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News from the Townships ................................................................. 4.
Island Generosity – $1731 raised for hurricane victims .................. 7.
Wildblue from Midwest Energy: better-than-ever out-of-town Internet .... 7.
Islanders kick off soccer season in style ........................................... 8.
On this Date ................................................................................... 10.
9th annual Labor Day weekend at Tara’s Meadow; Wildlife Club News .... 12.
Great weather, fast runners, fantastic food—another fun Bite & Boodle .... 16.
Beaver Island Community School welcomes three new teachers .......... 18.
The town comes out to watch the launch of the CISCO ...................... 20.
A trip to ... that other Island ......................................................... 24.
Death by Island, Episode Two ....................................................... 26.
Junk cars heading off Island ........................................................... 28.
One Hundred Years Ago ............................................................... 30.
BIRHC on the Upswing ............................................................... 36.

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

Beaver Beacon
the Island Monthly since 1955
Published by Paradise Bay Press
Beaver Beacon
P.O. Box 254
Beaver Island, MI 49782
(231) 448-2476
www.beaverbeacon.com

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News from the Townships

St. James Township

At the Sept. 7th Town Board meeting Supervisor Don Vyse announced that the project to clear trees east of the Municipal Airport had paid off. The FAA has awarded the Airport a large grant for a new snowplow truck and another to clear rocks and stumps in the newly-cleared land (the plan had been to let it grow wild and clear-cut it every ten years or so) and seed it.

New signs have been placed to prohibit parking on the east side of the southernmost block of Main Street.

After the Township warned people that they had to hook up to the sewer line, two people did so right away. In a related matter, a motion was passed authorizing “the Township employees and agents” to inspect sewer connections—which might also help determine where the required filters and traps are not being used.

A legal opinion came back on the Ordinance requested by Ellen Hill (and others) that would allow people with certain handicaps to use alternative vehicles on the streets. The attorney said the Township could enact such an ordinance, but warned that a number of questions relating to insurance would have to be answered.

Connie Wojan thanked the Board for supporting the BIRHC’s recent request for a grant from the GTB, which was awarded, and reported that it had made over $22,000 on the truck raffle, thanks to a late flurry of ticket buying.

Gerald LaFreniere and Ken Bruland informed the Board that the EMS could foresee serious financial problems in the near future. They said that the emergency runs are self-supporting, but providing stand-by help as is required has been very expensive. During the past year the EMS had to pull $6,500 out of its reserve fund to meet its obligation, and next year will be rougher because now they have to pay $3,400 a year for ambulance storage at the East Side Fire Hall and $2,400 for office space at the County Building. In addition to these new charges, they’ll have to provide lodging for any temporary paramedic they hire—because the BIRHC condo has been sold. The requirements for reports have gone up, so that paperwork that could be finished quickly before now takes two hours. And when a Coast Guard evacuation is needed, the EMS must provide the on-board Paramedic, who then must be housed at EMS expense, if the trip is at night, and flown back the next day.

There was considerable discussion of the EMS’s plight, and how important it is to make sure their operation is strengthened. One method, it was said, would be to get more money from the Townships—either by getting Peaine to levy 0.75 mil (as opposed to matching St. James’ total) or by getting St. James to raise its levy to a full mil. It became apparent that EMS’s long-
term survival might depend on establishing an Endowment Fund, much as the BIRHC is doing. But it was also apparent that everyone in the EMS is working up to capacity as it is, and the best chance of starting and managing an extended drive would come from someone from outside the EMS, someone not already donating so much time to the ongoing medical EMS duties, stepping up to the plate and taking on this much-needed project.

Peaine Township
At its regular meeting on September 14th, the Peaine Town Board was asked by Gerald LaFreniere to increase its contribution to the EMS, either by an increase in its match or an increase in millage. (At present Peaine matches the total dollars collected by St. James, which levies 0.75 mil.) As it is, individuals living or having property in Peaine pay less than individuals in St. James, even though the two total amounts are identical.

The EMS pointed out that it and the Fire Department provide vital services for the health, safety, and security of Beaver Island, but the Fire Department, which has 10 calls a year compared with 60 for the EMS, receives 1 full mil. Supervisor John Works replied that while they are authorized to levy a full mil for the Fire Department, they don't, but instead match the amount raised in St. James. Works added that the Fire Chief found this satisfactory. (Peaine also matches St. James' millages for the Historical Society, Transfer Station, and Airport.)

A question that came up repeatedly was, what is fair? Should all Islanders pay the same for EMS service (which would mean that Peaine Township contributed a third more than St. James to the EMS), or should the two townships contribute the same (which would mean individuals in St. James each contributed a third more than individuals in Peaine)? The question, asked before, still has no answer.

Right now, Peaine (with a total taxable value of $54,361,297) is a third again richer than St. James, but this was not always the case. For most of the past 145 years, St. James was the richer, and apparently when the shoe was on the other foot. St. James was prone to match totals, giving its residents a break. As this discussion raged, it seemed at times that a memory of being treated poorly was still a factor in some cases.

The Peaine Board, though, seemed willing to consider this matter afresh—because it knows how vital it is to keep the EMS functioning. But it felt it could not decide on the best direction to take to solve the problem until it had a better understanding of the income and expenses of the EMS. To that end it asked the EMS to provide more detailed financial information; if an audit could be afforded, that would be best.
Smoking Ban Tweaked

The Northwest Michigan Community Health Agency has reworked the ban on workplace smoking in the face of a lawsuit protesting it in Charlevoix County. The suit was brought by nonsmoker Kent McNeil, who objected to the intrusion on employees’ rights. “It reaches too far into an individuals privacy,” he said, “When they get done with tobacco, what will be next? If they don’t like the way we eat, that could become a health issue.”

Proposed modifications could make the law apply to businesses with two employees, instead of one, and could require smoking to be banned in vehicles used by at least two people instead of just one. But McNeil said these changes would not prompt him to drop his suit, which the Health Agency insisted had not instigated the suggested changes anyway.

Letters to the Editor:

Who Took Jack’s Tapes?

As all Islanders know, Jack Cull took movies and videos for over 50 years, of all Island activities: weddings, funerals, anniversaries, parades, reunions, and so on. He was one of the first to record these events, and thoroughly enjoyed the thousands of hours he spent taking and showing these movies and transferring them to video.

Now we’ve acquired the means to transfer this material to DVDs for all those who’ve requested copies of certain events, but to our dismay all of the original Kodak films and almost all of the videos are missing from Jack’s house, which now belongs to Don Hammermeister.

If anyone has any information where they might be, please contact me at 106 Swan Drive in Dyer IN 46311, or phone meat (219) 865-2722.

We intended to go through them, making copies for the Museum and those who’ve requested them. Now that history is missing. Whoever has this material will not be able to openly show it or give out copies. We would be happy to have the movies and tapes returned—no questions asked.

—Sally Hammermeister; executor of Jack’s estate.

Laurain Lodge’s Grand Pumpkinathon

Pick up your pumpkins Thursday the 20th, after school. Return the carved pumpkins to the Laurain Lodge on Saturday the 22nd. Winners will be announced at the party at dusk on Sunday the 23rd.

Christmas Bazaar

The Christmas Bazaar will be held on Sunday, November 20th from 1-4 at Holy Cross Hall. There’ll be lots of great holiday shopping and much more. To reserve a table contact Sandy LoDico at 2004. “Give Island gifts to the Island’s friends.”

The Results Are In

AMVETS sailboat raffle winner is Matt Sturmer from St. Paul, Minnesota.

PABI cash drawing winners:
$1000 Skip McDonough
$500 Holly Hogarth
$250 Jim McDonough

The BIRHC truck raffle winner was Karen Wojaan, for her son, Jared. Deputy Jim Campbell pulled out the winning number as Connie Wojaan checked it against the list. Karen was surprised, to say the least.

BIRHC Truck Raffle

Despite slow early sales the Beaver Island Rural Health Center Truck Raffle ended up raising over $22,000 badly needed operating dollars. Despite a seeming lack of interest that had everyone worried until the last ten days, a record 456 tickets were sold, reflecting support from all segments of the Beaver Island Community: visitors and seasonal and full time residents. The Board of Directors and Staff of BIRHC are very appreciative of this overwhelming support from those we serve.

We send our special thanks to McDonough’s Market, which allowed us to sell tickets from their parking lot and whose staff sold nearly a quarter of the tickets for us when we could not be on site. Non-board members who took their turn in the summer heat selling tickets were John Harris, Leonor Jacobson, and Board Member Emeritus Joe Reed. Our sincerest thanks to them as well. Once again we must acknowledge the work of Pete LoDico, who secured the purchase of the truck; Ken Slater who, for the third time, allowed us to use his GM discount; and Dave Kring of Tallberg Chevrolet, who donated back his commission on the sale and then bought a ticket to boot.

Finally, thanks to all who bought tickets, asked how we were doing every time they walked by, and helped us pass the time with pleasant conversation. While we won't miss sitting in the heat, we will miss your smiling, encouraging faces. If we keep pulling together like this, we’ll continue to be surprised at how much we can accomplish. What people have said for some time is really true: this Island is a very special place.
**Wildblue Internet Up**

After another wonderful summer, with the shorter days of fall ahead my thoughts have once again turned to how to get faster Internet to make the off-season more interesting and productive.

Last spring we hoped Maylone Enterprises would bring broadband beyond the line of sight currently served by GLE from the school’s roof—as we had hoped Wireless First might do. But while interest has been expressed, no one has organized the support necessary to make this somewhat difficult project happen. Referring to a 100-signature petition asking TDS for a solution, Charlene Burnison said “there is a slim chance TDS will consider providing DSL to Beaver Island in the future.” Slim is definitely better than none, but still likely a long way off.

A new option however has finally arrived. We’ve heard about Wildblue since the year 2000, but based on previous ku-band service (Starband and Direcway) I was skeptical. Early reports of this first US ka-band consumer satellite service were very positive, so I placed an order, and Midwest Energy had a brand new Wildblue system installed and running smoothly in under 3 hours. It delivers speeds I haven’t seen since using a mainland cable modem: a blazing 1550 kbps down (30 times the download speed of dial-up) and 225 to 255 kbps up (7 times the upload performance of Island dial-up.) A 10 MB download that takes a half hour over dial-up is finished in under a minute over Wildblue! While there is 625-750 milliseconds of latency due to the distance of the satellite, things that never worked well over previous satellite systems like ftp and secure sites are very fast and reliable over Wildblue.

