



October 2004 \$2.50

# Beaver Beacon

The Island Monthly Since 1955

*some stories in this issue:*

They're Everywhere - Fall Shroom Sightings

Memphis Boys Take a Flying Leap to Beaver Island; Power Cable Pulled

Island Golfer Scores Hole in One; PABI Awards Community House Contract

WTC Fragment Dedication at the St. James Fire Hall; BICS Recognition of Patriot Day

Beaver Island News and Events, History, People, Photography, Art, and more...





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

## Beaver Beacon

the Island Monthly since 1955

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## News from the Townships

### St. James Township Board

Events in August prompted three special meetings. The first was on 8-10, and was called to formally accept the lowest bid for the Yacht Dock repairs, of \$893,508, by Great Lakes Dock in Muskegon. Another was needed on 8-24 to approve the language for three ballot proposals for the November election. Proposal A will allow for an increase up to 3.25 mills for the general operation of the township; Proposal B will allow up to 1 mill for the operation and maintenance of the Township Airport; and Proposal C would provide up to 1.75 mills for the operation and maintenance of the landfill and transfer station.

Then on 8-28 a special joint meeting of both townships was held to discuss the repaving of King's Highway to Four Corners, and other related matters. The H & D bid of \$314,097 (\$216,208 for St. James, \$97,889 for Peaine) was accepted even though it was more than the estimate submitted last year (it also included engineering, inspection, and legal costs.)

On September 3<sup>rd</sup> the Board held its regular meeting, approving the minutes for the special meetings. Supervisor Don Vyse remarked that even with the tax increases being sought, the Island portion of the millage would be less than the previous year.

The state Historic Preservation Office approved the grant payment of just over \$5,000 to the architect who had studied the Whiskey Point Light and

estimated the cost of its restoration.

Larry Malloy was appointed to another 3-year term in BITA.

Complications arose regarding insurance for the Emergency Services Authority's officers; the Fire Department and EMS holdings must be redefined to show that the ESA is the parent of these two organizations.

Connie Wojan, president of the BIRHC Board, reported that the growing Endowment Fund had passed \$250,000, and the required match for the middle grant of three \$100,000 payments had already been met; that amount would be turned over to the BIRHC after the 1<sup>st</sup> of the year.

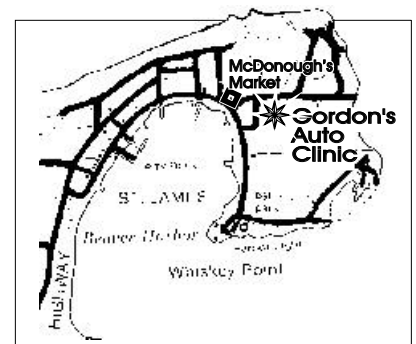
The H & D paving projects were to begin around 9-21. In discussing the CCRC's reluctance to approve this work until the funds to pay for it were in its hands (they are coming from the Charlevoix State Bank at 4.5%), it was mentioned that the Road Commission had not yet collected \$125,000 from the State to reimburse it for the bike path. Apparently the gravel used in the subgrade had been tested and approved four times for other local paving projects, but had not been tested specifically for the bike path work. Even though the gravel was all in the same pile, the State claimed that proper procedures had not been followed, and it would not release the funds. Consequently money was tight for the CCRC.

### Peaine Township Board

Eighteen people attended the Peaine Township Board meeting on 9-8

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out of concern with the proposed new noise ordinance. A memo to the Township from attorney Richard Edmonds, in which the ideas generated at last month's meeting were set forth and refined, was distributed to the audience. However, the mood was such that instead of analyzing it line by line the Supervisor opened the discussion to public comment.

The first few comments indicated that the mood was against passing a restrictive ordinance, that it was akin to swatting a fly with a sledge hammer. Robert Miller, who is building a home on Lake Geneserath, said it would eliminate some of the things he associates with Beaver Island, such as sing-alongs around a campfire. He added that, in his limited available time to work on his home, he would hate to have to quit pounding nails with an hour or two of daylight left. Pete LoDico said that the Cooks (whose complaint initiated the quest for an ordinance) had a problem, but he felt this ordinance was not the solution.

Denny Cook briefly recapped the events leading to this point: he had complained to the sheriff, but no existing laws were being broken. So he had brought a civil suit for relief from the noise wreaking havoc with his summer, but the judge had dismissed it for the same reason: he could only enforce a law on the books.

Dave Roop, who had spoken out against the proposed ordinance at the previous meeting, agreed that there was

a problem, but reiterated that this was not the answer. People he had spoken to felt it was too excessive; people who were drawn to the Island because of, among other things, the sense of freedom and personal responsibility it offered could be dissuaded from buying land and building a home here by the passing of such stringent rules.

Terry Saxton said that before moving here, people had a chance to observe life on the Island, and making a decision to go forward involved accepting some of the limitations—such as the poor quality of the roads. The Cooks countered that the rowdy behavior of new renters of their neighbor's property could not have been anticipated, and in fact was unique—which was why more people were not complaining about a lack of an ordinance.

Supervisor Works admitted that he had received several phone calls, letters, emails, and office visits about this matter, and no one had been in favor of passing the ordinance.

Bill Detwiler offered a potential solution: write the ordinance in such a way that none of its restrictions apply unless they are activated by a specific complaint; thus in most areas, where good-neighborism is being practiced, no one would be limited by excessively harsh rules.

After the period of public comment, the four Board members in attendance discussed among themselves what direction to take.

*Continued on page 6.*



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## *News from the Townships, from page 5.*

They each agreed a problem existed, but the proposed ordinance was not a viable solution. Treasurer Tina Morgan, who also lives at Lake Geneserath, reported that she had experienced firsthand the incivility of some of the renters of the "trouble spot." But no one offered a solution, so Supervisor Works said he would continue to investigate other means to come to terms with the situation.

The Board then turned to the matter of setting the millages for the coming fiscal year. The primary matter to decide, on a case by case basis, was whether to match the millage set by St. James or to set a millage that would provide a matching total amount. Roads and the BIRHC received the matching millages; waste management, the Fire Department, and the Airport received matching totals. The General Fund millages were approved at 2.5006 and 0.4129 (plus the 0.9233 which comes automatically from the County), which would generate \$20,000 more than last year, half for the King's Highway improvement and half for such things as the EMS, the Trails, and Beaver Island's Historical Society.

The Supervisor reminded everyone of the importance of the Operating Fund, which had been defeated by three votes in the primary but would be back

on the ballot in November: it pays for the Planning Commission, the Zoning Administrator, the Town Board, and the Township Officers, as well as the EMS, the Trails, and the BIHS, all of which directly serve the people. He urged everyone present to do all they could to procure a favorable outcome with the next vote.

## **County Planning Commission**

Once a year the CCPC meets on Beaver Island, which it did again on 9-16. Fifteen residents attended, interested in one of the two Beaver Island issues involving rezoning. In all cases the Township PC first makes its suggestion, followed by the County PC making a recommendation; the rulings by both are then considered by the Town Board, which makes the final decision.

The first Island matter was a request to rezone the Hannon property at Maloney's Point on Font Lake, from R-1 to R-2. The primary difference in these zones is land size: 90,000 ft<sup>2</sup> in R-1, 15,000 ft<sup>2</sup> in R-2, with minimum widths of 150' and 100' respectively. Minimum home size is 25% larger in R-1 as well.

The Hannon request was approved by the St. James PC because, as John Fiegen explained, the owner simply wanted to create 5 lots from 17 acres, and would put deed restrictions on the land to prohibit further subdividing.



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But the County PC was concerned about the possibility of future overturning of any deed restrictions.

Planner Larry Sullivan pointed out that deed restrictions can only be enforced by the group of affected property owners, not by government, and owners' groups don't always agree to spend the money a suit for enforcement can cost. He also thought that future subdividing could threaten the integrity of Font Lake because the land is not much higher. Consequently he recommended against rezoning. But in the vote that followed the discussion, the request passed, 3-2.

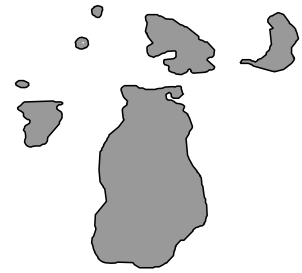
The second matter involved two lots owned by McDonough's Market, for which a request had been made to change from residential to the "harbor" zone. This matter had been sent to the CCPC by the St. James PC after it approved the request (for which it was co-applicant) contingent upon three conditions: 1) the construction of a privacy fence; 2) the chaining of the new driveway except for use by the Spartan semi; and 3) the removal of propane storage from the site. These conditions were initially accepted by McDonough's, but that acceptance was later withdrawn by letter. (No one had an opinion on whether or not a variant of this compromise could be reached.) Consequently St. James was withdraw-

ing its request for the CCPC to consider this matter.

