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Beaver Beacon

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some stories in this issue:

Great Lakes Dock and Materials rebuilds the Yacht Dock

Bite of Beaver Island and Boodle a Huge Success; Chamber of Commerce Membership Drive

Happy Halloween from the Laurain Lodge; Fall News from the BIHS; Looking Ahead: Township Millage

BITA Gets Approval for New "Homeland Security" Fence; Islanders Adjust to Highway Stripes

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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

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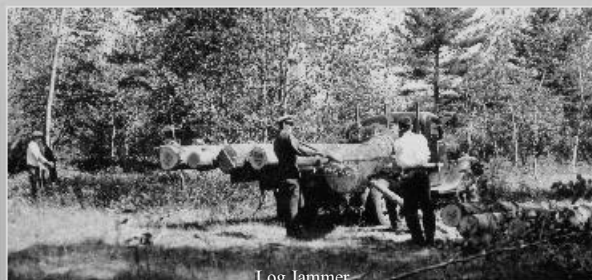
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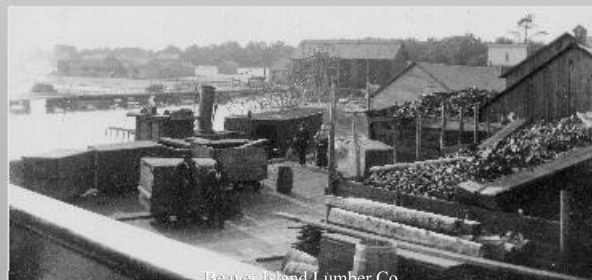
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News from the Townships

St. James Township Board

The St. James Town Board held a fairly unspectacular meeting on October 6th, attended by twelve people. Barb Schwartzfisher reported on what BITA's been up to, distributing a sheet listing its accomplishments (costing a total of \$227,911, of which the State paid \$207,505.) The list contained such entries as Reservation System (\$86,330), Radar (\$19,935), 15-Passenger Van (\$18,500), New Forklift (\$20,811), Security (\$30,096), and Transportation Coordination Survey (\$23,856.) Projects that are or will shortly be out on bids included a Storage Building, Security Fencing, and Remodeling of Passenger Lounges on the *Emerald Isle* (\$470,000 allocated.)

Supervisor Don Vyse reminded the Board that nine people had not yet hooked up to the downtown sewer line.

Snowplowing and oil supply will soon go out on bids.

Sally Lounsberry was appointed to the Airport Committee to replace Nancy White. Dee Gallagher, Sue Welke, Sally Lounsberry, Kathy Adams, and Pinky Harmon will be the election inspectors.

The Hannon rezoning (from R-1 to R-2) at Maloney's Point on Font Lake was discussed. Ed Wojan pointed out that the purpose of the request was to create four parcels for distribution, with Jan Hannon retaining 17 of the 26 acres. Thus the proposed new parcels would be 3 to 5 times larger than the R-2 minimum, and that after the 10-year

no-further-split time period passes, the Health Department's refusal to allow additional septic systems on this land would prevent any additional splitting. Consequently the Board approved the request, which had already been approved by both the local and the county Planning Commissions.

PABI announced it was investigating the possibility of obtaining water for its sprinkler system needs from Lake Michigan, and was negotiating with a horizontal boring company. If it could do this, it offered to provide a hydrant near the street that could be used by our fire trucks. Even though it would deliver water at 250 g/min, and the old truck can pull in water at 750 (and the new one at 1200), the hydrant would still save much time by eliminating the need to plow the dock so the truck can reach the lake, and the time-consuming need to chop through the ice. However, it was pointed out that horizontal boring frequently disrupts road surfaces, and Main Street has several impediments, such as the sewer line and electric lines.

Supervisor Vyse said the CCRC would conduct its annual meeting with St. James Township at its office instead of on the Island. He said he could handle this, so the entire Board would not have to go; there were several topics on his list, such as the Road Commission's failure to clean streets and catch basins and its neglect of picking up ice-control material last spring.

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Connie Wojan complimented the Township on the recent repaving project, but warned that oil leaking from vehicles could pose a problem. Others pointed out that oil has an acid-like effect on asphalt, creating pitting that, in the freeze cycle, can play havoc with the surface.

There was some informal discussion about ways to control young peoples' enthusiasm on Halloween, and whether or not Trick-or-treating should be eliminated on Devil's Night. Because of the \$1,200 in damage incurred last year, the Township will request an extra deputy to help control this typically wild weekend.

St. James Planning Commission

Most of the 24 people to attend the 10-7 PC meeting were there to observe the evolving McDonough's Enterprises rezoning situation. Before that case came up, several other agenda items had to be considered, including the Christian Church's proposed-for-spring Fellowship Hall. This new building will be 35 x 102 and seat 144 people; the existing Church kitchen will be relocated here, and the facility will be made available to the community under certain conditions. It seemed there was plenty of land, so all conditions (such as for rear yard and parking) could be met, but the Health Department had not yet ruled on the requirement for a new or expanded septic system so the building's exact placement had not yet been determined. Conse-

quently action was deferred.

A proposal by Cellular One to improve cell phone use downtown by erecting a short tower on top of the hardware store (to be done before Christmas) was unanimously approved.

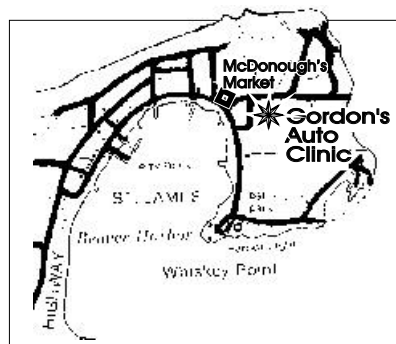
BITA's Barb Schwartzfisher and BIBCO's Kurt Smith appeared and requested approval on two matters, the Homeland Security-mandated fence at the Ferry Dock and a storage and maintenance building (40 x 80 x 14) in front and east of the gate to BIBCO's Donegal Bay Road parking lot. Barb remarked that asking for approval of the fence was the saddest thing she's ever had to do in this job. Since both requests met the requirements, approval was granted.

The McDonough's Market case began with a brief recap: originally it was assumed by the PC that two lots onto which the Market expanded were zoned H; it was later learned they were R-2; an attempt to rectify this through "conditional rezoning" was a double failure because the conditions were not legal and, upon consideration, the conditions were not accepted. The conditions were threefold: moving the propane truck away, building a privacy fence, and limiting the use of the new Freesoil driveway to once or twice a week. Tim McDonough said the fencing had actually been purchased, but limiting the driveway's use to "a few minutes a week" seemed unfair.

Chairman John Fiegen had *Continued, see Township News, page 6.*

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News from the Townships, from page 5.

received a letter from Township attorney Brian Graham, which he read. It confirmed what county planner Larry Sullivan had said, that conditions could not be applied to a rezoning. But these same conditions could become stipulations the PC imposes on the site plan, as long as they were "reasonable" (and he offered to help the PC define "reasonable"); an amended site plan is usually a requirement for rezoning. In this case, the original site plan submitted when the Market was expanded can not be found—a situation for which the PC accepted its partial culpability.

Chairman Fiegen said the PC had two options: 1) to do nothing; or 2) to hold another public hearing to consider rezoning just these two parcels (the previous public hearing was to consider rezoning Freesoil Avenue.) If it elected option 1, the "period of grace" (in which the existing violation was not prosecutable because an attempt to resolve it was ongoing) would expire, and the Market would be notified that it was in violation of the Zoning Ordinance. It could then forestall any further action against it by applying to have these two parcels rezoned. If rezoning was requested, an "amended site plan" could be required within a specified time, from a week to a month, or longer.

One member of the PC thought a new public hearing was unlikely to produce any new ideas; the same concerns would be expressed. Consequently he

would opt for option 1. But another member thought that procedural inaccuracies in the process-to-date could be overcome by holding another public hearing. A suggestion to investigate issuing a Special Use permit instead of rezoning was shot down by the Zoning Administrator, who pointed out that a Special Use had to be specified as allowable in the zone in question, and the existing use was not.

Only four members of the PC were present. Because they seemed equally divided between the two options, the PC decided to table this matter until its next meeting.

Planning Commission Procedure

Change: The St. James Planning Commission has changed its procedural rules. Instead of requiring an application to be in the hands of the Zoning Administrator a week before a scheduled meeting, if it is to be on the agenda, it must now be in his hands 15 days before. The purpose is to give him enough time to present the request to the PC members and give them enough time to examine the given site.

