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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.

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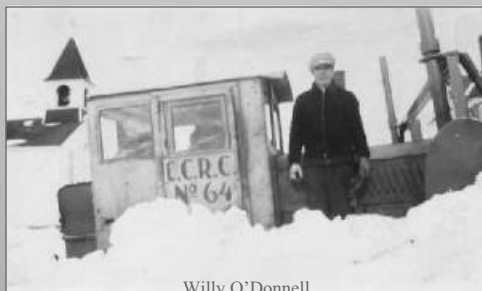
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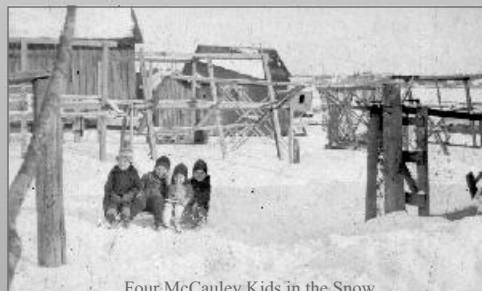
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News from the Townships

St. James Township

St. James' Town Board met on January 5th for a short meeting, at which the still-uncompleted "10 31" land swap with Evan Karnes was discussed. This delay has held up final payment to Schwartzfisher Stoneworks for the work he did last fall; he, in turn, has held up payment to H & D, incurring late fees. But good news was heard: the Judge had finally approved the road abandonment, and after many delays the deeds had finally been prepared, and the land swap was anticipated soon. Ed Wojan was on hand to ask that the Township honor the promise made to Phyllis Fitzpatrick (not Townsend) to remove some trees that block her view by setting aside a maximum of \$2,000 for this work (Karnes would also pay half.)

The clearing of land east of the Township Airport was discussed, with Ed Wojan suggesting that stumps near the road could be left to sprout in the spring, thus eventually providing a green belt—even though the rest of the stumps will be removed. Because the Aeronautics Commission is paying for this from funds designated as being available to us in 2003 and 2004, our match will have to be 5% (split between the two Townships), whereas projects paid for from funds designated in 2005 and after will require only a 2½% match.

Robert Gillespie was contacted by the Geological Survey's *Great Lakes*

Science Center regarding more dredging at the Yacht Dock to make it possible for the research vessels (the *Stinger*, 103', the *Grayling*, 175', the *Rogue*, and the *Spencer*) to pull in here when necessary. It was speculated that perhaps this could be funded with some of the "left over" grant money—about \$100,000 out of \$1,100,000.

Connie Wojan announced that the BIRHC staff has taken a cue from the summer survey and was organizing an exercise program at the Health Center. It was also investigating ways in which it could expand its hours without increasing costs.

Peaine Township

Peaine Township's Board held a brief meeting on January 12th. Arnie Rich, Dave Duda, and Joan Banville were reappointed to the Board of Review. The Cell Tower Contract was renewed for a 3rd 5-year term (which was mandated by the original agreement; yet there was a note of the \$1,500/year it brings in not being very much.) And the Grant for funds for clearing the land across the street from the Township Airport was approved by resolution.

After the scheduled business was dispatched, John and Beth McCafferty spoke out about having lost 50% of their Homestead Designation because they earn a little money at their Unfinished Farms—a decision reached by Kevin White, our assessor, in conversa-

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tion with Tom Wolfe, the Charlevoix County Equalization Director. Ed Wojan was present to support them, saying our tax rate was approaching territory that would frighten away many potential buyers of land, and has thus threatened to disrupt our economy; he suggested giving some thought to establishing a maximum cap.

Supervisor John Works was sympathetic with both issues, and thought the McCafferty tax matter, which has tripled their tax, could be resolved by the Michigan Tax Tribunal, which has a reputation for righting wrongs done by the broad strokes of the law. He explained that the tax designation of "commercial," which had been applied to Unfinished Farms, was entirely separate from the zoning classification of "agricultural." Ed added that he felt there was a formula the Tribunal would use that would essentially pare the Homestead exemption by an amount proportional to the percentage of income earned by the Unfinished Farms' boarding and lessons charges.

Celebrity Roast

The Beaver Island Fire Department Auxiliary announced that Margaret "Muggs" Bass would be the star of the 6th annual Celebrity Roast on May 21st at Holy Cross Hall. Once again there will be a free-will donation, and a cash bar. Those who'd like to speak, or send a letter, can contact Dawn Marsh at (231) 448-2910, or demarsh@gtlakes.com

B of E Filing Deadline

A candidate who wishes to seek a position on the Beaver Island Community School Board of Education must file a nominating petition no later than 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 8, 2005. The candidate's petition must contain a minimum of 6 signatures; no more than 20 signatures can be filed to cover the minimum signature requirement. A \$100.00 nonrefundable fee may be filed by the candidate in lieu of a petition. An Affidavit of Identity must be filed by the candidate with the petition or fee.

The regular school election will be held on Tuesday, May 3, 2005. Two positions on the Beaver Island Community School Board of Education will be filled at the election. Both positions are four year terms, ending June 30, 2009.

Petitions and affidavit forms are available by contacting:

1.) St. James Township Clerk, Jean Palmer at her residence: 26045 Back Highway, Beaver Island. Telephone (231) 448-2915.

2.) Beaver Island Community School, Alice Belfy. Telephone (231) 448-2744.

Candidates have until 4:00 p.m. on February 8, 2005, to file completed forms with the St. James Township Clerk.



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School Board members Honored

The BICS has a long tradition of providing top-level education, thanks to its teachers and staff, its principal, and the School Board, whose members have often labored to solve difficult problems in relative anonymity. Con-

sequently eleven current and former Board members who were on the Island were honored for their many years of service during the half-time of the Hannahville/Beaver Island basketball game.

Board of Education Members and years of service (of those living):

Unknown # of Years:	4 Years of Service:	11 Years of Service:
Barb Beckers	Skip McDonough	Russell Green
Rick Delamater	Rita Sauter	
Ron Wojan	Kevin White	12 Years of Service:
	Dawn Marsh	Phil Gregg
1 Year of Service:	Barb Schwartzfisher	Kevin McDonough
Theresa Higdon	Linda McDonough	Connie Wojan
Kurt Smith		
Rich Scripps	5 Years of Service:	13 Years of Service:
Brian Cole	Bev Russell	Joy Green
	Don Vyse	Madonna McCafferty
2 Years of Service:	Judy Lanier	Joddy Crosswhite
Penny Kiss		
	8 Years of Service:	15 Years of Service:
3 Years of Service:	Joan Petrak	Rick Speck
John Gillespie	Don Cole	
Nancy Tritsch		
Sharon Nix	9 Years of Service:	17 Years of Service:
	Ellie Hohn	Denise McDonough
	Sue Heller	Dawn Marsh
	John Fiegen	

Pictured Above at the Ceremony: (Left to Right) Rick Speck, Joy Green, Linda McDonough, John Fiegen, Sharon Nix, Kevin White, and Don Cole (back row); Connie Wojan, Joddy Crosswhite, and Denise McDonough (front row)



Grace and Joe Retire from the BIRHC

At the Health Center Board's Annual Meeting on January 22nd, two people who have each played a major role in the progress of the Health Center announced their retirement: Grace Matela and Joe Reed. Grace has been doing the books as a volunteer for several years. Connie Wojan related how she had worked as a bookkeeper for a multi-million-dollar company in Chicago for decades, and had given up the position when she and Ray moved to Beaver Island—only to have her replacement turn out to not be able to handle it. So the company prevailed on her to continue, and she has, working in her office in the Beaver Island Realty building and sending her weekly work south via Federal Express. Connie repeated a remark made by Ray: “She’s paid well to handle the books for this big corporation, but she puts in more time doing the Med Center’s books for free.” Thanks to the thousands of hours she put in (up to 40 hours to justify a single account), the confusion that seemed almost hopeless when she began has been eliminated, and the books are now well-organized.

Anne Glendon spoke (over the speaker phone) about all that has been accomplished during Joe Reed’s ten-

ure, which started with the Task Force, when a revitalized Med Center was only a twinkle in his eye. After she extolled his successes, he made a few remarks. “I’ve served on a number of boards in the public and private sectors, in Chicago and Cleveland,” he said. “Of them all, this one has given me the most satisfaction. It hasn’t been just the quality of people with whom I’ve been associated here, but the fact that this group has done the most the fastest and the rightist. In only five or six years we have gone from a kind of bewilderment in the face of the problem—the chaos that descended when the Medical Center was on the ropes—to an understanding of what would have to be done, followed by the doing of it. All the focus groups and surveys and consultations with experts allowed us to devise a plan, to find a source of funding, to enact the plan, and then to move into the new facility and learn how to use it. I’m deeply honored to have been allowed to be part of all this.”

Each of these stalwart and talented individuals was presented with a plaque of appreciation for their unflagging efforts, and the Board then moved to make Joe a Member Emeritus for life.



