

THE CITIZEN JOURNAL

BOYNE CITY, MICHIGAN

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WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 12, 2005

AT A GLANCE

Challenge Mountain hosting Special Olympics

Special Olympics Area 33 Regional Winter Games are coming to Challenge Mountain on Jan. 27.

The games will start at 10 a.m. and will feature athletes from all over northern Michigan, including Charlevoix, Boyne City, Cheboygan and Gaylord. Local support of these athletes can help them achieve their goal of attending the State Winter Games.

Volunteers are still needed to assist with the games.

If you are interested in volunteering, contact Sue at 231-535-2141.

Chambers preparing for annual meetings

The Boyne Area Chamber of Commerce will hold its annual meeting on Thursday, Jan. 27 at 6 p.m. at Garrett's On Water Street.

Tickets are \$10 for chamber members and \$15 for non-members.

On the agenda for the 2005 meeting, guests will have a chance to meet the board of directors, and network with other business professionals. There will also be an awards ceremony.

This year, the chamber has added a new award. Besides the traditional Civic Pride Award, a Boyne Area Chamber of Commerce Sally Roselli Business Leadership Award will be conferred at the meeting.

The chamber's annual fund-raising auction will be held, with many valuable donated items.

There will be hors d'oeuvres served, as well as a cash bar.

To make a reservation, call (231) 582-6222, or e-mail kathy@boynechamber.com by Friday, Jan. 21.

The East Jordan Area Chamber of Commerce has adopted a tropical theme for its annual meeting, dinner, auction and awards ceremony.

The evening will begin with hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar at 5:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 29, at the East Jordan Civic Center. The Caribbean-style dinner will be at 7 p.m. and the auction and awards ceremony will follow at 8 p.m.

The chamber sought out "unique outings and experiences not normally available for purchase" for the annual fund-raiser, according to the chamber auction committee.

Awards to be conferred will include the Presidential Award, the Ambassador Award, the Renaissance Award and the Citizen of the Year.

Cost for the evening is \$25 (non-refundable), and reservations must be received no later than Jan. 21. No called-in reservations will be accepted.

For information, see ejchamber.org, or call (231) 536-7351.

Guests are encouraged to dress in tropical attire.

INSIDE

A NEW WAY OF DEALING WITH ARTHRITIS
— SEE PAGE 8



Quiet waters

Depending on your point of view, the snow-covered slips at the Boyne City Marina either create a beautiful winter scene or make you long for the days when the ice and snow are only a memory and the marina is full of boats and boaters enjoying a warm summer day on Lake Charlevoix. For those longing for sunny and warm days, spring arrives March 20 and the first day of summer is June 21.

A visit during troubled times

■ Boyne City woman was in Thailand when tsunami hit

By JANE BOOZE
Contributing Writer

When Rachael Cassidy went to meet her boyfriend's family over Christmas, little did she know the eyes of the world would be focused on where she was going.

Cassidy, a Boyne City High School graduate and a fourth-year interior design student at Michigan State University, and Rut Wattanasak, an MSU graduate who works at the National Institute of Health outside of Washington, D.C., arrived in Thailand Dec. 16. She returned home on Jan. 6.

Cassidy said that, unlike traveling at home or even in Europe, while she was in Thailand, she couldn't understand anything. The newspapers and televisions were foreign, so she relied on people to tell her what was going on.

"I asked, 'What's going on?' and they said, 'A tsunami has hit,'" Cassidy said.

She was in Bangkok when the tsu-

unami struck the southern part of Thailand, and she was not fully aware of the devastation until she was leaving.

The last day she was there she saw an English newspaper, and realized the full extent of what had happened.

"I think it was being reported more here," she said.

On the plane on the return trip, Cassidy heard other people talk about their experience closer to the epicenter.

"People who had been there said that their hotel wasn't affected, but the staff left and didn't come back for two days. The villages were dead," Cassidy said. "Maybe they were afraid, or maybe they were looking for their families."

"One guy said he felt the earth move, and the next day the world had changed," Cassidy said.

"If I could have stayed longer, I would have wanted to do something to help," she said.

"It is a beautiful country," Cassidy said, "but very old." She explained that

it was not at all dirty, in terms of hygiene, but that there was a lot of dust.

"On the beach in the morning, people would walk along and pick up bottles," she said. "I saw people sweeping the sidewalks. It was very clean. But the markets were open to the air, and so we brushed away flies when we ate. People were used to that."

"People eat everything at the table," Cassidy said. "They don't save things for later or take them home. I couldn't eat as much as they could, even though they are thin people. If your plate starts to get empty someone would put more on it."

"I learned that if I ate very slowly, my seconds wouldn't be as big," she said.

"They eat three meals a day," said Cassidy, "Dinner, dinner and dinner. There's never milk and cereal. There are always four or five dishes at each meal that are shared among the family."

Wattanasak's father's family is



Rachael Cassidy sits with two women dressed in traditional Thai outfits at the national games in Ratchaburi where Cassidy's boyfriend's sister competed in swimming events.

wealthy, according to Cassidy, and they have people in their home who help with cooking and housekeeping.

"His immediate family is not so wealthy," she said. "Rut's mother stays home and takes care of the family, and his father flies helicopters. When we stayed in a hotel, we looked for rea-

sonable places to stay." They did travel to a southern beach village, but did not go anywhere "resorty" Cassidy said.

She did not notice fishing boats or fishermen, but she said that people ate a lot of fish, so there must have been a healthy industry.

