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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.

Beaver Beacon

the Island Monthly since 1955

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News from the Townships

St. James Township Board

On March 3rd, 2004 the St. James Township Board was under some pressure to match its previous record for brevity (8 minutes), but didn't come close. It got off to a good start. Terms for Dave Adams and John Fiegen on the Board of Appeals and Don Vyse on the Airport Committee were extended, and the acquisition of a Day Park north of Lake Street was approved. Most of the Petritz property, 500' on Lake Michigan, will pass to the Township, thanks to a Recreation Grant—made possible by the creation of a Recreation Plan. The grant requires a 25% match, but the Petritz family has supplied this by dropping the price well below market.

A letter from the EMS requesting a meeting to discuss its budget was mentioned, but not distributed.

County Commissioner Shirley Roloff intended to spend a day here discussing Beaver Island's problems, but snow kept the planes from flying. The Director of the Tricounty Management planned to come on March 15th to help with our emergency planning. The Annual Meeting was set for March 27th.

The Board had asked PABI to present its latest plans, so Judy Lanier began by showing Mary Rose's painting of the harborscape as a mouth with one very important tooth missing, a void to be filled by the Community House. She discussed the evolution of planning, starting from the 1998 "wishful thinking" that had led to an initial 18,600 ft² design, deemed too large and too costly, proceeding down to 1999's 9,800 ft² split plan, in which another 8,400 ft² building would contain the theater on the Brothers' Road. This was also deemed too expensive (according to Bob Banville, who took over the presentation) which led to today's moderate design for a Welcome Center, a Youth Center, and a Theater. Bob revealed that deals were being made to show first-run movies and to collaborate with Interlochen on the staging of events.

The advantages of the Community House were said to be multiple: it will help attract and develop talent; it will provide a much-needed gathering place; and by improving the quality of life will

be a general economic boon. The Theater was expected to pay for its own operating costs. \$912,000 was in the construction fund, and another \$30,000 in an endowment fund. A new idea being investigated was to do the Welcome Center floor as a tile mosaic depicting the archipelago in true scale. The Community House will be the first thing people see upon entering the harbor, so everyone wants it to look as nice as possible.

The board, though, was worried about possible congestion. Don Vyse thought it was "a good idea, but the wrong place," and suggested putting it on the Brothers' Road. Our youth, though, wants to be "where the action is," in the center of our bright lights; and the Welcoming Center too has to be downtown. Another Board member suggested putting just the Theater part on the Brothers' Road. The problem was two-fold: first, two buildings would cost much more than one; and secondly, funds donated to recreate the Dockside Market could not be used. Don Vyse thought that if the Theater were separated and placed on the Brothers' Road, perhaps the townships would be more supportive and lend their skill at obtaining grants to the project.

In other matters the Board approved buying new road signs as needed for about \$100 each. The old Medical Center building will have its own budget, like the rock crusher.

Bud Cruikshank pointed out that the hedge on Main Street near the Marina was taller than allowed, and posed a safety hazard; when walking in the street (the sidewalks aren't cleaned), it's difficult to see oncoming traffic.

St. James Planning Commission

The Planning Commission met on March 4th, 2004 to consider two cases, and commented on other matters as well. The updated Zoning Ordinance had been returned by the Charlevoix County PC, which repeated its earlier suggestions. Some had been considered and rejected, but others were thought to be good. However the PC voted to recommend approval to the Town Board as is, and to put these good ideas on a list already started of matters to be resolved

in the next round of modifications (such as various aspects of rentals.)

The new Master Plan would take 18 to 24 months, and was starting with the gathering of historical information. Representatives of Gosling Czubak will hold a public meeting in May to gather ideas for its survey.

The matter of whether or not Don Tritsch should recuse himself on voting concerning the Community House was addressed. Clerk Jean Palmer read a letter in which the Township Attorney stressed that the appearance of conflict of interest should be avoided. Jack Gallagher, PABI's pro bono legal Adviser, explained that "conflict of interest" required an opportunity for financial gain. John Fiegen thought it was an individual decision in this matter. Marilyn Damstra pointed out that some people filled so many public service positions that in some cases a quorum would be difficult to obtain if recusing followed strict rules. The consensus was that Don Tritsch had enough integrity to decide for himself what was appropriate.

Peaine Township Board

The Township Board was primarily concerned with fine-tuning the budget it would present at the March 27th, 2004 Annual Meeting. To that end, discussion centered on several of the project budgets that make up the overall \$263,000 budget (which includes a contingency of \$9,145.) The Planning Commission analyzed its expenses from the previous year (\$13,850, with \$8,285 for meetings' compensation the largest single item), rounded it up, and added the first year's Gisling Czubak charge for Master Plan work to come up with \$19,750.

There was some comment about the \$16,000 for Trails and Parks. Last year the Trails Committee spent \$1,800 and discovered there was nothing left in the fund because of repairs that were needed at the Bill Wagner Campground. The Trails Committee would like \$5,000, and agreed to propose its own budget.

Many line items will be matched by St. James: \$24,595 for the EMS, \$14,000 for Planning/Zoning, \$13,329

for the Assessor's salary, \$11,000 for a second deputy, \$8,197 for the Historical Society, \$6,000 for a Planner, \$5,016 for the Zoning Administrator's salary, \$4,500 for the Youth Consortium, \$3,000 for Township Hangar expenses, \$2,000 for the Assessor's Project (the ongoing gradual elimination of past glitches) \$2,000 for the Cemetery Fund, and \$2,000 for Fireworks. In addition, \$20,000 will be set aside in the Town Hall Expansion account (which already has \$40,000.)

The Road Fund would be \$66,071, which includes \$20,000 for one application of dust control, \$20,000 set aside for future road expansion, and a \$6,071 contingency. The \$197,200 Waste Management Fund would include \$25,000 for equipment—the last payment on its containers, and a new fork lift. Wages and employer taxes are \$80,380; boat freight \$19,000.

During a discussion of the Airport Fund, it came out that the budget is chancy because the DNR is challenging the long-standing rule that it pay property tax on its land; this amounted to \$23,000 for Peaine last year.

Before adjourning, Judy Lanier stated that the Planning Commission recommended that the Zoning Ordinance, just back from the County, be approved as is, and that some of the County's suggestions be put on the list for consideration when this Ordinance is revised.

Joint Planning Commissions

In the middle of March both Planning Commissions met in joint session at the Peaine Town Hall. First Peaine's PC had to consider two particular cases, splitting apart a twenty-acre parcel and considering a well-thought-out development plan for creating 21 parcels from a 310-acre tract south of Greene's Lake; it approved both.

Then the joint PCs took up a discussion about rentals, for which a dozen interested residents were in attendance. This will be one of the most important issues to be addressed in the first revision of the new Zoning Ordinance, which is about to be passed.

The problem is, at present there is
Continued on Page 6.

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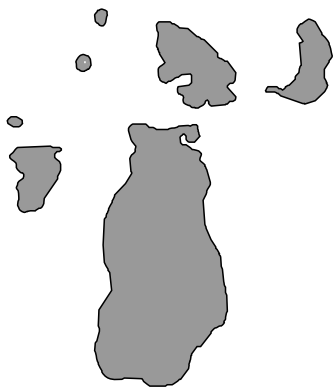
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News from the Townships, from page 5
some concern about whether or not the quasi-commercial enterprise of renting one's property should be allowed in a residential zone. On the one hand, the rental option has made enough of a financial difference to some people to encourage them to build, which has been good for our economy. But a few complaints have been made that one or another renter has disturbed the tranquility of a neighbor.

The present ordinance is not definitive. It indicates residents are for families, and a family is defined as having not more than four unrelated members. Thus one reading would be that not more than four unrelated people can rent a residence at a given time.

Yet the Michigan Supreme Court has said, according to an audience member, that renting one's home is not a commercial endeavor. The general feeling was that preserving the ability to rent was important to our economy, and that if homes could not be rented we might see the arrival of condo developments to meet the demand, and they would have a more pronounced impact on the environment. On the other hand, one person present complained that the renters next door were sometimes so rowdy that she could not get to sleep.

After much discussion the consen-

sus was expressed by Bill Markey, who suggested two approaches: broadening the definition of family (or, as Judy Lanier had offered, adding the phrase "...or renters") to guarantee the ability to rent, but also urging the Town Board to enact a nuisance ordinance (as St. James has done) so particularly bad situations could be addressed.

The Annual Township Meetings

With little fanfare both townships held their Annual Meetings on March 27th 2004. Both were preceded by a Budget Meeting at which the budget for the coming year was approved, and both ratified continuing with its attorney, bank, engineer, auditor, and planner.

Peaine's was in the morning. Judy Lanier remarked at the outset that the biggest problem for which she's received comments is dust control: something must be done, and she asked to have the topic on the next agenda.

John Works delivered a Supervisor's Report that mentioned the accomplishments of the past year, which were many: a new gravel pit, the boat ramp at the Wagner Campground fixed, trails and accesses marked, the East Side Fire Hall about to be built, the Health Center completed, the Peaine website up and running, and the Airport moving for-



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ward. The Planning Commission and Town Board demonstrated an ability to work through several thorny issues involving growth, roads, safety, and recreation. He thought Peaine had an excellent relationship with St. James.

