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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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Editors / Owners
Jeff Cashman jcashman@beaverisland.net
William Cashman wcashman@beaverisland.net

Contributors
Joyce Bartels
Frank Solle

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News from the Townships

St. James Town Board
St. James held its monthly meeting on February 2nd, setting March 8th as the organizational meeting for the Board of Revue and March 14-15 as the date for hearings (morning and afternoon, then morning and evening.) The Annual Meeting was set for March 26th at 1:00 p.m.

Supervisor Vyse asked for suggestions for the budget, which is being drafted.

The Board decided not to increase its salaries, which were increased $1,000 in 2003 and not in 2004. “The job constantly becomes more complicated,” Supervisor Vyse observed. “But what we need is more help, not more money.”

Talk was given to determining when to hold a grand opening celebration for the Municipal Dock (the Yacht Dock.) It was decided it will be Saturday, June 18th.

John Fiegen was reappointed to the Planning Commission; Rick Speck was reappointed to the BIRHC Board.

Mrs. Moroni offered to donate $500 to improve the foliage barrier between the Bike Trail and the Donegal Bay Road, and wondered if anyone else was interested in helping.

Supervisor Vyse had bad news about the North Shore Day Park project: the DNR had turned down our request for the funds needed to purchase the Petritz property. Despite initial enthusiasm, our application was graded on a point system, and in several categories (did this improve a wildlife corridor? does this expand snowmobile trails? does this enhance hunting opportunities?) we received zero points, and the total number of people who would have used this Day Park did not measure up to requests for funds from other parts of the state.

Peaine Town Board
Peaine Township’s Board met on February 9th, and set the Annual Meeting for March 26th at 11:00 a.m. It decided to recommend a cost-of-living (2.7%) salary increase, which would bring the supervisor’s pay to $14,142, the Treasurer’s to $13,359, the Clerk’s to $13,095, and the two other Trustees’ to $4,694.

The Board of Revue was set for 3-14 and 3-15, two mornings, an afternoon, and an evening.

Supervisor Works asked for recommendations for the new budget, a draft of which will be reviewed at the next regular meeting and then voted on at the Annual Meeting.

John McCafferty was present to see if John Works had gotten anywhere in his attempt to resolve the apparent inequity of him losing his Homestead Exemption when other commercial endeavors bringing in much more money than Unfinished Farms, and yet retaining their Exemption. Supervisor Works went through the process in detail, but admitted to not having received a response from any of the letters he had written to resolve this matter.

Deputy Sheriff Campbell stated that he had investigated the tree-girding on the West Side Road, and had spoken with a few woodcutters who had been ob-
served out on the day in question, but did not yet have any hard evidence as to who might have deliberately killed the dozen scattered trees near the road’s edge. Someone suggested the motive might have been revenge, and thought looking into who might have recently dented their front end might prove fruitful.

Supervisor Works displayed the preliminary drawings for an addition to the Peaine Town Hall, which would add 1,440 ft² of space, including a separate, smaller meeting area.

Works also mentioned that the new fire truck had been put to the test in the recent fire (2-7) at Paul Kenwabikise’s former home, and performed very well. The East Side Drive Fire Hall was nearing completion, he added, and it had evoked the envy of visiting firemen. Its completion would result in lower insurance rates, he said, citing one case in which an agent had promised to reduce a rate by five hundred dollars.

Chamber of Commerce Elects Officers

Beaver Island’s Chamber of Commerce board members re-elected Pat Anderson, Sheri Timsak and Sally Fogg to three years terms as directors on February 14th. The board elected the following to one year terms as officers: Kathy Speck, Pres.; Bill Thomas, Vice Pres.; Sally Fogg, Tres.; and Steve West, Sec.. Roy Elsworth announced plans to leave the board after many years of service. The directors selected Rachael Teague of Island Airways to fill the one year balance of Elsworth’s term. By unanimous vote board members commended Roy Elsworth for his long and faithful service.

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**Tip of the Mitt offers help**

We are all connected to the Great Lakes, and can make choices that protect them. Their health depends on lands stretching nearly 300,000 square miles, called the Great Lakes watershed, home to more than 37 million people.

The Lakes are affected by the way we utilize the lands and waters within our communities. Solutions are available to help us make a difference. The Great Lakes Aquatic Habitat Network & Fund (GLAHNF), a Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council project, is making available tools and financial resources to grassroots advocates. “Local efforts to protect community water resources are at the heart of maintaining our precious Great Lakes and the rivers, streams and wetlands within our region for future generations to use and enjoy,” said Jill Ryan, GLAHNF Director. “These resources are intended to make the work a little easier.”

The Great Lakes Connecting Communities Toolbox provides free focused, ready-to-use content and communications products related to water quality and quantity issues, habitat protection, and invasive species. With support from the Great Lakes National Program Office of the EPA, GLAHNF and Biodiversity Project are making the Great Lakes Connecting Communities Toolbox CD-ROMs available to groups working in the Great Lakes Basin. The combined value of these professionally-developed tools is $25,000. GLAHNF will also produce special communications editions of the Great Lakes Aquatic Habitat News, annual reports of success stories, and other materials highlighting the connections between our local rivers, lakes, wetlands, ground water and Great Lakes.

GLAHNF’s Great Lakes Connecting Communities Grant Program provides financial support to advocacy activities that strengthen the role of citizens working locally. Projects might include issues training, communications workshops, and organizational development. Any service provider that offers assistance to grassroots 501(c)(3) organizations working to protect aquatic habitats in the Great Lakes Basin is eligible to apply for funding. Grants will range from $6,000 to $8,000. Proposals must be based on the questions and format contained in the 2005 Theme Grants Program Application Form. Applications must be postmarked or sent electronically by March 31, 2005. Your work is important so take advantage of this opportunity.
Undaunted PABI Board Sets Goals for 2005

Slowed by unexpected events in 2004, the PABI Board set new ambitious goals at their January meeting. The Board’s hopes of beginning construction this past fall were dashed to the ground when construction bids came in at a level far exceeding their contracted budget with the architects. Working with Robert Gillespie and a new architectural firm, PABI now plans to begin construction in the spring—with a building ready for use by the end of the year. Finishing touches will continue over the winter of 2006, since the Board anticipates a phased building schedule—but they remain convinced that the completed Center will be well worth the wait.

Meanwhile, the PABI Board continues fund raising toward their $1.9 million Capital Campaign goal. They now have $1.2 million in gifts and pledges for the Center, and hope to reach the $1.7 million mark by the end of the summer. Robert Gillespie and his Beaver Gems crew will begin construction as soon as the within-budget building plans are ready to go. The ground “broken” for the Community Center in 2004 will finally be bustling with construction as the 2005 tourist season gets underway.

Currently, PABI is working to enlist several foundations and eight to ten more Founding Families to serve as major investors in the Community Center. They are also launching the “endowed chair” portion of their campaign—seeking donors who will give $2,000 to purchase a theater seat for the Center, with permanent name recognition engraved on the chair for themselves or anyone the donor wishes to honor or remember. The Center will have 150 seats to recognize individuals or groups in perpetuity.

Finally, the Board of Directors raised the bar in terms of fund-raising for PABI itself, since they will hire a part-time director for the Community Center by year’s end. An all-volunteer group can build the Center—but having it operate effectively on an ongoing basis will require staff. In time the Center’s events will cover the costs of a part-time director—but first it must get up and running. The Board remains firm, however, that private funds only will be used for the Community Center’s construction and use. 2005 is sure to be a stretch year for PABI—but with the community’s continued help, we will all see the Community Center finally take shape by year’s end.
Birds, birds and more birds
by Frank Solle

Birds. From the large Great Blue Heron to the tiny Eastern Wood Peewee; from Killdeers to Rose-breasted Grosbeaks; the fifth and sixth grade students in Mrs. Donna Stambaugh’s BICS classroom know well their feathered friends.

Through internet and library research each student recently studied his or her bird of choice before creating detailed range and migration maps, and giving oral or computer-generated PowerPoint presentations to their fellow classmates. They drew or painted pictures of their avian counterparts as well. And if all that wasn't quite enough, the students made wonderful, detailed models of the birds.