FINDING SUCCESS

■ East Jordan's Shane Williams is making a name in fire truck industry

By NATE THOMPSON
Contributing Writer

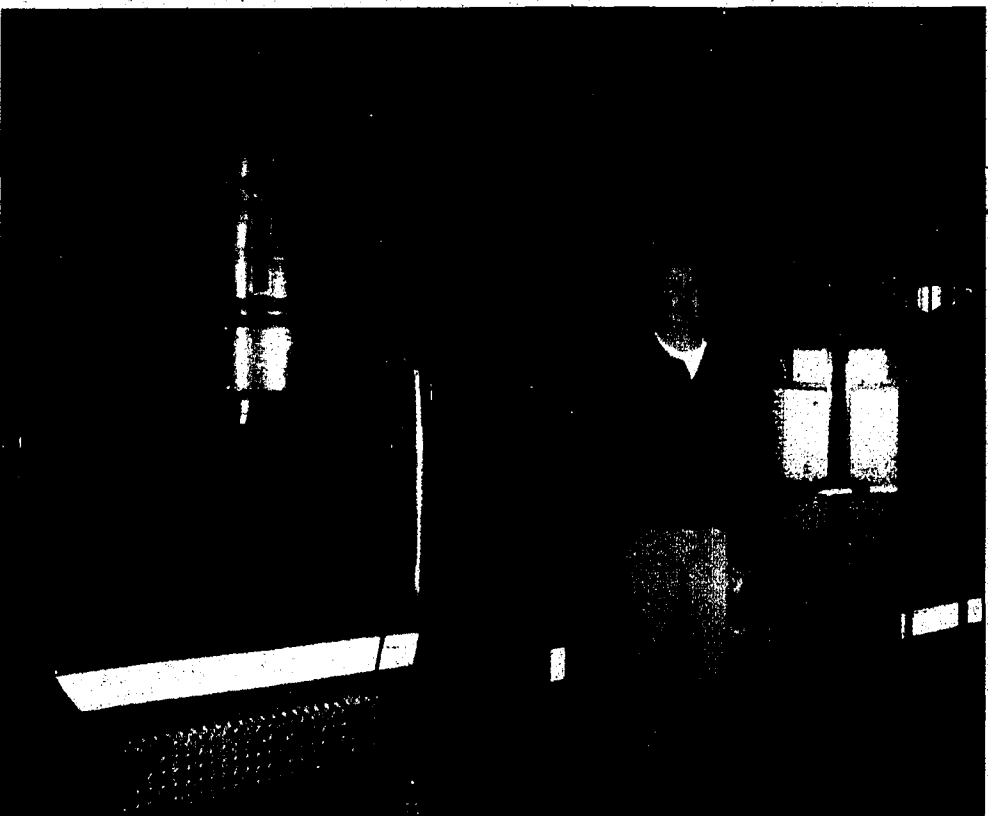
Fire departments around northern Michigan, and as far away as North Carolina, have discovered what East Jordan's Shane Williams Enterprises can offer.

The business, which is in a partnership that also owns American Fire Apparatus and Wolverine Fire Apparatus, has had a hand in designing hundreds of fire trucks, including Central Lake Township's 2005 International tanker/pumper combo, which holds 2,000 gallons of water.

But Williams, a former member of the East Jordan Fire Department, said he had a lot more fun having a hand in designing the new pumper for the Manelona Fire Department.

"We call it the monster," Williams said from his office on M-32, across the road from the East Jordan Airport. "The average pumper holds about

Please see FIRE TRUCKS on page 12



Shane Williams operates Shane Williams Enterprises, a business that designs fire trucks, including Central Lake Township's 2005 International tanker/pumper combo.

VETERAN OF THE MONTH

RICHARD JOHN GUITAR

The Veteran of the Month for January is Richard John Guitar.

Born Sept. 2, 1931 in Detroit, Guitar left school and enlisted in the U.S. Air Force on March 22, 1949 in Dearborn. Following basic training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas, Guitar was transferred to Fort Monmouth, N.J., where he received training as a radio operator.

Guitar spent the next 15 months at outposts in the Arctic Circle, Greenland and Labrador, serving as a radio operator, with his last tour of duty at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Tucson, Ariz.



On Nov. 26, 1950, while home on leave, Guitar married Virginia Lorraine Stasiak in Detroit and on Dec. 6, 1951 Guitar was promoted to staff sergeant.

On Nov. 21, 1952, Guitar received his honorable discharge at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Tucson, Ariz., and was awarded the Good Conduct Medal.

In April 1957 Guitar enlisted in the Air Force Reserves serving to April 1960. Guitar spent most of his civilian career in manufacturing and in 1966 moved to Boyne City to become a partner in Roblo Incorporated, now Control Engineering, and later worked as a manufacturing supervisor at United Technologies where he retired in 1991.

Guitar enjoyed sports, traveling and gardening until he answered the final call on May 30, 2004. He is being honored by his wife Vera and family.

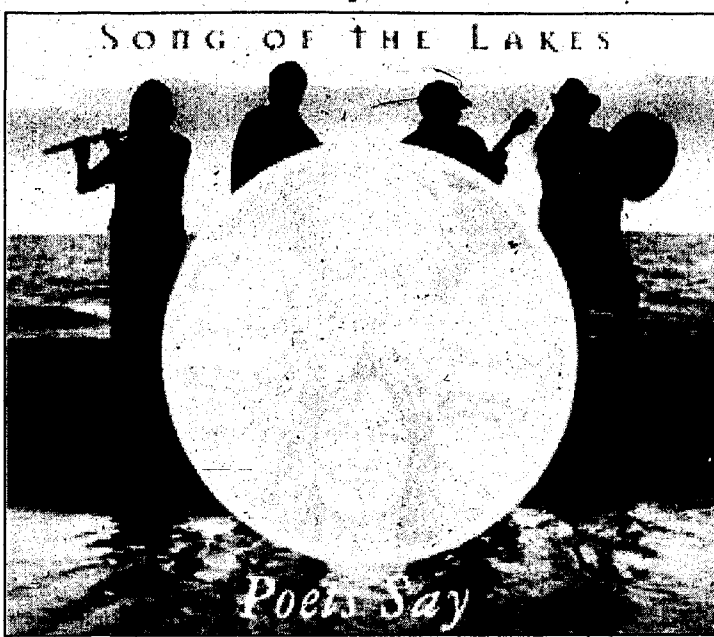
The Veteran of the Month Program is available for any deceased veteran who served honorably in the United States military. To honor a veteran, call the program chairman at (231) 588-6067 or on Tuesdays call (231) 582-7811 between 4-9 p.m. The ceremony may be witnessed on the first Thursday of each month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

Song of the Lakes will perform in EJ

As part of their "Poets Say" tour, Song of the Lakes will entertain at the Community Auditorium in East Jordan on Saturday, Feb. 12.

Group members Michael Sullivan, Lisa Johansson, Ingemar Johansson and Rick Jones first joined together as Song of the Lakes in 1983 and have toured the United States and Europe. During the summer months, the group goes to sea, performing every Wednesday night on the Tall Ship the Manitou in West Traverse Bay.

Tickets for Song of the Lakes are on sale now, priced at \$8 for adults and \$5 for children and students under 18, and are available at any office of the East Jordan Public Schools, the East Jordan Chamber of Commerce, Busy Bridge Antiques & Gifts and Café



Casa, all located in East Jordan. Tickets can also be purchased by calling the school district office at (231) 536-3131.

Visit www.ejps.org for further details and information on upcoming events.

Lending a hand

Boyer City Fraternal Order of Eagles trustee Dennis Peck, far left, presents Art Biehl from the Boyne City Glen's Market with a check for \$500 to be used for Operation Troop Connect. The donation will be used to purchase calling cards for Michigan military members and their families. Also accepting a \$500 donation is Terry Powers, second from right, director of the Boyne City Senior Center, from Sheila Wilson, vice-president of Aerie 1583.



