

# Community Choir Performs at Mackinaw City



Bill McClure (from left), Gerry Vanderhart, Wayne Clemens, Harold Cornhill, Ray Roth, Dick Hunt, and Bill Marvin sing several Christmas carols from around the world including "Star of Glory" and "Bring A Torch, Jeanette, Isabella." The seven men compose the Northern Gospel Singers group, who warmed up the listeners for the "I Hear the Prophet Callin'" program sung by The Community Cantata Choir at Church of the Straits in Mackinaw City Sunday, December 13.



The Community Cantata Choir performs at Church of the Straits in Mackinaw City Sunday, December 13.

## Rudyard

By Kerry Fountain  
495-5533 • kerrymarie@yahoo.com



A Sergeant Christopher T. Griffin Scholarship Concert that will take place at the Rudyard School multi-purpose room Sunday, January 3. Sgt. Griffin died in combat in Afghanistan October 3 and a scholarship at Rudyard High School has been established in his honor. Various local talents will perform to honor this brave soldier. What a wonderful opportunity for some student to receive a scholarship to go to college with the memory of someone who defended our country.

I found out that Danielle Petingalo, a 14-year-old student, was in charge of the whole thing. She sang at Christopher's funeral and has bonded with his family. She called all the local talents in the area, made up the flyers that you may be seeing around town, and got the Fraternal Order Orioles Nest 311 to sponsor the concert, which she named "International Idol 2009"

Tickets are on sale for \$7 and \$10 at the door the night of the event. Danielle has set up singers, bands, and the cheerleading group from Pickford to come and raise money. Make sure you get a chance to see this event. The concert begins at 4 p.m.

Rudyard Area Community Foundation is sponsoring a Talent Night and they are looking for all kinds of talent, singers, bands, magicians, comedians, jugglers, dancers, and musicians. The event will be Saturday, January 16, at Rudyard

Middle School. To sign up, call Margaret LaPonsie at 478-5591 or Chari Fischer at 478-4191.

New student section T-shirts are available at home basketball games. The \$8 shirts are orange and have "Dawg Pound" on them. They are a wonderful way for students to show their school pride at games. At the last basketball home game Friday, December 11, there were many people in the crowd wearing them. It was nice to see so many out that night supporting our fine athletes.

If you would like to donate to the Diane Peppler Resource Center, there is a bag in the high school office. They are in need of household items, including shampoo, conditioner, toothpaste, toothbrushes, and soaps.

Have you noticed that there are new owners for the Northern Country Inn? Dean and Jennifer Besteman purchased it November 13. It has four rooms that are beautifully designed. The largest room can hold up to six people and is a great location near snowmobile trails. Stop in and say hello to the new owners and see what they have to offer.

I would like to wish everyone a wonderful holiday season. I will be going downstate, where I hear that they don't have any snow.

Until next week, keep sending me those letters and calling me on the telephone with your news.

## Music in the Center Will Feature Ann and Will Rowland January 9

Music in the Center featuring Ann and Will Rowland will be Saturday, January 9, at 7 p.m. at

the Erickson Center in Curtis. Tickets will be available at the door for a \$5 donation.

## U.P. Fitness Challenge Begins January 3

People may participate in an Upper Peninsula-wide fitness challenge by joining a program that begins January 3, offered by the Wellness Council of the Upper Peninsula.

Over an eight-week period, participants will learn how to incorporate more moderate or vigorous activity into their daily routine and will be able to keep track of their daily minutes or miles of physical activity on a Web site, reported Colleen Horn of St. Ignace, an executive member of the wellness council.

Individuals will be entered into prize drawings for completing various exercise levels, and participating communities will have a chance

to win a community prize such as a new park bench for a local park, a bicycle rack, or walking path improvements.

To be eligible for prizes, participants must meet the requirement of at least 30 minutes of physical activity five days a week. To register for the "Get Moving U.P." program or to learn more about it, visit the Wellness Council of the Upper Peninsula Web site, [www.fitUP.org](http://www.fitUP.org).

Mackinac Straits Hospital employees participate in the effort as a supplement to the hospital's employee wellness program, reported Ms. Horn, who is also the hospital's employee wellness coordinator. "Get Moving U.P." is in its ninth year.


**Holiday Greetings!**  
 What better time to THANK all our friends and customers for their valued business during the past year.  
**Happy Holidays!**  
 Everson's Home Furnishings  
 20 First Street (Service Road), St. Ignace  
 (906) 643-7751

**CHEESEMAN'S INSURANCE AGENCY**  
 We would like to say "Thank You" for allowing us to serve your insurance needs as your local independent insurance agency.



