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# Beaver Beacon

The Island Monthly Since 1955



*some stories in this issue:*

Islanders go Sky Diving from 11,000 ft.; Museum Week Schedule  
Ben Fogg stops at Beaver with family aboard his new Tug, *Spartacus*  
BIRHC Grand Opening Celebration; The Dig Continues: Suttons Bay Anthropology Club  
Walleye Pond a Success this year; Art found in Nature - the Wood Sculpture of Bruce Struik  
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## Beaver Beacon

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The *Beaver Beacon* welcomes Island Stories, Articles and Letters to the Editor and would like to thank all those who call and e-mail with news and events.

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## News from the Townships

**St. James Township:** Twelve people attended the June 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting, from which Supervisor Don Vyse was absent—he was at a conference on Lighthouse restoration in Traverse City.

Two members of the St. James Board met with two from Peaine to discuss the rock-crusher agreement. No resolution was reached, so both Townships will buy gravel from a local manufacturer and let St. James' crusher sit idle for the next two years. St. James will save two thirds of its cost for gravel; Peaine will pay one third less than it would have had to pay if both Townships paid a per/yard price based on total actual costs; and Peaine will pay only slightly more than it paid last year.

A legal opinion came back on the golf cart situation. Permanently disabled people may operate them on the roads as long as they wear helmets and comply with all driving rules, including having adequate insurance.

Don Vyse met with Commissioner Shirley Roloff and Undersheriff Don Snyder to discuss their interest in the former Med Center building. The county would like to rent two rooms for offices; the Sheriff's Department would also like two rooms as office space and as quarters for the second deputy. The rent was set at \$1/ft<sup>2</sup>/month.

Don Vyse and John Works met with Gary Voogt to discuss the problem of the deteriorating King's Highway. The next step will be to sit down with the Charlevoix County Road Commission.

The Township received a \$38,000

bill for engineering work done for the Donegal Bay Road bike trail.

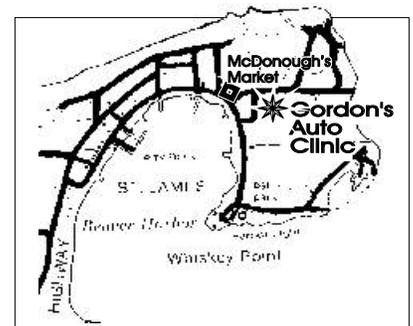
There was much discussion of this year's parade route: some people wanted it to be returned to Holy Cross Hill instead of coming down past Daddy Frank's. The problem was, with cars parked on both sides of the first block of Main Street, navigation is testy, particularly coming around the corner. Creating an official no-parking zone would require State Police approval: time-consuming, and unlikely. So the Board agreed to let a community effort take place that will involve placing temporary no-parking signs, probably on the east side of the street, where there are more driveway cuts and less parking anyway. A group of citizens will take responsibility for this.

Great Lakes Docks, from Muskegon, had the lowest of 6 bids (\$893,508) for the Yacht Dock project (using 4 Island subcontractors.) Pending approval, they plan to start work around July 4<sup>th</sup>.

At the last meeting Jim Wojan asked if an inspection would be done on the new parking lot before the next (the 2<sup>nd</sup>) check was issued. A letter was in hand from Gary Voogt, dated 5-28, saying he had inspected the parking lot work and found it more than satisfactory. He recommended payment to Schwartzfisher Stoneworks, saying David Schwartzfisher had been excellent to work with. He also said that the property transfer with Don and Kay Masini had been completed, and the

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transfer with Karnes was awaiting final approval of deeds. But the request for payment was for about five thousand dollars more than anticipated, because unstable subsurface materials (rocks, stumps, logs, and clay) had been found, dug up, removed, and replaced with an extra 230 yards of sand fill. Jim Wojan pointed out that the bid documents and contract required a preliminary investigation to determine if any unexpected conditions might exist, and Tim McDonough read a paragraph that indicated no after-the-fact extra charges would be honored. Nevertheless the Board unanimously agreed to pay the requested amount, and to further investigate this "extra" charge and make a decision before the slightly-greater retainer posted by Schwartzfisher had to be returned.

Jim Campbell announced that Kalkaska native Jeff Simpson, never here before, had been hired for four months as a second Island deputy.

Connie Wojan requested the board to authorize the BIRHC to apply to the Grand Traverse Bay Tribe for a \$15,000 grant for patient and staff educational needs and for partial funding of a T-1 line; it did.

Hugh Mason was retained to audit the Township's books for \$3,900 plus \$645 for preparing special reports and up to \$250 for travel expenses.

**Peaine Township:** About the Roads: the 23 people who attended the June 9<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Peaine Township Board patiently sat through some nor-

mal business, awaiting Gary Voogt's report about the future of our roads. The BMX track was on the agenda, but the students pushing it were not yet ready—although the Board assured a nearby resident that there would be something like a 10:00 p.m. curfew.

Bid documents for the new Fire Hall were mailed to ten contractors; the bids are due on July 9<sup>th</sup>.

Flight instructor Sue Haney was appointed to replace Chuck Anglin on the Airport Committee.

A letter of thanks to Anna Steinbach was read, in which it was pledged to fulfill her three stipulations: the truck will carry a commemorative bronze plaque; the truck will be stationed at the new Fire Hall; and it will be built in Michigan if at all possible.

At the appropriate moment Gary Voogt took the floor to discuss three matters: upgrading some intersections, repairing the King's Highway, and paving additional roads. Saying he would start with the least complex issue, he announced that earlier in the day the Charlevoix County Road Commission, still crying abject poverty, agreed to pay two thirds of the cost to apply asphalt to the first hundred feet of Sloptown Road and the two roads intersecting the Highway at Four Corners. This would put the cost to Peaine at about \$7,300, which it said it could pay from its road fund. H & D intended to come to the Island to pave the Main Street parking lot by July 4<sup>th</sup>, but that

*Continued on page 6.*

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*News from the Townships, from page 5.* requires only 250 yards of asphalt and it needs to set up to install 1,000 yards to make the mobilization of its equipment economically feasible. (Note: A bequest from the Welter Foundation in late June will pay for paving the parking lot at the new Health Center, which will provide enough work to justify operating the asphalt plant here. The roads running into the King's Highway may also get their first 100' paved at the same time.)

Members of the audience agreed that Paid een Og's Road's intersection was more dangerous than those to the north because of the hills that hide oncoming vehicles. A request for treating MaCauley's Road was also made. Each of these two was likely to cost \$6,000, Gary said, so if the same formula were accepted, Peaine would have to pay another \$4,000. The Board was in favor of upgrading all four.

A more difficult problem was the breaking down of the seal coat on the King's Highway. Gary briefly reviewed the history of its repair. The CCRC is required to maintain all of the Island's primary roads, which include the East Side Drive from Four Corners to the section line south of the airport, McCauley's Road and the section of East Side Drive between McCauley's and Hannigan's, and possibly the route to the Township Airport. But when called on to do its duty, the CCRC has usually claimed it was broke.

That led to a lawsuit ten years ago in which the CCRC was sued for tearing up the King's Highway and not installing new pavement. The judge

threw out the case, requesting the two parties to "work it out," which was done when a federal grant for repaving came through. But the method used, a "prime and double seal," essentially provided a 1 1/2" coating to protect the packed gravel underneath from the erosive effect of wind and rain—but not from groundwater surges caused by beaver. The stretch running out of town was made 26' wide to Four Corners, where it narrows to 20', to provide two 3' bike paths, but the CCRC could never afford the paint needed for two stripes.

Last year H & D gave a bid of \$469,000 to repair all five miles of the Highway (with no widening or added culverts.) Because the one mile in St. James starts at 51' wide and is no narrower than 26', whereas the 4 mile stretch in Peaine is 20' wide, if the cost, with a few extras, was \$500,000, the split would be \$150,000 for St. James, and \$350,000 for Peaine. Gary thought the road to Four Corners should be widened by 2' on both sides to make the bike paths 5' wide. The key to getting this done would be to keep the pressure on the CCRC, which is legally required to maintain this road. It has just retired other debts (primarily, for new storage buildings), so it was possible the CCRC could sell a short-term note to get this done now.

The really tough nut was the possibility of paving more roads. The effects of dust on the environment, on computers and other equipment, and on human health have become a major concern, and people realize that if the roads were paved, there would be great savings in grading and dust control costs and the

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expense of constant car repairs. A recent estimate by H & D was that paving, Island style (paving 20' without clear-cutting and shaping a 66'-wide swath), would cost \$263,000/mile (on the mainland, asphalt costs \$35 a ton, but here it's \$65.) No one has yet said which roads, but Gary felt some Island roads should never be paved. Perhaps 7 miles should be, he ventured.

Gary suggested this two-million-dollar elephant should be eaten one bite at a time, with additional teeth obtained by creating partnerships. The first, he suggested, should be with the CCRC, which might agree to pay for the top inch of a 3" surface under its mandate, which would cover about \$60,000/mile. The next candidate would be the Charlevoix County Commissioners, which would be allowed to levy 1 mill throughout the county to establish a road fund of \$1,000,000/year (for its 13 townships.) It has never acted on this because "everyone has been afraid most of the money would go to someone else." He urged us to take an active role in creating and distributing this fund.

Another approach might be to sell a "special assessment bond" (like the sewer system in St. James), which would be repaid by collecting a surcharge from property owners along the newly-paved roads. The surcharge could be levied on a footage basis, or simply by shares based on driveways. On a footage basis, someone with a 100' lot might be assessed an extra \$1,000 over ten years; the increased value of the property being on a paved road would exceed this.

Judy Lanier reported that the gravel-crushing agreement with St. James was being put on hold for a trial period of two years because at the moment it was cheaper to buy gravel from a private contractor (who had much better equipment.) Several comments were made about gravel quality. John Works said he had tried for years to get the clay content up from 7% to perhaps 10% to hold our roads together longer. Gary explained that the 22A designation allowed a range of gravel types, and that other important factors in getting "good gravel" were the crushing of each included stone, to provide flat surfaces, and the mixing of equal proportions of several size groupings. Gary Morgan pointed out that if the crusher sits idle for two years, its belts and bearings could be damaged. Terry Saxton asked if the crusher could be leased to a private contractor, who might then offer the gravel he makes at a competitive price. The crusher was thought to be too delicate for this.