Installs through an NRTC coop are currently subsidized, equipment costs $299, and the monthly fee is $50, $70, or $80, depending on the speed selected—which can be upgraded or downgraded. While not as responsive as wireless, this is by far the best always-on 2-way satellite Internet technology I’ve experienced to date.

If you’re interested, give the friendly and helpful people at Midwest Energy a call at (269) 445-1112, or visit www.wild-blue.coop.  

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**Islander Generosity**

Islander generosity came full strength on Friday, Sept. 2nd, 2005. It was the last “Open Mic” at the Shamrock and Joddy Crosswhite had been thinking about doing something special. A t-shirt auction popped into his head and he quickly made a homemade t-shirt design. It was to be a joke for his “Open Mic” partner, Kevin White.

But that night something special really did happen. Joddy began to mention the auction and t-shirt, and spontaneously decided the money would go to the American Red Cross for the Hurricane Katrina victims. He heard a few nibbles of making donations throughout the night, but kicked in the auction around 11:30 p.m.

**Recognition of BICS’s Outstanding Sportsmanship**

Kathleen McNamara, Principal of Beaver Island Community School, was recently notified that Beaver Island student athletes, coaches, administration, staff, and community are being credited for their positive athletic sportsmanship. The school received an exemplary rating by sports officials; no reports of concern, ejection, or poor sportsmanship throughout the year, the second in a row that BICS received this important recognition.

As a reward last year, all high school athletes’ names were placed in a drawing, and four were selected to attend an all-expense-paid GVSU football game. Expenses were covered by John Fiegen, Jackie Madigan, Booster Club, Charlevoix Farm Bureau Insurance and MEEMIC Insurance.

John Roberts, Executive Director of the Michigan High School Association, has asked the Island to reveal its formula for success. They would like to share with other schools the positive effects of a community concerned about being “good sports.” McNamara credits the strong community support for students in general with helping to build sportsmanship.

Coaches and athletes should be applauded for their optimistic actions and examples. Congratulations to the entire Beaver Island community for being role models of good sportsmanship to all competitors.
Islanders kick off soccer season in style
by Frank Solle

The Beaver Island Islanders began the defense of their undefeated Northern Lights League soccer title in style the weekend of September 9-10 by besting their top challengers, the Mackinac Island Lakers, 6-2 on Friday and 4-2 on Saturday.

The Lakers forced the Islanders to play hard in both games in order to earn the victories. “It’s always a tough battle with Mackinac,” said Islander coach Mike Myers. “I’ve never known it not to be.” While the Islanders proved to have enough firepower to outscore the Lakers, it was a strong defensive effort that kept the Lakers unbalanced.

Seniors John Runberg at midfield, John Albin at sweeper, and Cody Gillespie in the goal present a formidable challenge to any attack. “Cody was outstanding in goal,” said Myers. “John and John were unstoppable.”

The Islanders next traveled to Hannahville to take on the Screaming Eagles. The Eagles challenged briefly during Friday’s game, but the Islanders prevailed 7-1 in that match-up and easily flew past the Eagles 9-0 on Saturday. “They came out of the blocks quickly on Friday,” Myers said of Hannahville. “But then we wore them down.”

The Islanders took their 4-0 NLL record back to the Upper Peninsula over the weekend of September 23-24, taking the team’s two preseason wins over a pair of home dates as the Islanders host Northwest Academy and Boyne City. The Islanders made their third straight trip away September 30-October 1 as they traveled to the shores of Lake Superior to face the Munising Baptist Bobcats, winning 9-1 and 12-1. The regular season wraps up with a Big Bay de Noc league contest. The Islanders prevailed on Friday 4-0, following up Saturday morning with a 6-2 win. The Islanders took their 4-0 NLL record back to the Upper Peninsula over the weekend of September 23-24, taking the team’s two preseason wins over a pair of home dates as the Islanders host Northwest Academy and Boyne City. The Islanders made their third straight trip away September 30-October 1 as they traveled to the shores of Lake Superior to face the Munising Baptist Bobcats, winning 9-1 and 12-1. The regular season wraps up with a Big Bay de Noc league contest. The Islanders prevailed on Friday 4-0, following up Saturday morning with a 6-2 win.
the weekend of September 23-24, taking the Paradise Rockets to task in two more league contests. The Islanders prevailed on Friday 4-0, following up Saturday morning with a 6-2 win.

While Myers said the team played “a little sluggish,” overall it was a good effort with Brett Maudrie accounting for three goals on Friday and Wojan adding three scores over the weekend. Wojan is the team’s leading scorer: 19 goals through the team’s two preseason wins over Northwest Academy and Boyne City.

“Paradise is coming up,” Myers added. “They have eight sophomores who will be tough next year.”

The Islanders made their third straight trip away September 30-October 1 as they traveled to the shores of Lake Superior to face the Munising Baptist Bobcats, winning 9-1 and 12-1.

The regular season wraps up with a pair of home dates as the Islanders host the NLL’s newest member, the Ojibwe Charter School, Oct. 7-8, and the Grand Marais Polar Bears Oct. 14-15.

The Islanders will see district tournament action the week of Oct. 22-29. This year they have been moved into the district field that includes fellow NLL teams Mackinac Island, Paradise, Grand Marais, and Hannahville, along with host Big Bay de Noc.

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On This Date

**Ten Years Ago** An underground fire started at the midpoint of the Blue Trail (which runs from King’s Highway’s end to Beaver Head.) Luckily Trail Committee member Doug Tilly was checking trails and came upon it after a lightning storm. He jogged to Rose Connagahan’s house and called the Fire Department; each volunteer had to lug his equipment plus 10 gallons of water over 4 miles.

The 4 cameras used in the dive on the Bradley purported to show that the hull cracked but did not break apart—frustrating survivor Frank Mays, who remembered otherwise.

Another shipwreck, the *Henry B Smith*, was recounted because the chief engineer was Beaver Island’s “Johnny White” Gallagher, born on Arranmore. This 565’ ore boat went down on November 9, 1913, outside Marquette in a fierce gale. The captain, James Owen, had been criticized for running behind, so this time he set out before the hatches had been battened down. Sixty seamen were lost. The wreckage was never found.

The deputy asked the sheriff for a dog pen.

The *Beacon* reprinted a column by Dave Broder in which he mentioned that Helen Collar, his 93-year-old mother-in-law, was too frail to continue her summer Island sojourns.

The Fly-in suffered from bad weather.

A letter from a group concerned with taxes pointed out that property values went up by 60% in Peaine and 50% in St. James in the previous three years.

A few weeks before their marriage, Mike Collins and Kelly Olsen were flown by Sherm Kanzler towards Dayton, where they hoped to pick up a classic car. But as they passed Mt. Pleasant at 6,000’ the engine quit—first sporadically, and then for good. Luckily Sherm spotted a grain field near Midland where he was able to set it down. Mike and Kelly rented a car to complete their mission.

As of September 1st, 22 dog licenses had been issued this year.

**Twenty Years Ago** Kevin Green and Gay Cole appeared at a Peaine Town Board meeting to discuss the possibility of merging the two townships. Peaine supervisor Dick Burris stated that the MTA attorney had advised staying separate because that gave the Island twice as much clout. Jean Vreeland said that in 1973 Peaine asked to merge with St. James but was rejected. Henry Hill asked the Board to vote down this request because “no one had yet shown that any benefits would arise from a merger.” Some were suspicious that “St. James just wants money from us for their Font Lake project.”

A special meeting was held two weeks later, with Bruce McGune as a guest speaker. McGune said other American islands had as many as 9 townships. He reiterated that merging with St. James did not offer much to Peaine, and several questions had yet to be answered: how would the millage be divided; what would happen to mail delivery; and would Peaine residents then have to pay for the sewer said to be on the way in St. James? A new combined Master Plan would be needed, which could cost $30,000. But Gay Cole and Ellie Hohn had put together an analysis that showed much money could be saved.

Two days later a special meeting of St. James considered annexing Peaine. Supervisor Ron Wojan thought joint projects would be easier to manage if the townships merged. Because the new township would be larger, it could carry more weight than either or both. Cost duplication could be reduced—perhaps 34% of operating expenses could be saved.

Two local men were arrested for sticking the deputy sheriff in the trunk of the patrol car and refusing to let him out, when he attempted to serve a warrant on them to testify at the trial of a friend.

Joe Frank told about first coming to Beaver to fish with his father in 1925.

**Thirty Years Ago** The Game Club reported that Perry Gatlin, Terry VanArk, and Father Herbert had been having very good luck with “big bass and jumbo perch” at Garden and Hog Islands. They expected a good deer season, based on the health of the herd.

The Civic sponsored a Fly-in on October 5th that brought 210 planes to the Municipal Airport. Free taxi service was provided to bring pilots into town for a grilled whitefish dinner.

George and Martha Miller donated the Martin net shed, on 100’ of harbor frontage, to be used to display marine and fishing artifacts. A shipwreck table lamp donated by Robert Gillespie was auctioned off at the Grand Rapids party to raise money for the Marine Museum.

Bill Welke offered a $100 reward for information about the destruction of signs at the Welke Airport.
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The Charlevoix School District obtained the deed to the 61-acre tract around Beaver Head, which it had sought since the lighthouse was declared surplus property by the Coast Guard in 1967.

Two hundred and fifty friends of Dr. Christie gathered at the Parish Hall for a pot-luck dinner in his honor.

A “Beaver Islander picnic” was held in Indian Wells, with 30 attendees.

Passings included Liz Gallagher, John Andy’s mother, who was 93.

Forty Years Ago The Beaver Islander blew a clutch, putting her out of service while parts were located. Fifty cars were waiting to come across, so a deal was made with the Arnold Line to bring back the Emerald Isle for two weeks.

There was a fatal crash at the Municipal Airport. A doctor from Muskegon, Edward Heneveld, brought his wife and another couple for a week at Isle Haven. Leaving in their own plane, they taxied to the south end of the N/S runway to take off. Witnesses said the nose seemed too high, and after clearing the trees the plane went into a steep climb it could not maintain, sliding off on a bank that saw its wing clip a maple tree. The plane hit the ground, bursting into flame and killing all the occupants.