Larry Sullivan pointed out that a PC cannot attach conditions to its approval of a rezoning request (called "contract zoning.") He felt the CCPC had to go forward with its consideration because one of the co-applicants had not withdrawn its request; "protocol must be followed." However, he had found certain "technical inadequacies" in the posting of the matter, involving the correct property numbers for some of the land, which he felt invalidated the process leading up to the rezoning request—inadequacies disputed by St. James PC chairman Fiegen.

Most of those in attendance were very interested in this matter, and asked the CCPC for guidance. At one point one of the PC members (Bob Draves) suggested that the property owners act as a group to hire an attorney and charge him with pursuing their interests. Some of the audience members expressed their displeasure that a situation that seemed to be in violation of the Zoning Ordinance had been allowed to exist for so long. But this was not the venue at which the several issues involved with this matter could be decided, so the Planning Commission closed its Island-related discussion by voting unanimously to table this matter until various questions were clarified.

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## WTC Fragment Dedication

The 9-11 Monument Now Stands in front of the St. James Fire Hall

In a tasteful ceremony on 9-12, the World Trade Center fragment was commemorated in its new location at the St. James Fire Hall, with the speeches focused on making it a means for its observers to rededicate themselves to the values for which our country stands. In an introduction by John Works, Elaine West was thanked for her unflagging efforts to bring this matter to a satisfactory conclusion, the AmVets were thanked for having erected the memento, and the Ruth F. Hirschey Memorial Fund was thanked for having covered the costs of the tasteful installation.

After Howard Davis delivered a benediction, Phil Hoffman floridly castigated all those who have allied themselves with terrorist enterprises, from Jakarta to Beslan, from Indonesia to Iraq, from Spain to Afghanistan, and vowed that our country and our values would prevail. Then Alvin LaFreniere respectfully read a list of Island-related members currently serving in the Armed Forces: Lt. Col **Mel Bauman**, U. S. Army, son of Bea Bauman and brother of JoAnne Cashman; **Robert**



**Bruff**, U. S. Army, Kirkuk, nephew of Catherine and Cindy Ricksgers; Lt. **Megan Cull**, USCG, Washington D. C., granddaughter of Claire Cull; **Randi Delamater**, U. S. Naval Reserve, daughter of Mary Therese and granddaughter of Russ and Joy Green; **Neil Green**, U. S. Navy, son of Beth Lucas and grandson of Russ and Joy Green; Master Sgt. **Ron Gregg**, U. S. Army, son of Phil and Lil Gregg; Lance Corp. **Nick Huston**, U. S. Marines, west of Baghdad, son of Jim Huston; **Bobby Johnson**, U. S. Navy, Osaka, Japan, son of Joe Johnson; **Andrea Keehn**, U. S. Army, daughter of Denny

Keehn; Capt. **Peter LoDico**, M. D., stationed in Italy, Pete LoDico's nephew; 2nd Lt. **Matt McDonald**, grandson of Bill and Sue Scherer; Capt. **Joseph Morgan**, U. S. A. F., son of Gary and Tina Morgan; Sgt. **Scott McGinnity**, U. S. Army, Iraq, son of Mike and Pat McGinnity; Sgt. **Kevin Phillips**, U. S. Army, son-in-law of Ken and Loretta Slater; **Patrick Wearn**, U. S. Marines, son of Linda Wearn, grandson of George Gatliff; 1st Lt. **Gavin West**, U. S. Marines, returning from Afghanistan, son of Steve and Elaine West; and Sgt. **J. C. Zanella**, U. S. Army, Iraq, son of John Zanella. They are there to protect us all.

For some unknown reason the list was accompanied by an outburst of chirping in the surrounding trees.

After this reading the Community Choir, under the direction of Kathy Speck, led the audience in singing *God Bless America*, followed by a stirring rendition of *Taps* by Bob Hoogendorn and a concluding prayer for peace by the Reverend Joe Howell. It was a somber moment for everyone, yet they were all glad to have taken part.





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## BICS Recognition of Patriot Day

Story and Photographs by Frank Solle

Students and staff of Beaver Island Community School, along with a number of community members and visitors, gathered near the school's flag pole during the early morning of Sept. 15 to honor those individuals who lost their lives in the terrorist attacks of 9/11/2001.

The solemn ceremony in recognition of Patriot Day included members of the local volunteer fire and emergency medical response departments as well as Jim Campbell, the deputy sheriff.

The deputy, EMT Joe Moore, and Captain Tim McDonough of the Fire Department unfolded the flag and raised it to the top of the pole as the students stood in silent reflection.

BICS teacher Judi Meister gave a brief explanation of the morning's gathering, which was followed by the impressive unfurling of the list of victims from that fateful day. Printed in a continuous line, the list was some 400 feet long. Senior Keith Szczepanski carried the scroll back and forth between members of the other classes, taking nearly 10 minutes to fully unroll the list.

Representing the other classes in holding the scroll of names were Jenna Battle (5<sup>th</sup> grade), Claressa Kenwabikise (6<sup>th</sup> grade), Kristy Bousquet (7<sup>th</sup> grade), Caitlin Boyle (8<sup>th</sup> grade), Eric Albin (9<sup>th</sup> grade), Emma Adams (10<sup>th</sup> grade), Keri Wirth and Krystle Timsak (11<sup>th</sup> grade) and Emily Gray (12<sup>th</sup> grade).

Once the list was fully displayed, the students and all others gathered recited the Pledge of Allegiance. Senior Danielle Campbell sang a stirring rendi-



tion of *God Bless America* before the students filed back into the school, from youngest to oldest, in a silent procession.

"I just hoped the visual image of all the names would actually have an impact on how much we lost that day," said orga-



nizer Meister. "You could tell them the number, but what does that mean? I wanted something to show them," she said of the scroll containing the 2,996 names of those who died that day.

Meister's message was not lost on the students or the staff who attended. "I couldn't believe how long that line (of names) was," said seventh-grader Dereck McDonough. "It made me mad at the terrorists."

Senior Emily Gray said, "It impacted you when you saw the visual of how long the paper was," adding, "the school and the community pulled together to pay respects."

Junior Krystle Timsak was impressed, not only by the scroll, but by the seriousness of her fellow students. "The silence was eerie," she said. "All the kids in the school were quiet, even the kindergartners." Teacher Jim Stambaugh is also a fireman and EMS. "The visual impact was important for the younger kids. It really drove the point home, for everyone," he said.

In addition to the program, BICS joined most of the school districts in Charlevoix and Emmett Counties in promoting a "Family Night" that evening. There were no scheduled extracurricular activities, and no homework assigned for the next day, as the schools encouraged families to spend the time together in appreciation for what we have and sometimes take for granted. This commemorated a day on which the world changed forever—with each passing year we'll recognize more fully just how much.

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## On This Date

**Ten Years Ago** The *Beacon* opened with a moving two-page tribute to life and hunting on Beaver Island by Sheldon Parker, which concluded with, "Although the winds will still blow across cold, racing rollers on Lake Michigan, and late winter snow may even blanket the woods with its white hush, the heart of the man is light. A little song wells from some hidden storehouse deep within. Let it storm tomorrow. Today, all's right with the world. The Geese are back!"

This was a poetry issue, with poems by Sheldon Parker, Julie Runberg (which commemorated Beaver Island, ending "All that dwell there/belong to the good earth"), Rich Gillespie, and Dave Gladish.

The Minutes reported that Fred Haubold protested, on the behalf of BIPOA, the Townships' decision to contribute to the Little Traverse Conservancy's effort to purchase the Gallagher estate at Little Sand Bay. The King's Highway Lawsuit trial got underway, with the Townships adding a complaint: their engineer had prepared a Grant Request, but the CCRC would not forward it to MDOT. The Conservancy submitted a letter defending the Townships' donation.

The Joint Planning Commission said its Master Plan had been reviewed for final revision.

The Chamber of Commerce took charge of the food at the annual Fly-in (9-18), with the revenue split between it and the Fire Department.

County Commissioner Rich Gillespie suggested appointing a Bea-

ver Island member to the CCRC. Another suggestion (a tax rebate based on County services not extended to the Island) was criticized by Bud Cruikshank, who argued that we live here by choice and should gladly accept the disadvantages.

The Christian Church offered a piano to the highest bidder. Pat Rowley and Joyce Runberg were working hard to set up the Hospice, with help from the Med Center Auxiliary, the Charlevoix Hospice, and the Health Department.

Marilyn Reed thanked the EMS for its professionalism and sensitivity at the time of her mother's death.

Obituaries appeared for the three young men whose plane crashed north of Barney's Lake, Ed Maudrie, Jesse Kenwabikise, and John Widmayer. Their funeral packed Holy Cross Church, with a hundred more mourners gathered outside. Three crosses were placed at the crash site, with a plaque reading, "Three Good Men Died Here."

