 91, of East Jordan died Thursday, Dec. 23, 2004 at Charlevoix Area Hospital.

He was born on Sept. 15, 1913 in Cadillac, the son of Hugh and Ethel (Telander) George.

He served in the United States Army during World War II.

On Sept. 3, 1944 in Detroit, he married Virginia L. McMaster. Carroll worked for 30 years at the Ford Motor Company trim plant in Utica. He retired in 1976 and moved to East Jordan. He was a member of the First Presbyterian Church in East Jordan, American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and the Elk Lodge #1780 in Plymouth. He enjoyed camping, fishing, handyman work and gardening.

Carroll is survived by his wife, Virginia, of East Jordan; two daughters, Carole (Tom) Derenzy of East Jordan and Janet (Kenneth) Jansma of Cedar Springs; six grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; two brothers, Donald (Esther) George and Elmer George; and one sister, Ardith Miller, all of Cadillac. He was preceded in death by his parents.

Funeral services were held Tuesday, Dec. 28, at Penzien Funeral Homes, Inc. in East Jordan. Interment was held in Morehouse Cemetery in Echo Township.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society or the Alzheimer's Association.

**Martin T. Braman II**

Martin T. Braman II, 50, of East Jordan, died Sunday, Dec. 26, 2004, at his home.

Martin was born on Nov. 14, 1954 in Bellaire, the son of Martin T. Braman and Delores (Bushard) Braman.

He was a member of the Harvest Barn Word of Life Church in East Jordan. He had resided in East Jordan for many years. He was raised in Mancelona where he graduated from high school.

He owned and operated Boyne Country Insurance Company. Prior to starting his company he spent many years managing several Glens Markets in and around northern Michigan. He was an avid sports fan and enjoyed camping and fishing.

On Aug. 23, 1992 in East Jordan, he married Rose Zipp who survives. Also surviving are four children, Jennifer Lynn Braman of Traverse City, Martin Thomas Braman III of Williamsburg, and Travis Tyler and Randy Weston Braman, both of East Jordan.

In addition to his children he is survived by his father Martin T. (Charlene) Braman of Bullhead, Ariz.; his mother Delores (Tom Sylvester) Braman of Mancelona; two brothers, Biff Braman of Nevada, Rick (Micah) Braman of Utah; a grandson Brandon Braman of Traverse City; and many nieces and nephews.

Visitation will be held Wednesday, Dec. 29, from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at Penzien Funeral Homes, Inc. in East Jordan. Funeral services will be held on Thursday, Dec. 30, at 11 a.m. at the Harvest Barn Word of Life Church in East Jordan. Pastor Kimon Criner will officiate.

Memorial contributions may be directed to his family.

**Theresa Jean Foster**

Theresa Jean Foster, 65, of Bayshore, died early Monday, Dec. 27, 2004, at Charlevoix Area Hospital.

Theresa was born on Feb. 19, 1939 in Saginaw, the daughter of Daniel P. and Beatrice (Clements) Nathan.

Theresa ran a day care for many years in the Boyne City area. She loved helping others and being with her grandchildren. Theresa raised four children and one granddaughter all on her own.

Theresa is survived by her children, Daniel (Janet) Collison, David (Edie) Bierschbach, Georgina (Michael) Hill, George (Christina) Foster; 18 grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren; brother, Michael (Jan) Nathan; sister, Mary Ecker; several aunts, uncles and many nieces and nephews.

Funeral services will be held Friday, Dec. 31, at 2 p.m. at Stackus Funeral Home with the Rev. Fr. Francis Partridge officiating.

Visitation will be held Friday from 1 p.m. until the time of the service. Burial will take place at Maple Lawn Cemetery in the spring.

Memorial contributions may be directed to the family, in care of George Foster. Contribution envelopes will be available at Stackus Funeral Home.

**Charles (Chuck) Jacobs**

Charles (Chuck) Jacobs went to be with his Maker after 47 years of life, on Monday evening, Dec. 20, 2004, while in the University of Michigan Hospital for a bone marrow transplant.