In the public comments Doug Tilly noted that although the West Side Road had received more attention in the past two years, its repair and upkeep still lagged considerably behind the East Side Drive—a claim the supervisor did not dispute. Ivan Young returned to the matter of dust control, and others agreed that the one application we've scheduled (at a cost of \$20,000, and on only some of Peaine's 70 miles of county roads) was not enough. Bags of Dow flake are available to residents, but this is also not enough so this matter will be studied in the coming year.

St. James Supervisor Don Vyse also delivered a glowing report about the past year's achievements. The Playground beach expansion is on track, including the attached parking lot. Efforts are continuing to secure a lease for Arranmore Park. The tennis courts were repaired, thanks to volunteer funding. The acquisition of the Whiskey Point Light is proceeding—the application has just been reworked for the third time. The Donegal Bay Bike Path was built, and its extension is being planned.

The 14-acre Day Park on the north shore is moving towards fruition. Public safety has been addressed; a sewer use plan implemented; the nuisance ordinance passed; and the new Zoning Ordinance approved. The Yacht Dock drawings have been accepted for construction; the Medical Center's former home is on the way to becoming a Government Building; and Senior Housing plans are looking for funding. Several short sections of road were paved in the past year.

The Supervisor alerted the public that several challenges lay ahead. The King's Highway pavement is falling apart; the Community House parking issue remains to be solved; new land at the Airport must be cleared; and the proposed equitable cost-sharing envisioned in his Fair Share plan has not received much support from Peaine. Nowhere is the problem more obvious than in the rock crusher, whose \$27,400 operating cost was evenly split even though Peaine used, over the past 5 years, 82% of the gravel. Last year private contractors charged \$10/yard; Peaine paid \$5/yard for its gravel; and St. James was stuck at \$15/.

Yet the Supervisor was encouraged to predict that with continued hard work from both townships, good results would accrue.



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A Ghost Ship slices through the Ice

On March 26th a mystery began to unfold. Some people taking a lunch break in their car at Whiskey Point heard creaking and churning sounds somewhere to the southeast, yet no matter how hard they strained their eyes they could not see a thing. Far from going away, the noises grew louder, and others looping past the

Light stopped to ask why they were staring. "Something's there," they were told. "Listen—it's very close. It's almost upon us, but there's nothing visible."

Finally someone stopped who knew the truth: the Coast Guard cutter had left Charlevoix at 10:00 a.m. to chop through the harbor ice. It was right where one

might expect, totally masked by the fog.

The growing contingent retreated to the Ferry Dock, where they were joined by others who had felt the rumble of the ice in their bones. Soon the students came down the hill from school to stand on the dock's edge and peer into the grey-ness. Occasionally someone shouted,



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When she was finally visible, cheers were raised, and the 15 Guardsmen leaning over the *Acacia's* rails reciprocated with whoops and waves—equally glad to finally *see* their destination. As one

might expect, jokes were bandied about: "We ought to put a target on the *Emerald Isle*." "Not needed."

The ice cracked apart in huge thick blocks whose two layers were as differently colored as an Oreo: a foot of dark ice, a foot of clear, evidence of

an early rain that had covered the harbor with slush, which froze. The mighty ship stayed 15' away from anything that might crinkle, making several passes to create a channel before disappearing again into the fog. Everyone went home, buoyed by what they had learned: Spring, bounteous spring, was right around the corner!

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On this Date

Ten Years Ago The *Beacon* announced it would not report on the St. Patrick's Day celebration because the Shamrock had functioned as a sanctuary, and its patrons' right of privacy had to be respected.

Mary Blocksma reported on the fettering of Dr. Lange at a semi-potluck dinner, a celebration organized to make sure he felt appreciated for his kindness, concern, and expertise.

A "Traveling Beaver Island All-stars" basketball team challenged the over-30 men of Charlevoix, and, led by Mike Green's 16 points and Greg Carey's 13, won 51-48. Four hundred dollars was raised for the Island school's "bleacher fund."

A letter was printed from Commissioner Rich Gillespie to the Road Commission's manager, asking for better (adequate) equipment for our roads, suggesting that the Townships might pay up to 2/3rd of the ~\$30,000 cost. He also sought to advance the stalled issue of county transport for Beaver Island.

The *Beacon* contained a story written by Paul Welke recounting a flight he made with Marilyn McFarland and Angel LeFevre to Los Angeles after the earthquake, to pick up Marilyn's sister

and her three dogs and bring her to Michigan. While he was in Dalhart, Texas, he asked the airport officials if they remembered a plane being forced down by DEA officers six years earlier when it was suspected of running drugs from Mexico. When they did, he revealed that he and Ellen had been the flyers. He reported that when he reached LA, the visible damage was not as great as had been shown on TV. While he was gone our weather was so bad that Island Airways could not fly. But he saw no clouds once he'd crossed Lake Michigan until he returned. He averaged 180 mph flying out (12 hours) and 220 coming back (10 hours.)

The *Beacon* ran an article describing the operation of the Chamber of Commerce, which had recently replaced the Civic Association. At that time it was working with the State to preserve the Dockside Market. It organized the Fourth of July festivities, planted flowering crab trees around the harbor, printed and distributed a Beaver Island map, built and maintained a walleye pond through "our Wildlife Club," provided salt blocks, and was expecting 21 more wild turkeys. Pam O'Brien was the Office Manager.

Jim Gillingham wrote to express his feeling that it was unfair to blame the double-crested cormorants for being alone responsible for the decrease of fish. He challenged the notion that yellow perch and smallmouth bass were their favorite food, saying research revealed it to be alewives. He agreed that they do take many fingerlings released in the daytime by the DNR, but thought that could be improved by night releases. "These beautiful birds," he concluded, "along with a host of other shallow-water avian fish-eaters, including the Ring-billed and Herring Gulls, Mergansers, Caspian and Common Terns, and the Common Loons, have been fishing the waters of Lake Michigan long before man plied its waters. The Double-crested Cormorant belongs here and is indeed an important part of our natural ecosystem. It would be a great injustice to wage war on this bird, based on the spurious evidence put forth in last month's article."

Twenty Years Ago The *Beacon* announced that the effort to purchase the Boat Company from John McGoff by a group of Island-affiliated people has now succeeded. On February 27th the new Beaver Island Boat Co. signed

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an agreement to acquire McGoff's B. I. Navigation Company. A month later the new company distributed a brochure describing the efforts it would now face to raise the needed money through a stock sale spearheaded by Ed Wojan and Bill McDonough, among others.

A special election was held to approve the purchase of 572' of frontage and 20 acres at Iron Ore Creek for \$48,500. It passed in St. James 88 - 13 and in Peaine 78 - 18.

The Historical Society moved forward on its plan to build a 40' x 24' tall barn at the Heritage Park. One idea for the Park, according to curator Shirley Gladish, was to build a replica of a typical Island log cabin. A suggestion was made to have a tape for the Protar Room describing why his life had been so special and such a boon to the Island.

Rich and Laura Gillespie were married; Ron Gregg became engaged; Hermie and John Kenwabikise welcomed baby Kathryn; and Greg and LynnAnne Cary welcomed baby Heather.

The St. James Town Board notes contained some interesting tidbits. A \$1,200 payment scheduled for the Med Center was returned as not being

needed. The building which became the Town Hall was appraised at \$45,000 prior to its acquisition from the GSA. The Board voted to strengthen its Public Gathering Ordinance by subsuming it to a comparable county-wide ordinance. The Clerk agreed to ask the Road Commission to replace the defaced street signs. The Health Department ordered that a new well be installed at the Yacht Dock before July.

Father Herbert wrote to say his new posting at the Shrine of Our Lady of Consolation in Frenchtown Ohio would keep him too busy for him to attend Homecoming.

An editorial warned against letting dogs chase game, which was dropping in number. Deer hunting was said to have been way down in '83, and rabbit and grouse hunting bad for years. Squirrels were up, but few hunters were likely to come here just to shoot them.

The Fire Department Auxiliary announced it had opened a resale shop on February 13th.

The Civic Association created its new brochure, and planned for harbor beautification. It asked for volunteers for April 28th to help plant trees and flowers (heather, lavender, and marigolds),

and place six new benches around the Harbor.

Thirty Years Ago The *Beacon* reported on a meeting between the Game Club and the DNR. Plans were made to try planting more turkeys, this time live-trapped instead of farm-raised. It was thought they would not be given feed because in the past this has made them too tame. Adding pheasants to the Island was considered, as well as Makinaw Trout fingerlings in the harbor—they'd have to be penned for three weeks. Cutting for habitat and burning off huckleberry marshes were also discussed.

Islanders formed a Businessmen's Association. Its first project was to bring a restaurant back to St. James to replace *The Castaways*, which was not expected to open.

After a lengthy study by the Dominican Sisters of Grand Rapids, the Island school was notified that the Sisters would be removed within the next two years, due to a shortage in their ranks. Since they were an important part of our culture, and had consistently elevated our students' test scores, it was hoped a way could be found to prevent this—*Continued on page 12.*

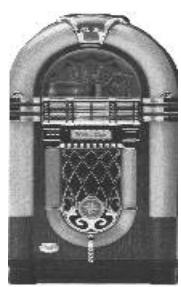


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On This Date, continued from page 11. perhaps by hiring retired or semi-retired Sisters.