Peaine Township Board

On October 13th departing Board member Paul Nelson ran the meeting for absent supervisor John Works. He began by reading an apology from Works for not having finished his work on a draft for a possible "Disturbance of the Peace" ordinance.



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Nelson asked everyone present to vote to reinstate the Operational Millage, which is responsible for so many aspects of Peaine. Besides the EMS, Historical Society, Youth Consortium, summer deputy, zoning administrator, assessor, and members of the various boards, it supports the parks, the Bill Wagner Campground, the 4th of July fireworks, and such aspects of Peaine's facilities as utilities, insurance, and maintenance. Because this was defeated in the Primary, it appears as an "increase" of 4 mills, whereas it is in fact a renewal authorizing a levy of up to 4 mills, not all of which has ever been levied. Peaine hopes this will bring in \$149,000 to its General Fund.

The Board voted to formally adopt Town Hall rental rules that have been in effect for some time. They call for non-residents paying \$25 for using the Hall, and anyone using the Kitchen paying \$25. This offsets the cleaning cost.

Kathy Ruis was appointed to replace Sue Myers on the Library Board. She, Betty Scoggin, and Janet O'Donnell were appointed to serve as election inspectors.

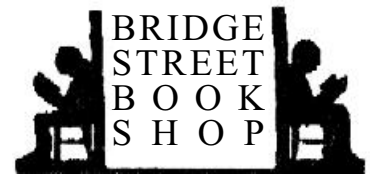
The Board discussed some information presented to the AmVets by Michelle LaFreniere, Youth Consortium Director, about Trick-or-treating. In the late 1950s the nuns were nervous about kids trick-or-treating, so they organized a Halloween Party in the Holy Cross Parish Hall with games, candy, and prizes. This gave the kids

something to do on Halloween other than trick-or-treating, but the kids just went door-to-door the night before. The Hall Party faded away during the early 1980s, but the kids never returned to trick-or-treating on Halloween. Now Peaine Township is considering mandating 5:00 to 8:00 on Halloween night as the only acceptable time for T-and-T-ing, starting next year.

A picture was shown in which the Peaine Board received a giant check for the East Side Fire Hall: \$340,250. The actual amount received for this was \$65,000 higher because the Fund had developed "excess money" it chose to distribute to recent applicants.

A letter written to the Charlevoix County Road Commission by John Works was read, in which he protested the CCRC's decision not to come to Beaver Island for its annual RC/Town Board meeting. He set the priorities for this year: a) trucks, men, and grader to do annual grading work this spring; b) more dust control must be supplied; c) the grader and a 10-yard dump truck should be here full-time; and d) the CCRC should construct a new Island base behind the Transfer Station.

Paul Nelson and Judy Lanier expressed their thanks for having been allowed to serve on the Town Board, and were applauded. Paul added that the next Board member to be appointed to serve on the Health Center's Board should know at the onset that this will be a very difficult challenge.



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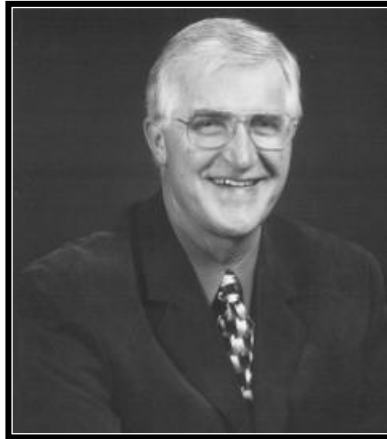
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Letters to the Editor:

First, add my son Michael deVaux to the list; he is on active duty now from the US Naval Reserves. He graduated from the Naval Academy and served for 11 years before going into the reserves. He was a pilot on the carriers and is on active duty at Mayport, Florida until November. (My husband Art, now deceased, and I bought a home on Donegal in 1984 after having visited the Island for several years. My son Arthur was married to Kristi Martin in 2000 at the Whiskey Point Light. Also, my daughter and her family come from Atlanta every year.)

Secondly, on October 8th I arrived on the Island to discover my car was not at the airport. A woman I had never seen working there before could not tell me where it was. She said I should call Gordie, but did not tell me about the sign which had gone up saying there

would be \$125 charge for cars left at the airport. A very nice man and his wife took me to Gordon's, where I found out he had taken my car so I would not be fined. My car was there; problem solved, thanks to the help of the always-friendly people on Beaver. I had previously thought a sticker was only needed for winter storage.

When my husband was buried on Beaver in 10/91, my son made the reservations with Betty, who could not get us on the same plane until she saw how badly I was doing. Art said I would be better if she could get us together, and she did. I don't like all the changes that have occurred over the past 20+ years. I guess I can't expect to stop progress, but I do miss the Island of old, as many of the older summer home-owners also do. Thank goodness some courtesies remain.

—Betsy deVaux

Read A Good Book Lately?

A new occasional feature contributed by Arnie Rich, who writes: Reading history is about the best way of understanding how we as a people arrived at where we are at in this period of time. It begins to explain what events caused us to be who we are. We happen to be living at a time when there is a plethora of excellent researchers and writers of history. Last winter I enjoyed a marvelous sampling of what is currently available of which I would like to make a few suggestions for your consideration. The following is nonfiction:

Caesar's Legion, by Stephen Dando-Collins. This is published by

John Wiley & Sons, Inc, New York. Copyright 2002. The author states that it took him 30 years of painstaking research and I believe it. This is fascinating and sheds a lot of light on the characters of Julius Caesar, Brutus, and Mark Anthony. Wish I had read this before studying Shakespeare's play of Julius Caesar. Did you know that Brutus might have been the adopted son of Caesar? Or that Mark Anthony had a propensity for losing battles? The Tenth Legion was formed in Spain and was the foremost legion that Caesar used. There is a lot in this tome of about 285 pages. Et tu Brutus?

Michigan's Crown Jewel

by Joanne Denko, M.D.

One of 42 nature poems (12 have been previously published) in a new book by this Donegal Bay summer resident, psychologist, and writer.

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Showy white orchid with garnet throat,
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Exquisite!

Secretive in sun-baked meadow,
Pencil-thin snakelet,
Beaded with embryos
In her ruby belly,
Frightened but charming.

Tiny plover on hot sandy beach,
Brown and white chopper
Lifting into the empyrean,
Piping on his piccolo
A stirring fanfare.

Brilliant path across sapphire heavens,
Spray of Hera's milk,
Arriving from deep space
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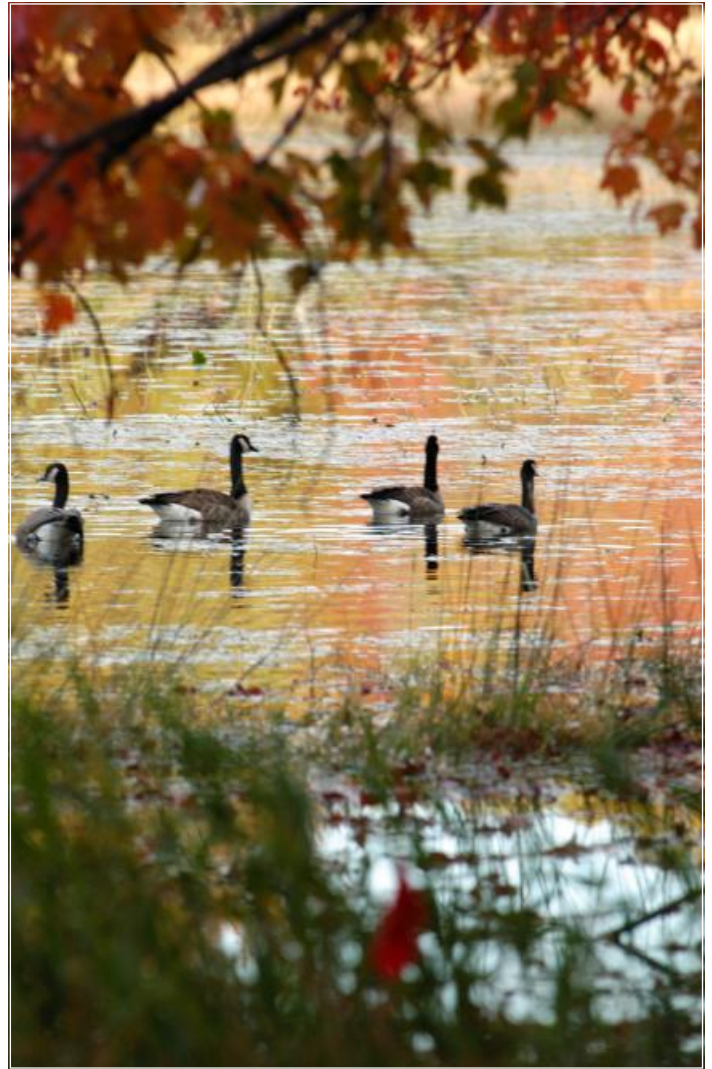
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Congratulations

To three fine couples who tied the knot on Beaver Island this fall: Adam Anderson and Jessica Keehn; Dan McCafferty and Sarah Myers; and Michael Perdue and Christine Heller. We wish them long and happy lives, full of love and happy Island days.