Chuck was born and raised in Richmond. He spent his adult life in the Boyne City area, helping raise his two daughters, Courtney and Jenneca, along with Donna Prevost, his ex-wife and friend. He enjoyed working for Culligan Water Conditioning of Petoskey.

Chuck's most important achievements in his life were that he found God's redeeming grace through Jesus Christ. This in turn, helped him be a great father. His love for his daughters was evident in everything he did. Last, but not least important, is that Chuck loved others, and he was loved by others.

Chuck is survived by his daughters; his twin sister, Liz Kroondyk; and a brother, Mike. He is preceded in death by his parents Bob and Peg Jacobs, and a brother, Curt.

A memorial service will be held at The Walloon Lake Community Church on Wednesday, Dec. 29, at 11 a.m. Chuck will be buried along with his dog, Chewy, who passed away in October, at the Jacobs' family plot in Richmond, Ind., at a future date.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to the Charlevoix County Humane Society. Funeral arrangements were made with the help of Stackus Funeral Home in Boyne City.

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|--|--|--|

## Boyne City Public Schools

### Week of Jan. 3-7

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <p><b>Elementary/Middle School</b></p> <p>Jan. 3 Pizza, mini corn dogs, fresh fruit, harvest pilaf, vegetable blend</p> <p>Jan. 4 Chicken rings, pizza dippers, oven baked fries, peas, apples</p> <p>Jan. 5 Hot dogs, nachos with cheese, corn, bananas, mexi-nice</p> <p>Jan. 6 Chicken caesar salad, pizzeria pizza, fresh baby carrots, pears</p> <p>Jan. 7 French bread pizza, homemade chili and a roll, tater tots, green beans, fruit mix</p> | <p><b>High School</b></p> <p>Jan. 3 Mini corn dogs, breadsticks</p> <p>Jan. 4 chicken rings, macaroni and cheese</p> <p>Jan. 5 nachos, BBQ wrap</p> <p>Jan. 6 Caesar salad, rotini and meatsauce</p> <p>Jan. 7 Homemade chili, biscuits and gravy</p> <p>Daily Choices: Three choices of pizza, turkey, ham and cheese or Italian style subs with fresh fixings, chicken sandwich, at least five side dishes every day, including such choices as potatoes, rice, noodles, fruits, and vegetables</p> <p>Fresh fruit and vegetables served daily</p> |
|---|--|

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|---|---|---|

## Lunch-Menu

### East Jordan Public Schools

**Week of Jan. 3-7**

|  |  |   |   |
|--|--|---|---|
| <p>Jan. 3 Chicken nuggets, corn dogs or tuna sandwich, green beans and peaches</p> <p>Jan. 4 Chicken quesadilla, walking tacos or burritos, rice, refried beans, pears</p> <p>Jan. 5 Nachos with cheese, meat, cheese, baked potatoes or cook's choice, broccoli, apples</p> <p>Jan. 6 Chili with crackers, hot dogs or pot pies, sweet peas, mixed fruit</p> <p>Jan. 7 Pizza or taco salad, corn, fruit</p> | <p><b>Sponsored by these local businesses:</b></p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; text-align: center;"> <br/> <b>Maple Ridge Dental Group</b><br/>                     Dr. Danielle J. Swartz<br/>                     Dr. Brian Sladys<br/>                     Dr. John Kempton<br/>                     • Children Welcome • Restorative Dentistry<br/>                     • Cosmetic Services • Implants • TMJ<br/>                     1231 536-2601<br/>                     East Jordan                 </td> <td style="width: 50%; text-align: center;"> <br/> <b>Jordan Valley Accounting Services</b><br/>                     Income Tax Specialists<br/>                     Personal • Self-Employed • Business<br/>                     • Bookkeeping • Payroll<br/>                     Cash in 24-48 hours<br/>                     536-2092<br/>                     Fax 536-0171                 </td> </tr> </table> | <br><b>Maple Ridge Dental Group</b><br>Dr. Danielle J. Swartz<br>Dr. Brian Sladys<br>Dr. John Kempton<br>• Children Welcome • Restorative Dentistry<br>• Cosmetic Services • Implants • TMJ<br>1231 536-2601<br>East Jordan | <br><b>Jordan Valley Accounting Services</b><br>Income Tax Specialists<br>Personal • Self-Employed • Business<br>• Bookkeeping • Payroll<br>Cash in 24-48 hours<br>536-2092<br>Fax 536-0171 |
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**WEEKLY Health Tips**