Martha Miller announced that the *Beaver Island Players* could use more help for its planned summer theatrical productions.

The passing of Alberta LaFreniere, Bussey's wife, was announced. After brain surgery in Chicago to remove a tumor left her paralyzed, she came back to the Island, partially paralyzed and unable to speak. She was cared for here by an informal hospice during her final eight months.

Passings were also noted for Charlevoix's Bruce Zeitler, the brother of Dick LaFreniere's wife Jean, and Margaret (Dunlevy) Miller, who had been born here in 1886.

Help with tree planting was offered by Pete LoDico, posted in Boyne City.

Mat and Ellie Hohn noted that their St. Pat's Day dinner was disrupted by a band of hungry racoons.

Forty Years Ago The *Beacon* celebrated an early appearance (April 2nd) by the Coast Guard cutter *Sundew*. But winds held the cut ice in the harbor, where it refroze, prompting a second visit six days later.

Two state representatives, Don

Gordon and Riemer vanTill, pushed a bill through the House that would award a \$20,000 grant for the restoration of the Protar Home.

The Island said goodbye to its Conservation Fire Officer of the past five years, Vern Fitzpatrick, who was promoted to a post in the northernmost tip of the Upper Peninsula. He had done many things to fit into this community (such as fixing radios and TVs, and promoting activities for kids.) His departure was filled by Bill Wagner, who agreed to move here with wife Marge, daughter Jody, and son Dennis.

The Civic Association began selling \$1 tickets for a \$100 vacation.

Thanks to captain Justin McCauley in St. Joseph, a film promoting the Island was shown to the Southwestern Michigan Boy Scout Counsel, which led to a plan for 50 scouts to come here for a week the following June.

Passings noted included Elizabeth (Johnston) Dunlop, born here in 1883, Dan McCauley's daughter Mary Codden, former Island resident Fred Dubiel, and the father of Mrs. Karl Baber, new manager of the Beaver Island Lodge.

Rogers Carlisle reported on his luck trapping beaver. He said interesting

things happened on his trap line. One was seeing a woodcock so tame he splashed water on it but it would not move. Another was finding the track of a coyote that was also after beaver, as well as signs in the snow that a confrontation had ended in favor of the flattail.

Fox Lake was restocked with brook trout, and the opening of the season was eagerly anticipated. Smelt nets and sucker spears were being readied for what promised to be a good season.

Township Airport manager Karl Kuebler announced that 900 planes landed in the summer of 1963. Dick LaFreniere was lauded for having volunteered to man the Unicom, which allowed pilots to obtain weather information.

Adelia Beeuwkes' bibliography of Beaver Island's Mormon Colony was offered by the Civic Association.

Chicago's Beaver Island Party had more attendees than ever before—including Franklin Left, who flew up from Jacksonville for it and then flew back the next day. George Egbert reported on Lansing's Beaver Island Party, claiming the official tally of 216 missed many who were there. The Shamrock's Beaver Island Party also did quite well.

Three long whistles. Two short whistles.

Familiar faces returning. Short sleeves.

Sunlight past Seven.

The promise of Summer.

Spring.

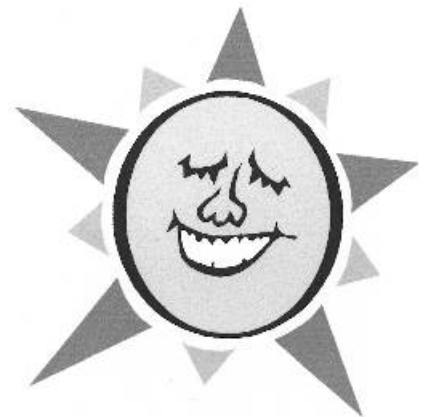
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Chili Cook-off a Delicious Success

On March 11th a hungry crowd that had gathered outside the Peaine Town Hall became a little rowdy as the five judges at work inside decided on second helpings of the 11 tantalizing chilies before rendering what they all agreed was a difficult decision. Once the prizes were awarded, seventy people rushed in and began to chow down on the various chilis, which could be accompanied by

corn bread, sliced onion, crackers, and cheese—followed by brownies and a variety of cakes.

Many lingered, enjoying the camaraderie following a delightful, filling meal. But new arrivals kept streaming through the door—one counter gave up at 113, his head-counting thrown into confusion by the arrival of some stylish multi-tipped spikes. Donations at the

door produced \$500 for the Sports' Boosters, the event's sponsor.

Overcoming the difficulty of choosing the best of so many good entries, the judges awarded first place to the "roast beef" style chili prepared by Jim and Pam Campbell, second to Debbie Bousquet's hot-pepper version, and third to Jamie Campbell's mouth-watering old-fashioned concoction.

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Fran Moroney

Long-time Island visitor Francis J. Moroni passed away in Oak Park from the cancer he lived with for the past eight years.

His life was remarkably varied. As a young man he was a gifted student athlete, being part of a gold-medal relay team and running in many Chicago Marathons. He bicycled across the country three times to raise money for charity.

A resigned Catholic priest from Rockford, IL, he received a degree in Theology from St. Mary's in Baltimore and later spent two years studying at the Vatican before earning a master's degree from the University of Chicago. After working for United Way and counseling for Lutheran Services, he turned to business, founding the Alpha Business Service Company. After additional study of Great Books he earned a second master's from Concordia University and became an instructor in the Chicago Public Schools.

He is survived by his wife Domenica, daughters Francesca Cooper and Gabriela Moroney, sisters Rita Murphy and Mary Lou Shepard, and brother Paul.

Beaver Island on the fictional Map

One more writer has proven unable to resist the lure of Beaver Island in looking for a setting for much of the action in his latest book: Iron Ore Bay's Bill Vann, whose novel of suspense, *Retired*, keeps returning to a recognizable Beaver for its well-written climactic scenes.

The book starts off innocently enough with Harry Jones, fresh from having quit his bookkeeping job at a car dealership at age sixty, deciding to rent an office. He tells his wife he's thinking of offering financial advice but really just needs a place where he can get away from the house, which has become the crafts workshop for her and her girlfriends. A safe enough step—until his first client ensnares him in a complex but believable plot that takes him off to the races strapped to a runaway train.

What befalls him is something he brings on himself by exercising the tenacity and deductive power he had never quite displayed in his former mundane life. Before he knows it, he's in over his head, not knowing the truth about who his new associates really

are. It's a dangerous predicament, but thankfully some of the characters we've all seen hanging around the docks in St. James are ready to...

To say more would be to say too much. Suffice it to describe the book as an entertaining page-turner whose fictional world shares an extensive border with our real one. Some of the action involves car dealerships, handled with the same kind of expertise as another Island-connected author, Jerry Cooper, displays in his books involving interstate trucking.

Even though his next book is said to be totally different, the many fans this one will bring will hope for further adventures in our Lake Michigan archipelago.

Best of the Class

Kerrie Gillespie, daughter of Rich and Laura, has been nominated for a nationwide community service program honoring graduating high school students at a picnic by school principal Kitty McNamara. This event, hosted by 9&10 News, will take place at the Victoria Hotel in Petoskey.

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Don't Miss the Citizen of the Year Banquet

The Chamber of Commerce reports that well over 20 nominations for Beaver Island Citizen of the Year have been received, and thanks all those who submitted them. The winners will be selected by the Chamber's Board or Directors, and awards presented at a banquet at Nina's Restaurant on **April 24th** to which everyone is invited. Seating is limited to 100, so call Nina's for reservations at

(231) 448-2396 as soon as you know you'll be able to attend! Dinner choices are champagne chicken or prime rib, and includes hors d'oeuvres, salad, and dessert. The price is \$29.00. Nina's will pay a portion to the Chamber to cover the cost of the awards program and also to help market Beaver Island as a year-around tourist destination. Cocktails will begin at 6:00 with the dinner at 7:00 and awards following.

It's a Wonderful Life...

The Gregg family would like to express their deepest appreciation for all of the efforts made by this wonderful community. During Phil's recent episode at the hospital, our family began receiving a nearly continuous influx of love and support from friends. There is no way we can really truly express how deeply touched we all are by the sincere and generous support of a community that has become an extended family.

The fact that the Island has come together to support our family is really no surprise, but the magnitude of the generosity is overwhelming. The prayers,

phone calls, rides, cards, hugs, meals, and visits are truly priceless.

We are so happy we could bring Dad back to his Island home, but nobody is happier about this than Dad. As he told Russ Green on the trip home from the airport, "Even the bumps in the road feel good."

This community has once again outdone itself, and we are so happy that Dad decided to move here all those years ago. We always knew we were blessed with a great family, but with the recent events we began to see just how large our family really is. This is a very special place, and

Calendar of Events

AmVets Sock Hop 7:00 p.m. April 24th
Laffin School play 7:00 p.m. April 30th
An Evening with Stephen Sondheim
6:30 p.m. May 8th
Beaver Island Fire Department
Auxiliary Celebrity Roast of Skip
McDonough 7:30 p.m. May 29th
Museum Week July 12th-17th
Homecoming August 7th and 8th
AmVets Fishing Tournament
September 10th-11th

you all contribute to what makes it special every day.

We will never again be able to watch the movie *It's a Wonderful Life* without thinking of the events of this past week.