Nice Going

To Melanie Paul, whose many happy summers at Bonner's Landing prepared her to co-host the History Channel's latest hit show, *Deep Sea Detectives*. She's also the Associative Editor of *Deep Sea Diver*, and is happy to earn a living doing what she loves.

And thank you

To the local artists and craftmakers who'll be able to show their wares at the *Christmas Bazaar* held in the Holy Cross Parish Hall on the afternoon of 11-21—and to those of us who'll be able to go and shop. To get a table, phone Sue Welke at (231) 448-2787.

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Rebuilding the Yacht Dock

Great Lakes Dock and Materials, the Muskegon company that had the low bid for rebuilding our Yacht Dock, had hoped to start on July 1st, but couldn't because the State delayed approving the plans. That was okay for all the boaters who wanted to sail into

Paradise Bay, but it played havoc with project foreman Jan Sickterman's plans. By the time he finally got the go-ahead, his subs had taken other work, the price of materials had jumped yet again, and the generally good weather had run its course.

Being professionals, the GLD&M crew bit the bullet and started in, ripping out the haphazard, jury-rigged former structure and using its talent and equipment to replace it with up-to-code new. By late October the basic structure was in, looking straight and true.

Paradise Bay Dive Shop

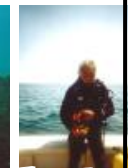


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Where's Dianne?

Many Beaver Islanders have come to know Ann Arborites Lloyd and Delores Cochran, who bought the Quartermaine home at Sand Bay almost four decades ago, expanded it, and settled in to various capacities during their regular summer residence (such as Lloyd's management of the CMU Bio Station facilities.) During that time people came to know their daughter Dianne, but they haven't seen much of her lately. Here's why:

Dianne, now married to Bill Harbaugh, has been living for the past 20 years in Islamorada in the Florida Keys, where she recently became the Overall Grand Champion of the Islamorada Fishing Club's annual Fishing Tournament. To claim this honor she had to have the highest point total earned during a year-long hunt for 32 species, ranging from amberjack to white marlin. The new complicated point system was copied from the Miami Rod and Reel Club, but Dianne won before, under the old rules. Working at Caribee Marine, she has acquired as much fishing lore as anyone within a hundred miles (and met many celebrity fishermen, such as General Norman Schwartzkopf.)



Dianne has become indispensable to the many tournaments in the area as a manager and scorekeeper. She wears many hats, such as with the pet-sitting business she's run for the past ten years, and yet still finds time she needs to fish.

She is working to improve her skill with her fly rod (she has caught, and released, a blue marlin, a sailfish, and a white marlin on fly, and is going for a black marlin, a striped marlin, a pacific blue marlin, and a short-billed spearfish.) And whenever Beaver Islanders stop by, she's glad to tell them where and how to fish—so long as they come prepared to tell *her* what's going on back home. It really *is* true: you can take someone out of the Island, but....



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Blaze Orange Cowboys

by Lois Williams

Last year the first shot rang out on November 15th at 7:05 a.m. splitting the soft quietness of opening day. The morning light was just starting to seep into the woodlands and I thought at the time it was too early to shoot. For the next five hours I sat in disbelief as I heard shot after shot sometimes coming in quick succession. Were we at war? No, we have just been introduced to a new breed of hunters—Blaze Orange Cowboys.

There is certain quietness to whitetail hunting that allows for hours of observation and very little shooting. You could sit for hours and not see a deer, or see several. You might even see bucks but decide not to take a spike or four point but wait for a larger one. A true hunter hunts religiously and reverently. A Blaze Orange Cowboy hunts by a different set of rules. One of the sayings that comes to mind is, "If it's brown, shoot it down." I have heard stories about shooting at deer, deer that were wounded and never found, deer that ran for several hundred yards before they finally dropped, and deer that were not tracked after being shot. Blaze Orange Cowboys shoot at almost anything. When they get bored they shoot at squirrels and chickadees, and sometimes ducks. If it moves, it could be a target. I would like to believe that even that kind of hunter could learn how to improve.

The ethical hunter is saddened by the loss of a wounded deer. That is why it is so important to concentrate on your target and be certain you obtain a killing shot. In order to kill quickly without pain and make recovery certain you need to be a good marksman, know the correct anatomy of the deer, and use good equipment.

Several years ago I was introduced to the concept of the "one-shot kill." In a perfect deer-hunting world every hunter would make a one-shot kill ... you would never again have to track a deer. This shot requires learning, discipline, and practice. The best shot is squarely through the middle of both shoulder blades. This shot will kill a deer almost instantly—it will not take a step. Such a shot hits the spine as well as the major nerves coming off the first four thoracic vertebrae of the spine. These nerves con-

trol the muscles of the rib cage and front legs. The result is immediate loss of consciousness, inability to breath or move, and a quick, merciful death.

There is even margin for error here in that if it strays left, right, or low, it will still be a killing shot. A shot to the front hits the spine and major blood vessels. A shot to the rear may hit the spine, aorta or lungs. A shot low will hit the heart, or puncture the lungs. Only a shot high, above the shoulder blades, will not kill. It will drop the deer, however, and you could get a second chance. Choosing this over a heart shot gives you an advantage. If you aim for the heart and stray high you will get a killing shot, but a stray could spell trouble. A stray shot to the front, rear, or low will result in a wounded deer that requires long trailing and probable loss. Practice will help you improve, and you should, because you must act quickly. Sometimes you only have seconds to shoot. Shoot from a rest when possible. Avoid shooting at a running animal, at long distances, and in poor light. Avoid shots at deer that are well-screened by brush.

Knowing the correct anatomy of a deer will help you know exactly where to aim. Much of advertising material places the cross hairs incorrectly on the quick-kill areas of a deer. These areas are often shown as too large whereas in reality the quick-kill areas are much smaller. To learn more about whitetail anatomy check with your local library or the almost endless Internet information on the subject. You must also have good equipment. You need a firearm that shoots a bullet that will penetrate and destroy vital organs. Learn how to select ammunition with intelligence. If you don't know, ask an expert. Check your firearm and scope for loose screws, visit a shooting range if possible, and re-sight each year if you don't keep it in a hard gun case.

If you become a good marksman, understand correct whitetail anatomy, and have good equipment I will add one more tool—PATIENCE. Learning to be selective will make you a better hunter, I believe. It is rewarding to harvest a deer humanely. Or, you could just continue to be a Blaze Orange Cowboy.

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Beaver Island Economic Development: an Outline for Discussion

by Jack Kelly

Off-Island consultants have been hired to develop a Master Plan for us, and to assess transportation needs, particularly in relation to the ferry. To stimulate on-Island discussion, I am offering an outline of issues for consideration by government, business, and community organizations. It is far from complete, but may get some of the possibilities and limitations on the table.

Current Issues:

There is now a reduction in construction from the high level of the late 90s and the beginning of the new century. This may be a lull or a transition to

new patterns. Now that most shoreline lots have been sold, a move toward inland building would be a transition. The state economic slowdown would suggest a lull only if the economy and employment will return to former levels. This is not the place for an analysis of Michigan-style industry in the global economy, but there is no assurance of restoring the old manufacturing base.

One thing is certain: it is unlikely that past growth rates will continue. Straight-line projections are almost sure to be wrong. Remember that water is the prime attraction on an island, and shore-

line property is scarce and increasingly costly. Further, the remoteness of the Island is both an attraction and a limitation. Coming here has to be worth the time and money it costs.

Premise 1: To grow, the Island must increase its attraction to potential markets for second homes and tourism.