BUSINESS BRIEFS

Boyer draws a record crowd for the holidays

Boyer Mountain in Boyne Falls and Boyne Highlands in Harbor Springs received an exciting gift over the holidays.

According to information from Boyne Mountain, a record number of 12,470 paid skier and snowboarder visits were recorded on Wednesday, Dec. 29, breaking a record set only the day before of 11,741. The new records exceed the previous set in January of 2002 and are almost 2,000 higher than any previous Christmas to New Year's holiday period in the resort's history.

Mother Nature's blessing, dedicated crews working with state-of-the-art snowmaking equipment and flexible lift ticket options were key reasons for the record numbers, according to the resort. A combined 117 downhill runs and almost 900 acres of skiable terrain at the two resorts allowed the increase in visitors to be managed.

"This was a holiday to remember," said Stephen Kircher, president of eastern operations for Boyne USA Resorts. "We are astounded at the response from our customers to our new amenities and programs. Our winter lodging reservations are also on a record pace."

"The ski business is booming in Boyne Country," Kircher added.

Studio One now offers massage therapy

Studio One Spa and Salon located in downtown Boyne City, has expanded its services to include massage therapy, aromatherapy, Swedish massage as well as prenatal, lifestyle and wellness programs.

It continues to offer haircuts, waxing, manicures, pedicures, facials and skin treatments.

Owned by Deanna Craterfield, the spa and salon recently welcomed massage therapist Amanda Schwartzfisher.

Studio One is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Saturday from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call 582-6547 to schedule an appointment.

BUSINESS GUIDE

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GUEST COLUMN

A Christmas far away from family, friends

BY SGT. EUGENE MONT JR.

So, here I sit for the third time in my 10 years in the army on Christmas Eve half way around the world, without a family member around. The first two were back to back, 1996 and 1997, in Bounholder, Germany. This, the third, in Baghdad, Iraq.

They say it's better to give than to receive. Well, I'm giving up my Christmas so millions of people can receive freedom and safety.

As I gaze at the three-foot Christmas tree that's decorated with things people have sent, I feel joy knowing we have their support.

Today on Christmas Eve I was tasked with S.O.G. (Sgt. of the Guard). Feeling down knowing that from 9 a.m. on the 24th to 9 a.m. on the 25th I'll have little to no free time. As I make my rounds to check my guards, soldiers of all ranks wish me a Merry Christmas.

Toward night time around 10 p.m., as a couple of my guards and myself are recalling Christmases past, an explosion to our front about 1,500 meters away lights up the sky.

Quickly memories take a back seat and reality sets back in. Praying that no one was hurt or injured in the blast; praying no one stateside would get a visit on Christmas Day from the army. Ten minutes later, our prayers are answered. The only ones killed were the three Iraqi men trying to place the bomb on the roadside.

With our guard points closed to the airport we start to joke. Did Santa get clearance to fly in a no-fly zone? Does Santa's sleigh have armor or counter-measures? What kind of payload did the sleigh have? How about the capabilities to carpet bomb or laser-guided missiles? Rocket pods?

As we were joking about it, our ISG walked up. He had heard some of the talk, smiling he said, "Yes, the sleigh has the ability to carpet bomb. Just depends on what the reindeer had to eat."

As he finished, none of us could control our laughter. He wished us a Merry Christmas and a good night!

To everyone back home, I hope you all had a good Christmas and a start to a Happy New Year.

I would like to say, thanks to our continued support of my soldiers, and myself. Everything that has been sent has either been used or eaten by a U.S. Army soldier serving in Iraq.

The fudge was a really big hit with the soldiers in my platoon. None of it made it past four hours, after I opened the boxes it was in. I was getting comments like: That fudge rocks, Sgt. Mont this fudge is the bomb.

Since being in the country I have stayed wound-free. It was great news to hear Howard was not seriously hurt and that she's doing fine. I have had over 20 close calls.

Outside of the missions I do with my unit, I still do some with the infantry. It's not scary rolling with Co 1/5 CAV, or the rest of the Battalion. I trust all of the Black Knights of 1/5 CAV.

As most of you have heard, yes, my Brigade was extended for the second time. We should redeploy to Ft. Hood in March. We hope.

Well, I hope everyone enjoys the snow. The only stuff we have blowing around making drifts are tumble weeds and sand.

I'll keep you all posted on events as well as I can.

O'ya, here are some things you don't see on CNN or hear about. Just from my Battalion alone: 15th FSB, two colleges refurbished; two elementary schools refurbished; a city has a working sewage system; a city now has their own motor pool for their city vehicles (I help set up this); over \$7 million in projects ongoing; over 15,000 Iraqi people have a better way of life now. This is just in our sector.

The news fails to cover this stuff so, I guess I will.

Everyone take care, and I'll see you sometime before July.



LETTERS

Boyne Falls hosting first career fair

TO THE EDITOR:

Career planning is an important process to our students' futures. This year at Boyne Falls School we will have our first Career Fair on Friday, Jan. 14. We believe this will be beneficial to the students as well as our local businesses. We would like our students to have access to all career options that they may be interested in pursuing. By having a career fair, we will be providing students a variety of options stemming from all six career pathways.

Career pathways are broad groupings of careers that share similar characteristics and whose employment requirements call for many common interests, strengths and competencies. The six career pathways are:

Arts and communication; business management, marketing and technology; engineering/manufacturing and industrial technology; human services; health sciences; and natural resources and agriculture.

The Career Fair will begin at 8:30 a.m. and run until approximately 11 a.m. The students from the middle and high schools will have time blocks to come to the gymnasium to participate. We will have a list of all the businesses and colleges that R.S.V.P. back to us for the students to look at before coming to the fair, who they would like to see or get information from when they arrive. Please R.S.V.P. to us by Thursday, Jan. 13, if you will or will not be able to attend.

If you would like to bring information the students can take home, please be sure to bring approximately 200 copies. If you will need any media equipment to run a video throughout the career fair please let me know. Any questions or concerns on or about the Career Fair, call me at (231) 549-2211 ext. 136.

Ruth Ann Wilson,

Boyne Falls Public Schools school-to-work coordinator

Christmas Dinner was a very special time

TO THE EDITOR:

It was Christmas Day of 2004 when I entered the First Presbyterian Church of Boyne City.

The aroma of freshly roasted turkey, stuffing, gravy, mashed potatoes and dinner rolls, mingling in the air, brought back fine memories of Christmases past. As I moved toward the dining room, the voices of the people gathered there resonated contentment and joy. "This is good," I thought, and I smiled.

To my right, there was a small room with a door, almost closed, and my heart was filled with love for the human voices that were singing, (practicing) their offering for this eighth annual Community Christmas Dinner. I peeked in, quietly, and saw two young ladies, very intent, and happy in their work!