By Steve Czerkes Pharmacist

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**Food program distribution is January 6**

Northwest Michigan Human Services Agency in Petoskey will hold its monthly food distribution on Jan. 6 from 8:30 to 10 a.m. at the Boyne City Senior Center.

The Commodity Supplemental Food Program targets nutritionally at risk mothers, infants, children, and people aged 60 and older.

For more information, call NMHSA in Petoskey at 347-9070 or (800) 443-5518.

**SUBSCRIBE TODAY.**

Call The Citizen-Journal at (231) 582-6761 for more information

**Boyne Falls Public School Lunch Menu**

**Week of Jan. 3-7**

- Jan. 3: Chicken nuggets or meat loaf, fries, salad and fruit
- Jan. 4: Chili macaroni or chicken taquitos, breadstix, corn, salad, fruit
- Jan. 5: Hot dog or burger on a bun, onion rings, salad, fruit
- Jan. 6: Little Caesars or ham sandwich breadstix, green beans, salad fruit
- Jan. 7: Fish stix or cook's choice, mac and cheese, salad, fruit

Sponsored by these local businesses:

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| <br><b>The Citizen-Journal</b><br>112 S. Park St., P.O. Box A<br>Boyne City, MI 49712<br>Up North Publications, Inc.<br>(231) 582-6761 • Fax (231) 582-6762<br>Email: citizen@voyager.net | <br><b>Lynda's Real Estate Service</b><br>112 S. Park St.<br>Boyne City, MI 49712<br>Office: (231) 582-9555<br>Home: (231) 582-7625<br>Email: lchris@voyager.net<br>Website: lyndasrealestateservice.com |
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## NEIGHBORS

By NANCY NORTHUP

**HOLIDAY SURPRISE** for Marti Hutchinson on Thursday was a visit from her daughter and family from Reedsburg Wis., Traci and Troy Bishop and three children, Morgan, Eric and Jenna. Marti was supposed to watch for the UPS truck bringing her a large package, which turned out to be the Bishop family. Marti was very thankful for her present this year!

**THE NINTH** annual Community Christmas Dinner at the First Presbyterian Church was held Christmas Day. Turkey, ham and all of the trimmings prepared by chef Al Lawson and all of his helpers were a huge success. Brandi McMillan and Caitlin Hager supplied musical entertainment.

**FAMILY JOYS** of Christmas were shared and appreciated more by the efforts made by my brother Mike and his son Eric Northup, in making the trip up from Eastpointe on the cold but beautiful Christmas Day to be with those of us here, sharing the day at the seasonally decorated home of our gracious mother, Edna May. At 87 years old, she never ceases to amaze us all, with her artistic creativeness and love for family, expressed this year by gifting each of us with a unique and beautifully done cookbook of favorite family recipes.

**MORRIE AND SUE HOBBS** enjoyed Christmas Eve at their home with her mother, Hilda Reinhardt, daughter and son-in-law, Ben and Kim Matelski, grandchildren Ben and Brittany and friend Russell, son Scott Hobbs from California and former exchange student Kelly Chen, who is now attending college in California. Christmas dinner was enjoyed at the Matelski home in Boyne Falls on Christmas Day.

**DR. AND MRS. GARY MELLON** were the hosts of Chris and Erika McCleary and daughter Riley, who were visiting the area from Grand Rapids over the weekend.

