

# PETOSKEY News-Review

Time to remember: Memorial Day weekend observances and events. Page C1

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WEEKENDER  
FRI-SAT-SUN-MON

May 25-26, 2001 PETOSKEY, MI 49770

VOL. 125 NO. 165 - 70 PAGES - 5 SECTIONS

5 SUPPLEMENTS

48¢ HOME DELIVERY (TYR) - 75¢ NEWSSTAND

## Outside

**Saturday: Showers possible; high 65, low 45**

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## No paper, no mail on Monday

The Petoskey News-Review will not publish a paper on Monday, May 28, and the offices will be closed in recognition of Memorial Day. There will also be no postal delivery that day, and governmental offices will be closed. The News-Review will resume publication on Tuesday, May 29, and the business offices will open at 8 a.m. that day.

## Report: City of Petoskey, cement plant among polluters

DETROIT — One-third of Michigan's largest companies and city sewer plants, including the city of Petoskey and Sundown Inc. in Charlevoix, recently violated their Clean Water Act discharge permits — many by polluting lakes, rivers and streams, according to a report released Thursday. See page A9.

## State Senate votes to oust Jaye

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP — From 1988 on, when he first won election to the Michigan House, David Jaye was unbeatable in this once-rural community growing steadily into a well-to-do Detroit suburb.

It took a 33-2 vote of his colleagues on Thursday to oust him from the Senate. See page A6.

## Gas rises 12.3 cents in two days

Memorial Day weekend travelers were preparing to dig deeper into their pockets after gasoline prices statewide spiked by 12.3 cents a gallon this week, AAA Michigan said.

The auto club said the increase from Monday to Wednesday was the highest one-week jump since the week preceding Memorial Day 2000, when prices rose 12.4 cents a gallon.

## Two make Mount Everest history

KATMANDU, Nepal — Two Americans who reached the peak of Mount Everest on Friday set records, becoming the first blind climber and the oldest man to step onto the roof of the world.

The first blind climber, Erik Weihenmeyer, 32, of Golden, Colo., and Sherman Bull, a 64-year-old physician from New Canaan, Conn., reached the summit of the world's tallest mountain at about 10 a.m.

## Explosion at Gaylord plant

GAYLORD — Firefighters in Gaylord were called to an explosion at the Georgia Pacific plant on Dickerson Road just outside the city limits at about 10:30 a.m. today, Friday.

Details on damage or the nature or extent of any injuries from the explosion were not available before press time Friday. Ambulances from East Jordan and Allied EMS in Emmet County were among the emergency crews called to respond to the incident.

## Inside

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# Readers: Remember sacrifices

World War II veteran Wilbur Ingalls of Petoskey tells a memorable battlefield tale. Page A16.

BY DEBBIE STEVENS  
NEWS-REVIEW STAFF WRITER

Members of the News-Review's Reader Panel are probably not alone in their opinion of Memorial Day as a day to remember the sacrifices others made in time of war — but also a day to enjoy the freedoms those men and women fought for.

Both Fischer-Kitson, 30, of Petoskey, a lab assistant at Northern Michigan Hospitals in Petoskey, looks forward to such firm traditions as the Mackinac City parade and pageant, and the first barbecue of the year.



Fischer-Kitson



Pfister



McDowell



Moore

"We go to the parade every year," she said. "Every year it seems to get longer and longer. And we used to be in the pageant."

Sandy Pfister, 53, a bed and breakfast owner from Harbor Springs, also enjoys the reenactment of the Fort Michilimackinac massacre, as well as the waterfront fireworks. Another tradition for her is run-

ning down a certain sand dune near Bliss.

"As you get toward the bottom, more often than not you fall, and you end up rolling to the end," she said.

Gegee McDowell, 53, of Petoskey believes veterans should be remembered every day, but is glad there is one special day.

"There are some agencies that

## READER PANEL 2001

could help them, but they are without manpower, especially volunteers," she said. "We should say a prayer for them today."

F. Owen Moore, 71, a retired history teacher from Boyne City, said serving in the Korean War turned him from a hawk into a dove. He never served overseas, but he saw enough to change his mind.

