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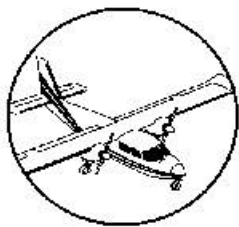
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Contents



BITA versus BIBCO	4.
Health Center Board hires Manager	6.
Senior Perks	6.
Peaine Township Master Plan moves forward	7.
Buggies barnstorm Beaver	8.
Happy Birthday, Peaine Township	11.
The Peace Retreat on Beaver Island	12.
Not just another Joe on the Street	13.
Constance Cappel visits Beaver Island	14.
The Way it Was: The Man who shot Strang	16.
First annual Beaver Island Antique Car Show	19.
Notes from the Townships	20.
Beaver Island Partnership Project takes First Step	21.
The Gospel Ship docks at St. James	22.
Historical Society holds its Annual Meeting	24.
One Hundred Years Ago	25.
Letters to the Editor: The McCann House's Centennial Year	27.
On this Date	28.
Township Engineer Gary Vogt wins Prestigious Award	29.
McDonough /Scane Wedding	29.
Astronomy Class on the Beach	31.
Recipes from our Readers: Joy Green	31.
Weather or Not	32.
Reverend Ralph Witmer 90 and Going Strong	32.
<i>In Remembrance</i>	33.
The first Bite of Beaver	33.

Beaver Beacon

the Island Monthly since 1955

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BITA vs. BIBCO

In the past month those attending the Boat Company's annual meeting and the first St. James Town Board meeting to follow witnessed a few eruptions of the tension that has been developing between BIBCO and the Beaver Island Transportation Authority. BITA had been created to receive State money and take title to assets purchased with it, primarily the *Emerald Isle* ferry.

On the surface, some conflict could have been expected. When the process of paying for a new ferry was first investigated nine years ago, we learned that government funding to a privately-held company would be limited, no matter how vital its expansion was to the public. So BITA was formed, and a new ferry appeared in due course.

No one realized that deferred consequences would cause tempers to flare. Yet we might have predicted that the State requiring BITA to perform services long accomplished admirably by BIBCO would produce some friction. Factoring in the traditional familial rivalry between the strong-minded members of each organization, and a shift in the State's requirements for overseeing a private company operating a publicly-funded operation, might let us anticipate a few fireworks. But no one expected someone to stand up at both meetings and verbally attack not the message but the messenger, asking St. James Supervisor Don Vyse to fire two of the Township-appointed key members of

BITA and replace them with "individuals aware of the difficulties facing BIBCO and their long history of exemplary service."

With parties in both camps clamoring to express themselves, Don Vyse was in a tough spot. Deciding whether or not to change BITA horses would be his call. In the ten days between the two meetings his phone rang off the hook, and wherever he went someone collared him to lobby for their position. Negotiations were stalled for the revised operating contract requested by the state; reacting to this pressure, BITA had threatened to take back the boat and its other assets and look around for another operator if progress towards a new contract could not be made.

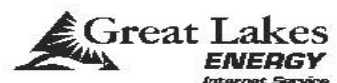
Copies of BITA's blunt letter were circulated at BIBCO's annual meeting, provoking an outcry. People were shocked that BITA wanted 25% of the passenger fares to cover its operating expenses, and was asking for the power to control the schedule and rates. They did not know BITA had been pushed to make these requests by the Michigan Department of Transportation.

At the St. James Board meeting, forty members of the public packed the room to see how the drama would play out. The danger, it was thought, was that the State could become so disgusted with our feuding that they would cease their support, in this and in other areas. But BIBCO couldn't accept the proposed contract

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modification because it would add \$2 per ticket. BITA was accused of having evolved into an excessively aggressive entity, and of having exceeded its purpose by applying for title to the bottom lands around the ferry dock.

The situation was somewhat defused during an extended period in which a dozen members of the audience made comments. It quickly became apparent that the conflict was exacerbated by a lack of accurate information, a situation helped by Barb Schwartzfisher reading a letter from the State, which made several requests of BITA: It should better define its administrative function in setting fares, purchasing equipment, and applying for grants; It should control the operation of the ferry; It should also address the use of equipment provided by MDOT in a new, long-term agreement.

By ten thirty Don Vyse realized it would be best not to act precipitously but to postpone deciding whether or not to replace part of BITA's structure until everyone could investigate the issues that had been raised and calmly consider the context, ramifications, and options. He also expressed concern over the possibility of a law suit that might ensnare the Township, and addressed the charge of a conflict of interest, saying the Township Attorney wasn't too worried.

In the meantime, he urged the parties to the ongoing contract negotiation to try harder to resolve their differences. We understand the chips have come off the negotiators' shoulders, and they are doing just that.

Letters to the Editor

Rita Gillespie Blood Drive

The Rita Gillespie Memorial Blood Drive was again a very successful event this year, and continues to play an important role in maintaining the health of our neighbors near and far. Each year since the reestablishment of the drive several years ago there has been thoughtful consideration given to improving all aspects of the donating experience, to make it as pleasant and less time-consuming as possible. Both written and verbal comments by donors suggest we have been successful. This 'fine tuning' is due in large part to contributions made by Fred Haubold through his diligence and organizational skills. We wish to publicly thank Fred for all his and Cindy's efforts for helping make this an outstanding blood drive. We wish them well as they make their move back to Arizona.

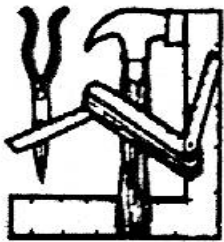
—Jerry Charbeneau, Jeanne Howell, and Connie Wojan

Letters to the Editor

Township Airport

I would like to urge the voters of Peaine Township to vote for the Airport Millage in the upcoming November election. The Millage is vital to the well-being of this very necessary facility. I would also urge you to attend the Airport Committee meetings. We have a new Chairman, Don Vyse, and new member, Michael Scripps. The meetings will be posted.

—Terry Saxton,
Airport Committee member



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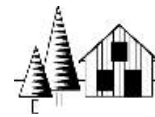
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Health Center Board hires a Manager

After its meeting September 17, the BIRHC Board approved hiring a half-time Transition Manager. Arlene Brennan, who had been working as a consultant for three months until her contract expired on August 31, has agreed to continue in a more formal capacity as Manager. "Establishing this position has been a top priority for the Board. Finding Arlene and seeing her good work this summer was a natural and welcome chance to get a real health care professional for this important job," said Gary Damstra, Board president. Arlene's salary of \$120,000 for the 18 months of her assignment will be paid in part from grants already received. If necessary, the remainder will come from the state grant for the new health center. One of Arlene's primary responsibilities will be to see that project to a successful conclusion.

The Board also approved a new fee schedule for certain services, which is expected to add some \$8,200 to insurance claims. Arlene's research this summer found that the Health Center could recover this additional revenue from the various insurers due to changes in reimbursement schedules and more precise coding for certain patient services.

Finally, Anne Glendon delivered



the exceptionally good news that the PT Cruiser raffle had raised a total of \$25,000 as a result of the sale of all 400 tickets. The winner, Lyle Klinger from East Tawas on his first trip to Beaver Island, elected to take \$15,000 cash in lieu of the car, thus adding \$1,000 to the Health Center's net profit. The entire Board applauded the wonderful support given by the Beaver Island community and visitors. "Everyone would have liked to win, of course, but the really wonderful aspect was how many people said they bought tickets because the Health Center is such a good cause, and so vital to the Island," Anne said.

—Joe Reed

Calendar of Events

- Oct 5 Bite of Beaver Island, 4-7 (p. 33)
- Oct 7 AMVETS aux. 7:30 pm
- Oct 8 School Board meeting, 7:30 pm
- Oct 8 BITA meeting, noon
- Oct 8 AMVETS, St. James Hall, 7 pm
- Oct 9 Peaine Twp. Board, 8:00 pm
- Oct 10 Health Screenings, BICS, 4-6 pm
- Oct 15 BIRHC, library, 7:00 pm
- Oct 24 Spaghetti Dinner benefit, Peaine Hall, 5:30-7:30 pm
- Oct 26 CMU Closing Party, 6:00 pm
- Oct 27 BIHS meeting, Fire Hall, 7:30
- Oct 27 Halloween Party, Laurain Lodge, dusk. Rain date Oct 28
- Nov 1 Shamrock Halloween Party

Senior Perks

St. James Township Clerk Jean Palmer recently announced new services designed to help improve life for our seniors. The Meals-on-Wheels service (started four years ago by Elaine West) is expanding from three customers to five. *Dining Out* vouchers are available for \$2, which are accepted at Dalwhinnie for a breakfast-up to three times a week. In addition, Jean has forms available that can provide both heating and tax credits for senior citizens.