There is, however, one additional possibility. As the 'baby boom' generation moves into retirement years, there is expected to be increased demand for second and retirement homes. In the long term, the Island will need to plan for this possibility, both in development and in environmental conservation.

Economic Sectors:

1. Industry: Production industry requires a combination of skilled workers, inexpensive and easy transportation, and good communications plus some resources. An island 30 miles from a resort area has none.

2. Agriculture: The same limitations apply to export agriculture. However, truck-garden farming and a 'farmers' market' for on-Island markets could be quite viable.

3. Retirement housing: Again, the location is a problem for those whose health requires specialized medical care. Solving the air ambulance problem would help, but would be only a partial solution. Healthy and active retirees may, however, be a bigger market as people live longer and healthier lives.

4. Construction: The shortage of water-based locations will limit new construction, even if the economy rebounds. Perhaps a greater variety in size and location of second homes can sustain building. Visitors become summer residents, so tourism and construction are closely related. The stock of older homes suggests that the market for rebuilding and additions may increase. Zoning that limits manufactured housing would also support on-Island construction.

5. Tourism: Attracting more short-term visitors, especially if the season can be extended, is crucial to development. One attraction is the quality of the environment including water access, trails, beaches, etc. Other amenities, including golf, tennis, water sports, boating, and ecotourism, need to

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be of near-mainland quality. Being 'quaint' only goes so far. Advertising in appropriate media helps, but word-of-mouth and social networks are still the best way to bring in new visitors.

6. Transportation: Speed, cost, and reliability are all factors. While current capacity may be adequate for passengers, two boats a day are not convenient for all, and weather is always a flying issue. More summer residents and visitors for whom time is more scarce than money suggest an eventual market for a higher level of services, perhaps including faster boats, and air services to Traverse City or other centers. This is a potential growth sector.

7. Retailing: There are the basics such as food, hardware, and perhaps "drug store" sundries. There are also the seasonal boutiques that respond to limited markets and try to create new ones. The main limitation is seasonality, with May 1st to August 20th the peak. Extending that would expand the potential.

8. Services: Some services such as housing and auto repairs, food, drink, sports, bike and car rentals, and marinas respond to existing markets, some of which may not be saturated. Some are also year-around. Others, like kayaking and decorating, create their own markets. The investment-to-risk ratio is often hard to calculate in advance; some entrepreneurial courage is involved. The length of the season and the small year-around population are always factors in pricing and provisions.

Premise 2: All such development is based on the environmental attraction of the Island that should be of central concern to all.

Premise 3: Access to the environment and to other recreational amenities is not trivial, but is significant for all kinds of development.

Premise 4: It is not enough just to muddle along. It is the responsibility of both public and business units to plan and Invest in the future of the Island.

The Future:

Sorry, no guaranteed forecasts here. However, there are some principles for thinking ahead.

1. Development and planning for the environment are not antagonists, but are both necessary if the Island is to pro-

vide economic opportunities for generations to come.

2. Growth will always be limited by our location and by the seasonality of its main industries: second and retirement homes and tourism. Be realistic!

3. Any major resort development, IF desired, would require enabling zoning, a tract of land on a good beach, improved transportation and communication, better recreation provisions, and a lot of capital and patience.

4. Improvement of current amenities, such as trails and sports, including harbor-based water activities, will be

needed to enlarge the summer markets.

5. To lengthen the season will also require more than hopeful waiting. What would bring visitors in the Fall, Winter, and Spring, and how will they be provided for in housing, meals, entertainment, and activities?

6. The development of infrastructure, including roads, beaches, trails, communications, health care, transportation etc., should be a continual project of planning and public development.

Beaver Island is a great place in so many ways. It can be even better if we want it badly enough to work together.

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A year without television

by Frank Solle

As the political season heads into its stretch run and the presidential candidates pound the televised airways with commercial after commercial, and the latest round of 'reality' shows competes for viewers' precious time, I can only be glad of the conscious decision my wife, Sue, and I made last year upon our full-time return to Beaver Island.

Although our new home came complete with not one, but a pair of satellite receivers, and the house was wired throughout for easy connection in a number of rooms, we chose, as un-American as it may sound, to go TV-free. And this from a pair of the not-quite-as-great generation that grew from infancy in the warm blue light of television.

"Let's just not hook it up," I had said to Sue once all the furniture had found its resting places, the photos and paintings were hung on the walls, and the books had been nestled into their shelves.

"No TV?" she replied, consenting to give the odd proposition some time to sink in. But she agreed, and we haven't looked back since.

Now this isn't to say we don't still watch the darn thing. We have plenty of movies on tape and a growing DVD collection. Plus there is an ample selection

of rentals available here on the Island. Sue has purchased a number of years of some of her favorite shows on both formats, and while not a huge fan of either *M*A*S*H* or *Friends*, I can tell you up front both are much better commercial-free than they ever were the other way. Recently we received a VHS/DVD catalog in the mail complete with numerous TV shows and countless movies. I was lured by the first season of *Sky King* (a favorite as a child, back when there were just two channels to choose from and you had to, gasp, actually get up and walk to the set to change from one to the other. And if you too remember those pre-remote days, but not that particular show, then, like me, you're probably older than you want to admit). Then there was the complete Monty Python collection on 14 DVDs for just \$170. I remember in the early '70s trying to 'power-up' the antenna at our house on the Island's back beach with extra wires in order to pick up the Sunday evening airing of the *Flying Circus* out of Northern Michigan University's PBS station from Marquette. While I'll probably pass on the big bucks for that show, I can always get a John Cleese fix from one of my pirated *Faulty Towers* tapes.

Having had the luxury of expanded

basic cable for many years prior to this cold turkey departure, there are some programs I do miss. High on the list is 'Book-TV' on C-SPAN on the weekends. Author talks and readings. Book discussions. And who can forget the great debate when Molly Ivins and Michael Moore were joined by Bill O'Reilly at the front table during a book fair in Los Angeles? *Nature* and *Nova* on PBS were always favorites as was/is anything by Ken Burns. If you've seen his series on the Civil War along with those on Jazz and Baseball, plus specials on Mark Twain and Lewis and Clark, then you've practically had a full education in American culture. Then there's Austin City Limits—a great way to catch some of the top acts in bluegrass, folk, and progressive country or even Texas swing music.

As for commercial TV, I would have to say only *Boston Public* and the *West Wing* were my 'must-see' choices. But that doesn't mean I didn't watch too much of the blue-eyed beast as long as it was available. There was, after all, sports.

Sports were the toughest thing for me to give up. While I did make it through baseball's entire regular season without watching a game, I must con-

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fess I've already sneaked over to my mother-in-law's a couple of times to catch a few innings of the current playoffs. And even though it wasn't planned, I did manage to see the final few holes plus playoff of the PGA tournament played at that course from hell across the pond in Wisconsin this past August.

But that's it. Sue has been much better, skipping the big *Friends* finale earlier this year. Then she's always been tougher than me.

So how is life without TV? It's filled with National Public Radio, broadcast from Central Michigan University. *Morning Edition* and *All Things Considered*, along with Garrison Keillor's *Writer's Almanac* and *Prairie Home Companion*. Not to mention the great blues and folk music on *Our Front Porch* or the five hours of jazz on Saturday's *Take Five*. Plus *Stardate* and *National Native News* and *Fresh Air*. The list goes on. Just like the old days, gather around and have a listen.

Then there are newspapers. And the internet. Yes, you can stay informed without tuning in the TV. And books. And more books (as a child, growing up in Omena, north of Traverse City, my family owned a book store—I was hooked young.) And photography. And

walks in the woods or along the beach. And bike rides. And golf. And mushrooming. Or berry picking. Rock hounding. Sunsets. And chores—the joys of mowing and raking and gardening and building trails in the woods and making wood and kindling—along with all those little repair jobs that go hand-in-hand with home owning. There's doing Tai Chi, or playing the flute, or writing poems. And cooking. Baking. Even making tofu, but let's not take this too far.

As for sports, three games at Detroit's Comerica Park in person in July were better than a full season on the screen. Besides, there are all kinds of games on the radio and I managed to listen in to at least parts of many of them, from the Tigers' season opener while looking out over the yet-to-recede snow banks of spring, to their season finale on a crisp October afternoon. Plus there are high school soccer, volleyball, and basketball games here on the Island—now that's entertainment.

We did look into hooking up to the satellites this spring as Sue's mother stays with us through part of the summer and we thought she would much rather have television available. Once the satellite guy started talking about cutting down trees, that deal was off, but the

experience did lead to a poem, so it wasn't all bad.

