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News

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## East Jordan Approves Street Project, Waits on Another

By B. J. Conley

EAST JORDAN — Maple Street received "thumbs up" from city commissioners for construction improvements and a new water main, while improvements on Pine, Vance and Elizabeth streets will have to wait.

Planner Keyin Makarewicz of the engineering and consulting firm of C2AE, presented information for the commission to make a decision on the two projects at its Dec. 15 meeting. Commissioners determined that it wasn't financially prudent to go ahead with both projects at this time. Commissioners decided the Maple Street water and sewer project was more urgent.

The Maple Street project is eligible for federal Rural Development low-interest loans. At this time, the water and sewer construction would extend to Fair Road. The proposed water main on Maple Street would be placed for the possibility of future development, and would also provide the possibility to extend to the city's Industrial Park, Makarewicz said.

Commissioner Jane Booze asked Makarewicz how the project costs would affect the larger community, as well as the residents on Maple Street. Makarewicz said he believed that if the project is paid for by the existing customers, the rates were proposed to decrease and those existing rates or lower rates could pay for the Rural Development loan and principal.

The total Maple Street project cost is estimated at \$1,369,400. Of that total, \$1,060,800 is the cost of construction, \$110,600 is for architectural and engineering fees and \$61,100 is for project inspection fees. The remaining

Continued On Page 3

## Groups come together for new non-motorized trail

The new trail would provide a link from Lake Charlevoix to Lake Michigan.

By B. J. Conley

CHARLEVOIX — A new recreation trail would provide a link from Lake Charlevoix to Lake Michigan and create a continuous trail from downtown Charlevoix to the state park at Bells Bay Road. Conservation and recreation groups, local government and St Mary's

Cement company have collaborated to make the trail possible.

Water and Air Team Charlevoix (WATCH) is spearheading the project. WATCH is made up of a group of citizens and residents that work on environmental issues that pertain to clean water and air and protection of the area's resources.

The trail would run east and west on the southern boundaries of the city. A portion of the trail is already in place running from Carpenter Street to Harbor Industries and along the east side of the airport. It runs in back of Charlevoix Estates, along the Belvedere Golf Course, across Marion Center Road and on to U.S. 31. The trail would then continue along the airport and into St Mary's

company property.

A portion of the six-mile trail follows an old railway where residents and visitors have enjoyed the quiet and scenic area, Dean Davenport told city council members at a council meeting on Dec. 21.

Davenport spoke at the meeting to ask for the city council's approval of the concept of the Lake to Lake Charlevoix Trail. Council voted to approve, joining the support of Charlevoix Township and the county of Charlevoix.

"It really is a cooperative effort," JoAnne Beemon said. She is co-chair with Davenport of the WATCH committee that is a part of the planning and organizing of the project.

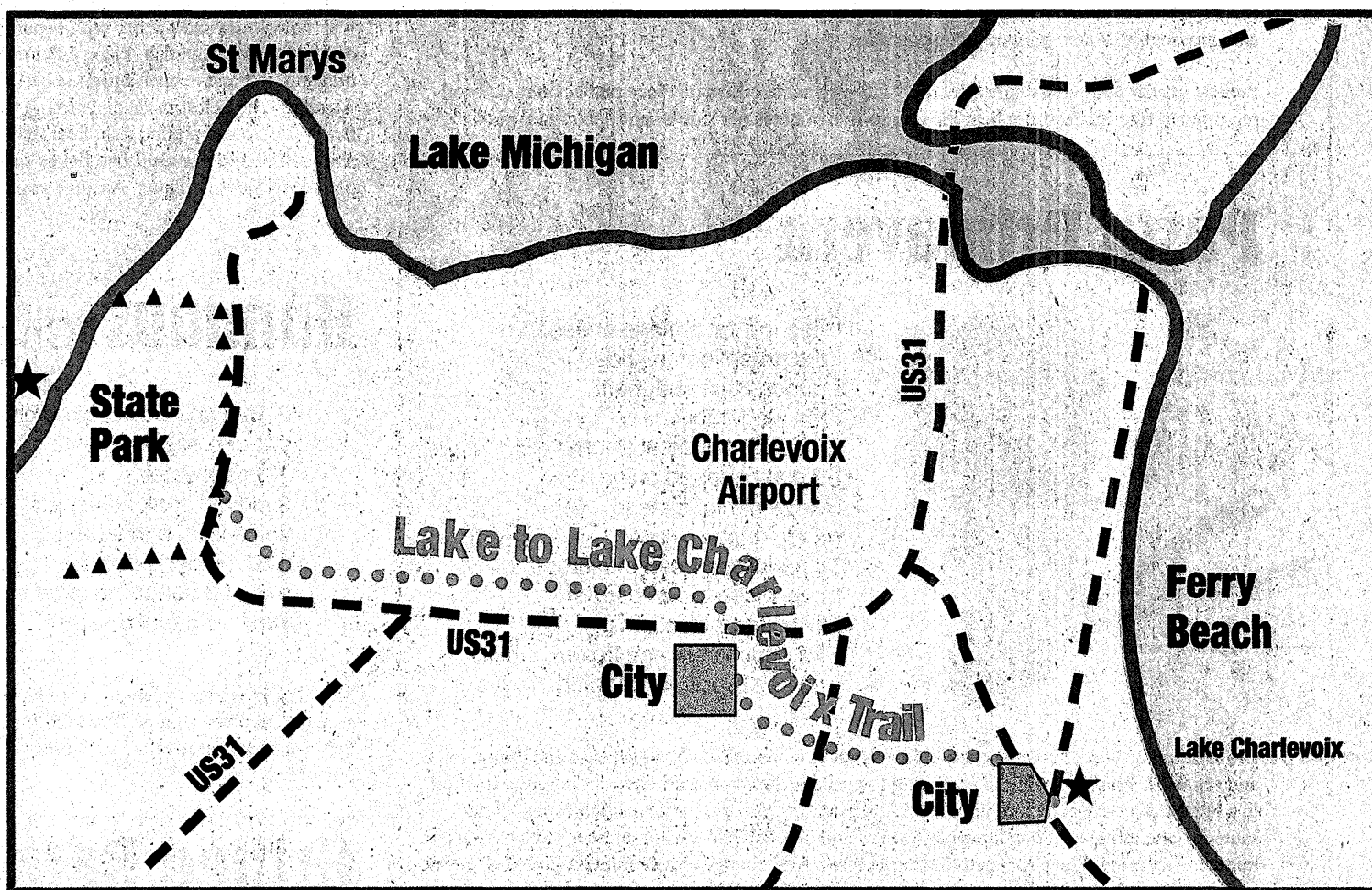
Beemon said the project is

well supported.

"We are so fortunate and the reason we're so fortunate is because of St Mary's," Beemon said. The company owns the old railway and offered to use part of its land for the trail.

It will be a non-motorized trail and limestone will be used instead of the much more expensive asphalt. Limestone hardens over time and makes a good surface for bicycles, joggers and other recreational activities, Davenport said. Snowmobilers will use the trail during winter.

Work on the trail link will begin as soon as the weather allows, Beemon said.



Reminder from Mackinac Bridge Authority:  
**Passenger vehicles tolls will be \$3.50 on January 1**

December 17, 2009 -- The Mackinac Bridge Authority (MBA) today issued a reminder to motorists planning to cross the bridge.

Effective Friday, Jan. 1, 2010, the following rates will go into effect (per crossing):

Auto/passenger vehicle - \$3.50;  
vehicle with trailer - \$1.75 per axle  
Commuter - \$1.80\*

Other, including commercial trucks and motor homes - \$4.50 per axle

After a series of public hearings held in December 2007, the MBA board unanimously approved incremental toll adjustments until 2014. Instead of a one-time adjustment, Toll revenue will help fund a long-term maintenance and preser-

vation program that includes a complete deck-replacement project within the next decade. The 52-year-old bridge is maintained and operated exclusively with toll revenue.

Passenger vehicle tolls will increase to \$4 in 2012 and \$4.50 in 2014. A passenger vehicle with

Continued On Page 3

### weather forecast



**Wednesday**  
High 28, low 24  
SSW wind 12mph



**Thursday**  
High 29, low 19  
W wind 6mph



**Friday**  
High 21, low 11  
NNW wind 10mph



**Saturday**  
High 19, low 13  
N wind 10mph



**Sunday**  
High 21, low 15  
N wind 9mph

### \* snowfall totals \*

**Charlevoix** -  
Season totals last year  
through 12/31/08 - 71.3  
Season total this year  
through 12/27/09 - 41.2"

**Ellsworth** -  
Season totals last year  
through 12/31/08 - 82.3  
Season total this year  
through 12/27/09 - 46.9"

The Snowfall totals for last year are for the season through the end of the month. Totals for this year are through the date indicated.

**Petoskey** -  
Season totals last year  
through 12/31/08 - 67.0"  
Season total this year  
through 12/27/09 - 53.8"

**Gaylord** -  
Season totals last year  
through 12/31/08 - 107.1  
Season total this year  
through 12/27/09 - 46.6"

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# RECIPES FOR Healthy Eating



The following recipes are easy-to-prepare and a terrific way to start the New Year by adding more vegetables, low fat foods and lean meats to your diet.

By Amanda Knoles

## Shrimp Risotto

- 2 cups chicken broth
- 2 tbs. margarine
- 3 tbs. minced onion
- 1-cup rice
- 1-cup water
- 2 tsp. lemon thyme
- 1 pound shrimp, cooked, peeled and deveined
- 1/3 cup Parmesan cheese
- 1/3 cup dry white wine
- 1/2 cup sliced mushrooms



Heat broth in a medium sized saucepan and keep warm. Melt margarine in a large skillet. When margarine melts, add onion and sauté over medium heat until onion is transparent. Stir in rice until it is well coated with margarine. Add wine and stir until wine is completely absorbed. Add enough broth to just barely cover the rice. Cook and stir continually until the broth is absorbed. Continue adding a little broth at a time. The rice is done when it is tender. Remove from heat and stir in the shrimp, cheese and lemon thyme. Salt to taste. Stir in the sliced mushrooms. The rice will appear creamy and moist. Serve at once.

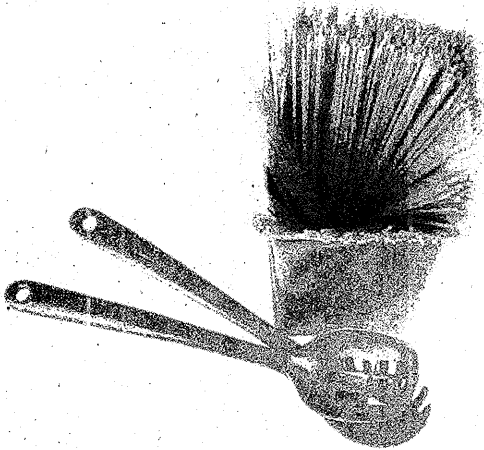
## Grilled Turkey Burgers

- 1-pound ground turkey
- 1/2 cup dry breadcrumbs
- 2 chopped green onions
- 2 tbs. barbecue sauce
- 1 tbs. lemon juice
- 2 tsp. Worcestershire sauce
- 1/8 tsp. salt
- Vegetable spray

In a large bowl combine all ingredients except vegetable oil spray. Use hands to mix ingredients thoroughly. Shape mixture into six patties.

Preheat broiler and lightly spray the rack with vegetable oil spray. Place patties on rack, broiling three to four inches from heat for four to five minutes per side or until no longer pink.