There is also a house cleaning program in the making for those who cannot do this for themselves—it only needs workers who will clean for the state-mandated salary, which is less than the local market.

The Dearly Departed Robert O. Gatliff, 1923-2002

Word has been received from Calumet City in Illinois that Robert Gatliff passed away on September 14th. This "Island boy" served in the Army during WW II, and ran his own garage. His parents were Thomas and Mary (McDonough) Gatliff, who preceded him in death—as did his brothers Danny, Cornell, and Perry, and his sisters Anna Margaret Zank, Dorothy Licavoli, Mary Ruth Robbins, and Ellen Gatliff.



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Peaine Township Master Plan Commission Moves Forward.

What is a "Master Plan" anyway? First of all, it is a rather daunting challenge. According to the *Peaine Township Planning Commission and Schedule for Master Planning, 2002-2007*, the commission's task is to draft a Master Plan for the physical, social, and economic development of Peaine Township. The plan is to be comprehensive, and developed in the context of a full Island perspective. It will include action recommendations to guide the responsible township and county agencies in the plan's implementation.

The plan will draw on many sources of information, including input from St. James planners. It will be shared with all interested residents of Peaine Township at a public meeting sponsored by the Planning Commission before it is forwarded to the Peaine Township Board. Master Plan commissioners will work to achieve consensus on the draft *Master Plan* before the Planning Commission sends it to the Peaine Board for final revisions and/or approval.

The process should take eighteen to twenty-four months. Input is hoped for from all property owners and residents of Peaine Township who have an interest in the future of the area, including all Peaine Township Planning Commission members and appointed representatives from the Township who assist with the effort.

The three main purposes of the

Master Plan are; to fulfill a state obligation to produce a Comprehensive Plan for the future of the Township; to reflect the interests and views of Peaine residents and property owners so local government decisions and policies can be informed and guided by them; and to help give Peaine representatives to the Island's joint planning commission a clear objective when discussing quality of life and future development of Peaine Township.

The planning process involves several groups. The first is the *Planning Commission*. These individuals are officially responsible for designing the planning process, seeing that it is carried out effectively, and reporting to the Township's, County, and State. Doug Tilly is the Chairman of the Peaine Township Planning Commission. Also playing a role are *Commissioners*, who are either year-round or seasonal residents of Peaine Township, including the five current members. Doug Tilly, Dave Duda, Judy Lanier, Krys Lyle, and Bill Markey. A sub-set of the Commissioners will also serve as the *Steering Committee* for the overall planning process. This committee will include members of the Township's Recreation Planning Group, the Zoning Board of Appeals, the Planning Commission, and members-at-large from East, West, South, and Central areas of the Township. A group of *Commission Advisors* includes

informed leaders from St. James Township and from the mainland. Lastly, a group of *Neighborhood Planners* who have agreed to host and/or attend local area planning sessions in various homes over the summer and early fall so input to the key issues can be discussed will also play an important part.

The first meeting of Peaine's Master Planning Commission was held on July 9, 2002 at the Peaine Township Hall, followed by a scheduling session with the Steering Committee. Over the course of the summer, seven Neighborhood Planning Sessions were held across the Township in people's homes or in public places. Their purpose was to identify issues and record suggestions from a cross-section of residents and property owners. A second meeting of the Commission was held September 9, 2002. Summaries were submitted of the information gathered during the Neighborhood Meetings and shared at this session. A survey is being developed from the compiled input. From this data, the Planning Commission will be able to identify priority issues and concerns of the Township. The survey should be available sometime this fall. Development of the Master Plan will continue through the winter months into the summer of 2003, according to the current schedule.

—Jane Dwyer



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Buggies Barnstorm Beaver

A few days after the antique cars toured Beaver Island, another vintage mode of transportation, the horse and buggy, made an appearance on Beaver Island. Shaker Hites and Cloyd Ramsey each brought two buggies over for the Labor Day weekend, and took a few extended tours each day.

These buggies are modern versions of traditional models, and cost around \$2,500 each. Some had inflated tires, some solid; each is better for certain terrain. The hitches were fastened to the front shocks to take the pressure off the horses' shoulders. They exhibited some technology, such as the use of ball bearings, but stopped well short of the \$10,000 composite material racing buggy that is becoming so popular.

No one is sure how many buggy enthusiasts there are in America, but a good guess is 15 to 20,000. There are national clubs, competitions, gatherings, and newsletters, as well as smaller clubs in every state. They say that all it takes is climbing in a buggy and having a good ride through a scenic landscape to get the buggy bug.

It's not exactly a safe sport, though, although being hit by a car is not a significant worry. The biggest danger is a buggy-to-buggy collision.

Horses are temperamental, and high-strung. Some can be trained to the buggy in six hours, but some require six months, and some never learn. Once a group of buggies sets out on an expedition, a contest between the horses can develop. And seldom are two content to travel at the same speed for very long. Another problem for the driver is that in populated areas they have to stop to remove the droppings, carrying dustbin and broom; some cities have even passed diaper ordinances, especially for guided tours.

Labor Day was a beautiful weekend for this junket, although something happened the night of September 2nd that could have ruined it. The group was just sitting down to eat a late dinner at Shaker's home on Freesoil Avenue when they heard a clatter of hooves and saw four of their horses burst through the fence and gallop past the window. The crew took fifteen seconds to gather itself and then all of them jumped into a Suburban and gave chase. Reaching Main Street a moment later, the frantic horses were nowhere in sight--but they had hit the asphalt with such force that they left a track. Down past the Shamrock they went, and then up to

continued on Page 10



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Buggies come to Beaver, from Page 9

the King's Highway and out of town. The tracks disappeared at Phyllis Moore's, so the gang turned down Carlyle Avenue and flashed their lights down every driveway. Finally they found all four huddled together gasping for breath in Robert Gillespie's shop lot across from his home. What spooked them? "We'll never know," Shaker admitted, taking out his guitar for a few songs before turning in. "Never had that happen before in my life."

Whenever Cloyd comes to the Island, he has to reminisce about when

he helped his father log on Beaver Island. They conducted their operation completely with horse power, working at the croquet mill or Camp #3. He was just a boy, but he worked like a man and formed life-long bonds with many Beaver Islanders. This is where he developed the appreciation for horses that got him into buggies. "We picked up and left over 40 years ago," he said. "But sometimes when I'm driving a team out in the country, all those intervening years just disappear, and I have to pinch myself to remember that since that time a lot has happened. The internet, cell phones, and men on the moon."

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Happy Birthday, Peaine Township

On August 24th Peaine Township threw itself a party for its 155th birthday. After a barbeque, a ceremony took place in the Peaine Township Hall with the Board, delegates from the MTA, Shirley Roloff, and about 30 guests. After a few preliminary remarks from Supervisor John Works (he mentioned that with 70 miles of roads and a land valuation of \$100,000,000, Peaine was the largest township in Charlevoix County), Amelia Compo, a descendant of Chief Payzhickwaywedong, offered a prayer in which she asked that knowledge be increased and shared as a way to bring all people together. After the prayer Fred and Cindy Haubold presented a copy of the 1852 map of Beaver to the Township, with a second drawing on the back showing the bearings of various water routes linking Paradise Bay to the mainland.

Three of Amelia's sisters were present, including Tootsie Keeshik, who had driven up from Virginia for the occasion. She is descended from Chief Peaine through his son Antoine, Antoine's son James, and James' daughter Lucy, who was her mother. She talked about the uncertainties surrounding the Chief's arrival (he was born in 1805), the origin of his name (which means 'cloudy day'), and the mistaken communication that led to the Native Americans being called Ottawa-they thought they were being asked

what do you do?, and their answer, *Ottawa*, means *We are traders*.

Tootsie spoke about our landscape artifacts, including the *Circle of Chiefs*, which Alvin LaFreniere had showed her the day before. One of the stones there is marked with an engraving of a bird wing, because the Chief buried there, who led the 1763 uprising against the British at Fort Michilimichimac, was a member of the Crane Clan. She mentioned that the stone circles were used for ceremonies, frequently surreptitiously because they were ordered to abandon their traditional celebrations except for the *Ghost Suppers*, which fell on All-saints' Day. There was a time also, she added, when Native Americans had to wear a copper necklace to indicate which land they were connected to; this was after the effort by Henry Schoolcraft, Pere Marquette, and others to apportion the Indian Nation into bands.

Tootsie mentioned that a pipe ceremony was being conducted simultaneously on the mainland for Peaine Township. She hoped that understanding will continue to improve, and that the 400th anniversary of America's discovery by Captain John Smith in 2007 would be celebrated as marking a significant improvement in tolerance of and respect for the dissimilarities of our two cultures.