From the bottom of our hearts we thank you all for all you do and for being who you are.

Sincerely with Love,

Phil & Lil Gregg [and Bobby too]

Joe, Phyllis, Michael, Jessica,

Courtney, and Andrea Moore

Ruthie Gregg, Michael Himebauch,

Kevin, Angie, and Victoria Mogford

Ron, Ann, Tom, and Kayleigh Gregg



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I have always had a love affair with trees. From my earliest recollections as a tomboy I was always climbing in or swinging from trees. When I was eight or nine I became interested in gardening. My first attempt at tree propagation began when I rooted a twig from a huge willow from a nearby park and planted it in our yard. I recall that classic poem written by Joyce Kilmer, *Trees*. Students in most schools certainly were at one time or another introduced to that poem. Joyce Kilmer was born in 1886 and was probably ahead of his time as a tree hugger. One of my favorite verses is:

A tree that may in summer wear

A nest of robins in her hair;

While visiting in California I came across a book, *Remarkable Trees of the*

World, by Thomas Pakenham. He is a British historian who has spent the last decade investigating the lives of the world's most dramatic trees, many of which are in danger of destruction. It is arranged according to the character of the trees: Giants and Dwarfs, Methuselahs, Shrines, Dreams, Lovers and Dancers, Ghosts, and Trees in Peril. I was astonished to learn that the top three awards, for the world's largest tree by volume, the tallest tree in the world, and the oldest tree, measured by scientists, were found in California.

The chief giant is *General Sherman* in the Sierra Nevada. This giant sequoia weighs over 1400 tons. It may be the largest single living thing in the world.

The height record goes to another

Californian—a 368-foot high Coast Redwood recently declared the tallest tree in the world.

Among the oldest are the wind-blasted bristle-cone pines of the White Mountains of California. *Old Methuselah* himself was found to be 4600 years old—the oldest tree in the world that was measured by the scientists.

Even though Beaver Island's trees are unlikely to be recognized worldwide, the Island has trees of distinction too. The beautiful old birch on Fox Lake Road is one of our treasures. It is the destination of hundreds of tourists. People photograph it—artists draw and paint it. The Island is also home to two American chestnut trees. Just how these have escaped the disease that wiped out the



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A Fine Crust

March's weather ran true to form: cold, colder, warm, then cold, with lots of snow. A modest warm-up occurred in mid-month, capped by high winds, rain, and a plunge of 23° in half a day. The result was that on March 21st, a bright sunny day of 20°, a crust formed on our two feet plus of snow that looked strong enough to support a man.

So I went for a walk, across a field, onto Font Lake—criss-crossed by snowmobile tracks—and out over the top of the junipers that normally clog the fields on Font's south side and prevent human penetration. Now it looked like bright broad swirls of hard frosting crossed by the tracks of several animals, primarily deer, whose narrow hooves plunged through the surface. Some of them had gone by in ones and twos, but there were also several well-worn trails. The coyotes and rabbits, with broader pads, were able, like me, to stay on top.

The next day I took another walk, this time with Dan Wardlow, who I picked up at the beautiful Shanoule B & B. The temperature had reached 27°. He wanted to see his property down Camp #3 Trail, where he plans to build. He had brought snowshoes, and Joan

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others is a mystery...possibly the same mystery that allows apple trees to produce Beaver Island apples without worms and without chemical interference. Several years ago, CMU verified that the Island has a stand of virgin cedar trees.

I have a secret tree, an enormous pine. I like to hike to it and sit underneath it on the thick carpet of pine needles. Looking up through the branches, you can't see the sky. I imagine all the creatures cradled by this tree over the years, safe from winds and storms. It was possible such a tree inspired Kilmer to write this verse:

*Upon whose bosom snow has lain;
Who intimately lives with rain.*

We are so lucky here on our Island. The forests are diverse and inviting. Take



Banville was glad to provide a second pair. We took them along but left them in the car because the crust had held.

We wandered through the mature hardwoods north of Greene's Lake, able to see for a mile because of the lack of leaves. We encountered several deer tracks as well as those of two coyotes who'd loped along at a good speed side by side, about fifteen feet apart. Somewhere in the distance we heard a call we could not identify—probably a bird, but we weren't sure. We came to a 15'-high bluff east of the power line cut east of the West Side Road, and looped back into the magic frozen wonderland rather than risk reaching civilization.

The next day I tried it again out behind our home, but the temperature had risen and the crust was no longer as strong. Walking became a trudge, and on occasion my foot went through, sometimes into six inches or so of water thawed on the bottom side by the warmth of the earth. I came home exhausted, realizing how unique of an experience it had been the previous two days to stride along quickly and without care on a hard white carpet two feet above the ground.

—William Cashman

a walk some day into the cedars at the Little Sand Bay Preserve. It's enchanting, especially in the spring when the brooks are running, the skunk cabbage is beginning to grow, and sunlight shines through the trees, spotlighting ferns.

Some of our forests are a mix of birch, beach, Eastern hemlock, white pine, and aspen. Some evergreens tolerant of dense shades grow here also. I love to walk in these areas in the spring, before the leaves appear, to see the carpet of wildflowers... trout lilies, Dutchman's breeches, trillium, hepatica, and spring beauties to name a few. Morel mushrooms also appear in the spring, and ferns in great profusion.

The forest floor of leaf litter along with fallen branches and logs provides

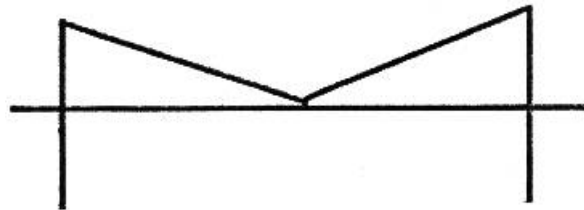
critical habitat for insects, mice, shrews, and chipmunks. A unique micro-habitat often found in hardwoods is shallow pools of water in the spring. These seasonal wetlands produce insects for migrating and nesting birds. They provide habitat for salamanders and several kinds of frogs. Other inhabitants of the forests are the songbirds, owls, and hawks that feed and nest there. Game species that call the forest their home include the ruffed grouse, woodcock, snowshoe hare, squirrel, wild turkey, whitetail deer, and the coyote.

Is there any question why I'm so in love with trees?

I embrace trees; therefore I am a tree hugger. I dare you to hug a tree sometime and not fall in love. —Lois Williams

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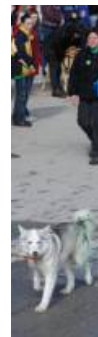
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St. Patrick's Day Festivities



Aside from the music and dancing and drinking, and in addition to the retelling of certain stories saved for this once-a-year event, much of the celebratory spirit that convulsed the entire Island and its provinces downstate was focused on Saturday afternoon's downtown events: the tug o' war, the cart race, and an event watched closely by a dozen hungry dogs, the infamous fish toss. Amazingly the tug o' war, for which no one counted the tuggers on each side (thus permitting an imbalance), was essentially a dead heat with a disputed victory entered in the ledger for the country cousins, the hay-seeders. As for the cart race, which involved multiple-person skis, tire jumps, rosy ring-arounds, and, yes, a





cart race, well, that sure was a nice cart Rich Gillespie created just for this event.

But the fish toss produced several serious charges of chicanery the next morning, accusations ranging from excessive fish-greasing to a flat-out accusation that the winner, the *Charlevoix Courier's* Jeremy McBain, had unfairly used the diversion of a sweet lullaby played moments before the toss on his treasured bagpipes to lull his competitors into a dispiriting languor—a charge seemingly proved when the staunch lad removed plugs from his own ears before gripping the fish, which his jealous detractors said had only been worn to prevent him from succumbing to his own siren's spell.



Hospitality Abounds on Beaver Island

Have you ever had an idea claw around in the back of your head, just sitting there refusing to go away? I have had those sharp talons poking me for 2 or 3 years now and they originate at a place called Beaver Island. For the last several years I have wanted to explore what the Island had to offer, but I just could never seem to fit it in. In November my lovely wife Lori blessed me with a beauty of a baby girl (Natalie Rose) and it looked like the Island would have to sit in my dreams a little longer. Or so I thought. It turns out, under closer scrutiny by some impartial Grandparents, that this is no ordinary baby, she is the most magical baby that ever hit this green earth, and if Natalie did not visit them soon all kinds of disasters would surely strike.

So off Natalie headed, accompanied by her personal bodyguard and big brother Mitchell, with mom at the wheel. As my wife was heading out the door she swivelled and took a last look at the house and then turned to me. In her eyes I could see a great love and respect. Ever so sweetly and with a tremble in her voice she spoke these words: *Instead of staying home and messing up the house, call your cousin Scott Scarlett in Traverse City and go ice fishing with him!*

Now this was going to take some doing. Cousin Scott is a man of the highest moral character and it would take some sales pitch to get him away from his chores. Exactly 23.7 seconds later I was able to convince him this would be the greatest fishing adventure ever, and he was in. The discussion

soon turned to where we would be going. I explained to him about my haunting visions of Beaver Island. As I said, Scott is a man with great character, and, not wanting to see his fellow man suffer, it was decided we would do something about this before my idea started to fester and tumor up on my brain. "Just one question," Scott said, "Where do we fish when we get there." Knowing I needed some time to think of an answer, and not wanting to seem foolish, I said the only thing I could in such a precarious situation: "What? I did not hear you, some background noise...."