**CAROLINE MCCLEARY** spent the holiday weekend at her son Patrick's home in Petoskey.

**ADELL HIBBARD** is doing fairly well, but had to move down to Big Rapids, as she just could not be up in Boyne by herself. She has her own apartment in a senior housing complex and is very happy with it and the move brought her within five minutes of her daughter, Nancy, which gives her and all the family a sense of security. It was a sad moment to leave Boyne but will continue to always call it home, and they will be coming back all the time. Friends might like to drop her a line. Send to: Adell Hibbard, 830 Country Way Apt #19, Big Rapids MI, 49307.

**"FIRST SNOW** since 1895 in this part of Texas and it made it to 50 degrees. Today is supposed to be 64 and by Thursday back to 80, but there was frost on the car window this morning," were the day-after Christmas words of former East Jordan resident Fred Kamradt, who winters in south Texas and lives in Lapeer the rest of the year. Seems there really are cold snaps wherever you go this winter!

**CRAIG AND DARLENE DEMING**, Chad and Kaitlan spent Christmas Eve afternoon at Cal Deming's. Everyone enjoyed the time together, and had fun opening gifts. On Christmas Day, Lynn and Mike Shaw, Niki Andrick, Barbie Deming and Kaylee and Madison came to share holiday times with Helen and Cal. All enjoyed a wonderful day, and everyone liked their gifts. An extra bonus was a call from Liane (Deming) Fisher of North Carolina and Jason Deming, who would have liked to have been here for the festivities but were unable to do so. It was a wonderful

Christmas for all.

**HOLLY STANEK** celebrated her sweet 16 birthday on Dec. 5 with a pizza party at the home of parents, Chuck and Laurie Stanek. Those present were her grandparents, Leon and Shirley Beal, Leona and Charlie Stanek; brothers, Noah and Charles Stanek and wife Carrie, Matt Chappuis and his grandparents Duane and Debbie Chappuis.

**A BELATED** Christmas Dinner was held on Sunday at the home of Charlie and Leona Stanek due to both being sick! Those present to visit or eat were Barb Imel, Bonnie and Alan Olund, Laurie, Holly, Noah, Charles and Carrie Stanek; Betsy, Rick, Cody and Candice Olund; Dale, Chonnie, Bobby, Justin and Casey Holzschu and gal friends, Sara and Kristy.

**NOAH STANEK** celebrated his 23rd birthday Wednesday night with a pizza party at the Chuck Staneks with grandparents, the Leon Beal and the Charlie Staneks present, plus Charles and Carrie Stanek and Matt Chappuis.

**ALSO BIRTHDAY** greetings to Miles Imel who had a first birthday party on Tuesday night, Dec. 21, at his home at the Matt Imels and to Rick Olund who celebrated his birthday on Dec. 23.

**IN WINDING** up 2004 my thanks go out to all my respondents to this column and best wishes for a safe, healthy and Happy New Year!

To submit an item, call Nancy at 582-9174 or e-mail to neighbors@gtlakes.com

## Guild makes \$25,000 pledge to rehab center

The Charlevoix Area Hospital Guild, according to its president, Ruth Waters, has made a \$25,000 pledge to the remodeling and expansion project at the Boyne Rehabilitation Center.

"We believe the work being done at Boyne Rehabilitation for women's health problems is very important and we want to help insure that no one has to wait for therapy," Waters said.

"This is a wonderful gift from the Guild, and it honors volunteers from throughout the area and what they have done for us," said Kathy Johnson, director of the Charlevoix Area Hospital Foundation.

"The Guild continues to be a major supporter of the hospital, not only in all the tasks they willingly perform, but in the level of financial support they provide."

The Guild, which celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2004, has donated more than \$250,000 to the hospital for equipment and expansion and donated thousands of hours volunteering at Charlevoix Area Hospital, Boyne Medical Center and Boyne Rehabilitation Center.

## COLLEGE NEWS

**JASON GRACE** and **ELLIE NEIDHAMER** of Boyne City have been named to the Dean's List for the fall term at Northwood University.

