

FEBRUARY/NEWS

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FEB. 22

Ex-reserve cop sentenced

TRAVERSE CITY — A former reserve officer was sentenced to prison Friday for a Christmas-night standoff with Grand Traverse County Sheriff's deputies.

Jon W. Grist, 38, was sentenced to 1½ to four years in prison for assault with a dangerous weapon. Following a domestic dispute Christmas night, he pointed a gun toward two family members and Sheriff Scott Fewins and fired the weapon several times into the woods near his Blair Township home.

Grist's addiction to prescription drugs, alcohol use and other personal problems played a significant role in the incident, his attorney said. Grist is a former reserve officer with the Grand Traverse County Sheriff's Department.

FEB. 26

United Way cuts funding

TRAVERSE CITY — After a

54-year partnership, United Way of Northwestern Michigan has terminated next year's funding for The Salvation Army in Leelanau and Grand Traverse counties.

Major Thomas Riggs of The Salvation Army said his group received \$25,000 from United Way this year to provide emergency assistance to 7,800 people.

Its annual operating budget is \$500,000.

"It is a blow, definitely, and a surprise of equal proportion," Riggs said. "We had no prior warning that this was something that might even happen."

Riggs, who took over the commanding officer post six months ago, said The Salvation Army complied with the application process and submitted a well-researched request.

Becky Beauchamp, executive director of the United Way of Northwest Michigan, said the group's long-standing relationship with the United Way does not entitle it to funding.

FEBRUARY/SPORTS

FEB. 25

Petoskey falls short

MARQUETTE — Oh, so close.

Petoskey nearly pulled off a sweep in its debut in the Class A state ski meet Monday but fell just short on a cold day at Marquette Mountain.

The host team edged the Northmen in both races, winning 72-78 on the boys' side and 59-64 on the girls'.

Traverse City Central placed third in the girls meet (90). Central's boys took fourth behind Clarkston, 97-104.

"It was a pretty exciting day," said Petoskey coach Brewster McVicker, whose boys' team won three straight B-C-D titles before the school moved up to Class A. "The top three teams were all on their game. Marquette showed a little more depth and we came up just short."

FEB. 25

Harbor Springs wins state

HARBOR SPRINGS — The streak continues.

Harbor Springs, led by junior Kalie Grambeau, won its fourth consecutive Class B-C-D state girls' ski championship Monday at Nub's Nob.

To make the day even sweeter, the Rams won the boys' title, too.

"It's awesome," Grambeau said. "To win two state championships on your home hill, it doesn't get any better."

Grambeau swept the slalom and giant slalom in leading the girls to the title. Harbor Springs finished with 68 points to easily outdistance Cranbrook, which took second with 115. Houghton was third with 129 while St. Francis/Traverse City Christian placed fourth with 137.



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