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Community Players to present *A Bull in a China Shop*

Under the direction of Jacque LaFreniere, the Beaver Island Community Players will present *A Bull in a China Shop* on Friday and Saturday, Feb. 25th and 26th, 8:00 p.m. at the Holy Cross Parish Hall.

This comedy-mystery involves the antics of a group of elderly ladies who are fascinated with their handsome next-door neighbor. The gals try to come up with a way to lure the fellow over for a visit. The only problem is how to capture the interest of this man, a homicide detective. The plan the ladies come up with makes for some bizarre twists and surprises, and a lot of laughs.

Admission to the show will be \$8 for adults and \$5 for students. Tickets will be available at the door.

Tsunami Relief

Like so many other communities, ours too wanted to help the survivors of the tsunami that devastated so many countries around the Indian Ocean. So on January 16th the BICS Student Council, in conjunction with the Catholic Youth Organization, staged a "Soup Cook-off" for the benefit of the "Save the Children Foundation." A contest

Student Community Service Awards

Once again the Beaver Island Community School's coordinator, Jacque LaFreniere, has started looking for funds for the "match" portion of two thousand-dollar scholarships, available to Island students involved in community service—through the Presidential Freedom Scholarship program. This supplies half the money, with local matches making up the other half.

This year several students qualify, thanks to them having donated hundreds of hours of work with school children and the elderly. Previous winners include Colleen McDonough, Joan Adams, Kerrie Gillespie, and Christine Runberg. If matching funds can be obtained, awards will be announced in June. Offers of help can be made to Jacque at home (448-2220) or at school (448-2744.)

was staged to rate the 24 different soups; Mike Green's clam chowder was given first place, Kathy Hays' chicken-and-dumpling and the Tidmores' squash soup tied for second, and the Dawsons' vegetable soup came in third. Eight people also baked and brought unique breads. All in all, the event raised close to \$2,500..

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Chili Cooks gearing up preparations

Even though the Chili Cook-off won't be held until next month (March 10th), word around Beaver Island is that several gourmets have been kept busy sampling various variations of the old tried-and-true recipes as the cooks enter the Cco scramble to perfect their brew. Expectations are higher than ever for the culinary treats (and experiments) to be on display at this much-anticipated annual event.

Nominations Wanted for Citizen of the Year

The Chamber of Commerce *Beaver Island Citizen of the Year Awards* honor an individual, couple, or community organization that has made a significant contribution to making Beaver Island a better place to live, work, or visit.

The Chamber is looking for nominations before April 4th. For a nomination form, contact Steve West at 448-2505, or download it from the Chamber's website: www.beaverisland.org

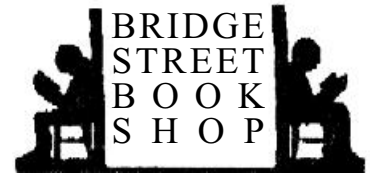
The awards banquet will be Saturday, April 23rd at Stoney Acre Grill. For banquet information, contact Stoney Acres at (231) 448-2560. Limited seating, so reservations are required.

St. Patrick's Day on Beaver Island

March 19th has been designated as the day Beaver Island will celebrate St. Pat's, with all that this entails: tossing a fish down Main Street; holding an Obstacle Course race with new traps and routines; and partying all day and night in and around the Shamrock. So everyone is urged to begin their strenuous training now; winning here qualifies one for July's *Celtic Games*.

CCCF's past YAC Grants

The Charlevoix County Community Foundation's Youth Advisory Committee (YAC) recommended awards totaling nearly \$22,000 to benefit young people, from establishing mentors for court referred youth, to support for a variety of enrichment opportunities including snowboarding, dance instruction and drama classes, an art illustration workshop, live music performances and ukulele lessons. On Beaver Island the Emerald Isle Repertory Theatre received \$1,720 to support the Christmas Variety program, as well as dance and dramatic instruction and theatre productions on Beaver Island throughout the winter months.



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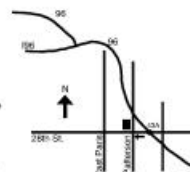
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96 to Exit 43A, merge west onto 28th St., the Hilton is located at the NW corner of Patterson and 28th St. (it is the 3rd street light and on the right)





Hannahville visits Beaver Island

In the middle of January the Hannahville *Soaring Eagles* volleyball and basketball teams (the 'traveling teams', starters plus one or two subs) once again flew here from their Potowatami community west of Escanaba

for pairs of games in our gym, sleeping on the floor between Friday night's and Saturday morning's. Hannahville, a regular opponent, is a comparably-sized community with a casino to supply a high degree of employ-

ment and a school that was only begun in 1975 (through a Bicentennial grant.)

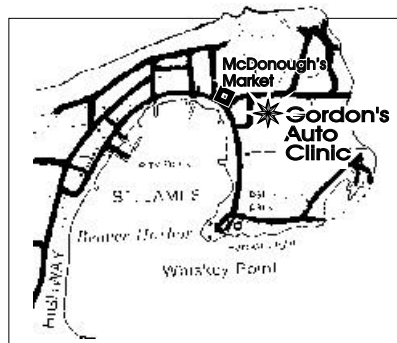
The Island teams had more players, and they seemed taller, but in both cases the matches pitted determination (Hannahville) against flash. Our volleyball team incorporated strategies of players taking their designated positions until the serve and then jumping to a predetermined spot where they would be more effective, and our basketball team had obviously practiced no-look passes and 360° twirls on drives to the basket.

In four matches Friday night the volleyball team only three times returned the ball before its third hit. Points were hard to come by as many tough smashes were dived for and tipped up into the air to be kept in play; many volleys went on and on, keeping the



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Beaver Island vs. Hannahville



large crowd mesmerized. Twice points were scored when the ball hit the roof.

Friday's basketball game started out as a real dog fight, and was tied at the midpoint of the first half. Then the Island team began to pull away through a combination of highlight moves, solid defense, and amazing luck. For twenty minutes, to the middle of the second half, every bounce came the Islanders' way. Wherever the ball headed when clanking off the rim, that's where an Islander was positioned; every Soaring Eagle pass was anticipated and stolen; and each time an Eagle decided to dribble, an Islander was there to pick his pocket. The way things went, the opponent didn't matter; it could have been the Spartans, or even the Pistons—for these twenty minutes no one could have prevailed

over the Beaver Island team, which remained undefeated. In such rare moments the other team usually devolves into a gaggle of gunners, but to Hannahville's credit they stayed focused on their game plan and eventually

managed to cut the deficit in half. They lost again on Saturday morning, but only by seven points, and were upbeat at the airport, waiting for their flights home: "Just wait till we get you in *our* house!"



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On This Date

Ten Years Ago This 14-page *Beacon* led off with a review of the uphill battle fought by our Medical Center, mentioning that the Islanders were moved, in 1954, by a woman's unfortunate death from a ruptured appendix to lobby the Michigan Department of Public Health heavily enough to get a promise of support for a doctor. When it was built, it was the smallest licensed hospital in the state, but in 1987 the rules for hospitals changed, and we were redesignated as a clinic. So when Dr. Siudara retired, the state no longer would fund a Beaver Island doctor. Deeper cuts in the state's budget exacerbated our problem, and in the late 1980s a constant stream of supplicants ventured to Lansing. In 1992 we were redesignated again, becoming a Rural Health Center, but the anticipated financial help did not improve the situation because federal mandates raised operating costs (by such requirements as protective clothing, hazardous waste disposals, and 30-year maintenance of health records.)

The hunting report stated that 77 deer had been taken, 59 with rifle, 16 with bow, and 2 with muzzle-loaders; it was hoped that better management of the herd would bring numbers back to pre-1980 levels.

The Beaver Island Community Players put on *The Tinker*, with Phil Lange, Pinky Harmon (in her debut), Joddy Croswhite, Patrick McGinnity, and Mary Kay McPherson taking the leads under Bill Pallidino's direction. The Players were considering doing *Dracula* in the fall.

Ryan Wojan, rising honor student, basketball and soccer player, and Student Council member, became the Island's first Star Scout.

St. James Supervisor Neal Boyle was authorized to continue searching for funds to build a new Medical Center.

The Preservation Association formed and was trying to secure the Dockside Market.

Cellular One was given a lease of Township land for a tower.

Proponents of a biomass-burning source of electricity for the Island were optimistic of a favorable response from a joint-township Open Meeting. Their hope was that a large furnace (a "fluidized bed combustor") could be built, which would initially consume the tons of waste wood piling up at the Graves sawmill, and also burn garbage (in the previous year, 145 bales of garbage were shipped off.)

The Charlevoix County Community Foundation gave a \$1,000 grant to finish

paying for the nets and posts at the new tennis court.

Thirty-five dogs were licensed in the previous year.

The loss to cancer of 27-year-old Robert Gatliff was reported; he lived life to its fullest despite his illness, coaching basketball, playing (in a wheelchair), and singing with a country band.