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Peace Retreat on Beaver Island

On the morning of August 31, twenty travelers arrived at the Charlevoix boat dock to participate in the annual Labor Day Weekend Retreat organized by Jim Norgaard and Sally Wagoner, this year entitled "Practicing Peace in These Times." We would spend three days with co-facilitators and Islanders in a beautiful meadow surrounded by forest. We began with a journey to Barney's Lake, shimmering in the hot midday sun, where an orchard filled with apple trees and hops was the Island's first gift to us. Sheltering trees, mossy green forests, foaming silver surf... we were soothed by their warm greeting. Arriving at our campsite, we pitched our tents and began the first in a series of circles and workshops that would turn this group of strangers into a community, a genuine family.

If experience is the best teacher, then the facilitators had much to offer.



Guests Loren Stewart of the Findhorn Community in Scotland and Debbie Willens led a workshop on making peace between the genders. Patricia and Bernhard Orderheimer of the Michigan Peace Team shared their experiences in Nablus; and were joined by Holly Wren Spaulding and Robert Bartle, who told stories of their peace work in Mexico and Argentina. Jim Norgaard, a teacher of Celtic Studies, has worked in peace and environment work and community networking. Sally Wagoner is a registered nurse, herbalist and massage therapist in Indiana. Each day during this year's retreat we explored an aspect of peace -- personal, communal, and global. "Peace Mentoring" gave us an opportunity to delve into our own personal beliefs about peace, while

"Essential Peacemaking Between Men and Women" provided insights into our thoughts about the opposite sex. The nature-inspired "Body Prayers" exercises gave us time to play and stretch our bodies.

Our growing sense of respect and care was deeply fostered by the Island, which seems both ancient and new, sacred and playful at the same time -- a fitting and fertile ground for our seeds of peace to sprout. We honored it by walking softly on its ground, leaving behind only the joyful spirit of our presence. On the ferry back we perched on the upper deck with guitar in hand, singing every song we knew. We were joined by travelers young and old, adding their energies to our voices. Someone said "Hey, you guys must be related...this must be a family thing." And they were right. The Island and its surrounding waters provided the perfect nurturing environment for us to explore the meanings of peace -- in our lives today, and in our hopes for the future.

—Gail and Hal Willens



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Not Just Another Joe on the Street

After a ten-year absence from the Island scene, former resident Joe Cunningham returned for a week of vacation, with his wife and two boys in tow. Those whose memories stretch way back into the 1980's will remember Joe's musical offerings to our fair isle, particularly his sessions at the old Circle M Restaurant on summer weekends. There, amidst a panoply of local musicians, Joe would offer regularly updated musings on Island events, characters, and the various eccentricities of rural living. His satirical vignettes became the centerpiece of those well-attended jamborees, some of which were enhanced by demonstrations of local performance art; most famously Tim McDonough's on-stage slicing and dicing of a chicken in record time. Back in the day, Greenwich Village had nothing on us!

History repeated itself on the night of August 20th, when a small group gathered at the home of Joe's sister Jayne on King's Highway to listen to Joe spin stories of his intervening years in New York and San Francisco, the latter being his home of the last several years. The crowd was regaled with Cunningham's own songs, some taken

from a musical he wrote a while back: "Joe the Quilter", the story of an actual 17th century English quilt maker. Other highlights of that night in the old stone farmhouse included Josh Broder joining Joe in a duet from their collaborative musical on the life of James Strang; Stryder Crosswhite performing a Soundgarden hit with Joe on guitar; and Cindy Gillespie-Cushman leading the vocals on a couple Hank William's gems. Robert Cole gave a poetic interlude as well, reading two poems from a recently published collection of his work.

Of course the evening wouldn't have been complete without the good Mr. Cunningham reaching back through the halls of memory to resurrect the era of the BIRA, that shadowy underground organization once so boldly dedicated to a certain cause: in other words, the Beaver Island Reunification Association. Joe, who of course never personally *knew* any purported member of this activist-prankster gang, brought the crowd more or less up to date on the doings of the crew that valiantly fought for the creation of one Island Township. It seems that though the signs of their

existence are increasingly rare, the observant local can still detect evidence of their influence. Yet, sadly, it was learned that the BIRA's entire retirement fund for their die-hard leaders and officers was tragically wiped out within a matter of weeks; it being a garage full of warm Old Milwaukee.

By the end of this tale there was hardly a dry eye in the house.

There are some elements of the not-so-distant-past that are gladly evoked, and thanks to Joe the Island got a little taste of them on this summer evening, and was harkened to remember *when*.

—Robert Cole

Letters to the Editor State Trappers

My wife and I took a leave from the Island, fearing we would be the next victim of the constant PM road checks imposed by the State Troopers (Trappers/ --whatever.) In the *real world* we didn't even see a State Trooper. What a relief!

—R. E. Burris

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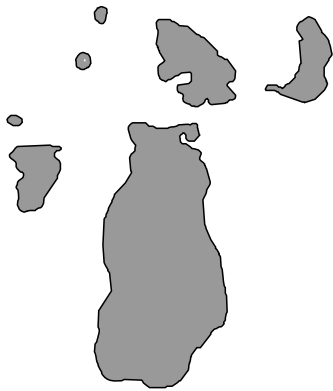
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Constance Cappel visits Beaver Island

Noted author Constance Cappel (*Hemingway in Michigan*) came to Beaver Island on August 27th for an unusual reason: to see if something she learned about in Massachusetts really existed. She hoped it did, because it figured into her most recent book, *Sweetgrass and Smoke*.

Most authors check out such things before publication, but she had cause to hesitate. She was here before, in 1953, and what she remembers most vividly was accidentally being locked in the bathroom of the King Strang Hotel and not being released until late in the evening. Luckily, what she wanted to find, the "stone circle," was pretty much as she'd described it in her book.

Her parents had a cottage in Harbor Springs, where her family would summer and where she has just made her year-around residence after giving up her position at the Norman Rockwell Museum. It was in Harbor Springs that legends of Hemingway first intrigued her and led to her

research, which started when she was 23--before she earned her MA from Columbia or her Ph.D.. When she investigated them, she discovered that Hemingway had fallen in love with Prudence Mitchell (Prudence Bolton in the Nick Adams stories), an Indian girl of 15, when he was 16, and that she had killed herself after he left, in part because she was starting to show; Hemingway learned about the tragedy, and some say his battle to avoid feeling guilt colored much of what he wrote. Facts were hard to come by, and yet the story would not go away. Finally she decided to set the story in a fictional setting and change the identities. So the same dynamic now plays itself out with different characters but the same end.

Not that she was unfamiliar with stone circles. She had visited over 400 in the East, and a hundred more in Europe and Ireland. Her opinion of this circle was that many of the standing stones have been removed, leaving only their in-ground bases.



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When she was told that the boulders in the wall behind Beaver Island Realty had been gathered from the Redding's Trail field, she examined them, and reported that most of their tops were facing in but some have discernible Celtic markings--a ratification of the theory presented by Andrew Jacob during Museum Week. She also brought up something Alvin LaFreniere had mentioned at Peaine Township's 155th birthday party: when the British gave the Indians smallpox-infected blankets, it was the first recorded instance of biological warfare. "L'Abre Croce had 30,000 inhabitants before they were killed," she said. "This was at a time when Detroit might've had 7,000."



Another character in her book is based on the father of Frank Ettawageshik, who has spoken during Museum Week several times. Another local connection is Jay Oliver, whom she interviewed for this book before he passed away. She ran her own press (Vermont Crossroads, which had three best-sellers) for several years, and became friends with several agents and leading publishers. Yet she brought out her current book with XLibris, a print-on-demand operation with which she is very satisfied. She has appeared at book signings and on NPR to popularize her book. Anyone interested in her weaving of a legend can obtain a copy from XLibris or from Amazon.com.



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The Man who shot Strang

In the summer of 1856, as the increasingly powerful and autocratic king of Beaver Island strolled leisurely onto McCullough's dock (in front of the Erin Motel) for a conversation with the Captain of the *US Michigan*, two men, Thomas Bedford and Alexander Wentworth, appeared behind him and launched an attack. Wentworth fired his gun, the bullet passed through Strang's hat, striking his head, and then bolted. But Bedford, whose pistol only held a single shot, ordered him back and forced him to fire another shot at point-blank range. Wentworth complied, and then ran for the ship, but Bedford remained, clubbing the fallen leader with his gun seven times, until the barrel broke.

The picture that has come down to us is of Wentworth being less hardened to such an act than was Bedford; indeed, Thomas Bedford was said to have killed two other men, and he was particularly proud throughout his life of having dispatched James Strang.