I pulled the door back to its original position, and moved closer to the dining room.

I could see the one who was greeting the guests, and she had such a happiness on her face. I knew this was because she loved her work this day.

As I walked into the dining room, I was so pleased to see all the people there - some with smiles greeting others; some in conversation; some laughing; some simply content - the ones who were serving, and the ones who

accepted the invitation of the Christmas Dinner, to be shared together. In actuality, each one was serving in some way. (Though some weren't aware of it.) Whether "in the kitchen," or by attending the dinner, each one was meeting a need of another, in some way. I knew the truth of their hearts, and the whole atmosphere glowed with it. I thought, "This is right, and good!"

The dessert table was absolutely lovely. Many labored, with loving hearts and hands, to provide these delicious morsels, to top off the meal.

Over in the right hand corner I noticed gifts, on a table, given by many in this small, but very giving, community. The gifts cried out, "Pick me! Pick me!" Many did receive a gift and I was glad. It made me glad for those who received the gifts, and glad for those who gave them. I thought, "Praise the Father!"

I deeply appreciate each person of Boyne City, who gave of their finances, their time, their hearts, their bodies, their selves - in any shape or form. You know who you are, and I won't violate your sense of anonymity.

Remember I love you, all, with all my heart,
Jesus P. S. Thank you for celebrating my birthday!

Jennifer Blaine Lawson

Boyne City

Deadline for sending packages for Valentines is fast approaching

By MAXINE HOUGH

Now that the big rush is over to get Christmas packages mailed to our troops on time, now we need to think about Valentine's Day.

Letters, pictures and cards should be in the mail by the end of this week for them to receive them by Valentine's Day. No need to pick through the "love-dovey" cards in

the stores; head for the section that has the packets of silly cards in them—the ones school children get to exchange.

What soldier or Marine wouldn't get a bushel of laughs pouring through those cards, going back over memory lane, and sharing with others?

Also mailable are the little valentine hearts with the crazy messages on them: i.e. "get real, cutie pie, my man,

angel, etc." Some enterprising troops might pass them out to the Iraqi children and help them read English words.

NEWS FLASH: SP4 Jennifer Lehto is now back in the states and should be home in Boyne City this Friday or Saturday. Let's all give her a big "Welcome Home" and thank her for serving her country!

(Maxine Hough is a member American Legion Post #228)

LETTERS

Contributions help area families

TO THE EDITOR:

A sincere thank you goes out to all of you who contributed so generously to the Women's Resource Center's annual Harvest Food and Supply Drive to benefit the Safe Home. Your kind donations of food, supplies, financial support, and gifts have stocked the shelter pantry and provided holiday cheer to many families in our community.

Last year the Safe Home housed over 130 women and children who otherwise would have been homeless due to domestic abuse. The shelter is a 24-hour-a-day, 365-days-a-year resource to families in crisis in Antrim, Charlevoix, Cheboygan, Emmet, and Otsego counties.

The community support received during the Harvest Food and Supply Drive allows the WRC to continue providing these important services to families in need.

Thanks to all the service groups, churches, businesses, schools, clubs, and individuals that made supporting victims of domestic abuse in this community a priority. Your contributions have a direct, positive impact on the lives of many families in northern Michigan.

Jamie Winters, safe home coordinator

Kiwanis appreciate community's support

TO THE EDITOR:

We want to thank the Boyne community for another great season of support for the Boyne City Kiwanis Club.

As many residents may not know, the Boyne City Kiwanis Club provides monetary and other support for our community's children, schools and special need people including Camp Quality, Camp Daggett, K-Kids, our Community Christmas, literacy programs, and many other local programs. All funds that are raised go directly back to our community through club donations and our dedicated members who volunteer for all sorts of events.

Kiwanis' largest fundraising takes place during the holiday season with Koeze Nut sales, coloring book sales and Heidi Ho mixed nuts sales. The club participated in the Boyne City and Boyne Falls craft shows selling nuts and coloring books and members took orders for Koeze Nuts and Gift sales.

We'd like to thank the community for helping Kiwanis raise nearly \$2,000 through these sales. While many of the club's goals were met, we still have a large supply of Heidi Ho Mixed Nuts (3.5 pound cans selling for \$20 - a great value compared to retail) and coloring books (all sorts of themes selling for \$6 each or two for \$10.) When sold our remaining supply of nuts and coloring books can provide another \$1,000 that will be donated back to the community. Please contact any of our members or call Debbie Spence at 582-7750 if interested in purchasing any items.

Again, thank you Boyne for a great holiday season.

Scott Stahl,
Treasurer, Boyne City Kiwanis Club
Nannette Miller,
President, Boyne City Kiwanis Club

Lucky to have two fine doctors

TO THE EDITOR:

Customer service is alive and well in Boyne City.

Recently I found myself with an eye infection and my optometrist out of town. I took a chance and walked into Eyes on Main, was seen in 15 minutes and was taken care of in no time.

Thanks so much to Dr. Mellon and his staff. Not to mention that my optometrist, Hufford Vision and Eye Care, called me back within an hour of my call to him. Kudos to Dr. Hufford and his staff as well.

Boyne City is lucky to have two fine and customer service-oriented doctors.

Chris Wacholz
Boyne City

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SPORTS

Loggers rolling

■ Boyne Falls is unbeaten in league play

By PHIL TROMBLEY
Sports Writer

The Boyne Falls varsity basketball team remained unbeaten in league play with a dominating 69-31 win at home over Vanderbilt on Friday, Jan. 7.

A balanced scoring attack, that saw 11 Loggers contribute to the score sheet, had Boyne Falls safely in front 20-3 after one quarter of play. Boyne Falls upped the margin to 44-12 at the half and 57-21 after three periods.

"It was a good game where we took control in the first quarter. All 15 players played quite a bit and 11 of the 15 scored," said Boyne Falls coach Frank Hamilla.

Demetrius Burks scored 12 points to lead the Loggers (5-1 overall, 3-0 Northern Lakes Conference) and Jim Gross added ten points.

THE BOYNE FALLS junior varsity team defeated Vanderbilt 66-25 to move its overall record to 4-2 with a 2-0 mark in league play.

The Loggers held leads of 15-2, 29-11 and 46-17 at the end of the first three quarters.

**Boyne Falls 65,
Mackinaw City 62**

A 23-16 fourth quarter run turned a 46-42 Mackinaw City lead into a 65-62 Boyne Falls victory on Tuesday, Jan. 4.

The Loggers held a lead of 18-16 after one quarter, but the Comets came back to take a 35-30 advantage at the intermission.