Partridge were being taken, and some ducks and geese. 750 more brook trout were planted in Fox Lake, making 8,175 legal-size in the past five years.

The Coast Guard station closed before the shipping season, leaving Islanders confused. A party of hunters returning from Garden Island ran out of fuel and had to be rescued by a sailboat.

Readers reported that a number of Beacons sent through the mail seemed to have been damaged by fire.

Passings noted included Hannah Buss, Charles Kleinbenz, Nellie McCafferty, and Mark Strang. Hannah Buss Gallagher was born and raised on Beaver, but lived in Chicago for fifty years. Charles Kleinbenz lived in St. James for several years; concrete blocks with “CK” showing from his mold can still be seen here and there. Nellie Dunley McCafferty was born on Beaver in 1880, and lived here until 1947 after her husband Francis died. Mark Strang was the grandson of King Strang; he died in Long Beach CA.

A Beaver Tale recounted the story of 20 families leaving Burtonport for America in 1856; they stopped in Quebec, where there was work, but one of them, an O’Donnell, got into some trouble and had to leave. He found himself in Detroit, where he met men who had just been hired to replace a temporary light station on Beaver with a permanent one. He caught on with them, worked on the Light Station, and decided to stay on Beaver, sending word to his friends in Quebec that Beaver had what they required. Some also got jobs on the light station; others went to work in a lumber camp at Cable’s Bay, where they worked six days but took Sunday off to go fishing, easily procuring food for a week.

Fifty Years Ago Patrol #1 brought State Congressman Knox and Senator Andrews, our emissaries, with news that Lansing had appropriated $11,000 for a survey of the Harbor, and $37,000 for Harbor improvements. Patrol #2, under the command of Chet Belfy, answered the call of “fire!” ringing from Trout Island. Karl Kuebler, Art Larson, and Melvin Plumm (of the boat) put it out, and monitored the ashes for four days.

Smoke in the air seemed to be coming from the Christian Brothers. Dick LaFreniere rushed there, but the smoke was coming from farther in the woods—within 150’ of Font Lake, where a stump and some deadfall were ablaze. A volunteer crew charged in with axes and shovels—Karl Kuebler and the Coast Guards. A pump was rigged up to pull water from Font, and the fire was quickly extinguished.

In a special election Peaine Township voted 16 - 1 to consolidate its school district with St. James’. The Peaine Township School District turned over its books, records, and assets to the newly-formed Beaver Island Community School District.

Two officials from the Lands Division arrived to check the state holdings on Garden and Hog Islands.

The original Emerald Isle ferry was equipped with radar.

Roland Cull lifted his nets and loaded 500# of perch into his small boat, which then capsized as it neared James Gallagher’s dock. Luckily Donald Cole was there to throw him a line from the wrecker and pull him in-together with his fish.

Pete the Swede’s horse was discovered trapped in mire at Egg Lake by hunters; they heard it screaming, and found only its head visible. They rushed off and came back with 14 men, and were able to set it free.
Going to the Island
by Bruce A. Visniski; photographs by Sara L. Bishop

The following is an account of the 9th annual Labor Day Weekend campout at “Tara’s Meadow” off the Westside Road, written by a nurse from Muskegon and 4-year veteran of these retreats. It begins as we board the Emerald Isle ferry.

The winds are high as we cast away, making butterflies in my stomach. I watch the trolling boats in search of salmon, and the sailboats signaling the magic that draws us to the water. As the shore drifts out of sight, I grab my book and settle in for the ride.

The sounds of the water and the rocking of the ferry allow the peaceful feeling of pilgrimage to take over. The sighting of St. James nestled in Paradise Bay lifts any heaviness from my chest. We are at the Island. We have made this trip several times, but the view of the bay still gives my soul a feeling unmatched by any other.

As we arrive at “Tara’s Meadow,” site of the old Carpenter’s Mill and our destination, I feel the history: the stories told, the secrets untold. I can only imagine what it would have been like during the days of the logging community. The Meadow is in her full glory, and I picture the General Store alive with activity.

We arrange our campsites and then meet for our first “Stone Circle.” It is here that we state our intentions for the weekend - our hopes of what we'll gain from our stay.

Only experience can reveal the power of these meetings.

Our workshops feature topics that bring about a sense of community and everyday life. In them, I realize that what I do at home affects those around me and around the world. “Think globally, Act locally.”

The words by themselves mean little, but put into action can change the world.

The second day is one of meditation and Island exploration. It allows me to get back to nature and draw strength from myself, to see what I can do to help. In the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, this helps me to focus on what is important in my life and where I need to concentrate my energies. I realize that my family and community are my first priorities.

On the third and final day we start to see the end of our weekend closing in. The breaking of camp and the gathering of our gear means we are about to board the ferry home. A final “Stone Circle” reveals great strides in personal growth as we voice commitments for the future.

The cheers at the dock as we depart, and the unmistakable music of bagpipes, both slowly give way to quiet as I plan my next trip to the Island. I cannot stop watching the bay fade away to a speck on the horizon. As I prepare to return to my societal duties, I carry peace like a souvenir from the magic of Tara’s Meadow.
News from the Beaver Island Wildlife Club
by Lois Williams

Since you haven’t heard from us for awhile we thought we would catch you up on what is taking place with our club. The most exciting project has been the walleye fishery on Lake Genserenath. For those who don’t know this, we raise our own walleye fingerlings from fry furnished by the DNR. After five years we are getting the hang of it with the help of dedicated club members who have contributed countless hours of time and energy. President Jeff Powers reports that the harvest this year was slightly over 4,100 fingerlings. This is down from 2004 but represents larger, stronger fingerlings. The first were about 1 ¼ inches long. The last 1000 were from 1 ½ to 4 ½ inches. Reports of fishing have been good. The smallest walleyes being caught are about 10-12 inches and are probably the result of club plantings rather than reproduced fish. We need to get a census of the lake in the future.

A consensus of club members has sparked the idea of some sort of Quality Deer Management on the Island. In March we hosted a guest speaker from the QDM Association. Perry Russo described QDM, which includes nutrition, food plots, herd size, and hunting techniques, all aimed at improving the herd quality. We liked the idea of letting the small bucks grow into large bucks and concentrating on doe harvest to improve the ratio of bucks to does. We embraced the slogan, “Let him go–let him grow.” This is, of course, a voluntary movement. We encourage you to think about this concept when you go into the woods this fall. Think about being selective and select a doe instead of a small buck.

The “drive-by” deer census has been underway since July. This year we were asked to report the number of fawns with spots. This information has greatly aided the DNR. Other helpful information is collected during the Successful Hunter Contest. When you check in your deer you register a chance to win a prize and provide us with data that helps us know the status of our whitetail herd.

Mark your calendar for the date of the Annual Hunters’ Dinner. Once again it will be held at Nina’s Restaurant. The date is Sunday, November 13th. Last year we enjoyed complimentary wild game hors d’oeuvres and desserts. There will be several entree offerings at various prices. The annual rifle raffle will be held on the same date. This year’s first prize will be a Weatherby Vanguard 30.06, a commemorative rifle celebrating 100 years of that caliber. Second through fifth place prizes will be engraved knives. Tickets will be available through club members for $10.00 each or 11 for $100.00.

Do we have turkeys? Yes. The town birds are becoming a nuisance. We encourage you NOT to feed the turkeys in town. There will be a season this fall so get out there and enjoy the fields and woods and harvest a delicious turkey to boot.

Have a safe and successful hunt this fall!
Marguerite Teter 1911–2005
Marguerite McDonough Teter, 94, died September 10, 2005.
She was born February 24, 1911, on Beaver Island, the daughter of Sylvester “Vesty” and Mary (Connaghan) McDonough. Marguerite graduated from the Mercy School of Nursing in Muskegon, Michigan. At the time of her retirement she was the director of nursing at Plymouth Place, in Illinois. In 1970 she moved from Lake Forest, Illinois to Sarasota, Santa Belle, Florida, but she made sure to come back to her roots every summer. People were always impressed by her dignity.

She is survived by a stepdaughter, Lucia Kerr of Avon, New York; a stepson, Charles of California; a brother, Lawrence (Winnie) McDonough of Beaver Island; and several step-grandchildren.

Marguerite was preceded in death by her husband, Charles; and siblings: Jessie Clematine, Lloyd, Helen “Nellie,” Roland, Robert, and Mary.

A graveside service is planned for October at Holy Cross Cemetery on Beaver Island.

Rita Elms 1922–2005
Dorothy “Rita” Elms, 83, died at her home on Beaver Island on August 28, surrounded by her family. Her deep faith and the love of relatives and friends sustained her through the last several months of illness.

Rita was born on Beaver Island on August 30, 1922, to Nels and Sophia (Boyle) LaFreniere. She was the youngest of eight children in the family. After graduating from Beaver Island High School, Rita attended Davenport Business College in Grand Rapids.

She met the love of her life in Percy James “Buster” Elms, who was serving at the Coast Guard Station on Beaver Island. They were married on the Island on July 23, 1942 and their four children were born on Beaver Island.

The Elms family moved to Ludington, MI in 1951, where Rita worked in the business office of the Chesapeake & Ohio Railroad. Rita was a very active member at St. Simon’s Catholic Church in Ludington and was a member of the church’s altar society, the Little Flower Circle.

The couple returned to live on Beaver Island in 2003. Rita enjoyed spending time with her children, grandchildren, great grandchildren, and her two surviving sisters, Helen Pike and Winifred Lawrence McDonough. She was also a member of the Holy Cross Catholic Church on Beaver Island.

Rita was preceded in death by a granddaughter, Theresa Elms. She is survived by her husband, James “Buster” Elms; sons Michael (June) Elms, Richard (Mary Kay) Elms, Thomas (Barbara) Elms; a daughter Nancy (Don) Tritsch; 14 grandchildren and 23 great grandchildren.

The Mass of the Resurrection will be held at Holy Cross Catholic Church, with Father Pat Cawley officiating. Internment will take place at Holy Cross Catholic Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to Beaver Island Rural Health Center, or Holy Cross Catholic Church on Beaver Island, or Beaver Island Hospice. Winchester Funeral Home in Charlevoix is in charge of arrangements.
Thank You

To our family and friends; what a special place to live....