Denny and Mary Cook were present to ask for support in the effort to create a nuisance ordinance, which they felt was needed to protect them from unruly neighbors. The Planning Commission had been asked to draft one, taking St. James' new nuisance ordinance as a starting point, but Judy Lanier reported that it felt it was already overburdened with its master planning duties. John Works directed the Board to collect information relevant to creating this draft, and to report at the next meeting. Such an ordinance would require appointing an enforcement officer—another thorny question.

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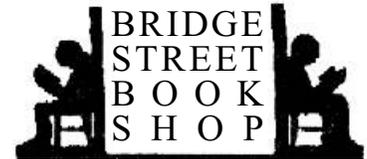
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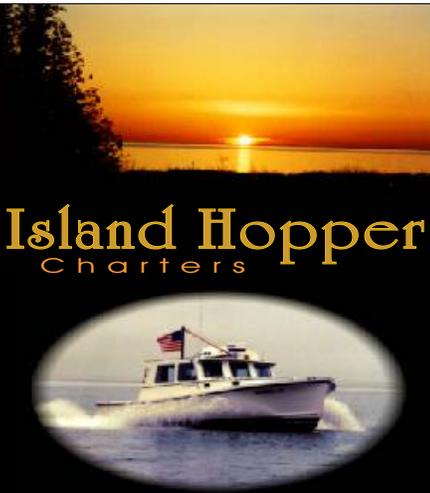
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## AmVets Retire Worn Flags



Once again a dozen AmVets met on Flag Day to retire two boxes of well-worn flags, many having been furled along Main Street/Michigan Avenue in an arc that focused the Island's patriotism on the harbor. The fog buffeting Beaver earlier in the day pulled back, and the deluge that was to flood down later held off.

After Bob Hoogendorn played, the first flag's first 13 stripes were fed to the fire individually, accompanied by the reading of the names of the first states. Afterwards hot-dogs were provided for the crew gathered on the Hartles' front lawn. A few weeks later new flags arrived and were installed—compliments of the AmVets.



## Long-EZs Return



Once again the Township Airport was the locus of several Burt Rutan-designed experimental aircraft, which arrived from all over on the last weekend of June. These lightweight planes included several models, including the backward-looking 100-hp VariZs. These long-range flyers (Dick Rutan flew a Long EZ 4,800 miles non-stop) first came on the scene 25 years ago. The Long EZ weighs under 800 pounds, is 26' wide and 17' long, and can reach 185 mph. Typical range is over 1,500 miles. These pterodactyl-like planes picked the skydive weekend, so this became a time of tailgate parties and barking dogs, with well over 100 visitors stopping by.



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## Breaking more Ground



On the first Sunday of June, on a sunny day after church, a crowd of 60 or so gathered at the Community House site for a Groundbreaking Ceremony. A utility building had appeared the day before (thanks to Jon and Sally Fogg), and plastic shovels were passed to 20 of the many people who had played important roles in bringing the project this far. Judy Lanier-Gallagher acted as MC, reciting a brief history of PABI's struggle to reach this point. Just before noon Construction Committee chairman Don Tritsch, using a real shovel, lifted out the first scoop of sand to mark the end of the preliminary stage: the lengthy planning for what promises to become an important asset to the community.



## A Party at the Hangar



After the Community House Groundbreaking, everyone moved to the annual Island Airways Memorial Day hangar party. Chef Deborah Harwood was in charge of the extensive snacks—including jalapeno dogs that proved to be extra hot. A hundred and fifty people or more had a wonderful time talking about such recent events as the SRO Jack Cull Memorial concert, and how impressed they had been with Bailey McDonough's opening song. Many present enjoyed a glass of free wine or beer, knowing the summer crowds were about to arrive and they wouldn't have another chance to kick back in the afternoon until after Labor Day.



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## Wildlife Club News

There was very good attendance at the monthly meeting of the Beaver Island Wildlife Club. This special meeting was held at the Peaine Township Hall to accommodate our guest speaker, Brian Mastenbrook, wildlife biologist with the DNR. Brian has been working with us for the last two years as we collect data and promote wildlife habitat on the Island. His presence on the Island is an encouragement to us since he walks and inspects miles of habitat and is able to make hands-on suggestions.

Brian began by praising us for our efforts to obtain data that will help the DNR determine the health, population, and future of our whitetail deer on Beaver Island. You may recall that we had two major projects in place last year. One was the driving survey done for the census. For six weeks, 10 people drove a designated stretch of Island roads at least three times a week at the same time each day and recorded the number of does, bucks, and fawns. The other project was to sponsor a successful hunter contest. By checking your legal deer, buck, or doe, at one of our check-in spots, you could be eligible to win a 12-gauge shotgun in a drawing. Brian told us he had never had

access to the amount of information we were gathering. The DNR determines the health of the herd by the measured beam diameter of 1-1/2 year old bucks. The numbers of points on those bucks are also indicative of health. Compared to bucks in the UP and the NLP (Northern Lower Peninsula), which is the closest to our type of habitat, our bucks fall short of the desired beam and points. A UP buck averaged a 17.1 beam and 3-4 points. A NLP buck was essentially the same. A Beaver buck averaged only a 14.7 beam. What is most alarming is that the beams are getting smaller. From 2001-2003 the beams were 15.9. From 1987-2000 the beams were 16.6. Brian interprets this to mean that our habitat needs improvement.

The successful hunter contest gave us valuable information about the harvest. Although we estimate that we checked only about 50% of the harvest it still is a step toward compiling very important data. The records show that of the 200 deer checked, 50% were bucks and 50% were does. He sees that as a healthy harvest. As a club we will have the contest again and offer a very nice prize. We encourage you to take advantage of this while helping to

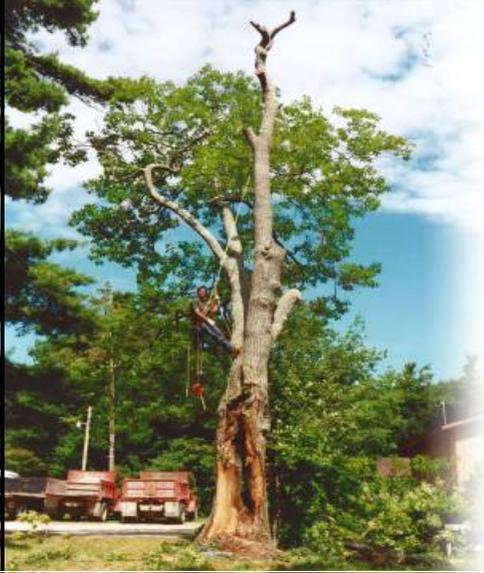
strengthen our herd and make hunting a continuing reality on this Island. There will still be 900 antlerless permits available for 2004. The fact remains that we have too many deer. Couple that with poor habitat and that spells trouble in the future. Habitat planting is progressing, but slowly. Grooming fields that haven't been used for years is an arduous and costly job. The process to get DNR permits to work fields is often bogged down. Brian has taken an active role in facilitating this. He is also working on non-commercial harvest of state owned Aspen forests since private timber sales are cost-prohibitive. Another angle to be explored would be to issue permits for people to cut in a designated 40-acre area.

Stay tuned for future news and updates from you wildlife club.

–Lois Williams, secretary

## School Election Results

In the recent school election, 154 ballots were cast—out of 522 registered voters. Dawn Marsh and Nancy Tritsch were elected to the School Board, the Operating Millage was renewed (131 to 22), and the CharEm Special Education millage was renewed (121 to 39.)

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## Letters: To the Beaver Island Community

The past year has seen the Island through new challenges, some controversy, and in my opinion several successful steps forward in meeting our future needs. We have witnessed increased public participation in the many governing functions of the Island, something I believe the various boards and committee's welcome as a whole. The literally hundreds of volunteers that staff these bodies and organizations produce a volume of effort that is little known or understood but critical to maintaining our way of life on the Island. Attendance and participation at the various meetings can only foster clearer communication and help to eliminate non-productive time addressing the 'rumor mill' or reiterating discussion held at previous meetings.

The public process is one of several institutions that make and maintain a community. Two other cornerstones of a community are Education and Health Care. Without these services Beaver Island would eventually become a far different seasonal destination instead of a vibrant year-round community. This is something I've witnessed during the time I lived off the Island in various small towns and remote areas. Once basic services such as these disappear from a com-

munity the entire structure and character of the town changes and a way of life is gone. Beaver Island, as well as many other towns and communities throughout Michigan, faces some difficult challenges in both Education and Health Care due to funding cuts and other curtailments of State government budgets. It is up to the community to find the ways and means to maintain these institutions.

As many of you know, the Beaver Island Lodge has hosted a fund-raising dinner each year in support of a local organization. This year we would like to once again perform this benefit for the Beaver Island Rural Health Center. The Capital Campaign being discussed by the BIRHC Board is a very positive step forward in meeting our long-term needs of this critical cornerstone of our community. The Beaver Island Lodge and Nina's Restaurant will host a benefit dinner in September (date to be announced) and all proceeds will be given to the Health Center. We welcome affiliations, ideas, contributions, or any other commitments that will help to make this year's fund-raiser even more successful.

Let's look to the past only for what we can learn from it and focus our energies on meeting the challenges of the future.

—Ray Cole

## Explore the Island's Inland Lakes in a Kayak

Discover the geology, ecology, flora, and fauna unique to each of our lakes and to each season. Guided by kayaking instructor Ken Bruland and naturalist Jacque LaFreniere, trips are conducted in new recreational kayaks—easy to learn in and very stable. Trips include: July 7<sup>th</sup> - Fox Lake; July 14<sup>th</sup> - Lake Geneserath; July 23<sup>rd</sup> - Font Lake; and July 28<sup>th</sup> - Barney's Lake. For information, or to sign up, call 448-2221.

## The Roast

On May 29<sup>th</sup> a wonderful gathering of people filled Holy Cross Hall to witness my Roast. It was a fabulous evening shared with relatives and friends. I especially felt honored to be crowned Norwegian Queen by a handsome Viking, if only for a few hours. Ashort reign.

Thanks to each and every one who made it such a memorable event, by your participation or presence, to support the Beaver Island Fire Auxiliary—and watch me sizzle!

The Auxiliary works hard and has helped the fire Department in so many ways. We appreciate their good works and dedication. Thank you!