Twenty Years Ago A letter was written to the DNR asking for funds to repair the Yacht Dock, but the DNR was not very encouraging.

St. James Township was asked to approve the sale of bottom land to Joseph Martin so he could build a dock on property he purchased just north of "the DNR dock." It did, with Gay Cole voting against it because she did not like the idea of a dirt-filled dock. Five days later a special meeting was called, in part because complaints about this approval had been received. Martin answered some objections by pointing out that no fuel tanks would be installed on this property. When those present were asked if the Township should request the DNR to hold a public meeting, it was decided that anyone still not satisfied could write to the DNR and make this request themselves.

At the St. James Town Hall, the fuel oil tank ran dry and the radiators froze and

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burst, prompting the installation of a new heating system using hot water.

The Charlevoix County Planning Commission was asked to help us rewrite our Zoning Ordinance; Larry Sullivan agreed to meet with the Town Boards to discuss this further.

The Fire Hall was nearing completion—at a cost of \$79,000.

The Civic Association planned Winter Games for January 26th on the harbor ice: skating, skiing, muzzleloading, snomobiling, and softball. The Civic considered reorganizing by creating paid Directors for the Chamber of Commerce (Gay Works) and the *Beaver Beacon* (Jaque LaFreniere), and unpaid Directors for Festivals, Fund-raising, and other functions. At the Winter Games Mary Jane Martin won the backwards-skating race; Jennifer Wojan won the obstacle course race; and Diane Scripps won the skiing contest. Don Willis won the snowmobile race.

The Civic considered reorganizing the *Beacon* by including an editorial page, to be written by a Civic Board member, and a “letters to the editor” section—with responses. Another idea proposed was to come up with a new format.

Potential foreign exchange students were being solicited under a program

named ‘Youth for Understanding,’ with 26 host countries to choose from. And people willing to take foreign students into their homes on Beaver Island were also being sought.

The School Board authorized a \$245,000 bond for an addition.

The total tax levy for the previous year was announced: \$259,673 in St. James, \$302,752 in Peaine.

Thirty Years Ago The *Beacon* reported that Perry Gatliff had once again hauled his ice shed onto the harbor and was moving it from place to place in the futile attempt to catch some perch. On the other hand, Ed Ladd was taking perch from Font Lake through his augured holes, but they were said to be smaller than the ones once so abundant in the harbor. Rabbit hunters did better. A group including Bing McCafferty, John Zanella, John McCafferty, Jim McDonough, and Ron Gregg took 33, and a larger group that included Russ Green, Fred Annand, and five policemen from Lansing took 51 in an all-day hunt. Mark LaFreniere decided to hunt for coyotes crossing over from Garden Island, but did not have much luck.

The Michigan Building Code went into effect on Beaver Island, and an inspector came over to inform the local

builders. Thought was given to hiring someone here to assist him.

A hanger at the Township Airport was built for the *Beaver*, the evacuation plane—thanks to the generosity of Ed and Connie Wojan, who donated much of their recent lottery winnings. Airport manager Robert Gillespie coordinated the construction, some of which was done by several volunteers.

The Island was informed it would receive CETA money (Comprehensive Employment Training Act) to hire a maintenance worker.

Barb Beckers reported that a Business Association had been formed and would meet once a month to try to improve the business climate.

The Bicentennial Committee met on February 24th to fill out the papers needed for recognition by the state, and to receive Bicentennial funds.

In his *Beaver Tales* Phil Gregg began telling stories about the ferries and mailboats running to Beaver. He said Andy Gallagher held the first mail contract, followed by White Dan Greene, who held the job until 1890, when Peter Campbell took it with the Island’s first steam tug, the *Nellie*. Campbell ran her until obtaining first the *Erie J Hackley*,
Continued on page 14, see On This Date

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On This Date, continued from page 13. and then, in 1906 or 07, the *Beaver*, which he operated until she caught fire in 1914 and burned at the Charlevoix dock.

The passing of Sister Mary Bridgetta Malloy was announced. She had been born on Beaver, and took her final vows in 1921. After receiving two degrees from Marquette University she taught at several Catholic schools and also served as a nurse in five Michigan hospitals.

Forty Years Ago Good bluegill catches were reported by Perry Gatliff, Doc Haynes, L. Z. Reigle, and Don Cole from Barney's Lake.

About 40 turkeys were spotted near Mike Boyle's farm.

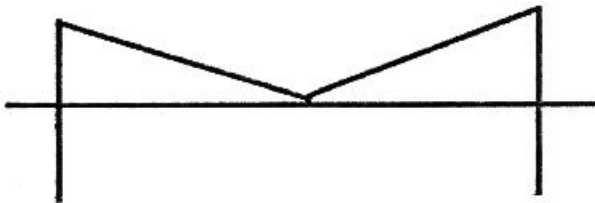
With the temperature at four below, *Sports Illustrated's* Bill Gilbert joined Archie LaFreniere for a coyote hunt using two snowmobiles. Famed hunter Roy Chambers came over with his dogs from Indian River, and did not disappoint; chasing a wounded coyote across the ice, he foiled the animal's attempt to escape in open water by diving in after it, grabbing its tail, and then hauling it back onto the ice. After taking only this single coyote, the frustrated hunting party figured the rest of the pack had seen Roy's resolve

and hightailed it back to Garden Island. Afterwards Bill Gilbert gave a talk to the school kids.

An article about fishing, *Bass on the Rocks*, appeared in *Fur, Fish, and Game* magazine.

After a 20-year lay-off, ice cakes were again cut in the harbor by Charlie Martin's crew, because of the improved population of whitefish. The previous cut, in 1956, had been captured in an oil painting which became the cover of *Colliers* magazine. The last of the old ice houses had been torn down in 1961 from the foot of James Gallagher's dock.

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Shipping Up

Great Lakes shipping for 2004 was up—according to Pete Vanderlinden, an elderly man who spends much time watching the ships slide past his home on the St. Claire River. This year he recorded 3,800 ships, compared with 2,900 last year. The Lakes' Carriers Association agrees, saying their records show a 19% increase in freight, by weight.

Regina Kay Kakac

Regina Kakac, 70, Indianapolis, died January 10, 2005 at Methodist Hospital. Mrs. Kakac was born on December 31, 1934 in Williamsburg, Iowa to the late S. Leroy and Lucille (Gillespie) Osborne. She graduated from Mount Saint Clare College in 1955 and had been a teacher in New Hall and Vinton, Iowa. She also taught for several years at the Indiana School for the Blind.

Mrs. Kakac was a member of St. Elizabeth Seton Catholic Church in Carmel. She enjoyed many summers in Beaver Island, Michigan with her loving family. Survivors include her husband of 48 years, Jerald A. Kakac; children, Alan Kakac, Mary Stephens, John Kakac, and Jane Jacobson; brother, Samuel George Osborn; grandchildren, Jennifer Birker, Rebecca Kakac, Jesse Stephens, Eric Kakac, Luci Stephens, Courtney Kakac, Chelsea Kakac, Olivia Jacobson, John-Michael Kakac, Mark Jacobson. Everyone is invited to visit www.lifestorynet.com where Kay's Life Story is presented, to share a personal memory, arrange for flowers, or make a memorial contribution to the Beaver Island Medical Center.

A "March of Dimes" party raised \$148.52.

Of the 13 students listed in the honor roll, 7 were the children of Walt and Vera Wojan.

A drawing done by Archie LaFreniere of the planned new Yacht Dock was reproduced.

Phil Gregg relayed the story of Jewell's winch truck tearing down the last ice shed to make room for the new Yacht Dock. The old dock sat on 250 pilings, and dated to the turn of the century. It had been built by the Roen Brothers and sold to Booth Fisheries, managed by "Old

James" Gallagher. The largest catch brought to Booth was probably one by Shing Martin of 8 tons, taken by his big steam tug, the *Shamrock*. Island women could have the "trout cheeks," a delicacy attached to the fish's head, which was thrown away; the "cheeks" were frequently canned.

In 1933 "Young James" Gallagher bought the dock. A few years later it was almost wrecked by a severe ice shove (and again in the 1950s by high water), and had to be repaired.

Fifty Years Ago The second-ever *Beacon* stated that of the 538 copies of the

first issue mailed out, 153 people had subscribed, joined the Civic Association.

The contract was signed with Christy Inc. to build the new *Emerald Isle*.

The *Beacon* reported that several visitors had been lucky fishing through the ice on the inland lakes.

Dr. Vail and his wife hoped to complete a blood-typing program.

Father Joe inaugurated a winter sports program for the schoolkids, featuring a toboggan and sled slide built by Jewell.

The *Beacon* announced that the Med Center was free of debt.