"We got out played for about two and a half quarters," Hamilla said. "They were up by 12 at one point in the third, but A.J. Hawkins really carried us in the fourth quarter with his 11 points."

Hawkins totaled 17 points for the game to head a trio of Loggers in double digits. Burks tossed in 15 points and Trevor Matelski chipped in with 11. Josh Jarema also had nine rebounds and four assists for the game.

Boyne Falls takes to the road for its next two games against Ellsworth this Friday and Alba next Tuesday.

THE BOYNE FALLS junior varsity team downed Mackinaw City 57-35.

The Loggers held leads of 16-8, 30-16 and 46-25 at the quarter breaks.

BC netters compete at Kingsley

Jessica Nichols was named the team's most valuable player to highlight the Boyne City varsity volleyball effort at the Kingsley Invitational on Saturday, Jan. 8.

Nichols served at a 93 percent clip for the day with two aces, 22 digs, four kills and one block.

Lindsay Baic chipped in with an 86 percent serving day, two aces, 19 digs, five kills and three blocks; while Emily McLane served at 88 percent with three aces.

Boyne City went 0-3 in the tourney, losing to Lake City (13-25, 7-25), Traverse City Christian (19-25, 20-25) and Buckley (8-25, 16-25).

Charlevoix 3, Boyne City 0
Charlevoix posted wins of 25-10, 25-15 and 25-11 to hand Boyne City a conference loss on Thursday, Jan. 6.

Nichols, Trisha Tomkins and Alex Welborn were all perfect at the service line to pace the Lady Ramblers. Nichols added 23 digs, three kills, five blocks and one ace.

Coach Casie Parker also credited Tori Crum and Rachel Jabara for their great defense.

Boyne City (0-14-0 overall, 0-2 LMC) will travel to Elk Rapids tomorrow.



PHOTOS BY VIC RUGGLES

East Jordan's Brandon LaCount, battling for position under the boards, scored eight points last Friday night. The Red Devils are back in action Friday at Grayling.

Looking to step it up

By PHIL TROMBLEY
Sports Writer

A balanced St. Francis scoring attack was too much for East Jordan last Friday night at home as they lost 74-52.

St. Francis (5-1 overall, 2-1 Lake Michigan Conference; the Gladiators lost to Grayling in a make-up game Saturday night) took a 17-10 first quarter lead and stretched the margin to 44-31 at the half

"Conference play is a whole different level of play and we need to increase our intensity and our execution to be effective."

— Lance Bailey,
EJ head coach

and 52-40 going into the final period.

"We seemed a step slow the whole night," said East Jordan coach Lance Bailey.

"I was disappointed with our execution both on defense and offense. St. Francis played extremely tough defense and we struggled to dictate the tempo on offense."

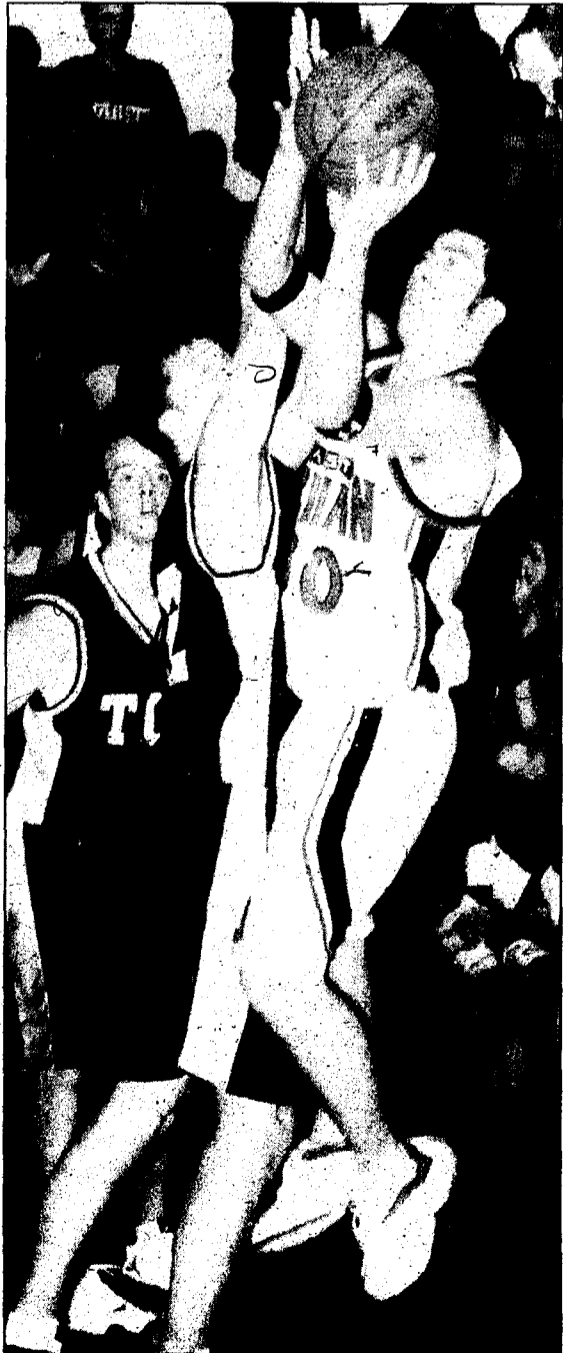
Kyle Dañeff scored 19 points and hauled in seven rebounds to pace the Red Devils, while Alex Lorne added ten points with some excellent hustle at the post position.

Bailey also cited Brandon LaCount for a very aggressive game attacking the basket and contributing with eight points.

"Conference play is a whole different level of play and we need to increase our intensity and our execution to be effective. We will adjust and compete in our conference," Bailey said.

For St. Francis, Hunter Nostrand and Ben Popp tossed in 18 points each, while Troy Kierczynski scored 12 points and Kyle O'Brien 10 to lead the visitors.

League play continues with two road games this week as East Jordan (3-2 overall, 0-2 LMC) travels to Grayling on Friday and Elk Rapids next Tuesday.



Tom Krause keeps his eye on the basket as he goes up for two against St. Francis.

Ramblers drop two

By PHIL TROMBLEY
Sports Writer

A trio of Vikings scored in double figures to lead a Grayling offensive attack that handed Boyne City a 71-43 Lake Michigan Conference opening defeat at Grayling on Friday, Jan. 7.

The Vikings jumped in front of the Ramblers 24-11 after one quarter of play and never looked back with leads of 42-23 at the half and 58-34 after three periods.

"Grayling executed well and they really hit on all four cylinders," said Boyne City head coach Tim Smith. "They've got three really good players and they played us tough."

Gibson Tobin and Josh Hinkle tossed in 19 points each to lead the Vikings, while Eli VanNuck contributed 11 points.