He boasted of his act in the *Detroit Evening News* in 1882 (when he was 67), claiming he had come to Beaver before Strang, had affected a mock conversion in order to stay (and had married Tip Miller's sister), but was rankled by the loss of liberty that came with Strang's rules. Especially the ordinance requiring women to wear "the bloomer," to which he refused to make his wife comply.

The precipitating act was a beating to which Bedford was subjected by Strang's henchmen in early March of 1856. One story is that he was beaten because he could not control his wife, but he tells a different tale in the paper. "I knew Strang had his men steal a boat from Gull Island, and mentioned this to the only white man living on Garden Island. I thought he would protect my confidence, but he repeated my remarks and the next day I was summoned. They accused me of betraying them by revealing what they had done, and marched me into the woods to receive




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my punishment. When they were done, I went home and got my gun."

After waiting outside Strang's home for fifteen minutes, hoping to get off a shot, Bedford rethought his plan and decided to wait for a better opportunity. The next morning he ran into Strang, who baldly asked him, "Were you whipped last night?" He claims to have replied, "You know I was, for there is none of this deviltry done unless you give the order." He never spoke to him again until he was leaning over his inert, pulpy body.

A power struggle had begun between Strang and one of his most important elders, Dr. McCullough. Strang moved to reduce his status, charging him with growing intoxication. McCullough retaliated by encouraging those who had a grudge against the king. In the case of Bedford, it is said he provided the pistols. When the *Michigan* arrived at the beginning of June, Bedford crouched behind a pile of lumber with a double-barreled duck gun, but the

opportunity for a shot did not materialize. He resolved to try again when the warship returned.

He got his chance on the 16th when the *Michigan* again tied up at McCullough's dock. After bringing Strang down, both men were taken on board the ship and delivered to the authorities on Mackinac Island, where they were treated as heroes. A mock trial fined them \$1.25 each and set them free. Bedford began to agitate for removing the rest of the Mormons, and by going from port to port was able to assemble 61 men to "sweep the Beavers." Once that stumbling, quasi-military maneuver was done, Bedford settled down on Beaver, where he resided for the next ten years.

In the interview, Bedford levied several charges against Strang, perhaps to justify his actions. He accused him of theft, among other things. "At one time there were 13 double teams on the Island," he said. "And I know for a fact that 8 had been stolen. The sheriff of Oakland County

arrived one day, looking for a stolen horse. Strang lent him every assistance, furnishing him with men to assist in the search. But they were the very thieves who had stolen it! At Strang's direction they search one half of the Island one day, and the other the next. But he had the horses moved from one end of Beaver Island to the other during the night."

In the interview, Bedford stuck to the picture he wanted to present of having rendered a fine service to the Beavers. He would not discuss other crimes which impinged on his reputation; nor would he provide details about the encouragement, assistance, and rewards he might have received. He possessed much information which would be of interest today, but he took the rest of his secrets to the grave when he passed away five years later, forcing us to turn to speculation as we try to assemble the complete story of Strang's life and end. As for Wentworth, he was merely trying to protect his girl from the king's eye.

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Youth Consortium sponsors Steak Dinner

On Wednesday, October 2nd, the Youth Consortium will hold its 3rd annual Steak Dinner at Holy Cross Hall, from 5:30 until 7:30. A \$15.00 donation will deliver a steak from the grill, complete with all the trimmings. And burgers will be available for kids. For more information, call Mary Jane Martin at 448-2342.



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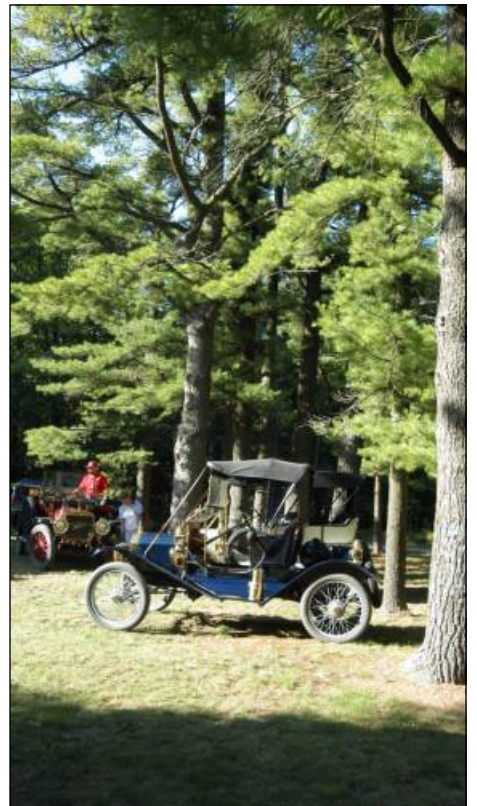
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First annual Island Classic Car Show

On Aug 27th six antique cars rolled off the *Emerald Isle*, with all of their owners anxious to see Beaver Island. We were met by John and Keith from the Brothers' Bed and Breakfast, who were our hosts. That evening they treated us to a wonderful chicken dinner at the former spiritual retreat. The next morning after breakfast we started off to explore, with maps from Beth and John McCafferty, our daughter and son-in-law, and a packed lunch from John and Keith. We visited John and Beth's horse ranch and had a nice horseback ride. Then we stopped for coffee and donuts at the Fogg's beautiful log cabin, which is still under construction. We enjoyed the sand roads for a while—until we realized we had made a wrong turn and were on a meandering logging trail that eventually got us stuck. Ordinarily this wouldn't end well, but after a lot of pushing by all 12 of us we got turned around and found the right road.

We had lunch near the Beaver Head lighthouse. It was a beautiful day. That evening we had a nice dinner at the Shamrock. A number of people who saw our cars outside came in to talk.

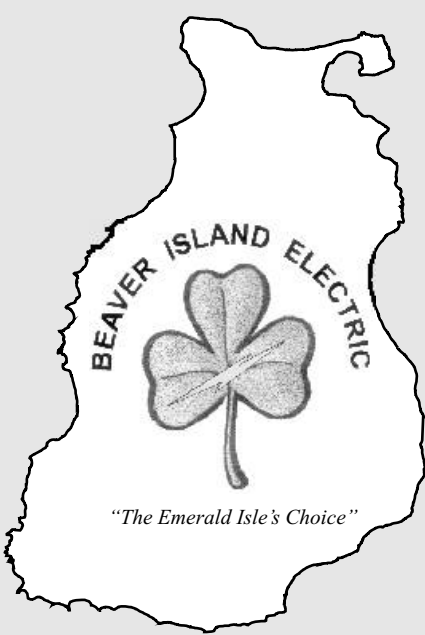
Thursday we decided to check out the village museums, and other points of interest. We were all fascinated with the Island history. We had parked on the hill by Daddy Frank's, and when we returned we found our cars surrounded by curious onlookers. Our last evening dinner was at the Beaver Island Lodge, where we enjoyed an elegant meal.

Friday morning after another great Brothers' breakfast we said goodbye to John and Keith with a promise to return next year, and drove to the dock to meet the boat. We sure had a nice time.

Besides us in our 1911 Ford Roadster, Ron and Irene Blanding were in a 1911 Ford Touring, Harold and Janet Carter had a 1912 Oakland Touring, Wayne and Marilyn Funk brought their 1911 Winton Touring, Leo and Joan Parnegian drove a 1910 Pierce Arrow Touring, and Bud and Lorene Jonas had a 1927 Pontiac. Thank you all for making us feel so right at home.

—Jack and Lil Hanson





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News from the Townships

Peaine Township: Regular Meeting of 9-11

All members present.
MOTION Nelson, second Lanier, to approve the 8-14 minutes; **PASSED**.

MOTION Works, second Nelson, to approve the current bills; **PASSED**.

Millage increases discussed. Road millage will increase \$5,200; Waste Management \$4,000; Fire Department \$1,200; Medical Center \$3,967; and the General Fund \$12,000.

Resolution #010902 offered by Nelson and supported by Works: to levy 8.2859 mills for the 2002 tax year. Ayes: Nelson, Kubic, Works, Lanier, and Martin. Resolution **APPROVED**.

John Works has sent letters to all committees requesting copies of their minutes to be available for the public at the Town Hall.

Letter of Thanks will be sent to Jack Kelly for his recreation plan work.

CCRC will hold a regular meeting at the Peaine Township Hall on October 15 at 9:15 a.m.

Jim Havemann, Project Coordinator for the Beaver Island Partnership Project, sent a letter inviting the Board members to a Partnership meeting on 9-16. He would like Peaine to reconsider its decision not to join the Partnership. John Works and the Board members continue to uphold their decision, made in April. They feel the township decisions should be left to elected officers.

