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On the back cover: Mike Collins and Bud Martin on the ice

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Beaver Beacon

the Island Monthly since 1955

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The Rambler in front of McCann's Dock (left) and Beetles (right)

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4. NEWS FROM THE TOWNSHIPS

St. James Township

The Road Commission asked for a letter agreeing to give it a few acres next to the Transfer Station on which to build a new garage if it receives some "economic stimulus" funds, as it anticipates. At the same time it said it cannot remove the snow it pushes to the edge of the road—particularly on Main Street. The parking problem at the Community Center would be alleviated, though, if people abandoned the summer's angle parking, and if the staff parked alongside or behind.

The Board voted to release Ed Welter from the tower lease covering the Donegal Bay tower he has given to the township. An independent internet installer operating on the mainland has begun discussions to extend broadband service here.

Three people inquired about using the former Chamber of Commerce building, but the Board decided to dedicate it to Municipal Marina uses.

The Municipal Airport made an offer of \$18,000 to purchase five contiguous acres at its north border, which was appraised at \$20,000. A deal was approved at \$19,000, pending acceptance by Peaine.

The Waste Management Committee accepted the resignation of John McNeil from the Transfer Station staff, and elevated Tim Myers to his position. A third (part-time) employee will be added later. McNeil had been paid an extra \$2,500 to send out monthly bills

(~40 in winter, ~80 in summer); this duty will soon be subcontracted to someone else.

The Board of Review will be held on March 9 from 9:00-12:00 and 1:00-4:00. and on March 10 from 9:00-12:00 and 6:00-9:00.

The Board unanimously voted to decline the 3\$ CoL raise included in the budget, because of our uncertain economy.

Connie Wojan informed the Board of the memo of understanding being perfected between the BIRHC and Northern Michigan Hospital, saying that a task force would prioritize the many areas in which NMH might be of help to us. (See page 34.)

The St. James Township annual meeting will be March 28th at 2:00 p.m.

Peaine Township

Twenty-three citizens attended the February Peaine Town Meeting, which began with an apology from the supervisor for two snafus concerning recent vacancies. He had asked for specific information about every committee, its members, and their terms and compensation, but little had been forthcoming. Anecdotal information had been passed along, but it proved to be less than accurate with respect to the Library Board, and it was only by carefully reading the minutes of the last three years that he learned there was no vacancy.

Supervisor Gallagher had to



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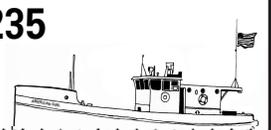
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explain, and explain again, the sequence of events leading to the eventual appointment of Jean Kinsley to the Board of Review—aided by statements from Tina Morgan, who had been appointed first but could not accept because she had not submitted an application.

Another bit of confusion concerned the Transfer Station Committee, which it seemed had been facilitated by the previous supervisor, who had not been a member. The need for another member has now been posted, and Gallagher planned to speak with the applicants soon. He added that while some degree of continuity on the various committees is necessary, a degree of changeover would allow benefits to be reaped from the continuing influx of new people to Beaver Island, who bring with them new talents and experience.

Cathy Jones' resume was circulated with the packets of information passed out by the deputy, and she was unanimously appointed to fill out Paul Welke's term on the Planning Commission, a post for which she was the only applicant.

The change at the Transfer Station was explained, and the supervisor promised a quick posting for the part-time third operator for the summer. An applicant for the position of 'billing clerk' could not be approved because the position had not yet been posted; it will be soon.

The Charlevoix County Master

Plan was criticized by the audience, particularly the maps. Errors locating wetlands were especially egregious, it was said, because control of this designation is being shunted about and seems headed away from local administrators. Designating scenic beauty roads was another example of a task the audience felt should remain with the townships.

There was a discussion of the proper size for the emergency generators which might be purchased for the Town Hall and the East Side Fire Station. Don Spencer reported that the Fire Station's complete function requires 40 kw, but that the 18½ kw generator proposed would be able to provide for lights, outlets, water, heat, kitchen appliances, and some unspecified plug-in medical equipment. The electrician who sets up these generators could modify the buildings' circuitry and add switches so power could be rerouted as needed, but some in the audience suggested this could create difficulties when time was of the essence, and advocated buying larger generators instead. Research will continue, and this will become part of our emergency plan.

The prospect of a new County Road Commission garage was discussed, a possibility that has been bandied about for years but which may come into being now as a byproduct of the federal stimulus plan. The CCRC has a 66'-wide strip on the beach in front of

continued on page 6.

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6. *News from the Townships, from page 5.*
Dalwhinnie, which might be included with the existing garage in a trade for adequate space for a new building next to the Transfer Station. The Board was urged to make sure enough land went to the CCRC.

At a CCRC meeting to discuss priorities for using funds raised by the new county road millage, Pete LoDico presented a list of several paving needs on Beaver Island.

Purchase of five acres at the north end of the Municipal Airport for

\$19,000 was approved.

The Board declined to accept the CoL increase provided by the budget because of the uncertainty of township revenue.

March 11th was set for working on the budget, with a public meeting to discuss and modify or approve to be held at 11:00 a.m on March 21st. Seven-page worksheets were distributed showing the last two budgets and the amounts actually raised and spent, with space for suggesting up or down changes for the next budget.

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CORNERED BEEF

The AmVets Post #46 Ladies Auxiliary will raffle off a Corned Beef Dinner on March 13, including everything needed for a good old-fashioned Irish boiled corned beef dinner, as well as an American flag and an Irish flag. Tickets will be sold from 5:00 to 7:00 at the Shamrock, Beachcomber, and Donegal Danny's Pub, with the drawing at 7:00 at the Shamrock. Proceeds will be used to help the Auxiliary sponsor its community projects.



2009 BEAVER ISLAND CALENDAR OF EVENTS

7.

March 14 - **St. Patrick's Day Games**
March 21 - **Peaine Township Annual Meeting** 11:00 a.m.
March 28 - **St. James Township Annual Meeting** 2:00 p.m.
April 11 - **Easter Egg Scramble** and visits with the **Easter Bunny**. The Egg Scramble will be held in the Community School gym at 1:00 pm; the bunny will be in the lobby. At 2:00 the AmVets will sponsor a **free children's matinee movie**, and a \$1.00 ticket for a free snack.

April 25 - **Beaver Island Citizen of the Year** at the Lodge. Nomination Deadline for Citizen of the year is April 4th.
May 23 - Formal Dedication of the New School 11:00 a.m.
June 26-28 - **Beaver Island Air Show** featuring a B-25
July 13 - **Beaver Island Association Annual Meeting** 7:30 Peaine Hall
July 16-18 - **Beaver Island Music Festival** - www.bimf.net
July 20-25 - **Museum Week 2009:**

Music on the Porch; Three-day Art Show; see the Protar Home; learn about shipwrecks; and meet George Anthony and hear about his new book *The Elders Speak*
July 30-August 2 - **Baroque on Beaver!** - A Festival of Classical Music
August 1 - **Meet the Artists** at Livingstone Studio 12-5
August 7-8 - **Homecoming**
September 5 - **Run Beaver Island Marathon** and Half Marathon
October 3 - **The Bite & Island Boodle**

GARY VOOGT NAMED NCBA PRESIDENT

Beaver Island's engineer, Gary Voogt of Marne, has been elected president of the National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA) at NCBA's board of directors' meeting during the 2009 Cattle Industry Annual Convention in Phoenix. "I'm thrilled to be serving my industry and fellow cattle producers," Voogt said. "In the coming year, I will work to increase membership, expand trade, and ensure that legislation and regulations from Washington, D.C. aren't overly burdensome or harmful to our members."

Voogt is a past president of the Michigan Cattlemen's Association, where he has been a member for 35 years. He with his family have been honored as both Member of the Year and Purebred Breeder of the Year by MCA. He also is past chairman of the Michigan Beef Industry Commission, where he has been a director for 18 years. He received a Distinguished Service Award from MSU in 2001.

Voogt has represented Michigan since 1989 within NCBA. "I got involved as a volunteer leader to help strengthen our industry," Voogt explained. "With fewer Americans involved in production agriculture these days, it is more important than ever that our industry speak with a unified voice."

Voogt is a graduate of Michigan Technological University in Houghton, Mich. with a B.S. degree in Civil Engineering. He and his wife Shirley own and operate a registered Angus family farm in West Michigan.

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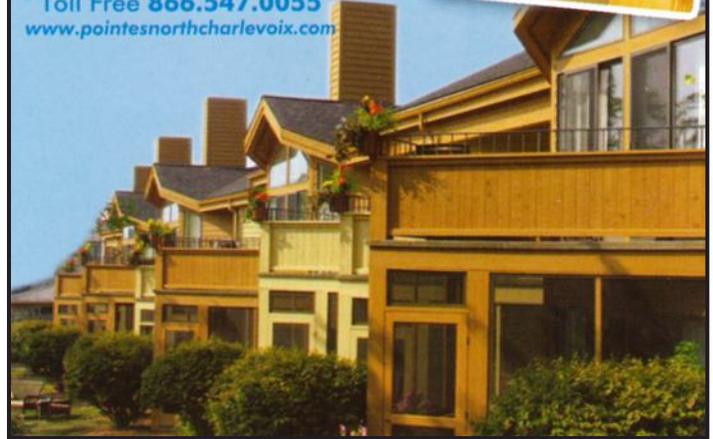
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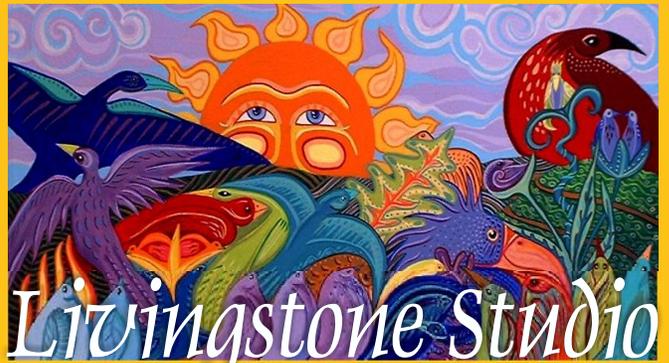
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A BUSY MONTH FOR THE ISLANDERS INCLUDES ONE LEAGUE TITLE

by Frank Solle



Alex battles Betsy



B lets fly



Matthew shoots

After seemingly spinning their wheels for most of this winter's sporting seasons, the *Islanders* boys and girls basketball teams went into overdrive during February, facing rival Mackinac Island four times each, Hannahville twice, and, for the girls, a single game against Ojibwe Charter School. Plus, Grand Marais was still trying to get here from the northern reaches of the Upper Peninsula as this issue goes to press, while the boys are waiting for the second visit in as many years from a traveling, pick-up team from Petoskey High

School.