A few weeks ago, I brought Mom and Dad Tritsch here from Cincinnati, for a visit and to wish Mom Elms well. A special thank you goes to the BIBCO for the extra help in getting mom and dad on and off the boat. Also, thank you to the BI EMS and BIRHC for assisting dad during a medical emergency. Just a short time after dialing 911, our hallway and kitchen was bulging with talented and concerned medical center and EMS personnel.

Thanks again, ... dad is OK.

—Don Tritsch

Dear family and friends,

God works in mysterious ways. He brought mom and dad home to Beaver Island in 2003. This spring, mom was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. By having her here, the collective on-and-off-Island family and friends were able to care for her and be with her to the end.

Compassion and support came in all sizes and shapes. From the first fruits of a garden, dinners for dad, visits on the porch, medical care from BIRHC, assistance from Beaver Island Hospice, prayers and well-wishes, music at mom’s funeral, and a dinner that fed a hall filled with supporters; each was done with overwhelming love and concern. To all of you who helped us through mom’s illness and passing; a thank you does not seem enough.

The uniqueness of our Island community comes through when help is needed; folks step up and say “help is here,” and do so without need of recognition... but please stand up now and take a bow! Thank you again from the bottom of our hearts.

—The family of Rita (LaFreniere) Elms

Celtic Games moves to the Fall

Next year’s will be held on Sept. 16th and hosted by the Chamber of Commerce.

Flu Vaccine Available

Our flu vaccine has arrived and we will begin immunizing on Oct 3rd. Please call the BIRHC for an appointment: 448-2275. The flu vaccine is recommended for the following people:

1. All children 6 - 23 months.
2. Household contacts and out-of-home caretakers of infants from 0 to 3 months.
3. People 50 years of age or older.
4. People who have long term health problems such as asthma, heart disease, lung disease, or diabetes.
5. People with a weakened immune system due to cancer treatment or long term use of steroid medication.
7. Women who will be pregnant during influenza season.
8. Physicians, nurses, family members, or anyone else coming in close contact with people at risk of serious influenza.
9. People who provide essential community services.
10. People living in crowded conditions to prevent outbreaks.

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Janik Home

“The Mermaid” 35370 East Side Dr.

A newly remodeled home on a 10.78-acre parcel with 169.74 feet of beach frontage. Just south of and toward the lake from Kerry’s Corner on East Side Dr. 1600 sq. ft, 2-1/2-story, year-round home with 3 bedrooms and 2 full bathrooms. On the main floor there is a cathedral ceiling in the living room-dining room area with an all glass from wall facing the lake. The frontage has been cleared for a tremendous view of the boat channel into Beaver Harbor, Hog and Garden Islands to the northeast and the Mackinac Bridge on clear days. Large deck on the lake side of the house with a walkway out to the beach a couple of hundred feet east of the house. There is also a small screened-in beach house out near the beach, and a nice size metal pole barn half way between the house and East Side Dr. The lot to the north is also owned by the current owner and it will have a deed restriction against any building on the adjacent lot that would in any way adversely affect the view of the lake from this house. You have to see the inside of this house to appreciate its value. The Mermaid has been a very good rental. With its old farmland acreage (cleared) behind the house, this would make a nice retirement home for someone who wanted fruit trees or gardens. It was also set up for and zoned for the pasturing and housing of horses. (The pole barn was originally used as a horse stable.) This house with Parcel F (10.78 acres) and out-buildings is priced at less than what it would cost you to buy the land and build these buildings.

$465,000

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The 30 runners and 58 walkers enjoyed a wonderful morning on October 1st, warm and bright, with blue skies and just enough breeze to keep everyone refreshed. The gun (actually, a siren) started at 10:00 a.m., and they were off, followed by a smaller crowd of well-wishers, some on bikes, who followed for a block or two as a sign of support. The EMS was on hand too with the ambulance and E-car, just in case.

Everyone did a good job of pacing, especially returned teacher Adam Chittle, who sprinted ahead of last year’s winner, John Martin, in the back stretch, and held the lead into the finish-line chute; his time for the 5k run (to Whiskey Point, through the Gull Harbor Nature Preserve, and back on Michigan Avenue) was the day’s best at 21.1 minutes. (The times were meticulously recorded by the judge, Wayne Arent, from Benton Harbor.)

There were four categories: men, women, runners, and walkers—and each category was further divided into 7 age groups (although there were no entries in the 16–19s.) John Martin finished behind Hall was so packed that tables and chairs had to be set up on the lawn. A radio appeared on a truck hood to broadcast the UM/MSU game, but the circle of rabid fans was regularly broken as people scurried inside for seconds and thirds.

Through it all Rich Scripps, alternating between piano and guitar, played most of the good songs he knew—well, not hardly, but he didn’t repeat himself in over three hours. Yet he couldn’t compete, with the food. On this afternoon the food was the perfect event for after the Boodle, when hunger runs high. Well over 300 people attended including a large Irish crowd from Chicago and Arranmore. The Parish Hall was so packed that tables and chairs had to be set up on the lawn. A radio appeared on a truck hood to broadcast the UM/MSU game, but the circle of rabid fans was regularly broken as people scurried inside for seconds and thirds. Through it all Rich Scripps, alternating between piano and guitar, played most of the good songs he knew—well, not hardly, but he didn’t repeat himself in over three hours. Yet he couldn’t compete, with the food. On this afternoon the food was the

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Bite & Boodle 2005

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Adam with 21.30 minutes, followed by Matt Hohn (25.02), Bryan Timsak (25.48), and, in the 60+ group, Rich Priehs (27.05.) Linda Frysinger, running in the 50 – 59 bracket, was the top woman runner (26.46), followed by Cyndi Ledra (28.32 in the 40 – 49) and Jenna Battle (29.1 in the under-15.) Ruth Igoe was right on their heels at 31.03.

For the walkers, Ed and Willie Welter won their category, although powerwalker Tina Morgan was the first overall—and yet complained she had not beaten her time from last year.

After the race, organizers Mike and Gail Weede addressed a packed crowd in the Parish Hall, thanking them for having come. The $20 - $25 registration fees, minus expenses, produced a windfall for the Sports Boosters: close to $2,500. Mike selected two young girls to help him present medals and award door prizes. When Tova Koppenrud’s name was called, someone mentioned it was her birthday, and the entire Hall, including those setting up for the Bite, broke into a spirited rendition of Happy Birthday.

star. There were spinach calzones, whitefish cakes, Swedish pancakes, jalapeño poppers, bourbon steak tips, quail, chicken-cheese kabobs, white chili, whitefish chowder, Chinese braised pork, black bean and corn wonton cups, gorgonzola spread, whitefish paté, buffalo wings, deviled eggs, spinach egg rolls, ham-wrapped vegetables, creole soup, mini wet burritos, and sloppy joes with eight different styles stirred together. Then for dessert there were cookies and fudges and candies and cakes, and the 24 different apple pies entered into the Apple Pie Contest. Who won? Well, Kathy Ruis came in second (her pie raised $26 for the BIHS), and Betty Scoggin was first (netting $36 for Sports Boosters.)
New faces, new places grace BICS
by Frank Solle

In a traditional start unlike much of the rest of the state, the new school year at Beaver Island Community School opened the day after Labor Day. Along with a much remodeled and reorganized building, there also were new faces among the student body and teaching ranks.

New faculty includes three first-time teachers just starting their mentoring careers:

Miranda Rooy grew up in Shelby, a small community south of Ludington. She is a graduate of Hope College with a degree in Education and Fine Arts. She will be teaching preschool and Kindergarten while also developing a music and arts curriculum for the K-8 students. Miranda is a talented singer and has already shared that talent at a number of venues on the Island.

Rooy is also an outdoor enthusiast listing running, hiking, and cross-country skiing as favorite activities. She enjoys pottery, sculpture, and reading as well.

“I’m from a small community so this isn’t a huge difference for me,” Miranda says about her move to the Island. “All the people have been very friendly and I’ve gotten to know a lot of people here in the past few weeks. So far everything is going very well.”

Kim Newport hales from the St. Johns area north of Lansing. She is a graduate of Central Michigan University with endorsements in math, language arts, and child development, and will be teaching the first and second grades; Debra Roberts has moved up to the fifth and sixth grade classroom, where she will be team-teaching with Donna Stambaugh, who will be working part-time this year.

Newport says she enjoys “almost anything outdoors,” including hiking, biking, boating, and swimming. She also reports she is an avid reader.

As for coming to the Island Kim says, “I like it so far.” She was excited to find a position within the state, explaining that Elementary positions in Michigan are far and few between. “I was offered a position in North Carolina, but I didn’t like it there.” As for facing the upcoming winter, Kim said, “I lived in Petoskey last year and was told if I could handle winter there, I can handle it here.”

Marianne Brown was raised in Midland and is another graduate of Hope College in Holland. Her degree is in Secondary Education with a major in history and a minor in sociology. She will be working primarily with the middle school grades at BICS, as well as teaching high school social studies and physical education.

Brown was a member of the Hope College golf team, helping to lead the team to the MIAA championship in 2001, and was the team captain her senior year. A lifelong skater, Brown reports she enjoys playing hockey in the winter.

Of her move to the Island Brown says, “It’s a good learning experience for me. I spent my entire life growing up in Midland and there’s more to the world than just the place you grow up in. It’s a little different here. Such a small community kind of shocks me sometimes. But it’s helped to have Miranda and Kim here since we’re all going through the same thing.”

All three teachers expressed their thanks at finding jobs in Michigan.

While not a new faculty member, science teacher Adam Chittle has returned for a second year after submit-
New faces, new places grace BICS

By Frank Solle

Marianne Brown was raised in Midland and there’s more to the world than just the place you grow up in. Brown was offered a position in North Carolina, but she didn’t like it there. As Kim Newport says, “I like it so far.” She was excited about the unfolding new school year. “It’s exciting,” McNamara said. “It’s awesome the way everything has come together. We’ve got the new blending with the old. It will be great for the kids.”