## Pasta Primavera



- 1-cup low fat cottage cheese
- 1 tbs. fresh lemon juice
- 8 ounces thin spaghetti
- 1 tbs. vegetable oil
- 1/4 cup chopped scallions
- 1/2 cup chopped onion
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 1/4 tsp. black pepper
- 2 cups sliced fresh mushrooms
- 1 cup sliced green pepper
- 1 1/2 cups sliced carrot
- 1 10 ounce package frozen, no salt broccoli, steamed

Drain liquid off top of cottage cheese. In a small bowl combine cottage cheese and lemon juice and set aside. Prepare spaghetti according to package directions and drain thoroughly. Heat oil in a large skillet over medium high heat. Add scallions, onions, garlic and black pepper and sauté for one minute. Add bell pepper, carrots and broccoli and stir for another three to four minutes. Set aside. Place spaghetti in a large bowl. Add cottage cheese mixture and toss to coat evenly. Top with sautéed vegetables.

## Chicken Picatta

- 6 boneless, skinless chicken breast halves, cut into small pieces
- 1 tsp. extra virgin olive oil
- 8 green onions thinly sliced on the diagonal
- 2 cloves garlic, crushed or minced
- 1/2 cup all purpose flour
- 3 tsp. low sodium chicken broth
- 2 tbs. fresh lemon juice
- 2 tbs. capers, rinsed, drained and chopped
- 2 tbs. dry white wine
- 2 tbs. dry sherry
- 1 small lemon, thinly sliced
- 2 tbs. chopped parsley
- 8 ounces Angel Hair pasta or rice cooked

Rinse chicken breasts and pat dry with paper towels. Place between sheets of plastic wrap and flatten slightly with a rolling pin. Set aside. Heat a large skillet over medium heat and add 1 tsp. olive oil and sauté the green onions and garlic until tender (about two minutes). Remove from pan and set aside. Put the flour on a plate and coat all of the chicken pieces. Lightly brown chicken in the skillet over medium heat, adding small amounts of oil as needed. Return the green onions and garlic to the pan. Add the broth, wine, sherry, lemon juice and capers. Sauté over high heat until heated through about two minutes. Stir in pepper. Serve over rice or angel hair pasta and garnish with lemon slices.

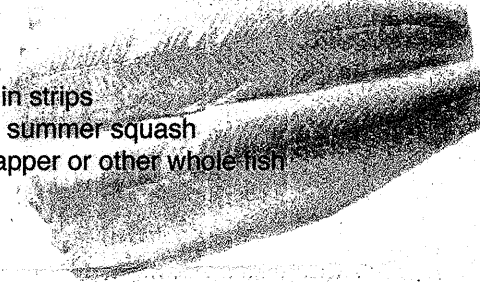
## Corn and Snow Pea Salad

- 1/4 pound snow peas
- 3 cups cooked fresh corn kernels
- 1 cup shredded green cabbage
- 1 medium red bell pepper, cut into thin strips
- 1/2 cup sliced black olives
- 1/2 cup garlic vinaigrette dressing
- Salt and pepper to taste

Trim the snow peas and cut in half crosswise. Steam briefly until bright green, then rinse immediately under cool running water and drain well. Combine the snow peas with all remaining ingredients in a serving platter and toss thoroughly. Refrigerate covered for an hour or two before serving. Stir once or twice to distribute the vinaigrette dressing. Drain off any excess dressing before serving.

## Foil Cooked Fish and Vegetables

- 1-cup small broccoli florets
- 1 medium carrot cut into thin strips
- 1/2 cup thinly sliced yellow summer squash
- 2 pounds of trout, pike, snapper or other whole fish
- 1/2 tsp. dried basil
- 1/2 tsp. dried oregano
- 1/4 tsp. salt
- 1/8 tsp. black pepper



Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Cook broccoli, carrots and squash in a saucepan in a small amount of boiling water over high heat for one minute. Drain and set aside. Rinse fish with cold water and pat dry with paper towels. Tear off one to two pieces of foil large enough to cover the fish. Place fish in the middle of foil. In a small bowl combine basil, oregano, salt and pepper. Sprinkle half the herb mixture inside the cavity of the fish. Arrange vegetables inside and around the fish. Sprinkle with remaining herb mixture. Bring foil up and around fish. Seal tightly. Place fish bundle on a baking sheet. Bake about 40 minutes or until fish flakes easily when tested with a fork. Unwrap fish and place on a serving platter. Arrange vegetables around fish and serve.

## Hummus (Chick Pea Dip)

- 2 1/2 cups well cooked chickpeas
- 1/3-cup sesame paste
- 1/3-cup water
- 2 cloves garlic, crushed
- Juice from one lemon
- 1 tsp. ground cumin
- salt and pepper to taste
- Dash of paprika

Mix all ingredients except the paprika in a food processor or blender. Process until consistency becomes a puree. Transfer to a serving bowl and sprinkle top with paprika. Serve at room temperature with broccoli and cauliflower florets or toasted wedges of pita bread.

## Grilled Ratatouille

- 1 medium eggplant
- 2 medium onions
- 1 medium zucchini
- 1 large green or red bell pepper
- 1 large tomato diced
- 1/4 cup chopped black olives
- 2 tbs. chopped basil
- 2 tbs. chopped parsley
- 4 tbs. olive oil
- 2 tsp. lemon juice
- 1 tbs. wine vinegar
- 1/4 pound crumbled goat cheese



Cut eggplant into half-inch slices. Salt and place in a bowl for 30 minutes, then rinse and drain. Peel onions and cut in half. Steam until tender. Cut the zucchini in half lengthwise. Prepare the grill and brush vegetables with olive oil or lemon juice. Grill the eggplant on both sides until nicely browned and quite tender about 15 minutes total. Grill the onions and zucchini on both sides until tender about 10 to 15 minutes total. Place the bell pepper directly on the grill and turn frequently allowing all sides to get charred. Remove and place in a paper bag to steam. When all the vegetables are cool, chop into large chunks and combine in a serving bowl. Slip the skin off the pepper; remove the core and seeds. Cut into small squares. Stir in the tomato, olives and herbs. Add just enough olive oil to make the salad glisten. Add vinegar and toss well. Season with salt and pepper to taste. Sprinkle the top with lemon juice and crumbled goat cheese. Serve warm or at room temperature.

# Local News

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## East Jordan Street Projects

Continued from Front Page

\$30,800 is for administrative, legal and appraisal fees.

The Vance, Pine and Elizabeth streets project is in the early design stage. The commissioners approved completion of the design work at Makarewicz's suggestion. The remainder of the project will be considered when more funds are available. This project proposes replacement of the water lines. Although the current lines are 40-plus years old, city officials think they are sufficient for now. A cap may be placed on the streets to make them smooth until the project is started in the future.

## Mackinac Bridge Toll Increase

Continued from Front Page

trailer toll will be \$2 per axle in 2012 and \$2.25 in 2014. Motor home and commercial truck tolls will increase to \$5 per axle in 2012 and \$6 per axle in 2014. Commuter tolls will increase to \$1.90 in 2011, \$2.00 in 2012, \$2.10 in 2013, and \$2.20 in 2014.

At its December 2007 meeting, the MBA board also decided to review financial forecast data in 2013 to determine future actions, such as a toll increase listed in 2014, modification of tolls, and/or bonding. Regardless of future traffic volumes, the MBA will work diligently on its long-term preservation strategy to continuously review and implement a variety of cost-saving measures, as appropriate.

\*Commuter card holders must make their second trip within 36 hours of the first one in order to receive the commuter rate.

## CHARLEVOIX COUNTY RECORDS: DECEMBER 23, 2009

### DISTRICT COURT

The following cases were recently decided in the 90th District Court for the County of Charlevoix:

MacKenzie Rose Boatman, 26, Petoskey. Driving without an operator's license on person. Sentenced to pay \$200 in fines and costs.

MacKenzie Rose Boatman, 26, Petoskey. Non-sufficient funds check. Sentenced to pay \$700 in fines and costs and \$809.17 in restitution.

Jacques Pierre Battiste, 41, Boyne City. Assault & battery. Sentenced to pay \$400 in fines and costs and \$265 in restitution and to 90 days in jail with credit for two days,

88 days held in abeyance, six months on probation.

Catherine Ann Schmidt, 43, Walloon Lake. Non-sufficient funds check. Sentenced to pay \$350 in fines and costs and \$50 in restitution.

Amber Marie Lundy, 26, Charlevoix. Driving while license suspended. Sentenced to pay \$200 in fines and costs.

Ashley Suzanne Foster, 24, Petoskey. Driving while impaired. Sentenced to pay \$380 in fines and costs and to 41 days in jail with credit for one day, 30 days held in abeyance, 10 days of community service work and six months on probation.

Megan Colleen Murray, 24, Saline. Driving while impaired. Sentenced to pay \$880

in fines and costs and to 41 days in jail with credit for one day, 30 days held in abeyance, 10 days of community service work and nine months on probation.

Mark Flores, 25, Chicago, IL. Assault and battery. Sentenced to pay \$700 in fines and costs and to 93 days in jail with credit for 20 days, serve 73 days.

Billie Lynn Crowell, 32, Charlevoix. Driving without an operator's license on person. Sentenced to pay \$200 in fines and costs.

Sean Patrick Torres, 38, Boyne Falls. Driving without an operator's license on person. Sentenced to pay \$200 in fines and costs.

## BOYNE CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT INCIDENT REPORT

### Tuesday, December 15,

8:59am Officer responded to weapons complaint in the 1000 block of Boyne Av.

9:19am 911 Hang up call from the payphone at the Middle School. All was fine.

10:05am 911 hang up call from a pay phone in the 400 block of N Lake St. All was OK.

10:52am Unlocked vehicle in the 300 block of S East St.

11:48am Open door at residence in the 600 block of S Park St. All was secure.

5:06pm Report of child playing in road in the 300 block of E Division St. Child was gone on arrival.

### Wednesday, December 16

10:55am Officer responded to juvenile complaint in the 1000 block of Boyne Av.

12:22pm Report of Domestic Violence incident that had occurred earlier in the 300 block of E Division St.

1:02pm Parking citation issued in the 100 block of E Water St.

2:55pm Officer-assisted with civil standby in the 300 block of E Division St.

### Thursday, December 17

12:31pm Officer responded to the 300 block of E Division St for a civil complaint

1:48pm Male reports civil complaint in the 1000 block of Boyne Av.

4:48pm Parent called her child being approached by two other males who wanted to buy marijuana from him.

7:00pm Intoxicated male arrested for Domestic Violence in the 500 block of N Lake St.

9:25pm Female reporting a male sending her threatening text messages.

### Friday, December 18

8:45am Unlocked vehicle in the 1000 block of Boyne Av.

10:01am Unlocked vehicle in the 1000 block of Boyne Av

10:28am 911 hang up call from residence in the 600 block of S Lake St.

10:47am Female reporting civil dispute in the 300 block of E Division St.

12:17pm Female in with two bad check complaints from the 400 block of N Lake St

1:20pm Served subpoena to subject to assist Emmet County Sheriff Department

2:16pm Unlocked vehicle in the 100 block of Boyne Av

5:31pm Report of injured deer crawling across Vogel St. Was gone on arrival.

6:33pm Officer responded to 300 block of E Division St for a civil complaint

### Saturday, December 19

12:45pm Citation issued to male for speed on Morgan at Pleasant St

2:00pm Female calling ref smelling marijuana in the 300 block of E Division St. No smell of marijuana when officer arrived.

2:49pm Assisted ambulance in the 1400 block of Pleasant Av.

7:25pm Male reporting civil complaint in the 300 block of E Division St.

### Monday, December 21

12:27am Male at Police Department to request civil standby in the 300 block of E Division St.

