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Beaver Beacon

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some stories in this issue:

CMU Bio Station to Grow

Islanders: a Resolve to Win; Death by Island, Episode Six

Humanities students present the world; Community House has walls

Island to get new 24' Rescue Boat; Citizen of the Year Plans; DSL decision soon

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

Beaver Beacon

the Island Monthly since 1955

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Editors / Owners

Jeff Cashman

jcashman@beaverisland.net

William Cashman

wcashman@beaverisland.net

Contributors

Joyce Bartels

Trevor Laws

Melissa Peters

Deb Plastrik

Peter Plastrik

Frank Solle



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News from the Townships

St. James Township

The most interesting event at the early-January St. James Township Board meeting was not something that actually happened there, but the ramifications of what happened. CMU representatives wanted the Board to act to remedy a 20-year-old-plus mistake by granting an easement to the former Coast Guard boathouse, on whose purchase it was preparing to close—to begin the process of establishing a Great Lakes Research Center here on Beaver Island.

We all know how important the condition of the Great Lakes is, and yet the lack of comprehensive research is surprising. The University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee maintains a Great Lakes Water Institute, and its graduate department has established a Center for Great Lakes Study, but we rarely, if ever, hear of their work reaching us. The Geological Survey maintains a Great Lakes Science Center in Ann Arbor that has done great work on identifying certain health problems within individual species of fish, but has not developed a comprehensive approach. The Council of Great Lakes Governors rises to problems once they've been identified, but is not at the forefront of identifying them. The EPA has established the Great Lakes Regional Collaboration, which has held meetings to obtain input, isn't in a position to do cutting-edge field work. Consequently CMU has stepped forward to begin playing an important role in investigating and protecting this most vital resource, and its base for this work will be right here on Beaver Island.

Peaine Township

The Peaine Town Board took care of business quickly at its January meeting, confirming several appointments: Laraine Dawson to the Library Board, Doug Tilly and Tina Morgan to the Trails Committee, Terry Saxton to the Airport Committee, Jacque LaFreniere to the Board of Review, Darrell Butler to the Waste Management Board, and Donna Kubic and Carolyn Works as alternates to the

Zoning Board of Appeals.

Paul Welke reported that the Joint Township Planning Commission meeting had been very productive in answering specific questions raised by the supervisors, by the Charlevoix County Planning Commission, and by Jack Kelly, developer of the Recreation Resource Plan (the concepts behind which have been incorporated into the Master Plan.)

The Board announced that at the next meeting it would begin to work on the budget for next year.

Planning Commissions continue honing Beaver Island Master Plan

Thanks to a well-circulated letter telling Islanders they should be more concerned about how the Master Plan is being created, fourteen of them came to the Joint Session held on January 10th. The ten members of the two PCs tackled lists of quite specific questions about the December draft that had been submitted by the Charlevoix PC and others.

The very first question was if Egg Lake, Round Lake, and the "unnamed lake" south of the west end of Johnny Martin's Trail should be designated "sensitive areas," as are other areas, such as Barney's Lake and Miller's Marsh. It was discussed for 45 minutes, with moderator John Fiegen reminding everyone that "a Master Plan is an attempt not to legislate but to develop a philosophy." The MSU study was cited; the "Egg Lake Seven's" proposed environmental constraints were brought up; and suggestions made by Gosling Czubak were recalled. The meaning of terms (such as "sensitive") were debated, and images of a hoped-for future Beaver Island were frequently called to mind.

As the evening wore on, the audience began to drift away. In an informal poll taken the next day, some of those who left said they'd had specific questions to raise but decided they weren't important enough to sit through a lengthy, fine-tuning discussion until the time at the end designated for public comment. But most said they'd come because they'd been

alarmed that the process of shaping our future might be taking place without their knowledge, and had seen that the exhausting process was in good hands and was being conducted by intelligent, industrious, caring people who were doing their best to think of every possible contingency.

For over a century Beaver Island had no rules. In 1974 a zoning ordinance was passed (and the Island came under the mandate of a building code), but it was not supported by a Master Plan. The following year Dave Gladish was assigned the job of creating our first MP. He questioned the businesses and residents, studied the land, consulted manuals of general considerations, and came up with a report that pictured an idealized future (particularly one in which a higher percentage of money spent on Beaver would stay on Beaver) but lacked the effectiveness of specific directives.

From time to time work has been done to update the MP, both by local committees and outside agencies (such as Wade-Trim-Granger.) Even though most succeeding versions were an improvement, many felt we were not digging deeply or comprehensively enough to allow us to feel we were safely on our way to the future to which we aspire. So those concerned took a deep breath, and started in, essentially from scratch.

The work began with the Visioning Project, surveys and focus groups which contributed ideas towards defining the nature of Beaver Island's appeal – a simple-enough-sounding approach that nonetheless produced arguments about how and what to ask and how to treat the answers. But eventually a nexus of values coalesced, and agreement spread as to what we were after: fostering appropriate businesses, protecting the environment, providing access to public lands, managing growth, and improving public services and infrastructure. In retrospect, listing the goals was the easy part (although it didn't seem so at the time); creating rules to guide us toward achieving them is much more difficult.

A Vision Statement and a list of Guiding Principles became part of the MP's preamble (the current draft may be viewed online at either peaine.org or charlevoixcounty.org). The document includes a section on background and existing conditions, including development patterns and natural features. It references history and analyzes our demographics, providing much interesting personal data, including employment and housing types. It projects our future population, and compares us to our surrounding townships. Simply as an in-depth study of Beaver Island, it is a fascinating read.

The meat of the document is in its Future Land Use Plan, which identifies features to protect; for each one, it discusses both our goals and what we want to avoid. It lists possible approaches to insuring the future conforms to our desires. Each one is like a chess move with ramifications across the board that the PC members are struggling to understand well enough to avoid conflicts. Part of the process is also to determine a Community Facilities and Services plan. The intentions of both townships must be coordinated while preserving the uniqueness of each. Once the priorities are established, means for implementing them must be weighed. Intense concentration is required, and these ten commissioners seem up to it, bringing a wide variety of experience and viewpoint, and much personal dedication.

Now our two PCs are rereading their document line by line. Their meetings are open to the public, and posted (at the town hall and library.) The process of shaping our future is a wonderful example of democracy in action. When the planning commissions' members are finally done, they'll deserve an all-expenses-paid vacation, but the reality is, they'll just have to go back to their day jobs full time. And in five years, by law, we'll have to look back at this document and make the revisions we already feel will no doubt be needed. The process suggests a new maxim: "Any job worth doing ... will never be done."




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Member of AMVETS Post 46 Appointed Army Reserve Ambassador for Michigan

Retired LT. Col Melvin A. Bauman, son of Beatrice Bauman and brother of JoAnne Cashman, and member of Beaver Island's AmVets post, was appointed as the Army Reserve Ambassador of Michigan on September 29, 2005 by the Chief of the Army Reserve (CAR) LTG James Helmy.

The appointment has Major General status and Bauman received his Ambassador flag from Major General Robert A. Pollmann, Commanding General of the 88th Regional Readiness Command in Minneapolis, MN on November 5, 2005.