In a traditional start unlike much of the rest of the state, the new school year opened the day after Labor Day. Along with a much remodeled and reorganized school, the halls of BICS this fall as a number of new students have enrolled, bringing the fall roster up to 80 students.

Among the new learners are Myers-Dixon, daughter of Sarah and Dan McCafferty, Kai Drost, daughter of Steve and Linda Drost, and Jeffery Rasch, son of Virginia Detwiler and Jeff Rasch. Jeffery is joined by his sisters Willow, third grade, and Hillary, first grade.

At the high school level, junior David Schwartzfisher, son of Dave and Barb Schwartzfisher, is returning after a year at military school, while Ryan McDonald, son of Ken and Debbie McDonald, is the newest member of the sophomore class. Both boys are members of the soccer team this fall.

And while not technically new this fall, Devin (grade seven) and Alec (grade eight) Ericksen, sons of Stephanie Erickson, enrolled late last spring.

As for the facelift inside the building, there is a new arrangement in the school office, making for a better traffic flow and work area. The former library has been converted into a new classroom shared by teachers Joe Moore and Jim Stambaugh as Mr. Stambaugh joins his wife in working part-time this year. There is new access to the computer room, passing by a former classroom converted into a conference room. Mrs. Croswhite, who is working full-time as school counselor, has a new office located off the hall between the school and the gym. The gym itself has been reworked with acoustic soundproofing and new lighting, which will enable that space to be used for large class gatherings and official functions—such as graduation. The only inside job not yet finished is the relocating of the library.

Outside, upgrading of the soccer field was completed this past summer, improving the maintenance and ease of upkeep on the playing field.

With all the new looks inside and out this fall at BICS, Principal/Superintendent Kitty McNamara is enthused about the unfolding new school year. “It’s exciting,” McNamara said. “It’s awesome the way everything has come together. We’ve got the new blending with the old. It will be great for the kids.”

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The Triumphant Launch of the Cisco

At the beginning of September the crowd gathering at the St. James Marine Dock was rewarded with a complex undertaking superbly handled by Robert Gillespie and his crew: the launching of his rebuilt boat, the former Fish and Wildlife research vessel, the Cisco. This steel-hulled 60', 74-tonner was originally built in Sturgeon Bay in 1951.

With her long keel and the shallow water no one was sure how she'd go in—no one except Gillespie. He moved her to the land's edge, with her stern hanging over a barge lashed to shore—on which he'd positioned a dump truck full of sand for ballast and a crane truck, side by side. These two vehicles were driven forward by Captain Matt Fogg and Brandon Maudrie while Kevin Barry and Rory Connaghan built cribs from chunks of 12 x 12s under the Cisco's stern and Ed Welter adjusted the lines.

Then the vehicles were backed up. The barge shifted, rising under the Cisco. Rich Gillespie started to push the boat with a large loader while Robert moved parallel to its side with his excavator, with a chain running to high on the ship's side to keep it from tipping.

After a few feet the operation was stopped, the barge vehicles came forward, and the crane truck lifted the boat a little so the cribs could be partially...
unstacked to lower the *Cisco*. A hose blew, but the crew immediately shoveled a bucket of sand under the spray to contain it while this stage was completed. Then the vehicles moved to the barge’s other end, and Rich started his push again, with the boat at a better angle.

Rory was stationed on the deck as the ropes holding the barge in place were cautiously loosened some more to let it slide out from under the boat. The boat began to slip off the two shortened cribbing towers, but came off the one nearest the extended land finger first. The mighty ship was thrown into the beginning of a roll, and someone yelled, “Rory, jump!” Crouching with one foot on the deck and the other on the rail, he darted a glance at the water below as the roll continued. He tensed, as if to jump in, but held his position, and then the *Cisco* righted herself and settled peacefully into the lake.

Perhaps the launching lacked the splash of the recent launching of the new Coast Guard Icebreaker in Wisconsin, but the hundred people who watched it unfold for almost two hours felt it provided plenty of drama—and opportunities for discussion. Despite the absence of any Coast Guard high-tech equipment, the consensus was that the launch could not have been any better done.
To The Beaver Island Community:

Although the busiest days of summer are past, and the move to autumn opens new perspectives, appreciation for the Island's support of the fourth edition of "Baroque on Beaver" cannot be allowed to slip by!

• Once again, hundreds of people attended two performances of classical music–some SRO!–applauding the efforts of local, seasonal and off-island musicians.

• Once again, numerous local businesses offered financial gifts and in-kind support for lodging, travel, food service, program design and more.

• Once again, residents opened homes and guest houses to accommodate guest musicians.

• Once again, residents supported the event with generous individual gifts and free-will donations.

The response of those who came to Beaver Island to participate in the performances was overwhelmingly positive and they look forward to returning for the last weekend of July, 2006.

Many especially look forward to extending their stay on the Island to get to know it better and experience it more fully.

And so, to everyone who demonstrated their support for the 2005 "Baroque on Beaver," we thank you and hope that we can continue to count on you to extend your commitment to this exciting classical music weekend.


Robert Armstrong receives Award

Dr. Robert Armstrong, son of Beaver Island's Marge and Bob, and a Cheboygan dentist, recently received the prestigious Mastership Award from the Academy of General Dentistry in Chicago. This award is the highest offered by the AGD, and is one of the most respected in the profession. To qualify, Dr. Armstrong completed 1,100 hours of continuing dental education in the 16 disciplines of dentistry, including 400 hours dedicated to hands-on skills and techniques.

Dr. Armstrong graduated from Northwestern University in 1987. He was a former Captain of the Army National Guard. He is the Treasurer and past Grand Knight in the Knights of Columbus, and has been involved in the Rivertown Folies and Northland Players.

In Appreciation

The Holy Cross Catholic Church’s Altar Society would like to thank former (and hopefully future) Island residents Edward and Merrian Neurohr for their generous donation, passed here to Audrey Beilman, President of the Altar Society. The money was used to buy phone cards for some of the last patients (and injured soldiers) at Walter Reed Hospital so they can call home.

Circling the Light

On a rough but sunny day Melvin and Alvina Napon decided to take a boat ride around Garden’s western point and north to Lansing Shoals. They had a great time.

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Letters: Baroque
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—Jane Maehr, Christy Albin, Constance Currie, Paul Glendon, Jeanne Howell, Ruth Kelly, Kathy Speck, Steve Vellof

Beaver loses Special Couple
After six years, Reverend Howard Davis and his wife Sally are leaving the Island and the position he took as minister of the Christian Church (a job he took after being retired for ten years.) When he accepted the position, he had already been in the ministerial rotation for twenty years. “We already knew many of the congregation,” Howard said. “That made it easy to say yes.” They’re sad to be leaving the many good friends they’ve made here, but happy to have more time to spend with their family.

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A trip to . . . that other Island
by Frank Solle

There comes a time in everyone’s life, or marriage, that one simply has to cowboy up and do the right thing. So it was with me recently when I agreed to accompany my wife, Sue, to her nurse practitioner conference on, gulp, Mackinac Island. Not only was it the same week as her birthday (possibly a cheap way out of buying an expensive present), but it had been five months since I’d been over to America—I was due for a dose of reality.

I had done the Mackinac Island family vacation trip when I was eight or nine years old. Not that I remember all that much of it. We took the carriage ride, toured the fort, bought some fudge, all the normal things. We also crossed the Mighty Mac on that trip, rode the tour boats along the Soo Canals, took a look at Tahquamenon Falls, and, if memory serves, even went as far as Munising for a boat tour of Pictured Rocks. As I said, it was a long (yes, long, long) time ago.

This latest adventure, however, was not to be a repeat of that vacation. Nor was it to be a replay of the one-hour visit to Mackinac I treated Sue to some 25 years ago when, on a whim in passing through, we hopped a boat to the Island, hunted down an old college friend of mine who grew up there, then quickly departed. No horses. No fort. No fudge.

No, this was strictly business. For her at least. A full two-day schedule of meetings, talks, workshops, seminars, whatever it is a group of over 100 nurse practitioners gathers to do. My role appeared to be to entertain myself as best I could during her busy hours of the day, then provide entertainment and companionship to her the rest of the time. At least I had a halfway decent book with me.

The conference was held at the upscale Mission Point Resort located about a half-mile from the busy downtown area. It is a self-contained little community with four restaurants, a theater, convention center, fitness center, pool, tennis court, croquet/bocce yard, bike rentals, a large common area along the water with many, many lawn chairs, and even an 18-hole executive (whatever that means) putting course. And best of all, it is about a half-mile from the busy downtown area.

We arrived on a Thursday evening following a full day of obligatory mainland shopping in Petoskey. While our luggage was carriaged directly to the resort, we made the short walk along the harbor, reading some of the historical signs and marveling at the size and immaculate condition of the private homes facing the lake.

In an effort to economize, we even brought our dinner with us—take-out spanokapita from the Grain Train in Petoskey. After settling in and enjoying our cold meal, we stretched our legs around the resort and meandered a little more through the village’s near end.

Sue was up and at’em early Friday. That left the whole morning for me to go exploring. After a breakfast bagel and coffee (apparently it costs a lot of money to run a resort like this) and a quiet session of tai chi on a deck overlooking Lake Huron, I gathered my courage and headed to town. Even in the so-called off season, downtown Mackinac is busy. Tourists were bustling off the three different docks. Horses were clip-clopping up and down the street (the scoopers diligently following behind), and bicyclists were pedaling fast and furious in every direction.

It didn’t take too long to fill up on the pervading burnt sugar aroma of fudge wafting out of nearly every store on Main Street—even for the one person who, many, many years ago, stirred that same sugary goop on a slab of marble in the back room of Dick LaFreniere’s store (I was glad even back then that so-called attraction didn’t catch on here). Actually, the other aroma seemed more pleasant. Go figure.

It also didn’t take too long to realize there wasn’t much worth buying in any of the stores. At one the checkout lady was wearing a Mackinac Soccer sweat-shirt so I struck up a conversation. It turns out she used to be the team’s coach and...
was traveling with the Lakers to Brimley later in the day as the current coach couldn’t make the trip. We talked about the teams (hers and ours—the Islanders had taken it to the Lakers the previous weekend and it’s always nice when your team is on the winning side of things).