Reed Ameal led the Ramblers with 10 points and Drew Mittig chipped in with eight points.

Smith also credited Scott Morrow and Bill Kurtz for coming off the bench with some quality minutes and solid play.

Morrow scored four points and grabbed six boards.

**Suttons Bay 56,
Boyne City 53**

The Ramblers held the lead for much of the game on Tuesday, Jan. 4,

but Suttons Bay had the height and the stamina to prevail in the end and pull out a 56-53 non-conference win over Boyne City.

"I thought that we played well in the first half, but we just ran out of gas. It was a matter of conditioning," said Smith.

Boyne City led the contest 16-9

after one quarter and held a 25-18 advantage at the intermission before the Norsemen tied the game 35-35 after three. Suttons Bay outscored Boyne City 21-18 in the final quarter to gain the win.

"We played with great energy, but give them credit. They made some tough shots," said Smith.

Reed Ameal led all scorers with 23 points and Grant Ameal scored 12, while Mittig and Dillon Olmstead chipped in with eight points each.



At times, Reed Ameal drew the unenviable task of covering Gibson Tobin, who scored the 1,000th point of his career late in the game. He was honored with his father and older brother who also broke the 1,000 career point mark for Grayling.

Ryan Voisin led the Norsemen with 16 points, Cole Eikey scored 14 and Scott Rees scored 12.

The Ramblers will travel to Kalkaska this Friday and then play host to Charlevoix next Monday. The day was changed from Tuesday because it is exam week.

EJ wins sportsmanship award at v-ball tourney

By PHIL TROMBLEY
Sports Writer

The East Jordan varsity volleyball team did not win a match at the Bulldog Invitational Volleyball Tournament held in Inland Lakes on Saturday, Jan. 8, but the Lady Devils did come home from the event with the team Sportsmanship Award.

"The award that we won was representative of the way we played," said East Jordan coach Paul Nachazel. "The girls never stopped fighting, but couldn't overcome some major obstacles. We were missing our setter, and one of our best passers and hitters."

East Jordan lost to Pellston 11-25, 13-25, Inland Lakes 10-25, 12-25, Cedarville 12-25, 22-25, Pickford 17-25, 16-25 and Onaway 21-25, 18-25 before splitting with Atlanta 25-16, 18-25.

The Lady Devils were led by Tabatha Grover (15 aces, 18 assists, two kills), Jill Dreth (15 kills, five aces, one block), Megan Warnos (eight assists, three aces) and Cassidy Crick (four kills, two aces, one block).

East Jordan 3, Elk Rapids 2

The Lady Devils earned their second Lake Michigan Conference victory on Thursday, Jan. 6, when East Jordan defeated Elk Rapids 15-10 in the fifth and deciding game of the match.

East Jordan won the opening game 25-9, Elk Rapids took the second game 25-20, East Jordan prevailed in the third 25-9 and Elk Rapids won the fourth 25-23 to set up the showdown.

"We had great play all the way

around. Misti Massey, Bridget Knight and Nina Peters all came off the bench for some key plays," Nachazel said. "Our play continues to improve. I am especially proud of our defense."

Grover had five kills, five aces and four digs; Sierra Roberts had four kills, four aces and eight digs; Jessica Roberts chipped in with 14 assists and six digs; Amanda Arreguin contributed two kills and Kayla Matejewski had five digs.

East Jordan (3-8-4 overall) will host Charlevoix tomorrow night and then travel to Traverse City St. Francis next Monday.

JV's, Freshmen Both Win

The East Jordan junior varsity swept Elk Rapids 25-13, 25-16, 15-9 to remain perfect on the year with a 3-0 overall record.

Jessica Chew led the effort with 100 percent serving, four aces and one dig, Cassidy Crick also served 100 percent with four aces and two kills and Jamila Baier served 100 percent with four aces.

"I'm very proud of the way the team came together to pull off the victory, playing well as a team with no one individual standing out," said coach Jackie Haley.

Sarah Kupovitz had 19 points and put down ten aces to lead the freshman team to its second straight victory of the season.


Clancey Garland contributed with eight points, eight aces and two kills, while Treasure Timmons chipped in with two kills.

The junior varsity team will travel to the Inland Lakes Invitational tournament this Saturday.

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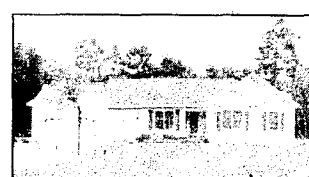
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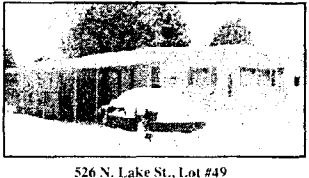
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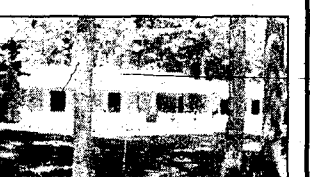
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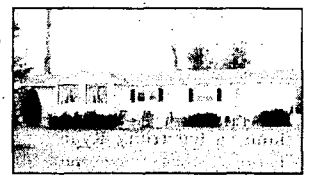