The Ambassadors are appointed for an initial three years with renewable extensions. The purpose of the Ambassador program is to establish a group of volunteers in each state to promote awareness of the Army Reserve and to work with Reserve units, the Soldiers, and their families, when they are mobilized and when they return home. In addition, the Ambassadors are the "Eye and Ears" of the CAR in their respective state and make him aware of all issues dealing with the Army Reserve.

Bauman is also the Vice Chairman for the Michigan Committee for

Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve. (ESGR)

He served as an enlisted soldier from July 22, 1965 until October 9, 1980, when he was commissioned to the rank of Captain. Bauman retired on April 11, 2005, as a Lieutenant Colonel, Executive Officer, and Supervisory Staff Administrator of the 334th Medical Group in Walker, MI. Bauman and his wife Connie reside in Ada, MI. He formerly owned the north shore cabins for which *Bauman's Bluff* was named on the Wojan/Cashman Map. He has been a member of Post 46 since 2002.

A New Rescue Boat

Thanks once again to the generosity of the Grand Traverse Bay Band of Chippewa and Odawa Indians, Beaver Island will soon have its own rescue boat—a decade after the previous one was auctioned off. A grant request for

\$59,000 was approved in mid January. It will be named the *George Thomas* (in honor of George Lasater), and be in the control of the Charlevoix County Sheriff's Office through Island Deputy Jim Campbell, who has performed several

rescues in a 17' Boston Whaler since his arrival. This boat, a 24' Zodiac with a 200 hp Evenrude, will carry up to 22 people and reach speeds of 50 mph. It will have radar, depth sounder, and gps, and will come with a trailer.

Making the Dean's List

As expected, Forest Powers, son of Jeff and Marie Powers, was named to Hope College's Dean's List for the first semester of the 2005/06 school year as a Junior. He is majoring in Chemistry, and is a member of both the Chemistry Club and the Biology Club, and the Emersonian Fraternity.

Word has also been received that Ron and Patti Wojan's daughter Katherine has once again been honored at St. Mary's College in Notre Dame, being named to a list of those whose gpa is above (well above) 3.4.

The Irish Progenitor

DNA specialists have identified Ireland's primal father: Niall of the Nine Hostages. This 5th-century head of the most powerful dynasty in medieval Ireland seems to be the ancestor of 1 out of 12 of Irish men living today—3,000,000 in all.

From 379 AD until 405 Niall was the High King of Tara, founding a dynasty that ruled for seven centuries. His raiders captured the slave who became St. Patrick. One of his 12 sons was Conall, for whom Donegal (and thus Donegal Bay) was named.

Charlevoix Paper Sold

The *Charlevoix Courier* and the *Petoskey News Review* now have a new owner. Schurz Communications, a family-run business based in South Bend, just bought the local papers' parent company, Northern Michigan Review, which also owned the *Gaylord Herald Times*. The largest paper in Schurz's growing publishing empire is the *South Bend Tribune*, with 73,000 daily and 100,000 Sunday; the Petoskey daily is at about 11,000. Schurz also owns four television stations.



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Bio Station to Grow

A library, computer laboratory, and a fully mediated 100-seat lecture room are only some of the benefits a new academic center will bring to Central Michigan University's Biological Station on the East Side. The 11,800-square-foot project, anticipated to cost about \$4 million, also will fulfill the dreams of James Gillingham, director of the station and a faculty member in CMU's biology department. Most of the use will be for instruction, but about 25 percent will be for research and about 10 percent will be for use by the general public.

"The new academic center will house the facilities that are needed to conduct 21st-century teaching and research in the biological and environmental sciences," said Gillingham. "CMU's ability to conduct research and offer academic programs will grow with this facility. Current buildings are

overcrowded and lack space, and are deteriorating. Any new construction will be in keeping with the historic character of the area."

The facilities of the CMU Biological Station are located on 48 acres of pristine habitat on the sandy eastern shore of Beaver Island. Established in 1966, the station offers a diversity of academic courses during the spring and summer months, and provides research facilities throughout the year—and a wonderful party each Halloween.

Additionally, CMU owns a 230-acre tract of land surrounding Miller's Marsh Natural Area. This serves a variety of field courses offered at the station by providing a highly diverse site for field trips, research, and other activities. To be replaced are four teaching laboratory/classrooms utilized for the larger academic classes and equipped to accommodate courses that rely on

both laboratory and field experiences. Research facilities adjacent to the classroom buildings contain seven individual laboratories, two classrooms for seminars and graduate classes, and a natural history museum.

Some of the current facilities have been built and renovated through the years by CMU students in construction classes and other volunteer support.

The new building is an increase in square footage and will be significantly more energy-efficient than the four old buildings that will be replaced. Both research and course work are supported by a library containing more than 1,000 reference volumes, more than two dozen periodicals spanning several decades, and more than 10,000 scientific reprints. Most of these reprints are catalogued on computer database and the CENTRA index at CMU's library on the main campus.

BIRHC Solicits Board Applicants

The Beaver Island Rural Health Center Board of Directors will be holding its Annual Meeting on Saturday March 18th at Peaine Town Hall at 2:00 p.m. At that meeting Anne Glendon and Barbara Murphy, whose terms are expiring, will be eligible for reelection. There are currently nine BIRHC directors. Because BIRHC by-laws allow for a maximum of eleven members the Board is inviting any interested full- or part-time community residents to apply for the two unfilled positions.

BIRHC Board members serve without compensation. Members are expected to attend the majority of the organization's 4 to 6 meetings per year, either in person or by speakerphone at their own expense.

In addition to regular attendance at meetings the Board members are also expected to be champions for the Health Center, contribute time and talents, avoid conflicts of interest, and be team players. Because fundraising is so crucial to BIRHC, Board mem-

bers should also be willing to commit substantial time to organizing and helping at fundraising events, financially supporting those events and helping to solicit prospective donors.

Letters of interest should be sent to Connie Wojan, President BIRHC Board of Directors c/o BIRHC POB 146, Beaver Island, MI 49782 by March 1st, 2006. Candidates will be reviewed and a slate presented at the March 18th Annual Meeting. For more information call Connie Wojan at (231) 448-2379.

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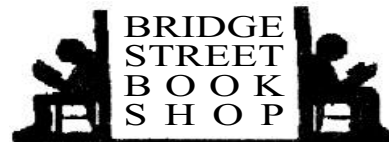
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New Geography Bee winner crowned

by Frank Solle



The only thing known for sure heading into this year's National Geographic Society-sponsored Geography Bee, held for the first time in the gymnasium at Beaver Island Community School, was that Patrick Cull was not going to win.

Now a ninth-grader at BICS, Cull, the son of Bruce and Patty Cull and the event's winner the past three consecutive years, was no longer eligible for the contest that includes only students in grades 4-8.

After that, it was anyone's guess, or more properly, knowledge, of land forms, rivers, lakes, boundaries, and other geographic formations from the far corners of the world that was to be tested.

And surviving the challenge from the various questions as well as from nine other competitors vying to replace Cull as local geographic expert was seventh-grader Jacob Drost, son of Steve and Tina Drost.