Having seen more than enough already, I headed back to the resort to meet Sue for lunch. The conference provided her with a boxed lunch which we shared (I’d perused the posted menus in town; “apparently it costs a lot of money to run an Island like this”). We decided we would splurge after her last meeting of the day and rent a pair of bikes. She returned for her final two sessions and I nestled in with my book—a cheesy baseball novel, but, hey, it’s baseball and much better than listening to the hapless Tigers.

Our big decision as to which bikes to rent proved to be the wrong one. A travel tip for anyone venturing to Mackinac in the future: spend the big bucks and rent bikes with multiple gears. This ain’t no flat Island. I opted for the fancy bike with no chain—internal gears in a tube running from the crank to the rear sprocket—it had to be tried.

Being the big time tourists we are, we headed to town where we visited the school and the medical center. At the school we were impressed with the large and fancy gymnasium, and ended up in the office for what proved to be a detailed discussion of yearbooks. It was my one chance on the trip to talk shop. At the medical center we were welcomed warmly and given a tour. Needless to say, it was Sue’s turn to make with the work talk.

We turned our attention to what proved to be our one actual touristy activity. We biked back to the resort and a little bit beyond to the lower trailhead leading to Arch Rock. “It’s just like Moab,” I said, lying my way through my interpretive-guide speech, comparing it to the sandstone wonders of southern Utah. “Other than the trees, the different type of rock, and the presence of the lake of course,” I fessed up as we began the somewhat arduous stair climb up the bluff. While it’s not quite Delicate Arch, Mackinac’s geologic oddity is definitely cool, both from up top as well as down below. I even took pictures.

Saturday was pretty much a repeat of Friday, although we bypassed the renting of bikes and opted for some quiet reading time in the chairs by the lake, followed by a nice dinner. I even managed to sneak in some of that wonderful MSU-Notre Dame football game, given (for a confirmed non-viewer) the luxury of in-room television—not that Sue was too excited about it. Later we returned to the large, groomed lawn to enjoy watching the full moon rising from the lake.

While we went to the Island armed with expectations that were confirmed—it’s crowded (some 500 boy scouts on Saturday afternoon helped fill up the downtown area), it’s full of fudge and horses and bikes—we did learn a few new things. As I’ve said, this ain’t no flat land. Although we didn’t explore the back side of the bluff that provides the location for the famous fort, we did learn there are stairs there. Nearly everywhere. Up the bluff in town. Up the bluff to the Arch. Up the resort to our room. There were even stairs in the middle of the hallway to the room. Each day provided a good workout. And there are weddings. Everywhere. All the time. There were at least six at the resort on Saturday. I had a chance to visit with the resort’s resident photographer on Friday (okay, so I had two sessions of shop talk), who said there are nearly 900 weddings on the Island each year—keeps those cameras clicking.

Despite the location, it was a good trip. Sue enjoyed her conference and reported it was quite informative. Plus we had the time together. We were glad it was September and not July or August, as even after the summer rush it was a busy and strange place. While its other-world status may not quite rank with Oz, it did leave us repeating Dorothy’s mantra, “There’s no place like home, there’s no place like home.”
Death by Island: Episode Two
A serial murder mystery starring people and places of Beaver Island
by Peter Plastrik

Gordon Heikka was towing a new black Suburban down Main Street to his mechanic’s barn. It wasn't just any tow truck; he’d bought it on eBay and just driven it back from Boston. And it wasn't just any Suburban: a federal government license plate was a rare sight on Beaver Island and the darkened windows that hid the interior piqued curiosity.

This was an F.B.I. ride and it contained a mobile forensic lab. It had rolled off the Emerald Isle ferry this morning—driven by theederal agent herself, not by one of the boat company crew. Dressed in a suit—another rare sight on the Island—she had come from downstate to investigate the discovery, a day earlier, of a dead woman in a kayak tied to the dock. The dock was a national security transportation zone and, since the U.S. was on high alert because of subway bombings in Europe, the body had to be treated as a potential terror incident—F.B.I. jurisdiction.

But now the agent was riding shotgun in Gordon’s tow truck. She didn’t have much to say, but Gordy knew what had happened—the Island “telegraph” was buzzing with the tale.

After driving off the ferry, the agent had gotten directions to the Rural Health Center. That’s where the body—found nude—had been taken for “storage,” put into a room designed as a morgue but somehow built without the necessary air conditioning. It hadn’t taken long for the agent and a doctor, flown from the mainland, to determine that the victim had drowned and then been put into the kayak.

Then the agent took fingerprints from the corpse and off the kayak and transmitted them to Washington. On her way to get lunch at the Shamrock Bar & Restaurant, she’d taken a wrong turn on King’s Highway and then onto rutted East Side Drive. Just past the cemetery, when she was heading around a big curve, disaster struck.

First, she noticed that the driver of a rusting black pickup truck heading the other way was waving enthusiastically at her. She peered into the oncoming cab to see who it was that seemed to know her. Just then, out of the corner of her right eye, she glimpsed something entering the roadway in front of her—a large bird with dusky brown feathers and a thin bluish neck. To avoid a collision, the agent swung the Suburban sharply to the left and then, to avoid the pickup truck, sharply back to the right. The evasive maneuvers worked and she was breathing a sigh of relief when—bump, bump, bump—the Suburban bounced in and out of deep ruts and then—snap!—its front end sagged badly. Her car lurched and ran off the road.

Must have been a freak accident, Gordon thought. The front wheel had bent badly and the car was not drivable. He’d gotten an emergency call—“Turkey had near miss”—to drop everything and come help. Best he could do was to call for new parts and meanwhile rent the agent one of his newer Ford Escapes.

On the ride back to town, the agent’s only words had been, “Why was that person waving at me? Why is
everyone on the road waving at me?” What could Gordon say? Waving at other drivers was the Island’s way; everyone did it all the time. Without thinking about it, he waved to the driver of a Grand Wagoneer sporting that ubiquitous bumper sticker: “SLOW DOWN Tis Ain’t the Mainland.”

Heck, when you went off island and drove the mainland’s highways, your left hand still might twitch in that habitual “hello” to other drivers. But over there you’d get no return wave.

“Do you know who she was?” he asked the agent. He meant the victim. No one on the Island seemed to know her or to have even seen her, but everyone was talking about her: Who was she? How had she drowned? Why was she put in a kayak? Why was it at the boat dock? Why was she naked? Speculation among downtown merchants was that the mysterious death would harm the Island’s reputation for peaceful charm. “Assault by hamburger bun” had been the violent highlight of one of the deputy sheriff’s recent crime reports.

The agent ignored Gordon’s question. “I’ll tell you one thing,” she finally sighed. “I’d sure like to find that kayak paddle.”

At about the same time that afternoon, William Cashman was slouching in his usual chair in the cozy Beaver Island Historical Society office inside the white-framed Mormon Print Shop Museum. He was working on the computer, scanning in aging photographs of an Illinois family that long ago owned a big chunk of the island’s forest and beach.

The door opened and he looked up at a man of solid build, about 45, with a dark beard, dark eyes, and a prominent brow.

Bill offered a cheery “Hello!” Maybe he had come to subscribe to the Beaver Beacon.

“Hello,” said the stranger. “I’m James J. Strang.” He offered a fleshy, smooth hand. “And I have a question for you.”

For one of the few times in his life, Bill Cashman was taken aback and struck dumb. James Strang. This stranger did resemble the James Strang. He could be a descendent of the “Mormon King,” shot twice in the head and pistol-whipped by two assassins right across the street. Was this our history come alive?

“It’s a pleasure to meet you, Mr. Strang.”

“Well, you can call me Bruce. Just kidding about being that fellow Strang. I’m Bruce Furr, up from Ypsilanti. My sister lives on Donegal Bay.” Cashman laughed. He liked a good joke, even when it was on him.

“Okay, Bruce, what’s your question?”

“Any idea who this belongs to?” He held out a long, skinny metal pole with yellow fins. Cashman recognized it as a kayak paddle.

“Where’d you find this?”

“Over on that public beach, just a few minutes ago.”

Cashman took the paddle. It felt too heavy, so he twisted the shaft to pull apart the ends. Three small plastic bags fell to the floor. They were filled with a suspicious white powder. . .
After overcoming several major problems, Adam Anderson finally began to feel good when flattened junk cars began to be loaded on a barge tied up at the St. James Marine dock.

Back when the Island seemed to be sinking under the weight of all the junkers, he stepped forward, offering to collect them at the Beaver Island Marina lot just east of Stoney Acre. He made the offer because he had a deal with a scrapper to barge them off, and when it was accepted he began to tow them to the site. But as he neared the shipping date, the scrapper backed out, and so did a second scrapper who was Adam’s back-up plan. So Adam wound up with 350 tons of unwanted scrap metal.

The mess was unwanted by the neighbors, as well. St. James claimed it was in violation of its new Nuisance Ordinance, but Adam’s attorney thought not. But Adam didn’t want this dispute to devolve into suit and countersuit.

Appearing before Judge May in Charlevoix, Adam explained that some of the cars had simply been left there by people who were done with them, and promised to work harder to find someone to take them. Finally he did, if they were flattened, but St. James wouldn’t allow that kind of operation to be set up on his property. So to make the new deal work, each car had to be hauled over the line into Peaine, where it could be smashed and then hauled back to the barge waiting in St. James.

So everything seemed under control—until Katrina screwed up everything; now tug fuel has gone through the roof, and with all the new scrap the price of junk cars has dramatically dropped. Now Adam keeps his fingers crossed, and refuses to let himself get excited each time more flattened cars roll past on their way to the dock.
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One Hundred Years Ago
by Joyce Bartels


“Michael McCann, of St. James, came over Monday and proceeded to Bay City with a young niece whom he is taking there to school for the winter.”

“The value of the Beaver Island cable as an aid to commerce was demonstrated last Friday. A Hart boat touching Beaver Harbor reported a big steel ore steamer ashore on Gray's Reef. By a telegram to the Lake Marine News Association, the news was printed in every leading daily on the great lakes the same evening.”

Charlevoix Sentinel October 12, 1905 Local News: “Frank Stafford and wife, of St. James, came over Wednesday and went to Traverse City to visit friends for a week.”

“Amos Webster, who has represented the A. Booth Co. at Beaver Island for some time has been promoted by a similar appointment at Mackinaw City. Ray Buttars has been appointed to the Beaver Island position.”