“It's all a matter of teaching style,” Mrs. Stambaugh explained on the day the entire flock migrated to the District Library for community display. “I like a project approach to teaching because it allows me to have many different levels of ability in one project.”

Given what the students created during this educational experience, the overall ability level of the combined classroom can only be called high.

A few minutes of discussion with the students proves that theory. Asked about her bird of choice, the Eastern Wood Peewee, Desire Duhamel was quick to note, “It’s a very tiny bird, 5.25” long.”

Asked why she chose that particular bird, Desire said, “Because it has a weird name. I never heard of one before and I thought it would be interesting to learn about a bird I’m not used to.”

Are there Eastern Wood Peewees on Beaver Island? “Not likely,” she said, adding, “They are more often heard and not seen because they blend in so well.”

Desire also reported that the nest of the Peewee is “a big open teacup, sort of like in Alice in Wonderland.”

These kids know their stuff.

“This kind of project combined social studies and science,” Stambaugh said, pointing out how that builds into the next social studies study area of South and Central America. “That’s where some Beaver Island birds go in the winter, so that made a real life connection,” she added.

As Brontae Lemmink stated, her bird, the American Redstart, migrates to...
Tampico, Mexico for the winter as well as “the bottom of Florida.” In case you weren’t familiar with the Redstart, Brontae says, “It’s the black bird with deep orange spots.”

The project wasn’t without a lesson in math either. “The kids had to use the map scale to calculate how many miles their bird flew in its round trip migration,” Stambaugh said. “This really brought a lot of different skills together.”

Such a computation resulted in Olivia Schwartzfischer determining that the Killdeer flies 6000 miles in its yearly travels to and from Central America. Olivia also says the Killdeer gets its name from its song. “They make a little whistle like ‘killdeer, killdeer’,” she reports. “I’ve heard that before but I never knew it was a Killdeer.”

Finding the information was one thing, bringing it to the class was another. “I made a PowerPoint slide show down in the computer lab and we used the monitor here (in the classroom) with Mrs. Stambaugh’s laptop,” said Jenna Battle of her report on the Great Blue Heron. “It told where it migrates and what kind of singing voice it has.”

And what would that be, Jenna? “It’s a deep, dark, loud croak,” she answered.

The models the students made, as well as the drawings and paintings they did of their respective birds, demonstrate the art aspect of the project. “They really had fun making the models,” said Stambaugh. “A wide range of abilities were brought to the task.”

And a wide range of materials as well. The models were constructed of a variety of materials including clay, rocks, socks, sticks, plastic jugs, papier-mâché; you name it, they used it. From Brighid Cushman’s Ruby-throated Hummingbird feeding at a flower to Billy Lemmink’s Song Sparrow to Clairessa Kenwabikise’s near decoy-like Wood Duck, the students excelled in their creativity.

The project was summed up well by Schwartzfischer: “I liked making the models.”

That sentiment was echoed by Billy Lemmink: “It was pretty much fun.”

The bird models are now on display at the District Library.
Ten Years Ago  The Beacon feted the publication of Mary Blocksma’s book, The Fourth Coast, which documented a writing trip around the American side of the Great Lakes. Island aspects that were featured included an aerial adventure with Roy Elsworth, a story session with Glen Felix and Don Meister at the Shamrock, the Jim Willis tour, and Mary’s Toy Museum.

The April issue of Field and Stream magazine was promised to have a story about Beaver Island, thanks to Harry Boesch and Terry VanArkle, who guided the author on a fishing trip.

The Airport Committee made $1,200 from the previous fall’s Fly-In.

The Chamber of Commerce announced its new officers and chairpeople: Jon Bonadeo, president; Eric Heline, vice-president; Fran Clark- son, treasurer; Lisa Vance-Gillespie, secretary; Madonna McCafferty, chair for the annual Sunset Cruise; Jo Hooker, chair for the annual Tree (this year it would be Bartlett Pear trees) and Bulb sale; and Skip McDonough, chair for the annual Pleasure Trip raffle.

PABI was delighted that CB North had agreed to finance the purchase of the Dockside Market, providing a loan at 1.5% over prime—so long as it could generate $30,000 over three years in cash or pledges from the community.

Water levels remained the same as the previous year: 7” above average.

A report on the Transfer Station said that about 50% of all delivered materials were recycled.

The Library planned to offer travelogues, starting in April, and a “Meet the Author” series in the summer.

Supervisor Neal Boyle was successful in his application for a grant to provide a coin-operated pump-out station at the Yacht Dock.

Scoutmaster Jim Stambaugh had 10 scouts, who met on Monday evenings. Besides their campouts, they spent a day marking the Blue Trail, and raised money through a popcorn sale.

Twenty Years Ago  The Beacon opened with a story about the Wednesday Club—which was not a club and did not always convene on Wednesday. This group liked to eat a variety of foods, and had been in existence since January of 1983, gathering at designated sites where everyone brought a dish to pass. Themes were chosen—Wild Game night, or Chinese, or Mexican—and as many as 35 (that was the number for an Italian night at the Beaver Head Light) would gather for a feast. The newly-formed Community Choir chose Wednesdays for its rehearsals, so the Wednesday Club had begun to meet on Tuesdays.

The Civic Association, now 30 years old, refined its plans for the annual Winter Games, deciding to add an information table and an awards ceremony. They were considering adding kite flying, ice spudding, and a scavenger hunt. The Harbor Clean-up was scheduled for May 11, followed by a day of tree and flower planting a week later. Civic Chairman Joe Cunningham intended to meet with the Road Commissioner to try getting access created to some of the currently unused public beaches. The Civic also announced plans to begin composing the Beacon on a computer.

Bob Malloy offered the old Malloy Meat Market for the Fire Auxiliary’s resale shop—if it could replace some broken windows and make other repairs. The FA had been raising money at a weekly bingo game at the Circle M; profits went to purchase heavy-duty rubber boots and a new ice auger.

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The Waterways Division of the DNR stated that there was little chance it could fund the remodeling of the Yacht Dock, although it would share the cost (estimated at $6,000) of an engineering study to determine exactly what needs to be done.

Dr. Siudara submitted an explanation of how he, as an osteopathic physician, differed from MD physicians. His approach was more holistic, he said, placing more emphasis on the interrelationship of the musculoskeletal system with other body systems, and believing that body structure affects body function and vice versa.

The first of what was hoped would become a series of stories by Archie LaFreniere appeared in this issue, about two pigs he and Bert McDonough purchased shortly after WW II. They were kept in back of Bert’s house near the school, and each night Archie would bring them a couple of buckets of stale beer from the Shamrock—without bothering Bert. After one monumental drinking evening at Homecoming, Archie brought 20 gallons of beer and middlings to the pigs, only to get a call from an anxious Bert the next day.

“Archie, Archie, we’ve got a problem,” Bert said. “Those pigs! One’s lying on his back with his feet in the air, and the other’s staggering around like he never heard of a straight line.” Everything was resolved when Archie explained about his delivery the night before.

Another story was told by Civic president Joe Cunningham, about Peter Johnson, who had the first indoor shower at his place on Darkeytown—powered by a windmill. One time his car wouldn’t start so he asked Johnny Green across the street to give him a pull. The only rope they could find was 2” thick and hundreds of feet long. It was too good to cut, so they tied an end to each bumper. They were so far apart they barely saw each other, so Johnny waited for a signal and then took off full speed for town. At the big bend, here comes Peter, dragging the rope, honking like mad, and finally passing him, shouting, “You can stop now, Johnny, I got it started!”

Passings noted included the Island’s oldest resident, Mrs. Siudara’s mother, Maria Gasiorowski, who had lived here for five years, Dorothy Ryan, who was Larry Malloy’s sister, John Lahey, who had moved here in 1968 and married Lydia Lewis, and our former doctor, Joe Christie, who had arrived here in 1968 with his new wife, Rhea Solle, and their son.

Thirty Years Ago Sure’n Begorrah, this issue of the Beacon was printed in green.

February’s temperature ranged between 2 and 42, averaging 25, with 20” of snow.

In the Game Report, this winter’s rabbit hunting was characterized as “the best ever.” Perch fishing at Font Lake, by such stalwarts as Perry Gatliff, Ed Ladd, and Father Herbert, produced some fish over a pound. Minnows worked best, although Ed Ladd swore by canned corn. Bill and Dennis Wagner trapped five beaver, one weighing 56 pounds. Pelts were running between $12 and $75.