The ten finalists competing in this year's event were chosen through qualifying contests in their respective classrooms. From the fifth grade were McCauley Connaghan, Marissa Crandall, and Dylan Left. From sixth grade were Michael Myers and Olivia Schwartzfisher. From the seventh grade were Levi Conner, Drost, and Brontae Lemmink. From eighth grade



were Kristy Bousquet and Bryan Timasak.

One by one the participants were eliminated from the competition when they had compiled two incorrect answers.

Finally, the battle came down to



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Drost and classmate Conner. The championship round consisted of three questions. Whoever answered the most correctly was the winner. The final three questions took the two contestants around the world, delving into the Yucatan Peninsula in Mexico, Vatican City in Italy, and the borders of Poland. In the end Drost came out on top.

A few days after claiming the title, Drost was presented with another challenge — a written test that was then sent to National Geographic Society headquarters in Washington, DC.

Drost is now in the running to qualify for the Michigan statewide competition at the end of March. Whether or not he becomes one of the 100 qualifiers from around the state will depend on his score on the written test.

The 50 state winners, along with winners from Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, the Pacific Territories, Washington DC, and the Department of Defense schools, will gather at the NGS headquarters in late May to determine the national winner. The top prize is a \$25,000 scholarship along with a life-



time subscription to the National Geographic Magazine. The second place finisher claims a \$15,000 scholarship, while the third place contestant takes home a \$10,000 scholarship.

Over the previous 17 years that the NGS has sponsored this national com-

petition three seventh-graders have claimed the top prize and four state champions from Michigan have gone on to win, including Calvin McCarter of Jenison, who won the national title in 2002 as a 5th-grader (but did not repeat.)

Good luck Jacob.

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On This Date

Ten Years Ago This issue was full of news: about PABI, the Internet, the energy upgrade, the Med Center, BIBCO, the *Players*, and the passing of Helen Collar and John Hallahan.

PABI was said to have secured a mortgage for the Community House that would procure the title to Dockside and pay for materials; the rehab was anticipated to start as soon as the boat could bring over "roofing, siding, windows, etc." in the spring. (*note: this was not to be; two engineering firms each condemned the foundation, and this group was suddenly faced with ten times the work for which they'd volunteered.*)

The Library Board and Librarian Joan Vyse announced that a Statewide Internet Access Grant had been received that would provide software and training, and a new computer, modem, and printer for public use; a previous grant was to pay the cost of the phone line.

At a joint-township morning session called to discuss the creation of an Island Energy Authority to evaluate, expedite, and oversee the proposed biomass cogeneration power plant, a preliminary step was taken: the submission to legal authorities of the Authority's proposed

by-laws. Jim Barlow, president of a consulting and plant-design firm, addressed the group. He thought this power plant could solve the waste problem created by the local logging/sawmill operation, and assist the DNR in meeting its goal of thinning 2% of the state forest every year. Funding was expected to come from Wolverine, and from grants.

The Medical Center had received nine serious queries to replace Mike McGinnity, our nurse-practitioner, and interviews were being scheduled. For the first time in several years the Med Center had broken even, but the possible need to replace Mike with two providers was worrying the Med Center Board. A change in regulatory laws was forcing the Med Center to become a separate entity from the Townships and to adopt a new name, the BI Rural Health Center. A new fund was created at the burgeoning Charlevoix County Community Foundation, which it was hoped would help cover the increased costs.

The Boat Company brought 45% more freight to the Island this year (1995) than last, even though new construction in Charlevoix forced it to operate since November from the Ferry Beach swim

platform in Lake Charlevoix.

The Community Players presented *Cinderella*, Christy Albin directing, Pat McGinnity, Pam O'Brien, Tara Palmer, Kate Smith, Lisa Gillespie, Bob Hamil, Phil Lange, and Rick Heyn in the cast.

Basketballer Dustin Crandall scored 36 points against Paradise to top his own school record.

Pam O'Brien reported that her Chamber of Commerce office increased its business by 30% last year.

Animal complaints in 1995 totaled 56. None involved sheep. Six people were injured in traffic accidents.

The passing of John Hallahan was noted. He had retired to his Sand Bay home in 1985 with his wife, after having led a varied career that began on the steamship *Little Traverse* and included stints as seaman and wheelsman on US Steel boats. Later he opened his own parts business, and invented the automatic flange lubricator used by the Canadian National Railways. He pioneered the way fuel was barged out of Chicago, and was a Port Captain and Captain before moving here.

Helen Collar's passing was also reported. She came to Beaver Island as a

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young girl, and won over the people living here. Returning every year for almost 90, she was taken into the confidence of many 'old time' Islanders; it was said she probably knew more about Beaver Island than any other person. She and her husband purchased a home at The Portage in 1936. Trained as a geologist, she created a series of portraits of the early settlers to come from Ireland, which is still on display at the Museum and constitutes one of its most important exhibits.

Twenty Years Ago Erosion problems on the East Side Bluff became more threatening. Letters were written by property owners to Earl Muma (Director of Civil Defense) and Ralph Ostling, asking for help. To facilitate help there was a movement to have Beaver Island declared a Disaster Area.

A successful EMT class completed 80 hours of study: Ken Capman, Hugh Cole, Marilyn Damstra, Perry Fortier, Sandy Fortier, Ruth Himebaugh, Dennis Keech, Roger Laars, Bill McDonough, Tom McDonough, Mike McGinnity, John Runberg, and Joyce Runberg.

The Townships pressed harder for a full-time deputy on the Island. The two townships continued to discuss jointly

hiring a Project Manager, someone to formulate proposals, seek and find funding, and oversee implementation.

The Civic Association complained that its Board was suffering burnout. The same eight people had been carrying the load, stuck doing the same jobs over and over. It pled for help with some of its activities, its dances, winter games, and the July 4th Carnival.

The Fire Department Auxiliary issued its annual report, saying the proficiency of the volunteer Fire Department was finally paying off in lower home insurance rates. The Resale Shop, which earned \$2,250, was located, rent-free, in the old Malloy Meat Market and staffed by Marie Reigle, Betty Anderson, Barb Cruikshank, Ruth Hallahan, Jane Mushong, and Mary Scholl.

An aerobics class followed by an exciting bingo game were being held once a week.

Thirty Years Ago This winter was cold, with January temperatures running between thirty-five and five below. Nevertheless Ed Ladd and Phil Gregg were preparing to tap trees. Dick Burris was busy opening trails for the delivery of salt blocks to the woods.

Sheldon Parker, Terry VanArkle, George Miller, Glen Arden, Bill Wagner, and Ray Souter decided to hunt rabbits. They took five dogs on snowmobiles across Font Lake's solid ice and down to Mrs. Redding's cabin, where they set up camp. Before they had their guns out the dogs were running rabbits, and five were shot in the first few minutes. Then the pace slowed down, with only an occasional shot the rest of the day. But the dogs kept running until dusk forced the men to call them in. One did not return, George Miller's *Becky*, so the men built a fire and hunkered down with their ears peeled. There were bird calls and coyote barks, but no sound from the dog—until midnight, when they heard her pick up a fresh trail. Terry waded into the pitch dark and deep snow, and a half hour later was back with the beagle in his arms. So the men put out the fire, started up their machines, and headed home.