10:05am Male made complaint of someone dumping trash in his dumpster in the 400 block of Boyne Av

3:43pm Female reports her 16 year old daughter being harassed by subject in East Jordan.

6:05pm Unlocked vehicle in the 500 block of N Lake St

6:30pm Report of duck in Road on N Lake St..

9:22pm 1 Vehicle property damage accident on Lake St near Michigan Av



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**East Jordan Co-op Marathon**  
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### Boyne City:

**Mary's of Boyne**  
108 South Lake St.

**Water Street Café**  
113 Water St.

**Johnson Oil**  
**Marathon Gas Station**  
201 South Lake Street

**BC Pizza**  
1191 S M 75

### Boyne City:

**Boyne City Lanes**  
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**Ellsworth:**  
**Front Porch Café**  
9235 Main St.

**Charlevoix**  
**Book World**  
407 Bridge Street

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County News

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# THE YEAR IN REVIEW

## ECONOMY

# A Wanna-Be Economy in 2009

Some “Stimulation” in Housing, Auto Sales and a Stock Market Upturn Provide Hope



By Jim Akans

While 2009 won't be remembered as the year the economy recovered and America's wealth became the envy of the world once again, some good things did occur to offer indications 2010 could be the year we've all been waiting for.

The National Association of Realtors announced that November housing sales were up 7.4%, and a whopping

44.1% higher than November 2008. Here in the Midwest, sales are said to be up 8.4% for the year and 44.8% ahead of last November.

Some of the credit for this increase resulted from the anticipated November 30th expiration deadline for the up to \$8,000 First-Time Homebuyer's Tax Credit. While homebuyers scrambled to the closing table to get their deals sealed before deadline passed, the Federal government extended the program to include purchase agreements signed

through April 30th, 2010, and expanded it to include buyers who have owned their current home for at least five years. Word on the street is; look for much more action in housing sales through the spring.

Housing wasn't the only area of stimulation we got from our friends in Washington D.C. this year.

The Cash for Clunkers program was a real honker, removing approximately 700,000 vehicles from the road this summer and replacing them with newer, more fuel-efficient models. While about two-thirds of the vehicles turned in were trucks, about that same percentage of new cars were purchased. Thus, the fuel efficiency of those particular vehicles now on the road increased from an average 15.8 miles per gallon to 24.9 mpg. That's all good!

Economy-wise, rebate applications for the Cash for Clunkers program amounted to just over \$2.8 billion through the August 26th deadline. However, as of press time, I could not find a statistic regarding how many of those rebates have been paid. Hmmm.

Some stimulus money did head in our state's direction. A combination of twelve Michigan firms and universities recently became the recipient of nearly \$1 billion of a \$2.4 billion federal grant aimed at the development of the next generation of electric vehicles and batteries. Among the companies receiving the grant money are Midland's Dow Chemical Co., GM, Chrysler and Ford, and several universities, including Wayne State, University of Michigan, Kettering, Macomb Community College and Michigan Technological University.

The Michigan state government did try to save some money as well in 2009. One of the most visible attempts resulted when Governor Granholm issued an Executive Order shutting down many state offices for six days over the summer. The closing affected about 37,400 state employees, and the move was expected to save nearly \$22 million in spending. The entire Executive Order, targeting spending cuts in adult Medicare dental and vision coverage, and employee layoffs, was anticipated to achieve nearly \$300 million in general fund savings.

Nationally, let's not forget the Dow Jones. At the market close on January 2nd, 2009, the Dow Jones Industrial Average was 9,034. On December 24, the DJIA closed at 10,520...now that puts a little more retirement potential back in those IRAs this year.

Sure, new home sales dropped over 11 percent in November, Michigan lost population for the fourth year in a row (down less than a measly half of a percent...deserters!), and we do lead the nation in unemployment at 14.7% (though down about a half percent from September).

The bright side is that on a national scale during 2009 personal income rose .4% and consumer spending increased by .5% (i.e. make a little more, spend even a little more).

Will Rogers once said, "I don't know any more about this thing than an economist does, and God knows, he (or she) doesn't know much." And while we all know we still aren't out of the woods just yet, things are looking a little clearer in 2010.



## HEALTH



# A Healthy Dose in 2009

H1N1 is Declared a Pandemic, Health Care Moves Toward Reform

By Jim Akans

*Health was an issue on everyone's mind in 2009.*

H1N1, aka the Swine Flu, seemed to be lurking about throughout the year, officially being declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization in June, designating it an infectious disease that is spreading through the human population worldwide.

H1N1 has certainly had a nationwide, and international, health impact. As of December 12th, the Center for Disease reports 35,309 hospitalizations and 1,567 deaths in the United States since the end of August. While these are tragic numbers, the administration of a national vaccination program is helping reduce the number of possible flu cases dramatically.

Through the middle of December, an estimated 46 million people (or 15.3% of the population) have been vaccinated against the 2009 H1N1 flu, with 42% of those being children.

A disturbing fact about H1N1 is that it seems to be most severe in the younger population; children 6 months to young adults around 24 years of age. So understandably, minimizing the risk of contracting the flu this winter has become a major health priority.

The big question; will there be a second wave of H1N1 cases in the New Year?

Dr. Thomas Frieden, CDC director, recently told reporters; "We took an informal poll of about a dozen of some of the world's leading experts in influenza. About half of them said, Yes, we think it's likely that we'll have another surge in cases. About half said, No, we think it's not likely."

That's about on par with Capitol Hill's consensus regarding Health Care Reform legislation.

As 2009 winds down, the stage is set for working out differences between the House Health Care bill passed in November and the Senate bill passed on Christmas Eve morning. Its partisan politics at its finest (depending how you measure such things), and the finger pointing, name calling, funding finding results should provide United States citizens with one of Washington D.C.'s healthiest of debates in early 2010.



# THE YEAR IN REVIEW

## BUSINESS

# It Was a Very Digital Year

## Television Converts, the iPhone Surges and Print Goes Laptop

By Jim Akans

After nearly happening on February 17th, the long anticipated switch from analog to digital television signal transmission finally took place on June 12th of this year. For those with TV's connected to cable or satellite dish services, the transition wasn't much of an event. But for those receiving their television programming from a rooftop antenna, things were a little trickier.

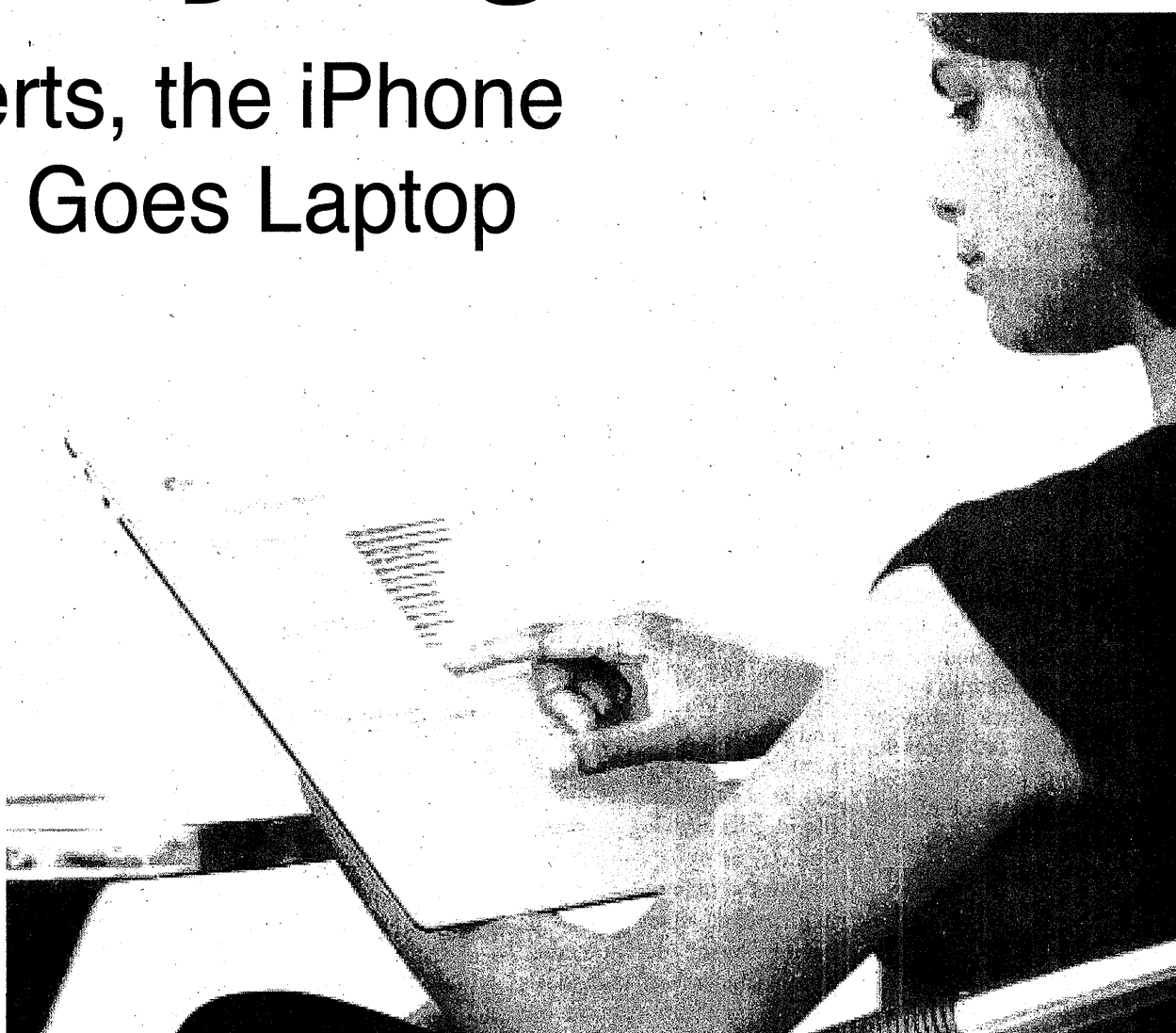
"Many people who use antennas for receiving off-air television signals are going to have some difficulty with the transition to digital broadcast technology," noted Bill Hughes owner of Alpine Electronics in Gaylord, just prior to the June 12th changeover.

"The path of a digital broadcast signal is narrower than the traditional analog signal we have become accustomed to. That means

the antenna must be finely tuned toward the direction the broadcast is coming from in order to capture the signal. The signal must also be stronger to activate the television set's digital converter. For most people, that means they will need a rotor for their antenna and possibly a signal amplifier."

Six months after the conversion, the dust is settling a bit and lo and behold, a clear picture of what high definition TV is about is emerging. It really is amazing just how detailed and sharp HDTV is. A few years down the road, we may look back at 2009 as being the most significant change to hit the small screen since color took over the tube in the 1960's.

The iPhone, Blackberry, and similar hand held multi source devices (or "Smartphones") continued to take the communications world by storm in 2009. The RIM Blackberry still dominates the U.S.



market with a 52% share, but Apple's iPhone is rapidly gaining, capturing about 23% of the Smartphone market in the U.S. in 2009 according to Canals research.