—Skip McDonough

**W**ater Quality — A BIPOA  
Nature Lecture. Peaine Township Hall 7:30 p.m. on July 29<sup>th</sup>

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Aug 14 - Joane McIntyre - jewelry design - a unique combination  
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## Walleye Lovers: Rejoice!

After the disappointment of last year, the Wildlife Club took extra pains to make sure its fry turned into fingerlings, monitoring the air content, adjusting the netting and turtle barricade, and bringing in fire-truck-loads of water. Perhaps most importantly, it watched the growth of its charges so it could get them out of the pond the moment they began to develop a taste for their brothers – cannibalism was the primary problem last year. On June 25<sup>th</sup> a DNR officer arrived with his specially-equipped “minnow

truck” and six hoop nets, which six strapping men in waders strung across the pond. Alternating directions, the nets were anchored with their tunnels submerged in three or four feet of water. After the nets were set, the crew had to wait until the following morning to see how many fingerlings were caught.

The next day the group met again to harvest their catch. As each net was emptied into a floating box by Jeff Powers, Mark LaFreniere, and Doug Tilly, the gobs of young fish were cause for joy. On

shore they were poured through a double net and weighed. Extrapolating, a good estimate was over 9,600 fingerlings, measuring about 32 mm long. They were obviously hungry, a good sign that they'd been nabbed in time. Thankfully, only a few were jumbos, so the “dog eat dog” rule of the pond had not yet kicked in.

After chucking six adventurous turtles and a small snake, the walleyes were driven to Lake Geneserath in a stately parade of grinning enthusiasts, and released. They loved their new home.

## The yearbooks are in. The yearbooks are in. The yearbooks are in!

After what can best be described as a long, detoured, and experimental journey of discovery, our project is complete. And it is outstanding.

Because I didn't sign on to the project until nearly November, it seemed the staff and I only had a few meetings to discuss ideas and get to know one another before the holiday break. But we did make some huge decisions. The biggest and most important was to scrap the national yearbook company and go it alone. By doing this we set ourselves up against the steep-

est possible learning curve we could imagine. The students needed to learn how to work a new computer program in order to complete the layout process.

We learned. We kept at it, and the kids really responded. Their creativity took off, as the pages readily show. I am very proud of all the work everyone did to see this project to completion. Are there things we forgot? Yes, indeed. Are there advertisers we didn't, for whatever reason, include? Unfortunately. Are there ways we can improve both our production

and business management? Absolutely. Are we ready to face those challenges over the next year? Without a doubt.

For now, know that the kids worked very hard to produce this yearbook. If you have ordered one you can expect a call. If you would like to purchase one you can contact Emily at 448-3056 or look for us along the parade route on July 4. We hope to have a table set up for your convenience of purchase. Yearbooks are \$15. Thanks to everyone who made this possible.

–Frank Solle, Yearbook Advisor

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To Jump, or Not To Jump



That is the question, but sometimes, Beaver Islanders discovered on June 26<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup>, and 28<sup>th</sup>, you just don't have a choice—especially when there's a guy strapped to your back standing behind you in the jump bay of a small, single-engined plane, and he's coming out the hatch no matter what you do or say.

Thanks to Ed Wojan, Luther Kurtz and his team (fellow skydiver Joy Bose from India, coordinator Julie Strickland, and pilot Patrick Murphy) were on hand at the Township Airport to take pairs of daring Beaver Islanders up to 11,000 feet—a 25-minute climb that led to a 4-minute breathtaking descent, beginning with a 4,000'

freefall that reached terminal velocity (120 mph) before the experienced Air Guide pulled the cord.

A jump cost \$200, and everyone felt it was well worth it, especially on such a clear, sunny day. The Bridge was visible in one direction, the Foxes and Manitous in another. Each landing came down on



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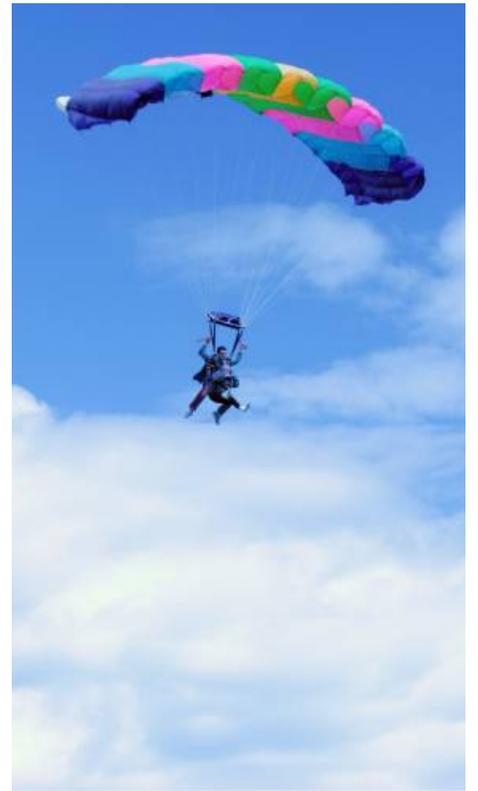
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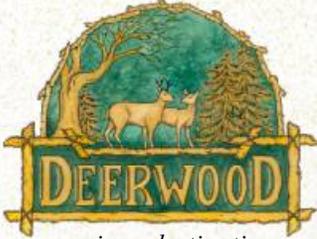
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the Airport turf after gracefully-steered glides that swooped the coupled team back and forth over the system of runways. There were family expeditions: fathers and sons, and fathers and daughters. Wives went with their husbands-or, in some cases, left them gawking and grumbling on the ground.

The many spectators came away from the event with a crick in their neck and the summer's first tan. After each trip the chutes were diligently repacked, and the next team was given some instruction and told to climb aboard. Several first-timers thought their only hesitation would come when they were asked to step out of the

plane, but with all the noise and wind, the anticipated paralysis failed to materialize. A few people were hurt (a cracked sternum, some unclench-able fists, and a few twisted ankles); but those plentiful screams were pretty much of pure joy. Everyone asked the team, "When are you coming again?"



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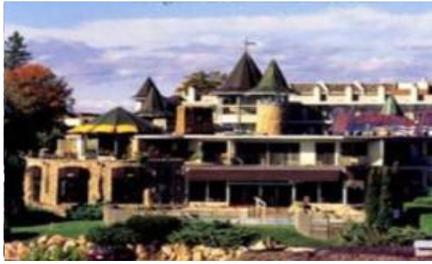
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## On This Date

**Ten Years Ago** The lead *Beacon* story was about new County Commissioner Rich Gillespie going after a transit bus, which Beaver Islanders had been paying for since 1984—with a 1/4 mil State-imposed levy. The plan was to obtain a bus for “Dial-a-ride,” shopping, deliveries, seniors, and special events.

The Little Traverse Conservancy's hope to purchase the lower half of Little Sand Bay from Peter and Delores Gallagher (in part to protect the threatened monkey flower) had accrued \$150,000 in donations, including \$30,000 from the Frey Foundation, \$30,000 from the Michigan Nature Conservancy, and \$5,000 from Ralph and Jeanne Graham. The Cub Scouts ran a Pinewood Derby, won by Adam Martin.

The Beaver Island Astronomy Society (including Jaque LaFreniere, Al Montague, and Bill Markey) alerted readers to what would be up in the sky during the summer, and planned a “Jupiter Watch Party” to observe a fragmented comet plunge into our largest planet. A “Star Party” was also planned to view the Perseid Meteor Shower.

Robert Neff stated that he had taken on the task of completing the tennis courts, and would appreciate some help. The Chamber announced the theme for its Fourth of July parade: “Beaver Island Wildlife Awareness”—along with the raffle of a two-week vacation in Ireland

for two. The Peach Tree Sale placed 87 trees on the Island.

Betty Duckworth thanked the Fire Department and the community for helping her get through the devastating fire; Sherm Kantzer found her heirloom clock in the debris, took it to Bill Freese, and Bill repaired it and had it back to her before she knew it was gone.

A Ladies' Handgun Safety and Shooting class was offered, cosponsored by the Sheriff and the Charlevoix Rod and Gun Club.

The Beaver Island Community Players prepared to present *Terror in the Suburbs* in early August; the BICP was formed the previous year to put on *Doctor Death* (in May) and *A Christmas Carol* (in December.)

Dave Gladish included the following poem:

*They call it “computer.” Fine,  
for the dedicated user,  
but when it comes to mine  
a better word is “confuser.”*

Eric Heline's “Pileated Woodpecker” sweatshirts went on sale.

The Bluebird opened as a smoke-free B & B. The former “bank building” was for rent, and Buddhist meditation was offered in the classifieds.

The Library introduced a Wednesday evening Travel Series.

Passings noted included Mary Ranger and Florence Ricksgers.



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**Twenty Years Ago** The Civic Association was searching for a professional clown for its July Fourth parade. It asked for suggestions for a "community wish list."

The Civic's Harbor Beautification program went well. Twenty-five helpers showed up. Mary Scholl contributed landscape sketches of Township property along the harbor, and Joe Cunningham and Buz Anderson built eight cedar benches, which Jim McCafferty and Gwen Marston helped dig into place. Two truck-loads of trash were removed between the Post Office and the Ball Diamond.

An influx of alewives (and the flies they attracted) rendered many beaches unusable. A road rally was planned to raise funds to clean up the dead fish and bury them at Iron Ore Bay—which took place on June 23<sup>rd</sup>; Jim Wojan dug a trench for the raked-up fish.

The BIHS hosted a program at the Marine Museum, where 68 people listened to Ramon Nelson talk about his youth as an Israelite on High Island.

The Fire Department queried about using the Town Hall basement for a resale shop, but was discouraged.

Much-needed Yacht Dock repairs were authorized—up to \$800.

Peaine Township sued the Equalization Committee of Charlevoix because it felt the true cash value for each class of

its property was overstated. Richard Reed was chosen to assist regular Township attorney Michael Gibbons (a former Island resident.) The Charlevoix County Equalization Department was fired as Peaine's assessor.

The Airport Homesites subdivision (east of the Township Airport) was rezoned from AA to C-2, disregarding the Planning Commission's recommendation against this because the Aeronautics Commission had not placed any restrictions on the land. Peaine Township wrote to Vic Shapley, owner of the Island Telephone Company, to complain about the poor service.