All-in-all, I have to say what started as an experiment has turned into a lifestyle. Now the only thing left is to take those darn dishes down.

Satellite TV Primer (an Ode to Bob Edwards)

The Dish Network communicates through three satellites—a trinity of orbits

hovering in an azimuth between 210 and 240 degrees overhead.

Direct TV, on the other hand, beams a signal to its receivers via a single satellite

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either the two oaks and three maples,

or a towering birch

that must fall to make an invisible connection.

"Just to watch that crap on TV?" I respond, incredulous he could suggest the trees-for-TV trade.

So, even without Bob, I'll stay tuned to Morning Edition and enjoy the view.



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A Tremendous Weekend

Many observers felt the crowds that swarmed over Beaver Island on the second weekend in October were a record for the month, and were due to at least six events. Those who felt lucky came for PABI's Casino Night—where over \$2,000 was taken in. Fans of the New Third Coast Band were here to rock away at the Shamrock, even as those who came for the Haunted Lighthouse Tour were shivering in their seats as evoked ghosts swirled through the air. People came from far and wide to celebrate the marriage of Dan McCafferty and Sarah Myers, featuring a party at Unfinished Farms with live Island music. Sixty-five runners and walkers registered for Saturday morning's Boodle, though some remained fogged-in in Charlevoix. Well-disciplined John Martin took first-place (21.36) in the men's division. Curtis Bolt was second (22.59), and Jon Manza third (23.69). Green Party candidate Ellis Boal, who was here to campaign for Prosecutor, ran in the freezing wind in just his shorts, and finished fifth. In the women's division Karla Erickson took first (23.43), Julie Masek second (27.18) and Jenni Holen





third (28.00). Rick Speck and his daughter Kerry Smith won the walk.

Most of those who were here, though, came to the third annual *Bite of Beaver*, through whose doors over 300 people passed. Shortly after the event began, the newly-paved new parking lot was full, and new arrivals parked up the hill and around the corner as far as the Emerald Isle Hotel, which was also full. Everyone praised the *Bite*; the food was, en toto, a cornucopia of gourmet delights, and the live music, provided by the Emerald Isle Repertory Theatre, created just the right edge. Ellis Boal was there to campaign, as was his rival, John Jarema, and Kevin Elsenheimer, who followed his competitor, Jim McKimmy, by a week. It was quite amazing to stand by the Parish Hall door and watch group after group come in and begin their mouth-watering tour of tables filled with affordable delicacies. Kudos to the Chamber of Commerce and director Steve West, Deborah Harwood, Gail and Mike Weede, Brian Porter and Kyle Barnette, Sally Fogg, and all those who pitched in to help organize this wonderful and successful weekend.



On This Date

Ten Years Ago The *Beacon* announced the formation of the Darrell Dinwiddie Memorial Fund at the Charlevoix County Community Foundation, set up to provide educational grants to Beaver Island students. Darrell Dinwiddie was a long-time CPA who expertly filled the needs of most Island individuals and businesses for over two decades.

PABI published its first solicitation for funds to purchase and restore the Dockside Market. Available subscriptions to the cause ran between twenty and two hundred dollars per month for the following three years.

The Med Center noted that it had plenty of flu vaccine.

The Lodge hosted 64 people for a fund-raising dinner and Art Auction, raising over \$2,000 for the Jose Carreras Leukemia Foundation.

The Casey Collins Memorial Tennis Courts finally became a reality, thanks to Bob and Julie Neff, Rich Gillespie, Jim Wojan, Wes Webb, Neal Boyle, and all those who donated to the project. Bill Hirschey's summer baseball practice taught basic skills to kids between 10 and 14, preparing them for a kids' tournament against a team from

Detroit, which camped at the Bill Wagner Campground (and won.)

The Fly-in accommodated 148 planes on 9-18.

The Harbormaster building was nearing completion.

Peaine Township reacted to the Little Traverse Conservancy declining to accept an offered \$5,000 donation by rescinding its gift. It also moved to offer St. James a swap of its Yacht Dock share for St. James' share of Iron Ore Bay.

Ron Gregg sent in a story about playing football during recess when he was in the fifth grade. His teacher was a no-nonsense nun they called Mary Gestapo. Everything went fine for Ron until he tackled an older kid, who fell on him; he reverted to coarse language, which Mary Gestapo heard, and made him write down what he said and take it home for his parents to sign. He couldn't sit down for two weeks, but became a gentile and refined speaker—which he is to this day.

The three young who perished in a plane crash on September 15th were eulogized, Jesse Kenwabikise, Ed Maudrie, and John Paul Widmayer. A moving poem by Jack Spanhak was included, which ended:

*Take heart now loved ones left behind
Join hands, together come
Behold three eagles flying high
In the echoes of the drum.*

The passing of Elvira Gillespie Supernaw was noted. Born on Beaver Island as Jewell's sister, she was our school's salutatorian in 1937, but moved to Charlevoix later that year.

Twenty Years Ago The *Beacon* included a plea for more people to support the Civic Association, which was responsible for organizing the Fly-in, managing the Fourth-of-July fireworks, and publishing the *Beacon*. It rose to the occasion when a major project needed doing, such as building the Med Center, but had lost much of the early enthusiasm. But the Civic did plant 100 tulips at the Boat Dock, and sponsored "spooky Halloween hayrides" for the schoolkids. It published a list of over 50 names proposed for its Memorial to the Dead at Sea.

The previous month's efforts to convince the State to replace Bill Wagner as our local DNR officer came to nought, but the public was urged to keep trying.

The Medical Auxiliary purchased an EKG machine, and was promoting

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its Christmas Gift Tree, decorated with donated ornaments and Gift Certificates. Tickets for its raffle were 5/\$1.

St. James Township was asked to support the purchase of the Beachcomber (and its liquor license) by Dick and Arlene Bailey, which it did.

Yacht Dock master Tim Timsak asked St. James Township to seek financial help from the Waterways Commission for much-needed repairs.

Vivian Visscher attended the Peaine Township meeting to ask that the Township Cemetery be surveyed because "there are graves lying every which way, and if it is ever to get straightened out a survey will have to be made, with metal markers placed on each plot." Bob McGlocklin complained that the Liquor Fund had too much money in it—thanks to amounts submitted by the organizers of Joe Nuke's Flattail Fest.

The school received a critical letter from the American Civil Liberties Union, which was responding to complaints made by Rick Delamater involving the intermixing of Church and State (regarding such things as the location of the graduation ceremony.)

In a soccer tournament a Canadian

team (from St. Joseph's Island) beat out the Island team for first place. Rick Speck's track team took part in three matches; in Charlevoix, where Kerry Speck, Heather Gillespie, and Carrie Wojan finished 1-2-3, and in Elk Rapids, where Kerry was 2nd, Carrie 4th, and Wendy Keneabikise 14th.

The establishment of a Learning Center in the school met with praise from several students.

In the election, Ron Wojan beat John McCafferty for Supervisor, 96 to 78. George Lasater beat Paul LaFreniere for Sheriff, 170 to 125.

Passings noted included Lorenzo Meengs and Dr. Arnold Combs.

Thirty Years Ago Beaver Island was enjoying Indian Summer, much welcomed after several days in October came complete with snow in the air. The crisp weather made for excellent rabbit hunting. At the Hunters' Dinner several successful hunters were congratulated, including Bud Rouch, whose group of five Battle Creekers took five deer—including Bud's twelve pointer that dressed out at 202 pounds. Sheldon Parker offered his dogs to guide rabbit hunters, "no shooting, no pay."

The Fly-in, organized by John Lud-

wig, was a success, with over 100 pilots braving the gloomy weather. The event was televised by *Michigan Outdoors*' Mort Neff.

The Grand Rapids' B. I. Club sent \$1,000 to the Island after its 9th annual party.

Passings noted included Sister Aquino Boyce, who had taught here, and Mabel Roy, who, with her husband A. J. (cofounders of the Historical Society) had been in a car crash and suffered injuries initially thought to be minor.

John Gillespie was elected supervisor in St. James, Gladys Schnaudigel in Peaine.