Rita Gillespie was instrumental in reviving square dancing here, with Wednesdays set aside for young kids and Fridays for older kids and adults. Jewell and Ed Palmer provided the music.

A Beaver Tale related the story of early mail boats, beginning with Big Continued on page 12, see On This Date.
On This Date, continued from page 11.
Neil Gallagher’s Joe, which started her run in 1900. Big Neal ran her to ports as far north as Cross Village, as well as to Petoskey and Charlevoix, but after two years she was replaced by the Beaver, followed by the City of Boyne. Built of wood in Grand Haven in 1883 and christened the May Blossom, she was bought by Oscar Wilbur of Charlevoix. He put her on daily runs from Charlevoix to Boyne City in 1900, but she took over the Beaver Island run when the Beaver was destroyed by fire in 1904. She was run by the Roen brothers until 1916.

Father Donahoe was said to have the most complicated maple syrup apparatus of those tapping trees, which included Dave Gladish, Ed Ladd, and the Kenwabikises.

Pat Nelson said she disagreed with Nine Cabins went up for sale.

Father Donahoe was said to have the recent rescinding of the regulations controlling discharges of boats’ sewage. She felt we had come a long way towards cleaning up the Great Lakes, and it would be a shame to ease off now.

The March of Dimes netted $248.

The Sundew arrived to break ice in the harbor.

The Civic Association took advantage of new printing equipment to create its own brochures, a 3-fold mailed out with boat schedules and also placed in many roadside information centers.

The Beachcomber and the Cloud Nine Cabins went up for sale.

Forty Years Ago The winter in 1965 was unusually warm, with half of February’s days in the 30s or 40s. Yet the month ended with 10" of snow on the ground. Rabbit hunting was so good that an article about it appeared in Michigan Beverage News. An article on the Island by Burgess Scott appeared in the Ford Times. And Walt Disney’s Comics contained a picture of the Island Post Office and Frank Nackerman’s stove (Frank was also crowned King at the Mardi Gras Ball, at which he wore a Spanish dancer’s costume.)

Erwin Martin reported seeing 44 turkeys at the airport, prompting Walt and Vera Wojan to drive out and take some pictures. Fishermen were

Flying to School

To the east of us, just east of Mackinac Island, lies Bois Blanc Island in the Straits of Mackinac, a five mile, 40 minute ferry ride from Cheboygan. It’s about 34 square miles, 12 miles by six at its widest point, averaging 3 miles wide. There are 25 year-around residents and over 150 who come as soon as the boats start running and stay until winter. Perhaps 1500 people are there in the summer. The island is so large and wooded that most people disappear into the trees.

There are no hotels on the island, and no organized campgrounds. And the school is only good through the 8th grade. So when someone like 17-year-old Rich Ross decides to live here, he has to make arrangements to get to school in nearby Cheboygan. Luckily, his step-father is Dale Hoffman, owner/operator of the island’s flying service. It’s a five-minute flight (for which everyone else pays $50 one way–Hoffman averages 4 trips a day in his 4-passenger single-engine plane), and so far this winter Rich has only missed four days. As one might expect, the young man is taking flying lessons–so he won’t have to make Hoffman get up for a 7:00 a.m. flight every day.

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reminded to bring in their shanties before the ice became unsafe.

A Box Social was held to raise money for the burgeoning Youth Center. Bill Wagner and Lawrence McDonough auctioned off the box lunches, and Sandy LaFreniere won the prize for prettiest box. The three seniors at the school were awarded a free dinner at the Circle M, Pauline Keenabikis, Glen LaFreniere, and Ed Wojan (who was named president of the Youth Council.) $172 was raised, more than enough to buy a new record player.

Parties were planned for March 13th in Chicago and Lansing. On the Island a card party was announced for March 17th to help improve the Parish Hall kitchen.

Notice was given to dog owners that it was “unlawful for a dog to molest, harass, or annoy any game bird or animal during its closed season.”

Passings noted included Charles LaBologna, 76, who spent 14 years of his childhood on the Island, Jack Burke, and Joseph ‘Sam’ Dunlevy.

Fifty Years Ago The Beacon reported on the Civic Association’s annual meeting, at which Frank Nackerman was named president, replacing Jewell Gillespie. The Civic’s membership drive had netted $996.

Once Stanley Burns and Edgar O’Donnell broke the ice by bringing in TVs (for Pat Bonner and Father Giles), others followed suit, and there were thought to be at least 20 sets in operation, pulling in 9 channels.

Three lumber camps were in operation, managed by Walt Wojan, Lawrence McDonough, and James Gallagher, using horse-drawn sleighs to move logs and employing about a dozen men.

Sunday afternoons were occupied with basketball, with six teams captained by Hubery McCauley, Roland Cull, Jerry LaFreniere, Margie Martin, Tillie Schmidt, and Rosie McDonough. Gary McDonough was the top scorer.

Chuck Kleinhennz and Karl Kuebler shot a fox at Lookout Point, and another party of Islanders bagged two coyotes on a hunt.

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Darrell Anthony 1959–2005

Darrell James Anthony, 45, of Beaver Island, died Saturday, February 19, 2005, on Beaver Island.

Darrell was born on June 7, 1959 in South Haven, the son of Donald Anthony and Alvina Cornstalk. He attended Holy Childhood School in Harbor Springs, and L.C. Mohr High School in South Haven.

Darrell, who had been living on Beaver Island, had worked as a commercial fisherman. He loved music, playing his guitar, and drawing cartoons. He especially loved a nice sunny day.

Darrell is survived by his son, Donald Amos Anthony, III, of Marcelona; mother, Alvina Cornstalk of Beaver Island; father, Donald (Vicki) Anthony of Saint Ignace; brother, Brian J. (Diane) Anthony of East Jordan; sisters, Donzell S. Anthony of Beaver Island, Teresa M. (Fabian “Sonny”) Wabanimkee of South Haven, and Daneen A. Anthony of East Jordan. His brother, Donald Amos Anthony, II, preceded him in death in 1977.

A funeral was held Monday, February 21, at the Winchester Funeral Home in Charlevoix, the Reverend Francis Partridge officiating. Burial will be in Brookside Cemetery, Charlevoix.
B-ballers win Championship

On February 4th the Beaver Island basketball team put its undefeated record on the line when it hosted Mackinac Island, hoping to earn a league championship. This is a storied rivalry, with roots in the struggle for economic supremacy in the 1850s, a time when furious emotions led to confiscations, false charges, and almost war. When our b-ball program began twenty or so years ago, wins were very rare, and never occurred against Mackinac Island. They were always bigger, stronger, more experienced, and played with the confidence—and swagger—generated by a long history of winning.

Now times have changed. Mackinac Island’s year-around population has shrunk to about 350, and their school has under 70 students—the very rich have been buying and combining properties, reducing the base. We had already beaten them earlier in the year. But when they took the court for warm-ups after our volleyball team had shown its skill and teamwork by beating theirs three straight times (never letting them score more than 16) to win the Volleyball Championship, some in the packed audience were brought up short when they saw that the three tallest hoopsters all played for the other side.

The game started off as a back-and-forth trading of baskets, with the score frequently tied. We pulled ahead, but then one of their guards, the shortest and youngest player on the court, began hitting 3s, and they eased ahead. Our team, unused to being behind, got nervous, and suddenly we were behind by 6, 8, and then 10 as the Lakers scored 14 straight. During a time-out coach Mike Meyers reminded his charges how they had gotten this far, and they returned with a new determination. Luck too helped, with the breaks swinging towards us as the gap narrowed.

By the middle of the second half the
game was tied, but then we pulled away. We opened an 8-point lead with 5 minutes left, but couldn't hold it. One of their forwards was fouled on a 3 and calmly hit all 3 free throws; a moment later, it was tied again. At the end they had time for one desperate shot. Everyone’s stomach flip-flopped as they threw up a prayer. It clanged away, and the teams prepared for overtime. Coach Myers, the only person in the gym not to lose his composure, imparted a calm confidence to his team, and after giving up the first basket the Islanders methodically took control, building a 6-point lead— which was 4 at the buzzer. We were the champs.