The passing of Elaine Smith was noted by a sketch of her life. Born in rural Wisconsin, she was working as editor of a small newspaper in Chicago when she met and married Dr. Robert Smith. When he went into the service she took a job as an ad agency copywriter, and joined the Civil Air Patrol (becoming a pilot.) After the war she returned to Grand Rapids, where she became involved in cultural development. She was known for vigorously exploring Beaver Island (her IsleAwhile home was built in the mid-50s) and boosting it through many newspaper articles and speaking engagements around the state. Before her most dangerous tromps she would check in with

*Continued on page 18.*



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**On This Date**, continued from page 17.

John Andy Gallagher at the Beaver Head Light, just in case she got lost. She frequently did an Island slide show, usually sponsored by the Historical Society.

**Thirty Years Ago** The Med Center luncheons began at the Circle M., and a White Elephant Sale took place at the old LaFreniere store across from the Erin.

Dale Boyles commented on past complaints about high taxes, noting that 82% stayed on the Island (27% for the Townships and 55% for the School.)

Beaver Haven announced it would have a mechanic on duty for the summer: Harold Lounsberry.

A 1938 Plymouth, abandoned in 1954, was to be sold at public auction.

Stanley Floyd opened the Castaways, with Grace Cole and Olive Dillingham as cooks.

Bing McCafferty was thanked for taking on the upkeep of the Holy Cross Cemetery; much grave-filling, stone-righting, grass seed sowing, and other repairs were needed.

Father Herbert thanked the community for its generosity in supporting many Parish projects.

Passings noted include Island-born Father Joseph Boyle in Indiana and Island-born commercial fisherman Francis Donlevy in Muskegon.

**Forty Years Ago** The Civic Association held a July 4<sup>th</sup> carnival at the Parish Hall, headed by Eileen Martin and featuring games, a white elephant sale, a baked goods sale, and a drawing for a \$100 vacation (won by Thomas Nowak of Alpena.) The fireworks led to some chatter when a few rockets didn't go off "where they were supposed to."

The Beaver Island Golf Course was upgraded with a new 7<sup>th</sup> Hole designed and built by Matt Melville, the local pro, using a grass developed on Prince Edward Island. Because of BIHS president A. J. Roy's bad health the previous fall, the annual meeting was postponed until June 29<sup>th</sup>. Three new board members were elected: James Carpenter, Lin Rountree, and Walter Wojan. Mr. Roy reported that he had visited Voree WI and been presented with several redwood signs painted with Beaver Island historical captions, which he had brought back and proposed erecting.

William Buck and his wife visited the Island, for the first time since he'd left the Israelite community on High Island in 1926—to which he and his parents had come in 1920 aboard the *Rosabelle*. He told how he'd ridden "ice boats" between High and Beaver in the winter to send and get mail. He said money had been so scarce that his family gathered acorns to

sell as hog feed. In school he was taught by Lucille Gillespie.

Dr. Sorensen pulled the eye teeth from "J. M.", a chimp owned by Mrs. John Clark.

Former Islander Clementine McCauley, Principal of Kennedy Elementary in Ecorse, was honored for having served there for 40 years. One of those speaking at the ceremony was Edward O'Donnell, president of Lincoln Products in Lincoln Park, who had been her classmate on Beaver Island. (He procured the valuable Zoltan Sepeshy mural that hangs in the Marine Museum.)

Sherry Smith, daughter of Robert and Elaine, received a scholarship to Interlochen, and Rose Connaghan opened a Country Store.

## Outdoor Concert

The "Northport Community Concert" will be held on Friday, July 9<sup>th</sup>, at 8:00 p.m. Music will be conducted by Doug Scripts, and the BI Community Choir will join them for a couple of patriotic songs.

It will be held on the lawn between the Chamber office and the Boat Co. (bring your own lawn chair.)

In case of rain it will probably move over to the Christian Church. Any Questions: see Kathy Speck

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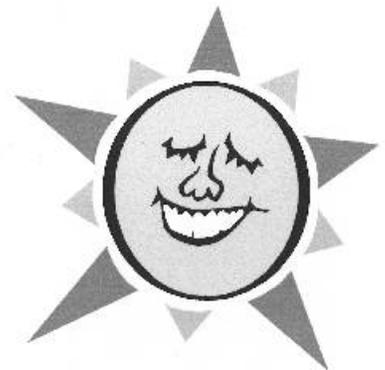
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**Sunday B-Fast Buffet**  
9am-1pm

## Museum Week 2004 – Schedule of Events

For the 24<sup>th</sup> consecutive year, the Beaver Island Historical Society will hold its annual Museum Week from July 12<sup>th</sup> through July 17<sup>th</sup>. This week-long presentation of talks, hikes, lectures, art, and music has become an important event for Island residents and visitors alike.

At 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday (the 14<sup>th</sup>), Thursday, and Friday, the staff of CMU's Biological Station will lead three three-hour Nature Walks, the first for Adults (\$10) and the next two for kids (\$5.) During the summer CMU offers a number of specialized Nature Walks, cosponsored by the BIHS, such as to the dunes or to the bogs, but these three cover a little bit of everything. Each expedition is limited to 25 participants, so be sure to sign up at the Print Shop Museum in advance.

Archaeologist Jay Peck initiates the afternoon programs on Monday at 2:00 with a presentation on "Prehistory of the American Southwest." He will speak again (and show slides) on "Mysteries of Archaeo-astronomy" on Wednesday at 2:00. These talks, and Thursday afternoon's presentation, cost \$3 for adults, \$1 for children. Thursday's talk is by Jim Gillingham's CMU staff on "Amazing Reptiles and Amphibians." The live snakes and giant frogs are

always a big hit with the young.

Antje Price, the "Protar Lady," will open the Protar Home (on Sloptown Road) from 1:00 until 3:00 on Tuesday and Saturday, and will chat about Protar's life, giving a sense of the veneration in which he is still held. There is no charge (but donations are accepted), nor is there for the Pet Show, held on the Print Shop porch on Saturday at noon. Almost all entrants come away with some kind of award (such as a certificate for the puppy with the longest ears.)

The Marine Museum will celebrate its 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on Friday afternoon with an Open House from 1:00 to 5:00. Another increasingly popular event is the Art Show on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday at the School from noon until 4:00.

"Music on the Porch" will kick off the evening programs. On Monday night, July 12<sup>th</sup>, Main Street will be closed and 200 chairs set up to listen to 12-15 performers on the Museum porch. Some of the regulars have a great following, but there are always surprises, both new people just off the boat and familiar faces who previously kept their talent under wraps. Hats are passed during intermission; if it rains, the chairs will be moved down the street to the Parish Hall.

At 8:00 on Tuesday evening Michele VanderVelde and MaryAnn Moore, members of GLLKA (the Great Lakes Lighthouse Keepers' Association), will be at the Parish Hall to celebrate the imminent restoration of the Whiskey Point Light and describe its history. The charge for Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday evenings is \$5 for adults and \$3 for kids.

Robert Cole will discuss the Oral History project on Wednesday and show some of the material he recorded since his talk last summer. On Thursday Native American speaker Joe Mitchell from the Little Traverse Bay Band will talk about various aspects of his culture.

On Friday Ed Palmer and the Beaver Island Boys will throw an "Island dance" the way it was done for so many years. Admission to this rollicking event is \$10, and there will be a cash bar. Another musical delight is on tap for Saturday evening: a reprise of April's stunning performance of "A Little Night Music," songs by Stephen Sondheim. Drinks will be available, and afterwards the cast will join the audience to toast the entire week.

Once again the merchants have kicked in the funds needed to put on these festivities, so please do everything you can to support them.



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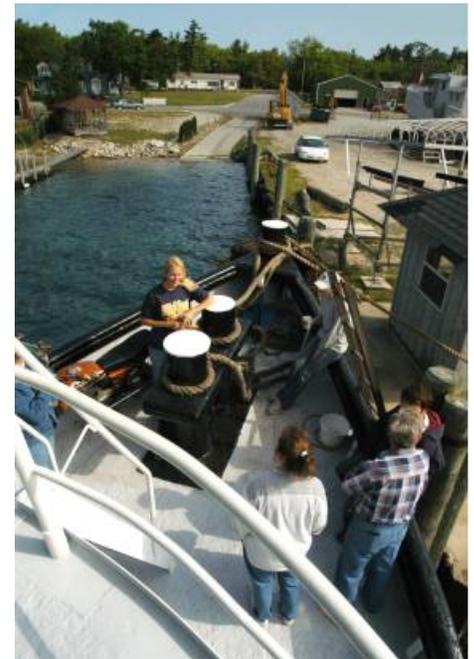
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Growing up in proximity to his tug-loving grandfather Clyde, certain unique ideas took root in Ben Fogg—such as that it would be great to have a tugboat for a home. The average man experiences a few such ideas during the course of a life, usually letting them flit in and out of his head. But Ben has never been one to let a dream slip away.

So at the end of May Ben, his wife Sarah, 9-month-old daughter Elsa (who stayed with Grandma for most of the trip—except for the last leg), and good

friend/engineer Derek Rietman (Tiny) drove to New York to complete the purchase of a 95' working 1950-era tug: the *Huntington*, a sturdy steel behemoth that was dwarfed by the busy waters around Staten Island by the abundance of even-larger tugs, some towering tenstories high. It had everything Ben wanted: thick plating, a nicely-humming 1200 hp (at 700 rpm) Fairbanks Morse diesel engine, plenty of equipment, and an upper deck that could be expanded into a Great Room with a panoramic view of the water. Once

the paperwork was complete, the Ben Fogg family and Tiny, plus a few friends to help, began the trip back through the Erie Canal. Able to cruise at 10 ½ mph, the trip might have been completed in a week. But a few things happened, such as encountering a sand bar in the Erie Canal that prevented the tug, with its 12' draft, from passing until a dredger could remove the obstacle. At least while she sat still the 30 gallons/hour fuel consumption rate went way down. Then it rained—and rained and rained, so much

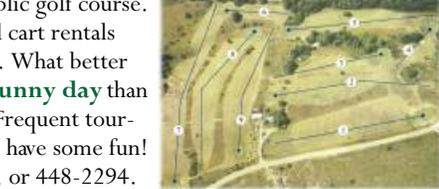
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that the canal rose 5.5 feet, stopping the locks from working and creating extreme currents. The crew considered tying up and not returning until the water subsided. The tug's 20' 6" height would not slide under a dozen or so bridges, which had a clearance of 20' 0", unless the bilge was pumped full of water—putting her at risk until the ballast was reduced on the other side of each low-hanging impediment. Not to make things worse, but when heavy ballast was taken on, she began to scrape the

bottom and risk getting stuck.