The *Beacon* continued the story of Dr. and Mrs. Sorensen's freighter travels around the world, in which they raved about the meals—one menu offered, for dinner, fresh scallops, grilled New York steak, broiled lamb chops, or chicken cacciatori with spaghetti. On this trip they left from Los Angeles, watching a cannery burn to the ground across the harbor as they departed. They headed for Yokahama, but decided to jump ship in Hong Kong. After ten days there they flew to Bangkok, where they spent another ten days. *Continued, see On This Date, page 22.*

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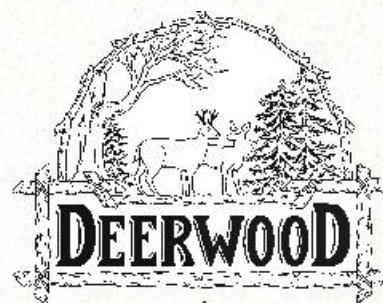
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On This Date, continued from page 21.

Forty Years Ago An article by Ben East about Island hunting that appeared in *Outdoor Life* was credited for bringing a record number of bird hunters over the Lake. Their presence made the partridge skitty, but those who went to Garden Island did better—such a group from Ludington who camped there for a week came back with 50 partridge as well as some ducks. A hundred turkeys were spotted near Beaver's south end—a remarkable increase from the 35 planted three years before. Eighteen archers (including Maurice Teeter) took seven deer.

The Conservation Department stocked Fox Lake with 1,700 brook

trout, with an average size of almost 10" and weighing about 6 ounces.

Five of the eight students to make the honor role were Wojans. In a mock election at the school, Johnson beat Goldwater, despite his catchy AU H₂O bumper sticker, 30 to 3. The school received a set of Geography Encyclopedias from Eddie O'Donnell, a former resident who fondly remembered daydreaming his way through geography books during class.

The Parish Hall was set up for use as a Youth Center, which opened with a Halloween party. It was equipped for badminton, ping pong, and pool, with a movie projector and juke box, some lapidary tools for stone-cutting, twelve

paint sets, and a jigsaw. Supervision was by adult volunteers.

Passings included Mrs. Anthony O'Donnell, 4-year-old James Murray, who drowned, and Mary Margaret Gallagher, who married Dan Gallagher and came to Beaver Island from Ireland's Donegal in 1910; Dan preceded her in death by nine years.

The new Holy Cross Chapel hosted its first wedding, at which Alvin LaFreniere served as best man. The issue closed with a poem written by Mrs. James Carpenter, which began:

*How do I know my youth is all spent?
Well my get-up-and-go has got up and went.*

*But in spite of it all I'm able to grin
When I think of the places my get-up has been*

and ended:

I get up each morning and dust off my wits

Pick up the paper and read the obits.

If my name is missing I know I'm not dead

So I eat a good breakfast and go back to bed.

Other Ferries go on Break

Word has been received that the new high-speed (150 minute) Lake Michigan ferry that runs from Muskegon to Milwaukee will conclude its season on the end of October, instead of January 1st, because of a considerable drop-off in passengers. The *SS Badger*, running from Ludington to Manitowoc, ceased operating on 10-10.

With several recent days having waves well over 10', those watching the weather might recommend that our ferries do the same, but they would not be factoring in the tenacity and toughness of our crews.

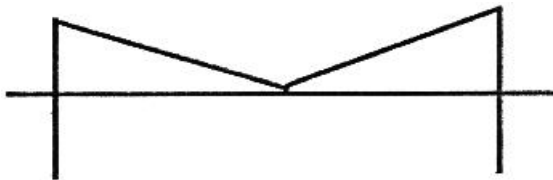
Big Rock tower down

The red-and-white 240'-tall tower at the Big Rock nuclear facility, long a landmark for boaters, is being dismantled in 20' sections—with the help of a 300'-tall crane. The crane's height requires it to obtain FAA approval to be used.

The operation began on October 11th. The tower sections weigh up to 20 tons. (Big Rock closed in 1997 after generating electricity for 35 years.)

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Chamber of Commerce Fall Membership Drive

With the amazing success of this year's *Bite* and *Boodle* highlighting its expanded marketing efforts, the Chamber of Commerce is about to begin its annual Fall Membership Drive with the hope of doing even more in the coming year to continue promoting Beaver Island as a destination for all seasons. This year's Chamber promotion efforts included:

- Radio ads in September and October on WJML & KOOL, Petoskey;
- Live remote from *Dalwhinnie* in September, on the same stations;
- WMTA e-newsletter sent to 13,000 subscribers in September;
- WMTA Spring-Summer Magazine Full Page Ad with a Circulation of around 150,000; and
- WMTA Fall-Winter 2004 Full Page Ad with a circulation of 100,000 and continuing into 2005.

The Chamber also hosted a number of media visits this year:

- The Managing Editor of *Traverse Magazine* visited this summer for a story about "the other islands in the archipelago" slated to run in the June issue.
- Noted outdoor writer Linda Gallagher visited twice this spring and fall. Several stories have run, with more in the works.
- *Michigan Out of Doors* TV filmed a show on the Island this month, which aired on PBS local channel 6 on October 21st. The show featured the Island's abundant deer, inland lakes, and a turkey hunt, as well as a nice interview with Jeff Powers, president of the Beaver Island Wildlife Club.

Chamber Press Releases have yielded:

- A story by travel writer Dennis Tanner about the *Bite*, which ran in the eight-paper Booth chain, including the *Grand Rapids Press* and *Kalamazoo Gazette*.
- *Midwest Living*, "Best of the Midwest" annual guide. One Favorite, Beaver Island.
- A 1/3rd-page Island feature in the 2004 *Lake Michigan Travel Guide*.
- A reprint of a local lighthouse story in *The Beacon*, publication of the Great Lakes Lighthouse Keepers Association (which is helping with the Whiskey Point Light.)

- Steve West did a seven-minute interview on the *Travel Michigan* radio show on October 3rd on WJR, Detroit; on Sunday 10-3 web site visits were double the prior Sunday.
- There have been many other travel stories, too many to list. The payoff for much of this work often comes many months later, when someone who saw a story decides to come.

And the Chamber continues to plan and arrange Island events:

- *Citizen of the Year* award banquet;
- The 4th of July Parade with F16 fly-over in 2002 (which was unfortunately rained out in 2003 and 2004.)

Plans for 2005 include a flyover and harbor skydive with colored smoke and flag;

- *Bite of Beaver*, with food sales twice last year's and lots of new faces at this year's events; and
- The *Island Boodle* 5K run/walk.

The Chamber has just mailed membership dues and investment materials. It invites potential new members who are interested in supporting the Chamber's continuing and expanded efforts to promote the Island to call with any questions, or for information, or to join: (231) 448-2505, or e-mail the chamber: chamber@beaverisland.org



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Charline Novotny

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Jane Brannon

County Treasurer

Marilyn Cousineau

Non Partisan

Supreme Court Justice

Stephen Markman

Court of Appeals

Judge William Whitbeck

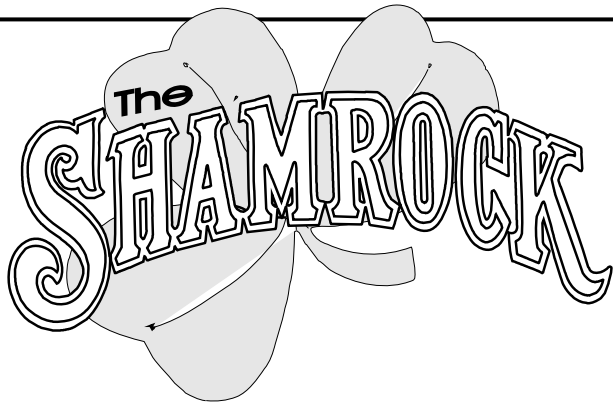
Paid for by Charlevoix County Republicans, P.O. Box 35, Charlevoix MI 49720

EIR Announces First Full-Length Production by Kyle Barnette

This Thanksgiving, something new is coming to Beaver Island. *Emerald Isle Repertory Theatre* will be premiering its first full-length professional production for the community, the outrageous holiday comedy, *A Tuna Christmas*. The show is the second in a trilogy of comedic plays chronicling the lives of the eccentric residents of the fictional small town of Tuna, Texas. Two actors, Brian Porter and Kyle Barnette, will portray nearly twenty characters, most of whom are competing for the coveted annual Tree Decorating Contest trophy. In the running is the reigning champion of fourteen straight years, Vera Carp, the richest and nosiest woman in town and the two wild-

child waitresses at the Tastee Kream, Inita and Helen. They'll have to compete with Didi Snively, owner of the town's gun shop and her UFO-encountering husband R.R. Along the way audiences will meet an array of other characters, including Bertha Bumiller, a woman who is just trying to make a nice simple Christmas for her family—to the chagrin of her three children, Jody, Charlene, and Stanley—and her good-for-nothing philandering husband Hank. All the while the Christmas Phantom is lurking around this small southern town waiting to wreak havoc among the contestants' Christmas yard displays.