Grace is the son of Susan Elzinga of Boyne City and Neidhamer is the daughter of Tom and Debbie Neidhamer of Boyne City.

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Buy Into Boyne winners are, from left: JoEllen Trixler, Susan Stanley, Clayton Boone, Dawn Zimmer, Rachelle Stefanic, Steve Anderson and Al Lawson hold up their winning checks. Photos by Laura Cassidy

## Winners

Continued from page 1

"It took a while to catch on," she said, but once it did the participation was encouraging.

Serving as one of the redeeming sites, Neilson had several people visit her store who otherwise would never have come in.

She equated shopping locally to voting. Just as some people don't think their vote matters, some don't think their dollar counts so they take their business to big

shopping centers.

"People can make a difference for local businesses," she said. "We appreciate every dollar they spend here."

According to Neilson, almost 1,000 people participated in the drawing, turning in \$370,000 worth of receipts for purchases made at the 40 participating businesses between Oct. 15 and Dec. 21.

Kelly Larson, the Boyne City Main Street Program Director, already has improvements in mind for next year's Buy Into Boyne drawing. In January, she will hold a follow-

up meeting where the organizers will discuss how they can make next year's event bigger and better. Neilson anticipates that next year more businesses and community members will participate and more money will be awarded.

"Next year, watch out," she said. "We'll give away more money and advertise in more communities so people will come and see what Boyne City has to offer."

As the MC for the night, Boyne Area Chamber of Commerce Director Scott MacKenzie concluded the evening saying, "When you buy in Boyne, everyone wins."

**"Next year, watch out. We'll give away more money and advertise in more communities so people will come and see what Boyne City has to offer."**

— Leslie Neilson, event organizer



Around 500 people gathered at Old City Park, hoping to win the Buy Into Boyne jackpot.



Joining winner JoEllen Trixler were Leslie Neilson, left, who organized the event, and Boyne City Main Street Program Director Kelly Larson.

## Crisis

Continued from page 1

the point that spending it down further wouldn't be advisable."

Districts are expected to hold a fund balance of 10 percent of operating expenses. By the end of the current school year, the East Jordan School District's fund balance is expected to be \$670,000, approximately 6.5 percent of its expenses, ruling out further expenditure of the fund balance to meet the district's budgetary needs.

Boyne City is in somewhat better condition, having built up \$3.1 million over the past four years in anticipation of state cuts.

In response to the cuts, East Jordan residents have taken action to help the school system. The approval of a Headlee Override proposition last spring added \$110,000 in revenue to the district's budget.

"East Jordan is such a supportive community when it comes to our schools," Hansen said. "The people here have been very generous with our schools, and their support is much appreciated."

Unfortunately, the forecast for the future predicts more rain before the conditions begin to improve.

At the state revenue consensus hearing this month, it reported that it fell short of balancing Michigan's School Aid Budget last year and expects a deficit again this year.

The governor and legislature have promised they won't make mid-year reductions again, and thus far they have protected the schools. However, there is a

revenue consensus hearing in January and another scheduled later in the winter. The state could still decide on a reduction for this school year, as it has each of the past three years, Diebold said.

"I personally think we will look at more cuts before the school year is over," Cooper said.

Even if the state keeps its promise to provide the full per-student fund grant this year, East Jordan School District expenditures will exceed projected revenues for the 2005-2006 school year by approximately \$725,000. According to Hansen, this amount reflects the increased cost of employee benefits and retirement.

"The health care piece is out of control and it will become unmanageable at the state level pretty quickly unless the legislature gets a handle on it," Hansen said.

According to Diebold, the Michigan Constitution obligates the state to fund the retirement for school employees. However, 10 years ago the state shifted the burden onto the back of the school districts.

Though it continues to pay a fixed 90 percent of pension costs, costs increase 15 percent each year,

which equates to \$119 per student that the local school district must spend on employee retirement. Diebold has worked with legislators to develop legislation that would reduce the burden for school districts, but it has not been passed yet. According to Hansen, the school

system will continue to reduce health care costs and encourage the legislature to address the pension issue.