Passings noted included Piper Gallagher, Lillian Greene, Joe Gates, who'd had a summer home here for 13 years, and Sister Lorraine Gibson. Anthony Gallagher, Piper, was born here in 1892, the fourth oldest of eleven
Continued on page 12.



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On This Date, continued from page 11. children. He worked several jobs here, including at the old logging camps, before his family moved away in 1916. Lillian Greene was also born here, in 1888, to "White Dan" Greene, and was the last of seven siblings. She went to Minneapolis as a nurse, and then moved to Chicago and retired from the Women and Children's Hospital there. Sister Lorraine, formerly Margaret Gibson, was born here in 1892 and entered the Dominican Order in 1910. She attended Aquinas College and the University of New Mexico, and helped open religious schools in the southwest.

The Bicentennial Committee announced that the old Martin Net Shed had been donated for a Marine Museum by George and Martha Miller, and a lot for a Heritage Park was donated by Ed Wojan. The previously-demolished Post Office Addition to the Print Shop was to be rebuilt from scratch; a book on Island history was to be published; and signs identifying historic sites were to be placed around the harbor.



The Rambler. McCanns Dock left, Beetles on Right.

Phil Gregg's *Beaver Tale* concerned the ferry that replaced the *Sanford* in 1932, James "Big Neil" Gallagher's *Ossian BNedell*, a larger, faster vessel. But her stay on the run was short-lived; Gallagher found a more-lucrative contract the next year delivering passengers to the World's Fair in Chicago. To fill the gap the small coastal steamer *Rambler* was pressed into service, and then the *Marold II* went on the run.

Bill Cashman was named second Zoning Administrator. Much-loved Father Herbert left the Island. A fire broke out in Robert Gillespie's *Beaver Gems* workshop and was put out by the high school boys under the direction of DNR officer Bill Wagner.

The Boat Company made 300 trips and missed 6 because of weather. Bud McDonough reported that 222 people were living here in 73 households. The school enrollment had increased to 57. Kate Connaghan, at 84, was the oldest resident. 1,088 boats registered at the Yacht Dock,

and *Beacon* circulation was close to 600.

Forty Years Ago The deer and turkeys were doing well, although Olive Dillingham witnessed a hawk attack a young turkey. She rescued it, but it died a few days later anyway. Rabbits too were plentiful, but Islanders bemoaned the fact that seven years had passed since the last season of plentiful perch.

A skating party for adults was held on the frozen harbor, with a bonfire set up for warmth and light. Afterwards the group went to Russ and Joy Green's house for snacks.

Archie LaFreniere and Erwin Martin organized a hunt for TV personality Mort Neff, who devoted an episode of his *Michigan Outdoors* to it.

Noted coyote hunter Roy Chambers of Indian River caught 13 in his trap line. Getting into the plane to leave, he boasted that, thanks to his efforts, the dreaded pest had been eliminated from Beaver Island. Just as he snapped his belt shut, though, a loud wail from deep in the woods challenged his claim. So he came back, but was unable to catch "our very last one."

The Youth Center was offering almost-free Friday night movies.

Previously, during the winter, mail only left the Island three days a week, but starting on February 14th it was to go off every day except Sunday.

Fifty Years Ago The Civic Association combined its Annual Meeting with a pot-luck dinner in the middle of the month. It promised NO SPEECHES, and held a dance instead.

Evelyn Anderson, a nutritionist from the State Health Department, spent six days on the Island, surveying and improving food at the school. Earlier so many children were absent with colds that the school closed for a week.

The home two doors south of the school caught fire, and the schoolkids were drafted into helping put it out. They quickly set up a bucket brigade, with Hubert McCauley expertly manning a nearby pitcher pump.

Charlie Martin, Erwin Martin, Billy Pischner, and Robert Palmer hopped in a car and drove to Hog Island; they said their next junket will be to Cross Village. Ice conditions had made this impossible for several years. James Gallagher said that was nothing, because one winter he set off across the ice and drove all the way to Chicago—and back! (by way of Cross Village.)

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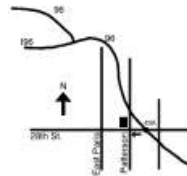
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Death by Island: Episode 6

by Peter Plastrik

A serial murder mystery starring people and places of Beaver Island.

Two people have been assaulted!!

The news swept through the throng waiting for the *Emerald Isle* to arrive at the Island dock. Minutes earlier, the deputy sheriff's Jeep and the Emergency Medical Services vehicle had roared into the Health Center, sirens screaming. Word had spread in a flash, like a nasty flu virus, from there to the dock: A man had been attacked on Donegal Bay and a woman had been found, left for dead, in the woods. All of this on top of the murder, earlier in the week, of a woman not yet identified.

Sheri Timsak, of the Beaver Island Boat Company, looked at a blown-up copy of a driver's license that the deputy sheriff was showing her. Had she seen this woman—Mary Perce from Wisconsin, now unconscious—get off the boat in the last day or two? It was hard to say. So many people had been coming to the Island recently, gathering for the annual Homecoming Weekend with its softball tournament, parties, and prolific beer drinking. The ferries had been fully loaded every trip, just like the one turning in Paradise Bay now, preparing to enter the dock berth. So many people, animals, and cargo got off the boat in the summer, how could you remember a single face?

Sheri handed the picture back to the deputy and finished preparing the dock for the next onslaught coming off the boat. As she worked, she caught snatches of the conversations of various Islanders waiting for relatives, friends, or tourists to disembark.

"Another woman attacked. I won-

der if this one was naked too."

"Nope, I heard she had her clothes on. A hat, too." (A disappointed look.)

"Where'd they find her?"

"In the woods, down along Mrs. Redding's Trail."

"What was she doing out there?"

"It's not far from that murder. You know, they found that body right here" pointing to the end of the dock "but she was killed at Greenes' Bay." (A knowing look.)

"Wonder if they found any drugs this time."

"No cocaine. But maybe it was close to one of those pot fields hidden in the woods. Course, I wouldn't know where those are." (A dopey look.)

"Where's she from in Wisconsin?"

"A place called Burlington."

"I thought that was in Vermont." (A confused look.)

"You think these attacks are connected?"

"Of course they are! Wouldn't be surprised if there are some more of them." (A hopeful look.)

Something Sheri heard triggered a vague thought, a floating memory. The murdered woman had also worn a hat; a bright yellow beach hat had been found at the murder scene. Sheri had seen that hat somewhere, several times. Yes, she remembered, it had been worn by someone out on one of the boats anchored in the bay. She'd seen it frequently when she'd been looking out the Boat Company's office window.

Sheri went back into the office and looked out that window. The boat was

still there! It seemed like a long shot, but maybe this clue would help the investigation. First, though, she had to help unload the ferry.

High above the dock, on the top deck of the *Emerald Isle*, Michelle White gazed upon pristine Beaver Island. It was a far cry from downtown Detroit, where she worked as a high school principal. It looked so small, so pretty—those wood frame buildings lining the curve of the shore—and... so white. There wasn't another black person in sight. That was, she reminded herself, the point of her visit.