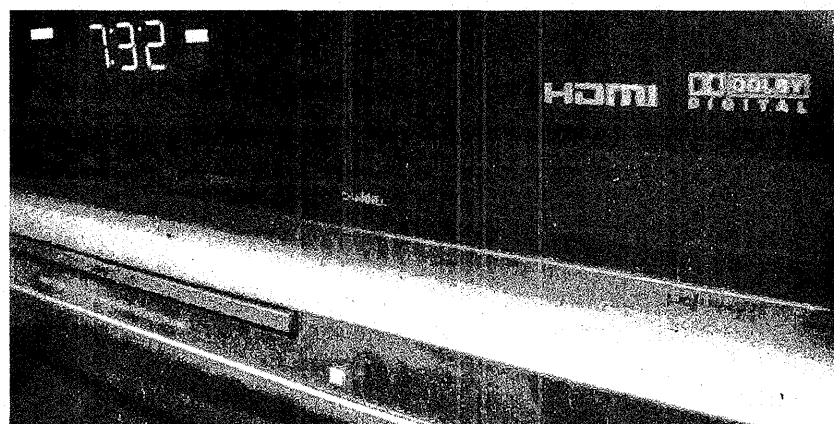
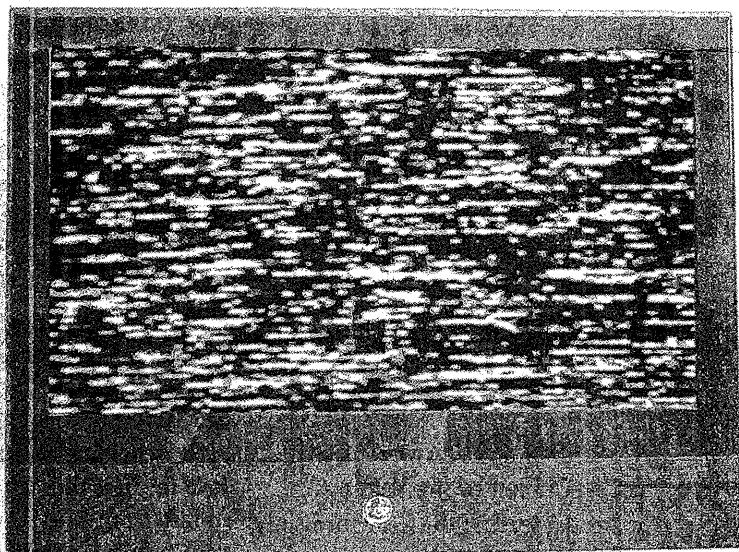
Smartphones allow the user to listen to music, organize, take photos, get driving directions, browse the internet, chat, email...and even make phone calls from a single, hand-held device. Of course, the secret is digital technology, seemingly the backbone of our infrastructure.

Digital e-readers, a device that allow users to read books, the newspaper, and their favorite magazine from a thin, lightweight, go where you go screen, gained a solid market

foothold in the market this year. A recent report by Credit Suisse indicates sales are expected to jump from 1 million units in 2008 to 32 million in 2014. There are already bunches to choose from; Sony has some of the leading models, Barnes & Noble has a model, Amazon has a

few of their own...and demand looks strong for the coming year.

Hold on tight. The solid emergence of Smartphone, e-readers and digital broadcast technology is just the tip of the iceberg as we move bit by byte into the second decade of the 21st Century.



## GOVERNMENT

# Taking Count in 2009

## Elections Decide Mayoral, Council Races & Millage Proposals and Michigan Students are Counted

By Jim Akans

2009 was a year for standing up to be counted, with an official tally being taken of Michigan students at the end of September students and elections taking place in several northern Lower Michigan communities in November.

Public school districts in Antrim, Charlevoix, Cheboygan, Crawford, Emmet, Otsego and Montmorency Counties saw an average drop of about one and three-quarter percent in preliminary fall 2009 student counts versus counts during the same period in 2008.

Percentage-wise, schools experiencing the biggest drop in the number of students were Boyne Falls, down by 9 percent from 274 students in 2008 to 250 students this year. The largest percentage gain in students was in Pellston, up 6 percent - with 330 students in 2009 versus 310 in 2008.

In terms of actual numbers, which is where the real money is, the largest drop was in Charlevoix, which lost 64 students and the biggest gain was in Gaylord which picked up 41 students.

Speaking of money (and weren't we all in 2009?), in early October the Michigan Legislature voted to cut K-12 funding in the 2009/2010 academic year by the equivalent of \$165 per student. They had initially rejected a proposal to cut funding by \$218 per student, approved the \$165 cut, then the amount was raised to \$292 per student in late October when Governor Granholm found the state's K-12 education budget was over \$200 million in the red due to falling tax revenues.

Additional cuts may well be in the works for next fall.

A total of 596 ballots were cast in Boyne City out of 2,768 registered voters. Boyne City voters

re-elected commissioners Dan Adkison and Ron Grunch and chose Laura Sansom to fill the third open seat on the city board of commissioners. Dan Adkison received 327 votes and is beginning his third term on the city board of commissioners. Ron Grunch (receiving 320 votes) has served on the board of commissioners for 10 years, and Laura Samson, who received 298 votes, will begin her first term.

At the Boyne City November 10th commission meeting, Chuck Vondra was appointed mayor and Dan Adkison was appointed mayor pro-tem.

Out of East Jordan's 1,570 registered voters, 410 cast their ballots the first Tuesday in November. Elected to the city commission were Jane Booze (with 291 votes), Russell Peck (246 votes) and Thomas Breakey (245 votes). At their meeting on Monday, November 9th, Russell Peck was ap-

pointed mayor by the new city commission.

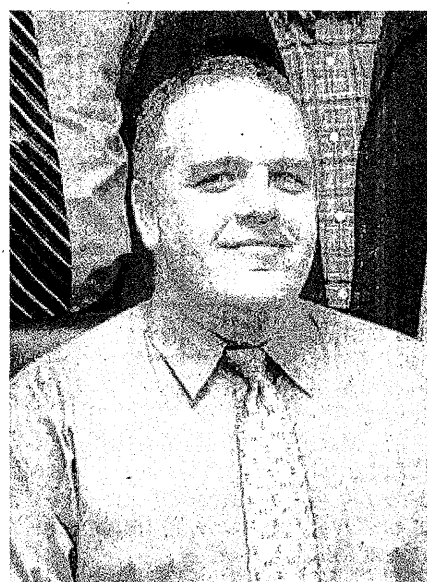
Voter turn-out was light for the Charlevoix city council election. Re-elected were incumbents Jill Picha and Dennis Kusina, and first-termer Bryan Vollmer was voted in to fill a vacant

seat. Charlevoix city clear, Carol Ochs, was also re-elected.

We can count on hearing a lot about the upcoming 2010 elections, with the promise of intense races in Michigan as we elect a new governor, and a vast array of legislative seats.



Chuck Vondra - Boyne City Mayor



Russ Peck - East Jordan Mayor





# LOCAL NEWS

On-line at [www.charlevoixcountynews.com](http://www.charlevoixcountynews.com)

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### EAST JORDAN

#### Food Drive

Second Annual Food Drive for the Care and Share Food Pantry, East Jordan. Bring in four non-perishable items and receive a discount coupon book good at The Quilt Cottage. Help us to help others, bring in your donations anytime during store hours.

### EAST JORDAN

#### Roller Skating

Enjoy roller skating at the Harvest Barn Church - Noon-3pm - 3-18 year old \$5.00 every Saturday until April 10, 2010

### BOYNE CITY

#### Wine tasting

Boyne Country Provisions and Red Mesa Grill are teaming up to sponsor Seasonal Wine Tastings on the second Thursday of each month, from 6 to 8 p.m. and continuing through winter and spring. The tastings will be held on the "back porch" at Red Mesa Grill, 117 Water St., and featuring four wines, one beer and an appetizer buffet for \$10. Ed Brehm, the sommelier from Boyne Country Provisions, will conduct the tastings.

### EAST JORDAN

#### Old Newspapers now in digital format

The Jordan Valley District Library converted all microfilms in the library to indexed digital images. Patrons will now be

able to look for obituaries, marriages or articles pertaining to a subject in all newspapers or just one single issue. Newspapers that were digitalized and indexed: Charlevoix County Herald 1902-1921, 1923-1941; Charlevoix County Herald 1943-1952 missing issues. East Jordan News 1952 - 1953; East Jordan News Herald 1956-1967 scattered; Charlevoix County Press 1978-1991; The Torch & East Jordan Journal 1992-1994; The East Jordan Journal 1994-2003; The Citizen Journal 2003 - 2009. If questions call the library at 231-536-7131.

### CHARLEVOIX

#### Wellness Wednesday

Charlevoix Area Hospital's next "Wellness Wednesday" will be from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 6, 2010. The Wellness Wednesday Health Screens include: Cholesterol and Glucose levels, Body Mass Index (BMI) score, and a Blood Pressure reading. Cost for the service is \$12. Participants will also receive a blood pressure log and pedometer as well as all test results at the time of the screen. A Registered Nurse will adapt health Consultation and educational materials to individual results. Appointments can be made in advance by calling the office of Community Health Education at Charlevoix Area Hospital: 231-547-8906 or by email: [kjacobson@cah.org](mailto:kjacobsen@cah.org).

Walk-ins are always welcome.

### CHARLEVOIX COUNTY Volunteer Opportunities

The RSVP of Charlevoix and Emmet Counties invites everyone 55 and older to join them in volunteer service. Keep active, share your talents, serve your community and meet new friends. We have many volunteer opportunities in Charlevoix County. For more information call Sally Pickering, RSVP Project Director, at 231-347-3211, ext. 29.

### CHARLEVOIX

#### Freedom From Smoking Clinic

Charlevoix Area Hospital along with the American Lung Association wants to help you quit smoking. If you have reached the point where you are ready to be free from smoking this program will provide support, guidance and advice to help you reach your goal. This 8 session, 7-week program is held at Charlevoix Area Hospital, starts January 4th and ends February 22nd. There is no charge for this program. Call 231-547-8672 or send an e-mail to [mhines@cah.org](mailto:mhines@cah.org) and register today.

### EAST JORDAN

#### Sno-Expo New Events for 2010

A new event designed to promote local "snow-related" and "snowmobiler friendly" businesses is being added to the Sno-Blast 2010 schedule of events. Already gaining great momentum and interest. This afternoon expo is scheduled for Friday, January 15 at the East Jordan Civic Center from 4pm to 7pm. 15 spaces are AVAILABLE (12x12

SPACE) for businesses to showcase their products or service. Chamber members \$25.00, Not Yet Members \$50.00. Spaces are already being spoken for - so business owners DO NOT DELAY!! Contact the Chamber office for an application via e-mail, phone or visit. For Expo info contact event Chairman Greg Grose at 231-445-0793.

### EAST JORDAN

#### New Year's Eve Overnight

At Raven Hill Discovery Center. Register your kids for a fun overnight (6 p.m.-9 a.m. Jan. 1, 2010). Registration is limited, so book your spaces soon by calling 231-536-3369. Cost is \$100.00 per person for the overnight and includes meals, snacks & activities.

### EAST JORDAN

#### Rotary Chili Supper

The Rotary Chili Supper will be held downtown Friday night as a part of Sno-Blast on Main Street. The East Jordan Rotary Club will be holding their Annual Chili supper on Friday, Jan 15 from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Senior Center.

### EAST JORDAN

#### Outlaw Sled Show

A new snowmobile event - "Outlaw Sled Show" scheduled for Saturday, Jan. 16 at the East Jordan Sno-Mobile Club from 9a.m.-4:00 p.m. This is a show of all the "souped up" sleds. For more information contact Gerry Argetsinger at 231-582-7970.