In spite of the financial crisis, the area school districts believe they have continued to provide high quality education to their students.

"I'm especially proud of our faculty and staff," Hansen said. "They've done a great job over the past two years, helping to pinch pennies while doing a great job in our classrooms and work areas."

Hansen indicated that he plans to meet with school staff in January to identify potential retirements and leaves of absence, as well as areas of potential cost savings.

"Our commitment, as it always is, will be to the classroom and to preserving all of the programs that make our schools unique," he said.

While Hansen is encouraged by the efforts of the

**"I'm especially proud of our faculty and staff. They've done a great job over the past two years, helping to pinch pennies while doing a great job in our classrooms and work areas."**

— Chip Hansen, EJ superintendent

faculty, staff and community, he noted that the current stop-gap measures such as budget cuts and drawing from the district's fund balance are similar to applying a bandaid to a wound when a tourniquet is needed. Structural changes in Lansing are pertinent to the future of Michigan's schools, he said.

According to Diebold, Proposal A is not the culprit behind the financial crisis.

"Proposal A was working until the legislature unwittingly made structural changes to the revenue side of the School Aid Fund. If they can restore the promise of Proposal A, schools in Michigan will be on their way to being healthy again," Diebold said.

Cooper shares this opinion, noting that the legislators who were in office in 1994 when Proposal A was passed are not the ones who tweaked it; nor are the ones who altered it the ones who will have to repair it.

On the positive side, Diebold believes that legislators are beginning to understand that there are real issues with Proposal A, not all of which are related to cyclical changes in the Michigan economy, but that may be related to how it has been altered.

Hansen will meet with parents and community members in February and March to keep everyone informed about the progress as well as enlisting the community to help convince legislators to act now to fully fund public education in Michigan.

"Public education is the bedrock of our democracy. It's fundamental to a healthy Michigan and a healthy nation, and it's time to make it the priority it deserves to be," Hansen said.

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CITY OF EAST JORDAN REQUEST FOR REZONING The City of East Jordan Planning Commission has received a rezoning application from Sally Gilmore to rezone the property commonly known as 501 Water Street, which is legally described in property tax code # 15-053-679-001-00, from PO (Professional Office) to C-1 (Local Commercial District).



## From the North Pole

With attire appropriate for the season, Boyne Falls students took the stage last Wednesday evening to present their holiday program, "North Pole Exposure." Directed by Heidi Hinkley, the program featured students from kindergarten through 12th grade. In this scene, students are singing "I wanna go to Hawaii where the weather is warm all the time." After Monday morning's sub-zero temperatures, many area residents were probably singing the same song.

Courtesy photo

## News Briefs

### Ski academy training starts next week

The Northern Michigan Ski Academy training sessions start Jan. 5 at Boyne Mountain and Jan. 6 at Boyne Highlands. Training sessions take place from 6:30-8:30 p.m. on Wednesdays at Boyne Mountain and Thursdays at Boyne Highlands. A meeting for parents will take place at both locations during the opening training sessions.

The Northern Michigan Ski Academy (NMSA) began more than 27 years ago as a program to teach area children the fundamentals of ski racing. The program is the only non-profit ski academy in the area where young skiers learn how to race and have fun on the snow. The Academy is run by volunteers who are interested in promoting the sport.

Training sessions are held for eight weeks beginning in January. During the Wednesday and Thursday night sessions, skiers will ski in small groups with an NMSA coach. Skiers learn the fundamentals of ski racing. Friday nights are open gate nights only at Boyne Mountain with courses set that the skiers can run as they wish. Coaches are available at the top and bottom of the courses.

Each Sunday, from 2-4:30 p.m. "racing" scrimmages take place. Two of the Sundays will offer timed gate racing where skiers ski against the clock and against themselves. Six of the Sundays bring together the Highlands and the Mountain skiers for combined racing. Racers are ranked for participation in the NMSA Racing Team that races in the Tecnica Cup, which brings together skiers from across northern Michigan.