With the championship in hand, the coach played his subs (13 Islanders got into the game) the following morning, and the Beaver Island team lost its first game, 59-56 (a last-second potentially-tying 3 banged off.) Connie Boyle’s well-coordinated volleyball machine lost on Saturday, in five sets, so both teams secured league championships while picking up their first loss. The Islanders were also soccer champs, so this year’s teams won the Triple Crown.

The BICS girls’ volleyball team (Emma Adams, Melissa Bailey, Caitlin Boyle, Danielle Cary, Leaha Cary, Emily Gray, Brenna Green, Christine McDonough, Samantha Kuligoski, Bailey Mcdonough, Andrea Moore, Melissa Peters, Krystle Timsak, and Hannah Connor) took part in a tournament in Engadine in mid-February, losing to Engadine, winning against Gran Marais, and splitting with Pickford.

The following weekend the V- and B-ballers (Eric Albin, John Albin, Jimmy Gillespie, Kevin Gillespie, Brenden Martin, Justin Martin, Brett Maudrie, Rita Palmer, Dan Runberg, John Runberg, Corey Sowa, Keith Szczepanski, and Jared Wojan) journeyed to Hannahville, where they won all four matches.
The King and his Wives

Beaver Island’s King Strang was the protagonist in a play that had 8 sold-out performances in Traverse City’s Old Town Playhouse in February, Anne-Marie Oomen’s Wives of an American King. Briefly sketching the historic facts of James Jesse Strang’s abbreviated life, the play was more interested in depicting the inevitable tensions that had to have developed in the Beaver Island ruler’s not-so-cozy expanded family. Responding to the familiar criticism that everyone knows what Strang did but no one knows what it means, the play did a fine job of making these distant and strange characters come to life so the 80 audience members sitting in the OTP’s lower-level theater could get past the layers of cliché normally clouding these events, and see and judge for themselves.

Many Strang commentators are squeamish about accusing him of being a charlatan, since they don’t know for sure that he forged Joseph Smith’s signature or fabricated the heavenly plates. This play also did not accuse him, but made that a moot point by taking his criminality for granted—but depicting him as never allowing himself to admit this, not even to himself. Instead it showed him using his charismatic arguing skill to convince doubting followers that the truth was not all that apparent to their eyes. OTP president Phil Murphy played Strang to perfection, expressing the nuances of his behavior with his entire being and gradually expanding the power of his delivery to increase the dramatic intensity. The audience reacted as if 150 years had been swept away and they could see that this almost-mythical personage was not just a charlatan, but someone obsessed with following his early vision to its logical conclusion, wherever that led.

The five able actresses playing Strang’s wives did double duty, also donning trousers and hats to play various men as the two-hour performance shifted from scene to scene. During these shifts one of them, the vampish

Chili Cook-Off

Does your chili recipe have what it takes to be the Island’s best? Sample them all on 3-10 from 5:30 to 7:00 at Peaine Township Hall. Call Diane McDonough at (231) 448-2164 to enter a chili in the contest!

In the Snow

This has been a fine, fine winter so far for outdoor sports. With daytime temperatures fairly consistently in the 20s, and several inches of snow, many residents and visitors are taking the opportunity to get out and walk, ski, or snowmobile to parts of the Island not normally seen. There have been several snowmobile caravans, some with 20 sleds, and much work has been done to open trails. The turkeys are enjoying this winter as well.
Bonnie Diegh, sometimes appeared as a kind of narrator, speaking to the audience to suggest differing interpretations, usually through facial expressions that belied the words. At the onset Elvira alone appears (played as a romantic intellectual by Michelle Perez), working on a forge in a confused attempt to fashion brass; this scene is repeated, with a gradually dawning realization: she is making a brass plate of her own, to counter what Strang claims has been prophesized by the plates he had found.

In this reading of these events, first wife Mary reveals her devastation at learning of Strang’s decision to take another wife—which Strang insists is not his will, but God’s—warning Elvira that Strang is not who she thinks. This scene is paralleled by Elvira’s hurt and dismay when Strang takes the spinster Betsy as his third bedmate. Teenage fifth wife Phoebe admits she’s joined the menage for all the fine trappings accompanying his position of power.

Highly-respected director Jeanette Mason was able to elevate this complex drama (even the occasionally superfluous moving of the furniture was choreographed sufficiently to become a dramatic component) into a well-oiled machine that hummed along with multiple tensions. The attention to detail was superb, with cues at several levels adding to the cumulative force. Author Oomen, the head of Interlochen’s creative writing program, attended every rehearsal, making adjustments to the script—on which she’d already spent five years. Changes continued to be made through the early presentations; a challenge to the actors, but Oomen is dedicated to drawing ever closer to the elusive truth, to establishing the proper blend of philosophy, power hunger, and lust. The various aspects of this fine performance worked together to give everyone present an improved understanding of this all-too-human tragedy.

With any luck it will be performed again—right here on Beaver Island.

Museum Week Changed to July 11-16

Because of schedule conflicts, Museum Week’s main activities will be held the week of July 11 –16: Music on the Porch; the Nature Walks; the Art Show and Pet Show; and the evening presentations. The Celtic Games will still be held on July 23rd, and discussions are underway to see if other events might be staged in the week following July 11th to 16th.

St. Patrick’s Day

Don’t miss the storied Beaver Island St. Patrick’s Day Games on March 19th on main Street and at the Shamrock Bar and Grill.

Counting Wolves

Brian Mastenbrook of the DNR, a frequent visitor to Beaver Island’s Wildlife Club, has been put in charge of the NE LP wolf count.
Karen Whitecraft: Balancing Two Worlds

Observers of the burgeoning Beaver Island art scene like to point out the difficulty of making a living as an artist here because of the short tourist season. Granted, it’s difficult, but not impossible—as long as other cards are brought to the table. Jeweler and stained glass maker Karen Whitecraft’s recent career reads like a ‘How-to book’ on one way this trick can be mastered.

Karen always knew she wanted to be an artist, from as far back as she can remember. Growing up in Dearborn Heights, her Ad Exec father supported her choice, so long as she followed his rules: get a degree in your chosen field first. So she started in studying fine art at Central Michigan University, spending her first two years sketching and painting in all her spare time. But life called, and the academic approach did not offer enough freedom, so when a friend offered her a job as receptionist in a hair salon, she took it.

A year later, after graduating from cosmetology school and becoming licensed, a friend invited her to help run a hair salon in Grand Rapids. After two years her partner moved on, and she became the sole owner of Scizzors. Ten years later she sold the salon and began to look for a better outlet for her creativity, and was led to the healing arts of massage therapy, which she learned in a rigorous year of training.

Then Claudia Schmidt came to town for a concert. They met, and became friends, and Karen became privy to a constant stream of blessings about a wonderful island in northern Lake Michigan: Beaver. Invited up to see Bill and Claudia’s new Bluebird B & B, she fell in love with the ambiance here. Back in GR, she decided to list her home, but at such a high price that it selling would be like an order to move north—the Realtor didn’t want to accept the listing, but relented, and then was flabbergasted when it sold within three days.
Having fallen in love with the Island during numerous visits, she rented a house in St. James while looking for land. Claudia helped there too, selling her ten acres on Darkeytown Road. Karen put up a 8’ x 8’ studio, and with workbench, cot, and cat in hand moved in. She concentrated on her jewelry, which she began selling at Livingstone Studio.

After a successful first season she met Jayne Bailey, who asked to be her apprentice and work towards becoming a fully-licensed hairdresser. Judy Lanier saw the possibilities, and came to Karen and Jayne with an idea. Thus EastWind Spa was born.

Now she works 50+ hours a week in the summer, primarily doing massage (most customers come back year after year) but has the off-season to work on her jewelry and stained glass. As with everything she takes on, she quickly mastered the techniques—so much so that she was asked to teach a class at the BICS. Between visits to various gem shows she creates custom jewelry, some on commission, or makes stained glass pieces, such as doors and windows; people might bring her a wooden door, approve a preliminary sketch, and come back for the completed and installed panel—for as little as $500.

