

# HOMETOWN

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2008



Kellogg  
retires  
to reunite  
in Florida

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## Cooper to shutter recycling center for curbside service

BY ALISON BLACK  
Special to Hometown Gazette

**COOPER TOWNSHIP** — Cooper Township in late March will close its long-standing recycling center in favor of mandatory curbside recycling through private waste haulers.

Safety, cost, environmental

concerns and resident requests for curbside service were major factors behind the policy change, slated to take effect April 1. Township Supervisor Jeff Sorensen said.

"We're not trying to overburden people here by making something mandatory," Sorensen said. He said some

residents now paying for curbside service are reporting monthly savings since the township's yearly special-assessment fee of \$16.25, issued to maintain the center, was eliminated as of Jan. 1.

The center opened in the early 1980s and is on the premises of Cooper Township Hall. It

will remain open until March 24 at no additional expense to residents.

By 2007, traffic had climbed to as many as 600 cars per each bi-monthly day of operation, frequently blocking firetruck garages, Sorensen said. Children jumping out of cars to help unload recyclables or play in

the parking lot also presented safety risks, he said.

Last year, the center collected 345,140 pounds of paper, 80,000 pounds of metal and 10,700 pounds of plastic and glass.

Shifting to private collection is an alternative to burdening residents with higher taxes to build a larger facility across D Avenue

from the current center, Sorensen said.

"The board didn't feel it was responsible to spend hundreds of thousands of dollars on something the private sector is doing and doing a good job of," Sorensen said.

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## Job creator stops ranting and runs for Legislature

BY JANE C. PARIKH  
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**KALAMAZOO** — Dinnertime at Jase Bolger's home frequently turned into a litany of all that has gone wrong with state government in Lansing.

Although Bolger's wife and two children were a willing audience, he said the time had come for him to do something more than rant at them.

Bolger, 38, who lives in Marshall and owns a business in Kalamazoo, traveled to Lansing on Jan. 23

with his family to file as a candidate for state representative in the 63rd District. Bolger is a Republican, as is the district's current representative Lorence



Worke of Galesburg, who is

The junior golf program at Gull Lake View Golf Club and Resort has won the National Golf Course Owners Association's 2008 player-development award as well as the Michigan Golf Course Owners Association's player-development award.

COURTESY OF GULL LAKE VIEW GOLF CLUB AND RESORT



## THE GOOD NEWS

# Gull Lake golf program wins national award

BY AARON DOME

Special to Hometown Gazette

**AUGUSTA** — Gull Lake View Golf Club and Resort may not be the one of the biggest or most well-known golf clubs in the nation, but that didn't stop golf-course owners from across the country from voting its junior golf program as tops in the country for 2008.

The junior program won the National Golf Course Owners Association's 2008 player-development award as well as the Michigan Golf Course Owners Association's player-development award.

"We go beyond the basics," said Ashleigh Kosin, director of marketing at

Gull Lake View. "Growth of the game of golf in this country is at a standstill, and this clinic isn't a big moneymaker for us. We're at the break-even point. We're trying to grow the game of golf, especially with the economy the way it is in Michigan.

"A lot of our students are first-generation golfers; their parents may not have played golf themselves," she said.

Gull Lake View's instruction program is aimed toward boys and girls ages 7 through 13 and involves three weeks of instruction both on and off the golf course.

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# Gull Lake junior golf program wins national award

Unlike other instruction programs in which young golfers never make it off the driving range, Gull Lake View's program involves instruction on the actual golf course as well. The program ends with a taste of competition, when the students play in a real tournament for trophies.

Many of the tournaments' instructors are PGA professional golfers, and the student-teacher ratio is kept low at 5-1. Students come from all over southwestern Michigan and even as far away as Ann Arbor.

Young golfers from the clinic have gone on to compete at the high school and college levels.

"It goes beyond what a regular golf clinic normally is," said PGA professional Bill Johnson, who is head instructor for the clinic. "We have a lot of PGA pros, and we make sure that all the kids get on the course. We break them down into skill levels, put them into threesomes and foursomes."

Johnson said the junior clinic is something that young golfers can come to year after year, and 75 percent of the students

come back the next year for additional instruction.

"We give them something new year after year," Johnson said. "We don't do nine holes but maybe just two, learning different types of shots, how to spin the ball."

The junior clinic at Gull Lake View has been around for five years and has space for 70 students. Those interested in enrolling their children in this year's clinic can call Gull Lake View at 731-2387 or visit its Web site at [www.GullLakeView.com](http://www.GullLakeView.com).