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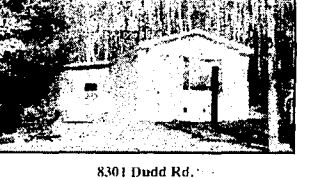
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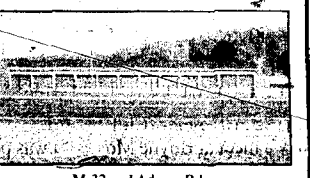
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<p>10th Annual Sno-Blast Kids Fishing Contest Starts 8 a.m. Friday, Jan. 14 and ends 6 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 16. Entrants must be 12 years old and under. Sign up is free at Tom's Bait and Tackle. All fish entered will win a prize. In case of unsafe ice or conditions, this contest will be held at a later date to be announced. Sponsored by Country Kids Day Care and Tom's Bait and Tackle.</p> <p>Lighthouse Missionary Church Dinner/Silent Auction Jan. 15 at the East Jordan High School Auditorium from 4-7 p.m. Cost: \$12 adult; \$7 children up to 11. For More information, call Judy Sayer, 587-8104; Cam Yarbrough, 536-7424; Angie Gee, 536-2320. Sponsored by Lighthouse Missionary Church Missions Team.</p> <p>E.J. Chamber of Commerce Cash Raffle Cost: \$25 each/2 for \$40. Prizes: 1st place-\$1,000; 2nd place-\$600; 3rd place-\$400. Drawing will be held at the East Jordan Civic Center, Jan. 29 at 8:30 p.m. For more information, call 536-7351.</p> <p>10th Annual Sno-Blast Fishing Contest Starts 8 a.m. Friday, Jan. 14 and ends at noon, Sunday, Jan. 23. Sign up with bait purchase at Tom's and try to catch the longest Walleye, Pike, Perch, Crappie, or Blue Gilt. Top three fish in each division will be awarded certificates of accomplishment. Hook and line only. No frozen fish allowed. Contest boundaries are Antrim and Charlevoix counties. In case of unsafe ice or conditions, this contest will be held at a later date. Sponsored by Tom's Bait and Tackle.</p> <p>Sno-Sculpture Contest Entry fee \$5 each. Cash prizes and certificates awarded. Commercial, residential and civic categories. Entry deadline Jan. 19 with judging on Jan. 20. Sno-Sculptures must be within one mile of the city limits. (Space available at Sportsman's Park to make sculptures) Theme: Discover East Jordan - Michigan's Tropical Paradise in January. Applications available from chamber. Call 536-2944 for more information. Sponsored by Darlene's Restaurant</p> <p>Sno-man Contest No entry fee. All entries receive a prize. Winners announced 4 p.m. on Jan. 19 at the Sportsman's Park. Theme: Discover East Jordan - Michigan's Tropical Paradise in January. Sponsored by McDonalds and The Computer Center</p> <p>Poster Contest Open to all fourth grade students. Make a poster that shows Sno-Blast Festival activities. Posters will be judged and prizes awarded. For more details, contact Mary Murray at the Elementary School, 536-7564. Sponsored by Little Caesars Pizza.</p> <p>Merchants Indoor Sidewalk Sales All Festival weekend businesses will hold special clearance sales and special events within their stores. Come in from the cold and get some hot deals.</p>	<p>FRIDAY, JANUARY 21, 2005 Chili Supper 4 to 7 p.m. East Jordan Sno-Mobilers Clubhouse, Mt. Bliss Road (off M-32). Chili, salad, dessert and beverage - \$5 adults; \$3 children. Sponsored by East Jordan Rotary.</p> <p>SATURDAY, JANUARY 22, 2005 Antique Snowmobile Club of America Members of the Antique Snowmobile Club of America will be in town for our parade and will have machines on display at the Sno-Mobilers Clubhouse from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. For more information, call Don Massey at 536-2944.</p> <p>Concessions - 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. East Jordan Sno-Mobilers Clubhouse.</p> <p>Drag Racing Registration - 9 a.m. At East Jordan Sno-Mobilers Clubhouse and grounds. For more information contact Gerry Argetsinger, assistant race director at 582-7970 or race director, Ren Graham at 536-0452. Trophies awarded.</p> <p>Sno-Blast 2005 Parade Registration 10-10:20 a.m. at Fire Hall, pre-registration encouraged: Be creative! Decorate your snowmobile, build a float, wear a costume. Categories: civic, commercial, theme and individual. Phone chamber at 536-7351 to pre-register. Theme: Discover East Jordan - Michigan's Tropical Paradise in January.</p> <p>Refreshments Free hot chocolate and coffee in Memorial park before, during and after the parade. Sponsored by Jordan Valley Freedom Festival</p> <p>Sno-Blast 2005 Parade - 10:30 a.m. Join Old Man Winter and all the fun entries as they parade down Main Street in our renovated downtown. Parade Grand Marshals - Gerry and Maxine Argetsinger. Parade MC - Tom Clemons. Sponsored by East Jordan SnoMobs and City of East Jordan Police Department.</p> <p>Crowning Ceremonies (post-parade) In Memorial Park on the snow stage. Crowning of the 2005 Belle of the Blizzard and Winter Knight. Candidates are: Lori Campbell, Jennifer Aenis, Kathy Keyser (Belle of the Blizzard); Dave Campbell, Mike Aenis, Paul Keyser (Winter Knight). Sponsored by East Jordan Area Chamber of Commerce SnoBlast Committee.</p> <p>JVFF Krispy Kreme Donut Sale 10 a.m. at Memorial Park and 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at Murphy Field. Help support the JVFF with your purchase of Krispy Kreme doughnuts and warm up with a FREE cup of hot cocoa or coffee. For advance doughnut sales contact Becky King at The Computer Center 536-2386.</p> <p>Sno-Blast Ice Cream Social After the Crowning Ceremonies, enjoy a complimentary frosty treat. Sponsored by Arlie's IGA. Servers: East Jordan Chamber Junior Ambassadors.</p>	<p>Sno-Ball Throwing Contest 11 a.m. at Murphy Field. Judging in age divisions on accuracy and distance. For information, call 536-3395. Sponsored by Murray's Bar and Grill</p> <p>Snowmobile Drags - 11 a.m. Saturday only. East Jordan Sno-Mobilers grounds. Drivers must be 18 years or older. Trophies awarded. Sponsored by East Jordan Sno-Mobiles.</p> <p>Sno-Blast Softball in the Snow - 1 p.m. Murphy Field. Team entry fee \$10. Out-of-town teams encouraged to join. Contact Debbie Bennett at 536-3400. Sponsored by Main Street Hair Cottage.</p> <p>Stew Supper - 4 to 7 p.m. enjoy a warm of stew at the Evangelical Lutheran Church on Rogers Road. Stew (vegetarian dish also available), coleslaw, dessert and beverage. Adult, \$5; children under-12-\$3; children under 3 - free. Tickets available at Jordan Valley Outfitters and The Insurance Shop or at the door.</p> <p>Community Auction - 7 p.m. Located at Presbyterian Church. Many local and surrounding area businesses have donated items for auction. Desserts, tea and coffee will also be served. Money raised goes back to the Nursery. Free babysitting is available at the nursery school. For more information call 536-2392.</p> <p>Moonlight Sno-Shoe Hike - 7:30 p.m. Enjoy a winter hike on snowshoes with headlamps to illuminate your way. Along the way, enjoy hot chocolate, snacks and star gazing. You must pre-register at Jordan Valley Outfitters. \$5, adults; \$3, children under 10. Snowshoes available on a first come, first-serve basis. Sponsored by Jordan Valley Outfitters.</p>
<p>SUNDAY, JANUARY 23, 2005</p> <p>Sno-Lover's Breakfast - 7 a.m.- noon East Jordan Sno-Mobilers Clubhouse, Mt. Bliss Road off M-32. Menu: "The Works" consists of pancakes, bacon, sausage, potatoes, eggs and toast. Price \$5, adults; \$2, under 12; free-under 5. Sponsored by East Jordan Sno-Mobilers, Inc.</p> <p>Sno-Blast Kids Fishing Contest - 1 p.m. Winners announced at East Jordan Sno-Mobilers Clubhouse.</p> <p>10th Annual Sno-Blast Fishing Contest Ends - noon Certificates of accomplishments will be awarded at 1 p.m. at East Jordan Sno Mobilers Clubhouse.</p>		

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YAMAHA

Fire business

Continued from front page

1,500 gallons but Mancelona's holds 3,000.