“The storm warning tower for the Beaver Island weather station arrives at St. James the last of this week, and will be set up next week by an assistant of Prof. Cox from the Chicago office. The tower will be eighty five feet high, and will be surmounted by a flag staff twenty five feet higher. An anemometer and electric wind register will be attached. The station will be on church hill and the displayman will be Rev. Fr. Paschal.”

Charlevoix Sentinel October 19, 1905 Local News: “Rev. Fr. Paschal, of St. James, came over Tuesday, on the way to Chicago.”

“The Beaver Island fishermen are having very fair success this season. The McCann brought in over 4000 pounds of fish one night.”

“The schooners John V. Jones, Ada Medova, Abbie and Rouse Simmons, all came in Saturday night and Sunday for loads of lumber and slabs.”

“The building being put up by John W. Green on Main St. in Beaver Harbor is being pushed rapidly. Our resident contractor and builder Chas. Tilley has charge of the work.”

“The township Supervisors of St. James and Peaine, W. J. Gallagher and W. D. Gallagher respectively attended
the County Board meeting last week returning Wednesday this week.”

“County School Commissioner Milford visited the Island schools recently and after careful investigation pronounced them to be second to none in Charlevoix County. Such a statement from this authority is certainly distinctly complimentary to the Dominican Sisters, of which our teaching force is comprised.”

Charlevoix Sentinel October 26, 1905 Local News: “The closed season for commercial fishing begins the morning of Tuesday, November 31st. All nets must be in on the night of the 30th - three days longer being allowed for stress of weather. The annual trout spawn harvest under the direction of the U. S. Fish Commission begins Nov. 1st, with headquarters at St. James. Four of the five tugs, including two from this port, will fish there. The open season begins December 15th. Mr. A. T. Stewart, of the Northville hatchery, went to the Island yesterday to take charge of operations.”

“My Supt. Martindale went to the Beaver Island to build a telephone line from the cable office to the Lumber Co. office.”

“Superintendent Martindale was employed by the Government to rebuild the land line of the Beaver Island cable at St. James, and went over Monday with an assistant. When the cable was landed the shore material, which was shipped from Washington in July, was yet sidetracked on the Pere Marquette somewhere and Chief Robinson was compelled to put up fence wire, borrowed from a St. James store. The material shipped from Washington in July, arrived last week.”

“Born to Mr. and Mrs. Peter O’Donnell on Sunday morning a fine ten pound boy.”

“The Str. Philetus Sawyer arrived Monday a.m. to load with lumber for Chicago.”

“October 25th and still no frost on Beaver Island. The trees and all kinds of vegetation still appearing fresh and green.”

“The gale of Thursday night was the second terrible windstorm sweeping over this section of the lakes during the past week.”

“The shingle mill is nearly through with its present cut of cedar, but may run during the winter on cedar brought in on the railroad.”

“Mr. E. D. Born of Allegan Mich. District Deputy of the National Protective Legion, was on the Island last week and organized a fine lodge.”

“Word was received by cable, Saturday from Capt. Bonner of the Schr. Rouse Simmons that he had reached the port of Milwaukee but with main and mizzen masts with sails and rigging carried away in the terrible gale of Thursday night.”

“It was also reported that the John V. Jones, leaving here the same day with lumber for Milwaukee lost her deck load and reaching port in a water logged condition.”

“The National Protective Legion organized a branch here last week with a membership of over fifty. The people here apparently know a good thing when they see it, for as an insurance proposition, it is certainly the best thing out. The outlook is good here for a lodge of one hundred members before it is one year old.”
Community House Excavation

The Community House project began with a decade of discussion, research, planning, fund-raising, and much hard work. Then the basic design underwent changes dictated by cost, the advent of new materials and technologies, and the limitations imposed by zoning. Now, with the Endowed Chair campaign off to a good start, the much-awaited construction of our new community center has finally begun.

BIPOA’s Beach Clean-up a Success

September 17th was the day several residents and visitors got together to remove debris from our beaches. This year, 250 pounds of trash were collected (balloons outnumbered beverage bottles ten to one), catalogued, and disposed of at the Transfer Station. BICS was a cosponsor, providing the site for a tasty hot dog roast prepared by Carol and John Runberg for the public-spirited gang.

Who had a Great Time? Everyone!

We’ve all watched Liam and Marilyn Racine jump through the hoops as they’ve struggled to reach their goal of opening an Irish Pub on Beaver Island. Like many others to have gone into business here, they’ve handled well everything they saw coming, but had the wind knocked out of them once or twice by things they still can’t believe. The Islanders who’ve shared their pain were more than ready to share a little joy when the doors to Donegal Danny’s, their newly expanded enterprise, were thrown open on September 23rd, and they really enjoyed themselves.

A good thing master-craftsman Steve Boyle got the Pub open more or less on time, because that left them with a week of activity to work out all the kinks before the true test: the arrival of 57 “authentic” Irish men and women from Arran More and Chicago, who insisted on finding out what all the buzz was about (buzz they’d heard hundreds and thousands of miles away) the moment they arrived a week later.

The “Irish” gave it a thumbs up, as they did for the other sights they toured, the Bite, the Boodle, and the Museums.

Preparing for the Arrival of the Wolf

When is it a good idea to cry wolf? Well, when the federal government is passing out grant money, it seems.

Frank Ettawageshik, former Island teacher and current head of the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians, recently announced receiving a grant of $250,000 to develop methods to study and control wolves in Charlevoix and Emmet Counties. No wolves have been officially recorded in this area yet, but some people, reacting to their discovery in counties to the east, think it’s only a matter of time until they’re acknowledged. “They’re here,” Frank said. “I know they’re here. Many friends have spotted one. Three years ago I saw one myself.”
A Crowded Runway

An accident occurred on the Municipal Airport’s runway after dark on August 30th: a North Flight MU-2 turboprop that had been dispatched to pick up a Beaver Islander having a heart problem hit a small deer, and could not leave for three days while repairs were being made. “It was just a fawn,” the pilot said. “It was lying down in the grass, but decided to get up at the worst possible moment, and trotted onto the runway.”

This was the first deer-plane collision in two years, according to Don Vyse. North Flight director Joel Baillee agreed that landing anywhere in deer-rich northern Michigan could be exciting—and this incident didn’t warrant any reduction in service.

The damage was not serious; one wheel was crumpled. The pilot sitting for the landing was taken to a friend’s house and made so comfortable that the problem was reduced to below the level of threatening. The pilot and two EMS crew members had to spend the night on Beaver. “Worse things have happened to me,” one of them remarked.

How many Coyotes is Too Many?

In early September some campers returned from Garden Island with depressing news: they believed the proliferation of coyotes over there was damaging the deer herd. “There’s no fawns,” one said. “And fewer deer trails.”

People on Beaver are worried about their pets.

There used to be a bounty, but no more. And now the pack on Beaver seems to have grown dramatically—just listen to their howling songs echoing through the woods. There’s something haunting and wild about these plaintive calls—unless they’re behind you on a dark night.

But is the balance out of whack? Are there too many? And, most importantly, if there are, what can be done?

Signé Thomas lands role in The Glass Menagerie

Signé, daughter of Bill and Eula Thomas, received exciting news when she was selected to play the role of Laura in the upcoming theatrical performance of Tennessee Williams’ The Glass Menagerie at Mariner High School in Cape Coral, Florida. Auditions consisting of a monologue and a cold reading were held earlier in the week. Mariner High, with 2700 students, has a state and nationally recognized award-winning arts and drama program. “Landing this role was really an honor, since the plot revolves around Laura’s life, and there are only four characters in the whole play,” said an enthusiastic Signé.

Signé began 9th grade August 8th after being accepted into Mariner High School’s Honor’s Portal of Academic Excellence, a program for accelerated students, where she is on track to finish high school with an Associate Degree from Edison College.

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Diary of an Obsessed Cook

There is a sort of ease that women have when they know their husband is going to be gone for a week. It's the time to watch "chick flicks" in the evening, never to plan meals, eat popcorn and ice cream for dinner, and go to bed when you want to. None of this is so if you have an obsession with cooking. My husband was no sooner out the door than I was planning what cooking excursion would be my first.

Day one: I had volunteered to take a large Oriental Slaw to a party in two days. So I shredded, minced, chopped, and sliced several pounds of veggies for that. Then I made the dressing and prepared the dry ingredients to accompany the salad.

I retrieved the ham bone out of the freezer that my friend, Sally, brought me last week. I quick soaked some great Northern beans and threw them and the bone into a large stock pot and fired up the stove. While that was simmering I got out the heals of umpteen loaves of whole wheat bread, spread them out on 5 or 6 aluminum pans, and popped them into a low oven to dry. When those were dried I got the blender out and made several cups of crumbs to keep in my larder for recipes yet to come.

Day two: I removed the fat from the beans and ham bone stock I cooked yesterday. Then I chopped a large onion, minced a few stalks of celery, and shredded some carrots. Next I sweated the veggies in olive oil in a large soup pot until soft, and added the beans and soup stock, along with some herbs, and put that on to simmer.

Now it was time to turn to the several pounds of fresh tomatoes and turn them into my favorite herbed tomato soup. I only make this soup when the tomatoes are home grown and the herbs are fresh out of my garden. I was able to make a double batch. When I had finished running the finished product...
through the food mill it was time to clean up my act and get to "the party."

Day three: I actually ate dry cereal for breakfast and had soup for lunch today, but when dinner time drew near I kept dreaming about Blackened Salmon. We had caught fresh salmon a few days earlier and I had kept a piece in the refrigerator. Blackening can only be done on the outside grill because of the release of very hot spices that can sear your lungs. So I fired up the grill and, when the coals were hot, put the dedicated, designated huge iron skillet on the fire until it was white hot. I sprinkled the Cajun spice on the fish and put it in the pan. In only 3-5 minutes it was done. Fresh Haricot Vert (French pencil beans) and a salad rounded out my dinner. While I had salmon on the brain I put a cedar plank into the back sink to soak for 48 hours.

Day four: By now the second batch of fresh tomatoes was ripe and I was once again immersed in onions, tomatoes, and herbs, making more herbed tomato soup.