Judy Lanier said that the Planning Commission continues its ordinance work, and St. James is starting to work on the Marine and Harbor Districts. Plans are being made for a survey development. Mailings to go out after the holidays. Judy wants to have a survey firm count the survey results.

Paul reported that the MTApicnic was well attended by Peaine Township. Its 155th Birthday Party was a nice event and attended by descendants of Chief Peaine. Paul and John are to be commended for these events.

Public Comments: "The roads are the best they have ever been." "Township events need to be advertised better."

Fred Haubold thanks the Board for listening to his viewpoints on many topics over the past 12 years. He wants people to realize that merging the townships has no savings or benefits. Peaine Township holds 60% of the

revenues of the Island, and would lose if a merger takes place: more taxes, and less representation. John Works encourages Peaine Township residents to write letters against a merger. He remarked that township government is the last grass roots of democracy.

Judy stated that it's good to have two townships. They might not agree on everything, but they cooperate to work out their differences.

Meeting adjourned at 9:20 a.m.

St. James Township Regular Meeting of 9-4

All members present.
The issue of burning in the downtown is the only item left to finalize on the Nuisance Ordinance. Suggestions given include banning burning totally or to allow it in the off-season. The ideas will be sent to the Township Attorney.

Curfew language examples were passed out to the Board members from other localities and MTA to review. Will discuss further at October meeting as there is a definite interest for a curfew ordinance here.

Board approved plans of Am-Vets' public notice board at the Chamber of Commerce building downtown. The Board will have final say on design and exact placement of the sign.

An engineering study on the Harbor Light at a cost of \$5,000 was approved. This is another step which must be done before a grant application can be submitted for repairs to the Lighthouse.

The Board approved the purchase of a chemical toilet for the Chamber of Commerce building. The C of C will share half the cost of the unit.

Board approved pending purchase of a maintenance truck for the Townships.

H & D bid for the Donegal Bay Trail project was accepted. Engineer Gary Vogt will ask the State for an additional \$13,000 towards the project. With that additional amount the Township share would be \$70,193.

Total millage to levy for St. James Township in the amount of 11.9603 mills was approved.

The Board heard comments about the dispute between BITA and BIBCo. Two BITA members, Rich Gillespie and Grace Matela, are up for reappointment. No decision was made; the matter was tabled until the next meeting, either the October meeting or a special meeting.

Beaver Island Partnership Project takes First Step

Seventeen representatives of organizations which either signed the Partnership Agreement or are considering doing so met at Peaine Township Hall on Monday September 16 to discuss the next step. The Partnership Project is an outgrowth of the Visioning Project, which solicited input about the Island's future from over 500 people during a two-year period and established five priorities: retain traditional Island values; protect the environment while improving access to key features; enhance access to health care; upgrade our economic and high-tech opportunities; and strengthen our links to the mainland to expand communication and reduce overlapping of efforts.

The objective of the Partnership Project is to unite Beaver Islanders in actions that respect the relationship between the environment and a high quality of intellectual, economic, spiritual, and physical well-being, and to produce measurable improvement by 2005. Partnerships in general have a glowing track record, Jim Haveman pointed out. They raise community awareness, at the very least, tend to increase common ground, allow the expression of the democratic process, produce a basis for increased trust, and turn negative energy into productivity. With 28 organizations on board, and the Vision Project turning over the three thousand dollars left from its Northern

Michigan Hospital grant (and the Conservation Resource Alliance helping with logistic/communication requirements during the early stages), an infrastructure is in place. Now the question is: just how should the Partnership Project proceed?

After some discussion, an approach was agreed on: form three subcommittees to analyze these issues: how can the environment be protected while improving access to key features? How can public safety and health be enhanced? What can be done to increase our access to technology? "We have a history of important decisions about Beaver Island being made from outside, by people unfamiliar with the nuances of our lifestyle," Anne Glendon reminded the group. "But when we get together, important results can occur. Just look at the parking expansion, sewage treatment, paving project (including the bike trail), and new medical center."

The organizers hope this approach of work by committees will allow the group as a whole to develop a greater understanding of the details behind our current situation, to see what kinds of options we have, and to learn about the consequences of proposed actions or inactions. Preliminary reports will be presented at the next meeting (November 12 at Peaine Hall at 1:00 p.m.), which will focus on how to take the next step.

Powers Ace Hardware 2nd Annual Golf Tournament Results

Forty-seven golfers dodged the raindrops on September 18th to compete in a tournament hosted by Powers' Ace Hardware. Sponsors included: Ron Wojan, Gillespie Enterprises, Isle Craft, and Island Expressions, as well as Hager Distribution, Home Acres, Charlevoix State Bank, Schultz, Snyder and Steele, Traverse Bay Truss, Barts' Fruit Market, Midwest Siding, and Lumbermen's.

Two teams tied for the championship: Jerry, John & Mike Sowa, Rev. Howard Davis, and Bill Detwiler, and Greg Cary, Jim McDonough, Denise McDonough, Jeff Mestelle, and Heather Cary. Coming in second was Rich Gillespie, Chuck Gengler, Ryan and Kerrie Smith, and Jeff Powers. In third place was John Robert, John McCafferty, Dusty Cushman, Gerry Lafreniere, and Jack Hallahan. Individual award

winners included Aaron Morgan for the longest putt on #1, Kerry Smith for the longest drive on #1, Gerry Lafreniere for the longest drive on #2, Bob Goode for closest to the "deer" on #3, Denise McDonough and Mike Sowa for closest to the pin on #4, John Sowa for best second shot on #5, Tom Bussell for closest to the pin on #6, Earl Seger for best 3rd shot on #7, Sherm Kantzer for best 2nd shot on #8, Larry Laurain for the longest drive on #9, and Jean Carpenter for the longest putt on #9.... Whew!!!

Afterwards everyone's spirits were warmed with food and beverage provided by Powers Ace Hardware. This was prepared and served with the hard work of Barb & Jim Kenwabikase and Kathleen Antkoviak.

Thanks crew!

—Cheers, Jeff Powers



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The Gospel Ship docks at St. James

On Monday, August 26th, the Gospel Ship *Glory to Thee* arrived at the Yacht Dock with its crew, husband and wife missionary captains John and Gaydean Nolte and their Bernese Mountain Dog Silas. They had conducted a typical outdoor service in Charlevoix the day before, and came to see what he fuss over Beaver Island was about. After taking their message from port to port for three years, they figured it was about time.

In Charlevoix they had tied up, prayed, and then sat back to see what transpired. Because of the way their 44'-trawler is rigged out with their cross and message, it never takes long for other boaters to mosey over and quiz them. Just to start the ball rolling John might get out his 12-string and sing some of the songs he's written about the seas,



songs that always convey his faith. Sunday night was typical: after initially scoffing, a passer-by came back and poured out his heart full of troubles. "He went away much relieved," John said. "Not that we have any special talent. God just seems to place us where we're needed."

Despite the \$80,000 note they're carrying on their 22-year-old boat, they don't take a collection or ask for money--"everything we do must be free"--but they will accept a donation. Instead, they both work near their home in Ellison Bay, Wisconsin to make enough money during the off-season to support their missionary cruises. He is a carpenter, she a drywall finisher. Their life wasn't always thus.

He was an engineer who ran his own company while earning his seminary degree, and she managed her own bass fishing business. When both of their spouses passed away, they began to look for something that would make a difference. What they found was each other.



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It hasn't been easy. The brain cancer that took John's wife took five years to run its course, and cost him everything he owned. After the loss of her first husband, Gaydean became a missionary in Lebanon, where she was taken captive by the militia. For awhile she didn't know if she'd make it out alive. But then their paths intersected, and six years ago they were married. Now their lives are filled with purpose: bringing their message that the path to God lies through opening oneself to Him, not earning salvation by following a list of good works. Along the way they are researching Captain Bundy, whose missionary ships (all called *Good Tidings*) plied the same waters over a hundred years ago. "The more I learn

about him, the more I feel I'm ploughing the same field," he said.

John has his eye out for a studio to turn the songs he has written into a CD. He's also working on a book about the unusual experiences they have had ("Every day is like Christmas morning," Gaydean said. "We never know

what God has in store for us.") Time will tell if he has enough interesting experiences on his planned return trips to Beaver Island for the Emerald Isle to wind up with a chapter of its own. In the meantime, their adventures will be reported on their website, lighthousegospel.com



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Historical Society holds its Annual Meeting

Unlike the annual meeting three years ago that was immortalized in the Washington Post and became known as the Thursday Night Massacre, this year's BIHS annual meeting was a picture of conviviality as the Board and members took satisfaction in their accomplishments of the past year. In a well-catered affair at the Peaine Township Hall on August 22, the successes of beginning to install displays at the Heritage Park, the publication of *Volume 5* of the *Journal of Beaver Island History*, and a profitable Museum Week were summed up by president Alvin LaFreniere, who also thanked the public for renewing its support in the recent St. James Township millage vote.