Unfortunately, while each team was equally busy, the results weren't equally as positive. While the *Lady Islanders* zipped through the month without a loss, the boys struggled through February without a win, unless you count a pair of forfeits by Ojibwe which was unable to field a team to bring here.

Next and last up for the teams is a weekend trip to Hannahville for the annual Northern Lights League tournaments on Mar. 6-7. This will be the second year of this event, but the first entry

for the boys who last year opted for a trip to the state district tournament instead.

The girls tournament should be a nail-biter as the *Islanders*, Hannahville, and Mackinac present three evenly-matched teams to battle for the tourney title. The boys event should come down to a struggle between Hannahville and Mackinac as Hannahville proved to be the lone league opponent to best the *Lakers* in their second Saturday game of the season as the *Lakers* claimed a repeat NLL championship.

continued on page 10.



Olivia finds an opening



Billy pops one



Patrick pops one



Maeve works hard



Deven breaks free



Heather wins the tip



Jenna drives hard

Busy Month for Islanders, from page 9. Reserving a victory

With the young Ojibwe school still struggling to find itself in the league, *Lady Islanders* coach Mike Myers looked to his non-starters to take care of business against the *Eagles*. And they did quite easily, topping the young visitors 63-25.

Turning in a dominant performance for the *Islanders* was sophomore Claire Kenwabikise, who poured in a game- and career-high 29 points. Freshman Olivia Schwartzfisher contributed 16, also a career best effort. Rounding out

the *Islanders* scoring were Jenna Battle with eight, Brogan Maudrie and Jenna Butler with four each, and Kristy Bousquet with two.

Slipping past Mac

Things didn't go quite as easily for the *Islanders* during their trip to Mackinac Island, but the results were just as good. The *Lady Islanders* claimed a pair of exciting wins, besting the *Lakers* 38-35 Friday and 34-27 Saturday. "They were two well-played ball games," said coach Myers. "It was a confidence builder for our girls to hang on and win two close battles."

Leading the charge on Friday were juniors Briana Maudrie with 15 points, and Alex Kuligoski with nine. Heather McDonough added six, with Butler and Schwartzfisher each scoring four.

The *Islanders* found a little more breathing room on Saturday as Schwartzfisher led a balanced offensive attack with 10 points. McDonough netted eight, Maudrie and Kuligoski six apiece, while Deven Cook added four.

Meanwhile, the boys fell victim to a high-scoring *Lakers* team in dropping the Friday contest 72-53 and the Saturday follow-up 69-51.



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Cameron shoots



Derek up for two



Doug darts in



Bryan in the lane

Junior Derek McDonough hit for 16 points on Friday to lead the *Islanders*. Patrick Cull added 13 points and 12 rebounds, while Bryan Timsak added 11 points. Cameron LaVasseur chipped in eight, Billy Lemmink three, and Doug Campbell two to round out the scoring.

Islanders coach Dan Martell turned to his bench players for a good part of the Saturday game and freshman Lemmink responded with a solid 12-point performance. Timsak also netted 12 with LaVasseur adding 10. Cull scored seven with McDonough and Campbell each scoring four.

Holding off Hannahville

The *Soaring Eagles* girls team soared into the *Islanders* aerie afloat in first place in the league breezes. They limped home, however, bruised, battered, and in a first-place tie with the *Lady Islanders* after suffering their first NLL loss of the year on Friday, 36-28. Then, after appearing to bounce back on Saturday, scoring the first two points of the second half of the morning game to push their lead to 11 points, the *Islanders* increased their defensive effort and held the *Eagles* scoreless until the game's final 32 seconds, while pouring

in 22 unanswered points for a wild 35-26 comeback victory.

Eight *Islanders* shared scoring roles in the Friday win, led by nine from senior Maeve Green. Kuligoski and Schwartzfisher each netted six, while Briana Maudrie and Kenwabikise each added four. Cook collected three, with McDonough and Bousquet each scoring a pair.

The senior duo of Cook and McDonough led the comeback, scoring 13 and 10, respectively. Green finished with seven, Schwartzfisher four and Kenwabikise one. *continued on page 12.*

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12. **Busy Month for Islanders**, from page 11.

"I can't explain that," said Hannahville coach Tom Ohman after Saturday's turnaround. "Beaver Island changed the pace of the game in the third quarter and threw us out of whack."

It was a case of vise-versa for the boys as the *Eagles* handled the *Islanders* in convincing style, winning Friday 64-34 and on Saturday 64-49. "Hannahville is talented, they're athletic, they're taller than us and faster than us," said *Islanders* coach Dan Martell in praise of the *Eagles*. "All that puts us at a large disadvantage. They're also a lot deeper off the bench than we are."

Cameron LaVasseur had one of his best weekends of play, leading the *Islanders* on Friday with 10 points and on Saturday with 15. Timsak finished with nine, Cull seven, and both McDonough and Campbell added four apiece on Friday.

Lady Islanders claim title

With the previous weekend's sweep of Hannahville, the NLL season title was there for the *Lady Islanders* taking. All they had to do was best the Mackinac Island *Lakers* for the third straight time this season – one of sport's biggest challenges.

But the *Islanders* were up to the task, and then some, outscoring the *Lakers* 12-4 over the first quarter and never looking back on their way to a championship-clinching 44-25 win. Nine of the 11 team members found the hoop as the *Islanders* shut down the *Lakers* with superior shooting and suffocating defense. The *Islanders* were up 32-14 going into the final quarter.

"We did a little better than last time

we played them," said Myers, referring to the pair of close games at Mackinac. Asked what the secret was, Myers said it was no secret. "It's the whole team," he relied. "It's not just the starters. We've got a ball team here."

Kuligoski led the *Islanders* scoring barrage with 16 points. Kenwabikise added eight, while Green, McDonough, and Briana Maudrie all netted four. Four players finished with a pair of points, including Butler, Cook, Schwartzfisher, and Bousquet.

The Saturday girls game was called due to an incoming weather system. The *Lakers* loaded up and flew home while they still could. Without an opponent,



Pep talk

the *Islanders* split into two squads for a scrimmage, with one side coached by Myers and the other led by volunteers Dan Burton and Diane McDonough. In a tribute to the girls' effort, all the fans stayed to cheer them on.

The *Lady Islanders* finished the season 9-1 in NLL games, figuring in two forfeits by Grand Marais and one by Ojibwe, and 12-3 overall.

In last year's inaugural girls' season the *Islanders* finished tied for first with

Paradise.

The *Lakers* won both the boys games on the strength of their shooting. In Friday's 73-43 win they connected on 48% of their shots, hitting a blistering 56% over the first half. Cull led the *Islanders* with a solid 14-point effort, followed by Timsak with 10. McDonough finished with six, Lemmink five, and both LaVasseur and Campbell with four apiece.

Saturday's game took a strong *Islanders* turn through the first half of play as the Green and White held a 24-22 lead at intermission. But when Mackinac switched to a tough pressing defense in the third quarter the tables turned hard as the *Lakers* sailed off on a 26-0 run over the period to take a 48-24 doubling into the final eight minutes.

The *Islanders* fought back hard over the final quarter, closing the final gap to 52-43. Timsak led the team with 10 points with Campbell and LaVasseur each adding eight. Cull chipped in six, Lemmink five, McDonough four, and freshman Michael McCafferty two.

"We played good, tough, man-to-man defense in the first half, and took it to them," said coach Martell. "We knew the press was coming in the second half, but we just didn't respond to it like we did at Mackinac."

The two losses drop the *Islanders* to 5-5 in NLL play with two forfeits from each Ojibwe and Grand Marais. The finish the season overall at 5-11. Regular scrimmages with the Lighthouse School are hoped for next year.

SIX AND TWO: NOT BAD FOR BICS

The Geniuses

On January 31st the Beaver Island quiz team (seniors Caitlin Boyle, Patrick Cull, Maeve Green, and juniors Kristy Bousquet and Alex Kuligoski) was one of 14 from seven different schools participating in the third of five invitational dates in the Char-Em ISD Quiz Bowl League at North Central Michigan College. Because of the expense and the conflict with other sports, our team is usually limited to a single match a year, and consequently can't develop much familiarity or confidence. But we did okay; in a few of the matches we outscored the other team by as much as 100 points.

In the season's most competitive match yet, Petoskey took the overall top spot and Charlevoix won the Class C-D division championship. 'Quiz Bowl' is an academic competition in which four-member teams use buzzer systems in a Jeopardy-like contest. The questions are from many categories of high school subject areas: math, literature, grammar, biology, chemistry, and mythology, as well as sports and general knowledge. This year over 80 students took part.

The 14 teams played seven round-robin games to determine final placement in the championship round. Petoskey A and Petoskey C, with identical 6-1 records, faced off for the grand

championship title. Charlevoix, (6-1) played Petoskey B (5-2). Seedings for the final round were determined by won-loss record with total score serving as the tie breaker.

In the finals Petoskey A defeated the Petoskey C team 210 to 155 to take grand champion honors. Charlevoix A lost to Petoskey B 115-170 in the consolation final round. Charlevoix A took the Class C-D division championship with an overall 6-2 record. Beaver Island's team was the highest placing Class D school, defeating Northwest Academy A 165-100 in the final round to place 5th overall with a 6-2 record. They hope to compete at the State Tournament.



Front row: Olivia Schwartzfisher, Deven Cook, Maeve Green, Heather McDonough, Jenna Battle
 Back row: Brogan Maudrie, Jenna Butler, Claire Kenwabikisie, Alex Kuligoski, Kristy Bousquet, Briana Maudrie, coach Myers



Front row: Ron Marsh, McCauley Connaghan, Billy Lemmink, Matthew Cull
 Back row: coach Dan Martell, Patrick Cull, Doug Campbell, Derek McDonough, Bryan Timsak, Cameron LaVasseur



NEW B.I.C.S. OPEN FOR BUSINESS 15.

by Frank Solle

Even though we all watched this project develop from groundbreaking through demolition of the old structure, through the rising of the new walls and shingling of the new roof, now that the addition and remodeling of the Beaver Island Community School is finished, for the most part on the inside anyway, and the students, faculty, and staff have returned, it's just had to believe it's real, it's here, and it's ours.

"It's unbelievable," said Principal/Superintendent Kitty McNamara, comfortably ensconced in her new, modern, spacious office. "Really."