Wanting to contribute to the community that adopted her, now that she’s added a home and a studio to her original shed, she joined the EMS—her massage therapy training sensitized her to the body’s needs. “I wanted something that wasn’t political,” she said. “It started out great, but then I was elected to be the EMS rep on the BIRHC Board.” She also has a role in the play being presented by the Beaver Island Players. Asked if it was hard to make a living here, she said, “At times. But do I feel blessed? Absolutely! I’ve got the best of both worlds, which I don’t think would be possible anywhere other than on this Emerald Isle.”
Adrian VanderLinde 1923–2005

Resting peacefully, Adrian went to be with our Lord on Friday, February 18, 2005. He was born September 9, 1923 in Kalamazoo, the son of Adrian T. and Cornelia VanderLinde, now deceased. As a young man, he spent a year at Kalamazoo College. He later won a national scholarship competition to attend the Academy of Aeronautics in New York. Adrian enlisted in the Air Force, graduating in December 1944 as a Second Lieutenant, and was stationed at Lowry Field, Denver, CO, as a B-52 Flight Engineer Instructor.

Adrian was a committed Christian and community leader, and a successful businessman, serving as president of Kalamazoo Printing Machinery Company for his entire career. He was active in Milwood and Third Christian Reformed Churches, and the Beaver Island Christian Church.

Adrian was an avid and accomplished photographer, with his work treasured by family and friends. Adrian continued to love airplanes and flying, earned a private pilot’s license and later volunteered as a docent at the Kalamazoo Air Zoo. Adrian was an avid music lover and enjoyed music with his entire family. Adrian dearly loved his family.

Preceding Adrian in glory are Thomas and Caroline VanderSlik, Alvin and Krina VanderSlik, and son-in-law, The Rev. Dewey VanDenBerg. He is survived by his wife, Eleanor (VanderSlik) and together they recently celebrated their 60th Wedding Anniversary on December 30. His children include Marlene (David) Bierenga of Kalamazoo; Nancy (Craig) Corey of Severance, CO; Julie VanDenBerg of Holland; and Deborah (The Rev. Mickey) Blair of Port Huron. He is also survived by brother Gerald (Betty) VanderLinde of Chelsea; sister Marian Clark of Kalamazoo; brother-in-law, Julius (Cornelia) VanderSlik; sisters-in-law, Evelyn (Paul) Davis, Arlene Broekema, and many nieces and nephews.

A service remembering Adrian’s life and faith was held in Kalamazoo.

Island Students make Dean’s Lists

Word came from Northwestern Michigan College that Adam Martin, son of Bud and Colleen, was named to the Dean’s List for the Fall 2004 semester. He earned this honor by keeping his GPA over 3.5 as he studies mechanics at the college in Traverse City.

And Courtney Moore, daughter of Joe and Phyllis Moore of Beaver Island, is on CMU’s (where she is a senior) Dean’s List for the Fall 2004 semester.
BIHS Receives $25k Grant

Thanks in large part to Island resident, artist, and fisherman Skip Duhamel, and to Ernie Martin, the Beaver Island Historical Society received its largest financial contribution ever, a $25,000 grant from the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians. The grant will allow the BIHS to act on and complete its long-deferred plan of building a period-style roof over the two wooden fish boats mounted on fieldstone cribbing outside the Marine Museum.

Work commenced on this project in the fall but had to be curtailed when the weather dipped and screamed in early December. The BIHS Board had voted to provide a third of the roof’s cost (estimated at $37,500) from its General Fund, but would not have been able to continue without this grant, part of the Tribe’s 2% distribution of gaming revenue. The BIHS intends to apply for other grants to move this project further along. The next stage will involve turning the roof into an actual building, with walls, a floor, and wiring, and then starting the restoration of the Bob S. The BIHS hopes the restoration can be done in a teaching setting, with apprentices learning the art of traditional boat building from a master.

Pat Burris 1931–2005

Patricia Ann Burris, 73 died Wednesday, February 9, 2005, at her home on Beaver Island. The Funeral was held Saturday, February 12, at the Beaver Island Christian Church, with the Reverend Howard Davis officiating. Burial will take place in the spring at the Beaver Island Cemetery.

Pat was born March 20, 1931, in Ingham County to Fines M. and Elizabeth Ann (Skidmore) Isbell. She married Richard Burris on February 23, 1962, in Lapeer, where they made their home until moving to Beaver Island in 1973. Pat was a wonderful mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother. She is survived by her daughter, Sandy (Perry) Fortier of Petoskey; grandchildren, Amy (David) Hansen of Petoskey, Renee (Clement) Morais of Alanson, Jeremy Fortier of Sault Ste. Marie, Holly J. (James Thomas) Burris of Charlevoix, Derrick A. Burris of Beaver Island, Patrick M. Burris of Beaver Island; great-grandchildren, Michael, Steven, and Andrew Hansen, Sophia Morais, Elijah, Chandler Thomas, Skylar and James; her former husband, Richard Burris of Beaver Island; step-daughter, Susan (Glenn) Forster; and step-sons, Daniel, Roger, and Arnold Burris. Pat was preceded in death by her daughter, Sherry Lyn Burris on May 17, 2004.

Memorial gifts may be directed to the Beaver Island Christian Church, Beaver Island, Mich. 49782, where friends met the family from 6-8:00pm on Friday. Winchester Funeral Home in Charlevoix is serving the family.
After almost four years of inactivity, the Beaver Island Community Players sprang back into action in late February with two performances of a light mystery–made comic by the talents of the cast. Six elderly women (Beth Croswhite, John Fiegen, Abby Fogarty, Lisa Gillespie, Brenna Green, and Donna Stambaugh) live in a rooming house across the street from a strapping Irish cop (Bill McDonough), who enjoys shirtless exercise. They would like to know him better, and realize the only way to bring this about is to host a murder, which he would have to investigate. Sure enough, when one turns up dead from arsenic poisoning, he pays a call, but when he and his helper (Bob Bass) fail to
solve it, he leaves. Disappointed, they call a reporter (Karen Whitecraft), who turns out to be a woman—and one who also notices the detective’s charm. They want her to embarrass him into resuming his investigation, but she’s not immune to his charms and plays it differently, threatening to rake him over the coals if he doesn’t respond. A second murder is needed to bring him back, but this time a telltale clue is left and he deduces the culprit’s identity.

Director Jaque LaFreniere infused the cast with near-perfect timing, and the furious exchange of one-liners was greatly enjoyed by the 125 people who came to the shows. This success should lead to new performances soon!
From Snow Storm to Sunshine – The True Connection
by Frank Solle

The weather report on the radio is calling for the first winter storm of February to arrive before morning. Eight to ten inches of snow is possible, finally rescuing us from the false sense of spring that has teased us for too many weeks since the new year began.

Winter, as it should, is about to return. Gas up the snowblower. Dust off the snowshoes. Split some extra kindling for the stove. Lay in supplies. But wait.

Following the weather report is a sports update. Pitchers and catchers are due to report to spring training in both Florida and Arizona tomorrow. On the cusp of the return of winter comes the promise of spring. And summer. And hope.

For some people – those odd few who are not fans of America’s pastime, or, more specifically, anyone who may be married to me – February marks the low point of what that wild, Upper Peninsula poet/writer, t.k. splake (the lower case is mandatory), terms ‘the long white.’ Winter’s gray skies lower the spirit with the weight of cold and the lack of sun. So, to compensate, they run away to warmer and sunnier climes. Or they may use their restless energies to rearrange furniture or plan home improvements.

But these, at best, are temporary solutions. Reparations. For the vacationer returns, often just in time for a winter event such as the one in our current forecast. The furniture gets moved, but is still the same. Improvements are planned, but not yet carried out.

Yet even the other odd few – those such as myself – who embrace winter and its accompanying snow and cold and ice and gray, even we need something beyond the long white, a promise to anticipate, to look forward to, to mark the passing of time as the sameness of the season continues, even while we continue to celebrate all that winter holds.

Many here, it’s true, look to St. Patrick’s Day for such, shall I dare say, relief, and hope that what now has become a long weekend celebration is surrounded and centered in a burst of spring-like weather. But while this festive rite is, in part, meant to mark the advent of spring, it is still the middle of March and winter’s grip can likely tighten before beginning its gradual loosening. And once Sunday has come and gone the party is over – it’s Monday, and winter, again.