"You really haven't thought this through too far, have you little cuz."

Having just the right amount of time for inspiration to strike, I lied through my teeth and said, "Oh yeah, I got a fisherman waiting for us as we walk off the plane. I will see you tonight with all the details." I promptly hung up.

Being that it was 1:30 p.m. and I was to see him in just hours, I had to make some quick phone calls. The Beaver Island Chamber of Commerce was first, but the answering machine said they close at 1:00. Oh boy, strike one on the first call. So I thought, let's try the net, www.beaverisland.org, Yahoo! Look at the information; I'm warm now, I thought. I started calling names in the white pages. I called the first several numbers available and the phone calls would go something along these lines:

"Hi there, to whom I am speaking (if you got my call, insert your name here.) You do not know me but my name is Craig Chapman from Big Rapids and I'm coming over to your Island this weekend and am looking for the best fisherman there. Would you know who that might be?" Normally there was an awkward pause of silence at this stage of the conversation. However after a few minutes the conversation would open up further and I soon had names in front of me: Denny Cook, Darrel Butler, and Marty Kuligowski.

A call to Denny and Marty's phone numbers yielded answering machines, so I left messages. Next I moved on to Darrel, who must have thought it was his lucky day to find out he just won a chance to escort not one but two mainlanders all around the Island and take us fishing for an entire weekend. I soon found I was at a disadvantage not knowing Darrel and his straight-to-the point fact-finding methods. After about 12 minutes of talking he seemed to have me sliced and diced to his satisfaction. With a hearty laugh he said, "I don't give a crap, if you want to go fishing come on over and I'll take you. Oh, have you called Marty yet?" Apparently Darrel had heard of Marty's legendary fish prowess as well, I thought to myself. "Don't worry about it, I'll tell him all about you and this phone call, goodbye," he said, and hung up.

I was feeling confident when I left the office to run some quick errands. I returned to see a message had come in that said, "call Marty from the Island." My confidence level was plummeting when I made the phone call. "Hey is this the guy from Big Rapids? I'm sitting here with the guys. When the hell are you coming, anyway? Better make it quick; a snow front is moving in!" Oh yeah, we are on, baby! I could face my big cousin standing tall.

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Charlevoix County Commission

A fine gentleman who introduced himself as Choppy met us at the airport. Well hello Choppy, I am Chappy, lets fish. Off we went to get the lads. After introductions and heartfelt ribbing about how they just wanted to meet someone crazy enough to make a phone call like mine, they decided we made the cut and could sit on the ice with them.,

We were introduced to the Island properly by seeing what it is like to keep the lifeline alive. Snowplowing the runway was our initiation. Wow, that is a lot of asphalt, and rough on the body riding in those plow rigs. However the time spent hearing stories and folklore was well spent. These guys are proud of their home and did a nice job representing it.

The day found us on the ice sitting in a palace of a shanty. I could understand the bunk beds and the stove with oven; however, the sink pushed it over the top. I was sitting there like royalty when I then remembered that this had been the only kingdom in the U.S.A. Suddenly this affluent style of living made sense.

The sun going down found us at Marty's house. Bless their hearts for making us feel welcome; they threw a party. The camaraderie and stories were legendary. We ate like kings: gumbo, Cajun walleye, and bounden sausage. Marty opened up his house to us and we were living large.

The next day found us on the ice again, catching our first pike before we could get the third tip-up set. It would prove to be a wonderful day; my eyes never once turned toward the mainland. Even Denny Cook came out to fish with us. Cousin Scott and I nodded to each other with a knowing grin; we struck gold with this crew. All we would have to do is reel in fish until tendonitis set in. We left the ice at dusk and with tired bodies headed for the Shamrock for good food, spirits, and a friendly crowd to rejuvenate the soul. We soon had our groove back on, and enjoyed the crowd and hospitality until the wee hours—even the old man who pestered us with jokes.

We were awakened by a morning phone call from Darrel wanting to know if we were ready to hit the ice. Holy cow, all this guy wants to do is fish! Didn't he know we were just some soft mainlanders who needed some down time? I looked at Scott and he was rubbing his shoulder from pulling in that big one yesterday. Several cups of coffee later and a good rubbing of BenGay, and we were on the bay. Forty-mile/hour winds with heavy gusts would not detour us. We started spudding some holes and began marking fish with some new-fangled electronic gear Darrel and Marty had. I would try to explain it, but it is too technical for the lay person. Sure.

We fished, the wind blew, and the ice heaved and cracked. After a while it was agreed that if we stayed on the ice any longer we would float to the mainland. We got to enjoy Steve's hospitality in his barn on the harbor as we watched our previous fishing holes break off and float out to sea.

I am back on the mainland after a wonderful weekend, thanks to all the guys—and a quick note to Alex, Gena, and Christi: thanks for the baklava.

— Your mainland friend Craig Chapman
Big Rapids Michigan

The Charlevoix County Board of Commissioners met at 3:00 p.m. on **March 10**, 2004 in Charlevoix. All Commissioners were present.

Motion approved the minutes of the February 25, 2004 meeting.

Clerk Jane Brannon introduced Marilyn Cousineau, the newly appointed County Treasurer and swore Ms. Cousineau in as a public official.

Motion approved Resolution #04-015, Amended Stormwater Ordinance.

Motion approved Resolution #04-016, Agreement for Professional Services from Owen Ayres & Associates, Inc to prepare digital ortho-photography and related products for Charlevoix County.

Motion approved Resolution #04-917, Create New Fund 264 Local Corrections Officer's Training Fund.

Motion approved Resolution #04-018, Soil Erosion Fees. Rates to be effective immediately.

Motion approved Resolution #04-019, Amend Sheriff's Budget.

Motion approved Resolution #04-020 2004 September Subsidiary Fund Budgets.

Motion approved Resolution #04-021 2004 Subsidiary Fund Budgets.

Motion adjourned the meeting.

— Jane E. Brannon, County Clerk

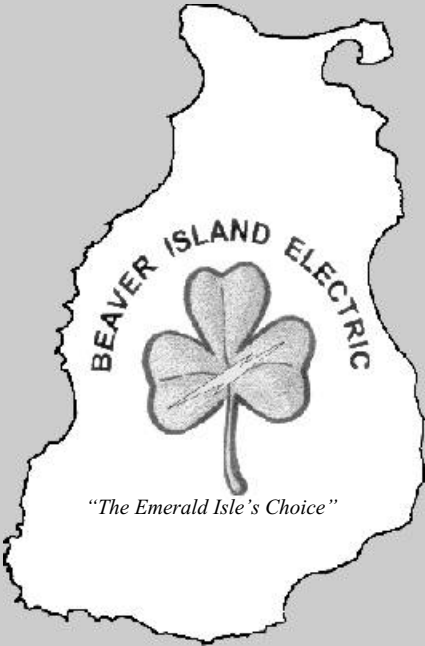
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Beaver Island Thoughts

Normally when we get on the plane or ferry for Beaver Island our hearts lift with joy and anticipation. Beaver Island is our refuge, a place where we can be with good friends and for a moment leave our problems far behind on the mainland. We love Beaver Island when it is full of excitement. We also cherish the quiet times of winter when the heavy snow muffles the Island. Even if our visit is only for a weekend the Island allows us to revitalize and feel invigorated. Sometimes at night one of us will wake. Possibly we are both awake, but we lie silently, alone with our private thoughts. These are the times when we think of our son, Ronald. Certainly it can be painful, but we like to recall his childhood and all the good times we had as a family. We remember his high school years and how well he per-



formed on the varsity wrestling team. We think of all the potential he held in his life. We feel sure he would still work at Haggard's Plumbing and Heating. He would still have many, many good friends and loving sisters and a brother. He would have more than an armful of dotting nephews and nieces. Maybe, he would be engaged to marry, or already be married. Most

of all during these dark, quiet nights we think of all the love we hold in our hearts for Ronald and how very much he is missed. We love you, Ronald, and you will always be with us. And so our thoughts continue...and so our love continues. God bless you, Ronald.

IN MEMORY OF
RONALD HAGGARD
August 18th 1977 - April 27th 2000
John and Phyllis Haggard

Maurice Teeter

Former summer resident Maurice (Mo) Teeter passed away after a battle with cancer on March 18th. After enlisting in the Merchant Marines at age 16, he joined the army and then became a police officer, retiring as a Lieutenant. A fine wood-carver, he enjoyed hunting and fishing. The son of a policeman, he was delighted when his son entered the same profession. He was 76.

To My Friends

Thank you to all the friends who put together "The Basket of Caring." It was so much fun looking forward to opening all of your thoughtful gifts of cheer and inspiration.

Most of all, thank you for keeping us in your prayers. This has been a very difficult time for us, and we have really been blessed by your continued prayers, visits, cards, love, and support.