A few months ago she'd been invited by a friend who lived on the Island to see if it might be a good place for a summer camp for some of her students. They could study for college entrance exams, while getting experiences urban kids don't usually have: kayaking, riding horses, scuba diving, sailing. Tramping on trails.

"Will it be safe?" was the first thing she'd asked him.

"Sure, why not?"

"Because we're talking about, what, 15 African-American teenagers from Detroit hitting the Island all at once. Not exactly what people are used to. How many black people own property here anyway? Maybe it will make someone nervous. Maybe someone who doesn't like black people will do something." He had assured her that discrimination was unlikely; people on the Island were not like that and wouldn't put up with someone who was. They'd even renamed Darkeytown Road,

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which referred to Irish people, not black people, because it might be considered racially offensive. He'd reminded her that scores of her students had spent time without problems in Grand Rapids, East Lansing, and even Kalkaska—hardly bastions of racial diversity and sensitivity. But as she was warming up to the idea, he'd raised her anxiety again.

"On the Island they could learn to shoot guns."

"Say what?! Are you craaaaaazy?!"

"No, no. Some Islanders could teach them to hunt and shoot rifles. It makes sense—learn how to be around guns and use them, not be afraid of them. Not be ignorant."

"I don't know about that," she had replied. "I have two students—girls whose fathers were shot dead last year." Anyway, she'd finally made the 240-mile trek from Detroit to see what the Island had to offer, good or bad.

Suddenly, Michelle's memory of that conversation evaporated. She turned to a stranger standing on the boat deck who was waving to friends below. "My Lord," she yelled, "what was that!" A maniacal cackling filled the air, approaching the boat.

"Loon," he said calmly, barely turning toward her.

She was startled. "Excuse me?" Why was this man insulting her?

"Loon," he said again. "Look." He pointed over the water at a large bird winging vigorously toward the shore. "Common loon; they nest here in the summer. It's an endangered species."

"Just like some of my students,"

Michelle thought out loud. She turned to the north and used her small binoculars to scan the boats in the harbor. On a large cruiser named *Addiction* a young man was leaning over the side. He dropped a small plastic bag into the water and it sank out of sight. Michelle decided to ask a boat crew member about this: weren't there rules about throwing trash into the beautiful lake?

The next morning found Deputy Sheriff Jim Campbell examining a cell phone. It had been in one of the unconscious woman's pockets, but he hadn't had time to check it out. First, he'd talked with the man who'd been knocked out at Donegal Bay, who was recovering well. Clearly *that* assault had been related to the murder. The man had found what was probably the dead woman's diary, which she had hidden in fear of someone—a husband or Island boyfriend, maybe even some Mormons. They were fighting over selling land she owned on the Island. But the diary was gone now—lifted, nodoubt, by the killer.

Were the murder and assault connected in some way to the woman lying in the Health Center? It seemed that the woman was a Mormon; in her purse he'd found a membership card in an online dating service for Latter Day Saints. After leaving the victim's side, he had taken a call from Sheri Timsak, who reported that she might have seen the dead woman—or, at least, her yellow hat—on a boat that was still in the bay. She'd also said that a passenger from Detroit had told her that someone on that same boat had thrown something

into the lake. Clues were coming in from all over.

The deputy checked the cell phone's memory. The last call had gone to a number with what he recognized was a Chicago area code. Maybe it belonged to the dead woman who, according to Ed Wojan's information, may have come from the Windy City; he was still checking out that lead. Jim pressed the "call" button on the phone, which automatically redialed the Chicago number. It rang several times before he heard a man's voice.

"Yeah?" There was a pause, but Jim said nothing. "Hello ... who's there?" Jim detected a little nervousness, an edge, in the voice. And he heard something in the background—a horn tooting. Or was that just his imagination?

"Hello, sir," he finally said into the phone. "This is Verizon calling. We've had reports of bad connections in your area code, so we're checking with customers at random. Can you hear me now?"

"Yeah, yeah."

"Can you tell me where you are, sir? Are you in the Chicago area?"

"No, no. I'm up north on—wait a minute! *Who* is this?"

"Verizon, sir."

The connection went dead. But Jim knew precisely where "up north" his call had been answered. Those horn blasts in the background—three long and two short ones—had been from the *Emerald Isle*, announcing its departure from Paradise Bay. ...



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Humanities students present the world

by Frank Solle

For the 18 juniors and seniors in Mr. Stambaugh's Humanities class at the BICS, the end of this school year's first semester came to a climax, with a great sigh of relief and the presentation of their individual projects.

Every other year Stambaugh teaches the Humanities class, and every other year students are put through the stressful process of defining their project, building or creating or constructing that project, writing an in-depth research paper, and then giving a 10-minute oral presentation describing the project and the entire creative process involved.

"I always tell the kids, 'if it doesn't kill you it's going to make you stronger,'" he said of the project that takes up much of the second nine-week marking period and makes up a good part of that period's grade. "And as I pointed out to them a couple days before the projects were due everyone is still alive."

This year Stambaugh encouraged the students to focus on either Europe or Asia as a source for their projects, as that is the major focus of the Humanities class. But the field of possibilities is open. "Pretty much anything goes," he said. "They can do projects from the 20th century if they choose. I've even had kids do musical compositions. It's not necessarily related to the ancient world, but because we've covered that (in class),



that's where the kids feel a little more comfortable."

This year the students tackled projects as diverse as Emma Adam's model of the Great Pyramid of Giza to Cody

Gillespie's representation of England's Stonehenge to Brett Maudrie's almost-working model of the Gutenberg printing press (a small broken piece prevented its operation) to Jared Wojan's near-life-sized version of a Roman chariot.

"One of the ways I like to approach this is to tell the students I want them to think about their own personal interests

and figure out how they can fit that into an historical approach. I want them to find a subject they can expand into a project," he explained.

Two prime examples came to fruition this

year: Green's preparation and explanation of a traditional Irish meal, given her family's strong ties to its Irish heritage, and Rita Palmer's creation of a model of a Celtic harp that coincides with her love of music.

"The kids really come to these projects from a lot of different avenues," Stambaugh said.

While some projects are inspired from personal backgrounds, others come from classroom materials and others simply from an inspired interest. Again, that diversity was manifest in projects such as Saygan Croswite's model of the Great Wall of China, James



Gillepsie's model of ancient Greece's Parthenon, John Runberg's recreated death mask of King Tut, Tony Bousquet's large model of a Mesopotamian Ziggurat, and

Bailey McDonough's highly-detailed model of a Roman bath house.

"My intent behind this is to get the kids to become experts in their area of interest," said Stambaugh. And as the students explain their projects to an evaluation committee made up of other faculty, principal Ms. McNamara, and members of the school board, it quickly becomes obvious that these students know their subject matter.

While the bulk of the students' attained knowledge came from the research required to write a five-page, foot-noted paper and give an oral presentation, there

can be no denying the many hours needed to create the projects led to a deeper understanding of the subject. As senior James Gillespie explained, "My project took 18-20 hours of work, mostly on the weekends." Gillespie admitted the project was somewhat stressful, yet rewarding. "It was hard at first, but fun as it went along."