### BOYNE CITY

#### Main Street hosts Building Basics presentation

The Boyne City Main Street / Downtown Development

Authority will be hosting a "Main Street Building Basics" presentation on Tuesday, Jan. 26, from 8:30 to 10 a.m. at the Boyne District Library Conference Room. The public, especially downtown property owners and individuals interested in historic preservation are invited to attend. The presentation will be a webinar conducted by Kelly Larson, Main Street architect for the State Historic Preservation Office. The presentation will focus on the history of downtowns and the evolution of older buildings over time. Also discussed will be good historic preservation principles and practices to maintain the unique qualities of historic buildings while also making them functional for today's needs. The presentation is a kick-off point for the Boyne City Main Street Design Committee to select downtown buildings to receive design services intended to facilitate the rehabilitation of a building's facade. Any building located within the downtown is eligible to receive the no-cost design services that include a schematic drawing of the proposed facade improvement, preliminary cost estimate, and paint samples. The design services are provided by the State Historic Preservation Office in the Michigan State Housing Development Authority. Any property owner interested in receiving the services must first attend a "Main Street Building Basics" presentation. An application, available at the Main Street office, can then be submitted to the Design Committee for review and approval. To learn more about the presentation and design services, contact the Boyne City Main Street Program at 582-9009. The deadline to register is Jan. 22.

### EAST JORDAN

#### Citizen of the Year

Citizen of the Year forms are available at the Chamber office. It's time to nominate individuals for the Citizen of the Year Award that will be announced at the East Jordan Chamber Annual Meeting/Dinner/Auction scheduled January 30, 2010 at Castle Farms.

### BOYNE CITY

#### Help available for struggling businesses

If your business is struggling, don't wait until it's too late to ask for help. Several local organizations offer free assistance, including Team Boyne, the Boyne Area Chamber, Boyne City Main Street, Northern Lakes Economic Alliance, and SCORE. Call Jim Baumann at the Chamber (582-6222) and we'll point you in the right direction. All con-

tacts are confidential. The Northern Lakes Economic Alliance also offers monthly "Starting a Business" classes, with the next class scheduled for Jan. 26 at the Petoskey Public Library. The fee is \$20 and you must pre-register by calling 582-6482 or emailing [info@northernlakes.net](mailto:info@northernlakes.net). NLEA and its partners also offer a number of business training workshops.

### EAST JORDAN

#### Show Support for the Red Devils

The students at East Jordan High School would like to ask you to participate in "Red and Black Friday". In an effort to promote community sportsmanship and support for the Red Devils by wearing red and black each Friday.

### CHARLEVOIX COUNTY

#### Book proceeds donated to war memorials

Retired Sheriff George T. Lasater, author of the book "Charlevoix County's Contribution to World War II," is nearing completion of his second book, "Charlevoix County's Contribution to World War I." The next publication project is "Charlevoix County's Contribution to the Korean War." Any citizens with information on family members in either WWI or the Korean War are encouraged to contact George at his home: 231-582-7001. There are a few copies still available of the WWII publication at local bookstores. The proceeds from the sale of the books are being donated to war memorials in Charlevoix County.

### BOYNE CITY

#### Scrapbookers Night

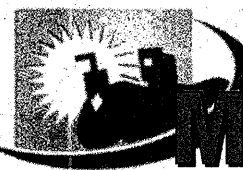
A scrapbookers night will be held the first Tuesday of each month from 5-10 p.m. at the community room downstairs at the Boyne District Library in Boyne City. Scrapbookers can meet with others and bring a project to work on it, using the time for yourself. There is no cost. Call Bethany at 231-881-9888 for more information.

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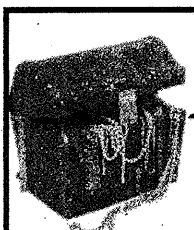
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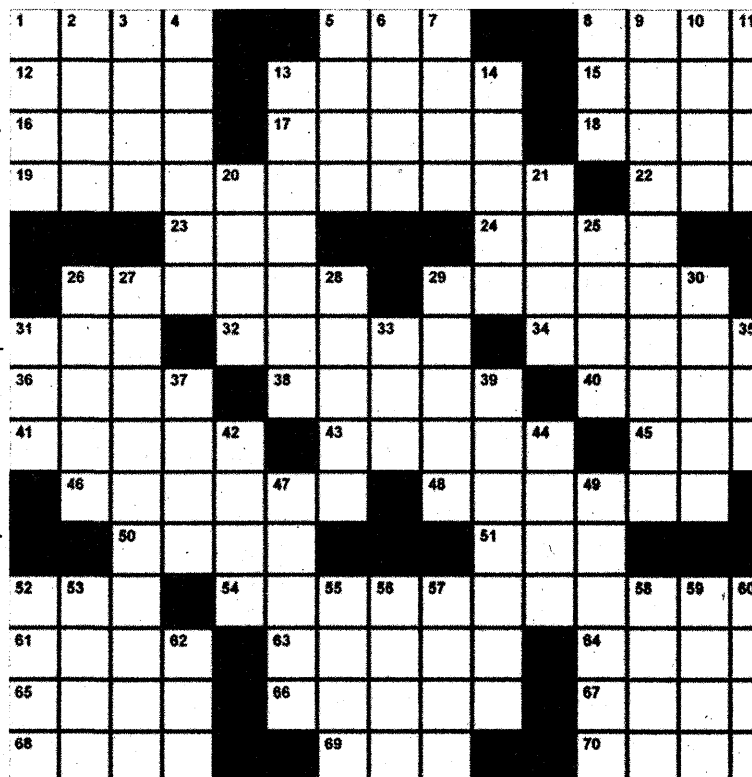
## CROSSWORD PUZZLE

### Across

1- Cookbook amts.; 5- South American tuber; 8- Not kosher; 12- Back part of the foot; 13- Thick slices; 15- Trompe l'oeil; 16- River in central Switzerland; 17- Everglades bird; 18- Beige; 19- Sincere; 22- Latin king; 23- Vitality; 24- Actress Skye; 26- Beautifully imaginative; 29- Winter vehicle; 31- Yank's foe; 32- Nasal grunt; 34- Alma; 36- Composer Schiffrin; 38- Big; 40- Yorkshire river; 41- Garment worn by women; 43- Currency unit in Nigeria; 45- Surgery sites, briefly; 46- Passionate; 48- Queen; 50- First name in scat; 51- favor; 52- Rocky hilltop; 54- City in SE Tennessee; 61- Toward the mouth; 63- Draw off liquid gradually; 64- Film; 65- Network of nerves; 66- Frosting; 67- Poet Pound; 68- Revenuers, for short; 69- Cheer for Manolete; 70- Big name in PCs;

### Down

1- Yonder thing; 2- Scorch; 3- Andean country; 4- Arm cover; 5- Gymnast Korbut; 6- Singer Vikki; 7- Assist, often in a criminal act; 8- Digit of the foot; 9- Pastime; 10- Green land; 11- Rate of flow of fluid; 13- Ostensible; 14- Beer mug; 20- Strikes; 21- Adverse fate; 25- Final Four org.; 26- Mountains; 27- Destroy; 28- Trite; 29- Flight of steps; 30- Earth; 31- "Treasure Island" monogram; 33- Actor Stephen; 35- Hi- monitor; 37- Pitcher Hershisier; 39- Sea cucumber; 42- Apply powder to oneself; 44- Stravinsky ballet; 47- Muslim messiah; 49- Decreased?; 52- Legal wrong; 53- City near Provo; 55- With the bow, in music; 56- Follow; 57- Fork feature; 58- Exude; 59 Female child; 60- Asian sea; 62- Bear lair;



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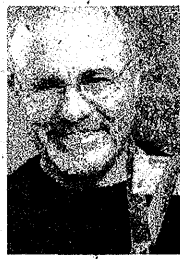


## LOCAL NEWS

On-line at [www.charlevoixcountynews.com](http://www.charlevoixcountynews.com)

### DAVE Says

(what kinds of insurance does Dave recommend?)



Dave Ramsey

Dear Dave,

I've got auto insurance, but can you tell me what other kinds of insurance are good to have?

Chris

Dear Chris,

The purpose of insurance is to transfer risk. Specifically, I'm talking about risk that you can't afford to take. Most people can't afford to have a heart attack and triple bypass surgery. Having to pay for something like that completely out of pocket would bankrupt just about anyone. That's why health insurance is a vital part of any good financial plan.

It's also important to have auto and homeowner's insurance. If you don't own a home, make sure you have renter's insurance instead. Don't forget about life insurance, either. If you're married or have kids, you should carry eight to 10 times your yearly income in a good, 15- or 20-year level term life insurance policy. This means if you make \$40,000, you should have about \$400,000 wrapped up in life insurance.

Long-term disability insurance is vital. The cheapest way to get this is in a group. If you buy it yourself, out on the open market, you'll find that the rates are based more on your occupation than your age or health. So, if you fly a desk, it'll be a lot cheaper than if you work with your hands.

And don't forget long-term care insurance. You need "nursing home insurance" if you're 60 or older. It will also take care of you in your own home. The statistical probability of needing it before age 60 is about one percent, so wait until then to buy long-term care insurance. This kind of insurance can make sure you get the kind of care you want in your declining years. Plus, it can keep your nest egg with you and your family and out of the hands of the nursing home!

- Dave

(change investing strategy for retirement?)

Dear Dave,

I'm 10 years away from retirement and just now starting to invest. I know you recommend mutual funds and spreading your money evenly across growth, growth and income, aggressive growth, and international. Considering what's happened with the market recently, should I adopt a more conservative approach?

N

Dear N,

I don't think so. I think you just need to enjoy this ride the market's on right now, because it's coming back up.

Now, I'm not saying that the market is going to rise dramatically every day. Things just don't work that way. But overall, is the market coming back up? You bet it is! Don't you wish you'd invested \$1 million back on March 9? If you had, you'd be sitting on about \$2 million right now!

The truth is, I don't know where the bottom is, and neither does anyone else out there. That's why I keep investing with a steady, long-term mindset, and it's what I advise you to do, as well!

- Dave

\* For more financial help, please visit [daveramsey.com](http://daveramsey.com).



### FOCUS ON THE FAMILY

with Dr. James Dobson

Women must look to each other for emotional connection

**QUESTION:** My husband and I just moved to Arizona from Pennsylvania, and I haven't established a network of friends here yet. My family is back east, and I have no one but my husband to talk to about problems the kids are having. He is very busy, so all the "homework" is left to me. How can I deal with the feelings of loneliness and isolation as a mother?

**DR. DOBSON:** It is vital that you build relationships with other women that can help satisfy the needs for friendship and emotional support. Failure to do that places too great a strain on the marital relationship, which can lead to serious interpersonal problems. I'm not saying that your husband has no responsibility to help you get through this period of loneliness, but unless he is a very unusual man, he will not be able to "carry" you emotionally while earning a living and handling the

other responsibilities of living.

Therefore, I recommend that you seek out women's groups that are designed to meet the needs you described. Many churches offer Bible study groups and classes that put women in touch with one another. Other possibilities are out there, such as Mom's Day Out. For mothers of school-age children, there is a Christian ministry called Moms In Touch International, designed to bring women together to pray for their local school, its teachers, principal, school board, etc. It "bonds" them together in a common cause.

What I'm saying is that you are not alone, even in a new city. There are other women out there who need you as much as you need them. You can find each other with a little effort. It is dangerous under the circumstances you described to sit and wait for the world to come to your front door.

**QUESTION:** Is it possible to love someone and not feel it?

**DR. DOBSON:** It certainly is -- because love is more than a feeling. It is primarily a decision. Married couples who misunderstand this point will have serious problems when the feeling of love disappears for a time. Couples who genuinely love each other will experience times of closeness, times when they feel apathetic, and times when they are irritated and cranky. That's just the way emotions operate. What, then, will hold them steady as feelings bounce all over the landscape? The source of constancy is a commitment of the will. You simply make up your mind not to be blown off the limb by fluctuating and unreliable emotions.