SEE READERS, PAGE A16



G. RANDALL GOSS / NEWS-REVIEW

## Memorial Day

American flags grace the headstones of veterans in Petoskey's Greenwood Cemetery, as they will in cemeteries around the country this Memorial Day. Parades are scheduled in several local communities Monday, as we pay our respect to those who sacrificed for our freedom.

# Bay View bike path won't be moved

BY FRED GRAY  
NEWS-REVIEW STAFF WRITER

The Bay View Association on Thursday firmly advised the Emmet County Board of Commissioners that it would not consider moving the bike/pedestrian path along U.S. 31 to the former railroad right of way nearer the shoreline.

County board chairman Niek White said he had asked to meet this week with association president Roy Talley to discuss the county's request for a safer, wider bike path, but was told that the association's view was firm and a meeting would serve no purpose.

White said he later spoke to Talley who affirmed that the association's board was of one mind on the matter.

White said the people of Bay View were likely unaware of their board's decision, because it was made late last August. "If they knew, I'd be surprised if they were adamantly opposed," he said. After the board's decision, White said he asked to be put on the agenda of the first board meet-

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# The man for whom it is named

## Historian tells audience about Odawa Chief Ignatius Petoskey

BY RYAN BENTLEY  
NEWS-REVIEW STAFF WRITER



Wes Andrews speaks about 19th-century Odawa Chief Ignatius Petoskey, who is shown in the portrait, to an audience at the Petoskey Public Library Thursday.

The Odawa chief who would be the city of Petoskey's namesake lived in a

time which brought dramatic change to his tribe's way of life, a local Native American cultural preservationist said during a presentation at the Petoskey Public Library Thursday.

Wes Andrews, who directs the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians' archives and records and cultural and historic preservation programs, said relatively few written records exist which mention Chief Ignatius Petoskey. But by using the more numerous historical details available

about Native Americans' economic and cultural activities and relationships with the United States government during his time, it is possible to gain an understanding of what many of his life experiences must have been like, Andrews added.

With estimates that the chief was born sometime between the mid-1780s and early 1790s, Petoskey's childhood came at a time when Native American

SEE HISTORIAN, PAGE A16

# Bear Creek Township circles its legal wagons

BY MARIE CHESTNEY  
NEWS-REVIEW STAFF WRITER

Faced with two early June filing deadlines in two separate courts, the Bear Creek Township Board unanimously gave its go-ahead Thursday to township attorney Joel Wurster to hire outside legal expertise.

The decision to fight two lawsuits filed by Strathmore Development Co. and its umbrella group, Petoskey Investment Group, came during a closed hour-and-a-half meeting Thursday with Wurster, who laid out to board members the legal challenges that lie ahead.

By a 3-2 vote April 18, the board rejected a rezoning request by the investment group to build a retail-

housing complex at Anderson/Intertown roads, south of Petoskey. But the board's vote Thursday to fight the two lawsuits filed by the investment group to get the decision overturned was unanimous.

"What I saw the board doing, regardless of their individual votes, was respect the integrity of the decision-making process," Wurster said in a telephone interview Friday.

In a motion put forth by township clerk Judy Mays and supported by township treasurer Gary Van Horn, the board authorized Wurster to take the necessary and appropriate steps to defend the township's interests in the pending lawsuits filed by



## Petunia time

Jenny Hater and her young cousins, Brady (left) and Kendall Fritz, were three of the hundreds of volunteers who planted petunias in Charlevoix Thursday.