We have been so amazed at the positive welcoming reception from the permanent and seasonal residents of Beaver Island. In our first few months here we have met many people, young and old alike, who have expressed interest in working with us and becoming a part of our mission to create a thriving artistic community on the Island. Since we have been here we have had the opportunity to meet and consult with many of the students at BICS, who plan to start their own drama club at the school. We have been invited to create workshops for the students, where they will have the chance to learn about many aspects of professional theatre, including acting, playwriting, costumes, set design, and public speaking. Our tap dancing and acting classes, which are still open for registration, will begin this month, with many adults and children taking part in the activities. Rehearsals also will begin soon



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for EIR's Christmas show, to take place December 18 & 19 and involve many talented residents of the Island.

Things are moving right along for the theatre this fall as we begin our fundraising campaign. As a young start-up theatre we are working hard to create enough revenue to cover our costs, including salaries, show budgets, and educational outreach expenses. By the end of this month we hope to have our not-for-profit status. Our theatre is dependant on artistic grants and personal contributions. Through the generosity of those who attended our summer Sondheim fundraiser we have been lucky enough to finance our first production: *A Tuna Christmas*.

As a not-for-profit theatre we will be able to offer a tax write-off for any future donations and personal contributions. Anyone who is interested in supporting their new local theatre will not only be supporting a wonderful cause, the arts in their community, but will also be getting a break come tax time. Another way to help is to sponsor a show, such as *A Tuna Christmas*. We can offer many benefits to anyone who would like to put money towards financing our shows. Just a few perks include mention on all advertisements and promotions tied to the show, 20 free tickets to the sponsored show, and season passes to our first summer season of shows. Plus, anyone who makes a contribution to our theatre will be listed in all of our playbills for the entire season of shows as a generous Patron of the Arts. Not only would it benefit our theatre

tremendously, but also you would know your donation would be put to sterling use.

So please join Emerald Isle Repertory in celebrating its first full-length production on Beaver Island, *A Tuna Christmas*. We promise you an evening of hysteria and fun and lots of holiday cheer. Tickets can be purchased at the East Wind Day Spa or the PABI House from 12-5, Monday through Saturday. Anyone wanting to make a contribution to the theatre or sponsor *A Tuna Christmas* can call us directly at 448-2184 or 1-877-616-2289. We can only grow with the support of a great community and its numerous seasonal residents.

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Hey, pumpkin, mind if I cut in?

Lately there's been quite a discussion of whether Beaver Island is fast becoming an Artists' Community. Well, if the skill exhibited by the younger element at carving Halloween pumpkins is any indication, the answer is a

resounding "Yah!"

Once again Theresa and Larry Laurain opened their Laurain Lodge for the annual pumpkin-judging contest the weekend before Halloween, setting out several dozen "routinely

carved" pumpkins, plus 100 or so "candle-in-a-bag"s to illuminate the walkways. This year over 80 kids entered the contest. Prizes were distributed to the winners: William Lemink (1st place, winning a sleeping bag and lantern);

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Danny LaFreniere (2nd, skateboard and helmet); Marissa Crandall (3rd, tennis racquet and balls); and Olivia Cary, Jordan Marsh, and Megan Works (honorable mention, a camera, soccer ball, or scuba gear.) Once the judging was

announced, the dozens of tykes and their parents who gathered on the grounds headed for their homes to start their work for the next contest by making Trick-or-treat costumes ("this year he wants to be Elvis" was heard twice),

for which the winners will be determined by weighing their candy.

Thanks to Russ Green, the BIBCo, the Student Council, and, mostly, the Laurains, who carved—and bought the prizes, pumpkins, candy, and cider.



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One Hundred Years Ago by Joyce Bartels

Charlevoix Sentinel November 3, 1904. Local News: "Married by Rev. J. W. Vickers, at M. E. Parsonage on Thursday afternoon last, August Libkoskey to Sylvia Kenney, both of St. James."

"A. T. Stewart, of the U. S. fish hatcheries, was here several days last week arranging for tugs to work for the fish commission during closed season, which began Tuesday. The spawn-gathering headquarters will be at Beaver Harbor, as usual."

"Capt. P. D. Campbell returned from St. Louis, yesterday. Capt. James McCann, of St. James came over Monday, returning Wednesday."

November 10, 1904. Election Results - St. James Township Roosevelt 54, Parker, 42; Peaine Township Roosevelt 43, Parker 41.

Local News: "Good for Beaver Island! For the first time in her history

she goes republican recording a majority of 14 for Roosevelt."

"Eliza J., relict of the late Louis Gebo, died at her home in this village Sunday night, aged 78 years. The funeral occurred Tuesday morning from the house. Deceased was one of the earliest pioneers of this section. She was the daughter of the late Medad Thompson, who came here before Mormon times. Her husband Louis Gebo was one of the victims of the *Vernon* disaster several years ago. Deceased was the mother of Mrs. Archie McNeill of this place."

Charlevoix Sentinel Noember 17, 1904. Local News: "W. W. Boyle, of St. James, was in town two days this week"

"The steamer *Beaver* brought fifteen tons of big trout from the Island Monday, and about the same Wednesday."

"Supt. Stevens, of the Beaver Island Lumber Co. came over Monday after men for the lumber camp, and took back

several yesterday."

"John Gallagher, a son of John S. ("Shoemaker") of Beaver Island, died at Escanaba Monday. He left Beaver Island but a short time ago in good health."

"The tugs *McCann*, *Parmelee*, *Minnie Warren*, *Geiken*, *Badger*, and *Lillie Chambers* are fishing for spawn at Beaver Island, for the U. S. fish commission. The length of the season will depend largely upon circumstances; but it is expected to continue from ten days to two week from the commencement of the work."

Charlevoix Sentinel November 24, 1904. Local News: "Supt. Clark, U.S. Bureau of Fisheries, has ordered all spawn gathering nets taken from the water, on the Beaver Island fishing grounds today, Nov. 24."

"Rev. Father Zugelder came over Monday and went to Grand Rapids to spend Thanksgiving with relatives."

Septic System Dangers

Waste from septic systems is something most of us do not think about, but for County Commissioners, township supervisors, environmental health groups, septic waste haulers, and public health officials, it is an issue that is a growing concern as suitable disposal areas become increasingly scarce. For the last 12 months, officials from the Northwest Michigan Community Health Agency have convened meetings to discuss the problem. "We estimate there are between 55,000 and 80,000 on-site sewage systems in the four-county area," said Gerald Chase, Health Officer. "Each one needs to be pumped regularly and then septic waste is typi-

cally dumped on fields. With population growth and residential development, there are fewer and fewer places that meet criteria, such as distance from water tables, property lines, homes, and recreational areas." Some communities operate systems with varying degrees of capacities and abilities to expand. "Our committee believes a multi-county septage waste processing and disposal system, whether operated in a centralized plant or a multi-plant base, will avert a future crisis," Chase said. A model for a centralized plant is the Grand Traverse County Septage Treatment Plant, which serves roughly the same population as our four counties.

"Gourd ie-Fraser helped this area develop its plant, and they are also assisting us," Chase said. Gourd ie-Fraser is helping the health department apply for grants to help pay for a multi-county system. This plant will serve 15 townships. The population of our four counties grew to 103,000 from 1990 to 2000. This doesn't count the seasonals, estimated to be 300,000, who contribute to the overall volume. "We've got a lot more people living here, and a lot more people visiting," said Jack Jones, Emmet County Commissioner. "We had to come up with practical solutions. Improperly disposed septage waste is a major health hazard."

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Fall News from the BIHS

Following the Annual Meeting there have been a number of developments of interest to the community.

Our Oral Historian has offered his resignation. The budget of the Society, which has finite resources, could only provide for a limited number of hours in that work. Robert Cole, who has a strong interest and knowledge in the Island's history, has created an excellent body of recordings. Unfortunately donations, which have come in for that purpose in the past, have only partially funded the program.