**Twenty Years Ago** The *Beacon's* first page appealed to all friends of Beaver Island to do anything they could to help reverse the DNR's decision not to replace retiring officer Bill Wagner. Not only was he a much-loved member of the community, but he handled Island timber sales, campground maintenance, fish and game reporting, poaching control, emergency Coast Guard assistance, tracking the weather, fire prevention and control, administering wood-cutting permits, and providing information. The public was asked to sign petitions and send individual letters testifying about the importance of

having an officer stationed here.

Ron Gallagher offered to sell St. James Township property it was using as part of the ball diamond, for \$2,000. St. James accepted, using money from Federal Revenue Sharing funds. An effort was made to secure a full-time Deputy for the Island; previously only half-time funds were allocated, even though the Deputy was always on call.

The school began a soccer and cross-country program (Wendy Kenwabikise and Chris Speck were our stars), and hosted the First Island Soccer Tournament, with Mackinac Island, Washington Island, and St. Joseph Island (Ontario) sending teams. Kindergarten started on October 9<sup>th</sup> with nine students enrolled for Tuesday and Thursday classes. The 4<sup>th</sup> grade class acquired two Atari computers. The Detroit Institute of Art sent an exhibit on the Sphinx.

The Civic Association announced its plans for a Memorial to Beaver Islanders who Died at Sea, asking for donations and publishing a partial list of 41 names; the anticipated cost of the monument was \$2,000-\$3,000. It also published a wish list: substantial improvement of the tennis courts (located at the School then); trash cans in public places; a Life Guard at the public beach; flowers, trees, and benches around the Harbor; new playground equipment; volleyball equipment at Iron Ore Bay; more public beach; a community Town Hall; and a community bulletin board.

The Michigan Tax Tribunal heard the case in which the Island protested

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the indiscriminate application of a factor, but did not get any satisfaction. The Island voted to appeal.

The Fire Department had a single call in almost a year: a car on fire on Darkeytown Road.

A note mentioned some recent new businesses: Darrell Butler's bakery; Randy Moore's appliance and car repair; and Alvin LaFreniere's hardware store.

**Thirty Years Ago** The school announced it had acquired a new piano, six new typewriters, and an adding machine. Island parents were urged by the Health Department to have their children immunized.

The *Beacon* published another installment of Nels Sorensen's story of hopping freighters to travel through the Far East and elsewhere, this one describing a trip in the North Sea. There were twelve passengers, and an intense, day-long storm made ten of them seasick. "How that freighter stayed together, I'll never know," he said. "Each time we went into a deep trough it was like hitting a concrete wall." At night they strapped themselves into their berths with heavy-duty seatbelts. Taking a bath was also a challenge: "We had an old, large bathtub, and ran it half full of water. One second the water in the tub was over your head, the next second you were sitting on the bare bottom." In the dining room a white tablecloth was put on the table, and a pitcher of water poured over it to keep things from sliding. Plates and cups were only half filled at a time. During a storm the waiter brought a tureen

of ox-tail soup; the ship lurched, and the tureen hit the ceiling, shattering. When eating, they would take a forkful of food but wait for the ship to dip backwards before trying to get it in their mouth. They could only use one hand to eat; the other had to keep hold of the table.

The *Beacon* also reported on the grand wedding of Jim Wojan and Karen McCafferty, with 350+ of their friends attending the reception at the Holy Cross Parish Hall.

**Forty Years Ago** Hunting and fishing were stuck in neutral, grouse hunting because of the thick cover and fishing because of high winds. But Maurice Teeter brought a group of archers up from Livonia, and took a nice buck. However, when they came into town to announce their luck, their tents caught fire and burned to the ground, destroying their equipment. Bud McDonough let them move into his house on the harbor, but during the night the ferocious wind ripped the wires loose, setting off sparks that nearly burned them out again.

The oldest Islander, Mary Vesty McDonough, celebrated her 85<sup>th</sup> birthday; she was born at Sand Bay in 1879.

The Bonner Farm received its plaque as a Centennial Farm—the first one in Charlevoix County. During the Mormon reign, John Bonner came from Mackinac Island to fish in "the basin" off Gull Island. When Strang was shot he came to Beaver, and a year later bought 80 acres on Slopstown Road. Bill Ross, the manager of the Beaver Lodge, and a guest from Philadelphia, decided to go hunting on High Island.

Phil Gregg dropped them off in the morning, promising to pick them up at supper time "if the weather permitted." It didn't, nor did it the next day; finally the Coast Guard was called in, and kept them from having to spend a third night.

The Circle M offered a take-out whitefish dinner with fries, cole slaw, and bread for \$1.50.

William Belfy was interviewed by Phil Gregg; his first glimpse of Beaver came as a crew member on his stepfather's (Herman Ludwig) schooner *Waleska* in 1908, when he was 18. He told about sailing out of St. James in December of 1910 with a cargo of barrel staves bound for Ludington. Around the Manitous they ran into a gale, with snow so thick they couldn't see the bow from the stern. Ludwig gauged their speed by watching the wake as he headed for Frankfort, and came in exactly between the two piers. In 1912 he married Alice Johnston and went to work for the Beaver Island Lumber Company, piling lumber and loading vessels; the train made two trips a day to the south end. In 1915 he and his brother Erwin fished on the *Silver Star*; one time they were caught off the Fox Islands for ten days in miserable weather. He served under Captain Allers on *Patrol #1* between 1935 and 1937, and then joined Roland McCann to fish on the *Venus II*. After a break during the war spent at the Fisher Boat Works building sub-chasers, he came back to the Island to fish on the *Venus* again, one of the last tugs to fish gill nets as Beaver's fishing era ground to a disheartening close.

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## Somewhere Over the Rainbow

by Lois Williams

I am somewhere over the rainbow, I know that because the skies are blue. I can almost hear Eva Cassidy singing like a songbird. She sings ".....and the dreams that you dared to dream really do come true." I am falling to the earth. I am laughing out loud and thinking this can't be real. Suddenly there is a whooshing sound and the chute opens and I am no longer freefalling but floating. It is so quiet up here; there aren't even any birds singing. I am struck by the peace I feel. I can see all of the islands in the Beaver Archipelago, and Wisconsin, the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, and the mainland of the Lower Peninsula. The horizon is fuzzy because of the haze. Then I look down to see the big number nine painted on the runway at the township airport. There I see a tiny shadow. It looks like its one inch wide and it's the shape of my chute, a tiny curve. It is my shadow cast from about 12,000 feet. I continue to float secure in the harness and confident of my arrival back on earth. Fifteen minutes later I touch down softly. I have just completed my first sky dive.

Adventure has always been a part of my life. After all I was married to Tom

for 59 years. I've been up in a hot air balloon and went soaring in a plane once too. About a month before my scheduled sky dive, I saw the news that former president George Bush went at the age of 80. Big deal, I'm 82. When I learned that Luther Kurtz from Sky Dive, Harbor Springs, was coming to the Island, I decided that this would be yet another adventure.

The day before my sky dive I went to the cemetery to visit Tom's grave and water the Hydrangea at the site. The first anniversary of Tom's death was a week away. I could feel his presence. Several of my children feel that way too and when odd things occur they blame it on dad—it's like his spirit is still with us. The watering cans were full from a recent rain and when I tried to wrestle with one I fell to the stony surface of the ground. I fell flat, hitting the left side of my face. An immediate swelling the size of an egg appeared on my forehead. I was in pain and quite shaken. I gathered myself up and watered the plant, stopped to say a prayer and turned to leave. I looked back to the grave marker and told Tom that if he thought this was going to deter me from sky diving

tomorrow he was sadly mistaken! The next day, July 28, was a beauty. I appeared at the Township Airport sporting a first-class shiner. My sunglasses were askew from the fall but my spirit was not broken. I was ready. My trust was in the expertise of the pilot and the person I would be diving with in tandem. I was given instruction for how to leave the airplane and how to hold my legs when we landed. We boarded the plane and made circles above Beaver at 12,000 feet, which is about 2 miles. At the precise moment the door was opened, I looked down without fear. Moving my legs out first, we inched and wiggled onto the platform. Andy, my co-diver, gave me the signal, and I arched my body and we were free falling. The rest is history.

This story is about Mary Kay Dorais.

## Thanks from the BIRHC

On behalf of the BIRHC and the 45 women who had their yearly mammogram without traveling to the mainland, we thank BIBCo for donating the costs of transporting the Karmanos Mammogram Bus to the Island, and all those who made this a success.

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## Forest Montgomery

Word has been received that nice guy Forest Montgomery passed away unexpectedly in Traverse City, from a heart attack on the eve of a long-awaited hunting trip to Alaska. He was 79.

Forest was well-known on Beaver Island once he purchased the *North Shore* from Dick Lyons. His primary use for it was to haul lumber from the Foxes and Mantous to Wisconsin, but he also used it to deliver fuel oil and gasoline to Beaver Island—an enterprise that led him to acquire a tanker barge. This occurred when the Coast Guard

forced the ferry to stop carrying fuel in barrels. Bud McDonough, Walt Wojan, and Phil Gregg went in together to buy the *Eager Beaver*, a WW II landing craft whose engines turned out to be shot. They replaced them and began hauling fuel, but it was back-breaking work. Jewell Gillespie took a different approach: contracting with Forest and his *North Shore*-pulled barge.