But McNamara wasn't alone in her assessment of the roomy, well-lit, wonderful facility. Every student or group of students asked about the new building echoed those sentiments. "Awesome!," shouted a group of fifth and sixth graders. And the appraisals kept flowing: "I like the new lockers," said one. "I like being able to do gym again," shouted another. "And the huge computers," chirped in a third, adding, "they're bigger than my TV!" And if this group could give the school its own grade? "A," "A+" "Off the charts," "Triple, triple plus!!!"

I think you get the idea.

Following a weekend of hauling classroom supplies from the borrowed facility at CMU, thanks to Ernie Martin's work crew, the 5-12 teachers spent Monday, February 16, unpacking, putting away, and prepping for the first day in the new building the next morning, as well as their own amount of time wandering around soaking it all in. As McNamara stated, "I think most of the staff is still looking around and coming to grips with the idea this is real. It takes a while to get used to it."

Once the students had filed in the first morning, had eaten some breakfast and walked some laps in the gym, they gathered on the bleachers for a welcome announcement and a briefing of rules and responsibilities, ready to establish a brand-new routine in a brand-new school. "This space, this school, is yours," McNamara told the students. "The voters and the community built this for you, not for the administration, not for the teachers, but for you, because they wanted you to get the

best education you possibly can. Now the responsibility to maintain this and do well in your studies is yours."

Students were then sent to their respective areas to get settled in before teacher-led tours were conducted and classes begun. "Our new classroom is so nice," said eighth-grader Marissa Crandall. "I like how big it is and all the colors," seventh-grader Erin Boyle said. "There's a lot more space," added freshman Michael McCafferty, "and the new computers are great." "I like that the high school kids are all together and separated from the younger kids," freshman Olivia Schwartzfisher chimed in. "The new rooms are very nice."

Another aspect of the return to school in town was pointed out by sophomore Brontae Lemmink as she made the short walk from home to school. "There's no more bus ride. I get to sleep in an extra 15 minutes. It's not too much, but I'll take it."

Once again having the students being part of her day is a big plus for McNamara, as she told the student body during the morning assembly, "I'm thrilled to see you all back here. I've really missed that. It was pretty boring in my office without any kids around. I'm really glad to have you here, and ready to dig in and finish the rest of our school year."

Looking around as the students found their way to the new lockers, the new classrooms, the new multi-purpose areas, McNamara pointed out the value of the new spaciousness. "Look at the high school hallway, just having it a little bit wider and the lockers a bit more spread out, everything is more calm."

The extra space also translates into many areas for extra needs. "It's great having all the space for everybody. Everyone can be doing their own thing and not be interfering with anyone else. That was one of the biggest problems with the old building, everybody was just on top of everybody else all the time," she said. "Now there's room when you need to have a private meeting. We have the conference room and all the small-group rooms."

While this year's seniors will only
continued on page 16.



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New School, continued from page 15. have a few months in the new building before graduation, they like what they see as well. "I'm very impressed," said Maeve Green. "It's just really cool."

"The classrooms are very nice," added fellow senior Patrick Cull. "It will be nice not to have to walk through other classrooms like we did at CMU. Not that we didn't really appreciate CMU being there for us."

In addition to meeting the needs of the students and the staff, the new facility will meet future needs of the community. "We now have a lot of potential for adult education, GED studies, open computer nights, whatever," McNamara said. "When we have our wireless internet in the building there will be even more opportunity. There are people on the Island doing online college work,





they could meet here for group time.

“Once we get settled in and people start to realize what space we have available, we’ll have a lot more ideas,” she added of the increased value of the new facility to the whole community. “Our community is getting so many things,” McNamara pointed out, speaking of community. “The Library, the Community Center, the Health Center, CMU, now this, and hopefully soon more high-speed internet will become available. It’s really an attractive community.”

Once spring arrives and the snow departs, the outside work at the school can be completed, including the playground to the west of the elementary wing, along with replacing the former paved play area adjacent to the building. A parking lot will be completed where the old playground was. Land-



The New School Store

scaping around the building as well as painting the building will also be completed then.

“Seeing everyone walking in and smiling has been great,” McNamara said.

The elementary students, who have been attending classes at the Gregg Fellowship Center, moved into the new school a week later on February 24th, making the transition complete.

The public was then given a tour on Sunday, March 1st, and the hundred and fifty who came were impressed. There will be opportunities to walk through the new facility on additional Sundays in March; those interested should contact the school for times and dates.

An official dedication ceremony for the new school will be held on May 23rd at 11:00 am.



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18. ON THIS DATE

Ten Years Ago The *Beacon* celebrated the retirement of Sister Marie Eugene, who taught at the BICS for 13 years ending in 1990. She had continued and concluded the tradition of lay teaching by Dominican Nuns, who arrived in 1898 when the Island's first public school opened. In charge of the k-3 room, she was an old-fashioned teacher who mixed compassion with hard work; her students always performed well on state tests.

Michelle Dreffs became Island Postmaster.

Favorite Island recipes were being sought for the Beaver Island Firemen's Cookbook.

Although there was no generally accepted proof yet that cormorants were harming the archipelago's sport fishing, Wildlife Club president Bob Banville approved member Harry Boesch's drum-beating, which took the form of mailing copies of an article from Vermont ("Ontario cormorants linked to bass decline") to several Michigan senators and representatives. Eleven studies indicated the cormorant was the primary factor, according to Michigan's Environmental Conservation Commissioner. Kelley Smith, chief of the Fisheries Division, hoped to get CMU involved in additional research.

Kevin White was appointed to serve as assessor and zoning administrator. John McCafferty was chosen to replace Frank Blatt on the Peaine Planning Commission. Karl Kiss was approved as Townships Employee at \$12/hour for 40 hours/week.

The Community House was ready to move into the construction phase (it was thought), although meetings to consider design modifications were still being held.

Twenty Years Ago A Giselle Fernandez feature on Beaver Island, shown on Chicago's Channel 2, highlighted residents Steve Connaghan, Barb Cruikshank, Shirley Gladish, Annie Hayhoe, Carl and Sue Heller, Bill and Tammy McDonough, Mike McGinnity, Ed Palmer, Rich Scripps, and Ed Wojan.

This year's Mothers' March (of Dimes) raised \$664, thanks to Kathy Adams, Jean Gillespie, Shaun Markey, Pat McGinnity, and Karen Wojan.

Hounds and Hunting magazine featured an article by Fred Gray of Mississippi about a week-long hunting trip on Beaver Island he and his friends enjoyed—thanks to Dave Roop (*note*: who recently received stents eight, nine, and ten).

Events on the calendar included a

wine-tasting seminar at the Shamrock, a Fashion Show, the "Taste of Beaver Island," the "Fireman's Ball," and the annual Fly-In.

A road rally organized by Beth Green, Cindy Gillespie, and Kevin Green saw 58 participants pile into ten cars to search for 13 clues. The winning team of Lyn Ann Cary, Kathy Gillespie, Robert Gillespie, and Tim and Denise McDonough completed the course in 1 hour and 45 minutes.

Shannon Heynig wrote about the Stoney Acre Barn, which was built by Bub Burke in the late 1920s with a crew of Lester McDonough and Louis Gallagher. In 1947 it was acquired by Lawrence and Wini McDonough, who traded their home kiddy-corner from Daddy Franks for it. They moved their "Pine Tree Dairy" to the property from Sand Bay; the dairy only lasted four years, but after it closed their second son Larry ran (for six years) a riding stable from the barn. Bill and Marge Wagner bought it in 1985 and began turning it into a restaurant—the first meal was served on July 8, 1985. When Bill passed away it was sold to Dave and Wanda Roop.

The school gave ice-skating lessons on the Harbor.

Seven teams took part in a volleyballathon. From the BICS team Heather Gillespie, Katrina Martin, Mary Jane Martin, and Kerry Speck were named All-League.

Sheldon Anderson and Karl Felix, owners of Beaver Island Marine, asked St. James for a variance from the 120' rule limiting dock size so they could provide the dockage required to meet the current demand. The dock destroyed in a 1986 storm had been 200'. A compromise of lateral expansion, adding 64 slips, was reached.

Jerry Sowa resigned as chairman of the EMS and was replaced by Bill Markey.

Forty customers were being served by the new cablevision.

The passing of Island matriarch Marguerite Runberg was noted. She was born here in 1903 to the McCanns.

Thirty Years Ago The combined February/March issue recounted Grace Nackerman's Aunt Alice's story of the AuSable-Oscoda fire of 7-11-11, which



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involved the *Niko*, which later sank on the reef between Garden and Hog Islands. Grace's aunt was 20, and with her husband Charles, a bandsaw filer, and their two children, lived in the lumber village of Oscoda on the north side of the AuSable River. The cedar yard of her husband's lumber company caught fire from sparks from a steam engine, and the fire was fanned by 70 mph winds.

A friend had visited from Ohio, and went huckleberry picking with the aunt's sister. Smoke in the air alerted them to the blaze, and they hurried home. Alice too was out, but rushed home to get her children just as the rapidly spreading fire was blown across the river. Chaos ensued as Oscoda blazed. Some people got out on the train, and others clustered on the beach, where the local doctor set about delivering babies brought forth by the strain.

Alice joined the rush to the beach with 280 other evacuees, where they found the just-arrived lumber carrier *Niko*. The captain held his ship at the dock for the people to board, but soon the ship itself caught fire. The captain held off as long as he could and then pulled away while volunteers fought the fire. The wind made it a rough night as they headed for Port Huron, where the mayor greeted them. Alice stayed there for two days before taking a buggy to Applegate; her husband arrived in Port Huron an hour after she left, and did not find her and the kids until the following day.

Forty Years Ago The *Sundew* arrived even though the little ice there had been was gone; it turned out she was bringing supplies and fuel to the Whiskey Point Lighthouse for the new season.

Groups of school children put on an exhibition of Irish dancing, thanks to the teaching efforts of Rhea Christie and Jean LaFreniere.

Bussey LaFreniere, one of 325 people to attend Father Scheid's Beaver Island Party in Chicago, won the door prize.

Bing McCafferty was sweeping out the old McDonough farm house he was remodeling for his family and found an old St. Patrick's medal.

The B. I. Snowmobile Club

enlisted promises from eight more Islanders to buy machines before the next winter.

Archie Minor checked into Detroit's Marine Hospital to have his foot piece refitted and met two other Beaver Islanders—Ed Boyle and "Tight" Gallagher. The three were visited by Corneil Gatliff and Jack Connaghan, and sat up talking as late as they were allowed.