Junior Brenna Green explained her Irish meal, along with her paper contrasting Protestants and Catholics in 18th-century Ireland required "quite a bit of research." Green added, "We had so many deadlines along the way, it was stressful, but worthwhile."

In addition



to learning about ancient Rome's Colosseum, senior Krystle Timsak received a lesson in model making. "I had a lot of problems," she explained. "First I tried clay, but it

was too heavy. Then I tried plaster, but you can't mold with it." Timsak's search for the proper material for modeling the Colosseum ended with blueboard (Styrofoam), which she was able to carve. "It took forever," Timsak said. "But I got a good grade. It was time well spent. I learned a lot."

Other projects included: John Albin's Pantheon, Christine McDonough's Wheel of the Year, Keri Wirth's Colossus of Rhodes, David Bousquet's Battle of Teutoburg Forest, David Schwartzfisher's Arc de Triumf, and Cory Sowa's Celtic

Lyre.

While students on remote Beaver Island pour themselves into these projects focused on faraway lands, it is surprising to discover that sometimes the learning becomes personal. "I've always told the kids if they ever make it to one of these places they should send me a postcard," Stambaugh said. "And over the years I've had quite a few postcards come in from various places around the world."

Who knows which of the students from this year's group will someday stamp a card in a far off land and, with a knowing smile, send it along to Mr. Stambaugh.



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A Resolve to Win

by Frank Solle



Brenden



Justin



Brett

Whether or not Beaver Island's Islander basketball and volleyball teams actually made a resolution to 'win them all,' that's exactly what they have done since the calendar changed a month ago. Two home series sweeps against Northern Lights League opponents Munising Baptist and Paradise were sandwiched around a travel sweep at Hannahville, making the Islander teams a combined 12-0 for 2006 to date.

February may prove a bit tougher as the Islanders open the month with a trip to rival Mackinac Island over the weekend of the third and fourth. The next weekend finds the volleyball team at the annual Engadine Tournament on Saturday, Feb. 11, in what yearly provides strong competition. The final homestand of the season comes Feb. 17-18 with the

Soaring Eagles of Hannahville making the flight over from the U.P. The Islanders wrap up the campaign with a trip to the frigid shores of Superior where they will take on the aptly-named Grand Marais Polar Bears Feb. 24-25.

The volleyball district tournament is set for Saturday March 4 at Pellston. A twist in the format this year is the addition of the host Hornets who have returned to Class D after a number of years of competing in Class C. Along with district power Harbor Light Christian, the field includes Mackinac City and Alanson.

The basketball district tournament is scheduled for Ellsworth during the week of March 6-11. Actual game dates have yet to be set. Along with the Islanders, the district field includes the host Lancers,

plus Alba, Central Lake and Bellaire, currently undefeated on the season and ranked number one in the state in Class D.

Besting the Bobcats

The Islanders opened the new year against the Bobcats of Munising Baptist the weekend of Jan. 6-7 with the basketball team claiming wins of 67-14 on Friday and 45-30 Saturday morning.

If Friday's game wasn't decided in a 15-0 Islander run to start the game, it certainly was with a 16-6 run to begin the second period that lifted the Islanders to a 35-8 lead. And if there was any doubt left, the Islanders held the Bobcats scoreless through the fourth quarter.

Coach Mike Myers used this opportunity to get all his players as much court time as possible, with all 13 players

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photographs by Melissa Peters



Jared

suited up finding the hoop. Sharp-shooting senior Justin Martin led the way with 10 points with fellow senior Saygan Crosswhite netting nine.

Saturday's game stayed closer through the first half of play with the Islanders holding a 22-19 edge at the break. While the teams matched baskets to open the third quarter, the Islanders broke open the game with a 12-0 run over the final five minutes of the period to take a 38-23 lead into the final frame.

Sophomore Brenden Martin paced the Islanders with 10 points, followed by eighth-grader Bryan Timsak with 9.

At the volleyball net the Islanders found themselves in the strange position of playing six-against-five as Munising has just five girls enrolled in grades 7-12. As Bobcat coach Rebecca Frederick



James

pointed out, "that leaves a lot of space on the court to cover."

Yet the Cats covered space very well as the 25-18, 25-17, 25-21 Friday Islander win indicates. Saturday's results were similar, although the Islanders played a much better match in winning 25-12, 25-17, 25-9.

Caitlin Boyle led a good service effort by the Islanders, making good on all 16 of her attempts, including five aces. Krystle Timsak added six aces on 15 good serves. Both Christine McDonough and Emma Adams finished with six kills. Boyle and Melissa Peters each added eight assists.

Coach Connie Boyle summed up the matches by saying, "It was a good weekend. Everybody got plenty of playing time."



Defense

Winging past the Eagles

The wins at Hannahville on Jan. 13-14 didn't come as easily for the Islanders. In Friday's basketball game the Eagles flew out to a 16-9 first quarter advantage before the Islanders found their game en route to a dramatic 70-63 victory.

"We got behind early then switched from our zone defense to go man-up," said coach Myers, noting that he put lightning-quick senior Brett Maudrie on the Eagles' top scorer and Maudrie was successful in shutting him down. "Fortunately, we had enough offense to catch up with them after that."

With that defensive change in place from the get-go on Saturday, the

continued on page 20.

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Caitlin.

A Resolve to Win, continued from page 19. Islanders had an easier time of defeating the Eagles 62-35.

Maudrie led the Islanders with 27 points in Friday's win, with John Albin adding a double-double of 18 points and 15 rebounds. Jared Wojan chipped in 16 points.

Wojan took scoring honors in Saturday's win, connecting for 22 points. Maudrie finished with 16, while Albin again doubled up, scoring 11 points and pulling down an impressive 20 rebounds.

The volleyball team also started the weekend behind, losing the first game Friday 23-25 before rallying to complete the 25-20, 25-19, 25-23 win.

On Saturday the Islanders took control early and maintained it through a 25-

15, 25-15, 25-13 victory.

"We knew not to underestimate Hannahville, and it's a good thing," Boyle said of the talented Eagles. "We had to work hard for every single point. Hannahville never gave up, but neither did we."

Emma Adams and Christine McDonough led the Islanders at the net with 25 and 15 kills, respectively. They were aided by Maeve Green, who finished with 16 assists, and Caitlin Boyle, who had nine. Krystle Timsak and Hannah Conner each finished with 100% serving.

Downing the Rockets

Paradise arrived on the Island the weekend of Jan 20-21 ready to make some upset waves. Unfortunately, for

the basketball team, they didn't come with enough height to battle a taller Islander squad in games that went 61-50 and 72-52 to the locals.

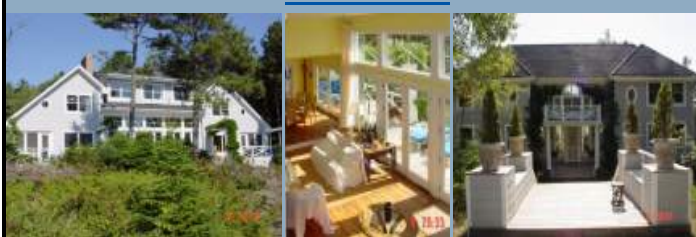
The hopes of the Rocket netters were washed away by their Island counterparts in the most competitive volleyball of the season as the Islanders won on Friday 25-20, 25-19, 26-24, and then on Saturday 25-19, 29-27, 28-30, 25-8.