Soon enough Walt and Bud and Phil were buying gas and oil from Jewell. Later Forest sold his fuel barge to Wayne Chapman and Bill Welke, who

formed the Midnight Oil Company in 1975. After a brief involvement by Judge Riebel, the barge was sold to Bud Martin, who owns it today.

A great sportsman, he was a pilot and a diver, and assisted with such missions as the repair of the Island's power cable and the search for the Aurora Blacktop plane that was lost off Donegal Bay. He and some friends recently built a home on Beaver's west side; he had already shown off his carpentry skills by installing new cabinets for Holy Cross Church.



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### Blatt Home

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Absolutely beautiful 1900 square foot home on 13.66 acres with 200 feet of Lake Michigan frontage located on the west side of the Island. Parcel #5 of Bonner's Landing Subdivision. This house comes with a 24' x 32' garage plus a wood shed; the house also has lots of decks and a screened-in three-season porch, new flooring and carpeting recently installed. There are 2 bedrooms with an additional semi-private sleeping area, 1 full bath and a 3/4 bath. The home comes with appliances and cords of well-seasoned, dry firewood. There is an established garden and perennial flowers with a second (drive point) well for watering of the garden and lawn. This house is south of McCauley's Point Subdivision and north of Western Shores Subdivision with a beautiful view of High Island and Trout Island to the west. The 13.66 acres has a possibility of being split with interior lots being separated from the lakefront parcel. This is one of the nicer homes on the west side of the Island with a lot of special features that make it the perfect year-round retirement home; it was built for comfortable year-round use. With the land value at approximately \$250,000, this lot with all of its improvements is priced right at **\$549,000.**

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## Casino Night

Starting at 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall on Friday October 8<sup>th</sup>, PABI's Casino Night will offer games of chance, surprise entertainment, and a cash bar. Chips will be converted to vouchers for a spirited auction at the end of the night. Start your own lucky streak here!

## Michigan Out of Doors TV

Chamber Director Steve West has talked *Michigan Out of Doors T.V.* into filming on the Island. They should arrive October 6<sup>th</sup> with the Erin Motel, BIBCo, and Gordon's Auto Rental providing services at no charge to support the Island's expanding shoulder season.

## Bite Apple Pie Contest

A new part of the *Bite of Beaver* (Saturday 10-9) will be an apple pie contest. The *Bite* runs from 1:00 - 4:00.

## See You at the Boodle

Gail and Mike Weede are sponsoring the Island's second annual Boodle on Oct. 9<sup>th</sup> starting at 10:00 a.m. Questions? Call (231) 448-3195 or 448-2505.

## The New Third Coast Band

...will perform at the Shamrock on October 9<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 p.m. Described as "one of the most sought after bands in Northern Michigan" the New Third Coast Band will once again provide a great finale to the *Bite* weekend.

## PABI Selects Contractor

After bids for constructing the Beaver Island Community Center were received and studied in September, the PABI Board of Directors selected Beaver Gems, Inc. as its contractor. Robert Gillespie will now work with PABI's Board and the CMO Architects to reduce some of the projected costs for the building, and set the building schedule. PABI hoped to begin the work yet this fall so the building could be used in the summer of '05, but they now estimate a spring start-up. At this time, Robert Gillespie estimates a nine-month timeline to complete this work, so it now looks like it will be a fall opening instead of summer. The PABI Board is very pleased to have obtained a local contractor with a strong construction record here on the Island. Robert, his associate builders, and his sub-contractors are sure to serve our community well in this next major construction job at the heart of our Island Community.

## Letters to the Editor: A Reply

## Those pesky golf carts

Dear Dr. Martin,

You now know I am your new best friend for I am indeed one of the MAD golf cart drivers on BI. I salaciously jump into my cart and race down my driveway at a roaring 7 MPH and floor it to my place of work or McDonough's or the library or wherever I carry on my nefarious deeds. Of course, that would include a wild drive to the GOLF COURSE at times to, guess what, play GOLF. I actually had a very junior deputy stop me last summer (2003) whilst driving the cart to the BIGC and ask me what did I think I was doing? Oh sweet and dear Great Spirit, I had to hold my tongue. Did I mention that the horrid device fuels itself on electricity? And that about 10-12 Island children learned to drive it responsibly while also improving their skills at turning a motorized vehicle using the old-fashioned method of hand signaling. These children also learned to respect the power of BIG motorized critters by knowing to observe traffic on both village and county roads and to always yield to the Detroit monsters. Also, to my great pleasure, we had fun together and I learned a lot of things about our beautiful Island from them. OK, I have had fun writing to you. You are way cool, and if I ever have need of your other profession (other than satirical writer) I will certainly call upon you.

—Susie Fisher



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## Let's Meet our new Teacher

In August the Beaver Island Community School was in trouble: it had to replace a teacher, and it only had a few weeks. There was a time when convincing someone to move here would have been an uphill battle, but not anymore, so few were surprised when principal Kitty McNamara announced that she had filled the position. Perhaps the only person truly surprised was the man she'd selected, Adam Chittle. On the other hand, maybe not, because his life has been like that.

Growing up in Mason, MI, Adam took a biology degree at Adrian, working his way through school at the Albion Community Hospital. Upon graduation he took a job in a clinic, but was not satisfied. He explained this to a friend, who thought he ought to try teaching—an idea that did not grab him. But the friend persisted. He knew a priest who needed a teacher: "Just give him a call." Adam did, but didn't get the job, and thought *Just as well*.

A year later he was at the same place where his friend had urged him to phone the priest, talking to his father. His dad said that maybe the message was that nothing is given, that if he wanted to be a teacher, he would have to work for it. So he decided to go back to school, to the University of Detroit, to get both a Master's Degree and a teaching certificate. The University found him work, teaching at U of D High School.

This was a boys' school, where the well-behaved students dressed in sport coats and ties. The first year he was there, he learned an important lesson: teaching is very hard. But the second year went more smoothly, and he had a wonderful time. But doubts still nagged, so he decided to go to Utah on a lengthy retreat with the Trappists, in order to examine his life and direction. One thing he realized while there was that he would feel he was accomplishing more if he taught at an inner city school, so when he returned to Detroit, he began the application process. The paperwork was so extensive that it took 3 months to complete, but when it was done he was hired at Detroit Southeastern in the middle of the semester.

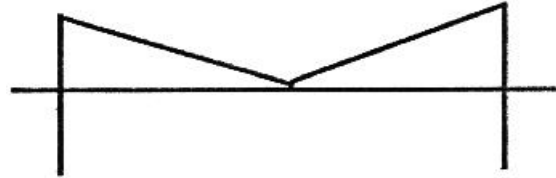
He was glad to make a difference, yet the job had its frustrations. After a year and a half he offered to help his brother build a house in Traverse City. His mother was working for the Char-Em School District, and, hearing about the Beaver Island vacancy, urged him to send his resume,

which he did. He spoke with Kitty on the phone, but she did not invite him up for an interview. Still, he was curious, so just in case she changed her mind he decided to come over and see what the Island was like—for all he knew, he wouldn't want to live here anyway.

So he came over for a weekend. He went into Holy Cross Church to say a rosary just as another group was preparing to do the same. "What shall we ask?" someone said; someone else had an answer: "That the school find a good teacher." Afterwards he wandered across the street and fell into a conversation with Alice Belfy, the School Secre-

tary. After gauging his character she told Kitty that Adam should be interviewed—the interviews were going on. Kitty had a few free minutes later in the day, so she and Adam were able to talk.

He returned to Traverse City, and a day later got a call from Kitty, offering him the job. He accepted, figuring that anything so convoluted had to be intended for him. After a month, he settled in, a single man living in the Port of St. James, getting to know the Island. The kids love him, and so far he couldn't be happier. He may give new proof to the old saying, "The more indirect the route, sometimes the better the fit."



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## One American Dream

by Shannon Iversen; photographs by Hal Willens

Many Americans dream today of a simpler and saner life in these challenging times. But how do we get there? "Simply Living" was the theme of this year's 8<sup>th</sup> annual Labor Day Retreat Weekend down at the Old Carpenter's Mill Site off the West side Road. Hosted by Jim Norgaard and friends every September, the camp-out retreat has become a favorite end-of-the-summer tradition dedicated to fun, personal growth, and fall reflection on where

our lives are headed.