**HAVE A SAFE AND HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON**  
 PLEASE SUPPORT OUR ARMED SERVICES THROUGHOUT THE HOLIDAY SEASON.


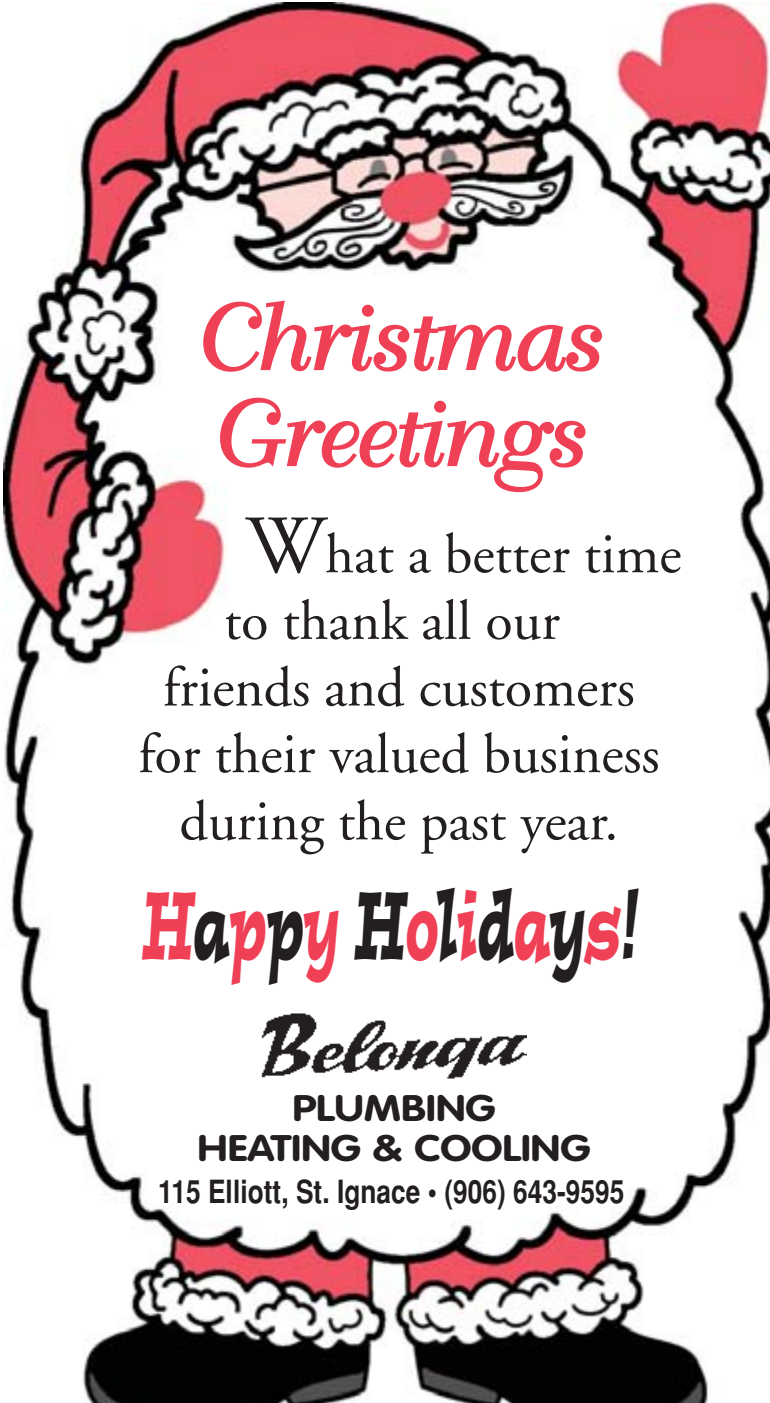
Gregory R. Cheeseman \* Gregory S. Cheeseman  
 Jeni Therrian \* Candy Boston

**Belonga**   
 EXCAVATING & UNDERGROUND

*Would Like to Wish  
 All of Our  
 Valued Customers a*

**Merry Christmas  
 &  
 Happy New Year!**

*Thanks,  
 Chad  
 &  
 Crew*

**Christmas Greetings**

What a better time to thank all our friends and customers for their valued business during the past year.

**Happy Holidays!**

**Belonga**  
 PLUMBING  
 HEATING & COOLING  
 115 Elliott, St. Ignace • (906) 643-9595