Friday's basketball game turned on a 12-0 second-quarter run by the Islanders as they held the Rockets scoreless for over five minutes. The Islanders held a comfortable 30-18 lead at the half.

Both teams managed runs in the second half, with the Islanders striking first on a 10-0 stretch that pushed their lead to 42-19. That gave coach Myers enough room to go to his bench, and while the

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Emma



Krystle



Maevie

photographs by Frank Solle

reserves played well, the Rockets were able to outscore them 11-3 to close the period at 45-30.

The Island starters claimed a 12-4 run through the middle of the final quarter and coasted to the win from there.

Jared Wojan led the team with 20 points with Brett Maudrie adding 10.

Saturday's game was nearly a repeat with the Islanders matching their 16-8 first quarter margin of the previous night. The teams traded runs once again with Paradise sticking close into the final frame. Two early treys and a three-point play pulled the Rockets within 51-47 before the Islanders sent them crashing with a 19-2 spurt over the next 4:28 on their way to the 20-point win.

Maudrie topped out with 21 points, followed by Wojan with 16 and John

Albin with 11.

The Islanders are now 8-1 overall and 7-1 in league play.

The volleyball team enjoyed a dominating net performance by Emma Adams over the weekend as she smacked 18 kills in Friday's win and 20 more on Saturday. Christine McDonough added nine kills Friday and eight more Saturday. Both hitters also scored on timely tips and beastly blocks.

But in the end the Islanders needed some steady serving to pull out the wins. Down 21-24 in Friday's third game, it was freshman Caitlin Boyle who stepped up to the line and sent four good serves over the net, giving the front line players a chance to do their thing.

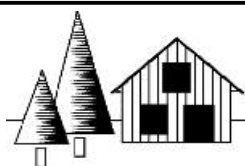
"It's good we were able to come from behind," coach Boyle said. "It's

really hard when it's game point after game point."

The team again faced a breathtaking game point situation in Saturday's second game. This time it was Adams stepping up to serve a crucial ace at 27-all, then another good serve that ended with Melissa Peters sending the winning shot over the net.

Andrea Moore took her turn in the next game, pulling the Islanders even at 24-all with three good serves. Yet the team couldn't complete the comeback and the Rockets finally had things go their way in the 30-28 win.

The Islanders left little doubt after that as they took control of the fourth game and never let up in claiming their ninth consecutive win of the season and improved to 8-0 in league play.



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Why Leave?

Some people think snowbirds are crazy; why would anyone ever leave Beaver Island if they didn't have to?

Well, on December 27th Bill Hirschey was relaxing on his boat out in front of his Rockport, Texas, condo when this 45-pound 44" black drum got itself tangled in his fishline. After a 20-minute tug-of-war Bill got the big black into the boat long enough to record its girth before throwing it back—as Texas

game laws require for anything over 30". "They aren't good to eat when they're that big anyway," he said. "But between 14 and 20-22" they're the best tasting fish in the world!"



Thanks to our Wonderful EMS

On January 30th, my mother Pauline celebrated her 96th birthday. This is due in large part to so many wonderful people on the Island giving time, talent, assistance, respite care, and an air conditioner.

Unusually hot weather in July made my mother's breathing difficult so we called the EMS, which arrived within minutes. They made an assessment, started oxygen, and then transported her to the BIRHC where she was given excellent professional care. The paramedics who accompanied us were reassuring and made Pauline's recovery quicker.

We tried to buy an air conditioner for her on the Island, but instead Bill McDonough loaned us his. What kind of business is he running anyway?

Then there were Joyce Runberg and Lois Williams, who arranged much needed respite help. Thanks to Sandy LoDico, Loretta Slater, and Margaret Bass for spending time with my Mom. Patti Hinelan was a cheerful angel who brought considerable nursing skills—and a stool for my mom to sit on while Patti climbed in the tub with her to keep her safe, and scrubbed. I don't think that's taught in nursing school. Thank you all so much. —Jim and Lynne Flanagan

Rev. Ralph Prescott Witmer 1913–2006

The Rev. Ralph Prescott Witmer, 93, a resident of Beaver Island, passed away in Asheboro, N.C. A graduate of Albion College in Albion, Mich., he also attended Garrett Theological Seminary and was a minister in the United Methodist Church serving more than 11 churches during his 40-year career, including the Petoskey United Methodist Church.

He was predeceased by his mother, father, brother, son, and his wife, Charlene. He is survived by his children, Carol Cathey, Ronald Witmer and Lynn Witmer; his wife, Ruth Witmer; and 12 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

BIRHC Board tackles Funding Shortfall

At its January meeting the Health Center Board (with two members on speaker phone) was treated to a presentation by Bob Tambellini, who discussed its growing Endowment Fund at the Charlevoix County Community Foundation. The fund principal has passed \$800,000, and earns the BIRHC a 5% return, which until this year has been reinvested. (The BIRHC's 'Special Projects Fund,' with assets of almost \$90,000, is managed by the CCCF but held in a special money-market account so it can be dispersed as needed.) If the Endowment Fund continues to grow, it could cover the operating shortfall about which the Board is so concerned.

The various reports presented at the meeting revealed that the Health Center's operation was continuing to grow (\$5,000/month more in billings for this November and December); continuing improvements in protocols; the acquisition of more and more equipment to allow additional procedures to be performed here (a hypothermia unit was just purchased with money donated by the Beaver Island Club of Grand Rapids), but still falls far short of covering the operating costs. For awhile the excess grant money left over from building the new Center was used to defray operating cost overruns, but that has now been exhausted. The current budget calls for some of the Special Projects Fund to be used for operations, and for \$15,000 of the Endowment Fund's earnings to be put towards this as well. A truck raffle will be held again this summer, with 500 chances on an extended cab, 4-w.d. beauty sold around town. So everything is covered—for this year.

The Board announced that Karmanos would be here for mammograms for 3 days instead of 2, next September 25, 26, and 27. The Health Center has forms for Medicare Part D, which they will fax to the Commission on Aging in Charlevoix to get advice and information on selecting a plan. The school-to-work program at the BICS will provide a student for two hours a day, two days a week, to help out as a way of learning.

The Performance Improvement Committee will tackle lab tracking next. The ss# privacy policy will be added to the policy handbook. The BIRHC will join the Chamber to help support the community. A Value Statement for the Center has been created; now another will be crafted for the Board.

Steps have been taken to preserve the excellent relationship with Munson, whose CEO just retired; his assistant, Kathy McManus, met with Donna Kubic and Don Spencer and affirmed her continuing concern. One particular advantage: Munson will give us the canopy of its purchasing department to get us better prices and allow us to buy items for which the manufacturers don't want to waste their time by dealing directly with us.

