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Sweets in store. C8

# PETOSKEY News-Review

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## Council mulls safety codes

Ryan Bentley

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Property-maintenance rules proposed for structures in Petoskey will get continued consideration from city council members when they meet Monday, July 19.

Public safety services for the Bay Harbor resort also are on the agenda for the meeting, which begins at 7:30 p.m. Monday at city hall, 101 E. Lake St.

Last month, the council began considering possible adoption of the International Property Maintenance Code with some modifica-

tions for local use. This is one of several model codes developed by the International Code Council, a nonprofit membership association focusing on building safety and fire prevention. Its members come from various professional associations in fields such as homebuilding and public safety.

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Read a recently updated version of the proposed property maintenance ordinance

See PETOSKEY COUNCIL on PAGE A14

## War chests in place for Allen, Benishek

Brandon Hubbard

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The Republican primary in the 1st Congressional District race for Congressman Bart Stupak's seat is heating up both verbally and financially.

The Federal Election Commission reported its quarterly find-

ings Friday morning showing that while Dan Benishek, a Republican from Crystal Falls, is no longer making post-health care-vote dollars, he isn't afraid to drop his own coin in the race.

Benishek, a surgeon by trade, made more than \$142,000 in can-

See FUNDING on PAGE A14

## D'Art for Art



RACHEL BROUGHAM/NEWS-REVIEW

Art lovers cruise the tables of art on display before the D'Art for Art auction gets under way Thursday. Hundreds of art lovers attended the Crooked Tree Arts Center fundraiser at Walstrom Marine-Building 6 on Hoyt Road in Harbor Springs. Proceeds from D'Art for Art support Crooked Tree Arts Center's year-round arts education programs. SEE MORE PHOTOS ON PAGE A9.

## County holding on to mineral rights

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At least for the time being, Emmet County will retain the mineral rights for property throughout its boundaries.

In June, the Emmet County Building and Grounds Committee was approached by Western Land Services representatives about the sale of its mineral rights for "all property south of Levering Road."

Among the specific areas mentioned during the meeting was the large plot of land around the Pellston Regional Airport.

In total, the county has about

6,000 acres.

However, the exact number of acres of mineral rights available would require extensive review, because a large number of county acres were previously owned by the state of Michigan, which retains such rights.

On a phone call Wednesday, Emmet County Controller Lyn Johnson reiterated that the Emmet County Board of Commissioners has directed him to take "no action" at this time, including a possible survey of the mineral rights acres available.

So, for now, there will be no gas wells sprouting up on county property.

Local LOWDOWN

## Venetian Festival ROOTS



NEWS-REVIEW FILE PHOTO

The first Venetian queen and her court in 1935 are Carol Whitley, (from left) Queen Marge Carey, Alice Meyer, Jean Zeitler, Marguerite Hull, Julia Glados, Edna Wyers and Jean Stelter.

Rachel Brougham

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CHARLEVOIX — It began as a simple candle-lit boat parade in 1930. Today, Charlevoix's Venetian Festival is the city's highlight of the busy summer season.

This year's festival kicks off on Saturday, July 17, and runs through Saturday, July 24.

While tens of thousands attend the festival each year, many don't know about its rich history.

"When the festival started 80 years ago, it was really small and was just a boat parade," said Joan Miller, who works for the Venetian Festival planning office. "But today, there are so many events and it really just brings the entire community together."

The festival offers everything from the traditional boat and street parade, to fireworks, sporting events, food and

live music.

"We actually have a tradition of two nights of fireworks," Miller said. "On Friday (July 23), we have the larger show that is down near Ferry Beach on Lake Charlevoix. Then on Saturday (July 24) we have a smaller, but still impressive, display downtown."

While the fireworks may be one of the highlights of the festival, they were put on hold after a deadly accident in 1997.

Nearly 50,000 people were watching when one of the fireworks exploded, killing one and injuring more than a dozen others.

"After the accident, organizers tried a laser light show which just didn't go over well," said Dean Davenport, long time Charlevoix resident and organizer of the Venetian games. "The community then rallied together and decided

See VENETIAN HISTORY on PAGE A14

## It's safety first at Venetian

■ Officers will be out in force during the festival

Christina Rohn

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CHARLEVOIX — Charlevoix's Venetian Festival is a highly anticipated event, which draws nearly double the population of Charlevoix each summer.

Gerard Doan, chief of the Charlevoix City Police Department, said normally, Charlevoix's population is around 30,000 during the summer months. However, he says, when the festival hits (July 17-24 this year), the population can spike to around 60,000.

With a crowd of this size, in a town that is home to around 3,000 people in the off-season, Doan says things can get pretty tight, hectic and, at times, dangerous.

In an effort to handle the crowds and stifle possible crime, Doan said he brings out his entire department — nine

officers — as well as enlists the help of the Charlevoix County Sheriff's Department.

"Usually we get up to two or four deputies," he said. "Typically, you can see 10 officers on foot down in East Park for the fireworks ... the mere presence of us deters a lot of problems we might have."

Doan said the most common issue that arises each year during the festival is drunk and disorderly conduct.

"This has been deterred over the years, but I think it's something you'd find at any big festival throughout the state," he said. "Just be careful on how many alcoholic beverages you partake in — we want to see everyone come here safely and get home safely."

Another primary concern for officers is traffic control and pedestrian safety.

See VENETIAN SAFETY on PAGE A14

### AROUND THE WORLD IN 60 SECONDS

#### Warmest June on record, climate scientists say

WASHINGTON (AP) — Last month was the warmest June on record, extending months of record-setting heat.

Worldwide, the average temperature in June was 61.1 degrees Fahrenheit (16.2 Celsius), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration said Thursday. That was 1.22 degrees F (0.68 C) warmer than average for June.

This year has had the warmest average temperature for January-June on record — 57.5 F (12.2 C).

Peru, the central and eastern regions of the United States, and eastern and western Asia were warmer than usual last month. Scandinavia, southern China and the northwestern United States were all cooler than normal.

#### BP stops oil spewing from Gulf gusher

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — The oil has stopped. For now.

After 85 days and up to 184 million gallons, BP finally gained control over one of America's biggest environmental catastrophes Thursday by placing a carefully fitted cap over a runaway geyser that has been gushing crude into the Gulf of Mexico since early spring.

Though a temporary fix, the accomplishment was greeted with hope, high expectations — and, in many cases along the beleaguered coastline, disbelief. From one Gulf Coast resident came this: "Hallelujah." And from another: "I got to see it to believe it."

#### LOCAL WEATHER

	PETOSKEY	CHARLEVOIX
YESTERDAY'S HIGH	79°	80°
OVERNIGHT LOW	65°	67°
PRECIPITATION	.05"	.04"

**85**  
sunset: 9:24 p.m.

FOR TIME & TEMPERATURE CALL 231-348-1122

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