— Satch and Carol Wierenga

A-1 MASONRY
TOM MATELA

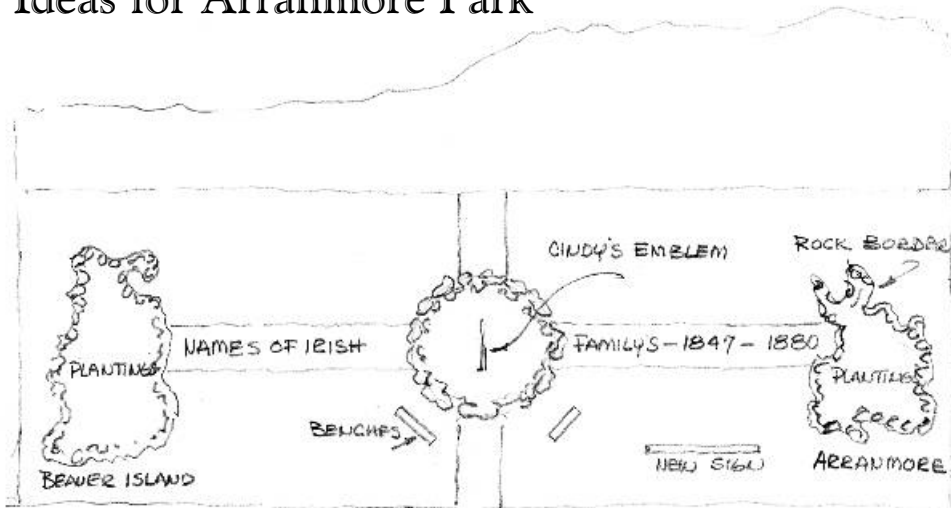
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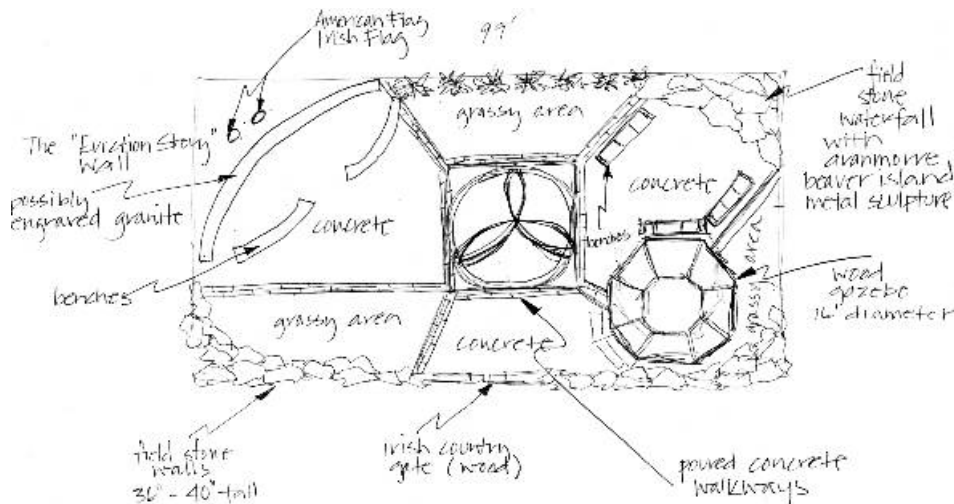
Ideas for Arranmore Park



A year ago at this time, Beaver Islanders were just returning from a wonderful journey to Ireland, where they completed the second half of a Twinning Ceremony with Arranmore.

Following their return, a group began working on ideas for Arranmore

Park to commemorate the linkage between the two islands. If you're interested in the project, the primary contact person is Paul Cole (616) 977-3299, or you can view more sketches and discuss ideas on a new web site: www.arranmorepark.com



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"An Evening with Stephen Sondheim"



Rehearsals are underway for Beaver Island's first dinner theatre event, *An Evening with Stephen Sondheim*, scheduled for May 8th at the Holy Cross Hall.

First there'll be a gourmet buffet at 6:30, prepared by chef Deborah Harwood. The menu will include two main courses, salads, potatoes and rice, and vegetables. Beer and wine will be available. The production will start at 8:00, and at 9:00 Harwood's special "Venetian Dessert Table" will open.

Co-directors for *An Evening with Stephen Sondheim* are Brenda LeFevre and Elaine West. They promise a show packed with the witty lyrics and humorous emotions Broadway audiences have come to expect from a Sondheim pro-

duction. Sondheim wrote a multitude of shows, including *Sweeney Todd*, *A little Night Music*, *Follies*, *Company*, and *A Funny Thing Happened On The Way to The Forum*. His witty lyrics can also be found in *West Side Story* and *Gypsy*.

The Beaver Island dinner theater production is being financed in part by the Beaver Island Music Fund. Opera singer Martha Guth and Harwood established the fund last summer with proceeds from the *Summer Solstice Concert and High Tea* at Deerwood Lodge. The Beaver Island Music Fund, sponsored by the BIHS, is designed to promote musical activities on Beaver Island. Proceeds from the dinner theater event will be donated to the Music Fund.

The cast includes Jayne Bailey, Melissa Bailey, Phil Becker, Bill Detwiler, Shirley Detwiler, Susie Fisher, Bob Hamil, Brenda LeFevre, Chris McMullen and Elaine West. Pinky Harmon will provide the narration. Accompanists are Judi Meister and Mike Scripps. The production crew includes: Krys Lyle - Artistic Coordinator; Bob Hamil - Lighting, Sound and Stage Design; and Shirley Detwiler - Stage Manager.

Seating is limited and reservations a must. Tickets for the dinner theatre are \$30 per person. Checks may be made out to: Brenda LeFevre - Dinner Theatre, and mailed to: Brenda LeFevre, P.O. Box 26, Beaver Island, MI 49782.



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Helen Gallagher

Helen H. Phillips, 87, of Charlevoix, died Saturday, March 13, 2004, at Boulder Park Terrace Nursing Home in Charlevoix. Mass of the Resurrection will be 11:00a.m., Wednesday, March 17, at Saint Mary's Catholic Church in Charlevoix. The Reverend Thomas Neis will officiate and interment will take place in the summer at Saint Mary's Cemetery, Charlevoix.

Helen was born April 17, 1916, on Beaver Island, the daughter of Peter and Vivian (Roddy) Gallagher. She graduated from Charlevoix High School and then received an associate's degree from Catholic Junior College (now Aquinas College), in Grand Rapids. On September 28, 1940, she married Ivan Phillips in Charlevoix, where they made their home. Helen worked as a secretary her entire life, mostly for government agencies in the Charlevoix area. She retired from Charlevoix Area Hospital as assistant administrator.

Helen was a member of Saint Mary's Church, and was active in its choir and the Rosary Altar Society. She was also a member of the VFW Post #1153 Auxiliary in Charlevoix, and a life long Notre Dame fan. Helen will be

remembered by her family as being a wonderful mother.

She is survived by her children, Ann Hanson of Comstock Park, Peter of Charlevoix, and Richard of Lathrup Village; grandchildren, Owen, Amber, and Ethan Phillips; Elizabeth Fulsher, Mark Hanson, and Kevin (Robin) Hanson; great-grandchildren, Jacob and Brodin Fulsher; Kenneth and Nicholas Hanson; brother, Danford "Chic" (Edna) Gallagher of Charlevoix; sister-in-law, Barbara Gallagher of Charlevoix. Her husband Ivan preceded her in death in 1975. She is also preceded in death by her brother James.

Memorial contributions may be made to Saint Mary's Rosary Altar Society or to the Charlevoix Food Pantry. Visitation will be from 6:00p.m., until 8:00p.m., on Tuesday, March 16, at the Winchester Funeral Home in Charlevoix where the Rosary will be recited at 8:00p.m.

Higher Tide Coming Soon

Thanks to all the snow we've had this winter, Lake Michigan is expected to rise by 4" (the down side is, property owners will lose over 2' of beach.)

Holy Week at St. James Mission

Palm Sunday 10:00 A.M.
Maundy Thursday 5:30 P.M.
Good Friday 1:30 P.M.

EASTER SUNDAY
Celebration of the Resurrection
10:00 A.M.

EVERYONE WELCOME

Strang Writers' Agenda

The May 21-23 Strang Writers' Group has set its agenda. On Friday they'll meet at the Emerald Isle Hotel's Conference Room for readings of their works-in-progress. The next morning there'll be a discussion of Strang's motivation and abundant psychological quirks. Weather permitting, a visit to Island sites and a boat tour of other islands are scheduled. Then the group will work on a mission statement, consider such matters as the future of "Strang studies" and the value of fiction for shedding light on character, begin to plan for the sesquicentennial of Strang's death in 2006, and conduct a reading of John Baldwin's play.

Phone (231) 448-2254 to take part.

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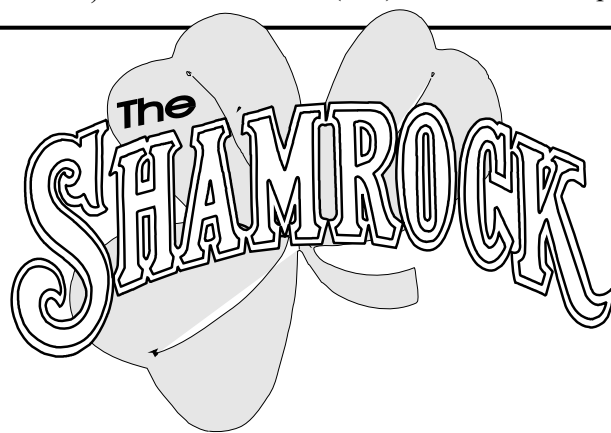
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Letters: To the Board of Directors, BIRHC

The staff of the Beaver Island Rural Health Center wishes to express out appreciation and support of the current health center Board of Directors. It is due to their time, effort and dedication that not only we, but the entire Island community has this wonderful new facility.