Letters

Last month's 50th anniversary issue gave me cause for reflection. The Peaine Township board's decline to grant the AmVets Post their request for a 100'x100' land parcel on the grounds it would be setting an "unwanted precedent" saddened me. Every right that we Americans enjoy has been paid for by the blood and sacrifice of American veterans. Hundreds of thousands gave up and are giving up their tomorrows so that we may have our todays. Every veteran has put his or her life on the line for this great country prepared to pay the ultimate price. Where would we be if all our veterans had declined to fight, because dying is an unwanted precedent. I'm enclosing a poem by an unknown author which should trigger cause for reflection.

— Jack R. Spanhak

It is the VETERAN

*It is the VETERAN, not the preacher,
who has given us freedom of religion.*

*It is the VETERAN, not the reporter,
who has given us freedom of the press.*

*It is the VETERAN, not the poet,
who has given us freedom of speech.*

*It is the VETERAN, not the campus organizer,
who has given us freedom to assemble.*

*It is the VETERAN, not the politician,
who has given us the right to vote.*

*It is the VETERAN, who salutes the flag,
who serves under the flag.*

Eternal rest grant them O Lord.

And let perpetual light shine upon them.

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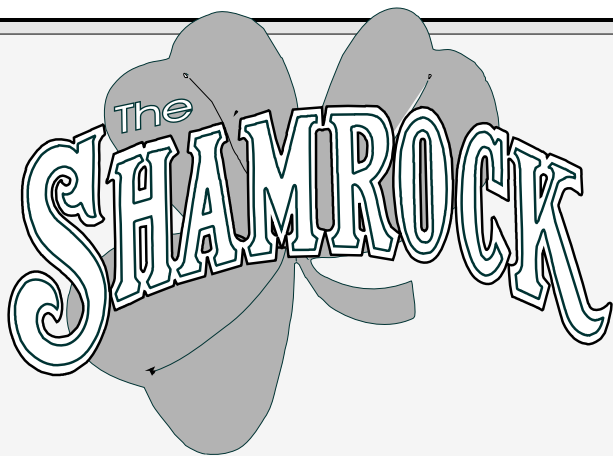
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Museum Week: July 11th - 16th

a celebration of our Celtic heritage will incorporate a version of the Highland Games on 7-23, from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.
 "Come ye Pipers all!"

Note: the dates for Museum Week were reported in January as July 18th - 23rd but the main portion of Museum Week was changed to July 11th - 16th due to scheduling conflicts.



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Poetry

Reunion on Beaver Island

In scant-people northern Lower Michigan
 The mercury dropped.
 The glass rose,
 And I gasped to see again
 In the blackness and hush
 Friends from my childhood
 Hidden at home in our human warren
 By particulate veils
 Of our species' industrial debris
 And, increasingly in recent years,
 By my own milky lenses.

But now, my cataracts replaced by crystal,
 I saw, like beacons
 Against a velvet sky,
 Blue Sirius and red Betelgeuse and golden Saturn,
 Pleiades and the Hunter,
 And Milky Way's distant suns,
 Flung like a billion grains of radiant sand.

No one saw a crazy old woman
 In nightgown and mittens
 Running up and down the corduroy road
 Like a delighted child,
 Waving a can of 7-Up
 And toasting the cosmos:
 "Ad Astra!"
 In my mind I go
 To the stars.

—Joanne Denko

(Joanne Denko, a poet, psychotherapist, and nature writer in Cleveland, has a home at south Donegal Bay.)

Strang play debuts in TC

Noted local author and director of the Interlochen Creative Writing Department, Anne-Marie Oomen, has written an amazing play about Beaver Island's Mormon King, James Jesse Strang. A talented cast of five women (Michelle Perez as Elvira, Kelly Curtis as Mary, Karen Haspas as Betsy, Bonnie Deigh as Sarah and Nicole Case as Phoebe) also play the parts of their alter-ego men in the story. Strang himself is powerfully depicted by Phil Murphy. The play sticks very closely to the historical facts of Strang's reign and subsequent death. The wives are extremely believable and do an amazing job of becoming their male alter-egos in particularly challenging roles.

The World Premiere Performance of "Wives of an American King" is directed by Old Town Playhouse veteran, Jeanette Mason. It opens February 11th in Traverse City at the Old Town Playhouse and runs on weekends through the 26th. It will give those lucky enough to attend a refined focus on Beaver Island's most debated mystery: did this man believe what he said, or were his pronouncements simply a necessary evil on the way to a greater good? Tickets are only \$8



Signé Thomas Brings Home Gold... Again!

Beaver Island's Signé Thomas participated in the 'On Tour Dance Challenge' in Ft. Myer's, FL, January 29, 2005. She is the daughter of Bill and Eula Thomas of Beaver Island, and the grand-daughter of Bill and Ruth Thomas of Traverse City, MI., and Elsie Ferguson and the late John Ferguson of West Liberty, KY.

Signé performed a Solo Tap routine to *You Can't Stop The Beat*, and received both a gold trophy and a gold medal. Signé takes tap lessons through Robin Dawn Dance Academy when in Cape Coral, FL. Robin Dawn Dance Academy is nationally recognized as one of the top 50 dance schools in the United States, and were well represented at this competition, doing a "clean sweep" by winning the top awards in all dance areas, plus winning the over-all 'On Tour Dance Challenge' top award.

Signé attended Beaver Island Community School from second grade through seventh grade, but is currently being home-schooled for eighth grade while touring coast-to-coast with her parents in their new Kadey Krogen. Due to their cruising schedule, Signé had not had on pair of tap shoes since she participated in "Slide", an off Broadway premier tap event in New York City in July 2004. Yet, with only two days notice, she brought home Gold. Congratulations Signé!



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photograph by Melissa Bailey



photograph by Melissa Peters



photograph by Melissa Bailey



photograph by Melissa Bailey



photograph by Leaha Cary

Students put photography into focus

As part of their winter inter-session schedule, eighteen high school students at Beaver Island Community School were recently introduced to the finer

points of photographic composition.

Three sessions highlighting aspects of what makes a good photograph were led by local photographer Frank Solle.

Making use of handouts he created plus numerous examples, Solle stressed such guidelines as showing one subject clearly, using lines to draw the viewer

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photograph by Keith Szczepanski



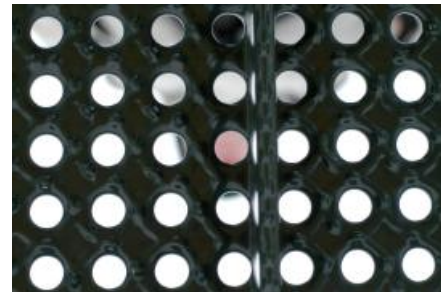
photograph by Christine McDonough



photograph by Melissa Peters



photograph by Christine McDonough



photograph by Kevin Gillespie

into the picture, making use of frames within a photo, changing the point of view, and the classic "Rule of Thirds."

Following a classroom discussion,

the students put their new knowledge to practice using Solle's digital cameras. While battling blowing snow and frigid conditions, the students showed their

mettle and their creativity as they took turns snapping pictures during walking tours of town. "I didn't know there
Continued on page 20, see Photography.

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photograph by Samantha Kuligoski



photograph by Samantha Kuligoski

Photography, continued from page 19. could be so many things to take pictures of right here,” one student said during a simple walk around the block.

Encouraged not to be shy regarding what they took pictures of, or how many

pictures they took, the students clicked away from the snow and ice around Jewell Gillespie Park, as well as above, below, and through the playground equipment, inside the Harbour Market, and at the boat dock. Once back in the

warmth of the school, the students viewed their work after it was downloaded into the computer. They not only reviewed whether or not they put the photo guidelines into practice, but applied them in a post-production fash-

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photograph by Melissa Peters



photograph by Kevin Gillespie

ion as well. "With the advances in photography and computers," Solle explained, "you not only can see your work immediately, you can continue to apply the basic principles after you've taken your pictures as well."

With their work loaded in the computer, the students were able to discuss how to crop the photos for improved results and decide whether they liked them better as color or as black-and-white pictures.

"We actually did quite a bit in a short period of time," Solle added, "but the truth is, we barely scratched the surface."

A number of the finished photographs are mounted on display boards at the School.



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One Hundred Years Ago

by Joyce Bartels

Charlevoix Sentinel February 1, 1905 **Local News:** "The first mail to reach here from Beaver Island arrived here Saturday morning from Cross Village."

"The Editor of this paper has received a dispatch from Washington that the Beaver Island cable appropriation passed the House Saturday. There is no doubt about its passing in the Senate. The cable is now certain, and we heartily congratulate our Beaver Island friends. Before another winter closes them in they will be in telephone connection with the mainland. The value of this communication will be to the Island, inestimable. It will greatly facilitate business and stimulate resort travel there."

"Advices from Washington state that the sub-committee on appropriations have reported a \$35,000 item in the general Weather Bureau bill of the Department of Agriculture for the Beaver Island cable and display station, and the bill will pass this session. The appropriation will become available July 1st, but we may expect preliminaries to begin early in the summer by Chief Robinson of the Telegraph Division of the

Regions."