The Dominican Sisters held an Open House in their new 7-bedroom home next to Holy Cross Church, recently finished by Walt Wojan. An auction was planned to pay off the remaining balance on the contract.

Father Donahoe was forced to retire from St. Luke's Parish in Flint because of growing deafness. He moved to Beaver, buying the stone house on Paid een Og's and the King's Highway where he added a small chapel so he could offer daily mass.

When Lloyd McDonough resigned as St. James supervisor, the town board appointed his son Bud to take his place.

Passings noted included Anna Greene Drescher, who was born here in 1884 but moved to Chicago as a young woman, meeting and marrying her husband there at the age of 42.

Fifty Years Ago State Board of Education consulting engineer Henry Allen announced that CMU was planning to build a biological station at Sand Bay, with quarters to house 40 students.

The *Beacon* printed a correction: it wasn't 9 old jalopies sunk in the harbor, but 18.

With the blessing of the B. I. Boat Club, Beaver Island's "Young James" Gallagher was appointed manager of the Charlevoix Dock.

The Conservation Department purchased all of High Island except for one acre from Warren Townsend in order to establish a game refuge and experimental station. They were negotiating to buy the last acre from Holy Cross Church.

Archie LaFreniere and Karl Kuebler were out hunting when their dogs turned up a fox. They chased him onto the ice and across to Garden. Archie and Karl, giving chase, said the fox made Garden's trees in a few seconds under three minutes. "That didn't save it, though, and now six are hanging in Archie's tree."

Thanks to local fund-raising, townships input, and \$40,000 from the state, a new yacht dock was to be built between the LaFreniere and Gallagher docks.



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20. ISLAND ENGAGEMENTS

Karin Marcinak is excited to finally announce the engagement of her oldest daughter, Jessica Leigh Teale, to Derek Carl Durkee, of Grand Haven. Jessica is also the step-daughter of the late Lex Marcinak, who enjoyed many visits to the Island and built Karin and her daughters their home near Donegal Bay. Jessica's dad and step-mother, Kevin and Robin Teale, live in Grand Rapids.



Derek is the son of Kevin and Kenna Durkee of Grand Haven. While Jessica finishes her degree in math and chemistry at Grand Valley State University, Derek is also a senior there, majoring in Electrical Engineering. Jessica will graduate with a secondary education teaching certificate in

April, and Derek will graduate this August. Currently, the bride-to-be is working as a substitute teacher, and the groom-elect is an electrical engineering intern.

They have been engaged since October 2007, when Derek surprised Jess

with an unexpected trip to the Island and a beautiful proposal on the banks of Fox Lake. The wedding is planned for August 7th, 2009 at Townsend Park in Grand Rapids. A Beaver Island party is also in the works for later in the fall.

Also, Mr. and Mrs. Don Mooney of Beaver Island would like to announce the engagement of their daughter, Roberta Kay, to Keith Griggs of Sunnyvale, CA.

Roberta lived on Beaver Island for a decade beginning in the early 80s, and graduated from the BICS. The couple has known each other for 6 ½ years and plan a wedding on Beaver Island in August.

Keith is the son of George and Aldean Horton of Palo Alto, California.

AN OPINION

“Representation at the county level” (for example, at the Charlevoix County

Commission) “should include someone who lives on Beaver Island—not some-

one from Beaver Island, and not necessarily a property owner.” —Don Cole



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also is a large kitchen with dining room area and a good-size living room in one open area on the south side of the house. Sliding glass doors off the living room and dining room areas provide good access to the large deck that is on three sides of the house. The deck on the west side of the house is very large and with an additional extension of the deck that goes out over the bluff. This house has a full basement with exposed block on the south side and a door out this side toward the garage. This basement could easily be finished for additional living area. This house was originally built for Doris Shirk who used it as a year-round retirement home. Its fuel oil-forced air furnace has ductwork to all parts of the main level plus heats the basement area if desired. Some cosmetic work might be done to spruce up the house, but this is basically a turn key property ready for your use. This would be a very good rental property or a good summer home, or a retirement home for someone. The price was reduced from original asking price of \$230,000 to \$190,000. This house has real potential and is a real bargain at the current asking price.

\$190,000.



View pictures of this home at: www.edwojanrealty.com

A WINTER RESCUE ONE WAY OR ANOTHER THE USCGC MOBILE BAY



During the early morning's blizzard of February 27th, a medical emergency developed which required the evacuation of a man from Beaver Island. A howling blizzard with temperatures below zero had raged dur-

ing the night. The landing fields were blown shut, and even the Coast Guard helicopter could not operate, so at 5:30 a.m. the mighty 140' *Mobile Bay* was dispatched from St. Ignace where she had been breaking ice after leaving her

home port of Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin. She's an icebreaker, all right, cruising at twelve knots with a 12½' draft, whose engines deliver 2,500 hp and allow her to bull through 27" thick ice and 6" of snow at three knots. *continued on page 22.*



Gerard LaReviere, BLEWS & Captain Kevin McDonough



meet LCDR Tasikas to put a face to voice on the radio





cut between Gull and High, cruise past Beaver Head, and take advantage of the open water on Beaver's East Side. She arrived before noon, and did not have to back down once in cracking through the harbor ice.

Several Islanders came down to the freshly-plowed dock. Meanwhile we



Rescue: one way or another, from page 21.

There was a lot of ice. The quickest way to reach Paradise Bay, (avoiding the thick ice bridge which had slowed her sister ship, the *Biscayne Bay*, down last March on her trip to Charlevoix), was to come past Lansing Shoal down just west of the arc of Squaw, Whiskey, and Trout,



breathed a sigh of relief upon hearing that the Coast Guard helicopter, which had been able to land at 8:30, had delivered the evacuee to an ambulance waiting for him at Cherryland Airport in Traverse City. With the emergency eased, the commanding officer, Captain Vasilios Tasikas, offered to give us a

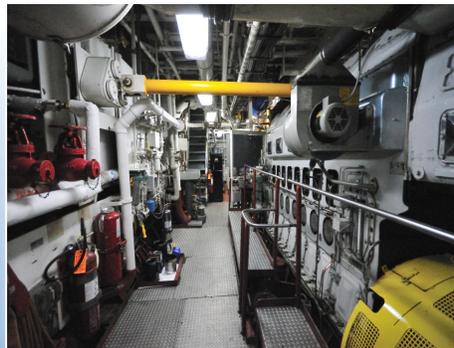




Boarding was done cautiously due to the ice which had built up on deck and rails during the below-zero trip here. But once inside, the ship was a modern industrial marvel. The engine room was spotless, our reflections perfect in the covers on locomotive-size engines and generators. Although she was launched



quick tour of his powerful ship. The *Mobile Bay* which carries 5 officers and a crew of 24 is one of a nine 140'-ice-breaking-tug group, five of which are located in the Great Lakes. But she is unique in that she is one of only two tasked with pushing a 125' Aids-to-Navigation barge and 20-ton crane.



in 1978, in climbing up to the pilot house we saw a bank of servers and network cables now connecting the ship. On the bridge, three navigation screens forward and a separate aft link radar, gps units, and mapping; redundant systems are the name of the game when you have to be “always ready” — *Semper Paratus*.





This is how it is. You begin cross-ice navigation with a vision, much like the one John Kennedy had in the 60s to reach the moon. The planning is on the level of one of Madonna's weddings. The Hollywood Madonna, not Beaver Island's beloved Madonna McCafferty.

You consult with weather, ground crews, mainland crews, and all sort of spousal and technical things that I or you will probably never comprehend.

It will not be some willy-nilly snowmobile ride. I have spent a full week of phone calling, coordinating, navigating, plotting GPS courses, arranging fly-overs of our ice condi-

tions, and checking out our gear. You do know you should wear a shorty dive suit—just in case you break through the ice.

The weather is a big deal. Our preliminary attempt only made it half way before blinding wind-driven snow sent the machines back to Beaver Island's version of Cape Canaveral. "Another aborted mission."

Bud Martin, our ice guide, is the guy with the RIGHT STUFF when it comes to risky snowmobile maneuvers. One of our trips was immediately cancelled when our snowmobile fellowship found out Bud wasn't going. "I won't go if Buddy isn't going" was

the unanimous chant. After all, the Martins have a long history of surviving adversities—like guerilla warfare, ship sinkings, snowmobile sinkings, hard times, and other difficulties of life.

Finally, the weather was a go, the ground crew was a go, the mainland crew delivering my new sled was a go—all snowmobiles were gassed and prepped, but wait! Bud Martin, NO GO, OH-OH. Then Colleen, Bud's wife, trumped Buddy's no go with a GO.

We now were leaving in T minus 45 minutes. I could not fit any pants or sweaters over the dive suit. So, I just wore the dive suit over a pair of Carhardt Coveralls, and left my





The rocks for this house were hauled from Hog Island



Heading back with Jon's "new" machine.



Break on the Ice



The Reef Light



Doos at the Mighty Mac

cummerbund at home. We mustered at the North Shore Park, and were on our way at 10:30, Friday the 6th of February.

The weather was perfect. High 20s, sunny and severe, clear. We crossed the channel between Beaver and Garden, skirted the southern shoreline of Garden, then jumped across the ice to Hog. The ice between Hog and Hat Island was rough due to pressure ridges. The ice floes push against each other, making sharp bumps and some 3'- to 4'-wide open-water spots.

Experienced ice runners know to keep their speed up and cruise over the open water. My driver, Phil Becker, had no history of ice travel. However, he is

the best trail rider on Beaver Island. When he saw that open water he slowed down and made a tight, slow circle before launching across. This is very dangerous because the ice along the open water void is thin. You don't want to ride parallel to the crack, or go slow. We would both die, with 900 lbs. of sled and riders weight. VERY SCARY.

After that it was balls to the walls until we reached the Grays Reef Light and Fog Signal. We stopped and took a much needed rest. I felt like I was in the Powers' Hardware paint shaker for an hour or so; the back seat on a 2-up sled is not comfortable for rough ice travel. We all had some laughs, and took a few

pictures. After chopping some test holes to determine ice thickness, we were off again eastward, toward Waughashance Point.

We could make 45 to 50 MPH on the snow-covered ice, but had to slow to 10 to 15 when we came to pressure ridges, or rough ice. At noon we reached Kenny Leway's stone house on the shore of Wilderness State Park. Kenny's Grampa was a Great Lakes commercial fisherman and a salvager. He had the rights to the tanker *Boyd* after its fateful grounding on Simmon's Reef. Kenny told us his Grampa hauled the rocks for his house and garage from Hog Island. No easy task. *continued on page 26.*



Jon shoots a picture. Photo by Phil Becker



Open water in a stress crack



Grays Reef Light

*Around the Archipelago
continued from page 25.*

The old twine shed, stone crib, and the line cannon from the *Boyd* are in the foreground of his view of the Big Mac Bridge. Just Awesome.