It is our belief that despite the vocal disapproval of a few, the Board continues to work for the overall betterment of the Health Center and the community it serves. The staff wholeheartedly supports the decisions of the Board in the past and are extremely confident in their leadership and decisions in the future. A heartfelt thank you to each and everyone board member for their enormous amount of volunteer hours set forth.

We hope the Board will continue working towards their goal to improv-

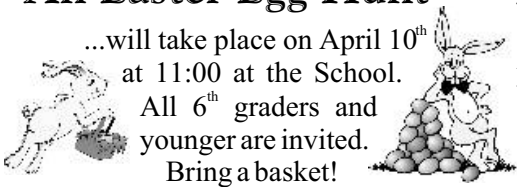
ing health care on the Island. While they have made great strides to date, we know there are many difficult decisions yet to be made and we feel that they are in the best position to make them.

Many years ago there was a sign in the Beachcomber bar that read: "It is but a rare privilege to live on this Island". We would like to add it's also a rare privilege to work in such a beautiful new building, and we take seriously our responsibility of continuing the long tradition of providing quality health care to the residents of Beaver Island under your guidance.

— The staff of the BIRHC

P.S. Thank you Connie for the many many boxes you hauled in your own vehicle from the Township Building to the new facility.

An Easter Egg Hunt



...will take place on April 10th at 11:00 at the School.

All 6th graders and younger are invited.

Bring a basket!

Laffin School

A 5th and 6th grade play will be presented at the Holy Cross Hall on Friday, April 30th. Admission is \$3.00. Come and see tomorrow's future actors and enjoy some good laughs!

Charles Anglin

Charles W. Anglin, 64, of Rockford and Bonner's Landing, passed away at his home on February 21. He was a graduate of Creston High School and attended Davis Tech. Early in his working life he was a sales representative for a pharmaceutical company, assisting several pharmacies in getting started.

Mr. Anglin was a very diversified person with many interests and goals. In 1979 he purchased Executive Air Transport and continued his ownership until 2000, and was also the owner of Game Shooter Limit. He was an avid hunter and arranged hunts for many people, and enjoyed traveling throughout the world to find his game. He was a member of the Safari Club International - Michigan Chapter, and Ducks Unlimited. He is survived by his children; Kelly Anglin-Noordewier and her husband, Jerry of Rockford, Rebecca Anglin-Hondalus and her husband, Joseph of Cedar Springs, and Paul A. Anglin of Rockford; his grandchildren, Kathrine, Rieley, and Kylynn.

A right proper Irish wake will be held at a later date. Those planning an expression of sympathy are asked to consider the charity of their choice.



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Talent Show finds talent ... Everywhere!

This year's talent show featured a variety of acts from the familiar—long-time favorites Sheri Timsak (who followed her daughter Crystal), and Stryder and Joddy Crosswhite, for example—to the unexpected (and unexpectedly good): five capable and creative kids from the Lighthouse School, play-

ing guitars (or creating their own instrumentation) and singing, some singing their own songs. Signe's well-coached Irish Tappers demonstrated considerable poise (Signe herself showed off her talent at song and dance); Mike and Sharon Hurkmans, who provided their kareoki machine, did some of their



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trademark songs; and a scattering of performers new to this annual review (Bailey McDonough, Melissa Peters, Marissa Crandall, and Kristy Bousquet) made this a memorable evening. The crowd favorite? Had to be Jewell Cushman, who, when performing with his mother and sister Brigid and cousins

Briana and Brogan Maudrie, heard the whispering call of nature, stopped the show, and took a quick trip to the woodsy back of the venerable Parish Hall. Either Jewell, or Levi Conner, who wowed everyone with a tap solo, proving they were right to let him into what had been a gender-tilted group.



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Health Center Board Meeting

The BIRHC Board held a well-attended meeting on March 20th. The financial report indicated that left-over construction grant money would support the Health Center's operation for the next year and a half or so. Then there will be a problem because expenses are projected to continuously exceed income for the foreseeable future—despite the progress being made on billing and collecting.

Much of the discussion that followed was intended to get everyone on the same page regarding financial terminology, such as when a delinquent payment becomes a bad debt. Board member Eula Thomas suggested that the Board could better understand the BIRHC's finances if it got more-detailed reports on a monthly basis. She also distributed print-outs showing what Medisoft, the BIRHC's tracking software, could do: simplify accounting; speed up insurance billing; improve collections; and streamline management. This company also provides coding updates on a regular basis on a CD, and allows for all sorts of extra material, such as photographs, to be stored with patient histories. However billing will be outsourced because a reputable firm has offered to do it for 6% of what is collected.

A snazzy new speaker phone for conference calls was unveiled, and it made two missing members part of the meeting, Joe Reed, loud and clear from

Florida, and Anne Glendon in her hotel room overlooking Puget Sound.

After Donna Kubic reported on operations, Don Spencer described the process by which Arlene Brennan was located and hired (and mentioned that her contacts had donated about \$75,000 worth of goods and services)—her references were impeccable—and then Arlene summarized her tenure. Donna pointed out that over the past four years patient loads increased to 2,603 in 2002 and then dropped to 2,369 last year—about 200/month. This year 952 patients have been seen in the first 5 months, with an increase expected in the summer. Those with no insurance have been about 11%. Somewhat fewer have had insurance with companies we were not prepared to bill, which will now be billed by the outsource. Seventy percent of patients are residents, the rest split between visitors and seasonal. The common complaints have been: #1 hypertension; #2 high cholesterol; #3 upper respiratory; and #4 allergies. More than half the visits involved blood draws.

Arlene said that a good team was now in place, and that the move had been accomplished satisfactorily. Great strides have been made with accounts receivables, coding, improving the data base, creating meaningful reports, and understanding procedures. A method for continuously working on a quality improve-

ment plan is being investigated.

Seventy of the 230 surveys have now been returned. It was suggested that the survey might be refined and circulated every three years.

Grants are being sought for more defibrillators; the Boat Company is also planning to add one to the *Emerald Isle*.

The running-out of propane, which occurred early in March, was explained. GLE had only filled two of the four 1,000-gallon tanks connected to the BIRHC line. Some propane was consumed during construction, for which \$1,800 will be backbilled. Then the doors were kept open during the move-in. And it was only recently that the nighttime temperature was lowered from 65° to 60°.

At the end of the meeting, two matters drew interest. Since Arlene's expertise so far transcends that of the Board, her involvement was extended to facilitate the detransition; a special donation arrived to cover her reduced rate for 3-day/month availability over the next three or four months, so that as questions come up, she'll be ready to provide answers.

The second matter involved a glitch in construction: some of the lines required by Dr. White were not run. This unfortunate breakdown in communication was bemoaned, and the audience was assured that Dr. White would bear no extra expense.

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One Hundred Years Ago

April 7, 1904 Local News: "St James Special to the Grand Rapids Herald - Dan J. Bonner, a prominent farmer of this place, was returning from Corinne a few days ago, when his wagon and load of hay and feed broke through the ice. Bonner then cut his team loose and started for shore leading the horses. Soon he and the horses went through. Bonner succeeded in getting himself out, but was compelled to abandon the team."

"Advices from Beaver Island state that Mrs. Gibson, who for more than forty years has kept the Gibson House at St. James, is very ill with but slight chance of recovery. There are very many people in Northern Michigan and elsewhere, who have enjoyed her kindness and bounteous hospitality, who will learn of her illness with profound regret. This good, motherly old lady's life has been a blessing and benediction. We sincerely hope she will recover, but if she does not, she will long be remembered by a host of friends."

April 14, 1904 Marine News: "Engineer Sherman began fitting out the steamer *Beaver* Monday morning, and it is hoped to make a trip to the Beavers within a week."

April 21, 1904 Beaver Island News: "The B. I. L. Co have again resumed operations - the too-too sounds natural."

"The Fisherman's union have their charter with membership of sixty-two."

"Jas. Donlevy sustained a serious accident from the kick of a horse. The blow was received below the knee on his left leg."

"Officers of Peaine Township elected Monday as follows: Supervisor, W. D. Gallagher; Clerk, Phil C. Gallagher; Treasurer, Dan P. Boyle; Highway commissioner, Frances McCafferty; Justice of the Peace, Dan T. Gallagher. A lively contest resulted."

"Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Gill of Harbor springs and William Gibson of Petoskey, came over on the ice last week on account of the serious illness of Mrs. Julia Gibson. Mrs. Gibson's remarkable vitality overcame the disease and at last report she is very much improved. Messrs. Gill and Gibson returned leaving Mrs. Gill with her mother. Miss Ida Gibson, who was nearly overcome by the long vigil, is also much better."

"The female population of Beaver Island is rapidly increasing. A fine girl

arrived at the homes of each of the following families within 12 hours of each other during the two days preceding Easter: Mr. and Mrs. Albert Poole, Mr. and Mrs. Raymond McDonald, and Mr. and Mrs. Roy Enkil. Mothers and babies are all doing nicely."