Charlevoix Sentinel February 9, 1905 List of Jurors for March: "Peaine Twp. - James Hamrock, St. James Twp, - James V. McDonough."

Marine News: "It is understood that, notwithstanding his latest trouble in the S. S. S., Cap't. P. D. Campbell will sail the steamer *Beaver* this coming season."

Beaver Island News: "Mail twice weekly now - Willl Gibson and Sam Floyd carriers."

"On Monday evening Mrs. Mamie Gibson gave a card party at her home."

"Cap't. Bonner has a number of Indians on High Island who are getting out cedar ties and posts."

"Cap't. Watts of the *Beaver Queen* has been very ill with heart trouble, but is much better at this writing."

"Raymond McDonold is running a camp on the company's timber land doing a logging job for the B. I. L. Co."

"The residents of Garden Island are frequent visitors to the Beavers. They drive back and forth with horse and sleigh, this being their mail and business point."

Cap't. John McCann is busying himself with the head clerkship in the store of James McCann and Sons during the interval between the close and opening of navigation."

"Mr. Walter Stebelin of Ludington, who was an employee of the B. I. L. Co., was taken with an attack of Appendicitis last week. At the last report he was doing very nicely with good prospects for rapid recovery."

"Parties who have taken logging jobs for the company are, Phil R. Gallagher, Hugh and W. Boyle, John Roach, and Fred Sendenburg. The latter has his camp on High Island where the company have a valuable tract of pine and hemlock."

"The ice harvest is nearly completed on the Island. The Wolverine Fish Co. Is the only firm who have not yet begun operation along this line. The firm of James McCann have secured nearly 1000 pounds. All put up in two days."

"Letters from James Gallagher, son of our genial Bowery, report his having a pleasant time in Detroit preliminary to his taking a position in the land office in

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Lansing. He states that he made a trip to Toronto where he visited relatives whom he had never seen."

"The social season is in full swing now. The evening of February First there were three parties given. Mr. and Mrs. J. Donlevy, Mr and Mrs Owen Gillispie both entertained at cards. Mr. and Mrs. P. O'Donnell made their friends feel very much at home with Pitt."

"Father Zugelder reports the receipt of a telegram through our loyal friend of the Beavers, W. A. Smith, from Rep. Darragh, stating the appropriation for the Beaver Island Charlevoix cable had passed the House and is at present up to Senator Burrows, who will see it through the Senate."

"The Beaver Island Lumber Co. have had a splendid winter so far for the carrying on of their large business interests on the Island. Their camps are full and doing good work getting out the logs to the right of way and loading cars, while the mill is running full time. The railroad has not been blocked yet this winter, and altogether the business of the firm is in a prosperous condition. Not the least of their varied industry is

the stave mill which is running in connection with the saw mill. It is turning out from twenty to twenty-two thousand staves of excellent quality every day. The mill is under the management of Mr. F. Radke who is running the mill under contract."

Charlevoix Sentinel February 15, 1905 **Local News**: "The Telegraph Division of the Weather Bureau is asking for shore measurements at Beaver Island which indicated that they are preparing for the cable job."

Charlevoix Sentinel February 23, 1905: Bill Passed

"Beaver Island Cable Now an Absolute Certainty – A private letter to the writer from Washington Monday conveyed the unwelcome information that owing to the strained relations between the House and Senate, there was some doubt about the Agriculture Bill passing the Senate in the few days yet remaining in this congress. This bill contains the Beaver Island \$35,000 cable item and while there was no doubt of ultimate success, it meant a delay of a year at least.

"We had only about rounded out a

vigorous and somewhat inelegant opinion of the U. S. Senate, when a telegram came that the bill passed the senate Saturday afternoon, without amendment.

"This makes the Beaver Island cable a certainty, and we congratulate not only Beaver Island, but Charlevoix, upon the success of the project, which was started two years ago. It means much to the Island – more than can be now realized.

The cable will start from the beach just south of the south pier, and will terminate near the south side of the entrance to Beaver Harbor. From the landing a land wire will be built across the fields to the church lot, and an 80 foot tower will be erected near the residence of Rev. Father Zugelder, who will be the Weather Bureau official. The telephone service will be also connected with McCann's store at the harbor.

"The tolls for telephone service between Charlevoix and Beaver Harbor will not exceed twenty five cents.

"The appropriation will not become available until July 1st, but it is expected that the cable will be in operation by Oct. 1st."



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1.22-acre parcel with 200.76 feet of beach frontage west of the Lighthouse property between the Jender lakefront home on Parcel 10 and the Dollen/Matson lakefront home on Parcel 12. Elevated building site with a view of the sand beach below it and a view of the main part of Iron Ore Bay and the points west to Cheyenne Point. Also has a dramatic view of North and South Fox Islands about 11 miles to the southwest. This is one of the nicest lakefront parcels on one of the prettiest bays on Beaver Island. Although there are rocks in the water out front this is a very sandy area with swimmable areas off shore; the building site, the views and the long sweep of sandy beach of Iron Ore Bay make this one of the most attractive lakefront parcels on the Island. Priced low because the seller needs to sell it due to a move to California.

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The Beaver Island Experience

by Walter Lach

1: The trip to Beaver Island

It is a lot of work getting ready to go to Beaver Island in the winter. We have five cats and they need to be in the house with lots of food and water and a cat box or two. In the winter we don't like anyone coming to feed them because they might get out and freeze to death.

Our dog, Cubby, and one of our cats, Grey, goes with us because Grey isn't part of their family and fights with them. We have to take many newspapers and paper towels for Grey in case he gets sick or goes to the bathroom.

The plane only can carry so much stuff so we have to make sure we can pack all our snowmobile things, clothes, and cross country skis as tight as possi-

ble, because of weight.

They called us and told us we should come an hour earlier than our flight, because of the storm coming in. So, of course, we were really moving then. We were only on the road about 15 minutes before my dad had to put on the brakes for a deer being chased by what we thought was another deer, but it was a wolf. It was really something to see just outside of Luzerne. We were about half-way there and Grey got sick, and threw up all over our snowmobile suits. Then up and down my seat. It stunk so badly I almost threw up, too. The roads were getting bad, even though it wasn't snowing. I fell asleep and the next thing Mom's waking me up because we're at

the airport. Before we unloaded, Dad went to see if they were even flying. They were, so we all went inside. Mom had to clean all of the snowmobile suits in the bathroom because we had to wear them on the plane.

2: On Beaver Island

Dad turned on the water; our friend on the Island had already turned the heat on for us, so it was warm. My mom and Kassie unpacked our stuff, while I looked for something for us to eat. We were very hungry. It's always a lot of work to get there.

After we were through, it really started snowing! Mom, Kassie, and I went to the store to get what we needed. Our friend, Chuck, came over to see us

Grace Niedbala

Grace (Mary) Niedbala, age 87, formerly of 633 Dawson Street, Alpena, Michigan, passed away peacefully on Jan. 12, 2005, at Pat's Country Care Home in Ossineke. She was born on Sept. 9, 1917, in Alpena, Mich., to the late John and Sally (Szydlowski) Przeslawski. She married Leonard Niedbala on Sept. 2, 1940, in Detroit. Leonard preceded her in death

on Aug. 6, 1993. She was employed by the Alpena Garment Company for many years. Grace was an active member of St. Mary Catholic Church and its Rosary Group 21 as well as the Pedro Club.

Grace is survived by her two daughters, Sally (Mrs. Harold) Lounsberry of Beaver Island, and Donna (Mrs. James) Mulso of New Baltimore, Michigan.; five

grandchildren, Todd and wife Shawn Lounsberry, Jeff and wife Kathy Lounsberry, Thomas and wife Katherine Bushe, Sarah (Mrs. Robert) Thomas and James Bushe; three great-grandchildren, Grace and Ava Lounsberry and Dominic Thomas; one brother, John and wife Clara Przeslawski; two sisters, Alice (Mrs. John) Kowalski and Regina (Mrs. Clar-

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for a while, and then Mom and Dad went out and brought us a pizza to eat. We were all tired that night and went to bed early,

Sunday we all went out snowmobiling with our friend Chuck. It was really snowing! We have 40 acres inland. We snowmobiled there, and Kassie and I got to ride the snowmobiles all around the land while Mom, Dad, and Chuck talked.

The next day we snowmobiled again without Chuck. Dad got us all lost out on some beach. It was rough riding, but we got out!

Tuesday we didn't do anything, but watch it snow! Mom and Dad went out for a while, because it was Mom's birthday. When they came back we had cake

ence) Swallow; and several nieces and nephews.

Grace was preceded in death by two brothers, Louis and Edward Przeslawski; and three sisters, Margaret Murdaugh, Irene Przeslawski and Ida (Mrs. Paul) Christiansen.

Interment will be in Holy Cross Cemetery.

and ice cream. We all went to bed early again, because we had to leave early the next day.