Treasurer Chuck Schellenberg distributed a financial report that compared the year-to-date income and expenses to both last year and the "flexible budget" projections he recently implemented. The concise clarity of this document belied the fact that literally hundreds of hours went into its preparation. The audience applauded Chuck's efforts, feeling that he has allowed them to get a better handle on the Society's finances than ever before.

Director Bill Cashman presented a vision in which the next few years, besides the continuing work on many diverse projects, would see a concentration on three sequential building projects of increasing complexity, with each one augmenting the Society's self-confidence and experience and preparing it to undertake the next. The first, he said, would be to build a replica sawmill at the Heritage Park incorporating parts from various historic mills. He laid out the various components of this task: the cataloguing of all available parts; the procuring of additional parts; the design of the exhibit; the consideration of its siting; the preparation of the selected site; the raising of the necessary funds; and the installation of the display.

Once this is achieved, the BIHS will turn its effort towards the protection of the *Bob S* at the Marine Museum. A similar but more complicated procedure will be needed to create a building that will protect the outdoor boats, provide shop space for their restoration, and eventually become an adjunct to the Museum. The design will have to contend with encroaching high water, the need to hold back the earth on the road

side to install a floor, handicap access requirements, and the public's desire to see the lake. When this project has been accomplished, the Director said, the BIHS will turn all its attention to the Print Shop Addition.

Robert Cole reported on his Oral History work. This project has now created 110 hours of video tape and 103 hours of audio. Of these, about half have been duplicated and are available for viewing at the Print Shop Museum. He has also contacted five others with taped interviews and arranged for copies of their material to be available.

Volunteer Coordinator Joyce Bartels was given a round of applause for having filled the 26 shifts that keeping both museums open requires. And not just open, but friendly (according to comments reported by the audience) and interesting, thanks to her additional project of rotating exhibits every week.

In the election that followed, Alvin LaFreniere and Chuck Schellenberg were returned to their seats, and Kathy Ruis was elected to replace Pinky, who vowed to continue to work for the BIHS as long as she no longer had to attend "those darn meetings."

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One Hundred Years Ago

October 2, 1902,

Charlevoix Sentinel:

Local News: "Rev. Fr. Zugelder of St. James was here Tuesday after masons to plaster his new house."

Marine News: "The steamer *Lou A. Cummings* laid at Beaver Harbor from Sunday till Wednesday with a broken cylinder. She was there after a load of shingles for the new Northport Hotel when the accident happened. The *Columbia* of the same line was at the Soo with peaches, but went to the Beavers Wednesday and towed the *Cummings* here."

October 23, 1902

Local News: "The U. S. Fish Commission is preparing for its annual campaign of spawn gathering at Beaver Island, a consignment of spawn boxes having gone over on the *Beaver* yesterday. The closed season begins November first, and continues for forty-five days, during which time three tugs will fish for the Commission."

Beaver Island News: "Beaver Island is strictly on the boom and don't leave out the 'o's' and spell it with a 'a'"



either, for we won't stand for it. Instance: we have a first class harness and shoeshop, three of the best general stores in the country, and one of the most recent and welcome additions is a barber shop in charge of Mr. G Richards."

Dr. Auld and family of Charlevoix spent Friday, Saturday and Sunday with Dr. Wilkinson. The Doctors made a trip to the Head. Dr. Auld was there and secured a nice bag of rabbits and ducks from around Lake Geneseret. Our genial friend Geo. Faust entertained the gentlemen in a royal manner at the pleasant home of Mr. and Mrs. Phil Malloy.

October 30, 1902

Local News: "Shades of King Strang! Just think of it: a railroad on Beaver Island! Imagine the Hotel Beaver porter shouting "all aboard for Lake Geneseret!" or "Train for Mount Pisgah!" Yet that is what is proposed by a Chicago firm which has large land holdings there from which the timber has not been cut. Last week this concern bought out W. F. Gill's sawmill plant and will build a narrow-gauge railroad from the mill ten miles up the Island. This means much more than a lumbering project. The timber is mostly hardwood with some cedar covering good farming lands. It means the enlargement of agricultural interests and a general and permanent development of the Island. And that, in turn, means larger lumbering interests on the adjacent islands, which contain much valuable timber. It looks like a period of industrial activity at "the Beavers" and rapid agricultural development. These things, in connection with summer resort prospects, are very encouraging to Beaver Island people."

—Joyce Bartels



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McCann House Centennial Year

In 1895 James McCann purchased a 69' steam-powered tug from the Johnston Boat Works in Grand Haven. He convinced his son John to leave his job at a boat building yard in Wyandotte to captain the new commercial fishing vessel, which had a crew of 6 to 7 men. So began the McCanns' rise to economic prominence on Beaver Island.

An article Joyce Bartels found in the Charlevoix *Sentinel* for 5-2-02 stated, "Captain John McCann has the material on hand to build a new home." Island master builder Charles Tilly (who built the Dockside Market, Yankee Jim's store, the Malloy Meat Market, and many homes) was hired as the contractor. John and his wife Grace (Martin) had 6 children at this time, including James (who later owned the *Beachcomber*.) Before the new dwelling was finished they suffered a fire in their home around the harbor, and had to move in to the new home as it was. John wound up doing all the interior woodwork, including parquet floors using 5 different species of hardwood. The beaded paneling

under the stairs and windows attest to his skill. When the ceilings in the living and dining room were damaged, he brought in workers from Manistee to cover them with beautifully embossed tin plating that still graces these rooms today. Marguerite (Runberg) and Catherine (Dunbar), my mother and her sister, were born in the new home in 1903 and 1905.

In 1924 John built the 64' steam tug *Venus* at the McCann Dock, located where the ferry dock is today. As he worked (essentially by himself), an old gent showed up to watch almost every day. When the project was nearing completion, he remarked, "John, it's wonderful what you can do when you have the tools."

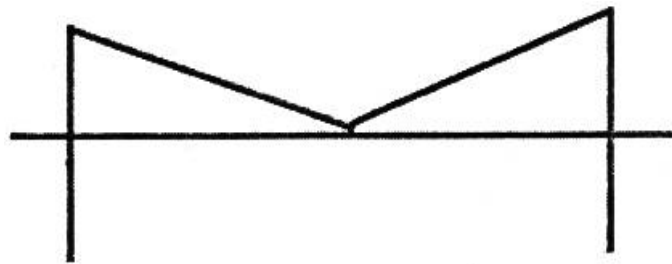
From 1985 through 1993, present occupants Joyce and Johnny Runberg operated a B & B in the McCann Home, beginning an 18 year restoration as a labor of love. A new sign of commemoration hangs at the end of the porch in the summer. Now we hope to have another sign identifying the structure as a Centennial Home.

—John Runberg

Father Vic's House Rebuilt



The Tidmores have hired Dan McCafferty to restore and expand the home they inherited from Father Vic (above), which started out as one of the Beaver Island Lumber Company houses (for John Stevens) before being acquired by the Bowery Gallaghers.



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On This Date:

Ten Years Ago

The raging issue in October of 1992 was whether or not to repeal the Zoning Ordinance Amendment that raised the requirements for R-1 property. It mandated a 200' width with 25' side yard setbacks and a minimum size of 100,000 ft². Those who opposed this restriction claimed that it was unnecessary because there was no danger of overdevelopment. After all, the Island had once supported a population of 2,000 people. Plus, it was unfair to those who had purchased property under the former rules, which would have allowed them to divide a 200' lot in half. Those who favored the new ordinance argued that continuing proliferation of smaller lots would hinder our appreciation of the Island's natural beauty, and put a strain on our infrastructure. The *Beacon* published a long letter from then-resident Marc Conner, wannabe North Fox developer who argued for a compromise of 150', and letters supporting the 200' width from Ed Wojan and Bill McDonough.

In other news, Red Mary retired after 19 years as our stern-fisted Postmaster, and was roasted at Stoney Acres. Jim Stambaugh chided her for

the time she took a day off for Washington's Birthday--a week early. Phil Lange applauded her ability to get a letter addressed simply to "Grandma" into the right box, and Rich Gillespie read a poem he had written, which ended, "Remember, Mary, it was just as hard on us/as it was on you."

Twenty Years Ago

For a change this *Beacon* contained much good news. Jim Gillingham made a presentation to the local school kids, showing them a frog, toad, lizard, turtle, alligator, and three snakes.. Dick Burris was awarded a commendation by Sheriff Lasater for his efforts in searching for the drowned Kenwabikise boys. The Sweet Adelines journeyed to Flint to receive their official certification. Joe Timsak and Sherri Mooney were married. Phyllis Moore gave birth to a future academic all-star. The CMU Closing Party honored retiring director Matt Hohn. A chimney fire at Coleen Martin's house, with Buddy off the Island, was quickly put out by the Volunteer Firemen. The school's Halloween Spookhouse was promised to be the best yet.

