

MAY/NEWS

FROM PAGE 26

1971 and since 1988 has been owned by Tom Scanlan, who also owns WBKP-TV in Calumet and WBUP in Marquette.

MAY 14

Police honor colleagues

CHARLEVOIX — Police officers from across northern Michigan gathered in East Park here Tuesday to recall fallen colleagues and those who willingly risk their lives for their communities every day.

The third annual Peace Officers Memorial Service honored officers killed in line of duty in the past year; those from northern Michigan killed in previous years; and other officers deceased, retired and active.

Last year, 148 police officers were killed in the line of duty nationwide.

MAY 15

Students charged, expelled

TRAVERSE CITY — Two East Junior High students have been charged with felonies and expelled from Traverse City Area Public Schools for planting exploding pop bottles around the school.

Grand Traverse Prosecutor Dennis LaBelle said the 13- and 14-year-old eighth-grade boys have been charged with one count each of placing an object constructed to represent an explosive incendiary device or bomb with intent to intimidate or harass.

The charges stem from a May 5 incident in which the students are accused of placing six plastic pop bottles containing explosive household chemicals around the school. Four of the devices exploded, causing school officials to lock down the school for about two hours while sheriff's deputies searched the building. No one was injured.

MAY 16

Judge rejects Clovelly suit

TRAVERSE CITY — The developer of a stalled office



Record-Eagle/John L. Russell

Students search for a tug in Glen Lake.

building project downtown has lost a round in court in an ongoing legal battle with the city.

Circuit Judge Philip Rodgers has rejected a lawsuit filed by Clovelly Corp. appealing the city commission's December decision to not extend a land-use permit to build a five-story office building. The permit was initially approved in 2000.

The suit is among two filed by broadcaster Roy Henderson, who plans a combined office, retail and residential complex at the corner of Front and Park streets. He also sued city officials in federal court in April, claiming his civil rights were violated by the city in its refusal to extend the permit. That case is pending.

Judge Rodgers ruled that the city has the legal authority to deny the permit extension because the developer offered the city no indication of when — or if — the project would be built.

MAY 17

Register may gain property

TRAVERSE CITY — A summer resort in Leland and a sawmill town that became a resort in Benzie County have been nominated to the national register of historic places.

The Michigan Department of History, Arts and Libraries says few existing sites can be compared to the Fountain Point resort and

Watervale Historic District, which are already on the state's historic register.

"These two sites were nominated because they are both considered pretty unique," said Robert Christensen, spokesman for the department.

Christensen said the designation is a way to highlight the historical importance of the properties and encourage respect for them.

MAY 18

Spirit revives epic venue

CHARLEVOIX — Northern Michigan's castle is in the midst of a renaissance. And like a centuries-old European palace, Castle Farms has its share of mystique and unusual history.

Hundreds of area residents flocked to an open house at Castle Farms, on M-66 highway in Charlevoix County's Marion Township.

New owner Linda Mueller displayed the extensive renovations to the field stone buildings and their dormers, cupolas, towers and arched windows.

The facilities will now serve as a special-events venue for wedding receptions, proms, festivals, trade shows and more.

This isn't the first revival of "The Castle." Its odd history includes a connection to an infamous murder that spawned what was once dubbed "the trial of the 20th century." Its later incarna-

tion as a concert venue is a resonant memory in many local people's lives — and an era that still provokes muttered anger from neighbors.

MAY 19

Family gathers to mourn

MANISTEE — A picnic on a sunny day by the beach should be a carefree affair, but for 75 or so Sievert family members and friends there was a somber undertone to their gathering at Rocket Park Sunday — because of who wasn't there.

The gathering marked a year since an early morning fire swept through a century-old converted barn on U.S. 31 north of Manistee and killed three of the seven people in the home at the time.

Dead were Steven Michael Sievert, 10, Andrew Eugene Sievert, 14, and Jonathan Charles Sievert, 20.

Andrew Sievert had already gotten out of the home but returned to save his brothers.

Surviving the blaze were brothers Joshua, 16, and Jeffrey, 15, and their younger nephew Arick as well as their grandfather Earnest.

MAY 20

TC teen competes in bee

TRAVERSE CITY — A Traverse City eighth-grader will compete today in Washington, D.C., in the National Geographic Bee for a \$25,000 college scholarship and some worldwide acclaim.

Mitchell Treadwell, 14, a student at West Junior High School, beat 97 other Michigan students in April to earn this state's spot at the national finals.

Treadwell, who is the son of Frank Treadwell and Melinda Mitchell of Traverse City, will be accompanied on the all-expense-paid trip to the nation's capital by his family and Mary Pratt, his seventh-grade geography teacher at West Junior High.

MAY 21

District to cut \$305K

BELLAIRE — Bellaire

school officials have cut 5.6 percent of the district's overall budget for the next school year to stem an expected shortfall.

Yet the district still faces dipping into its fund equity by up to \$150,000 next year, its superintendent said.

On May 14, the school board cut \$305,000 from the district's \$5.4 million budget and eliminated several positions — school nurse, a half-time teacher, two aides at the middle/high school and a school maintenance position.

A school custodian was cut to half-time, and several support staff had their work schedules reduced by two to six days for next school year.

The district also will suspend all capital outlay expenditures for next year, will not purchase any new sports or other uniforms and will stop busing athletes to home games and practices from the high school.

MAY 21

Students search for tug

GLEN ARBOR — Local legend has it that Ralph Dorsey scuttled his steam tug almost 90 years ago in the waters at the north end of Glen Lake.

Although no one knows for sure why or where, or even if he did it, a group of students here think they're getting a little closer to solving the mystery of the Rescue.

They're even getting some help from University of Michigan marine engineers.

"We're coming to a climax here if we do find it," said Mark Beasley, 17, a Leelanau School student.

Students from the Leelanau School and the Glen Lake school district set out recently to gather a video oral history on the legend of the steam tug.

"For a couple of months we have been preparing and digging up all the pieces of the puzzle," Beasley said.

This search came to a head Tuesday as students and scientists gathered on a flotilla of pontoon boats at the northern end of Glen Lake.

PLEASE SEE PAGE 28