All the obstacles were behind them when they hit Detroit, but there they learned of something else that would turn into a delay: a tugboat race set for June 19<sup>th</sup>, with 25 tugs already enrolled. A tugboat race! Who could resist? So she was entered, and raced, and performed well against competition whose captains had spent five, ten, even twenty-five years learning the fine points of handling their temperamental craft. No one gave her a chance to win, and they didn't. They

finished third, leaving several hard-working machines in their wake.

She stopped at Beaver Island for fuel the morning of July 21<sup>st</sup>, and then was off for her home in Saugatuck. Now the real work of converting her will begin, which Ben and Sarah intend to do themselves. First there'll be a renaming ceremony in which she'll become the *Spartacus*. Some people would be daunted by the multiple difficulties awaiting them, but not Ben. After all, he's been planning this for the past seven years.



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## Lighthouse School Graduation

On May 13<sup>th</sup> over 150 people attended the Beaver Island Lighthouse School Graduation Ceremony at the KC Hall in Charlevoix. Celebrants were delighted by the variety of talent that was shared—via poetry, music, and song, including students Chris Edgington and Stefani Wittenmeier.

Ten fortunate seniors received diplomas and 18 others received recognition and awards for completion of the Spring 2004 semester. The seniors were presented with gifts of Beaver Island Sweatshirts and Journals. Many received special recognition for their efforts throughout the semester, and a great feast was had by all.

A few Island residents braved the weather and boated across with the youth to help celebrate. Four students were given scholarships to the Bear River Writers Conference, where authors from around the world conduct workshops. This is the third year the lighthouse youth received these scholarships, and they will be the only high schoolers attending. They were Joe Crowe, Billy Joe Wright, Dan Thiebaut, and Allison Racignol.

John Freeman, Lighthouse visionary and Coordinator for over 27 years, was given a special tribute from Governor



Jennifer Granholm, which was read along with letters from Senator Carl Levin, who sat on the 'Save America's Treasures' Grant Appropriations Committee, and Bill Cashman, Director of the Beaver Island Historical Society.

"As Governor of Michigan I am pleased to send my appreciation and recognition for your commitment to restore the Beaver Head Lighthouse and the Fog Signal Building," Granholm said. "As our state and nation moves forward, it is important to remember our past as well. Many historic sites and artifacts remind us of what our society has learned. It allows us to look back at what shaped our way of life today. You have shown a deep commitment to preserving our past and

for that I am truly grateful. I also applaud your enthusiasm to include students in the restoration project. Thanks to your endless energy and inspiring passion, these landmarks will be preserved for future generations to enjoy."

John was given a silver plaque that reads: *In recognition of John Freeman for over 27 years of Vision and Dedication to Beaver Island Lighthouse School, Summer Programs, Beaver Head Light Station and historic Structures Restoration "Saving America's Treasures."*

John also received a photo of the Lighthouse with multiple signatures from friends from over 27 years. The word "Legacy" was used while describing his vision, dedication, and sacrifice on behalf of the historic site and students whose lives have been changed.

"The thing that pleases me most is having students come back throughout the years to visit the Lighthouse with their own children," John said. "To show them where their lives were changed and how much the program made a difference. That is the greatest joy for me."

Many from this class will attend the summer employment opportunity at the site. Once again a new generation will be added to the fold. —Sue Marie Papajesk

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## Silent Auction added to Fashion Tea

The Beaver Island Rural Health Center Fashion Tea is all set to go. On Thursday, July 8<sup>th</sup>, 120 lucky ticket holders will sit on the decks of beautiful Deerwood and enjoy tea, sandwiches, and assorted pastries while viewing an assortment of new fashions from the Beaver Boat-Tique and the East Wind Spa. Our two-hour festivities will also include some auctioning off of *objets d'art* and other donations not included in the Silent Auction. Don't forget to purchase your ticket early at the Beaver Boat-Tique, the East Wind Spa, and the new Health Center.

We will need thirty more teapots to help complete our tea service so please let Leonor know if you can bring one with you (448-2894.) Remember to bring your checkbooks or cash to purchase the auction items at the tea.

The Silent Auction, which will be going on from June 25<sup>th</sup> through July 8<sup>th</sup>, now has grown to over 40 donations. This is so exciting to have so many generous contributions, not only by our merchants and service businesses, but also by all of the Board members, and many friends and neighbors. Some of these donations will be put together for bidding as "a package" to be bid on.

(The redemption of the gift certificates can be used separately, however, for your convenience.) Some services or items will be conditional depending on time of year and subject to reservation and availability. The packages will hopefully draw higher bids. They will make great gifts for anniversaries, birthdays, and family get-togethers. Each of the auction items will be listed in the Health Center lobby. Remember that the whole idea is fund-raising for the "health of it!" Let's be generous and get bidding! You can either sign the bidding sheets located in the lobby of the new Health Center through noon July 8<sup>th</sup> or you can email Leonor through noon July 6<sup>th</sup> at bgordonj@sbcglobal.net with your best bid. You will be notified of your winnings by either telephone or email so please don't forget to include your number. All winners are expected to pay by July 15<sup>th</sup> or the item will be offered to the next highest bidder—Good Luck!!

## House Tour Cancelled

Regretfully we have to cancel the Episcopal Church's Home Tour which was to be held August 7<sup>th</sup>. Plans are underway for a great tour the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of August in 2005. —Trudy Works

## Letters: Dear Friends

Marilyn and I would like to thank all of you for your letters of support. The response was truly staggering, and letters continue to pour in. Our new trial dates for the civil suit (explanation in the June 04 *Beacon*) are in early September. We feel confident about our case, and are looking forward to closing this chapter in our lives. There is no way we could have made it this far without your support; and there is no way for us to adequately thank you enough. Our prayers have been answered by the many voices that make up the heart of this special community. Thank you. —Liam & Marilyn Racine

## Hospice

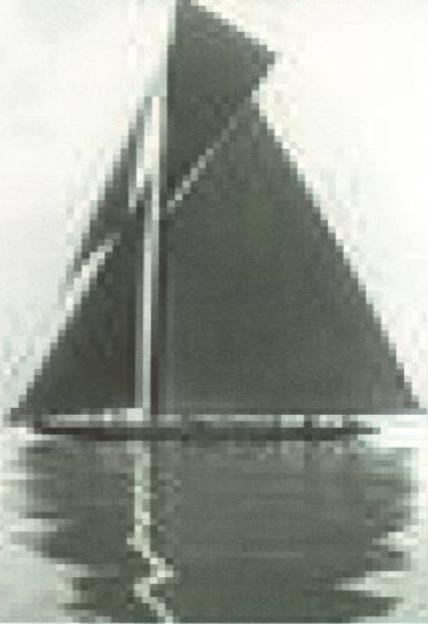
Last summer we left our home in Berkeley for a much-needed respite after undergoing cancer surgery and, for Alex, a stroke.

The return was to an Island which has become to us a very tranquil place. Adding to the affinity, a call came from Lois Williams representing the Care Group, with an offer to bring a very scrumptious baked chicken dinner.

The caring in this community is incredible. God bless all.

Plaudits to the Hospice and Care Group. —Leonard and Alex Siudara

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## Phyllis Townsend

Phyllis Isobel Townsend passed away on June 13<sup>th</sup> during the night, at the age of 93.

Born in Dauphin, Manitoba, she was the second youngest of ten children. Upon completion of her secondary education, she taught school for a year and then went to Winnipeg General Hospital for her basic nursing education.

She came to the United States to pursue her career, married, and had a family. For many years she served on the Michigan Board of Nursing as educator, consultant, and surveyor of licensure requirements for Michigan's nursing programs. She retired to Beaver Island in 1969, and soon became involved in many community activities, which included the Historical Society, writing the first Zoning Ordinance, building the Library, and serving on the Preservation Association, and was an active member of the St. James Episcopal Church. One of her favorite activities was playing bridge, anytime, anywhere. She was known for her love of literature (late in life she set out to reread the classics) and encouragement of others to further their education.

She is survived by three children, ten grandchildren, and eight great-grandchildren.

She will be remembered with love by many. Contributions in her memory may be made to the local Hospice and the Beaver Island Rural Health Center.

## "Not My Book"

Marilyn Gibbons, widow of former Township Attorney Michael Gibbons, who spent time on Beaver Island in the 1940s with his family, would like her Island friends to know that she did not write, edit, approve, or contribute in any way to a book by Mary Ann Gibbons.

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## Preservationists named Honorary Architects



On May 12<sup>th</sup> west-siders Jeanne and Ralph Graham were feted by the American Institute of Architects Michigan for their distinguished service to the profession of architecture by being named Honorary Affiliate Members of AIA. Long-time patrons of architecture, these activists in environmental and preservation movements established, six years ago, the David Evans Memorial Grant for Historic Preservation.

Jeanne Graham is a retired registered nurse who currently works with Cranbrook House and Garden Auxiliary, helping preserve the gardens, and serves as president of the Clannad Foundation. Ralph is a retired film producer and retailer who operated Orthogonality for 18 years. He has been the gardener in charge of Cranbrook's Oriental Garden, and sits on the board of the Michigan Land Use Institute.

Ralph and Jeanne have supported many Island causes, such as PABI, the BMX track, and the Marine Museum.

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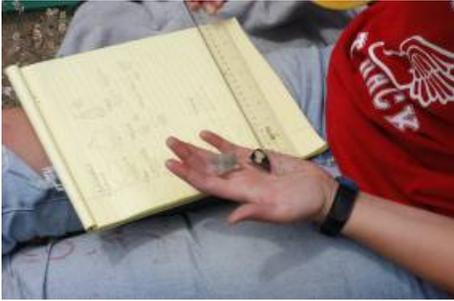
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The Dig Continues



For the past few years Beaver Island has been the destination for Terri Bussey's Suttons Bay Anthropology Club, and this year was no exception. Forty-seven students, many of whom had to take time off from their summer jobs, along with nine counselors, arrived in late June to see what was under the sod at several Island locations.