"Because of its height and because it's so huge we actually had to customize some parts on it. It's really got a big chassis on it — about the size of a semi chassis."

The \$330,000 truck also features a custom hydraulic ladder and tank rack.

Currently, all assembly line work for designing and constructing fire trucks is done at the main operations in Union City, however, Williams expects the East Jordan location to also specialize in those responsibilities soon.

"We will be building here eventually," he said. "It

currently using," Williams said. "By developing this, it let departments advertise their old stuff and other companies started to buy it."

"(The magazines) are also a great way to advertise our own products," Williams added. "When a trader is about 40-48 pages, I'd say three to four of those pages are us."

The East Jordan plant also manufactures helmet shields and decals, which are hand-sewn, take-out molded, stamped and designed by employee Olin Halbert, who produces about 100 a week. The company is one of only a handful in the United States which produces the shields. Surprisingly, fire shield key chains are probably its best seller, Williams said.

As for Williams, his interest in fire fighting began when he was only a teenager.

"It all started when I was about 16 and our house caught on fire," Williams said. "I grabbed a garden hose and put it out. Ever since then, I've been hooked."

Williams soon became involved as a fire explorer in California, before joining the military and serving as a damage control man, which is basically a ship's firefighter, as well as a rescue swimmer. Williams was also a firefighter for the U.S. Forest Service and was a member of the East Jordan Fire Department for four years while he began building his companies.

Williams' current position as president and CEO not only requires him to oversee daily operations, but also lets him travel to various trade shows across America promoting the companies' products and publications. The closest trade show is in Roscommon, however, Williams has travelled to shows in New Orleans and Denver.

Besides developing the plant into an assembly line for fire trucks, Williams also hopes to draw in some tourists interested in the trade. He already has plans to turn an out-of-date fire truck into a display desk in the main entrance.

"The desk is actually going to be the front end of the fire truck," he said. "It's all about creating some buzz for people to come in and see what we have to offer," he said. "I know a lot of fire fighters come up here in the summer to vacation and we would like to create a place where they can stop by, say hello and see what's going on."



The East Jordan plant also manufactures helmet shields and decals, which are hand-sewn, stamped and designed by Olin Halbert, who produces about 100 per week.

was supposed to be at the end of this year, but right now that's looking like it's not going to happen. It will sooner or later."

At the East Jordan plant, employees currently focus on producing product catalogs and other small projects. The Fire Trader magazines they produce feature everything from high pressure nozzles, to search and rescue lights, to new and used trucks.

Williams, who was born and raised in southern California, said trader magazines are very popular in the region and he believed they would grow into an effective marketing tool for the company. They also let fire departments advertise older equipment that has been replaced or is no longer needed.

"We were finding a lot of times some of the older stuff was better than what other departments were

Land, township representation on library board's agenda

The Jordan Valley District Library Board of Trustees will consider options for 18 acres of vacant land owned by the library and township representation when it meets at 5:30 p.m. Jan. 25 at its school location.

The land located on M-66 just south of Glens Market in East Jordan was purchased for \$400,000, following a unanimous board vote on Jan. 26, 2003. Six acres of the land was proposed as the site for a new and larger library. But five members who joined the eight-member board in December 2004, want to review other options for the property and may look at expanding the present library at its location on school property.

Board president Sara Schroeder said recently that expansion of the library needed more review by the board and involvement from the community. Schroeder replaced Chris Curtin as president in a board vote on Dec. 8, 2004.

All members agree that the 10,000 square-foot library is too small for the district it serves, which includes the City of East Jordan, and Echo, Eveline, Jordan, South Arm and Wilson townships. A total of approximately 20,000-square-feet is needed.

The townships that support the Jordan Valley District Library are to be discussed at the Jan. 25 meeting, specifically the lack of township representation on the board. East Jordan resident Elden Johnson spoke at the December meeting for a reorganization of the board to include township residents. Currently, four members are appointed by the city of East Jordan and four members are appointed by the school district's board.

"I've proposed that the board be reorganized so that

the townships appoint one member each. They pay to support the library and should be represented Johnson said.

Jordan Township treasurer Susan Meads agrees. "Jordan Township residents pay \$16,935 each year to library," she said, "and we're one of the smaller townships with respect to parcels."

South Arm Township clerk Anita Stephens said wasn't speaking for the township board, but that township representation would be beneficial.

"I personally use the library and it's a great benefit to the community. I think it's probably a very good idea to include more participation with the library and have more involvement in the operation of it," Stephens said.

Other area district libraries, such as Boyne Charlevoix have township representation. The Boyne District Library board is comprised of three members appointed by the city and one member appointed by each of its townships — Bay, Evangeline, Eveline and Wilson.

Charlevoix Public Library is a district library with seven board members. The City of Charlevoix and school district each appoint one member and the townships of Charlevoix, Eveline, Hayes, Marion and Norwood appoint one member each.

District libraries were authorized in 1989 by state legislative Public Act 24. Under the act, two or more municipalities are allowed to join together to form a district library and create a governing board. District library boards are taxing authorities and have the power to propose a district-wide library millage question on the ballot for voter approval.

Open house planned for Tom Johnson

The Northern Lakes Economic Alliance will hold an open house in honor of Tom Johnson for his contributions over the past 14 years.

The open house will be Thursday, Jan. 20, from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m., with a program from 5:30-6 p.m., at Garrett's on Water Street.

The cost is \$12 per person and there will be a cash bar. Advanced reservations and payment are requested by Jan.

14. Make checks payable to Garrett's on Water Street mail to the NLEA, attention Angie Christopher at Box 8, Boyne City, MI 49712.

A scrapbook will be put together of letters, news clippings, pictures, and stories of Johnson's history at NLEA. If you have something to contribute to the scrapbook send it to the NLEA.

For more information, call 582-6482 ext. 100.

Library hosting a visit from Buck Wilder author

The public is invited attend a free program with author Tim Smith at the Jordan Valley District Library on Jan. 19.

The program begins at 4 p.m. and will be held in the library's community room. Smith is the author of "Buck Wilder's Little Skipper Boating Guide," "Buck Wilder's Small Fry Fishing Guide" and "Buck Wilder's Small Twig Hiking & Camping Guide."

The three books cover all the basics

needed for outdoor adventures plus some valuable life skills. "Buck Wilder's Small Twig Hiking & Camping Guide" won the 1998 Benjamin Franklin Award in the sports/recreation category for excellence in editorial and design.

Smith will have his books for sale and signing at the event. For more information contact the Jordan Valley District Library at 536-7131.



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