Complete information on the program and the 2005 calendar is available at [www.nmsa-zone.org](http://www.nmsa-zone.org).

For registration forms and additional information on NMSA, call Dave Hofacker at 526-3064 or Bob Simpson at 535-2786

### Snowmobiler hurt after he was thrown from sled

Matthew Okeefe of Boyne City was injured on Dec. 20 in a snowmobile accident.

While riding near East Jordan, the headlamp on his snowmobile failed, he ran into a snowball and was

thrown from the sled. According to the accident report, the snowmobile continued forward until it struck a deck of a residence on Graham Road in South Arm Township. Okeefe was transported to Charlevoix Area Hospital and released the same evening with minor bruises.

Following the accident, Sheriff George Lasater encouraged snowmobilers "to use extra care and caution this winter to make it a safe sport for everybody."

### Holly Daze exceeds goal

The 12th annual Holly Daze was a big success, according to Patti Barrow, chairperson for this year's Charlevoix Area Hospital event.

"Our goal was \$60,000," said Barrow, "and with 150 individuals attending this year we raised \$64,325, all to benefit our Year for Women's Health."

Funds will assist with the purchase of a computer-aided detection mammography system, the expansion and remodeling of the Boyne Rehabilitation Center, and to help underwrite community outreach programs focused on women's issues.

Holly Daze, a live and silent auction, was held at the Charlevoix Country Club.

### County Democrats meet Jan. 6

The Charlevoix County Democrats will meet Jan. 6 at the Dilworth Hotel in Boyne City. The meeting will begin with a Dutch-treat dinner at 6 p.m. followed by the meeting at 7 p.m.

"This first meeting, to which everyone who is interested is invited, is to welcome both old and new members and encourage others to participate," said

county Democratic chair Bill Lovett. "We are looking to broaden our membership and plan the direction of the party for the next two years."

On the agenda will be resolutions Northern Michigan Democrats wish to see presented by the county delegates at the State Democratic Convention in February in Detroit.

Future monthly meetings, scheduled for the first Thursday of each month,

will feature guest speakers, beginning with Char-Em Superintendent Mark Eckhardt in February, who will discuss the topic of public school financing. In March, economist Dr. Samuel Williamson will lead a discussion on Social Security.

"The issues and speakers we present will be both timely and relevant to the concerns of the people of northern Michigan," Lovett said.

## Service Briefs

Navy Seaman Apprentice VANESSA LEGG, step-daughter of Mark W. Smith and daughter of Mary E. Legg of Boyne City, recently completed U.S. Navy basic training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Ill.

Legg is a 2004 graduate of Boyne City High School.

## Judge rules against city

Federal judge Gordon Quist ruled last week that a lawsuit between the City of Boyne City and the Friends of the Boyne River be sent back to state court.

According to Phil Erickson of Plunkett and Cooney, who is representing Boyne City in the litigation, the FOBR sued the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality on three accounts.

The city stepped in to represent its interests in the process.

"We're intervening as a defendant, monitoring the litigation to make sure the city's interests are protected," Erickson said.

The FOBR claimed a violation of part 41 of the Natural Resources Environmental Protection Act (NREPA), which deals with permitting for wastewater treatment plants.

"This is only the second such challenge in State of Michigan. It is very unusual that someone would challenge improvements to treatment plant," Erickson said.

The second allegation against the MDEQ, according to Erickson, relates to part 51 of the NREPA, which deals with financing for wastewater treatment projects. As part of the Clean Water Act, a State Revolving Fund was set up to allocate federal monies to projects that are required under the act.

The city received approval for funding from the State Revolving Fund for its wastewater treatment plant project. The city would receive a loan at less than three percent interest, Erickson said.

"Why someone would attack the ability of a municipality to obtain low interest

funding is difficult to understand," Erickson said.