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## LOCAL NEWS

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# The BIRD MAN

## of EAST JORDAN

Joel Evans points to the location of the 55-foot platform in the nearby wetlands where the eagles have made their nest and are raising their young. (photo by Mike Dunn)

*"We can have more eagles here in this state than anyplace in the country. Alaska is first (in eagle population), Florida is next and we're getting right up there. The population is growing fast and they need nesting. That's why I continue to promote this."*

-- Joel Evans

## Joel Evans noticed the plight of eagles seeking nesting places and went to work on a solution

Editor's Note: This article appeared originally in the July 9 issue of the Charlevoix County News and is reprinted here in its entirety.

By Mike Dunn

**EAST JORDAN** —Joel Evans has made his home in East Jordan all his life. He and his wife Mary have raised five children and Joel, now retired, owned and operated a lumber company and home center in town for more than four decades. He presently serves as a Charlevoix County commissioner. For all the hats Evans has worn, though, he may be best known these days for his tireless efforts to help eagles in the Jordan Valley and surrounding areas find suitable nesting.

Evans, a nature lover all his life with a deep appreciation of wildlife, decided to take a proactive approach to a dilemma he became aware of some years ago while hunting in the wetlands of the Jordan Valley.

He noticed an eagles' nest had fallen from its perch high above in the branches of a large tree. The nest had become quite heavy as the eagles had added material to it year after year and it literally broke the branch it was resting on. The eagles then built another nest in a nearby tree but the same thing eventually happened a few years later.

"Then they went to another tree in same area," said Evans, continuing the story. "They built their nest and kept adding to it but the snows came and the rains came and made it quite heavy and that one came down, too."

"The bottom line is that the big trees in Michigan are on the decrease and eagles are on the increase. That's just a fact. The state offers a perfect habitat for eagles but they need places to put their nests. As I watched what

was happening there in the woods, I thought to myself, 'I've built so many birdhouses in the past, why not build a birdhouse for eagles?'"

Evans, who had already constructed some smaller platforms, approximately 12 feet high, for osprey, made plans to build three taller platforms that would one day hopefully serve as places where eagles could put their nests.

Funding the operation himself at a cost of approximately \$1,500 per platform, Evans purchased three telephone poles, some treated lumber and all the other material required to construct three platforms that would stand 55 feet high, a height Evans reckoned would be appealing to the eagles.

"I built three heavy-duty platforms, probably sturdy enough to hold a small car as far as weight goes," he said. The height of the platforms was limited by the length of the 60-foot poles, but as it turned out, it was high enough to suit the eagles.

"They love to be way up high so they can view the area," Evans noted. "The higher I could make the platforms, the better."

Evans received permission from the Department of Environmental Quality and from the City of East Jordan to set the three platforms about 300 yards apart in the same area of the valley where he had seen the eagles putting their latest nest. Consumers Power generously donated an earth-moving machine and an operator to come to the valley and set the poles.

Once the platforms were erected in 1997, all Evans could do was wait and hope the eagles would eventually use one of the them for nesting. While waiting, he did his best to make the platforms appealing to the majestic birds.

"After I bought the poles, I went

out to the valley and found one of the nests that went down to the ground so I could study it," Evans said. "I took it apart with my hands to see the structure of it."

Armed with that knowledge, Evans gathered small pieces of wood and branches and began to create small nests on the platforms. "I simulated the starting of an eagles' nest, thinking back to when I had seen the eagles build their nest over the top of one that was started by a red tail hawk," he said. "I thought maybe that would encourage them to nest."

At first, all the eagles did was roost on the platforms. That is, until their third nest went crashing to the ground the same way the previous two had.

"They roosted on the platform for about three years before they finally nested on it," Evans said with a broad smile. "Once the third nest went down, that platform was the spot they picked. I'm thinking they became accustomed to it over time, so when they were looking for a good place to nest, they started to haul their stuff to it. It was really exciting when I would see them bringing the branches for the nest."

In 2000, the eagles of Jordan Valley finally had a new nesting spot, one that would withstand the ravages of seasonal weather and the increased weight of the nest as the eagles continually added material to it year after year. Today, the nest on Evans' platform stands about 4 feet high and weighs more than 300 pounds. The platform has a protective shield around it to protect the eagle eggs from bobcat, mink or other predators and a copper wire is in place to serve as a ground for lightning.

Just this spring, two male eaglets were born to the adult eagles and Evans has enjoyed gauging their

progress with a pair of field glasses from the observation dock in Sportsman's Park. Evans also helped the DNR recently to put bands on the eaglets and take blood samples.

"The main reason for that is to check the blood for heavy metals or anything toxic," Evans said. "That's one way of determining the quality of the water in Lake Charlevoix and the Jordan River. Since the eagles eat a lot of fish, their blood is a great monitor for telling what's in the water."

After placing the eaglets in specially designed sacks and lowering them to the ground, the DNR also measured the wing span of the eaglets (36 inches) and their weight (7 pounds).

"They're fairly easy to handle if you cover their head and hold their feet," Evans said. "They're not too aggressive. When you're holding their feet, you have to be careful because their claws are looking for something to grip into."

Evans said the adult eagles watched overhead from about 100 yards while the operation took place. "They made the little chirp stress call they make but they didn't come after us," he said. "After we put the eaglets back in the nest and walked away, they came to see if everything was OK. Once they discovered that the eaglets were fine, everything was back to normal."

One of the most gratifying aspects of the eagle platform for Evans is how it has brought attention to the plight of the growing population of eagles in northern Michigan.

"We can have more eagles here in this state than anyplace in the country," Evans said. "Alaska is first (in eagle population), Florida is next and we're getting right up there. The population is growing fast and they need nesting. That's why I continue to pro-

mote this.

"This is something anybody or any group can do. A birdwatching group or a conservancy or environmental group or a community or a city that would like to put up an eagle platform, I have all the information they need to get started."

Evans has spoken to civic groups and other organizations about his experiences with the eagles and he has been in contact with the Grand Traverse Conservancy and with folks in Bay Harbor about possibly constructing platforms in wetland areas at those locations.

The platform Evans constructed in the Jordan Valley more than a decade ago is proof positive that the plan works.

Something else Evans likes about how things have turned out is that the people in the East Jordan community have the opportunity to view the eagles from a perfect vantage point on the Sportsman's Park dock.

"People can pull into the park and walk on the observation deck and look about 300 yards out to find the platform in the wetlands," he said. "You can sit on a picnic table and watch the eagles with field glasses. It's just a great experience for the community. We've had groups like the Friends of the Jordan River here and different classes from school."

"It did my heart good the other day. A couple of ladies in wheelchairs were here and I saw them as they were coming out on the deck so they could watch the eagles."

Organizations interested in contacting Evans either as a speaker or for information about building platforms for eagles or osprey can contact him at (231) 536-7073.



# ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

## Katie Fraser, Boyne Falls

Fraser was smokin' hot from the floor for the Loggers in the fourth quarter of their tense 54-47 hardwood triumph over Northern Lake Conference rival Alanson, hitting six of her team-high 15 points on the home court. Fraser also tallied 12 points for the Loggers in a tough loss to Ellsworth.



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### DNR REPORT

## Firearm season safest on record

### Only one hunting fatality reported during all of 2009

As the 2009 hunting season comes to a close, the Department of Natural Resources reports that the Nov. 15-30 firearm season was the safest on record in Michigan with no fatalities. Only one hunting fatality -- during the spring turkey season -- was reported the entire 2009 hunting season, DNR Law Enforcement Division records show.

"Michigan has seen a continued drop in hunter casualty incidents since implementation of mandatory hunter education and mandatory hunter orange laws," said Sgt. Jon Wood, program supervisor for the DNR's Hunter Education Program.

The 2009 hunting season recorded 12 hunting-related accidents, and just one fatality. In 2005, the DNR recorded 19 accidents with three fatalities; and in 2000, there were seven fatalities and 32 accidents. In 1950, the department recorded 25 fatalities and 190 accidents.

Hunter safety training became mandatory for first-time hunters ages 12-16 in 1971; while wearing hunter orange became law in 1977. In 1970, there were 18 fatalities and 212 accidents. Ten years later, the number of fatalities dropped to nine, while the number of accidents decreased to 107.

"Most of the credit goes to the nearly 3,000 Michigan volunteer Hunter Education instructors across the state" Wood said. "Without their dedication and professionalism, the sport of hunting would not be as safe as it is now."

Another significant reason for the continued drop in fatalities and accidents

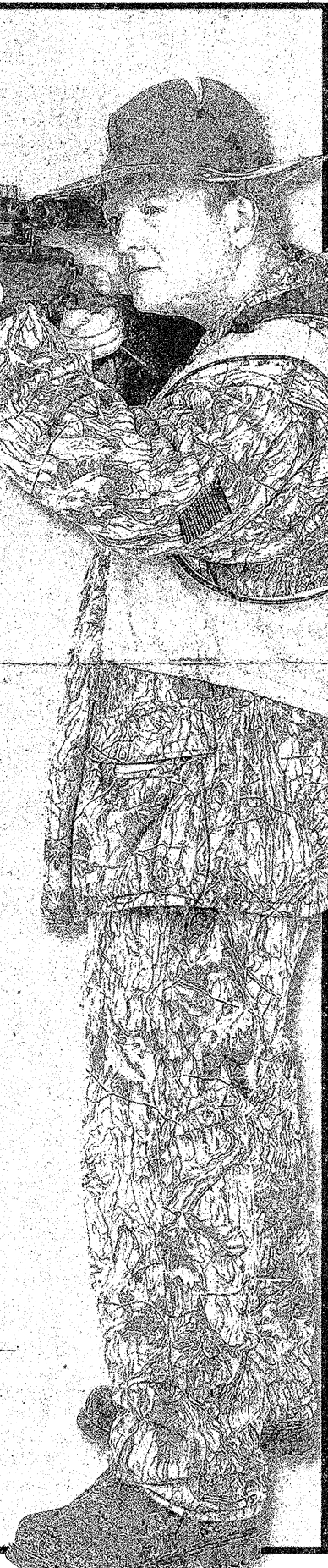
is the active role Michigan conservation officers take in educating hunters in the classroom and in the field, said DNR Law Enforcement Chief Gary Hagler.

"Conservation officers continue to make enforcement of safety violations a top priority," Hagler said.

Hagler and Wood remind hunters to always think about safety while in the field. There are 10 basic rules of firearm safety all hunters should remember:

- Keep your gun's muzzle pointed in a safe direction.
- Treat every firearm as if it was loaded.
- Be sure of your target and what is in front of it and beyond it.
- Keep your finger outside the trigger guard until ready to shoot.
- Check your barrel and ammunition.
- Unload firearms when not in use.
- Point your firearm only at something you intend to shoot.
- Do not run, jump or climb with a loaded firearm.
- Store firearms and ammunition separately and safely.
- Avoid alcohol and drugs before and during shooting.

The 2009 firearm hunting season was the safest on record, according to the Department of Natural Resources.



### SPORTS BRIEFS

#### Reporting scores

The Charlevoix County News is interested in reporting boys and girls basketball results, wrestling and bowling results (or any other sporting event) for Boyne City, Boyne Falls, Charlevoix, East Jordan and Ellsworth. Coaches, please send any information you wish to have in the paper via e-mail to sports@charlevoixcountynews.com or by fax at (888) 240-5499. Or call Mike at (989) 370-0605.

#### Announcing upcoming events

The Charlevoix County News offers readers a forum for announcing upcoming events. Send information about upcoming basketball tournaments, fundraising events, hockey tournaments, wrestling tournaments, youth events, etc. and the News will get the word out in Sports Briefs.