This year 22 campers from the mainland and the Island joined in the event, which featured workshop activities, swimming and hiking, acoustic music in the meadow, and fine food catered by Stoney Acres. Shannon Iversen of Muskegon shares her beautiful description of this year's event:

My heart dances along with the breezes upon my cheeks and the deep cool

waves of Lake Michigan water as I cross over to reach the Island. It is on this Emerald Isle that enchanting beauty, pristine natural habitat, and the smiling faces of dear friends welcome me home. As soon as my feet leave the sway of the ferryboat and touch the Island shore I become grounded, and my sense of oneness emerges. I am greeted not only with the smiling faces of the Island people and hugs from loved ones, but the Island itself seems to wrap its

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arms around me, encircling me. I have left something behind in that moment so that my racing mind slows to the Island's rhythm.

We camp in the meadow, respecting the life it holds of those gone before us on down to the tiniest cocoon amidst the grasses. Without the whirring computer, ringing cell phone, or blaring radio much more of the animate world becomes available to our awareness. We take time over our three-day stay to explore the land so graciously shared with us. The birch tree woods are like nothing else that I am usually surrounded by on the mainland. Sitting on the forest floor I look up to the fluttering green canopy of birch leaves that seem to whisper *stay awhile longer* whenever the wind blows through. We gather underneath these trees to get in touch with land, one another, and ourselves.

The theme for our weekend was



“Simply Living,” our focus being how to get back to the basics of life. The group that attended the weekend retreat consisted of those looking for an excuse to slow down and had a desire to make a connection. In this age of technological advances we find ourselves living much faster-paced and isolated

lifestyles. For the majority of people, work mainly consists of giving our time to a company in order to support habits of spending and consuming. These habits are a futile attempt to fill the emptiness that a lack of real connection with nature and other humans has created. The “Simply Living” weekend established an environment in which to look for alternative answers to this ever-growing and complex issue.

We were encouraged to sharpen our awareness of life forms outside of ourselves as well as of our interaction with those life forms. We took part in discussions and exercises that brought our focus to the similarities existing between our-



selves and other living creatures of the earth. One of the main activities that accomplished this goal was “The Council of All Beings,” in which we joined in discussion to portray ourselves as an animal/life force of our choosing. We

made masks to represent our chosen animal, and formed a council in which we voiced our concerns regarding human treatment of our animal personas.

The experience provided a perception shift that brought about a deeper sense of understanding and connection to the earth we share and all of its living inhabitants. The separation we feel in the wake of terrorism and war needs to be balanced with positive energies. At the “Simply Living” retreat on Beaver Island we learned that respect for life is a crucial part of that healing element.

None of us would have missed it for the world.



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## They're Everywhere!

On a warm and sunny September 8<sup>th</sup> we went for a walk on the Hidden Valley Trail, and happened to notice a bright purple growth in the middle of the path, a plant whose uplifted stalks were clustered with the kind of shimmering nubs that result when a cutting is placed in sugar-water. Naturally, we took its picture, and continued our walk with greater attention

to the ground. A little further, in a patch of dappled sunlight, there were two kinds of mushrooms growing in close proximity, so we snapped those as well.

By the end of our walk we had snapped eight varieties, so when the next day proved equally inviting we decided to take another walk and see if any other varieties might be found. We drove to the

boat-launch on Lake Geneserath's North Arm, parked, and set off, with two puppies happily sniffing a new world, on a two-track running straight west. Every so often there was a spur to the north, but we stayed on the main trail, which had once been marked with blue, spray-paint dots.

At first there were only a few now-familiar mushrooms, but once the trail anks







implied occasional flash floods came washing down the valley.

climbed onto a ridge that cupped the lake's north shore (creating a basin that could have held a larger lake), new varieties began to appear. We passed over a 10'-deep gully in which a large low culvert had been capped with a newer smaller one 3' higher; the gully had been filled to support vehi-

cles, but half of the fill had slipped away and the trail narrowed to only 4' wide.

Debris scattered on the banks implied occasional flash floods came washing down the valley.

Shrooms were everywhere. The dogs were a little impatient, begrudging the shooting delays because they were sure this verdant new trail would lead to some-

thing important. We came upon a white version of the day before's purple crystal. There were two milky-white mushrooms that glistened with moisture, and several groups of small white, tan, and red shrooms. Several trees were down alongside the road, and on the older ones we frequently found half-circles of growth, upside-down half-plates forming cano-







pies for leprechauns; one cluster had members eighteen inches wide.

We found clusters of puffballs, some with sphincters in their crowns; some seemed almost pregnant with pixie dust, conjuring an image of them patiently awaiting a bipedal victim who would inhale their spores and succumb to doing their will. There were two milky-white

mushrooms that glistened with moisture, and several groups of small white, tan, and red r leprechauns; one cluster had members eighteen inches wide.

shrooms. Several trees were down alongside the road, and on the older ones we frequently found half-circles of growth, upside-down half-plates forming canopies for leprechauns; one cluster had

members eighteen inches wide.

We came to a chasm in which four boards spanned a flowing creek. To our south we could see the edge of a drop-off, rth a diminution of treetops implied there might be a beaver pond, so we decided to go a little farther before heading back.

with the lake somewhere below. There were hoof marks on the trail, but the only







life we encountered were drumming woodpeckers, scittering chipmunks, and an occasional grouse. When we reached yet another creek cutting its narrow path through an elongated meadow, we felt it was time to turn around—we didn't want to tire out the dogs. But up the meadow

to the north a diminution of treetops implied there might be a beaver pond, so we

decided to go a little farther before heading back.

We jumped over the stream, as did the puppies, and poked into the cedars on a deer trail. A few tributaries created some marshy areas, and we were a little worried the dogs would take a mud bath. Through the trees g several frogs into taking a bath. When we came back out

and fought our way through the thick branches and lollygaging dragonflies to reach the lip of the beaver-made main wall, we were astounded by the pond's size (100' x 250') and pristine ambiance. Suddenly a large blue heron lifted up from the reeds to our right and began its laborious, pterodactyl-like wing-swooshings to lift itself into the trees,







## A Smooth New King's Highway Once Again

In late September the H & D road-builders again put on a demonstration of well-organized work, widening and adding layers to the King's Highway and

paving approaches to it, the start of the Lodge Road, and two parking lots.

### Bowling for Bush by Cindy Ricksgers

Award-winning filmmaker Michael Moore kicked off a 60-city tour in Elk Rapids on Sunday, September 26, and several Island residents went to hear what he had to say. Ken and Judy Taylor, Kirk and Judy McBride, Mary Scholl and Cindy Ricksgers met at the boat dock Sunday morning to embark on what turned into an inspiring adventure.

Moore, known for his Oscar-winning film, *Bowling for Columbine* and—more recently—the controversial *Fahrenheit: 9/11*, began visiting cities in twenty swing states. With what he calls the “Slacker Uprising Tour,” his intent is

to encourage those who have never voted, or who haven't voted in years, to make a change for this very important election year.

With heart and a good deal of humor, Moore recounted facts and statistics, offered advice to the presidential candidates, and said the most important thing we can do at this time is encourage others to vote this November. A series of tongue-in-cheek commercials for George W. Bush brought peals of laughter. Film clips of Iraqi children playful and happy, in the weeks before the U. S. started bombing, elicited a stunned sad-

ness. Many comments brought the audience to its feet in wild applause. In a stifling hot auditorium filled to capacity, Moore spoke for more than two hours to a crowd who, even then, did not want the evening to end. Folks clustered in the auditorium, the halls, and the parking lot to talk over the event, summarize the talk for those who'd been unable to get tickets, and exchange contact information. Being in a room with that many people with shared goals and sympathies, and a speaker as knowledgeable and articulate as Michael Moore, made it a very positive experience.

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## "Snip 'n Haul"

In September Durocher Marine's crew was here for a week to remove a broken power cable from the bottom of Lake Michigan. After lying in silt for almost twenty years, and being somewhat tangled up with the newer cable dropped on the same relatively shallow (70') and circuitous route, it could not simply be reeled onto the barge being pushed by a tug. Instead, divers had to be dispatched frequently, going down in

a bell and transfer device to cut out a kink (the divers said several dragged anchors had damaged the line—not just the one that broke it) or a knot; then the new end would be grabbed and the reeling resumed, with the cable cut into 60' lengths on the barge. The removal was mandated by the EPA, with the pot sweetened by the price of copper. At 1½ pounds/foot, the 28 miles of shielded cable weighed over 220,000 pounds.

After two semi loads went off on the *Emerald Isle*, the final 15-miles-worth to be "snipped and hauled" from this end left on the barge for Cheboygan on September 27<sup>th</sup>.

Next big load of scrap to leave Beaver Island? The junk cars Adam is collecting at the Marina's property on Carlisle Road—although he doesn't yet seem to have the 200 needed to pay for the barge.

## Thanks and Gratitude

I would like to take this opportunity to extend thanks to everyone who rallied around in my time of need, August 30<sup>th</sup> at the tennis courts. The Monday tennis group of seven summoned the EMS and stayed with me while I exercised my

shockingly high-powered lungs. I felt pretty helpless with my elbow out of the socket. All the tales I had heard about the pain of dislocations came true.