Thirty Years Ago

The *Beacon*, which served to cover

the events of two months, reported that Herb Lees of Perry, Michigan caught a steelhead trout weighing almost 7 pounds in Lake Geneserath. The editor theorized that the heavy rain throughout the summer kept Cable's Creek flowing, allowing the fish to enter the lake. The Game Club announced that woodcock and partridge were plentiful, but the Canadian Geese rode the high north winds well above the Island and never set down. The Club elected Sheldon Parker president to replace Alvin LaFreniere, who moved to Chicago. It made a large clear-cut behind Doty's Camp, pruned scores of apple trees, and sowed clover and rye over the Island.

Obituaries were plentiful in this issue. Frank Schnaudigal, who was the supervisor of Peaine Township for ten years, passed away after a long illness; he had been a steam-fitter, and outfitted the Sunnyside School, where he and his wife Gladys lived, with state-of-the-art plumbing. Art Brown's widow Sadie stepped in front of a car in Hart, Michigan and was killed; Art was the last owner and operator of 'Carpenter's Mill' from 1958 until 1968. Leo McDonough, a cousin to the Island McDonoughs who lived in Los

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Angeles, was lost, as well as Richard Stromberg, who moved here from Chicago and was the architect for the Holy Cross Rectory and Convent.

Forty Years Ago

The *Beacon* had good news and bad news about game: the perch weren't running, but the partridge population was very good, particularly on Garden Island. Roy Chambers, coyote hunter extraordinaire, arrived with his dogs for a bit of sport.

Patrol #1, the Conservation Department's boat that was at one time staffed by all Beaver Islanders, came into the harbor. Owned by a skin-diving club, she spent a few days scanning the bottom of various bays for dive sites. Another visit of interest: Edward Chase of Grand Rapids, the nephew of the engineer who was killed in a train wreck. "Mr. Chase told many stories of the days when he lived on the Island himself, during the time of the Beaver Island Lumber Company. His grandfather, who owned a small home on Lake Geneserath, had been one of the settlers driven off by the Strang regime."

Clare Brown, the County "Home Demonstration Agent," spent four days

teaching upholstery to Islanders in the Medical Center's basement. The School Board purchased some sports equipment (a volleyball net; softballs and bats), and arranged for a movie to be shown each month at the school.

McDonough - Scane Wedding

Another stitch towards keeping the circle unbroken was taken when Patrick McDonough of Evanston brought his fiancée Jennifer Scane to Beaver Island and married her in the Episcopal Church on August 24th. The son of William Glen McDonough (the son of Bill Pat and Sophia "Skeezix" McDonough) and Eleanor (the daughter of Young James and sister to Mary Bert), Patrick has stayed in touch with his many Island cousins, and well knew how to do it right. Violin, organ, and bagpipes (pipes are a part of the lore of Ireland as well as Scotland) accompanied the ceremony, and after the wedding dinner at the Beaver Island Lodge a Dancing Reception was held at the Brothers' Place with music by Danny Gillespie, Cindy Gillespie-Cushman, Edward Palmer, and Brian Scane, the bride's brother.

Township Engineer Gary Vogt wins Award

The Michigan chapter of the American Society of Civil Engineers has given Gary Vogt its 2002 "Quality of Life" award. Gary was nominated twice, both for his 'Tri-cities Pedestrian and Bike Path' Project and the Beaver Island Improvement Project, and won for his supervision of the work done here. "The Beaver Island Improvement Project exemplifies the essence of what our 'Quality of Life' Award is all about," the Society announced. "The coordination of efforts required, given the multiple project components and funding sources and the added difficulties associated with Beaver Island's relative remoteness, made this an interesting challenge.

Congratulations to all involved."

Gary received the Award at an Awards Luncheon in Lansing on September 20th.

Thanks for your care

Elwood Van Antwerp wishes to thank all those who called, sent cards, or visited during his recent illness, and to reassure his friends that he's fine—and ready to recite some old-time poetry.



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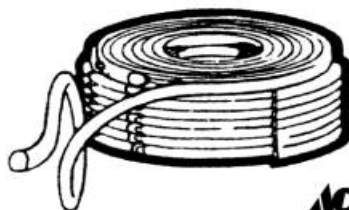
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Astronomy Class on the Beach

When the *Manitou* pulled into Paradise Bay in early September, it had an extra treat for Beaver Islanders interested in the stars: its own itinerant astronomy professor, Mark Nussbaum of Hillsdale College. Mark didn't offer to put on a seminar until he was told it would be the only way for him and his wife to board the fully-booked cruise. He's normally a chemistry professor, but taught astronomy in the past and was able to borrow a high-tech computerized mid-range telescope for this occasion, a 5" Celestron NexStar. This scope has a built-in Sky Tour feature, which commands the NexStar to find the most interesting objects in the sky and automatically slews over to each one. Once he had the machine aligned to two fixed stars, Mark could dial in the setting for over 18,000 objects, including the best deep-sky objects, bright double stars and variable stars. With the *Manitou* gently tugging on her anchor, he was able to take her crew and the few curious Islanders who



wandered up on a tour of many of the wonders of the Universe. "This is an ideal place to set up," he remarked. "Compared to so many light-polluted places, Beaver Island is dark enough to

receive tangible expressions from very distant sources. I'm surprised one of Michigan's many universities doesn't build a world-class observatory here."

GLE Internet up and running

We didn't have a chance to report on the GLE Beaver Island Internet upgrade in our September Issue, but GLE deserves a thank-you for a great job. They completed the upgrade a few days ahead of the September 1st changeover date, and dial-up connections instantly went from 31.2 kbps to between 45 and 52 kbps with compression. So far we have not experienced any busy signals and very few dropped connections. And for those lucky enough to be in town with a line of sight, an antenna is now installed on the

Recipes from our Readers

This recipe for Chocolate Chip Cookies was given to me by Hoot Rudolph, cook at the Beaver Lodge in the 50s, and has brought praise from my children and grandchildren.

Mix together the following list of ingredients: $\frac{3}{4}$ # brown sugar; 1# granulated sugar; 1# shortening; 4 eggs; 1# 10 oz flour; 1 tsp soda; 1 tsp baking powder; 1 tsp salt; 2 cups chocolate chips; and 1 tsp vanilla.

Bake at 350 ° for 8 to 10 minutes; when you think they aren't quite done, take them out of the oven. They finish baking on the sheet.

—Submitted by Joy Greene

roof of the school to offer always-on wireless broadband service. Unfortunately, the current practical limit is about a mile with no obstructions, but if you're in town and want a very fast always-on Internet connection without the latency and slow upload problems of a satellite connection, wireless is now up and running on Beaver Island! Hopefully in the next year with a taller tower and possibly the next generation of wireless technology, broadband will be able to reach significantly more Island customers.

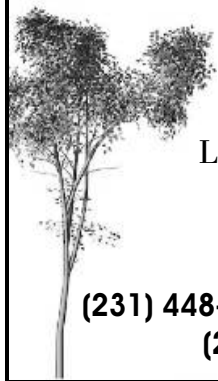
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Weather or Not

The snap in the air is unmistakable; the way the light seems to have grown clearer, yet more distant, it all points to Autumn. Perhaps the finest time of year in Northern Michigan. The tourist season has ebbed. Only the truly stalwart or those keen enough to see the beauty of Fall forests remain, weekend warriors seeking solitude. Almost sounds like a personal ad.

Indian Summer is what everyone is hoping for, that scant few days of blessed sunshine. In order for this to transpire, you first must have a frost, and then several days of over sixty degrees. This looks real promising. Somewhere between the Fifteenth and Halloween. October shouldn't be real wet, not by Michigan standards, but it will be cool. And, in truth, October is the coolest month. If October had a personal ad it would read like this: SCM (Surely the Coolest Month) looking for another cool month. I like long walks through woods exploding with color where hot apple cider awaits at the end of the trail. I like the sounds of dogs working the brush and the solitude of a bow hunter alone in a stand. I like the cadence of a quarterback just before the ball is snapped. I am full of long cool nights, and a handful of days where the sun seems as close as a smile. I am the afternoon spent picking out pumpkins with your daughter. I am the hours turning them into Jack-O-Lanterns. I am the memory of summer and the promise of winter. I am October.