Include the date, time, location, registration fee and contact information (phone number, e-mail address and/or Web site) and send to sports@charlevoixcountynews.com or via fax at (888) 240-5499.

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## CAMP DAGGETT SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION BEGINS JANUARY 4, 2010

"Wonderful! Caring and careful counselors! Improved self-esteem! Great new friends! Can't wait until next year!" These are some of the key phrases from parent evaluations for summer 2009 at Camp Daggett. Every year, over 1,000 children ages 7-14 get the opportunity to spend a week at Camp Daggett. They experience the beauty of the natural environment that the camp provides, make new friends, try new things and have loads of fun. The summer program also develops a feeling of acceptance, respect and courage that campers take home with them. Camping provides a setting in which children can live, learn, and develop skills that are useful throughout their lives. Activities include adventure ropes courses, archery, group sports and games, sailing, swimming, canoeing and fishing, arts and crafts and nature study, hikes, campfires and camp outs. The program answers a

child's search for adventure in an environment that is upbeat and wholesome. Appetites are satisfied with nourishing, family style meals served in beautiful Mac Hall, a picturesque log dining room overlooking Walloon Lake. Camp Daggett offers eight one-week coed camping sessions starting June 20 and ending August 14, 2010. Cost is \$375 for Charlevoix and Emmet County residents. Scholarships are available to campers who need

financial assistance. Camp Daggett Summer Camp Applications may be picked up at area schools and local Chambers of Commerce beginning mid-afternoon on Monday, January 4, 2010. \* Get your child started on the meaningful and memorable experience of a lifetime. One child said it best: "Camp is so fun that your smile muscles hurt!" For more information, visit [www.campdaggett.com](http://www.campdaggett.com) or call 231-347-9742.

financial assistance. Camp Daggett Summer Camp Applications may be picked up at area schools and local Chambers of Commerce beginning mid-afternoon on Monday, January 4, 2010. \* Get your child started on the meaningful and memorable experience of a lifetime. One child said it best: "Camp is so fun that your smile muscles hurt!" For more information, visit [www.campdaggett.com](http://www.campdaggett.com) or call 231-347-9742.

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## Reporting scores:

The Charlevoix County News is interested in reporting boys and girls basketball results, wrestling, hockey and skiing results (or any other sporting event) for Boyne City, Boyne Falls, Charlevoix, East Jordan and Ellsworth. Coaches, please send any information you wish to have in the paper via e-mail to sports@charlevoixcountynews.com or by fax at (888) 240-5499. Or call Mike at (989) 370-0605.



# MOVIE GUIDE

## AVATAR

Spectacular Visuals in this Epic  
Adventure Boggle the Imagination



### MOVIE REVIEW

By Jim Akans

Oscar-winning director James Cameron (Titanic) has created yet another epic big screen adventure with his latest combination live-action/animated film; Avatar.

Apparently, the concept for the movie was conceived nearly 15 years ago, but technology hadn't quite caught up with Mr. Cameron's vision for the film until about four years ago.

So that's when production got underway, and the result is a mind boggling cinematic journey that seamlessly blends about 40 percent live action with 60 percent over-the-top computer generated imagery. It's virtually (pun intended) impossible to tell the difference. With an estimated \$230 million dollar budget, it may also be the most expensive movie ever made.

The story (oh yeah...that's pretty good too), centers on the tale of Jake Scully, a former marine who lost the use of his legs in battle, and is being sent to a distant planet called Pandora to participate in a high-tech biological experiment. Dubbed the "Avatar Project," it is designed as a means to control Pandora's native "alien" population of the same name.

It seems a rare mineral has been discovered on Pandora and, in typical earthling behavior, we have set our sights on extracting every last bit of it. Problem is, Avatar's have a deep spiritual and ecological connection to their planet and don't want the invaders from earth stopping by to destroy it.

That's where the Avatar Project comes in. Human scientists on Pandora have figured out how to genetically engineer Avatar bodies, and through some scientific hocus pocus, allow humans to mentally link-up with those bodies, and remotely interact with the real Avatars. Using one of these Avatarian bodies, our hero Jake is selected to infiltrate an Avatar tribe called the Na'vi and convince them to relocate because a large lode of the



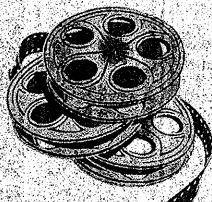

rare mineral has been found under their village.

Amid hints of Pocahontas and Fern Gully, Jake assimilates into the native "alien" culture, befriends a Na'vi female, and suddenly finds the line between the good guys and bad guys isn't quite as clear as a John Houston western anymore.

Avatar is great fun, offers some timeless moral and spiritual messages, and looks absolutely fantastic. It is rated PG-13 for intense battle sequences and a bit of foul language. Despite a somewhat lengthy 160 minute run time, the film perks right along, compressing time like only a good movie can.

To paraphrase Oliver Twist - "could we have more Mr. Cameron sir?"

**EXIT COMMENTS;**  
"Very imaginative...fantastic!"  
Ed - Atlanta  
"One of the best movies I've seen,"  
Jessica - Gaylord  
"Great story and special effects,"  
Jim & Tim - Roscommon  
"Everything from story to design was fantastic," Doug - Grayling  
"Best movie of 2009,"  
Clayton - Bellaire

**WHICH DID YOU PREFER?**  
**Movie;**  
**100%**  
**Popcorn;**  
**0%**

### AREA MOVIE LISTINGS JANUARY 1-7

#### Gaylord Cinema West

**The Blind Side – PG13**  
Starring: Sandra Bullock, Tim McGraw  
FRI-SAT-SUN 2:00, 4:15, 7:00, 9:15  
MON-TUES-WED 7:00  
THURS 7:00, 9:15

**Avatar- PG13**  
Starring: Sigourney Weaver, Sam Worthington  
FRI-SAT-SUN 2:00, 6:30, 9:20  
MON-TUES-WED-THURS 7:00

**The Princess and the Frog–G**  
Voice of: Anika Noni Rose, Oprah Winfrey  
FRI-SAT-SUN 2:00, 4:00

**It's Complicated – R**  
Starring: Alec Baldwin, Meryl Streep  
FRI-SAT-SUN 2:00, 4:15, 7:00, 9:15  
MON-TUES-WED 7:00  
THURS 7:00, 9:15

**Sherlock Holmes - PG13**  
Starring: Robert Downey Jr., Jude Law  
FRI-SAT-SUN 1:30, 4:00, 6:45, 9:15  
MON-TUES-WED 6:45  
THURS 6:45, 9:15

**Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Squeekquel - PG**  
Starring: Jason Lee, Justin Long  
FRI-SAT-SUN 2:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:00  
MON-TUES-WED 7:00  
THURS 7:00, 9:00

**Invictus– PG13**  
Starring: Matt Damon, Morgan Freeman  
FRI-SAT-SUN-THURS 6:45, 9:15  
MON-TUES-WED 6:45

**Kingston Theatre,**

**Sherlock Holmes – PG13**  
Starring: Robert Downey Jr., Jude Law  
FRI-SAT 1:00, 3:45, 6:45, 9:15  
SUN 1:00, 3:45, 6:45  
MON-TUES-WED 6:45  
THURS 6:45, 9:15

**Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Squeekquel - PG**  
Starring: Jason Lee, Justin Long  
FRI-SAT 1:00, 3:00, 7:00, 9:00  
SUN 1:00, 3:00, 7:00  
MON-TUES-WED 7:00  
THURS 9:00

**The Princess and the Frog–G**  
Voice of: Anika Noni Rose, Oprah Winfrey  
FRI-SAT 1:00, 3:00, 7:00, 9:00  
SUN 1:00, 3:00, 7:00  
MON-TUES-WED 7:00  
THURS 9:00

**Avatar- PG13**  
Starring: Sigourney Weaver, Sam Worthington  
FRI-SAT 1:00, 3:45, 6:45, 9:30  
SUN 1:00, 3:45, 6:45  
MON-TUES-WED-THURS 6:45

**Did You Hear About The Morgans - PG13**  
Starring: Hugh Grant, Sarah Jessica Parker  
FRI-SAT 1:00, 3:15, 7:00, 9:15  
SUN 1:00, 3:15, 7:00  
MON-TUES-WED 7:00  
THURS 7:00, 9:15

**Petoskey Cinema,**

**Did You Hear About The Morgans - PG13**  
Starring: Hugh Grant, Sarah Jessica Parker  
FRI-SAT-SUN-THURS 12:00, 2:00, 5:00, 7:00, 9:00  
MON-TUES-WED 7:00, 9:00

**The Blind Side – PG13**  
Starring: Sandra Bullock, Tim McGraw  
FRI-SAT-SUN-THURS 11:45, 2:15, 4:45, 7:00, 9:15  
MON-TUES-WED 7:00, 9:15

**Invictus– PG13**  
Starring: Matt Damon, Morgan Freeman  
FRI-SAT-SUN-THURS 11:45, 2:30, 6:45, 9:15  
MON-TUES-WED 6:45, 9:15

**It's Complicated – R**  
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MON-TUES-WED 7:00, 9:15

**The Princess and the Frog–G**  
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MON-TUES-WED 7:00, 9:00

**Petoskey Cinema,**  
**Sherlock Holmes – PG13**  
Starring: Robert Downey Jr., Jude Law  
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MON-TUES-WED 7:00, 9:15

**Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Squeekquel - PG**  
Starring: Jason Lee, Justin Long  
FRI-SAT-SUN-THUR 11:45, 1:30, 3:15, 5:00, 7:00, 9:00  
MON-TUES-WED 7:00, 9:00

**Avatar – PG13**  
Starring: Jake Gyllenhaal, Natalie Portman  
FRI-SAT-SUN-THURS 12:00, 3:30, 6:30, 9:20  
MON-TUES-WED 6:30, 9:20

**Bellaire Theatre**

**The Blind Side – PG13**  
Starring: Sandra Bullock, Tim McGraw  
Nightly at 7:00

**Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Squeekquel - PG**  
Starring: Jason Lee, Justin Long  
Nightly at 7:00

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# Real Estate & Classifieds

## Featured Property

On the Market ~ 2980 N. M-75, Boyne City

## Lynda's Real Estate Service

Contact- Marty Moody, Boyne City (231) 582-9555

## Gem of a Home with Dazzling View

Price Reduced on this Remarkable Three Bedroom Home Overlooking Walloon Lake

*This is a "must see" home offering.*

By Jim Akans

Overlooking a gorgeous vista that includes Walloon Lake and the surrounding hills and woodlands, the location alone makes this an excellent home value. That's not only a reflection of the tantalizing Northern Michigan panoramas; the home is also situated less than a mile from the Walloon Lake public beach area, near snowmobile trails, and just six miles from downtown Boyne City.

As fabulous as the over six acres of property is; the interior of the home is equally as stunning.

There are two finished living levels in the "open" design style floor plan of the home. The interior has been appointed by a professional interior designer, and the exceptional choice of amenities and finishes reveal an expert level of appeal and function.

The main level of the home is highlighted by an open living, dining and kitchen area that includes a wood-burning, corner fireplace with classic brick surround. Next to the fireplace, a large front window (the windows in the home have been upgraded to energy efficient thermal units) offers an unparalleled view of Walloon Lake and the surrounding countryside.

The kitchen features custom wood cabinetry, with "extra-height", glass-

front, upper cabinets for added storage and visual allure. The countertops and flooring are made of tile for durability and beauty, and there is a full array of appliances including range/oven, refrigerator and dishwasher. A main level laundry is conveniently accessed just off the kitchen, and the washer and dryer are included.