Well Kenny and his family's spread is a real piece of Americana, and I thank Bud and Kenny for sharing it with us.

Gentleman, start your engines. Off to the Bridge and Mackinaw City. We followed the shoreline and only ventured back out on the ice to cross the larger bays, like Big Stone Bay. Speaking of Big Stones, Steve Crandall found one that launched him airborne. They don't call him "Crash" for nothing.

Steve stopped and pointed down to warn Phil and I that it was there. I saw the rock and noticed its bearing



Grays Reef Light

remained the same while its distance diminished. When we were about 50' away, I yelled at Phil and pointed down repeatedly. Phil turned his head around and asked What? just as we hit that big Dominic.

Both of us flew ass-over-tea-kettle, and I slammed my shoulder into the frozen snow and cart-wheeled over myself. Phil was not happy, and expressed his emotions with vigor. When I asked him if he was OK, he gave me the thumbs up, though, so away we went.

Buddy was on a mission, and these nuisances were slowing our progress. I launched into some military spiel about unit cohesion and not traveling faster than our slowest man, but it fell on deaf ears. So, ONWARD!

We passed under the Big Mac Bridge and entered the city of Mack-

inaw. What a culture shock. After the wide open highway Lake Michigan offered us, we were now on a 4'-wide sidewalk. After a half mile or so we passed a sign that read, "No snowmobiles allowed on the sidewalks." Oh well.



Phil Becker in front of Kenny Leway's stone house

We pulled up to Audie's Restaurant, a local landmark, and found my new sled waiting for us in the parking lot. No more sore backseat butt bruise!

I brought some new parts to replace worn ones, but we voted to eat and debrief our trip first. After a nice greasy fried lunch we put the Indy Pit Crew to work and were soon gassed up with premium and back on our way.

I think we were all glad to put the

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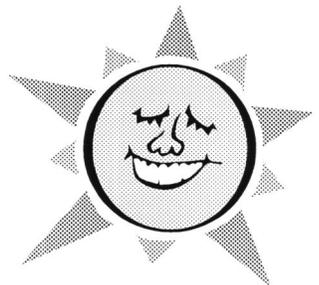
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Mon-Sat

11 am-2pm

Dinner

Mon-Sat

5pm-8pm

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Bud Martin in front of Grays Reef Light

Big Mac behind us and get back in our element. Open space. City riding was not our thing. We were adventurers, Ice Travelers, not some family on trail #3 from Gaylord. We had no trail. We made our own trail.

About a half mile from shore we came across six young men walking on the ice. Bud stopped and we found some kindred spirits out there on the pack ice. These fellows were lifelong friends who, once a year, in February, travel from California, Iraq or wherever to spend a weekend catching up with each other. Unit Cohesion.

We knew, like us, they wanted their own space on Lake Michigan. So, we pushed off toward home.

The trip home was rushed. Bud had things to do, songs to sing and dances to dance. We picked up the pace and were able to better our speed. Part of our improved time was due to Phil not having me on the back of his sled and me having my own ride. We flew along, jumping moguls, airborne and nimble. Only slowing down for rough ice or some picture-taking.

Bud and Steve stuck together about a mile ahead of Phil and I. When we reached Garden Island, Bud left us to make better time. He had done his best, making sure we all were safe and could easily close the gap back home.

Steve, Phil, and I cruised the last miles at a nice leisurely pace, allowing the suspension to take the final few heavy hits more gently. The full moon was up and the big orange sun



Steve Crandall

was setting in front of us as we pulled into Beaver Harbor around 4:30.

We all stopped at Steve's garage for a recap of a great day, and promised Bud we would do it again. I got home to my worried wife who was actually glad to see me—and I her. Three or four toddies later, plus a few ibuprofens, and we were recharged for some quality time out

on the town.

The next day I called my peeps to unburden them of worry and to thank all the friends and fellow riders who shared the experience. And to ask them the question that was on their own lips, "Hey, when can we go again?"

Unfortunately the weather warmed up the next day, making ice travel unsafe. But there's always tomorrow....

—Jon Bonadeo

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At the Heart of a Good Community

web: www.pabi.beaverisland.org email: bicc@tds.net

March 2009 Calendar of Events



THURSDAY, MARCH 5:
A Simple Plan
R* 7:30PM

st. pat's special:
\$5 adult, \$3 children



SATURDAY, MARCH 14:
Darby O'Gill and the Little People
6 3:00PM



THURSDAY, MARCH 19:
La Dolce Vita
R* 7:30PM



SATURDAY, MARCH 28:
Bolt
PG 3:00PM

Tickets for all movies:
\$7.50 Adult
\$4.00 Seniors/Students
* Sponsored by the BI Film Fans

Wednesdays, March 11, 18, 25

Recorder Roundabout 5pm

Refresh your musical spirit with a weekly gathering of Recorder enthusiasts! Everyone is encouraged to participate—novice or veteran, with instrument or without!

Jayne Bailey jaynekb@yahoo.com for info.

Sunday, March 8, 22

Scrabble Scramble 2pm

Show your Scrabble-stuff at a bi-weekly Scrabble play-off competition of strategic vocabulary! Bring your official word guide!

Now available EVERY Week! Sunday

Pickleball! 2pm - Singles and Doubles

A cross between tennis, badminton, and ping-pong, Pickleball has caught-on across the nation—and now on Beaver Island!

St. Pat's Festivities "Fare"

Step in off the street and out of the cold for a quick hot 'n hearty "specialty spud" from our baked potato bar!

Fixin's galore and special refreshments and treats too!

Saturday, March 7 thru Thursday, March 12:

saint patrick's arts contests

Signup by March 6! Judging March 13 @ Noon! PRIZES Awarded MARCH 14 @ Noon! **Window Painting!**

Ages 13-Grade 12. Be assigned to one of four teams given a theme & materials on March 7 at 10am. Call Cindy at 448-2022 for more info! ADULT: **Snow Sculptures!**

*Weather and/or snow permitting! Teams of up to 4 Artists! (Businesses, Families, Friends, Clubs...) Participants will be given a visibly-prominent Downtown location—on March 7 @ 10am. Themes, strategy, and sculpting are at the discretion of the teams. Contact Ann (448-2022) or biccparridge@tds.net.

Friday, March 13: 3:30-5pm **Cupcake Decorating**

Kids pre-school through sixth-grade: come decorate cupcakes for St. Patrick's Day Weekend! Take some home, leave some for treats! All materials provided. Parent/Adult must accompany. Sign ups appreciated!

Sunday, March 22: **Sunday Dinner** 11am-1pm

New and special every month! Not just for Seniors! Come one and all for a delicious Sunday dinner together! Sponsored by the CCCoA, will feature a delicious menu. Make reservations now! Call 448-2022. Tickets: Suggested donation \$3 for Seniors 60+; \$6 under 60.

28. CHARLEVOIX'S DOLLAR "BEAVER ISLAND" TOLL

Around February 9th Beaver Islanders became aware of an underpublicized clause in the proposed Charlevoix budget calling for two increases in revenue to the city derived from the Charlevoix Airport. One called for an increase in the parking fees of \$1/day and \$50/year. The other was a \$1 surcharge on every ticket for passengers passing through Charlevoix.

Protest was immediate from Islanders who did not see any benefit to them coming from this "Charlevoix toll." Led by the Chamber of Commerce, the townships, the Beaver Island Association, several businesses, and dozens of individuals, it took the form of phone calls, letters, and 65+ mails to Charlevoix officials. Most but not all were civil but some threatened to boycott Charlevoix businesses and the city itself—going so far as calling for Island flights and

ferries to find other mainland ports. Two years ago the Boat Company's survey had produced the intelligence that ferry passengers spent around \$2,000,000 in Charlevoix during the summer; would they risk losing that for a measly fifteen thousand?

Fifteen or so angry people flew over to Charlevoix for the February 16th meeting at which this matter was to be decided. The surcharge was needed, it was explained, because the Airport wanted to expand, with a new, larger terminal and other facilities. These would be paid for primarily with an FAA grant, but a 2½% local match was required and the funds "could not be provided by any other means."

This scale of potential FAA funding is only available to the Charlevoix Airport because Beaver Island traffic puts its passenger numbers above the

qualifying minimum—without us, expansion of this magnitude would be out of the question.

The Charlevoix officials were surprised by the extent of the outcry. They were quite sympathetic, but the budget had to be passed quickly and there was not enough time to comb through other potential revenue sources. So with deep regrets and a promise to continue combing, the budget as drafted was passed. The FAA must approve these fee hikes, and there may be a mechanism available to the townships for blocking the toll for passengers bound for Beaver Island.

A number of alternate revenue sources have been proposed to Charlevoix. For example, a 12-page memo detailing ten changes that would *en toto* raise ten times the needed amount was submitted.

COUNTY PLAN EXPLAINED

Larry Sullivan, the Charlevoix County planner, visited Beaver Island in early February to discuss the county master plan, which will become the primary criteria used to evaluate Island issues requiring county approval. Twenty citizens attended the meeting.

The current draft, the planner explained, had been in process since the 2002 visioning sessions. At one point an attitude survey sent to 12,000 county residents yielded a 25% return, with respondents stating their hope for what the county would become over the next 20 years. Government classes in the county's high schools were also asked to comment.

Doug Tilly pointed out that state law gives priority to townships' master plans over those done by their county. But a shift of authority away from townships toward ever-larger government entities was also noticed, increasing the state's power over our lives.

The plan's draft was available for study on the county website. The extensive document includes general statements of purpose and goals for the entire county, which it seeks to interpret through specific rules to govern development and land use in particular areas, identified in its several colorful maps.

In the Q/A session that followed, there was some criticism of the maps of Beaver Island, which it was thought did not accurately depict our situation. A wetland designation was applied to the old fire tower site, for example, and on the other hand lower west side wetlands were not drawn nearly large enough. No awareness of our recreation plan was included.

So it was a productive session in which the planner took away what Islanders felt was incorrect and our Island planning commissions agreed to further develop and transmit material on other concerns.

TUNING UP

The snow will melt. The Dwarf Lake Iris will bloom. And, Baroque on Beaver will return for the ninth classical music festival, July 31-August 2, 2009!

Performances will include orchestral and choral works by Mozart, Dvorak, Mendelssohn, and Bach. Special features of this year's series will

include Beaver Island's vocal soloist Martha Guth, Mac Dowell's *To a Wild Rose*, Purcell's *Te Deum*, and John Rutter's *Gaelic Blessing*.