3: Our Way Home

We all got up early. Mom made breakfast. We all packed. Dad called the airport and they were not flying yet. They didn't think they would fly that day. It was really snowing and blowing. We had all our bags packed and in the garage ready to go. The only thing we had left to do was turn off the water. It's like a wasted day once you are ready. All we could do was wait around for a phone call from the airport.

Kassie, Mom, and I went out to eat lunch; Dad passed on lunch so he could be by the phone. As soon as we pulled

B-ballers still Unbeaten

After playing Hannahville our teams traveled to Paradise, where the basketball team won, and played here against Grand Marais—and won again, even though one starter was unsuited and another made to wait until near half-time to go in because of bad grades. This gave Grand Marais confidence. They had beaten Hannahville by a large margin,

back in the drive from eating he was yelling, "They just called! Let's go!" The taxi came. We loaded while Dad turned off the water and locked up,

We got to the airport and waited about a half an hour before the plane came. As we loaded the pilot told us it was fine on Beaver Island but might not be on the mainland, and we might have to turn back, but it was fine.

Then we had to load every thing in the truck and head home. The roads were so bad I thought we would never get home; it was a white-out most of the way, but we made it. We got home to 14" of snow in our driveway, and a household of happy wild cats. LET'S GO AGAIN!!!

their front court was larger, and they had some lightning-quick guards. But the Island subs rose to the occasion, and used smart D and sharp ball-handling and passing to jump out to a 27-9 lead. Kudos to coach Mike Meyers for keeping his crew focused on teamwork and oblivious to such jinxing words as 'tournament champ' and 'dynasty.'

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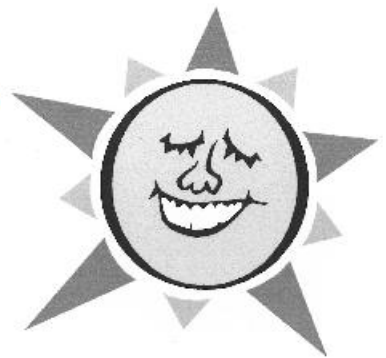
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Snow Dust

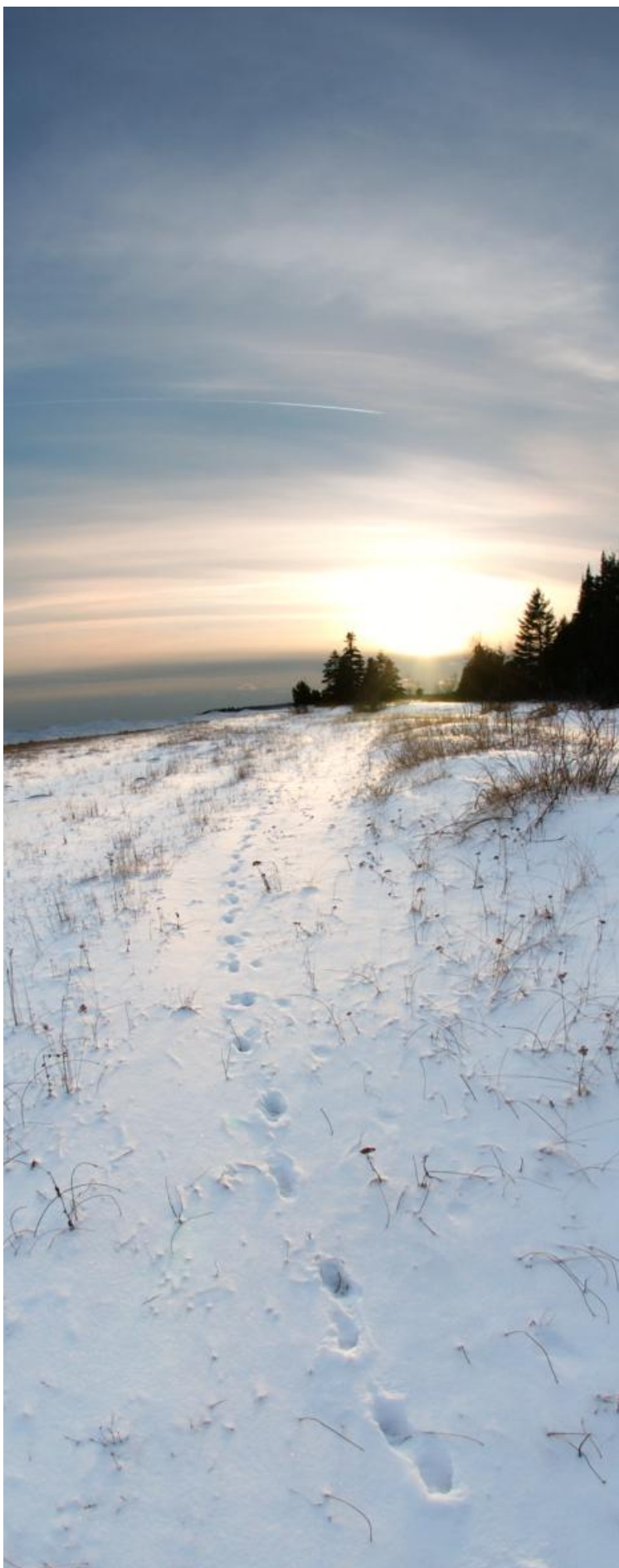
by Lois Williams

I dream of cross-country skiing on clouds. My skis glide through the white, fluffy mists silently. Sometimes I can't see the tips of the skis but I have no fear. On and on through the clouds I go loving every moment and hoping I won't wake up. I did.

I woke up on Beaver Island in January 2004. On January 11th I woke up to the sound of a yelping wild hen turkey. That same day about three-dozen red polls descended on the finch feeder—we thought the mild weather was here for a while. On January 12th we knew that winter had begun. Several inches of snow had fallen during the night. It was cold and dry and I knew it was time to take the skis down from the loft, wax them, and get out there and ski.

For the next four weeks temperatures were mostly in the single digits. It snowed and snowed and snowed some more. Every morning I stepped into my skis, called Fanny, my Labrador, and went skiing on the Donegal Bay Trail to the Township Park and back. I had the feeling I was somehow connecting in some strange way to the character of the snow. It was not like I had *Smilla's Sense of Snow*, but this snow was wonderful. I was having the time of my life. The snow was like powder, deep and dry and sometimes I couldn't see the tips of my skis. One day I stopped to feel the snow and that's when I realized it was like dust—snow dust.

Snow is a form of precipitation that consists of masses of tiny ice crystals. These ice crystals grow from water vapor in cold clouds. The crystals combine to pro-



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duce snowflakes as they collide and stick together. Snowflakes differ in shape but they all have six sides. Snow contains much less water than rain. About 6 inches of moist snow or 30 inches of dry, fluffy snow equals the water in 1 inch of rain.

In most cases, snow crystals form on microscopic particles called ice nuclei, which are present in clouds with below freezing temperatures. Snow crystals may develop when water vapor deposits directly on ice nuclei. They may also form when the ice nuclei cause tiny drops of super cooled water to freeze. Super cooled water is water that has remained unfrozen at below-freezing temperatures.

Snow crystals grow in platelike and columnar patterns, depending on air temperature and humidity. Plate-like crystals appear as flat, six-sided plates. Platelike crystals form when the temperature is about 5 degrees Fahrenheit. Columnar snow crystals resemble long needles of ice, but high humidity may cause them to become hollow columns. They form when the temperature is about 23 degrees or when it drops below 4 degrees. A snow crystal's shape may change from one type to another as the crystal passes through layers of air with different temperatures.

Therefore now you know that I was in fact skiing on the clouds, at least something formed in cold clouds. I know, also, that the ice crystals were in fact platelike in structure, were flat and 6 sided, very dry and can now be know as **snow dust**.



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Beaver Island Wildlife Club—A Look at 2004

by Lois Williams, secretary, Beaver Island Wildlife Club

Our year started with work bees in May at the walleye pond site. We received delivery of fry from the DNR. By June 10th they were $\frac{3}{4}$ inch long. 9000 fingerlings were removed at the first harvest and relocated in Lake Geneserath. An additional 600 were seined several days later. When the pond was drained we recovered 1000 more. A bonus was an 11 inch walleye. We learned that we need to get the pond ready by May 1st. We also need more plankton, which can come from soybean meal, and there is a need for better seining nets to reduce our fingerling losses at harvest.

Brian Mastenbrook, DNR biologist, was our guest speaker in June. He praised our efforts in obtaining data through the successful hunter contest. We learned that herd health is measured by the beam diameter of 1½-year-old bucks. The beams on Island deer are getting smaller. His interpretation of this is lack of adequate habitat. He would also like us to continue our deer drive census that takes place in July-Oct 1 to help determine buck to doe ratio.

A committee was established to work with Paul Armstrong to design a pamphlet about Island fisheries. The purpose is to inform fisherman on Beaver Island how to go about improving fishing populations in our lakes.