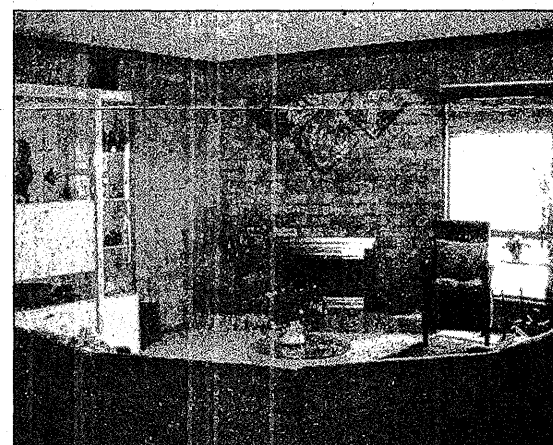
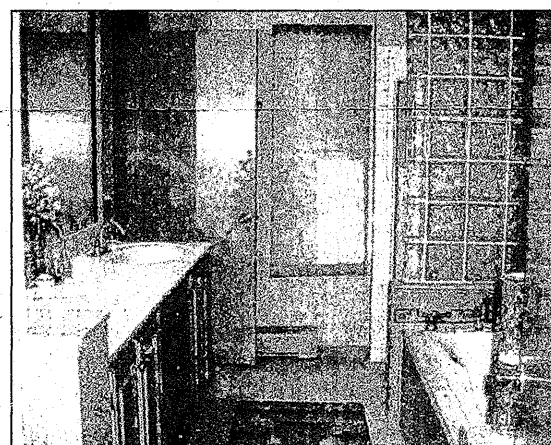
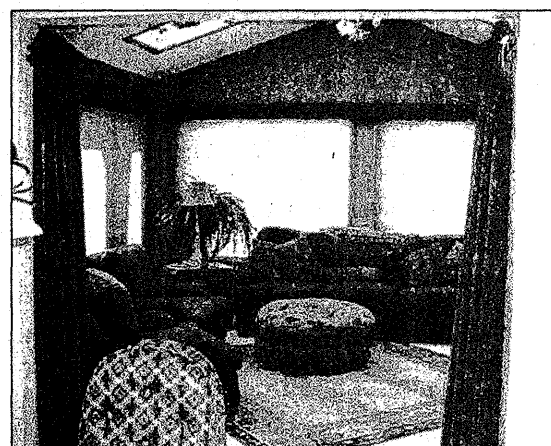
Three bedrooms and a full bath, complete with whirlpool tub and separate shower, are also located on the main living level.

There is also a wonderful, four-season room adjacent to the dining area and kitchen, which just may become the new homeowner's favorite spot for relaxing and enjoying the outdoor views. The room is wrapped in windows and includes four skylights, allowing the space to fill with natural light.

The walkout lower level of the home complements the open design of the main level. The lower level features a full kitchenette, living area, full bath and bedroom. This is a perfect retreat for guests who come for a visit; offering accommodations of privacy and style. There is also a work room area in the lower level that provides the perfect retreat for pursuing hobbies and projects in a comfortable, out of the way spot.

This is a very easy home to fall in love with, and at an asking price that has been reduced to just \$174,900 it is also an incredibly attractive bargain.

For a more information or to arrange for a tour of this home, call Marty Moody at 231-582-9555 or email at [marty@lyndasrealestateservice.com](mailto:marty@lyndasrealestateservice.com)



## Michigan Media

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In a perfect world you'd employ someone to manage your website and get it working for your business. In reality this isn't always possible. That's where our SEO packages can help you take those difficult first steps and give you a clear plan of action to carry on.

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## Announcements

**ATTENTION LOCAL NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS. Earn money for your group selling subscriptions to the new Charlevoix County News. Call Dave 1 at 989-732-8160 or e-mail Office@CharlevoixCountyNews.com.**

**COMMUNITY NEWS.** You can be a local news reporter. We are looking for people to submit local information from your community to be published in the Charlevoix County News. Submissions should be made by e-mail. We distribute the Charlevoix County News throughout East Jordan, Boyne City, Charlevoix, Boyne Falls and Ellsworth. **E-Mail local NEWS BRIEFS, SPORTS BRIEFS AND BUSINESS BRIEFS** to Office@WeeklyChoice.com.

Retired Sheriff George T. Lasater, author of the book Charlevoix County's Contribution to World War II, is nearing completion of his second book, Charlevoix County's Contribution to World War I. The next publication project is Charlevoix County's Contribution to the Korean War. Any citizen with information on family members in either WWI or the Korean War are encouraged to contact George at his home: 231-582-7001. There are a few copies still available of the WWII publication at local book stores. The proceeds from the sale of the books are being donated to war memorials in Charlevoix County.

## CHARLEVOIX COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Synopsis - December 23, 2009

The Charlevoix County Board of Commissioners met December 23, 2009 at 1:00 p.m. in the Commissioners Room in the County Building. Commissioner Drebenstedt was absent. Motion approved the minutes of the November 11, 2009 meeting as presented. Committee appointments were addressed. Motion approved Resolution #09-148, Approve County Expenditures. Motion approved Resolution #09-149, Renewables and Energy Efficiency for Local Government Program. Motion approved Resolution #09-150, Grandvue Operating Transfer and authorized the Treasurer to make this transfer as outlined. Motion approved Resolution #09-151, Marine Grant, and authorized the Fiscal Officer to sign. Motion approved Resolution #09-152, Commission on Aging Bylaws as amended. Motion approved Resolution #09-153, Transit Driver Wage Grid, Effective 01/01/10. Motion approved Resolution #09-154, Substation Facility Purchase Reserve. Motion approved Resolution #09-155, Corrections Officers Agreement as recommended and authorized Chairman Christensen to sign said agreement. Motion approved Resolution #09-156, Remonumentation Grant, and authorized the Clerk as Grant Administrator to sign said application. Motion approved Resolution #09-157, Surveyor Contracts and authorized Chairman Christensen to sign said contracts contingent on notification from the State. Motion approved Resolution #09-158, 2010 Subsidiary Fund Budgets. Motion approved Resolution #09-159, Recovery Zone Designation. Resolution #09-160, Bank Depositories for 2010, postponed. Motion approved Resolution #09-161, Fund Reserves. Motion approved Resolution #09-162, Transportation Agreement between Charlevoix County Transit and Commission on Aging for Senior Ride as recommended and authorized Chairman Christensen to sign said agreement. Motion approved Resolution #09-163, Transportation Agreement between Charlevoix County Transit and Commission on Aging for Meals on Wheels as recommended and authorized Chairman Christensen to sign said agreement. Motion approved Resolution #09-164, Jail Upgrade to Existing Control Panel. Motion approved Resolution #09-165, Grandvue Operating Transfer and authorized the Treasurer to make this transfer. Motion approved Resolution #09-166 General Fund Deficits. Motion approved Resolution #09-167, Subsidiary Fund Deficits. The Commissioners organizational meeting will be held on January 7, 2010 at 9:30 a.m. Motion adjourned the meeting at 6:10 p.m.

Cheryl Potter Browe, County Clerk

## Apartments for Rent

1 BEDROOM APARTMENT. MANCELONA. \$400 per month, all utilities, snowplowing and trash removal included. 231-590-0229

## Auto Parts

4 TIRES, P225-70R-16. Pathfinder all season, like new, \$150. 231-582-5598, 231-675-877 5

LOTS OF 1965 MUSTANG parts for sale. Call 989-344-9700

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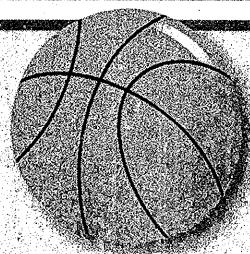
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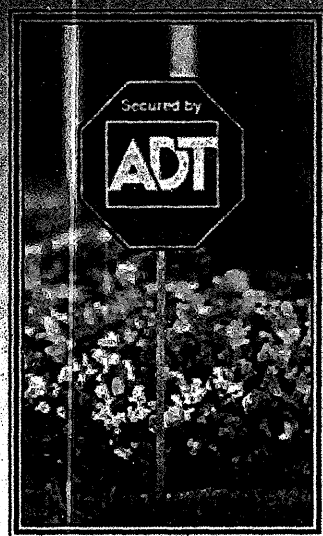
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## Buying the Right Exercise Equipment

By Brian Whitaker

The Centers for Disease Control report that over 60% of Americans don't get the recommended amount of exercise, with 25% being almost completely sedentary. With inactivity comes a range of health problems, including heart disease, osteoporosis, and obesity. Many Americans would like to get more exercise, but don't because they are intimidated by workout centers, don't know where to start, or find it to be inconvenient. That's where home exercise equipment can be helpful. Just fifteen minutes of exercise five days a week can make an enormous difference in health and well being, and most people are more likely to exercise if they can do it at home.

There are many types of home exercise equipment out there. Going to your local sporting goods store can result in an overwhelming variety of choices. With each kind of equipment, there are advantages and disadvantages. This article covers exercise equipment in several price ranges and gives you some ideas of what you ought to buy.

### General Rules

When buying exercise equipment, you should think about certain things. Among these are:

- Is the machine portable? Will it be easy to move and store?
- Is it well made? Does it seem rickety? Are sharp edges covered or smoothed?
- Is it adjustable? Can you make it easier or harder?

### Aerobic Exercisers

When people think about buying a home gym, they immediately think of aerobic exercise equipment. Stationary bicycles, treadmills, elliptical trainers, and stair stepers all fall into this category. These machines are good for burning fat and improving cardiovascular health. Aerobic exercise is essential to fitness, so if you're only going to buy one piece of equipment, an aerobic machine is what you should buy.

### Exercise Bikes.

Almost every American is familiar with these. An exercise bike is great for overall cardiovascular fitness, tones the legs and buttocks, and aids in losing weight. Many

of these also have some kind of built-in exercise for the arms. Exercise bikes come in a range of prices, from \$80 to \$500.

Treadmills. A treadmill lets you walk or run inside your home, with many models offering incline adjustments (simulating hills) and built-in programs to keep your interest. There are great fitness machines, but probably aren't for people with degenerative bone or joint disease, as they offer a relatively high impact level. Treadmills are also fairly expensive, ranging from \$399 to \$2499 and more.

### Elliptical Trainers.

These are not as common as bikes or treadmills, but offer a great workout without the impact of treadmills. Ellipticals offer a motion more like cross-country skiing or hiking, which helps reduce wear and tear on the joints. Many also include some kind of arm exercise. They range in price from \$399 to \$999.

### Stair Stepers.

Most people are fairly familiar with these machines, which offer an exercise that is similar to climbing a flight of stairs. Arm exercises aren't usually an option with these. Some of these are very inexpensive, with prices as little as \$80, but stick with those that cost \$150 and up.

### Weight / Resistance Machines

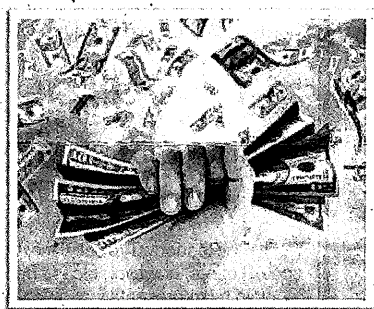
Many people are afraid of weight equipment, and it's true that free weights can be dangerous. But weight training is an essential part of fitness. Resistance machines offer a range of weight and resistance exercises that build muscle and improve endurance. Many people consider buying some kind of multi-gym or fitness machine for the home, and that's a good idea for someone who has the space to spare and the money to spend. Prices range from \$399 to \$900 and up.

To find out more, go to your local sporting goods store or stop by a department store. They usually have a good range of exercise equipment. With a little money and a little effort, you may find yourself traveling the road to a fitter, firmer you very soon.

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