The third claim made by the FOBR was a violation of the right to due process under the U.S. Constitution. According to Erickson, this is why the city pushed the case into federal court.

"We believe that we have the right to have a federal court interpret federal law because the plaintiff had plead a violation of its right under the U.S. Constitution."

City Manager Michael Cain said, "We didn't want to go all the way through state since we thought it might go to federal court anyway."

Federal judge Quist sided with the FOBR, saying that the issues were of concern to state law, rather than federal law, and remanded the case to Ingham County Circuit Court in Lansing, where the FOBR had originally filed the case, Erickson said.

In addition, Quist ordered the city to pay the FOBR attorney fees which amounted to more than \$5,000.

"The latest ruling by a federal judge is very much in our favor," said Larry Maltby of the FOBR.

"We were very pleased," According to Erickson, this order is not final.

"We have a right to appeal that determination. The city commission will make an informed decision on whether to appeal the order," he said.

The city feels that the FOBR have made premature allegations. The FOBR are suing about issues related to part 41 of the NREPA, and the group's real concern is with part 31, which deals with the discharge location, Erickson said.

"The FOBR's real issue is

the discharge location. They are suing about a permit for the wastewater treatment plant. Our view is that their suit is premature," he said.

"They're putting the cart before the horse."

When the city initially applied for the permit for the wastewater treatment plant a couple of years ago, two applications were filed: a part 41 permit for the treatment plant and a part 31 permit for the river discharge.

According to Erickson, the MDEQ has been urging the city for at least 10 years to move the wastewater discharge location from its current location near the city beach in Lake Charlevoix to the Boyne River. In the middle of the process, the city decided it needed to do more studies with regard to the change of discharge location, and asked that a hold be placed on the permit.

According to Maltby, "The wastewater project must be considered in its entirety."

The FOBR has no issue with the city building a new wastewater treatment plant, he said. The group only wants to make sure that the Boyne River is not contaminated by the wastewater, which would run right through downtown Boyne City and would be detrimental to trout, salmon, and steelhead that populate the river.

According to Cain, the city has hired Aquatic Ecology Associates to look into the feasibility of wetland discharge, a study that is costing the city \$69,000.

However, "The original decision to go with discharge into the Boyne River is the course we're pursuing," Cain said "We see this as a bump in the road, but we're still going forward."

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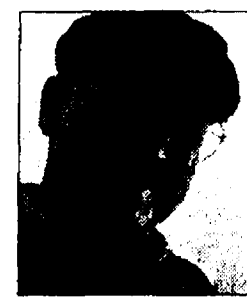
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## One holiday tradition we can all live without

By Ernie Harwell



According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 17,419 people were killed and 700,000 others were injured in alcohol-related traffic crashes in the U.S. last year. Perhaps the saddest news of all is that more alcohol-related traffic fatalities occur during the

holiday period than any other time during the year. But it's important to remember that people typically don't plan to be impaired drivers. It's even more important to remember that everyone can plan ahead to make sure it doesn't happen. If you plan to celebrate with alcohol, here are tips to help you enjoy a safer holiday season:

- \* Avoid situations where there is a likelihood that you will drink and drive.
- \* Find someone to be your designated driver before you take that first drink.
- \* Ask for juice, a soft drink or coffee after you have an alcoholic drink or two.
- \* Decide on a limit, such as two drinks, and stick to it.
- \* If you have difficulty stopping, call a friend before you take the first drink — you may even decide not to take it.

Simply put, if you'll be drinking, have a plan. It's the best way for you and others to celebrate and be safe.

And remember, take care of your health before it's longgg gone!

Ernie Harwell, "the voice of the Detroit Tigers" for more than four decades, retired after 55 years behind a major league microphone. Today, at age 86, Ernie's days are filled with serving as a health and fitness advocate for Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan and Blue Care Network, public appearances, writing, traveling and taking long walks with "Miss Lulu," his wife of more than 60 years. His latest book, a collection of his baseball columns titled "Life After Baseball," is available at local bookstores or by calling 1-800-245-5082.