Habitat improvement is moving ahead, albeit slowly. The sites are rocky with poor soil that requires time and

money to develop. The DNR provided some lime, fertilizer, and seed. The club also purchased some materials. We encourage land owners to dedicate small $\frac{1}{2}$ to 1 acre plots to wildlife habitat planting.

This fall we sponsored three main events. The successful hunter contest ran from Oct 1 to Jan 1. Any successful hunter who checked in his or her deer at a designated site was eligible to win. The grand prize was a \$400 gift certificate from Cabela's. Second and third prizes were \$50 certificates. Mark LaFreniere was the grand prize winner. Francis Pike and Tom Mann were runners up. A total of 116 deer were checked: 61 does, 55 bucks. This is down from 202 in 2003. Biological data recorded for the DNR will be used to determine the health and status of our whitetail herd. Stats were gathered on age, sex, spikes, left and right diameter of antler beams in mm, total points, harvest date, season, and location. Jeff Powers, who recorded information on 39 deer, took most of this data. Seven deer were recorded at McDonough's. There were:

- 14 Bucks with 2 points
- 3 Bucks with 3 points
- 7 Bucks with 4 points
- 4 Bucks with 5 points
- 7 Bucks with 6 points
- 6 Bucks with 7 points
- 10 Bucks with 8 points, and
- 3 Bucks with 10 points.

The greatest number of points on any deer was 10. The ages of two of the 10 points were 3½ years. One 1½-year-old had 7 points. And one 4 point was 8½ years old. Conclusions have not been drawn yet – we will meet with the DNR in the near future to discuss this matter.

Two rifles were raffled at our annual hunters' dinner. A Ruger Model 77 Mark II, .308 caliber engraved with the club logo, and a Savage Cub .17 HMR series, also engraved. The winning ticket for the Ruger was held by Leon Parker. Bob Tidmore had the ticket on the Savage Cub. This year the dinner was hosted by Nina's Restaurant. 144 dinners were served by the capable staff. We thank the community for showing their support and all of you folks who volunteered time, desserts, and appetizers. We felt it was a success.

Once again we sponsored the Big Buck Contest. Kevin Wick from Garden City won it with a 10 point buck opening day that scored 111 $\frac{3}{8}$ Boone and Crockett.

We are trying to keep our growing flocks of wild turkeys going through the winter. The Michigan Wild Turkey Hunters Association donated 5½ T of corn. The club bought an additional 1½ T. If you have a flock and need corn, please call Mark LaFreniere at 448-2220. The corn is for turkeys only – we do not encourage feeding deer.

BIRHC's Annual Meeting

At the BIRHC's Annual Meeting, on January 22nd, the financial report was presented in a format that was easy to grasp, thanks to Donna Kubic's use of Excel to enhance a Peachtree report. The data was for the first 3 months, 25% of the year, so a quick scan of the percentage column showed what was significantly under or over. For example, "Patient Disallowed" was running a little heavy, and legal costs running quite light. In discussing the report, Donna pointed out that the facility would at least break even through the current year, but would need to scramble next—unless the Endowment Fund's earnings would replace the used-up "left over" money from the construction grant. If that doesn't happen, either a line of credit or a mortgage on the facility would be needed to stay open.

Anne Glendon reported that donations to the Special Projects Fund made through the Capital Campaign had been better than anticipated.

At a January 19th meeting, a steering committee recommended undertaking a truck raffle again this summer. The last raffle, the second, had not been as profitable as the first, even though 40 additional tickets had been sold, because the truck had cost \$6,000 more. The Board voted to buy another truck, though, and said it

would try harder to sell more tickets—which means more hours sweltering in the sun.

Joe Reed reported that the Endowment Fund had passed \$700,000 in cash and pledges (roughly half and half.) Sixteen families had donated amounts between \$5,000 and \$100,000 each.

New NP Connie Harris had volunteered to provide extra office hours on Monday and Tuesday. Her exercise program is being well-received, with 21 people on the first night and a minimum of 17 thereafter. The group walks (18 loops in 15 minutes constitutes one mile) and uses donated equipment while listening to aerobic tapes. Blood pressure is checked at the onset, and a weigh station is available. She is also promoting new dietary guidelines.

Sue Solle is working on a "Performance Improvement" plan involving collecting data and analyzing it; she did this numerous times elsewhere, and has become quite proficient. The critical data has to be collected anyway. She mentioned how lucky the Island was to have Barb Kenwabikise available to help with X-rays, and said that peer reviews of our practitioners were being done by doctors. She offered to head up a committee on Quality Assurance, with

Angel Welke and Don Spenser volunteered to come on board.

Donna Kubic distributed a sheet defining the BIRHC's goals and objectives for 2005, subsumed under three categories: improve public awareness of what the facility does; increase preventative health care on the Island; and expand the services being offered (for example, plans are afoot to do cholesterol testing here.)

Don Spenser mentioned that the insurance claim for the "flood" will be paid in full. It included \$9,000 for new carpet, but after the claim was made the existing carpet dried rather nicely and does not have to be replaced immediately—so this money could be kept in a special reserve fund. He said the final repairs would soon be made. The mold problem was said to be of minimal significance.

The Board voted unanimously to appoint Donna as the facility's Managing Director, and to spend up to \$5,000 this year on her professional development.

The Charlevoix County Commission on Aging asked the BIRHC to administer its program by providing staff to open cases on the Island's aging; the CCCA is set up to make life easier on the elderly by performing needed household services. The CCCA would reimburse the BIRHC for this (some of its funding comes from our millage), but there was concern about liability and overburdening. The Board decided to ask the CCCA to send a representative to the next meeting to discuss its requirements. (At present, six Islanders might become its clients.)

The existing sliding-fee scale was approved. Work will start on figuring out a way to ascertain income for those who qualify.

The modified Employee Handbook was adopted.

No letters were received from possible new applicants for membership on the Board. Angel Welke offered to serve again, whereas Eula Thomas did not, because she is traveling. The four officers were reappointed for another 2-year term.



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Lester D. Connaghan

Lester D. Connaghan, born Daniel Lester on September 25, 1922, passed away peacefully in his sleep from natural causes at the Evergreen Health Center, outside Billings, Montana at age 93 on January 4, 2005.

Lester was the eldest of 14 children born to his Irish Catholic parents Hugh and Catherine "Katie" Malloy Connaghan of Beaver Island. His last home here was on Darkeytown Road. He was the son of a fisherman, whose grandparents, Hugh Connaghan (b.1834) and Bridget O'Donnell (b.1854) were from Arranmore Island, County Donegal, Ireland. Prior to his death, he was the oldest living member of the Connaghan family that had their ancestral heritage from Arranmore Island.

Lester followed in the family profession, being a commercial fisherman on Lake Michigan until the Lamprey Eel lead to the demise of the Great Lakes fishing industry in the late 1940s. He then pursued a career as a tug boat pilot for Great Lakes Dredge & Dock Company until he retired in the early 1970s. He married Victoria Pociask on Nov 4, 1934 in Chicago, Vickie gave him two sons, but preceded him in death on Nov 23, 1978.

Lester is survived by his sons, Robert Connaghan of Billings, MT., and Reverend Daniel Connaghan of Milford, CT., his grandson, Todd and great grandsons Brice and Hunter Connaghan of Denver, CO. Lester was also survived by his four remaining sisters Anna May Maxwell, Catherine Theresa Gatliff, Lila Lee Selfridge, and Jessica Marguerite Welsh and his long time friend of 25 years, Shirley Armstrong of Albuquerque, NM.

Cremation has taken place and funeral service will be held Saturday, June 11, 2005 at Holy Cross Catholic Church, Beaver Island, Michigan. Pending written permission from the Michigan Diocese, services will be conducted by Reverend Daniel Connaghan.

In celebration of his life a reception will be held at the parish hall following the burial service at Holy Cross Catholic Cemetery.

Read A Good Book Lately?

An occasional feature contributed by Arnie Rich, who writes:

Reading history is the best way to understand how we arrived where we are. 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:

Galileo's Daughter. By Dava Sobel. This was on the *New York Times*' best-seller list a few years ago. I received it as a gift, and didn't read it right away, but it turned out to be an amazing story about Galileo and his times. Much of the information it presents is drawn from Galileo's daughter's letters; she was a sequestered nun. After inventing the telescope, Galileo got in trouble for stating that the earth revolved around the sun. He just did not have a good lawyer. Of equal interest to his personal travails is the revealing portrait of the workings and hierarchy of the medieval Catholic Church.

Sock Hop 2005

Get your poodle skirts out, your bobby sox rolled down, and your saddle shoes polished. The Sock Hop is coming back! The AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary is again hosting the great Sock Hop on Saturday, April 30. Mark your calendars now.

Letters to the Editor:

Parking Lot Pranks

Last summer I attended a heated township meeting regarding the proposed building of a new paved public beach parking lot. The room was filled to the brim with citizens expressing strong apprehensions. The reasons given to justify the plan by our township officials centered around safety and the much needed "downtown" parking.