The EMS was wonderful. I can't thank you all enough: Bob Hamil, Ken

Bruland, Joe Moore, Jim Stambaugh, and Jerry LaFreniere. The ingenuity in keeping traction on my arm during transport was genius! Thank you Ken.

Phone calls, cards, and well wishes were much appreciated. —Krys Lyle

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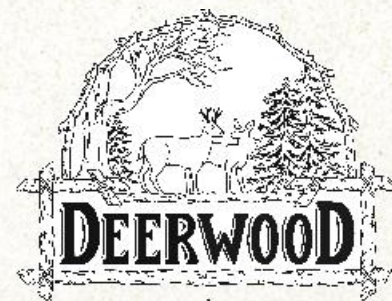
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## Memphis Boys Take a Flying Leap to Beaver Island

by Kyle W. Barnette

There's always uncertainty in risk. It's part of the package. Anytime you start something new, such as a business, there are many factors that can go awry. There is a myriad of things to consider before you take that first baby step. Are you sure it's going to work? Are you ready for proverbial roadblocks? Have you covered every possible angle of success and failure? These are all questions one asks when taking a leap of faith, and there are not always easy answers to those questions. So many things are vital to the success of any business, factors too numerous to mention. However, above all a young struggling fledgling needs support and nurturing, and to our luck Beaver Island seems to have that covered in spades. Brian Porter, Executive Director of the new Emerald Isle Repertory Theatre, and I departed our jobs as professional actors in Memphis, Tennessee with a dream and a goal: to



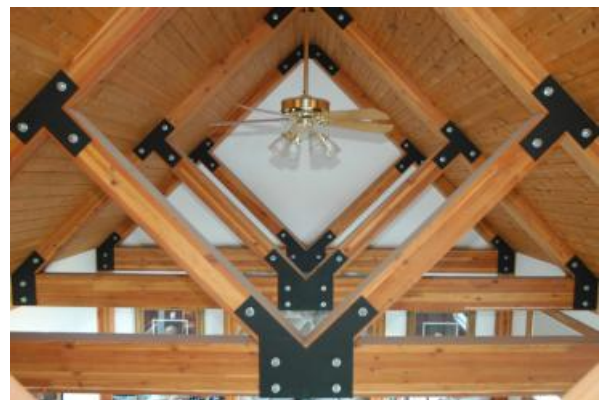
create our own upstart not-for-profit theatre. Our attraction to the many wonderful lures and charms brought us here to Beaver Island, a place we found upon arrival to be surprisingly rife with talent for such an isolated location. So we jumped with enthusiasm into the well-into-rehearsals Sondheim show being held to benefit our new theatre. It was such a comfort and relief to see that there already were people working hard to put together a show benefitting a couple of "professional city boys" moving

to the Island. Quite a leap of faith themselves, I would like to add. For a bunch of people who claim they have no experience, they certainly could have fooled us. It would be easy to extrapolate about how wonderful, dedicated, and talented all of these people are, but I think they have already proven themselves to the lucky patrons who saw them on stage. They worked together tirelessly to create something new on Beaver Island. Even though our greatest challenge was to get people to actually come and see the show.

Making projections and predictions is one thing. Actually seeing them to true fruition is another thing altogether. Our biggest concern was: who is actually going to come see the show? While we had been told that it would be a sure nightly sell-out, our own experience in other theatres around the country kept our goals lofty but realistic. The first professional show I did in Memphis was

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a show called *Sideman*. It had just come off Broadway, and we acquired one of the first runs of the show outside New York. We performed it in a theatre that seated 350. The show was a critical success, and won every major award that year. However, it was a box-office flop. I remember being so horribly discouraged one night because we had an audience of seven people. The theatre's policy was to cancel any show that had not sold more than six tickets. Since that seventh person decided to come, we had to "go on with the show," reluctantly, to say the least. Being on stage performing in front of a 98%-empty house was very humbling. Yet at the same time it served as a great professional lesson. No matter how small the audience is, you have to remember that those seven people paid good money to come and sit in that empty theatre and watch you on stage. It is your job to make sure they are entertained and get what they paid their good honest money to see. It doesn't matter how many people are in the house. More often than not the best audiences I have performed for sometimes also have been the smallest. And that certainly was the case during our Sondheim shows here this summer.

They may not have been huge crowds, but they certainly were vocal and enthusiastic. If you can get those few into the seats who are supportive and happy to be there, then they might tell a friend or two who will tell a friend—ad infinitum. With all of those people coming to see your work, and many attending more than once, you suddenly feel that sense of encouragement you've been searching for. You don't feel so alone in your journey. You look behind you and see an army of eager passionate friends and patrons supporting you, telling you it's okay to keep going. That is certainly how we feel right now.

We have been lucky so far in our quest to bring true professional theatre to Beaver Island. Sure, you are going to run into opposition and roadblocks. However, you cannot let that stop you from achieving your goals. Especially when you have so many people wishing you nothing but success and are counting on you. So many people have already been so kind and hospitable and welcoming. It is our responsibility to the community to do the best we can and let them know our intentions are further-reaching than just for our own success. For example, we have things to contrib-

ute to the youth of the Island. It is our hope to involve them in many aspects of the theatre, while at the same time maintaining a nice balance of entertainment for the adults in the community as well. We can do all of this, but not without the community's support. As we move on into our next phase, we will be looking to the community for even more support. We have a couple of events in the near future that will appeal to a wide range of tastes. In addition to a couple of upcoming shows, we will be offering tap dance, music, and acting classes. We hope many will take advantage of these programs, for they are available to anyone interested in learning a new skill or honing their already-developed talents. In the meantime, the rest of our days will be spent sitting at the computer writing for grants, trying to communicate to foundations and private donors that we are dedicated and honest professionals in need of financial backing. Writing for grants is a tedious process and a big part of that leap of faith. But it sure is better knowing that we have a great head start with a community willing to give us a chance and cheer us on along the way. And for that we are most grateful.

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## PABI's House Auction

On September 6<sup>th</sup> PABI opened the three bids that had been received by 4:30 of that day for the Sand Bay home it was given. These bids were to earn a seat at the next and final stage, a conference-call-facilitated auction. Whoever won that would have the house placed on a foundation on his lot—a full basement, if the total cost of move plus basement did not exceed \$35,000.

There were three bids, of \$50,000, \$51,000, and \$51,500. The bidders' names were not announced. Two days later the auction began with the previous high bid of \$51,500. When the gavel finally descended, the high bid was \$65,000, all profit for the Community House. The winning bidder? Bill McDonough.

PABI is grateful to the community for the Road Rally, Sunrise Breakfast, Goofy Golf, Sunset Picnic, the 50/50 raffle, and the Sunset Picnic meeting or exceeding expectations. It also appreciates being part of the Historical Society's Museum Week and the Theatrical Productions.

Still ahead is Casino Night on 10-8 at Holy Cross Hall, and, on 11-21 the Christmas Bazaar, where artisans and craftsmen will set up their wares. There'll be baked goods, candy, and interesting "white elephant" items. To get involved, phone 448-2787.

—Sue Welke

## The Need for:

On Saturday July 17<sup>th</sup> at about 8:30 I was biking south on King's Highway. As I approached Carlisle Read I noticed heavy traffic ahead, and I loved what I saw! Not cars (there were only two) but 4 people on bikes, 4 folks speed walking and one runner, all between me and Four Corners. That vision certainly suggested one answer to "how do we plan for our Island's future?" At that moment I hoped I was looking at the future. We can make it so, if we decide to shape such a future ourselves instead of waiting for it to happen to us,

What if we started by enhancing our road and trail system to appeal to the growing number of people of all ages who are taking to the roads on foot, two wheels, skates or whatever? Then we could advertise that Beaver Island is unique in its determination to accommodate their needs and that we want them to come. Fortunately we have a well-managed Chamber of Commerce to spread that word.

Cross-country teams should love our foot-soft by-ways; bikers the relative safety of our soon-to-be dust free roads. Without breaking our tight fiscal budgets, we can certainly create the improvements to our infrastructure to meet the modest requirements of bikers, hikers, walkers and runners.

Let's not waste time in enticing good people to our beautiful Island.

—Marilyn Reed



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## Shing finds a Mate

Some Islanders have seen Jackie and Mary Jane Martin's Shing, a registered quarter horse obtained from Bob Gilbert's ranch in Traverse City, and have thought it too bad he was paired with the dangerous McGuiness, who has been known



to rear up so high on his heels that he fell over backwards-on his rider. Jackie thought so too, so she called Bob and worked out a trade: the fiery McGuiness for a different horse, one she and Mary Jane could handle.

So they trailored him to Traverse City and began looking for his replacement. One black beauty caught their eye, but she seemed spirited so they chose a gentle 18-year-old gelding. But she wasn't quite ready to go, and they were told to come back in a week.