A project planned for a number of years is about to commence: the DEQ has finally given its approval for the roof over the boats at the Marine

Museum. The Budget Committee met on Oct. 12th to determine the available amounts which can be spent on the roof, the revetment, a third exhibit at Heritage Park, and a possible book. The stone-covered revetment is needed to minimize shoreline erosion.

Our new edition of *Child of the Sea* is now on the Island. I would recommend everyone pick up a copy of this remarkable book.

I would encourage our friends, who vote on the Island, to support the operating millages in each township. This provides a vital portion of our annual budget as well as that of the Fire Department and E.M.S.

—John Runberg, BIHS President

Tennis Tourney, Anyone?

When Cheryl Bebee's sister arrived in Traverse City from Tulsa and suggested a trip to the mysterious Beaver Island, Cheryl thought it would be as good a place as any other to catch up on her sibling's life. But when the two women took a walk on our bike path and happened upon the Municipal Tennis Court, bells started going off. After all, Cheryl is the VP of the Northern Michigan Tennis Association (tennisupnorth.com), which sponsors such events as the Junior Davis Cup,

the Michigan Open, and the Cherry Festival Open, and she's always looking for new venues in which to expand the NMTA's reach.

Benefits range from helping create tournaments to putting on clinics to providing grants for such things as resurfacing and new nets. Thanks to a call to Krys Lyle, an effort is now underway to bring Beaver Island into the fold. To offer support, contact Krys via email at krysl@biip.net or by phone, (231) 448-2149.

Earl Gallagher 1910-2004

Earl Gallagher, the last of the ten children of James and Kitty (Allers), passed away at age 94 on September 30th. His wife, Chicagoan Mary Messenger, died in late June.

Earl left the Island to take an engineering degree at the University of Detroit. He served in the Army during WW II, and worked for the Department of Housing and Urban Development, retiring to Traverse City in 1996. After assiduously following the development of Beaver Island all his life, and letting his memories to be recorded, he was brought home for early October burial in Holy Cross Cemetery.

Sally Lockhart 1937-2004

Sally Lockhart died in September at age 67. She was able to live her dream of being an exceptional teacher, teaching in the Lansing School System and at MSU for 35 years.

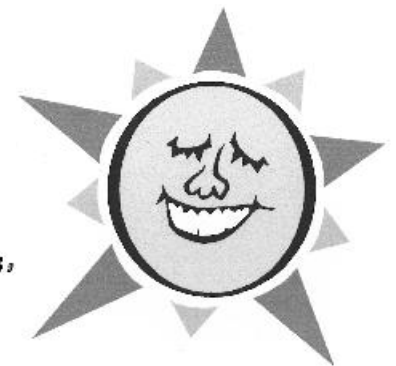
She first came to Beaver Island over 50 years ago when her mother played the organ at Larry Malloy's wedding. She fell in love with the Island, and when she married Robert they bought land in the early 1960s and had Walt Wojan build them a home. She liked to remember her first crossing on the old *North Shore*, where she shared the cabin with four seasick cows.

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Hospice News

Having just completed our 9th year of service to our Beaver Island friends and neighbors, we want to share with you that our volunteers have expressed a great satisfaction in the personal experiences they've had. Once again we want to emphasize that there are educational materials for your use at both the Rural Health Center and the Library. Our loan closet is well-equipped with medical supplies for you to use. If you need help, the following volunteers will be available during the winter months: coordinator Lois Williams (2475); Margaret Bass (2444); Nancy Cull (2835); Jane Dwyer (2668); Pinky Harmon (2461); Sandy LoDico (2004; after February); Di Shoup (2068); Pat Rowley (2514; until mid-December); Sue Welke (2787; thru November); Penny Young (2996); and Helen Pike (baking/visiting; 2281.) Feel free to call Lois Williams to be placed on the schedule. We thank those who have made monetary donations this year.

We are planning to host a Bereavement Session in the spring, presented by the Charlevoix Hospice. For anyone who has lost a loved one and feels a need for help with their grieving, please attend. There'll be more information in the *Beaver Beacon* in the spring.

— Joyce Runberg

Looking Ahead

As we are all aware, Beaver Island is growing. What does this growth mean? You and I, and all who live and visit here, know that with growth comes the need to continue to maintain and improve our infrastructure and the services we offer.

On November 2nd the voters in St. James Township will be asked to renew three millage proposals, which are important to the general operation of the St. James Township government and facilities. Proposal A is for Township operations, Proposal B is for Airport operations, and Proposal C is for the Transfer Station operations.

Our Township Airport is becoming increasingly important to the growth of our community. The Michigan Airport System Plan estimates operations in this part of the State will grow between

25 and 40 percent, and the Township Airport is considered to be a critical/essential part of the State Airport System. Evidence of our part in this system is shown by the State and Federal funds recently invested in runway paving, lighting improvements, and the Automated Weather Observation Station. The Airport is necessary for our emergency medical evacuations, and is also part of the Island Emergency Preparedness Program, facts that touch on the lives of all residents and visitors. Our award-winning Transfer Station is also quite important.

I urge St. James Township voters to look ahead and vote yes on these Proposals for the benefit and well being of our community.

— Donald Vyse,
Supervisor St. James Township

Chamber and Politics

Some questions have been raised concerning political candidates attending Chamber of Commerce-sponsored events like *The Bite of Beaver Island* and whether or not some are invited and not others. The Chamber of commerce does NOT invite any political candidates to Island events. In fact our by-laws preclude political involvement. We market Beaver Island as a

destination, widely using print, radio and press releases. During an election year those seeking office often gravitate to places where people gather, and Beaver Island is certainly no exception. In short, everyone is welcome, but we do not target candidates of any political party.

— Steve West, Executive Director
Kathy Speck, President

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Hunters' Dinner

The Beaver Island Wildlife Club will sponsor its annual Hunters' Dinner on **November 13th** at the Beaver Island Lodge. Entrees 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 will be at 5:30 and 7:00. Proceeds will greatly benefit the Wildlife Club.

PABI Thanks You

Many thanks to all those who participated in our second annual Casino Night. Everyone had a great time, and we exceeded our financial goal!

Extra-special thanks go out to Jo and Bob Banville and Sue and Bob Welke for building the gaming tables; to all the dealers, waitresses, and bartenders for their hard work; to those who donated prizes for the auction; to the *Emerald Isle Repertory Theatre* for the excellent entertainment; and to John Fiegen for his auctioneering mastery.

Hope to see you next year, or at our next fund-raising event: Wine Tasting!
—Lisa Vance-Gillespie



For Sale: Beautiful New Home

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

Call Ed Wojan Realty:

Real Estate Office: (231) 448-2711

Toll Free Number: 1-800-268-2711

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Toy Drive

It's time to start thinking about Christmas and making a child's holiday a special one! Once again, for the 13th year, Connie Boyle is organizing a Toy Drive for children living in Charlevoix County. Don't gift-wrap them; Social Services will do that. You can drop off toys to Neal or Connie, at home, at school, or at the airport—by December 11th. If you can't make this date, there will also be a second shipment—Social Services just needs the bulk of the toys by the 11th so they have time to determine whether they have enough toys or if they need to do some shopping. Questions? Call Connie at (231) 448-2491.

The Next BIRHC Meeting

will be Saturday, November 6th, 2 p.m., Peaine Township Hall.

Out on a Limb No More

Thanks go out to all those who have shopped at *Out on a Limb* during the past seven years. Unfortunately, due to continuing health problems it is necessary to close the shop. It was very enjoyable to meet all of you, and a pleasure to have been of service.

—Carol Gekus and Carol Wierenga



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
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(231) 448-2433**

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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

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

Real Estate, For Rent:

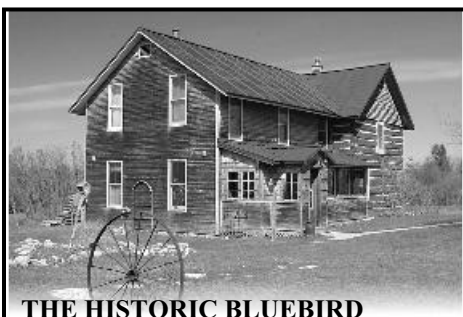
SAND BAY - "BAY-HAVEN" COTTAGE - WEEKLY RENTAL - Lake Front, Sandy Beach, 3BR, great view, laundry, East Side Dr., brand new home. Call Laurie Bos at (616) 786-3863 or lauriesbos@chartermi.net

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 \$225,000. 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



SECLUDED BEAUTIFUL CHALET FOR RENT: 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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