—Liam Racine

Reverend Ralph Witmer 90 and Going Strong

Even more remarkable than the beginning of his 91st year is the fact that this Beaver Islander (his beautiful home is on Esch Road and, appropriately, *Paradise Bay*) spent 70 of those years as a minister of the gospel. Starting at 20, Ralph began his calling as minister in the little town of Cedarville. His wages (in the depth of the Depression) were the collections for the Sunday services (amounting to about \$200 a year.) Ralph soon embarked on a search for better wages for the calling he knew would be his life's work.

He served several other Michigan churches, including a Swedish Covenant, a Union Church, Hessel Presbyterian, Wesley Methodist in Detroit, Petoskey Methodist (for 7 years), then to Greenville, Marshall, Eaton Rapids, and down to St. Pete, followed LaGrange, Wisconsin, where he served three country churches every Sunday (morning, noon, and night), then to a seminary in Chicago, and finally as a chaplain in Albermarle, North Carolina.

He was introduced to Beaver Island by a Chicago friend in 1997 and decided that here was where he'd retire from the ministry. Some of you will remember the sermons he preached here. He bought a home here and sold it for enough to build his current home, which he reluctantly had to leave for quarters in North Carolina where he and his wife could get the care they needed--and a final ministry for Ralph.

The Witmers began a month's stay here this summer, renewing friendships and hosting a visit by friends and four generations of Witmers to celebrate Ralph's 90th birthday. Unfortunately the stay had to be terminated for needed medical treatment, but he and Ruth hope to come back for a month next summer. We all look forward to seeing him.

—Chuck Hooker

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First "Bite of Beaver Island" to be held October 5th

Beaver Island's culinary talent will be featured Saturday, October 5th from 4 to 7 p.m.. Both professional and amateur chefs will participate in the first ever event of its kind on the Island. Each chef or restaurant will sell special small portions of their fare in the \$5.00 and under price range. This will allow diners to sample a wide variety of food during "Bite of Beaver Island," which will be held on the Convent lawn downtown.

Chef Deborah Harwood will coordinate the event. Our Chamber of Commerce Director Steve West is handling marketing and advertising. "I participated in an event like this several years ago in Bozeman, Montana, and it proved to be very popular," said Harwood.

"This 'prototype event' has great upside potential and add-on possibilities for future years. The Chamber's plan is to make 'Bite of Beaver Island' an annual fall event," said West. Mark your calendars for October 5th. And if you have any questions, contact Deborah Harwood at 448-2239 or the Chamber of Commerce at 448-2505.

In other Chamber news, Steve West has announced that the 2003 Membership Drive will kick off on October 1st. A brochure outlining the advantages of joining will be mailed out shortly thereafter. So far this year, the Chamber has had over a thousand phone calls, 1,700 visitors to the office, and 28,000 visitors to its web site.

In Remembrance

Reflecting on the passing of many of the Island's beloved family members and friends, I wish to make the following observation: "They graced Beaver Island with their presence, talents, contributions, and ready smiles. Let us not remember them with sadness, for they instilled happiness in our very being for all time by their example."

A Smile

You can smile when you look at the sunshine,
Smile at floating white clouds in the blue.
Smile at twinkling stars in God's heaven,
And the rainbow's most beautiful hue.

Thank our Lord with a smile for His blessings,
Keep a song in your heart every day.
Oh the feeling is grand when you reach out your hand,
And to some other person you say:

"There's a great deal of worth in a smile,
Though it doesn't cost you a cent.
It's just a small effort on your part,
But think of all it has meant.

"There are others around you less cheery,
So why not make their day look bright?
Just smile, and the frown they've been wearing,
Will soon have faded from sight."

—Eleanor LaFreniere

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House for Rent to responsible person Sept through May. Bluff overlooking Donegal Bay, 2/1.75, washer, dryer, basement. \$600/month + oil + electric + deposit Call 248-370-9843 late

HOUSE FOR LEASE - Three BRs, two and one half bath house for lease starting in October. For more information call Robert at (231) 448-2235

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.

WESTPORT - Turn-key home: 3 bedrooms. In town-limits. (231) 448-

2513 or (231) 943-7989/ P.O. Box 110, Beaver Island, MI 49782.

DONEGAL BAY COTTAGE - On dune with private beach access and the best swimming and sunsets on the Island. 3 BR, sleeps 6, 1 bath, washer/dryer. Kayaks and bikes for your use. \$675/ week. Off-season rates available. Dana Luscombe eves. (248) 549-2701 days (248) 546-6680.

COTTAGE FOR RENT -NW shore with sunset view. On water. Three miles from town. All appliances and amenities. Best for 2 or 3 people. No smoking, no pets. \$550/week Off-season rates. Call (616) 396-6468.

FLORIDA HOUSE FOR RENT Spacious 3-bedroom, 2-bath home in Port Charlotte, FL (just north of Fort Myers). Swimming pool, fruit trees, near golf course. 3 miles to Gulf shoreline. By week or month. Call Laura Gillespie (231) 448-2366.

RENTAL ATTRACTION on Font Lake 3-4 BR home, private setting; fully furnished, with all the amenities. Beautiful view of lake and sunrises.

New owners of this high-demand rental are offering fantastic rates. Taking reservations now for spring and summer. Off-season rates also available. Call Rasch Properties at (248) 676-0816 today or e-mail at mrasch@comcost.net

YEAR-ROUND HOME - one block from store and marina. 4 BR, 2 bath, furnished or not, pets OK. Available after Labor Day to responsible party. \$ negotiable. (616) 388-9876.

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 448-2733 (days).

CEDAR COTTAGE - on a bluff with view of harbor and mainland. ¼ mile south of Catholic Church. 2 BRs, 1dbl. bed, 2 single;. TV/VCR, grill, complete kitchen, washer. No pets. \$540/wk. (734) 769-7565 (day), (734) 662-6678 (evenings).

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

JOYFUL ROSE FARM COTTAGE Available for rent by the week or the weekend. Sleeps up to 6, and is nestled in the woods on 10 acres near Barney's lake. Call (231) 448-2060.

2BR, 1 1/2 BATH HOME IN TOWN one block from Harbor. Sleeps 5-6. All appliances incl. Laundry. \$600 per week. Off season rates NO pets. No Smoking. (614) 899-9922..

BEACHFRONT HOME for rent 3BR, loft-total 5 beds, hot tub, gorgeous views, solitude, wood stove, May-Sept. \$950/.Off-season \$795/ Call Perry at (313) 530-9776 or e-mail pgatliff@hotmail.com.

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

HOME FOR RENT- 2 BRs, 1 bath, sleeps 4-6. On large, secluded, wooded lot. Near town and beaches. All new appliances. Comfortable and immaculate. Only \$495/week. Please call (231) 448-2206 for reservations and more information.

Cars, Boats, Planes, Tractors & Trailers:

TRAVEL TRAILER FOR SALE - White 22 travel trailer for sale. Good condition. \$500 or best offer. Call Jim at (231) 947-9469

BEAUTIFUL 36FT. 5TH WHEEL - Living room, kitchen, and bath. Queen-sized bedroom, stakable W/D. Hardly used. Comfortable for year round living. Can be seen on Island by appt. \$11,900. (616) 450-4966

Items For Sale:

FOR SALE: 14ft. X 22ft. Log Cabin Kit ("PRAIRIE CRAFT") Presently on B.I. Can deliver to site and assemble. Paul Welke 448-2374.

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CERTIFIED MASSAGE THERAPIST- specializing in therapeutic acupressure, reflexology and relaxation. Relax, enjoy and recharge. Reasonable rates. Call for appointment. Karen 448-2266.



For Sale

Great Cottage Sites in Port St. James

PORT ST. JAMES - Several great cottage sites throughout the subdivision. Power, survey, ready-to-build.

Call owner at
(616) 448-6084.

For Sale

Parcel on Garden Island Harbor

4.2 Acre Parcel, 1000 ft. of front footage on Garden Island Harbor. Land Contract available. Coldwell Banker / Cornell Realty.

Jayson Welser
(989) 348-7893

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Foxview - Newly furnished rental home, 2100 sq. ft. Located on North side of Fox Lake. 3 Bedrooms, 2 Baths, sleeps 7. Key weeks still available. \$800/week.

Call Diane at
Ed Wojan Realty
(231) 448-2555

For Rent

Sarah's Cottage 4-bedroom, 3-bath newly constructed home. Covered, wrap-around-porch on 3 sides. Sites on a bluff overlooking Cable Bay. Appliances, gas, grill, TV, VCR, w/d. Sleeps 8-10. Call Diane at Ed Wojan Realty (231) 448-2555

For Rent

The Fisherman's House

Great 'In-Town' location.
4 BR/2 Bath; W/D;
Beautifully appointed.
For availability,
call Bill or Tammy

(231) 448-2499

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