An informal "Kid's Konzert" will be scheduled, with music specially chosen for the children, who will be invited to participate with the instru-

JACK O'REGAN

John (Jack) O'Regan of Crown Point, Indiana passed away on February 9. He was the son of Ann Cull O'Regan, nephew of Mike and Mabel Cull, and uncle to both Roland Cull and Sally Hammermeister.

Jack and his high-spirited mother spent two years living in the Cull home on Main Street on Beaver Island during the Depression, and at that time Jack attended Beaver Island School (1932-33). While his father walked 10 to 15 miles a day looking for work at the steel mills, his mother opened a "bakery" in the Cull home, which was so crowded with other relatives seeking refuge that sometimes three slept in a bed.

Jack's father found work, and went on to help create the pipefitters' union. Jack too was a pipefitter for 65 years, and got six cousins in the union. He always had a very special place in his heart for the Island.

He is survived by two children.

mental and vocal musicians.

The non-profit Beaver Island Cultural Arts Association, sponsor of the festival, is also working with the Beaver Island Community School as they plan and schedule a "Poetry Slam" and a student art show. The summer of 2009 on Beaver Island will be great!



**BEAVER ISLAND MUSIC FESTIVAL JULY 17 & 18, 2009
BIMF NEWSLETTER MARCH 2009**

FESTIVAL UPDATES:

This year's festival is off to a great start! We have an amazing line-up in progress. Returning for his 8th year is our Master of Ceremonies Ernie Douglas and joining him for some in-between entertainment are newcomers Janet Day - comedian and Dave Boutette - musician. The musical quality and diversity continues with some old favorites returning, The Ragbirds, Rootstand, Whitey Morgan, and Lake Effect. A lot of new performers will also be taking the stage, Black Jake and the Carnies, Ultraviolet Hippopotamus, The Mossy Mountain Band, Squeaky Clean Cretins, and Strings n' Things (who will also be doing a special performance for Kids Time). Stay posted for more updates on performers that will be joining the 2009 music festival.

**GENERAL ADMISSION KICK OFF EVENT
JULY 16, 2009**

Times have been set! Gates will open at 7pm with music starting at 8pm - 1am. There will be at least four performing groups, soon to be announced. It is an event not to miss!



**2008 Pinky Lee/Josh & Me
CHANGING WEB PAGE:**

Good news, we have made great progress on the web page. Updates are complete, pictures from 2008 are on the site, and new information is added on a regular basis. You can find all of the current news and visit the past festivals at www.bimf.net. Please continue to send your pictures from previous years. Thank you to Jeff Cashman for all of his super work in maintaining the BIMF festival site.

Festival Camping:
Currently we are working on ways to improve campsites and add more restroom facilities.

2009 Goldmine Pickers



2006 MICHAEL BEANS



CRAZY RICHARD 2007

MARCH FESTIVAL TICKET SPECIALS:

***Buy 2 Adult Weekend Passes and get a 3rd Adult Weekend Pass for ½ Price**

***Get Free Weekend Camping (July 17 & 18) with the Purchase of an Adult Weekend Pass
Offer Expires March 31, 2009**

VENDERS:

We are looking for many new vendors this year to share their artistic and creative ideas with the hundreds of festival-goers. It is a great opportunity to create awareness for your business. First time vendors receive a special rate of \$75.00 per booth; this rate includes your weekend festival pass. To reserve your booth spaces contact us by May 31, 2009. Call Carol @ (231) 838-2883

FESTIVAL POSTERS:

This year we are asking for your assistance, helping us to bring attention to Beaver Island and BIMF by spreading the news. Call or e-mail a list of 5 or more places you can hang a poster on your travels and receive a full size poster for yourself. Posters will be ready at the end of March.



**Beaver Island Music Festival 2009
March Madness Festival Ticket Specials**

Buy 2 Adult Weekend Passes and get a 3rd Weekend Pass for ½ Price
Get Free Weekend Camping (July 17 & 18) with the Purchase of an Adult Weekend Pass
OFFER EXPIRES MARCH 31, 2009
HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY

PLEASE MAKE CHECK OR MONEY ORDER PAYABLE TO BIMF, ENCLOSE ORDER FORM, AND SEND TO PO BOX 23, MI 49782. ONLINE ORDERS ARE AVAILABLE THROUGH PAY-PAL VISIT WWW.BIMF.NET OR CALL 231-838-2883

NAME _____ CONTACT # _____

ADDRESS: _____

| | TICKET PRICING | QUANTITY ORDERED | TOTAL \$ |
|--|----------------|------------------|----------|
| THURSDAY JULY 16 TH GENERAL ADMISSION (WEEKEND PASSES JULY 17 & 18) | \$10.00 | | |
| WEEKEND PASS ADULT | \$55.00 | | |
| WEEKEND PASS ADULT W/CAMPING PASS FOR JULY 17 & 18 | \$55.00 | | |
| BUY 2 ADULT WEEKEND PASSES AND GET 3 RD ADULT WEEKEND PASS ½ PRICE | \$137.50 | | |
| WEEKEND PASS TEEN (13-17)/SENIOR (65+) | \$50.00 | | |
| CAMPING PASS (17 & 18) | \$15.00 | | |
| CAMPING PASS (15-19) | \$25.00 | | |
| SHUTTLE PASS (UNLIMITED TRIPS) (PLEASE TAKE THE SHUTTLE, BE SAFE & SAVE GAS) | \$5.00 | | |
| TRAVEL TICKETS (ROUND TRIP) SAVE UP TO 15%, PEAK RATES, & SURCHARGES | | | |
| FERRY TICKET ADULT | \$44.00 | | |
| FERRY TICKET CHILD (5-12) | \$26.00 | | |
| ISLAND AIRWAYS ADULT (call 231-448-2071 for special pricing on books of 5 or more tickets) | \$88.00 | | |
| ISLAND AIRWAYS CHILD | \$58.00 | | |
| FRESH AIR AVIATION ADULT (call 231-448-2089 for special pricing on books of 5 or more tickets) | \$93.00 | | |
| FRESH AIR AVIATION CHILD | \$62.50 | | |
| TOTAL | | | |

30. HAZARDOUS DUTY

by Frank Solle

The last time we checked in with the dedicated members of Beaver Island's volunteer Fire Department, they were learning and practicing their skills at stabilizing crashed vehicles before proceeding with the careful extraction of potential victims.

On Saturday, Feb. 21, the crew, recently expanded with a number of new trainees, was capping a difficult 24-hour classroom session and subsequent written test on the intricacies of dealing with a hazardous material spill with a hands-on practical exercise at the East Side Fire Hall, under the direction of trainer and Charlevoix F.D. Battalion Chief Joe Schwartzfisher.

This exercise included rescuing two simulated victims from an accident involving an unknown material. The rescuers, after donning the constricting,

sound-muffling, alien-looking 'hazmat' suits, were required to safely approach the area, assess what they saw, and relay that information back to Incident Command, which was safely out of sight and any potential danger, and if possible identify, using informational placards or shipping information, what material had been spilled, assess the extent of the injured victims, and begin the removal of the victims from the site for decontamination prior to receiving any needed medical attention.



Decon team

"This is tough," Schwartzfisher said of the exercise. "You are not going to get everything right the first time."

One of the things that makes this so problematic is the difficulty involved with simply moving and communication wearing the hazmat suits. Wearing oxygen masks inside the taped and

sealed air-tight suits is extremely compromising. Rescuers must stand head-to-head and shout at full volume. Using a radio is no easier as hands must be pulled out of the suit's arms in order to operate the radios, and still they are talking through the mask and its positive-pressure stream of oxygen.



Checking the air

Another difficulty arises from increased oxygen use due to the difficulty of moving, as well as an increase in heart rate, respiration, and adrenaline from the confining aspect of the suit itself. What under normal conditions is considered a 30-minute tank of oxygen can last as little as 10 minutes in the hazmat suit.

"It's hard wearing the suit," Schwartzfisher said. "Realistically, you're going to use one liter of fluid while in the suit. Every time I do this exercise I have a minimum of two people out of 30 faint." *continued on page 32.*

Photographs by Frank Solle

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Checking victim



Bruce masked

Hazardous Duty, from page 30.

"It's a little nerve wracking when your air is running out," said trainee Tammy LaFreniere.

Veteran fireman Bruce Cull agreed. "You don't really want to be in there, but you've got to do it," he said. "The adren-

aline will really take it out of you," he added. "There's a panic to it in the suit."

Fellow fireman Darrell Butler Jr. admitted he's not fond of wearing the oxygen mask to start with, saying, "When the buzzer goes off (indicating low air level), I don't like that at all."

"You can use a 30-minute air tank in nothing flat in the suit, even today," Schwartzfisher said of the chilly, snowy conditions. "Imagine if it were 80°, if you're not hydrated before you get suited up, you're going to have trouble."

Because of the inherent risks in-



Spraying victim 2



Chain of command



Team-2 re-grips victim



Decon

volved with wearing the suits, members of the Island's EMS team were on hand to do heart assessments before and after the exercise. "We're looking for any irregularities in heart rhythm before they start," said Paramedic Ken Bruland. "We eliminated some firemen from wearing the suits because of that." A repeat 12-lead EKG was performed afterwards to see "that they are okay after doing this, that there are no significant changes," Bruland added.

Following a lead-in description of the exercise, the teams were signaled to suit up with a simulated 911 call detailing the 'accident.' With the first team ready, they were sent out the back doors of the Fire Hall and required to walk around the building to the scene. Meanwhile, Incident Commander Jim Wojan, and Science Officer Jim McDonough, were out of sight awaiting communication. One of the most important pieces of information they needed was an identification number for the hazardous material so the Science Officer could look it up to determine the level of danger.

After assessing the scene and collecting information, the first team attempted to return one victim to the back of the Fire Hall, but ran low of oxygen before they could complete the transfer. They then entered the decontamination area to be scrubbed down and rinsed off before resupplying their oxygen. A second team was deployed to retrieve the first victim, who was sent through the decontamination process while the second team proceeded to the scene in an attempt to rescue the second victim.

Team Two also ran low of oxygen before the second victim was brought in for decontamination, requiring the first team to spring back into action. With great effort the second victim was recovered, decontaminated, and the two rescue teams were cleaned and allowed to finally remove their hazmat suits.

"It was foggy in the suit and hard to communicate through the mask and the

suit," said Team One member 33. Dillon Butler.