No, hope and promise need more than a balmy cruise, a shuffle of sofas, or a blurry binge on which to hang their hats if they are to truly fulfill their roles. They need baseball. And that’s what February provides.

Somehow, through strikes and lock-outs, through steroids and big money, and through all the bad press professional sports have earned over the past decade, the start of baseball’s training period still reaches into my heart and stirs that primordial question of what if.

Call it a weakness. Call it a crutch. Call it the timeless yearning of my inner little boy. But as anyone who has ever roamed the vast expanse of outfield grass under a sunny summer sky knows – call it.

Call it the permanent implant of that first glorious glimpse of infield from the runway under the seats at old Tiger Stadium. It was 1966 and Joe Christie was attempting to win over his 12-year-old, soon-to-be stepson–me. It was a double-header against Boston. It was Free Cap day. It was Al Kaline and Willie Horton and Bill Freehan and Norm Cash and Mickey Lolich and Denny McLain and ... I could name them all, heroes and legends from radio and TV, live, in person, on that field so intense and brilliant in color. My own field of dreams.

Call it an October night in 1972 and a group of fans listening to the radio in a dorm room at North Central Michigan College in Petoskey. Realizing one more win would clinch the division and send the Tigers to the post season, we loaded into a car at midnight and motored to Motown. Arriving just after 6:00 a.m., we dropped two people in the dormitory under the seats at old Tiger Stadium. It was 1966 and Joe Christie was attempting to win over his 12-year-old, soon-to-be stepson–me. It was a double-header against Boston. It was Free Cap day. It was Al Kaline and Willie Horton and Bill Freehan and Norm Cash and Mickey Lolich and Denny McLain and ... I could name them all, heroes and legends from radio and TV, live, in person, on that field so intense and brilliant in color. My own field of dreams.

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arrived in Detroit a day early in order to take in a game. My old Northern Michigan University roommate, Tom Graupmann, provided tickets and transportation, and we sat high above home plate as the Tigers dropped an extra-inning affair to Baltimore. We toasted my first trip to the venerable park and the venerable man who took me there.

Since then there’s been other baseball-related experiences as well. A quick trip from Montana to Seattle for a Yankee-Mariners game (Jimmy Key versus Randy Johnson – two great lefties in their prime) just a week before the inner roof of the old King Dome began raining down on unsuspecting fans. Two trips to Milwaukee to the new Miller Park ensued during our time in the U.P., complete with press passes, taking the experience to a new level. Saying hello to Bob Uecker. Interviewing former Yooper Dick Pole about his 30-some years in the game. Talking the business of baseball for 45 minutes with the media coordinator of the Montreal Expos in the visiting dugout during pre game batting practice. Enjoying the perks and the view from the press box.

And last summer a three-game stint at Comerica, again from the vantage of press row, where, in a moment of euphoria, I shook hands and chatted briefly with Al Kaline, idol of my youth; it was as though baseball had come full circle, as had I.

Now the Tigers have signed closer Troy Percival, reliever Kyle Farnsworth, and outfield all-star Magglio Ordonez. And with Trammel and Gibson and Parrish on staff, hope again springs eternal.

Will this be the year the Tigers return to respectability? Will they win more than they lose? Will they challenge for the division crown? These questions and more arise as players begin to report to spring training. And it is this unknown, this potential, this promise that helps pull some of us through the waning months of white.

As for the answers. Who knows? It’s still February on Beaver Island.

TWO SEASONS
Snow upon snow upon more snow; the weight of winter.

Spring will arrive just soon enough; the wait of winter.
Fighting Invasive Species

Last year many East Side residents became very concerned with what they found growing on their beach. This problem occurred all over Michigan, which would be better protected against invasive plant species like Eurasian milfoil and hydrilla under legislation recently introduced in the Michigan Senate, Sen. Jason Allen announced.

The bipartisan legislative package would:
- Identify prohibited insects and aquatic plant species;
- Prohibit the release and introduction of certain insects and aquatic plant species;
- Amend the Natural Resources and Protection Act to recognize the existence of and prohibit genetically engineered or non-native aquatic plants;
- Require the Department of Natural Resources to post requirements and penalties on their website; and
- Establish a Non-native Species Advisory Council and specify duties of the council.

The Advisory Council would establish criteria for identifying infested waterways and make recommendations regarding the State’s efforts to eradicate invasive species. The council also would report annually to the Legislature with recommendations for additions to the lists of invasive species and infested waterways.

This legislation is similar to prohibitions put in place last year to protect Michigan’s waterways from invasion by non-native fish species.

The Great Lakes Conservation Task Force Report of 2002 made broad recommendations for important steps that the State should take to protect our water quality. One of the most important recommendations was to implement laws that will guard against further invasion of both non-native fish and plants.

The bills in the package are Senate Bills 211-217. For the status and analysis of bills introduced in the Michigan Legislature, you may visit the website www.michiganlegislature.org.

Talent Show: 3-11

Like many other events, this year’s Talent Show has been moved to March 11th at 7:30, at the Holy Cross Parish Hall. The Hurkmans will again help.

Maintenance Man needed

Upon the resignation of the Townships’ maintenance man, Peaine and St. James began looking for a replacement. This is a full-time permanent position, and includes medical insurance and the use of the Townships’ truck. The position requires general knowledge of plumbing, electrical, carpentry, welding, painting, mechanical, heavy equipment operation and maintenance, record keeping, report making, and knowledge of electronics and computers.

The maintenance man will be responsible for the sewer system, street lighting, sprinkler system, bubblers system, sound system, town clock (which is never right), porta-johns, snow fences, street signs, sidewalks, parks and campgrounds, swimming beaches, government buildings, and more.

Interested candidates should send their resume, outlining their experience and salary requirements, to John Works Jr. And Don Vyse, Post Office Box 85, Beaver Island MI 49782.

The deadline for applications is March 31st. Follow-up interviews will be conducted on Beaver Island.
Letters to the Editor:  
Tree cutting

Two days ago I saw where someone has made shallow cuts around several trees along the roadside on West Side Road. I saw nine trees girded in that manner and one (actually, three smaller trees on one stump) cut completely down and taken away.

These trees do not know it yet but they are dead. Their efforts to leaf out in the spring will be in vain and the island will be a little less beautiful. Because of this act of destruction, and of some conversations I have had with others on this subject, I would like to make the following points.

1.) The road and the adjoining shoulders are not public land. The road is a right-of-way across private land. The trees, rocks etc. thereon are the property of the landowner.

2.) The landowner has the right to harvest the trees on his property or let them die and rot as he sees fit. Except as regulated by the Natural Beauty Roads Act as it pertains to West Side Road, no one else has the right to question his judgment in this matter. The Island does not “belong to all of us.” That part of it belongs to him. No one has the right to cut or remove live or dead trees from his land without his permission. There is no difference between your killing his tree and killing his cat or dog. There is no difference between taking his tree and taking one of his tools from his shop. There is no difference between walking in his woods without his permission and walking through his living room. This is not an opinion. This is a moral fact.

I have heard people lament the appearance of the land posting signs around the island. If you people would get point two through your heads and into your actions, the signs would not be necessary.

Last summer, thousands of feet of timber were taken off the island. There are hundreds of acres of woods with tops rotting in them. These tops are easily gotten to in most cases. I believe that if asked, at least some of these landowners would allow these tops to be cleaned up and used for firewood.

If you are too selfish to respect the rights of the landowner, too lazy to make arrangements to access the wood back away from the roadway, too shortsighted to cut your wood ahead of the heating season, you deserve to be cold.

– Willard Detwiler

(The trees in question are on West Side Road near the road which goes into Dan Burton’s property, and South of Young James Trail about 1/8 mile. The ones cut and removed are just south of Fox Lake Road on the right.)

Who will be this year’s Citizen of the Year?

The Beaver Island Chamber of Commerce Citizen of the Year Banquet will be held at Stoney Acre Grill on Saturday, April 23rd. There’s seating for only 80, so Chamber Director Steve West suggests reserving early for the gourmet delights being planned by Liam and Marilyn Racine - call (231)448-2560.