"Charlie Roddy had the misfortune to dislocate his thumb last Monday. Prompt reduction made Charley a happy boy once more."

"Hon. D. T. Gallagher of Peaine Township met with an accident at his barn by falling from the loft to the floor beneath, the result being a fractured collarbone."

"An Easter program given by the Beaver Island Union Sunday School Sunday evening was attended by a good sized audience."

"Daniel Bonner lost his team through the ice off Lansing Shoals last Saturday while returning with a load of hay." "Clear water is seen up as far as Sand Bay."

April 28, 1904 Local News: "Rev. Father Zugelder, of St. James was a passenger over on the *Beaver* Monday, on his way to Grand Rapids."

"The steamer *Beaver* took nearly a full load of seed peas to Beaver

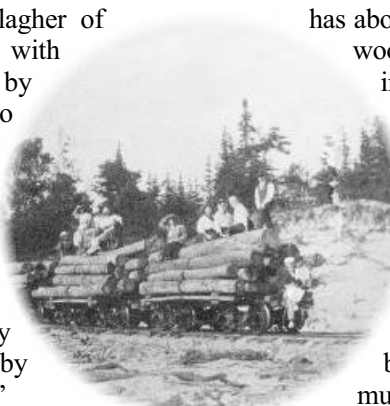
Island Wednesday."

"Prof. Cox, the Chicago Weatherman, and family will spend two months on Beaver Island the coming summer, and while there will decide on the points for display stations."

"Among the passengers from St. James on the *Beaver's* first trip were Supervisor W. J. Gallagher and Anthony Malloy."

"The B. I. Lumber Co. at St. James, has about two million feet of hardwood lumber on the dock waiting for shipment, and a large cut is yet to come. It is indeed a strange sight for an old settler who visits Beaver Island - a fine looking locomotive coming in with a train-load of logs. There is a large quantity of fine hardwood timber on Beaver Island, and much on adjoining islands, that will keep the St. James saw mill at work many years to come."

Marine News: "The steamer *Beaver* made her first trip to Beaver Island Saturday, reaching the old McCann dock at 'the point'. She went again Monday and Wednesday, and will continue on the old schedule. Capt. E. S. Small took her over Saturday in the absence of Capt. Campbell and Capt. George Weaver made the run Monday." -Joyce Bartels



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BITA Proposed Application

A Public Notice from BITA: Proposed State Application for Capital and Operating Assistance:

All citizens are advised that the Beaver Island Transportation Authority has prepared an application for State of Michigan financial assistance for Fiscal Year 2005, as required under Act 51 of the public Acts of 1951, as amended.

The Beaver Island Transportation Authority is requesting \$516,175.00 at an estimated cost of \$455,175.00 capital, and \$61,000.00 operating assistance.

The proposed application is on file at the Beaver Island Transportation Authority, 26195 Main Street, Beaver Island, Michigan, and may be reviewed during a 30-day period ending April 9, 2004, between the hours of 9:00 am and 12:00 pm.

Written comments are invited on the application. Alternatively, any citizen may request in writing that a formal hearing be held concerning the social, economic, and environmental effects of these proposals. Written comments or requests must be received on or before April 9, 2004. Should a hearing be requested, notice of the scheduled date, time, and location will be provided at least 10 days in advance.

Submittals should be mailed to Beaver Island Transportation Authority, Post Office Box 426, Beaver Island, Michigan 49782.

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School Board Candidates

Three seats are up for election at the June 14th, 2004 Annual School Election.

Any individual interested in running for the office of Beaver Island Community School Board of Education will need to submit by 4:00 p.m. on Monday, April 12, 2004, a completed Nominating Petition (or \$100.00) and an Affidavit of Identity.

Forms are available at the school office (448-2744) during regular business hours.

The Newest Anderson

Adam and Jessica Anderson announce the birth of their son Gage Keehn Anderson. Born March 4th, 2004 in Chicago at 8.5 lbs. & 21 inches. The proud grandparents are Sheldon & Pat Anderson of Beaver Island and Northbrook, and Dennis Keehn of Beaver Island. He's a keeper!

News from the MLUI

Water policy expert Andy Guy reports that the newly discovered leak in Lake Michigan is a result of aggressive groundwater pumping that is causing water from the big lake to flow back into underground aquifers—the exact reverse of what is supposed to happen. Andy's analysis can be viewed online at www.mlui.org

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Gregory Larson, Designer/Builder



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telephone: (814) 643 5053

Huntingdon, Pennsylvania 16652
e-mail: greglarson@pennswoods.net



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**

LOG CABIN FOR SALE BY OWNERS



Charming, small log home located on 2.1 acres in the quiet, country area of Beaver Island. Cozy and comfortable throughout the seasons, this 1½ story home was built in 1988 with whole Island logs hand-scribed to fit without chinking. Features a covered front porch with gardens, a spacious back deck, many natural views and great wildlife watching. The property also has an insulated, framed barn with room for cars, boats and/or a workshop. Property Value: \$175,000.00

For Sale by Owners Jon & Suzy Bonadeo
Box 194, Beaver Island, MI
(231) 448-2489

27190 Sloptown Road, Beaver Island Michigan



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

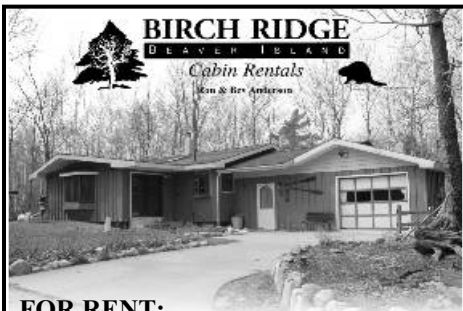


FOR RENT THIS SUMMER: Booking fast. Secluded Beautiful Chalet on 10 acres with 360 Feet of sandy private Lake Michigan Beach on Sand Bay. 2 bedroom (including loft), one bath, Great Room with two sofa sleepers. Fabulous views of the Lake. Large decks. Sleeps 7. Across from state land and hiking trails.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



WATERFRONT COTTAGE FOR RENT:

Fabulous sunset view. Quiet, wooded location near Indian Point (NW side). One BR and loft. Sleeps four max. Everything you need is there! Sorry, no smoking or pets. \$650/week in season. Off season available. dtn@i2k.com or (616) 396.6468 or (616) 791.8222



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



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

COTTAGE SITE: Vacant wooded lot in Port St. James. Power, perked, ready for building. Call owner (269) 857-6084



DONEGAL BAY HOUSE FOR RENT:

Nice wooded location. Newly built. Two bedrooms. New kitchen. Summer: \$675. Off-season \$425. (734) 449-8711 or nprawat@yahoo.com



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. 1½ 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

Real Estate, For Sale:

AIRPLANE HANGER - For Sale. Located at Welke's Airport. Brand new, never used. 42' wide x 33' deep. 40' overhead electric bi-fold door. Cement floor. Electric and phone at site. Room on lot for second hanger. \$65,000. Call (231) 448-2571 evenings.

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

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

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

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

PARCEL ON GARDEN ISLAND HARBOR FOR SALE - 1000+ feet of Lake Michigan / Indian Harbor lake frontage on Garden Island. One of a kind property. 8 acres. Land Contract Terms. \$195,000. Contact Jayson Welser, Box 357, Grayling Michigan 49738. (989) 619-2800. jaysonwelser@hotmail.com

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

Real Estate Wanted:

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

Real Estate, For Rent:

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).



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

House is also for sale for \$325,000



BEAUTIFUL 3 BEDROOM HOME FOR SALE: (or 2 BR + den)

On the shores of Lake Michigan. Featuring 115 feet of frontage property, unspoiled panoramic views, and countless upgrades.

See www.usrnull.com/house for many photos and details, or call (231) 448-2219 / cell (231) 409-9442



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)



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



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 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

CEDAR COTTAGE - on a bluff with view of harbor and mainland. 1/4 mile south of Catholic Church. 2 BRs, 1dbl. bed, 2 single;. TV/VCR, grill, complete kitchen, washer. No pets. \$580/wk. (734) 769-7565 (day), (734) 475-6178 (evenings). mschroer@a2mich.com

WATERFRONT COTTAGE - On the east side. Available by the week or weekend. One BR, full kitchen and bath. Enjoy the water and the woods, year round. Off-season rates. Complete privacy. (231) 448-2907.

BEACHFRONT HOME FOR RENT - Beaver Sands, Lake Michigan. Fully furnished. (810) 227-2366

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

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

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. Dana Luscombe evenings (248) 546-2701. dpluscombe@msn.com

COMMERCIAL BUILDING ON MAIN STREET - Prime retail or office. References, deposit and lease required. Contact John Johnson at (616) 842-8214 or (231) 448-2533 or e-mail Cloud9@chartermi.net

Cars, Trucks, Boats, and Planes:

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

Services:

STORAGE UNITS - You lock it, you leave it! Emerald Isle Storage. (231) 448-2577.



LAKEFRONT HOME FOR SALE:

210 feet of Lake Geneserath's pristine sandy beach with boat, motor, and new dock. Manicured lawn and flower beds 24x36 garage with heated shop. Beautiful home with a three season room to enjoy the lake. Home is furnished and all appliances stay except freezer. Price is \$325,000 and includes new roof. For more information, please call Bruce and Jean: (231) 448-2856



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