G. RANDALL GOSS / NEWS-REVIEW

SEE BEAR CREEK, PAGE A7

# PATH: Bike-pedestrian path won't be moved nearer the bay

From page A1  
ing of the 2001 season, and was told that would not be a problem.  
But he said that when he called Rodney Slocum, executive director of the association, early this week to set up a meeting with Talley in advance of today, Friday's, board meeting, he was told that would not be possible.  
Slocum wrote White on Tuesday to confirm the association was resolute on the matter. He listed projects that had been completed in the corridor since Bay View purchased the right of way in 1983, including:  
— Shoreline protection: near

ly 30,000 tons of former stone was placed to protect the corridor from further erosion.  
— Tennis courts: courts were reoriented and reconstructed.  
— Linear Park: the eastern half of the corridor was top-dressed and seeded to elevate it to the "historic, romantic landscape here that is prevalent elsewhere on our grounds."  
— Baby Pool: A new teaching pool for youngsters was opened in 1999.  
Slocum said several additional community needs would be addressed in the near future, including:  
— Restrooms, slated to be built in 2002;

— Pool utility building, which must be relocated;  
— Recreation - sailhouse building; historic restoration of the building and site will commence in the next 2-3 years;  
— Snack shack.  
"These last projects are all located in the narrowest, most congested activity center on our grounds. It also happens to be smack dab in the middle of the former railroad corridor."  
"We cannot accommodate a new bike path routed through that area," Slocum said.  
"Bay View has always been a good neighbor and we support the greater Little Traverse Bay community whenever possible.

All of our programs are open to the public. We continue to make our facilities available to schools and local non-profit organizations," he wrote.  
Slocum said in an interview last year that the existing bike path, built in 1989 to Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) safety standards, was "the anchor leg" that established the bike path, known as the Little Traverse Wheelway.  
"It allowed everyone else to use it as a launching pad to build the entire network," he said.  
The county contends the Bay View section of the path is effectively a 5- to 6-foot wide sidewalk for use by pedestrians, and too narrow to be safely used by bikers and inline skaters. It contends the path should be 10 feet wide, and extend from Charlevoix in the west to Harbor Springs in the east.

# Athletic director will get new office

BY MARIE CHESTNEY  
NEWS-REVIEW STAFF WRITER

When Petoskey High School's new gym opens this fall, athletic director Gary Hice will do his job from a new office overlooking the new gym floor, a view he doesn't have now from an office that is far from the current gym.  
Hice's new digs, however, won't come without a little razzing.  
"Hice is essentially going into a storage room with two windows," Jack Waldvogel, president of the Petoskey Board of Education said Thursday, as fellow board members debated whether to pay \$37,750 to convert a storage room into two offices, one for Hice and one for his secretary, Cathy Richardson.

In preparing architectural plans for construction work now under way at the high school, apparently no one thought of relocating Hice closer to his domain until recently, when the idea of redoing the storage room emerged.  
"If we do it, now is the time," Waldvogel said, referring to the fact that once the sweeping renovation changes now taking place at the high school get done, it will be difficult to go back and redo the storage room.

SEE SCHOOL, PAGE A16

# BEAR CREEK: Township steels itself for legal battles

FROM PAGE A1  
The investment group in both Emmet County Circuit Court and the U.S. District Court of Western District of Michigan.  
The board also authorized Wurster to hire additional legal counsel to assist in the township's defense.  
The township's deadline to file its response in Emmet County Circuit Court is Friday, June 8. The township's deadline to file its response in U.S. District Court in Lansing is Monday, June 11.  
The township set aside \$50,000 in its 2001-2002 budget for professional services, which includes attorney's fees.  
"We'll eventually have to

amend the budget," said supervisor Dennis Keiser. "But not all the (legal) costs might be in this year's budget."  
Wurster said additional legal help will be hired before the June 8 filing date. He declined to say the attorney or attorneys who will be hired.  
But Keiser said the new attorney hired most likely will come from downtown, someone closer to the federal courthouse in Lansing.  
The federal suit, set to be heard before U.S. District Judge David McKeague of the Western District of Michigan, Southern Division, essentially outlines the same case made in the Emmet County lawsuit, set to

be heard by Circuit Judge Charles Johnson.  
Both suits ask the court to issue an injunction that would keep the township from interfering with the investment group's request to build a mixed-used preliminary planned unit development (PUD) on 91 acres of vacant land south of Petoskey.  
In the board's April 18 vote, Mays, Van Horn and Keiser rejected rezoning, master plan changes and PUD approvals sought by the investment group to build both apartments and a regional shopping center on the site.  
At that time, board members Bert Notestine and Todd Flynn backed the changes requested.

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