Nomination forms can be obtained from www.beaverisland.org or by calling the Chamber at (231) 448-2505. The deadline is April 4th – so don’t miss your chance to nominate someone special – every vote counts, so get your nomination to the Chamber today!
Golden Wedding Anniversary

Harold and Rosemary Smith of Canton, Michigan celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on January 15. They attended Mass at St. John Neumann Church with their family. Their children and grandchildren participated in the Mass by singing, reading, playing music, serving as altar boy, and bringing up the gifts. After Mass they had a family dinner at Sandtraps on 5 Banquet Room in Livonia. Dinner was followed by entertainment provided by various family members.

Father Joseph Herp married Harold and Rosemary at Holy Cross Church on Beaver Island on January 15, 1955. The church was up in the country then, alongside the cemetery. It was a snowy, blustery day. The weather was so bad that a kind soul worked during the entire ceremony to shovel a path from the church to their car so “the bride wouldn’t have to walk in the snow.” The wedding breakfast was held at the Beaver Lodge. Rosemary’s parents, Frank and Grace Nackerman, hosted an afternoon reception at their home.

Rosemary grew up on Beaver Island and graduated from Saint James High School in 1952. She met Harold when she was a student nurse and he was her patient at Mount Carmel Mercy Hospital in Detroit. He was a young Detroit policeman who had been directing traffic and was hit by a drunk driver.

After a short courtship Harold and Rosemary were married and made their home in Detroit for twenty-five years. They had five children: Terry, Shawn, Sandi, Shannon, and Shari. Sandi passed away at the age of fifteen and is buried in Holy Cross Cemetery.

They now have ten granddaughters, three grandsons and one great-granddaughter. The family spends time on Beaver Island every summer, staying in the Nackerman apartment above the Post Office and at the Nackerman family farm (a Centennial Farm) on Darkeytown Road, keeping it, and, just off the wrap-around porch, Michigan’s largest ironwood, in good shape.
Island Writer wins Award

In recent years Beaver Island resident and master quilter Gwen Marston has eased back in her seminars here, and is not so much in the local public eye. But in the greater world her reputation has continued to grow—to the point where this year her recent book on fellow quilter and friend Mary Schafer was named one of Michigan’s Notable Books for 2005.

This book, Mary Schafer, American Quilt Maker, recounts the life of the person most responsible for the 1970s revival of American quilting. Mary was born in Hungary in 1910, came to Kansas, and moved to Flint in 1952, the year she made her first quilt. She began winning blue ribbons in 1970, gave her first workshop the following year, and began her extensive public speaking. Gwen met her in 1977; they hit it off, collaborated on projects; and in 1980 Gwen published a catalogue of Mary’s work. From then on her work received accolades wherever it was shown around the country, and museums began staging retrospectives of her work.

Gwen has published over fifteen books on quilting, among her many other books. Her Mary Schafer is extensively illustrated, with over 100 photographs and 10 quilt patterns. Gwen’s text shows how Mary Schafer’s unflagging efforts to popularize quilting was largely responsible for reviving interest in this traditional folk art. Gwen depicts her as a down-to-earth scholar who was devoted to her craft, to undertaking proper research, to striving for historical accuracy, and to expanding public awareness of this art. This excellent book clearly establishes Gwen Marston as one of the leaders in this growing field.
One Hundred Years Ago
by Joyce Bartels

Charlevoix Sentinel March 2, 1905

**Beaver Island News:** “Hugh E. Boyle who has been quite sick for a part of the winter is much better.”

“Mrs. L. McCafferty gives the Washington Birthday Ball this year. Dancing at the Gallagher Hall and supper at the Beaver Hotel.”

“Beaver Island voters wish to congratulate Judge Maybe on his unanimous renomination for the Judgeship of Wm. J. Gallagher of Escanaba, Mr. Conter, W. J. Gallagher and Rev. Fr. Gratudate Judge Maybe on his unanimous renomination for the Judgeship of the 13th Judicial Court.”

“Mr. and Mrs. Donlevy gave a Whist party at their home on Monday evening. W. J. Gallagher won first prize and Mrs. Donlevy the consolation.”

“Trout fishing is fine these days. Mat Jensen landed 17 nice ones last Monday. Isadore LaCroix held the palm for trout spearing. In three days he speared four hundred pounds of trout worth 6 cents a pound.”

“Geo. Sisco, the head sawyer at the B. I. L. Co. mill is evidently planning on running a mill of his own some time; the second one of his crew arrived Saturday Feb. 4 in time to eat dinner with him so he could go to work at 1 o'clock without losing any time. A fine boy weighing nine pounds.”

“Beaver Island has escaped the greater part of the severe cold reported in other parts of the country south of us, the mercury not registering more than 10 below zero and then only for a few hours. Reports from Morrow Bros. Camp at the head of the Island say they are doing a nice business this winter.”

Mrs. Katherine Gallagher, Beaver Island’s oldest inhabitant passed away last Friday, February 17, age 104 years. She is survived by four children: Capt. Owen Gallagher of the Beaver Island Life Saving Service, Capt. Neil Gallagher of Escanaba, Mrs. Con McCaulay and Mrs. James McCaulay both of the Island, besides a large number of grandchildren, great grandchildren and eight great great grandchildren. The funeral service took place Sunday morning at the Holy Cross church. Fr. Zugelder celebrating the Mass.”

“The annual King’s Dance celebrated by the Indians of this group of Islands was held Jan. 6th, at the home of one of the Indians on High Island. It is the custom at these dances for a banquet to be given by the same party who gives the dance, and a large cake containing three rings is served. The three men who happen to get rings in their cake are each expected to furnish the next supper and dance on the sixth day of the following three months till all three have had their turn. Jon Anderson gave the February dance at his home on High Island and judging from the reports of the Beaver Island contingent they must have had a high old time although no whiskey is allowed at these dances. The banquet is given from six to eight and the remainder of the evening is given over to tripping the light fantastic, which the Indians can do to perfection. Several whites joined in the festivities – John Vincent and wife of Garden Island, Fred Sendenberg and Francis McCafferty who are working on the Island this winter, W. J. Gallagher and Rev. Fr. Zugelder from St. James, although the latter couple did not go to attend the dance. Fr. Zugelder went over on that day for the purpose of saying Mass at the Indian Church the following morning, so the dance was a surprise to him, but we won’t vouch for Bowery as we have a private tip that he was floor manager at that dance.”

Northern Michigan Harbor Springs correspondent, Petosky News: “Mrs. William Boyle, of St. James, Mich., arrived here on Tuesday night to spend several weeks. Mrs. Boyle has been in poor health for some time and has come over here to take treatment. She is stopping with her brother, Mr. Thomas Linehan, and family.”

Charlevoix Sentinel, March 9, 1905

Local News: “Dr. and Mrs. Wilkinson, of St. James, arrived, called here by the critical illness of Mrs. Wilkinson’s father, James Blodgett. They made the ice route to Cross Village Sunday, having a very speedy and comfortable trip.”

**Beaver Island News:** “Born on Wednesday morning last to Mr. and Mrs. John Green an eleven pound girl.”

“The following morning Feb. 23, Mr. and Mrs. Plummer of the B. I. L. Co. camp had a newcomer - a six and a half pound girl.”

“The Masquerade Ball given Feb. 22 by Mr. and Mrs. L. McCafferty was a complete success socially and otherwise, one hundred and eight numbers being called. A bountiful supper was served at the Beaver Hotel at midnight.”

“Capt. Watts of the Beaver Queen is in St. James very ill with chronic valvular disease of the heart. He has been living in his boat all winter till recently which is hauled up on the ways in Indian Harbor, Garden Island.”
“On Monday morning the B. I. L. R. R. had quite a wreck. The cars were being pushed ahead of the engine when the front one left the track, before the locomotive could be stopped all the cars were piled up and three of them pretty badly smashed. Fortunately no one was hurt.”

“On Saturday Feb. 25, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Burke of Greenstown joined the procession and added another girl to the population, weighing ten pounds. We think this a sign of an early spring. Certainly good growing weather for girls right now. All mothers and daughters doing well.”

“Our mail men had quite a time getting back to the Beavers on Saturday’s trip. They came within a mile or so of the Island when they reached a crack in the ice too wide to cross. They followed along to the southward and before they could find a place possible to make a crossing, they were at the head of the Island. They reached Johnny Green’s camp about nine o’clock Saturday night where they spent the remainder of the night before coming home the following day. For the hazard they take we feel that our mail carriers do not get paid enough for their job.”