The group then gathered for a post-exercise debriefing and critiquing. "The debriefing is probably the most important part today," Schwartzfisher said. "You can talk about doing it and read about doing this, but until you've done it, until you've lived it, you don't really get it."

Team One member Steve Crandall was quick to point out that communication was one area that needed improvement. "We needed to communicate with I.C. more in describing the scene, what we saw and what was happening."

From his position as I.C. Wojan agreed. "I wish I would have had more information, but I realize even talking on the radio is difficult in the suits. But for the first time doing this, I think we did pretty good."

Schwartzfisher agreed with that assessment. "We had a lot of positive things come out of this today. And some negatives, which is why we do this. But we got two victims out and everyone is accounted for, and everyone is walking and breathing."

"We've had some classroom training in this before, but we've never had the opportunity to wear the suits and experience it," said BIFD Chief Tim McDonough. "We had learned that communication and mobility were the biggest problems, and that's what we found out firsthand. Now we have a much better idea how to use this equipment and how to respond if a situation like this ever arises."

This training is part of the ongoing program to have all BIFD firemen certified as Firemen Level 2 as per state requirements. These 19 local volunteers have been donating their free time to attend classes since October and will have accumulated over 400 hours of classroom time before they take their final exams, both written and practical, in June.

As a community we are very fortunate to have this level of dedication and training to serve everyone on the Island.



Incident control



Getting relief - EMS

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34. BIRHC ADDS A STEPFATHER

At the Rural Health Center's annual meeting on January's last day, an exciting development was announced. At the previous meeting the suggestion had been made to contact Northern Michigan Hospital in Petoskey and Munson in Traverse City to see if any kind of partnership could be arranged to help us with purchasing, training, and information technology. Northern was interested; Munson deferred, being farther away, and encouraged us to pursue NMH.

Northern Michigan's CEO, Tom Mroczkowski, and Jim Flickema, the Director of Professional Services, arrived after some preliminary business was discharged, accompanied by Bill McDonough's friend Ron Nelson, the CEO of Mackinac Straits Hospital in St. Ignace. Nelson explained that he had approached Northern six years with a similar request to ours, and that a successful relationship had grown up between them. Plus, Straits had the kind of relationship with the Mackinac Island hospital that we wanted to have with Northern.

Mroczkowski took the floor, explaining that Northern's mission was to provide the best possible health care services it could in its target area, the six NW Michigan counties with 450,000 residents, including Beaver Island. Improving technology allowed them to extend us a hand.

A sheet was circulated listing several things Northern could help us with, such as purchasing supplies and insurance, writing grants (through the grant writers on the staff of the NMH Foundation), greater access to services, training, and library resources, and recruiting. They would like to restore a mobile mammograph to Beaver Island. They would guide us into using higher-resolution telemedicine to facilitate remote diagnosis, and give us a link into their emergency departments.

Two earlier discussions had resulted in Northern tendering us a proposed affiliation agreement, which our attorney had examined and somewhat modified.

Don Spencer stated three precepts: we don't want to be acquired; we want

to improve health care; and we know we need help. He suggested we proceed by forming a joint task force of equal members with Northern, which could spend the next few months studying and discussing every aspect of the proposed affiliation. This was approved; our members will be Board members Sandy Birdsall, Larry Hansz, Jeanne McDonough, and Don, plus BIRHC manager Donna Kubic.

Three days later NMH said, in a press release, that they hope to collaborate with BIRHC "to build a resource-sharing network between providers of healthcare services. This partnership will maintain the independence of each organization, while enhancing the sharing of best practices and high quality resources that are not often attainable alone."

"The goal of this partnership is to position the organizations for continued success in the delivery of high quality patient care in an increasingly more difficult economic environment," said Wendy Walker, MD, Northern Michigan Regional Health System



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We rolled up our sails in October, 2008.

Many thanks for your support and friendship over the last 25 years.

Love, Donna and Louise

lmking2001@yahoo.com

Board Chair. "As the closest provider of advanced care not available locally, Northern Michigan Regional Health System will continue to improve referral, transfer, and information flow processes, and work to meet the service expectations of all regional providers."

Ron Mitchell, Mackinac Straits Hospital Board Chair, added, "The benefits of this partnership will include the provision of high quality, coordinated care, non-duplication of patient testing, utilization of shared information and clinical technology, collaboration on quality improvement efforts, and reduced cost of purchasing materials."

Connie Wojan was quoted as saying, "Seamless access to specialty care is critical to our population.



Donna, Chris, Sue, and Betty

Through a unanimous vote our Board has approved a Memorandum of Understanding to pave the way for a more formalized affiliation in March. We look forward to the enhanced specialty care access this network provides."

The press release had this to say about NMH: It is part of "a non-profit

Don Spencer as vice-president, Sandy Birdsall as secretary, and Rick Speck as treasurer.

Moving forward toward this partnership was much discussed at a gathering the following Sunday to welcome our new provider, Chris VanLooy, and thank Sue Solle for her past and continuing dedication.

organization that provides specialized care to residents in 22 counties. The flagship is a 243-bed, regional referral center located in Petoskey with a medical staff of nearly 200 physicians, adding, "BIRHC is the only Health Center in the state substantially funded by a local tax millage."

In other business the Health Center's nominating committee recommended Connie Wojan as president,

LARRY ROBINSON

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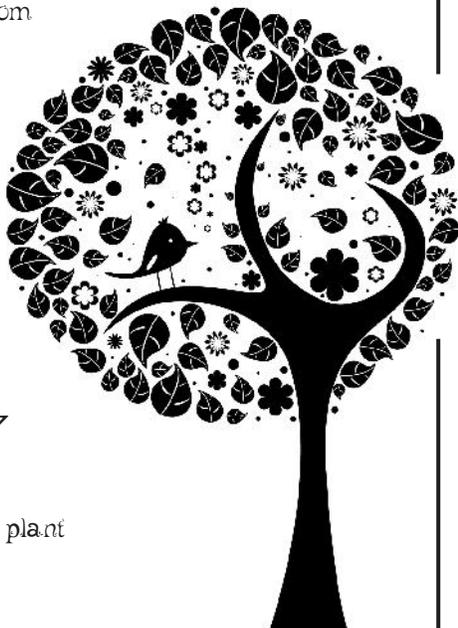
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36. ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO

from Joyce Bartels

Notes from F. Protar's diary with the help of Antje Price

Charlevoix Sentinel Thursday, March 4, 1909 **Local News:** "No mail communication with Beaver Island since navigation closed, and no possibility of any until it opens again. St. James mail is all in Charlevoix." (Note: March 5-8 Big thaw; March 9 Snow; March 16-17 Snow 12" F. Protar)

Charlevoix Sentinel Thursday,

March 18, 1909 **Local News:** "A. T. Stewart, the local fish hatchery superintendent, arrived Friday, and is putting the fish hatchery in shape for the annual hatch. He expects to hatch 4,500,000 trout and from fifteen to twenty millions of white fish, which will require about two months work. Supt. Clark will be here this week to inspect the plant." (Note: March 26

First mail, boat - 6 weeks F. Protar)
Charlevoix Courier Wednesday, March 31, 1909 **Local News Briefly Told:** "Anthony Malloy, of St. James, is in the city on business today."
"The tug *Parmalee* took the mail to the Beaver Islands Friday. This is the first mail they have had for seven weeks."

SWEETIE MCDONOUGH

Bertha Elaine "Sweetie" (nee McDonough) Danaj, 80, of Petoskey, a woman of extraordinary faith, died February 7, 2009.

She was born Jan. 11, 1929, on Beaver Island, the daughter of William Patrick and Sophia Regina (Haugen) McDonough. She married the late Thadeus Edward Danaj on June 28, 1952, and celebrated almost 54 years of marriage before his passing in 2006. They made their home in Detroit and later in Westland.

She came to the Detroit area as a high school graduate. She did secretarial work and was a nanny for the children of a dentist.

On a return visit to Beaver Island, she met her future husband, Ted, who

was also visiting relatives on Beaver Island. They continued their courtship in Detroit with him properly calling on her at the Evangeline, a boarding house for single, young ladies. They started their family immediately after they were married, and Bertha remained home raising her young children.

In 1967, she began working for Deluxe Check Printers, and retired from there in 1987.

Bertha and Ted traveled for many years to Las Vegas to escape the Michigan winters. In recent years, they returned to Northern Michigan and made their home in Petoskey. Bertha was a member of St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church.

She faced the physical challenges

of the final 8½ years of her life with grace, humor and wit, as her husband lovingly tended to all her needs.

She is survived by her children, Pamela (Gary) Malo of Livonia, Lawrence (Becky) of Livonia, Timothy (Lorraine) of Alpharetta, Ga., Susan (William) Wright of Lake Leelanau, Beth (Thomas) Burke of Petoskey; 20 grandchildren; sisters, Mary Ellen Monachino of New York, Charlotte (Richard) Sanderson of Florida; and brother, Anthony (Mardee) McDonough of Australia.

She was preceded in death by her husband, infant son Kenneth, infant granddaughter Brandee Danaj, and brothers Glen and Kenneth.

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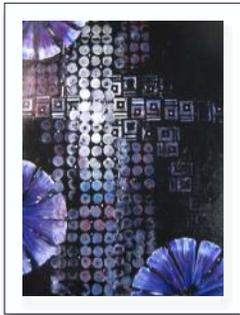
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AN ISLAND ARTIST ON THE WEB

Much-admired Island artist Doris Larson has put portions of her recent work on a website, dorislaron.com. The home page guides viewers to several areas, where grids of individual paintings, collages, and crafts allow individual pieces to be enlarged into a center square with a click of the mouse.

Prices are given, and credit card purchases can be accommodated.

The real beauty of this site, though, comes from looking over each offering, and gaining an understanding of just how talented and productive she is. Accomplishing only a fraction of her output would be a major undertaking,

and yet she seems to be speeding up when most of us would be slowing down. And the quality of her work continues to astound us, becoming comparable with major figures in the art world. Whatever it is that's gotten into her, Doris seems to be onto something quite remarkable!

Donegal Bay
Sunset

Beaver Island,
Michigan

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38. COUNTRY COUSIN TO OUR BELOVED PETS

For decades the coyote (*canis latrans*, “barking dog”) has led a shadowy life on Beaver Island, blamed for game depredations and surrounded with anecdotal lore. A few facts might help us see our fellow Island-dwellers in a fuller light.