Day five: Who gets up from the breakfast table and starts the charcoal grill to begin cooking in the morning? Only cooks with obsessions. When the grill was hot I prepared asalmon filet for plank cooking. This very old technique produces an end product that has a sweet cedar flavor. When the filet was cooked I gently turned it over and removed the skin and dark "stuff" from the underside. I then chilled it all day. That evening I had a piece with an accompanying dill sauce. I declared to no one, since there was no one, that it was superb.

Day six: What should I do today to top my culinary insatiability? The husband is returning today and no doubt headed straight for the golf course for his league final.

I ordered a pizza.

—Lois Williams, August 30, 2005

Deck Bar, Grandvue Medical Care Facility (a blanket made by Alzheimer Unit residents), Charlevoix Area Hospital, and Shirley Bernard. B&B printing donated printing the picnic tickets.

To follow-up with continued communication/education with the Senior Advocacy Group, we discussed the Hot Nutrition Program, which has two separate programs; we are working with both Stoney Acre Grill, and Dalwhinnie on Dining Out vouchers for Non-home bound seniors, and Home Delivered Meals for homebound Seniors. We are trying to get the contracts and the programs up and running by October. Concerns were voiced about needing physical therapy and medical social work. The COAs is a community service agency, non-skilled, and we do not provide those services that are billable and skillable; those concerns were directed to skilled care agencies or private duty physical therapy agencies who provide them. This group will continue to brainstorm on ways to invite other agencies to provide skilled services for the residents.

Our Commission on Aging Activities Coordinator Ruth Roeters will work on getting instructors or training people willing to conduct exercise classes, such as sit and be fit and Tai Chi, for group exercise activities.

Nancy Tritsch is interested in being a representative for Beaver Island Seniors and Shirley Roloff responded that anyone interested in serving on any county boards should direct a letter to the County Board of Commissioners.

We will meet again in October, with volunteers and seniors interested in learning more. For information contact Jean Palmer at (231) 448-2915, or me at the office (231) 237-0103.

I will advertise for openings for an Assessment Nurse, another CENA to help Pam out, and volunteer drivers. Volunteer drivers may be eligible for insurance and gas reimbursement.

Thanks again for a wonderful 1st Annual Picnic. The weather was great and the people were very friendly and hospitable.

—Susan R. Bergmann, Director
BIRHC on the Upswing

At its last meeting, the BIRHC Financial Report showed that patient billings reached a record $24,610 for the month of July (last year, July was at $16,713), and were projected to be up by $4,000 for the year. The sale of the condo is nearing closure. And the $15,000 earned by the Endowment Fund was greater than anticipated.

A higher percentage of EMS runs brought patients to the Health Center for stabilization so that they did not have to be transported off the Island.

The Capital Campaign matched the Challenge Grant, reaching $705,000. Fashion Tea attendance was down, but 456 Truck Raffle tickets were sold, and a grant of $15,000 was awarded by the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians. In a meeting with Senator Jason Allen, support for a special allocation of $75,000 was gained.

Phil and B. J. Wyckoff donated an exercise bike and a treadmill to the Fitness Program.

Rick Speck explained the Section 125 arrangement which allows employees to purchase dependent coverage with monies not subject to state or federal income tax.

The next meeting will be on November 19th at 2:00 p.m. at Peaine Hall.

Thanks

Thanks to the EMS for finding our missing family members during a wild night on Garden Island last summer.

—Rhonda, Carol, and Marie Thurman

Help Wanted

VOLUNTEER DRIVERS FOR HOME-DELIVERED MEALS - Volunteer drivers to deliver meals on Beaver Island for Homebound elderly starting October 1, 2005; will pay mileage reimbursement at 40.5 cents per mile. Call Jean Palmer at 448-2915 or Sue Bergmann 237-0103.

Also interested in a CENA OR HOME-HEALTH AIDE and/or proof of previous CENA or NurseAide training (75 hrs in a nursing home, or Certified Home Care Agency), willing to perform Personal Care, bathing, housekeeping, and Respite care (4 hr caregiver relief). This would also be a part-time position paid at an hourly rate, no weekends, holidays or evenings, Monday-Friday only.

RN ASSESSMENT NURSE-RN to perform in-home assessments for Respite/Personal Care clients, requires some supervision of CENA’s, Health Promotion, potential In-Home Foot Care, Medication Management pending subcontract with collaborative agency. Part-time 4-8 hrs per week.

Call Sue at the Commission on Aging at 231-237-0103, or email me at: bergmanns@charlevoixcounty.org
Real Estate, For Sale:

FOR SALE 40 ACRES ON WEST SIDE - 1 1/2 miles south of Municipal Airport. $95,000. Good road into property. Terms available. Call Mark LaFreniere at (231) 448-2220

FOR SALE BY OWNER - END OF ROAD LOT NEAR LAKE - Contoured very nice site. Font View Court; Double-size lot, design your creative or traditional home here. Borders 30 acre preserve. Perked. Maps, elevation, info & comps: $27,500. (917) 628-8263 or onthenews@aol.com

WEST SIDE LAKE MICHIGAN LOT FOR SALE - Lot 24 of the Western Shores Plat: 3.5 wooded acres, with 250' frontage on Greiner’s Bay. Eight miles from town on Mrs. Redding’s Trail. Very deep and private. Land contract possible with acceptable down payment. Contact owner Victor Dmitruk at (269) 207-2970 or e-mail villpsych@aol.com.

40 ACRES ON SLOPTOWN ROAD - Call Bud at (231) 448-2397.

TWO LOTS IN THE PORT OF ST. JAMES for sale - wooded, buildable, 118 & 119 @ $20,000 each. Land Contract. Phone Julie at (616) 846-2637 or (231) 448-3143.

TWO LOTS IN THE PORT OF ST. JAMES near Font Lake. Perked, wooded, buildable. #708 & 709; electric and phone right there. $14,000 each. Call Peggy at (269) 671-5557.

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.

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.

10 ACRES OLD FOX LAKE ROAD - Beautiful, wooded, great building site $45,000, please call (231) 409-1214.

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.

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

10.1 ACRES OF HARDWOODS - with 700 feet of frontage on West Side Drive one mile north of Fox Lake. For Sale by Owner. High ground with private road and fully cleared building site. $45,000. Call Bubba at (989) 821-5344.

TO PLACE A CLASSIFIED AD - Please call (231) 448-2476 or email beacon@beaverbeacon.com. Classified rate is $15 boxed with photo and website listing, or $1/line for text-only.

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. $225,000.00

Call Ed Wojan Realty:
Real Estate Office: (231) 448-2711 Toll Free Number: 1-800-268-2711

For Sale – Harbor-Area House:

Four bedroom, 1 1/2 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

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 1/2 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

Beaver Island’s North Shore:

Two 100’ x 400’ +/- Lake Michigan lots on the North Bluff a mile from town on Indian Point Road. Each have a cute, usable, rustic 1 bedroom/1 bath cabin with enclosed porches, decks and views. Furnished and equipped. Shared drive and well, separate electric and phone. “Bluff” $170,000; “Woods” $165,000. Possible land contracts with substantial down payments. Call John Johnson, (231) 448-2533 BL, (305) 294-9909 FL, (305) 304-7188 Cell.
Beachfront House for Rent:

Beaver Island?
This attractive cottage $1095/week; spring & fall $895. Limit 6 people. Microwave, gas grill, all amenities. Call Ruth or Jackie at (219) 448-2001.

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

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) 817-2554 or TheBluebirdFarm@gmail.com

The Captain's Quarters:
Beautiful Sand Bay Setting for Rent:
Why not enjoy the best beach on Beaver Island? This attractive cottage has 3 bedrooms, 1 1/2 bath. Sandy beach. Screened Porch. Satellite TV. Gas Grill. $1100/week. Call Ruth or Jackie at (231) 448-2342.

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

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.

Real Estate, For Rent
SAND BAY - “BAY HAVEN” COTTAGE - WEEKLY RENTAL - Lake Front, Sandy Beach, 3BR, great view, laundry, East Side Dr., brand new home. Call Laurie Bos at (616) 786-3863 or lauriebos@cchartermi.net. Photographs of Bay Haven can be viewed at bayhaven.beaverisland.net.

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

SECLUDED 1940’S LOG CABIN
JUST ONE BLOCK FROM LAKE
and market on one acre. Sleeps 4-6, pets welcome ($100 deposit.) Washer, Dryer & linens furnished. Bicycles, canoe, grill available $600/wk; weekends available. (219) 253-6500.

Loew’s Lodge on Lake Genserath - 6 BR (queens in 4 BR, bunks in 2 BR), 2 shower baths, 2 screened porches. Laundry facilities, linen and bedding provided. Fully equipped kitchen. Boat and motor available. $1050/week. (231) 448-2809.

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.

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.

Weekly Rental - Harbor Beach Two-bedroom Condos. $475/week. Call Carol Wierenga at (231) 448-2808, (231) 448-2598 or (231) 448-2596.
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 pgrawat@yahoo.com

THE BIRCH HOUSE ON FONT LAKE/DONEGAL BAY ROAD:
Close to town, beautiful sunrise, fishing, and solitude. 3 bedroom (sleeps 6) and 1 1/2 bath. Phone Mary Rose @ (630) 750-7870 or email mrdoirg@hotmail.com $750.00/wk off season rates available.

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 email dpluscombe@msn.com


LOG CABIN ON SAND BAY - pets allowed. 2 BR, 1 bath: $500. Call (734) 449-0804 or email delzey@earthlink.net

DONEGAL BAY HOUSE FOR RENT - Nice wooded location. Two bedrooms. New kitchen. Summer: $675. Off-season $425. (269) 668-7892 or nprawat@yahoo.com

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


BEACON DISPLAY AD RATES:
Starter $15 B/W $25 Full Color
Small $25 B/W $35 Full Color
Standard $45 B/W $60 Full Color
Half Page $60 B/W $100 Full Color
Full Page $100 B/W
Please call (231) 448-2476 or e-mail beacon@beaverbeacon.com


ISLAND AERIE: Overlooking harbor next to Nature Preserve, easy walk/bike to town, 3 bathrooms, 4 BR 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. $1600/week, reduced off-season and extended-stay rates. Call John and Jan (989) 866-2159

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