The gang camped out at the Bill Wagner Campground, where they ate

like royalty—thanks to chefs Tim Belanger and James Warren. They did some general exploration of sites that might be investigated in years to come and then settled into areas for which they'd already received permission. Dividing into 5 crews, with each crew containing diggers, sifters, baggers, recorders, and drawers, they set out their 4' x 4' grids with string marking each square foot, and began to carefully

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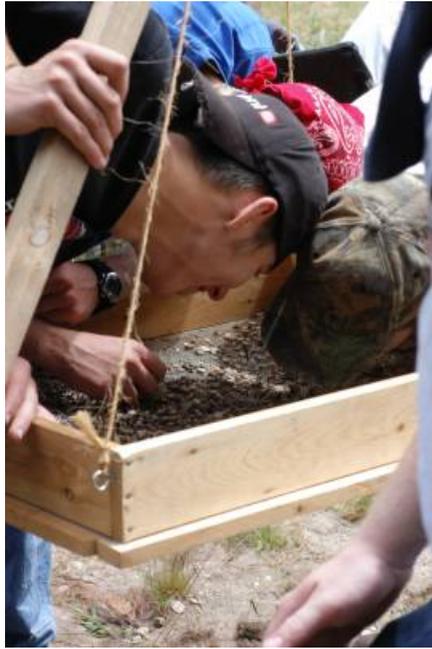
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remove 6" of soil at a time. Since one of their rules is that they will carefully restore the site so no one can tell a dig took place, the first layer of sod is set aside, and then following layers are run through a fine jiggle-screen.

On the 24<sup>th</sup>, digging behind Daddy Frank's, they came up with several interesting finds, particularly the "three bees": buttons, beads, and bones. In addition they found a large extracted tooth and pieces of

pottery, both of Native and European origin. Each item is meticulously catalogued, and at an appropriate time will be given to an appropriate agency—in many cases the BIHS. The students are inspired by this project; two of them are majoring in anthropology in college. And they are providing raw data from which extrapolations can improve our understanding of what early life on Beaver Island must have been like.



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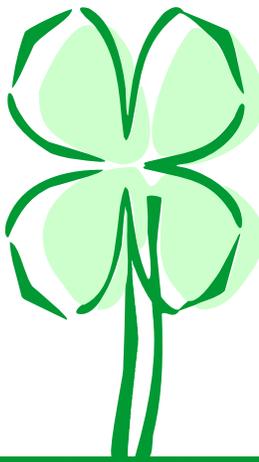


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## Rich Gillespie's Hat's in the Ring

Former Charlevoix County Commissioner Rich Gillespie has agreed to run again. This Island-born lifetime resident's reluctance was due to the heavy demands of his business projects, but his memory of the difference an Island-based Commissioner can make when he served in this capacity a decade back motivated him to enter the race. "Last time I was effective in helping bring the County Transit System to the Island, and helping get the King's Highway repaved," he said. "Well, the paving's giving out, and without a voice on the Commission, Beaver Island could miss out on effective opportunities to remedy the situation."

Rich feels strongly that he's the right person for the job. "I learned first-hand what good can come from sitting on that Board, and saw the benefits it brought to Beaver Island. Prior to my taking a seat on the County Board, we were not taken seriously by county officials. I chaired several important committees during my tenure, and grew respect for Beaver Island and its citizens as a result. My great concerns these days are taxes, and equal distribution and representation."

Like everyone else in business, he's had some disagreements, but he hopes that anyone who may be skeptical will overcome their differences for the good of the Island. "For me, the Island has always come first. I'd like to give something back to the community that has been so good to my family and I. There's really nothing in this for me personally except the chance to help improve the quality of life for everyone here."

## Will there be a New Boat?

On the last day of June two representatives of the Corradino Group arrived on Beaver and held a public meeting to gauge the Island's transportation needs—under a contract with BITA which is funded by MDOT. Ideas swirled out from the 32 who attended. One person wanted us to add hovercraft service, but others felt rates are too high now and were worried that 'progress' could deprive us of the things we value most. At this point, all that's going on is an open-minded gathering of ideas.

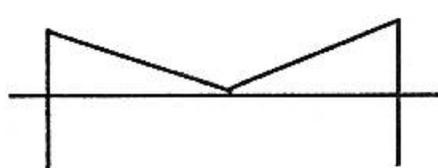
## Music at the Marina

Noted sax man L. D. Ryan will host (and play at) an Open Mike night on summer Saturdays at the B. I. Marina.



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## BIRHC Grand Opening – A Fine Celebration



All of Beaver Island came together on June 25<sup>th</sup> to toast the extensive and coordinated efforts that led through many twists and turns to the creation of our new Health Center. Senator Phil Hoffman was the MC for an hour-and-a-half procession of thanking to a large audience that took its seats after touring the new facility, donut in hand (provided by Eric Hodgson at no charge), and observing a demonstration of the telemedicine program. The first to be thanked were the Gill and Traudt families, who responded to Bill McDonough's entreaty by working with Ed Wojan (who donated many services) to figure out how to *give* \$200,000 worth of land (purchased by the family back in 1906) to the BIRHC. Ed called in a few more favors: Dennis Penfold did the needed appraisal; Northern Preferred Title provided title insurance; Ferguson/Chamberlain did surveying; Abrams Aerials provided a topo map from Evan Karnes' material; and Jim Wojan donated the entire cost of a needed access road.

Anne Glendon recounted the many steps required to get this far: coming to terms with the shortcomings of the old facility; creating a task force to determine what was needed; and developing a funding plan. B. J. Wyckoff was instrumental in convincing the Island it needed and deserved a first-class facility, and Pete LoDico took it upon himself to investi-

gate the needs of seniors. Don Spencer added that Practice Management Associates from St. Claire had provided guidance, and a search committee had settled on Hobbs + Black as the project architect.

Don also had high praise for Robert Gillespie, and for two of his helpers, John McCafferty and Kevin Barry McDonough, as well as for Haggards Plumbing and Heating and Daman Electric. He thanked Universal Sign for free signage, Munson Hospital for donated furnishings and computers, Ed Welter for providing free storage; Paul Armstrong for the PA system (given to the AmVets and loaned for this occasion); BJ and Bob Hoogendorn for the flowers; Frank Solle for his pictures; Jon Fogg for his tent; the Grand Traverse May Band for its \$25,000 grant; Providence Hospital for the equipment it donated, and Parker Motor Freight and Morse Moving for their shipping of donations to the Island. Board President Connie Wojan praised Don Spencer, who was the building project manager, for his perseverance and for maintaining a level head as the storms swirled around. Don received a round of applause for his efforts..

The audience was full of people who had helped: Jim Haveman, just back from Iraq; representatives from Ken Bradstreet, Bart Stupak, and Carl Levin; Jason Allen, Joe Gougeon, and Mickey

Mortimer; Shirley Roloff and Mary Beth Kur; Bob Tambellini; Undersheriff Snyder and his deputies; and our local Supervisors, John Works and Don Vyse, to name a few. Arlene Brennan praised the staff now in place: Sue Solle, Donna Kubic, Betty Hudgins, Barb Ken, Pam Nicholas, and Grace Matela.

Joe Reed touched on the newly-launched Capital Campaign, saying that Dr. Lange's efforts had created an endowment fund of \$111,000 at the CCF, which the Board wants to grow to \$1,500,000 to produce about \$70,000 in income for operations. An unnamed donor offered a three-part \$300,000 Challenge Grant, and Joe said the first third has been matched (thanks to Robert Gillespie, Jackie Madigan, Phyllis & Elwood Baker, Lois & Arnie Rich, and others.) Excited, he also said that the Welter Foundation had agreed to pay to pave the entire BIRHC parking lot.

After months of wrangling, it was good to find that a sense of accomplishment had produced a feeling of peace. For the first time the Island was able to step back and bask in this tremendous achievement, which had required the combined efforts of dozens and dozens of people. The spirit that swept over the 140 people squeezed into the tent was that if we continue to work together, there is absolutely no limit to what we can do.



VOTE  
for  
**Paul Welke**  
Peaine Township Trustee



- Resident of Peaine Township for 35 years
- Owner and operator of Island Airways, Welke Aviation, and Welke Airport for 30 years
- Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration with a focus on public economics from the University of Detroit, College of Business Administration
- ATP (Airline Transport Pilot)
- CFI (Certified Flight Instructor)
- A&P (Aircraft and Powerplant Mechanic)
- IA (Inspection Authorization)
- Previous Peaine Township Board experience
- Previous Beaver Island zoning administration experience
- Recipient of “Life Saving Award” presented by Sheriff Lassiter on behalf of the Gault family (February 9, 2001)
- Honorable discharge, United States Army

**Don't Forget to Vote**  
**August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2004**

# One Hundred Years Ago

By Joyce Bartels

*Charlevoix Sentinel* July 7, 1904 Local News: "Rt. Rev. Bishop Richter, of Grand Rapids, has been in Charlevoix several days, and went to Beaver Island Wednesday."

"R. M. McKeel, returned home Friday having been a month on Beaver Island painting Dr. Wilkinson's new building."

"Surely Beaver Island is forging to the front as an agricultural section. Superintendent Coulter told us yesterday that the Ferry Co. has about 1,000 acres of peas on the Island."

"W. J. Gallagher, representing the Beaver Island fishermen's union and Raymond McDonald, representing the Island longshoremens leave Monday for Milwaukee to attend the annual convention of the labor federation."

"Mrs. H. J. Cox, wife of the Chicago weather wizard, and children arrived here on the *Manitou* Sunday, and will go to Beaver Island Monday to spend a month or more."

"W. J. Gallagher, of St. James, goes to the World's Fair, after attending the Milwaukee labor convention. At St. Louis he will attend the grand convention of the Order of the Hibernians."

*Charlevoix Sentinel* July 14, 1904 Local News: "The steamer *Beaver* will give an excursion from Beaver Island to Manistique next Sunday, July 17th."

"James Donlevy, of St. James came over on the *Beaver* yesterday and left for Chicago on the *Illinois* last evening. He will visit the World's Fair while he is away."

"The Dominican Sisters of St. James came over on the *Beaver* Wednesday on the way to the parent house for their annual retreat. Mrs. Prof. Cox and children of Chicago, will occupy the sisters' residence during their absence."

*Charlevoix Sentinel* July 21, 1904 Local News: "The steamer *Beaver* after reaching Beaver Island, cancelled her Manistique Sunday excursion owing to the southwest gale that prevailed that day."