A lot of things just didn't add up: like the mysterious land swamp with Karnes who only wanted two of the new parking spaces in return. Many of us guessed that something else might be the real reason. Quite a few people thought it was the first step in opening the abandoned road to land-locked sites, and possible future development along that stretch of valuable beachfront. I discussed these issues in an August '03 Letter to the Editor. Still, over the objections of many Islanders, the sandy beach was replaced with asphalt.

Now I read in the Dec.'04 issue of the Beacon in the "News from the Townships" article that indeed "new lots are being created with new numbers" in that area and are just awaiting state approval. The article also noted that Phyllis Fitzpatnck objects to looking at the beach's port-a-john from her property and who can blame her? Will she soon be looking at a string of new roof tops too? Have we all been duped?

—Gwen Marston



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BITA receives Final Report

Larry Strange arrived on the Island to present the Corradino Group's Final Report to the Beaver Island Transportation Authority at its January 18th meeting. With funding from MDOT, BITA had commissioned this study of the ferry system last summer. The Corradino Group interviewed people, studied the facilities, and passed out surveys to both ferry passengers and property owners, receiving over 500 responses.

While this was a broad study, the question uppermost in everyone's mind was: how badly do we need another boat? To get a handle on this, CG studied our history and did its best to fore-

cast trends. Along the way it came up with much information of general interest. For example, while the graph of passenger growth is generally upward (from 12,075 in 1990 to 43,501 in 2003), the peak (47,577) actually occurred in 2001, and vehicle traffic has remained rather constant (at about 7,000/year.)

The arrival of the *Emerald Isle II* sparked a ten-year period of growth: new docks, Ace Hardware, Emerald Isle Hotel, Deerwood, and Dalwhinnie opening (as well as several other businesses), the paving of roads, a proliferation of more-expensive homes, and the building of the new Rural Health Center. So

one of the questions asked in the survey sought to get at people's feelings about growth. Those who wanted it to occur more quickly made up only 6%; 42% thought it was just right; but 51% felt it was proceeding too fast.

Yet another boat was recommended, for two reasons: the existing upward trend pressed for more transportation capability, particularly for freight, and the age of the *Beaver Islander* puts us in a precarious position if a breakdown to our larger boat takes place. CG looked at several possibilities – including doing nothing. For action, it considered a monohull (at \$6,000,000) more

A Year of Rising Water

We have all learned a little about Lake Michigan's water-depth cycle, such as that in a 22-year period (1964 to 1986) it went from a foot and a half below our recent level to three and a half feet above, a change of 5'. Two years ago

it was 2' below average; last year, one. The good news is that projections show we might continue this modest rise and approach our seasonal average in the year to come.

Last year's rise was attributed to

increased snow pack and extremely heavy rain. A thorough ice cover reduced evaporation. Now we're expecting a weak El Niño event in the Pacific, which keeps several options open for water levels. December precip-

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feasible than a catamaran (at \$25,000,000) or a hovercraft (\$30,000,000,) and also considered a used monohull – although a used boat purchase might not qualify for needed funding. So the suggestion was to begin planning for obtaining another large boat, with an eye to acting on these plans in five or so years. The bottleneck at Charlevoix will be improved when the Coast Guard decommissions the *Acacia*.

BITA asked the GP representative about BIBCO's economic impact on Charlevoix. He pointed out that one survey question was to ask if people riding

itation was 13% above average, and the southeastern Great Lakes are already above their long-term averages. Consequently beach tourism is expected to rise this year.

A study sponsored by a group repre-

the ferry also spent money in Charlevoix, and, if so, how much. Extrapolating from the responses, 77% (of 44,000) said they did (almost 34,000), with 38% spending \$10 to \$50 (at an average of \$30, this would provide \$386,000 to Charlevoix's economy), 26% spent from \$50 to \$100 (\$660,000 more), and 35% spent over \$100 (another \$1,185,000.) This quarter-million dollars, if correct, is not to be sneezed at.

BITA conducted other business after the report. Because of a November incident with a propane truck's sparking exhaust, the existing Safe Vehicle Policy will be given more prominence. The

senting 4,200 families living on islands in the Georgian Bay focused on a previously unidentified source of Great Lakes water loss: the dredging of the St. Claire River to 27' deep to facilitate commerce in 1962. The upper Great Lakes

2005 Capital Grant application was awaiting signatures; 2006's will provide security items.

Because of the spike in fuel costs last July, BIBCO spent over fifty grand more on fuel than was budgeted. Fuel has dropped some, but is still high, and the health benefits BIBCO gives its employees have also increased in cost, so rates will have to go up. Consequently the Board approved a recommendation to raise them about 7%—the first increase in awhile, and still leaving this ride one of the best bargains on the Great Lakes (adult passenger tickets will now be \$19.)

were compared to a bathtub: when the drain hole is made bigger, the water runs out more quickly. This was thought to have resulted in a loss of about twelve inches of water from Lake Michigan in the last fifty years.

Toy Museum. Call (231) 448-2391.

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

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.



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



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



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. Five minutes to town but a private location too.

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



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



WATERFRONT COTTAGE FOR RENT:

Fabulous sunset view. Quiet, wooded location near Indian Point (NW side). One BR and loft. Sleeps four max. Everything you need is there! Sorry, no smoking or pets. \$650/week in season. Off season available. dtn@i2k.com or (616) 396-6468 or (616) 791-8222.



FOR RENT:

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



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



JUDE'S Rentals

Apartments & Homes
Nightly or Weekly

* 7 HOUSEKEEPING UNITS
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Great for multi-family groups.

* 6-BEDROOM HOME
3 ½ baths, 3 kitchens, 2 large decks
Lake Michigan across the street!

Call: (231) 448-2673
or (616) 531-9033

Real Estate, 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 or (231) 448-2733.

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).

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.

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. mschroer@a2mich.com

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

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/wk; weekends available. (219) 253-6500.

DONEGAL BAY COTTAGE - On dune with private beach access. 3 BR, 1 bath, sleeps 6, washer/dryer. Kayaks and bikes for your use. \$750/week. Off season rates on request. Please call Dana Luscombe evenings (248) 549-2701 or e-mail dpluscombe@msn.com



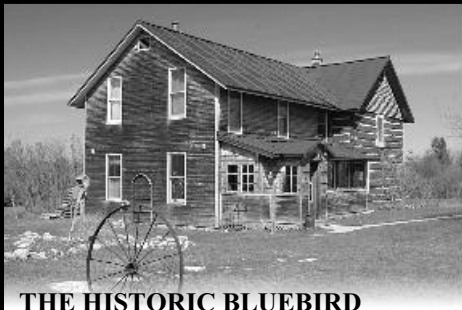
SECLUDED BEAUTIFUL CHALET FOR RENT: on 10 acres with 360 Feet of sandy private Lake Michigan Beach on Sand Bay. 2 bedroom (including loft), one bath, Great Room with two sofa sleepers. Fabulous views of the Lake. Large decks. Sleeps 7. Across from state land and hiking trails. No pets. No smoking. \$800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



DONEGAL BAY COTTAGE: 3 BR, 2 BA, full kitchen, W/D, fireplace, secluded patio & deck surrounded by pines and bluff and overlooking one of Beaver Island's best beaches. \$850 per week June-September; winter rates available. Call (734) 996-3973 or suziqp16@comcast.net



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)



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



HARBOR-LAKE FRONT (one block W. of marina) Sharp 3 bedroom, 3 bath, washer/dryer. Sleeps 8. Awesome view of harbor from living room, kitchen/dining room, and master bedroom. \$1,200 weekly. Call Patti Fogg (616) 399-5067 or email mfogg@egl.net



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. Call (231) 448-2650

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

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

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 weekend. One BR, full kitchen and bath.

Enjoy the water and the woods, year round. Off-season rates. Complete privacy. (231) 448-2907.

Display Ad Rates

	Black & White	Full Color
Starter	\$ 15	\$ 25
Small	\$ 25	\$ 35
(1/8 page)		
Standard	\$ 45	\$ 60
(1/4 page)		
Half Page	\$ 60	\$ 100
Full Page	\$ 100	\$ 200

Classified Ads are \$1 per line. Boxed classifieds with photo and website photo listing are \$15/month. The *Beacon's* circulation is 1,200 winter, 1,450 summer. Please call (231) 448-2476 or email beacon@beaverbeacon.com



NEW LARGE RENTAL HOME: Island Aerie - Overlooking harbor next to Nature Preserve, easy walk/bike to town, 3 bathrooms, 4 bedrooms w/ 2 king and 10 twin beds, large 1st floor decks, 2nd floor wet bar and deck, 3rd floor game room, all modern amenities and appliances, great for multiple families and groups. Available for rent year-round starting June '05. \$1,500/week. Call John and Jan (989) 866-2159



Deer running the fields along the East Side Drive



Plowing the Township Airport



A view over Sand Bay



Cable's Creek, under the ice



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Lifting the bark over Cables Creek



A careful crossing