## Jason Allen introduces Invasive Species bill

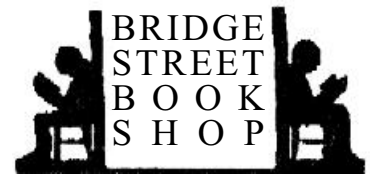
Michigan would be protected against invasive plant species like Eurasian milfoil and hydrilla under legislation introduced this week, Sen. Jason Allen announced. His package also

beauty that had first caught their eye. Seeing her up close, they approved Bob's choice, and hauled her to the ferry.

Home on Beaver Island, they finally noticed the two white blazes on her right flank, rough approximations of Hog and Beaver Islands. Right from the start she got along well with Shing, who had been named for Ernie's grandfather. So naturally they named her Nellie, not for the cow who burned down Chicago but for Shing's wife.

would establish a Non-native Species Advisory Council to establish criteria for identifying infested waterways and make recommendations for the state to eradicate some invasive species.

When they returned there was more bad news: the gelding had developed a growth on its neck. But Bob reassured them: "Don't worry, I've picked one out that you'll really like. C'mon, it's over here. She's a registered Overo Paint." It turned out to be the black



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## Island golfer scores hole-in-one by Frank Solle

Longtime summer resident, Jim McElwain, reached a golf milestone on September 6, as he knocked down a hole-in-one on the par-3 fourth hole at the Beaver Island Golf Course.

"This is my 1<sup>st</sup> hole-in-one," he said of the rare golfing feat. "And only the 2<sup>nd</sup> I've ever seen." He began golfing seriously just 13 years ago. He's been struggling to find the correct club to use on the short 143-yard 4<sup>th</sup> hole. "I started the year hitting a seven iron but the ball ended up on the 5<sup>th</sup> tee box," he explained. "I moved back to an eight iron, but still ended up in the cedar trees behind the 4<sup>th</sup> green. Then I moved to a nine iron and hit it in."

The nine-iron shot hit in front of the pin, bounced twice, and fell in.

McElwain's ace came during an outstanding nine-hole round of 32, matching what very may well be the course record—a three-under-par score he first set 10 years ago. Along with the hole-in-one, McElwain's round included an eagle 3 on the par-5 7<sup>th</sup> hole as well. "I kind of got in trouble with a double bogey 6 on the 2<sup>nd</sup>," he said. "But then I picked up five strokes and ended up three under for the round," he added of his 2<sup>nd</sup> 32 on the par 35 course.



"When I shot the first 32 ten years ago John Works Sr. put the scorecard up in the clubhouse as a course record. I don't know if anyone's beaten it yet." As far current course manager John Works Jr. knows, no one has carded a lower score to date.

Asked about his game, McElwain said, "I drive the ball 250-260 yards off the tee, and that's not bad. It seems the older I get the longer

I hit it, and that's the reverse of normal." Speaking of the course, McElwain said, "It's short, but not easy. If you drive 250 yards and stay in play, you can get this kind of score. Of course you need a little bit of luck, too."

McElwain and his wife Kay divide their off-Island time between Dayton, Ohio and Fripp Island, South Carolina. While he golfs at both locales, he had high praise for the local course and golf scene. "The improvement over the last few years is tremendous," he said. "I think the course is great and it's fun."

"The other thing is the local people are playing. Joe Williams used to be the rare local who played. Now, with the Wednesday night league—and those guys are getting good—golf is really catching on. Also a lot of the summer people play. It's a fun course and the price is right, and that always helps."

During his record-matching round, McElwain was joined by local golfers Buck Ridgeway, Jerry and Mike Sowa, and, as he emphasized in signing his name to the "official" score card, Reverend Howard Davis.

Asked about aces, Works Jr. said, "I don't know when the last one took place. It just doesn't happen very often."

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Brave Knight slayed the evil dragon by simply casting  
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## What's Katrina Up To?

Those who followed Katrina Martin's rise through college and law school, heard about her work at the law firm of Jaffe, Raitt, Heuer and Weiss, P.C. in Detroit (where she practiced construction law, business law and family law), and were pleased when she clerked for the Honorable Lita M. Popke (the daughter of Kay and Don Masini) of the Third Circuit Court in Detroit were delighted to see her teaching at the Beaver Island Community School this past spring, her final requirement for a teaching degree. The prospect of her living here excited her many fans.

Unfortunately, teaching at the high school level was not satisfying enough, and during the summer she decided it would be more fulfilling to return to the practice of law. But she isn't going far; she recently joined the law firm of Joseph, Corcoran, Telgenhof, and Snyder, P.C. in Charlevoix. The firm is considering setting up a satellite office on Beaver Island, where Katrina could practice law a couple of days each month. She recently visited the Island and met with several members of the community to assist them with their estate planning needs.



In addition to estate planning, she intends to concentrate the rest of her practice in family law, construction law, business formation and litigation, and real estate law. She is delighted to be so close to the Island, and to be able to provide informed legal assistance to its members. Having an attorney available who understands the Island is another step forward for us all.

## BIRHC Truck Raffle

It takes a lot of dedicated volunteers to make a project like the truck raffle a success. For 68 days, rain or shine, these folks urged all who passed by to "take a chance" on the sporty red truck.

They secured about \$24,000 for the Health Center's operating fund. And one lucky ticket holder, Mary Gillingham (wife of CMU director Jim Gillingham) has a new truck. The heroic ticket sellers are: Pete LoDico, Barb Murphy, Dave Roop, Connie Wojan, Anne Glendon, Eula Thomas, Lenore Jacobson, Angle Welke, Sharon Nix, Pam Grassmick, Don Spencer, Rick Speck, Karen Whitecraft, Betty Hudgins, and the owners and staff of McDonough's Store.

Others who contributed to the success of the raffle were Ken Slater, Pete LoDico and Fletch's of Petoskey who got a big discount on the truck. Ray Matela made the raffle board; Joe Reed kept track of ticket distribution, scheduling sellers, moving and cleaning the truck, and selling tickets.

Of course all of this volunteer support would not have mattered without the generosity of the 441 who bought tickets. Sincerest thanks to all from everyone at the Health Center!



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## One Hundred Years Ago

by Joyce Bartels

October 6, 1904 Local News: "Peter Johnston, father of W. B. Johnston, book-keeper for the Beaver Island Lumber Co., committed suicide Monday morning last at the home of his son, at St. James.

"Mr. Johnston had been in very poor health for sometime, and had exhibited evidences of failing mind. His body was found hanging in an outdoor closet. There is no doubt that he committed the deed in a fit of temporary insanity. In charge of his son the body arrived here Monday evening on its way to Manitowoc, the former home of the deceased. Mr. Johnston was 68 years of age."

October 18, 1904 Local News: "If anyone had met the steamer *Beaver* in

mid-lake Wednesday he would have concluded that Capt. Pete had changed her to a side-wheeler. A pair of lumbering wheels, twelve feet in diameter, were shipped to the Beaver Island Lumber Co. They were too big to go in the gangways, so they were lashed to the sides of the boat amidships, giving the boat, to a distant observer, the appearance of a side-wheeler."

October 27, 1904 Local News: "Capt. George Weaver is sailing the steamer *Beaver* during the absence of Capt. Campbell at St. Louis!"

"Capt. P. D. Campbell, the popular commander of the steamer *Beaver*, and who is quite well known to a number of our citizens, left Monday for the World's Fair."

## Kathleen May Tighe Aagaard

Word has been received of the death of one of the nurses in the class with Joy, Skip, Nancy Cull, and others, Kathleen Tighe. She was born in Big Rapids on May 11, 1927, the daughter of Catherine and Patrick Tighe, and died on September 12<sup>th</sup> in Greenville. After graduation, she worked at St.

Mary's Hospital in Grand Rapids, and also for Sheridan Elementary School in food service. She married Ron O'Donnell, who preceded her in death at an early age. She then married Jack Aagaard, who also preceded her in death. The nurses from this class had a reunion here a year ago.



## Licorice takes the Lead

Island summer home owner Ric Roane has a special pet. His Scotty, *Licorice* was a "rescue dog."

Now 7 years old, Ric got him when he was 5 ½ years of age. His life had been spent in confinement in a cage while being used in stud service by a previous owner. He sired 50 pups! It took much loving care by Ric to enable him to overcome a fear of many things. He has agreed to sponsor next years "Pet Show" during the 25<sup>th</sup> annual Museum Week with a generous donation from his owner and best friend.

—BIHS president, Johnny Runberg

## School Funding

The Governor has signed the School Aid Act including the Section 22d language "Saving Paradise" or Geographically Isolated School Districts. Passage provides necessary additional funding for the BICS.



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Some dark and vibrant colors may not be available in products advertised. They can, however, be obtained in our Ace Royal Accent line.

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**Pleated Furnace Filter**

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**Dryer Vent Kit**

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- 4" x 8'
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## BICS to offer Computer Classes

Once again, the Beaver Island Community School will be offering computer classes for adults. The fall class will be for beginners. Those who have no experience will start with the basics. Those who have experience will be able to start where they are comfortable. Should a class be missed, there will be no "falling behind." The classes will meet every Monday and Wednesday from 7:00 - 8:00 p.m. from October 4 - October 20.