"Prof. H. J. Cox, the Chicago weather forecaster, will arrive here Sunday on the *Missouri* and join his family at St. James Monday. He will be there about two weeks, and will look after certain details of the proposed establishment of a weather station there."

"Local Inspectors Henner and Blocker went to Beaver Island yesterday on inspection business."

"The Rev. Fr. Zugelder, of St. James, came over Monday and returned Wednesday, making a trip to Mackinac Island with a friend- Rev. Fr. Brugger, of Saginaw."

*Charlevoix Sentinel* July 28, 1904 Local News: "The editor accompanied Prof. Cox, of the Weather Bureau, to Beaver Island Monday, returning Wednesday."

"The tug *Margaret McCann*, of St. James, was here over Sunday, shipping a new wheel."

"There has been very much unnecessary excitement over reports of a smallpox epidemic at Beaver Island the past two weeks. The editor of this paper spent

three days at St. James this week, and is in a position to give the facts, after a careful investigation. Smallpox broke out about two weeks in the lumber camp of the Beaver Island Lumber Co., about ten miles from St. James. It was promptly and effectively quarantined. The camp itself is in the woods and a safe distance from any farmhouse. There has been no dangerous exposures on any other part of the Island, and St. James is as safe as Charlevoix. Indeed, the people of St. James, while fully alive to the situation, are entirely tranquil as to any danger. We consider it as safe to visit St. James as it is to visit any other point in Northern Michigan. Even the cases in the camp are recovering. The *Sentinel* will be fully responsible for the truth of this statement, and any reports to the contrary may be put down as coming from those interested in an exaggerated record of the situation." (Note: F. Protar's diary mentions the smallpox in the lumber camp. He also credits Dr. Wilkinson with the cures.)

Northern Michigan: "James McCann, of Beaver Island, has the use of the dock and warehouse at Bailey's Landing, opposite the Island House, Mackinac, and proposes to supply the Island with all kinds of fresh fish daily during the season. Many a summer visitor at Mackinac remembers, with a longing desire, for more of the fish which was set before him here; and Mr. McCann handles these varieties. He is a big dealer in fish and ships an average of one hundred and fifty tons per season to the Chicago markets." - Resorter

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## Art found in Nature



If you happen to come upon a tangled piece of driftwood on the beach or an interesting twisted log in the woods, and wonder what implied images it might contain, there's a man here who you can ask: Bruce Struik, who has developed his intuitive ability to visualize shapes and patterns barely suggested by natural forms.

Bruce's love affair with Beaver Island began long ago when, after get-

ting his degrees (in geography and social science) he and some friends came to Beaver Island, acquired a piece of land on the lower east side, and started right in to build a cottage, *Yesteryear*, from the available materials: primarily stone, plus some massive (16" x 16") hewn beams delivered by Jewell Gillespie for \$25 each. The friends built 2'-thick wall forms and filled them with fieldstone and mortar (35 tons each), and then set the

beams across the width of the house.

Life took Bruce away from the Island—to run Hope's Big Brother program for 10 years, and then to open a gourmet restaurant for 13, but once he went back to his first love, teaching, he at least could spend summers here. In addition to the meals he served at the Christian Church, he became known for his 'found wood' creations beginning in 1971, which appeared at the BIHS Art

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## Meet the Artist!

Ever wonder who creates the beautiful work you've been admiring or collecting from Livingstone Studio? Every weekend from July 3<sup>rd</sup> through August 14<sup>th</sup> you can come by from 1 - 4 pm on Saturday afternoons and meet these talented people, share some refreshments and view their work.

There will be demonstrations or explanations of their process, and each artist will bring work to view and sell. Regular commissions will be waived, so a percentage of the sales will be donated to the Beaver Island Community School for athletic or art programs.

We hope you will join us in supporting our hard working artists! Rain or shine... we have a screened tent!

See the schedule of artists on page 12. For more information, stop by Livingstone Studio or phone (231) 448-2975.



Show and in local galleries. In the genre of bringing a table or a bookcase or a lamp out of something wild, he is a recognized master.

The things he picks up on his walks on the beach and in the woods can prove reluctant to give up their secrets—some finds have been sitting on a long table outside Bruce's home for over twenty years. But once an idea comes to him, he sets to work in his outdoor shop, cut-

ting and carving and sanding and gluing and varnishing until something really quite remarkable appears.

His 'sculptor's sensibility' has found expression in a second arena: gardening. He started with a few rocks pulled off the beach, placing them to make a raised bed. One thing led to another, and suddenly his home was surrounded by gardens using rocks ranging to boulders to create beds and paths and ponds and hills—and

even a waterfall. Now, with two interests to take his mind off his health problems, he has put himself in an ideal position for stimulating his aesthetic explorations: working furiously in his garden, he is likely to suddenly see something inside the chunks of wood sitting in his rack, and when he's polishing another burl or tangled root he might conceive of the perfect esoteric flower to add to his extensive plantings.



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## Hang at the Art Show?

This year's Museum Week Art Show (July 14<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup>) promises to be better than ever. If you'd like to take part, please call the Museum (448-2254) to reserve space for your work.

## PABI Sunset Picnic

The Preservation Association of Beaver Island cordially invites you to a Sunset Picnic on Sunday, August 15<sup>th</sup>. Our 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Dinner will again be held at the Port of St. James Pavilion on Donegal Bay. It will begin at 6:00 p.m., with dinner served at 7:00. Grilled entrees and picnic salads will be among the selections offered. A champagne toast will occur at sunset. Coffee and lemonade will be provided by Barry Pischner, L. D. Ryan, and Rich Scripps. Tickets are available for a \$25 donation per person. Reservations may be secured by calling 448-2787.

—Sue Welke



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## Baroque on Beaver

Sunday, July 25<sup>th</sup>, will be a day full of music on Beaver Island. Beginning with a 3:00 performance designed to appeal to children and their families, and continuing with a 7:30 performance for everyone, the Holy Cross Parish Hall will be alive with outstanding music.

At the one-hour afternoon children's concert, the audience will be invited to join a children's chorus in the Quodlibet "Orchestra Song." The evening concert will feature more than 40 local and seasonal Island residents and guests performing work from Bach, Holst, O'Carolan, and Ralph Vaughn Williams. Brenda LeFevre will be a soloist, and the Beaver Island Cantata will also perform. Jason Economides, Patty Baser, and Charles Krutz are returning as soloists, and Kathy Speck will be the choral director.

St. James Episcopal Mission is sponsoring the concerts. Much-appreciated partial funding has come from a grant awarded by the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs and the Cheboygan Area Arts Council. A free-will offering will help cover additional expenses.

## Mary Gallagher

Mary Elizabeth Gallagher, 94, of Traverse City and formerly of Chicago, died of cancer on June 5, 2004, at Munson Medical Center in Traverse City. Mary is survived by her husband, Earl; son Patrick Gallagher of Glenmont, New York; daughter, Elizabeth Whelan of Traverse City; grandchildren, Sean Whelan of Traverse City, Megan and James Gallagher of Glenmont, a niece, Lorraine Cypher, and numerous loving nieces and nephews.

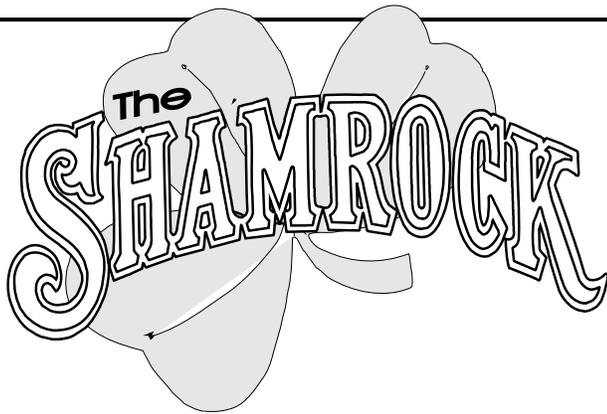
Mary Messenger was born September 11, 1909, in Chicago. On January 24, 1942, she married Earl Gallagher. In 1996, she moved to Traverse City. For the past year, she and Earl have been lovingly cared for by the staff at Highlander Assisted Living in Traverse City. Mass of the Resurrection was held on June 8<sup>th</sup> at St. Francis Catholic Church in Traverse City. The Reverend Patrick Maher officiated. Interment took place on Beaver Island at the Holy Cross Cemetery, the Reverend Patrick Cawley officiating. Memorial contributions may be made to the Father Fred Foundation in Traverse City.

## Cecelia Kinney

Former Beaver Island resident Cecelia Kinney passed away in Battle Creek at the age of 93. Ceil lived on the Island during the early 50s, opening a beauty salon in what became the Rountree House and then the Hirschey House, and also working at the Shamrock. In later years she operated beauty salons in Detroit and Milford, eventually retiring to Battle Creek. She is survived by her two daughters (who lived here with her) Patricia Burke of Las Vegas and Marilyn (Walter) McCauley of Battle Creek, five grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren.

## Emergency Lights

Jim Campbell, our deputy sheriff, has gotten Beaver Island into a Charlevoix/Emmet "Guiding Light" program for distributing the new exterior Emergency Lights, which strobe upon the interior switch being double-clicked. The "Emergency Beacons" are 60-watt bulbs for the porch or outside wall, which can be activated from inside to guide emergency helpers to a hard-to-find location. Each one can be obtained for a \$6 donation—cheap enough, considering it could save a life.



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## All-Island Visioning Process

On July 13<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. Gosling-Czubak's Fred Hoisington will be at the Peaine Township Hall to meet those interested in expressing their views about Beaver Island's future for inclusion in the joint-township Master Plan. The results from the survey of opinions will be presented in collated form, after which there will be a seminar on the visioning process.

## New First Responders

A number of BICS 10<sup>th</sup>-graders recently completed the EMS's 'First Responder' program: John Albin, Christine McDonough, Krystle Timsak, Keri Wirth, and James Gillespie. One adult student took part in this program as well, Pam Nicholas. Now they are eligible to take the National Registry Exam, although they must make their own examination arrangements.

## Sno-cone Sale

The AmVets' Ladies Auxiliary will have a Sno-cone Booth at the Beaver Island Realty building before, during, and after the Parade. Several flavors will be available at \$1 per cone.

## Help: Need summer Care-givers

Occasionally Beaver Island Hospice receives a request for a person to provide home-care on a daily basis (part time) for pay. This is usually during the summer months. The assignments are usually short-term, and most often to care for a shut-in. If you know of anyone who would be interested, please call Joyce Runberg (448-2387) or Lois Williams (448-2475.) Beaver Island Hospice will keep an on-going list of interested parties.