“Dr. and Mrs. Wilkinson gave a Kindergarten party for grown people to about thirty of their friends on Saturday evening. The “kids” had a great time playing ‘Ring around the Rosy,’ ‘Stage Coach,’ ‘Fire,’ ‘Ghost,’ etc. First and Second prizes were awarded by ballot to both ladies and gentlemen who topped up the best and acted the most kiddish. Mrs. Donlevy easily carried off the first honors among the ladies and Mr. W. J. Gallagher second. It only lacked one vote of being a tie among the gentlemen. Capt. Bonner winning out by one vote, John Stevens second. Shortly before 12 o’clock strawberry Sundays were served with fruit punch and the party got home in time for Sunday.”

Charlevoix Sentinel March 16, 1905 Beaver Island News: “The mill was forced to shut down this week until the weather moderates more and removes some of the snow off the r. r. track.”

“M. J. McCann and Oscar Martin, our worthy postmaster and barber respectively, went fox hunting recently but with the usual Beaver success—sly Reynard proving too cute for them.”

“A hard times dance last Monday night was well attended at Gallagher’s hall. M. J. Bonner was voted the worst looking hobo in the hall and Miss B. Boyle the worst among the ladies.”

“Mr. Fred Sendenbug closed up his winter’s work on High Island where he has been getting out timber for the B. I. L. Co. and moved his family and household stuff back on Wednesday last to his home in Beaver Harbor.”

“Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Donlevy gave a progressive party on Tuesday night to a score or more of their friends. W. B. Johnston won 1st prize for the gentlemen and Mrs. Minnie Gibson 2nd for the ladies. Capt. McCann and Mrs. Sophia Bonner won the consolation.”

“M. J. Bonner and wife gave a party Saturday evening to about 40 friends. Games and dancing occupied the guests till a late hour when an elegant lunch was served after which the guests departed for their homes feeling that the genial landlord and his lady were fully up to the standard of royal entertainers.”

“Mrs. A. M. Wilkinson received a message on Saturday afternoon stating the severe condition of her father in Charlevoix. The doctor procured a rig and with John Lighton and Frank Floyd two experienced ice navigators took his wife and two small children across the lake to Cross Village the following day where another rig was immediately pressed into service to take them to Petosky; here a third team drove them through to Charlevoix by 11:30 that night. Mrs. Wilkinson’s father was alive and conscious, but died less than two days later. Post mortem examination revealed a cancer of the liver as the principle cause of this last illness.”

Charlevoix Sentinel March 30, Local News: “Twenty five hundred bushels of seed peas will go to Beaver Island from the Ferry Co. this spring.”

“Dan T. Gallagher and John C. Leightnor, of Beaver Island, arrived here by way of Cross Village Tuesday. Mr. Gallagher comes after the State ballots, and Mr. Leightnor comes to ship as engineer of the fishing tug Knapp. They made the crossing with a team in 3½ hours, and met no bad ice. The mail carrier expects to make two more trips, one with horses and one with dogs.”

“St. James nominated Wm. J. Gallagher for supervisor, Raymond McDonald for clerk, James McCann for treasurer and John Floyd for highway commissioner. Peaine nominated Wm. D. Continued on page 32
One Hundred Years Ago, from page 31.
Gallagher for supervisor, Phil D. Gallagher for clerk, Daniel P. Boyle for treasurer, and Daniel D. Boyle for highway commissioner”

Beaver Island News: “Mallow Bros. have closed their camp for the winter. Mrs. H. W. Carpenter has been very ill during the past few days. Mr. and Mrs. V. V. McDonough of Sand Bay have moved to the harbor for the summer.”

“Mr. John King has bought the Joe Brown place and has moved his family into his new home.”

“Capt. Watts of the Beaver Queen is very low with heart disease, no hopes being held out for his recovery. Owen Gillespie has moved his family to the King cottage at the point where he will live this summer. The B. I. L. Co. mill and railroad began operation to their fullest capacity Wednesday morning last.”

“W. W. Boyle went to Harbor Spring last week to be with his wife who is very sick at the home of her brother at that place.”

“Jas. McCann and Sons, Martin Bros., and Jas. Gordon are all hard at work seaming twine and getting rigs ready for spring fishing.”

Bernadine Jouzapaitis
Catherine “Bernadine” (McCauley) Jouzapaitis, age 92, of Beaver Island, and member of Holy Cross Catholic Church, passed away February 15, 2005 in Winter Park, FL. She was born May 11, 1912 in Smyrna, Michigan.

Real Estate, For Sale:
FOR SALE BY OWNER: Attractive lot # 211; Font View Ct., 50’ hill included, trees, southern edge borders 30 acres of common-land on Font Lake, 500 ft. to water, end of cul-de-sac. Harbor close by, start of nature trails, $17,300. Land contractable. Call Mike at (917) 628-8263, or e-mail onthenews@aol.com
40 ACRES ON SLOPTOWN ROAD - Call Bud at (231) 448-2397.

WEST SIDE LAKE MICHIGAN LOTS (2) FOR SALE OR TRADE - Each offers beautiful sunsets, 4-5 wooded acres, 250’ frontage on Greiner’s Bay. Eight miles from town on Mrs. Redding’s Trail. Very deep and private. Land contract possible, and trades for SW Michigan income property considered. Contact owner Victor Dmitruk at (269) 207-2970 or villpsych@aol.com. For detailed description by autoresponder send blank email to info@villagepsych.com.

TWO LOTS IN THE PORT OF ST. JAMES for sale - wooded, buildable, 118 & 119 @ $20,000 each. Phone Julie at (616) 846-2637.

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 – 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

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

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

HARBOR-AREA HOUSE FOR SALE: 2-Story 2,688 sq. ft. house plus 2 car attached garage & full basement. 3 large bedrooms–master BR with private bath and walk-in closet, cathedral ceiling. 2 ½ baths. 2 decks. Approximately 1-acre corner lot. Peekaboo view of the Harbor. Potential for a bed and breakfast business. Asking: $245,000. Owners are licensed agents. Call Jackie at (231) 448-2342

“Hugh P. Boyle’s camp and John Green’s camp have both been abandoned for the winter on acct. of the soft weather. Capt. Peter Johnson of the Schr. Nellie Johnson is nearly through with a thorough overhauling of his boat which has been on the ways for over a year. Mr. Herman Allers left Friday to go to his work at Sleeping Bear Life Saving station. His family will leave here to join him on the opening of navigation.”

“Peaine township caucus also put in nomination the same ticket as last year with the exception of Dan D. Boyle Highway Commissioner to success Francis
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.

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

BEAVER ISLAND HARBOR LOT FOR SALE - Protected Harbor site: 60’ Lake frontage by 250’ deep. North of the Toy Museum. Call (231) 448-2391.

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

Help Wanted

The Beaver Island Lodge and Nina’s Restaurant have seasonal employment positions available.

Positions open include: Housekeeping, Laundry, Waitstaff, Table Bussers, Kitchen Staff and Dishwashers.

Please contact Ray or Nina at 448-2396.

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
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. mschroen@2amich.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
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

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)

HEAVENLY VIEW: Fully-furnished cabin located on the East Side of Beaver Island in Big Sand Bay. 320 feet of wide pure sand beach is great for swimming, walking, watching the Ferry. Screened porch facing lake, two picnic tables and grill. Sleeps 6. Prime weeks still available. (231) 448-2376 or cabin@emeraldislehotel.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 pgatliff@hotmail.com

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


DONEGAL BAY HOUSE FOR RENT - Nice wooded location. Two bedrooms. New kitchen. Summer: $675. Off-season $425. (269) 668-2763 or nprawat@yahoo.com

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Classifieds are $1 per line. Boxed classifieds with photo and website photo listing are $15/month. Call (231) 448-2476. beacon@beaverbeacon.com

The Convent in the Village

Beautiful Harbor View

Full Housekeeping Home
Sleeps 16 - 7 Bedrooms w/ sinks
Fully-equipped Kitchen
Beach Access
Great for Multi-Family Groups, Family Reunions, Business Retreats
Open Year Round
Weekly Rental in season
2-night minimum off-season

Call 448-2902 for more Information