The cost for the class is \$25, and holding it requires a minimum of 8 students. To sign up, call the BICS Office, 448-2744.

Also, the School's Computer Lab will be available for the public to access the Internet, from 3:15-4:15 every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday.

## BIBCO Declares Dividend

At its annual meeting the Beaver Island Boat Company announced that a dividend of \$7/share would be paid this year. The number of passengers (through September 10) was 35,796, down by 3.8%; vehicles were down by 6.6% (at 4,933.) But general freight revenue was up by \$154,105, an increase of 3%. Unfortunately insurance was up by 12%, and fuel too rose (forcing the *Emerald Isle* to run slower on some trips.)

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



**For Information, Call  
Vacation Properties Network  
(231) 448-2433**

**27190 Sloptown Road, Beaver Island Michigan**

## Sports Boosters Spaghetti Dinner

The Sports Boosters Annual Spaghetti Dinner will be held Wednesday October 27<sup>th</sup>, 5:30-7:30, with a special sauce made by Mike Bailey and donated by Nina's Restaurant. For any questions call Diane at 448-2164. We hope to see you there!

## Hunters' Dinner

The Beaver Island Wildlife Club will sponsor its annual Hunters' Dinner on November 13<sup>th</sup> at the Beaver Island Lodge. Entreés include: Baked Whitefish - \$21.00; Prime Rib - \$21.00; New York Strip Steak - \$25.00; Roast Duck - \$25.00. Price includes appetizers, salad, vegetable, potato, dessert, tax, and tip. Beverage not included. Seatings at 5:30 and 7:00. Proceeds will benefit the Wildlife Club.

## BIRHC Benefit Thank You

The Beaver Island Rural Health Center Benefit Dinner at Nina's Restaurant was a resounding success. The dinner netted the Health Center \$5,200.00 thanks to the 150 people in attendance and their generosity. The staff at the Beaver Island Lodge and Nina's Restaurant wishes to thank everyone for their support of this important part of our community.

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## For Sale: Beautiful New Home

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

Call Ed Wojan Realty:

Real Estate Office: (231) 448-2711

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**HOUSE FOR LEASE:**

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

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



**FOR SALE:** Furnished, all appliances including washer/ dryer, TV, microwave, gas grill, all amenities. 2 Bedrooms and loft. Kitchen/dining area, living room and bath. One mile to town; one quarter mile to beach, new paved hiking path and campground. Beautiful wrap-around cedar deck. Secluded and quiet. \$134,900. Call (231) 448-2166 or (520) 797-0703

**BEACHFRONT HOUSE FOR RENT:**

Exciting cottage with view of High Island from large deck. Open floor plan, huge windows on extremely private beach. 2 BRs with 2 full beds + loft with 2 twins. 1½ baths, TV/VCR, W/D, microwave, gas grill, all amenities. \$1095/week; spring & fall \$895. Limit 6 people. Please call (706) 268-2022, (219) 874-4676 May to Nov: 448-2001

**FOR RENT:**

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

**RENTAL ATTRACTION ON FONT LAKE:**

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

**BEACHFRONT HOME FOR RENT:**

3 bedrooms and loft - total 5 beds, hot tub, gorgeous views, solitude, wood stove, May-Sept. \$1050 / Off-season \$795. Call Perry at (313) 530-9776 or e-mail pgtatliff@hotmail.com

**40 ACRES ON SLOPTOWN ROAD:**

Call Bud at (231) 448-2397

**BEAVER ISLAND HARBOR LOT**

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



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

**FIELD INSPECTOR WANTED:**

Advanced Field Services seeks a field inspector on Beaver Island to complete a variety of residential insurance and real estate property surveys. To apply: [www.afsweb.com](http://www.afsweb.com)

**Real Estate, For Sale:**

**KING'S HIGHWAY LOTS ON THE EDGE OF TOWN** - Two beautiful wooded lots right near town, the Brothers' Place, and the harbor. Asking \$40,000 each. Call (773) 646-1424 or e-mail odatlo@aol.com

**NEARLY 1/4 MILE OF LAKE MICHIGAN FRONTAGE. GARDEN ISLAND** - \$125,000, 8 acres. Serious price reduction. Very motivated seller. Please Contact Jayson Welser, Po Box 357, Grayling, MI 49738. Phone (989) 348-2800 or email jaysonwelser@hotmail.com  
**GREAT LOTS FOR COTTAGE IN PORT ST. JAMES** - 3 to choose from. Wooded, power, perked, ready for building. Lake Michigan access nearby. Call (269) 857-6084.

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

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

**LAKE MICHIGAN LOTS FOR SALE (2)** Each offers beautiful sunsets, 4-5 wooded acres, and 250' frontage on Greiner's Bay, 8 miles from town. Lots back up to Mrs. Redding's Trail. Very deep and private. Land contract possible. Contact owner Victor Dmitruk at (269) 207-2970 or villpsych@aol.com For detailed description by autoresponder please send a blank e-mail to [info@villagepsych.com](mailto:info@villagepsych.com)

**Real Estate, For Rent:**

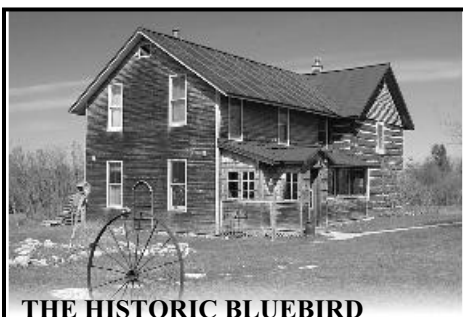
**SAND BAY - "BAY-HAVEN" COTTAGE - WEEKLY RENTAL** - Lake Front, Sandy Beach, 3BR, great view, laundry, East Side Dr., brand new home. Call Laurie Bos at (616) 786-3863 or [lauriesbos@chartermi.net](mailto:lauriesbos@chartermi.net)

**WEEKLY RENTAL** - Harbor Beach Two-bedroom Condos. \$475/week. Call



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

**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



**THE HISTORIC BLUEBIRD HOME & ORCHARD:** Available again as a rental. Charming and beautifully-renovated log farmhouse with apple orchard. Full housekeeping. 4 bdrms, 4 baths, jacuzzi tub. Fully-equipped kitchen, diningroom, parlor, library, and sunporch. Rates and reservations: (303) 442-3839 or TheBluebirdFarm@hotmail.com



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



**FOR SALE – HARBOR-AREA HOUSE:** Four bedroom, 1 ½ bath house on two lots with garage. Wonderful location near town and the harbor. Asking price is \$255,000. Call Ed Wojan Realty: Real Estate Office: (231) 448-2711 Toll Free Number: 1-800-268-2711



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



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

Carol Wierenga at (231) 448-2808, (231) 448-2598 or (231) 448-2596.

**CEDAR COTTAGE** - On bluff with view of harbor. Two bedrooms, one dbl. Bed, two singles. TV, VCR, grill, full kitchen, washer/clothesline, 2 bikes; no pets. \$600/week. Call (734) 769-7565.

**DONEGAL BAY** - 3 BR 2 bath Home; sleeps 6; many amenities. \$880 a week. Reduced rates for off-season. Phone (313) 885-7393, after 4:00 p.m.

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

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

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

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

**DONEGAL BAY** - Clean/Comfortable 3 Bedroom Home. Private Beach, Unforgettable Sunsets. July/August weeks available. Call Valerie Connors at (810) 487-1028.

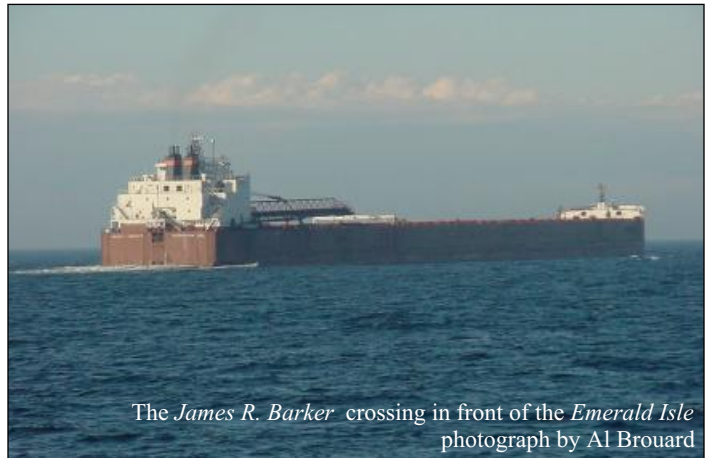
**DONEGAL BAY COTTAGE** - On dune with private beach access. 3 BR, 1 bath, sleeps 6, washer/dryer. Kayaks and bikes for your use. \$750.00/week. Off season rates on request. Please call Dana Luscombe evenings (248) 549-2701 or e-mail dpluscombe@msn.com

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



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





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