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## Blood Drive

The Annual Rita Gillespie Memorial Blood Drive will be held this year at the School on August 5<sup>th</sup> from noon until 6:00. Appointments may be made beginning later in July; they help minimize the time involved in the donation process. Individuals who are healthy and living a healthy life-style, who are at least 17 years old and weigh at least 110-pounds, usually make suitable donors.

A change from last year: a donor must present a driver's license or a donor card because of FDA, Homeland Security, and Red Cross concerns for the safety and purity of the blood supply. For a first-time donor a driver's license is sufficient.

American Red Cross personnel from Petoskey, and their supply truck, will arrive on the morning boat and will fly off after supper. Last year's drive resulted in 82 units of blood, two units over our goal, and included 16 first-time donors. With each passing year the need for blood significantly increases.

The Blood Drive is sponsored by the Beaver Island Christian Church, Holy Cross Catholic Church, and the St. James Episcopal Church. The Blood Drive Coordinating Team includes Jeanne Howell, Lars Larson, Connie Wojan, and Jerry Charbeneau. We hope you will plan on giving blood if you are able!

## New Map of Beaver Island

Those who noticed CMU student Tristan Jones bicycling around the Island the last month, taking readings from his yellow gps and entering data on a map, will be interested to know that this geology student has been working for the Geologic Survey, gathering data for a new map. While no production date has been set, copies of a preliminary draft may be available in the near future.

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## CMU Field Trip Schedule

*In partnership with the Historical Society. Fee is \$20.00.*

*Please sign up in advance at the Print Shop (448-2254.)*

### **Biology of Beaver Island's Sand Dunes**

Saturday July 10, 2004, Leaves at 9:00 a.m. from CMUBS

### **The Mammals of Beaver Island**

Thursday July 22, 2004, Leaves at 9:00 a.m. from CMUBS

### **Old Field Flora at Pfeiffer's Orchard**

Saturday July 24, 2004, Leaves at 9:00 a.m. from CMUBS

### **Beaver Island's Inland Lakes**

Thursday August 5, 2004, 9:00 a.m. from CMUBS



## FOR SALE: Beautiful New Home

Located in Port St. James, 1,800 sq. ft. home, planned for efficient living: 3 bedrooms and 2 full bathrooms, Cathedral ceilings (T & G Pine), large open loft, master suite with walk-in closet and master bath. Wrap-around covered porches, steep roofline with dormers, cedar siding. Beautiful wooded double lot. Quiet setting. One mile to Port St. James private beach on Lake Michigan. 1.5 miles to St. James village.

Call Ed Wojan Realty:

Real Estate Office: **(231) 448-2711**

Toll Free Number: **1-800-268-2711**

**HOUSE FOR LEASE:**

Three BRs, two and one half bath house for lease. Located right on the south side of the harbor with a great view. 5 minutes to town but a private location too.

For more information call Robert at (231) 448-2235



**FOR RENT THIS SUMMER:** Booking fast. Secluded Beautiful Chalet on 10 acres with 360 Feet of sandy private Lake Michigan Beach on Sand Bay. 2 bedroom (including loft), one bath, Great Room with two sofa sleepers. Fabulous views of the Lake. Large decks. Sleeps 7. Across from state land and hiking trails. No pets. \$800 per week. Deposit required. Call Ed or Connie Eicher (810) 629-7680 or (231) 448-2257.



**NEW HOUSE FOR SALE:** On a nice wooded lot in the Port. St. James. Contact Ernie Martin at (231) 448-2342

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**FOR RENT:**

House and cabin in the woods for rent on the East Side Drive. Both 3 BR and sleep six. Both have washer, dryer, and 2 baths. Campfire pits and wood provided. Property connects to major hiking/nature trails. Quiet and secluded, on the east side - one mile from State campground and beautiful beach. Please call (616) 897-8564



**RENTAL ATTRACTION ON FONT LAKE:** 3-4 BR, 2 BA home, fully furnished with all the amenities. Sleeps 7. Beautiful view of lake and sunrises. New owners of this high-demand rental are taking reservations now, \$750/week. Off season rates available. Call Helena Webster (734) 730-8918 today; email hwebster18@yahoo.com



**FOR SALE - HARBOR-AREA HOUSE:** Single family, four bedroom, 1 1/2 bath house on two lots with garage. Asking price is \$255,000. Also available: two lots across the street - asking price is \$40,000 each. Call (773) 646-1424 or email odatlo@aol.com

**FOR SALE: 1986 BAYLINER:** 28' New 265 hp engine. Very good shape. Asking \$16,500. (231) 448-2342

**BEACHFRONT HOUSE FOR RENT:**

Exciting cottage with view of High Island from large deck. Open floor plan, huge windows on extremely private beach. 2 BRs with 2 full beds + loft with 2 twins. 1 1/2 baths, TV/VCR, W/D, microwave, gas grill, all amenities. \$1095/week; spring & fall \$895. Limit 6 people. Please call (706) 268-2022, (219) 874-4676 May to Nov: 448-2001

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**GREAT LOTS FOR COTTAGE IN PORT ST. JAMES -** 3 to choose from. Wooded, power, perked, ready for building. Lake Michigan access nearby. Call (269) 857-6084.

**80 ACRE PARCEL HUNTING PROPERTY FOR SALE -** Available at the South End of the Island. \$1350/acre. Call (231) 448-2167 or (231) 237-0173

**100 ACRE PARCEL AVAILABLE -** \$1500/acre. Hunting, vacation, or investment property. Call (231) 448-2167 or (231) 237-0173.

**LAKE MICHIGAN LOT -** 175 feet of frontage overlooking Garden Island and Hog Island. Pebble and sand shoreline near Lookout Point. Call (616) 636-5685.

**LAKE MICHIGAN LOTS FOR SALE (2)**

Each offers beautiful sunsets, 4-5 wooded acres, and 250' frontage on Greiner's Bay, 8 miles from town. Lots back up to Mrs. Redding's Trail. Very deep and private. Land contract possible. Contact owner Victor Dmitruk at (269) 207-2970 or villpsych@aol.com For detailed description by autoresponder send blank email to info@villagepsych.com

**BEAVER ISLAND HARBOR LOT -** Protected Harbor site: 60' Lake frontage by 250' deep. North of Toy Museum. Call (231) 448-2391.

**40 WOODED ACRES WITH CREEK -** Driveway, clearing and small storage building. State Land across road. On King's Highway minutes from town. \$69,500 (616) 681-5466.

**Real Estate Wanted:**

**WANTED - FONT LAKE PROPERTY -** Turning 60 in 2004. I want the impossible: property on Font Lake. Can you make my dream come true? Please call collect (773) 463-5494 or flanaganl@lightfirst.com



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**BEACHFRONT HOME FOR RENT:** 3 bedrooms and loft – total 5 beds, hot tub, gorgeous views, solitude, wood stove, May-Sept. \$1050 / Off-season \$795. Call Perry at (313) 530-9776 or e-mail [pgatliff@hotmail.com](mailto:pgatliff@hotmail.com)  
House is also for sale for \$325,000



**FOR RENT:** Beautiful secluded new chalet near Donegal Bay's beach and gorgeous sunsets. 3 BR, 2 Bath. MBR has garden tub. W/DR/TV/VCR/Grill. Upon availability, bikes & auto for your use. Sleeps 6-8. No Pets. \$700/week. Ask about our 3-day off-season package. Call (708) 389-0621 (evenings)



**HOUSE FOR SALE:** On 10 Acres of beautiful woods. Custom throughout. \$139,900. Call Mike Collins (231) 448-2433



**HOUSE FOR SALE:** 38745 Squaw Island Ct. in the Port St. James. Interior not yet finished so you can finish it exactly how you like. Electrical and plumbing have been run and it is connected to GLE. \$59,000 Call Ed Wojan Realty (231) 448-2711



**FOR RENT - BAYWATCH VACATION HOME:** Located at the entrance to St. James Harbor, Baywatch has 143 feet of private beach with picnic table and fire pit. Newly decorated home includes four bedrooms, a large open kitchen-living room, and a family room with a full size pool table. (231) 448-2650

**FOR RENT:** The Fisherman's House. Great 'In-Town' location. 4 BR/2 Bath; W/D; Beautifully appointed. For availability, call Bill or Tammy (231) 448-2499

**Real Estate, For Rent:**

**SECLUDED 1940'S LOG CABIN JUST ONE BLOCK FROM LAKE** and market on one acre. Sleeps 4-6, pets welcome (\$100 deposit.) Washer, Dryer & linens furnished. Bicycles, canoe, grill available \$600.00/wk; weekends available. (219) 253-6500.

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**DONEGAL BAY COTTAGE** - On dune with private beach access. 3 BR, 1 bath, sleeps 6, washer/dryer. Kayaks and bikes for your use. \$750.00/week. Off season rates on request. Please call Dana Luscombe evenings (248) 549-2701 or email [dpluscombe@msn.com](mailto:dpluscombe@msn.com)

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**DONEGAL BAY** - 3 BR 2 bath Home; sleeps 6; many amenities. \$830 a week. Reduced rates for off-season. Phone (313) 885-7393, after 4:00 p.m.

**WEEKLY RENTAL** - Lake front. "The Last Resort" 2 BR house on Sand Bay, great view, beautiful sunrise, laundry pair, 1 ½ bath. Phone Bill McDonough at (231) 448-2733 (days).

**WEEKLY RENTAL** - Harbor Beach Two-bedroom Condos. \$475/week. Call Carol Wierenga at (231) 448-2808, (231) 448-2598 or (231) 448-2596.

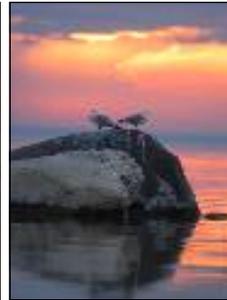
**SMALL LAKEFRONT COTTAGE FOR RENT** - Double Bed, Bathtub, W/D, Deck w/Grill & Picnic Table, TV/VCR. One mile from harbor. North end. Stay at The Refuge - \$550 weekly. Off season rates available. Call (231) 448-2035 or (563) 556-2395 or email [dudabi@biip.net](mailto:dudabi@biip.net)

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