Coyotes have pointed ears which remain upwardly pointed, and long, bushy tails. Large males run around fifty to seventy pounds, with a few exceptions. From nose to outstretched

tail can measure five feet; from foot pad to shoulder twenty-seven inches. Their mating period begins in winter and runs to the advent of spring. Gestation is two months, with two to six pups common—although only one in five to ten live to adulthood. In the wild they may see their tenth birthday.

A coyote can range over the entire Island, but their hunting is confined to territory marked with spray. They can lope for hours without tiring, and cross

between the islands of our archipelago over the ice. They feast on whatever is available, usually mice, squirrels, chipmunks, rabbits, insects, birds, fruits, carrion, and pilfered human leavings. Every so often they take a cat or a dog. They hunt by themselves, in pairs, and occasionally in packs, but most pack activity is celebratory—“the howls of February,” their pride at being young and alive.

Coyotes make burrows, sometimes digging out one previously belonging to a groundhog or fox. These dens are only used for rearing their young; the rest of the time they bed down above ground, frequently pushing under a tangle of junipers.

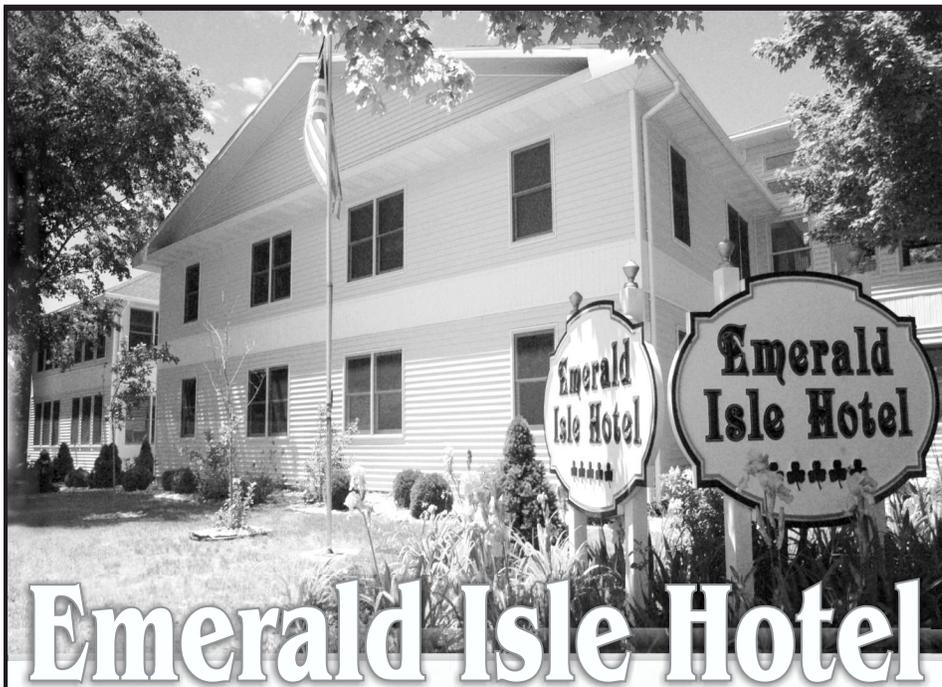
Coyotes are wary and clever. They are known to play—with sticks, discarded cans, or even pets or people. They tend to move purposefully in straight lines, as opposed to a dog’s curiosity-directed meandering. A dog’s track shows a greater spread to its five pads, as if were less afraid of leaving tracks or being followed.

Over fifty-thousand years ago, dogs as such were brought in from the wild, domesticated to be our friends, workers, guards, and pets. We don’t see many coyotes, but when we do we are met with a look that seems to combine two sentiments, “you’re not putting a leash around *my* neck” and “hey, what about *me*?”

Reports from elsewhere have them adapting to our cities, although here on Beaver Island they tend to stay out of St. James. But you can stand at the edge of town and let the howls curl the hair on the back of your neck almost any night.

OUR WEATHER

February was a full winter unto itself, with temperatures ranging from fifty-one above to eight and a half below. During its hot spell—which lasted all of thirty-nine hours—shanties were towed off the harbor and the inland lakes. Then we froze up again, with new ice thick and hard. In the meantime those who thought the skies had to be snowed out from the great December and January dumps turned out to be dead wrong—ten inches of fresh fluff fell in one day in the middle of February’s very cold third week.



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Fred Howing passed away suddenly at his home on January 9, 2009. He is survived by his devoted wife of 53 years, Ellen Howing. He was president/owner of Howing Insurance Agency. He was a life member of Third Christian Reformed Church and attended Beaver Island Christian Church.

Born and raised in Kalamazoo, he first experienced Beaver Island as a child when his parents, Nick and Tillie Howing, stayed at the Kempker's cottages in Lake Geneserath's south arm. From that point on he fell in love with the Island. He realized his dream of coming back in 1975, when he built his own cottage on Lake G. Over the past 35 years he was able to enjoy summer Island living with his family and friends, and after retiring could spend more time with his grandchildren fishing, walking, and just enjoying the Island beauty. He loved listening to the loons, watching the soaring eagles, and the simplest beauty all around him.

His eternal optimism was a guiding light in our lives. Everyone who went fishing always knew he would be waiting for them when they returned to the dock to see how many were caught. He always put a positive spin on the day, even if you came home skunked.

Fred and Ellen would enjoy going to town every day at 2:00 to pick up their mail, and to say hi to Lil. They would proceed to Daddy Frank's to get an ice cream cone, and of course, the staff already knew what they would want. They would then go to the point and sit under the tree by the township hall and watch the boats cruise past.

Fred attended the McDonough's 75 Anniversary celebration and, of course, entered the drawings. He stopped into the store a few days later and asked

Ellen whether he should check to see if he might have won anything. Billy overheard their banter and offered to check for them. He came back with a smile and said he had, and gave him a McDonough's hat. Billy knew Fred always wore a hat. We think he really didn't win anything, but it made his day just the same.

He was forever selfless and eternally giving, and he inspired us to be better people just by being around him.

His children, grandchildren, and great-granddaughter were the pride and joy of his life. Besides several nieces and nephews he is survived by Deborah (Steven) Terpstra and Tom (Mary) Howing; grandchildren Jeffrey (Kelly) Terpstra, Stephanie (Craig) Gernaat, Nicholas, Andrew and Matthew Howing; great grandchild Reese; twin brother Theodore Howing; sister Genevieve Brussee; and sister-in-law Paula (Ken) Stahl.

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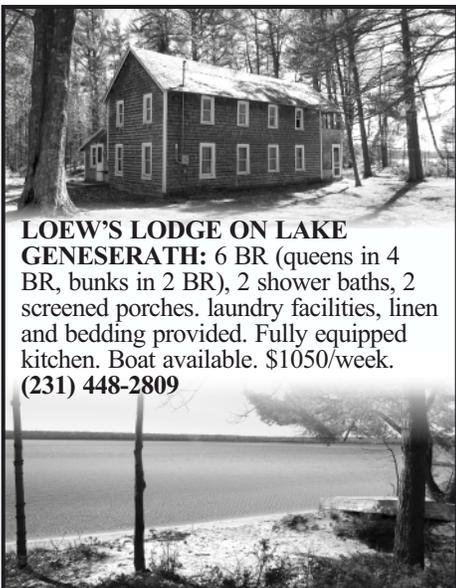


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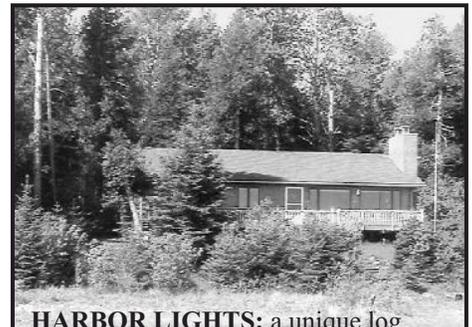
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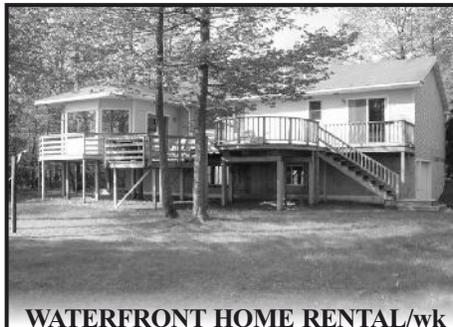
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continued on page 42.

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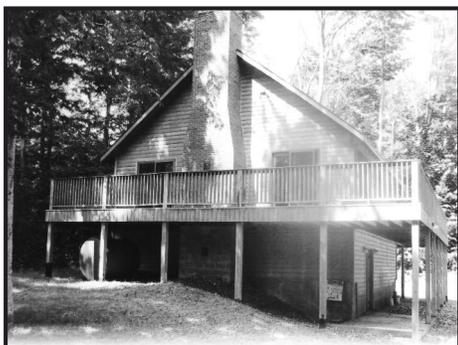
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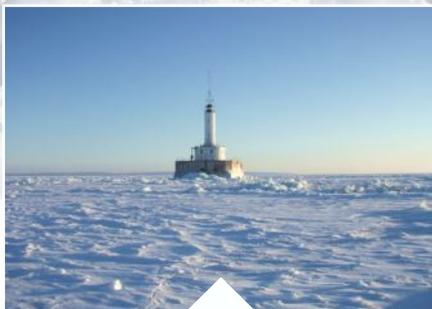
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Units 7, 8, 9, 11 of Innisfree Dunes Condominium

Four beautiful, wooded acreage pieces located on the north side of Donegal Bay Road just four-tenth's of a mile from town and the Emerald Isle Hotel. These lots have access to their interior (north side) off Innisfree Lane but Lots 9 and 11 also have access to Donegal Bay Road. The new bike path runs along the south line of these lots. All four lots are zoned and restricted to single-family residential use. They are very close to town and just about 3/4 of a mile from the public access at Font Lake. Lot 11 is immediately adjacent to Ed and Connie Wojan's home at 26765 Donegal Bay Road. Lot 7 is on the west side of Innisfree Lane and Lot 8 is just toward town on the east side of Innisfree Lane. These large homesites are really hard to find close to town; the nearest anyone will find something like these are 10-acre parcels much farther down the Island. One-half acre lots in the Wojan Plat a little closer to town than Innisfree Dunes Condominium have been selling for \$42,000 to \$45,000 for a number of years. These 2-1/2 to 3 acre lots are therefore really a bargain at **\$45,000 each**



FOR SALE: 28190 ISLAND WOODS RD: 3 Bedrooms; 2 Baths; Built in 2005; Immaculate with loads of character; For details and interior photos, go to Forsalebyowner.com (Listing ID #: 21207130) or contact Drew & Sarah at (231) 675-3746



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