An on-site memorial to Grace Matela will feature a special "champion tree," a national champion Norway Maple offspring raised by Dave Milarch (who identified the national champion green ash tree in Elk Rapids, with a girth of 23½ feet.)

The BIRHC's Annual Meeting will be held on March 18th at 2:00 p.m. at the Peaine Town Hall.

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"Beaver Effects" by Trevor Laws



Despite the unseasonably warm weather in mid-January that melted most of December's snow and left the harbor yet unfrozen (Lake G has 10"), we've had quite a few suggestions for the Beaver Island Wind Scale Contest - the "Beaver Effects." The first came from Trevor Laws the day after the January issue was released:

- 0-1 mph:** *Beaver Islander* makes 6.5 knots—in calm seas;
- 1-3:** sailboats gently move across the bay, still good rock-skipping water;
- 4-7:** better go to Fox Lake, best time for fishing;
- 8-12:** small waves crash against the old Coast Guard boathouse, boats swing on moorings;
- 13-18:** rip roaring sailboat action, geese can be seen to move in the direction of the wind across their flight path;



- 19-24:** Island Airways airplanes slip to land at WelkeField, the Ferry has to maneuver sideways to tie up shoreside;
- 25-31:** snowdrifts form on large corners, birds make short flight paths, the rabbits at O'Hare stay near the barns;
- 32-38:** people don't use umbrellas, no sailboats on the bay, dust is blown away as trucks pass on King's Highway;



- 39-46:** Nobody on the water! People watch from Dalwhinnie at the outside scenery with a cup of joe;
- 47-54:** geese walk from place to place;
- 55-63:** animals out of sight, smart people stay away from large old trees;
- 64-73:** I am standing at the bay entrance to see these 35 foot waves!
- 74-up:** all the boats are hauled in close to shore, the ferry doesn't run and stays mainside, no trips from Island Airways.

Islander Celebrates 90th

Bea Bauman, Beaver Island's 2nd oldest resident, celebrated her 90th birthday on January 27th with a dozen calls from friends. Her son Melvin and daughter-in-law Connie drove up from Grand Rapids for the happy occasion.

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Health Fair fares well by Frank Solle



On Saturday, Jan. 28, the Beaver Island Rural Health Center, in conjunction with Beaver Island EMS, hosted a Health Fair as a way of celebrating the second anniversary of the opening of the new King's Highway facility.

The other aim of the well-attended Health Fair was to enhance the public's perception of preventative medical care and to highlight all the services available at the BIRHC.

During the four hours the BIRHC was open for the Fair, 48 Island residents stopped by for a number of free medical tests including: cholesterol screening, blood pressure and oxygen saturation measurements, hearing testing, blood sugar and hemoglobin tests, and body-mass indexing.

In addition, a wealth of informational medical pamphlets were avail-



able, as were toothbrushes, toothpaste, dental floss, and dental information, courtesy of Dr. Wendy White, DDS. Our dedicated local Hospice group also had an information table set up in the lobby. A table with coloring books and crayons was available in the lobby for children as well.

As participants wandered from station to station, there was plenty of laughter and conversation, while in the Community Room a table was set up



with healthy snacks that included carrots, raisins, celery with peanut butter, and a large bowl of Chex mix. Coffee and lemonade also were available.

Several members of Beaver Island EMS and the current Paramedic class assisted BIRHC personnel in performing the medical exams throughout the day.

All the testing done at the Health Fair was free of charge as were consultations with BIRHC medical providers if any tests revealed potential problems.

On top of all of that, a variety of door prizes were awarded during the event.

"It was a very productive day," said BIRHC nurse practitioner Sue Solle. "We were happy with the turnout and appreciative of all the help we received in making this Health Fair a success."

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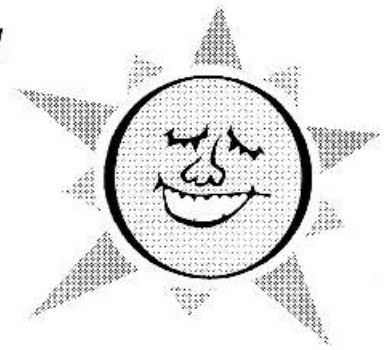
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email: chamber@beaverisland.org



Official 2005 Citizen of the Year Nomination form

Two possible awards: Individual and Organization

Beaver Island Chamber of Commerce
P.O. Box 5
Beaver Island, MI 49782
Phone: (231) 448-2505 E-mail: chamber@biip.net

The awards(s) will honor an individual, couple or community organization
that has made a significant contribution to making Beaver Island
a better place to live, work or visit.

My name is _____ Phone _____

Address _____

I would like to nominate _____

- ♦ Please write 3 or 4 paragraphs, typed preferred, see criteria above
- ♦ Mail to: Beaver Island Chamber of Commerce
P.O. Box 5, Beaver Island, MI 49782

Deadline is Monday, April 3, 2006

Questions? Call Steve West, Mon. - Fri., 8:00 a.m. to noon, at 231-448-2505

The Awards Banquet will be Saturday, April 22, at The Shamrock.
For banquet information contact The Shamrock at (231) 448-2278.
Limited seating, reservations recommended.

Is your home unique?

The *Beacon* would like to run a series about the many special Beaver Island homes. We're interested in unique designs, interesting ways of taking advantage of different sites, uses of unusual materials, or new structural or energy-efficient designs.

If you would like your home considered for an interesting short feature, please drop us a line (Box 254, or beacon@beaverbeacon.com) and we'll take a look, take some pictures, and talk with you about its interesting attributes.

Citizen of the Year Plans Underway

The Beaver Island Chamber of Commerce will hold the 5th annual Citizen of the Year Banquet on April 22 at the Shamrock. The Shamrock will offer a complete meal package, hors d'oeuvres, three entrée choices including prime rib, beverage and dessert for only \$19.95. The Chamber receives \$2.00 for each meal to assist with the award cost. The event starts with cocktails at 6:00, dinner at 7:00, and awards to follow. Seating will be limited to 100; reservations are strongly recommended.

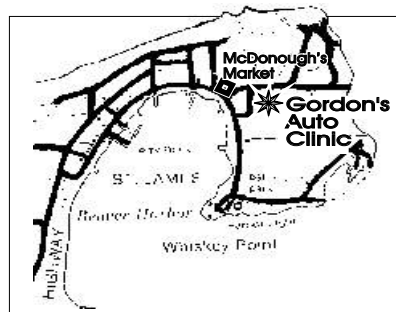
The award(s) will honor an individual, couple, or community organization that has significantly contributed to making Beaver Island a better place to live, work, or visit. Last year Phil and Lil Gregg were honored; previous winners include Connie Wojan, Beaver Island Hospice, Island Emergency Medical Service, and Don Vyse.

Each year nominations are solicited from the community. Anyone can submit a nomination. An official nominating form is included here to the left.

The nine person Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors reviews all the nominations received prior to the deadline (April 3rd) and selects the winner(s). The winners are kept secret until the awards banquet. The award is a beautiful Beaver Island framed photograph and plaque. For more information about the nomination process, contact the Chamber of Commerce at (231) 448-2505 or chamber@beaverisland.org. For banquet information contact the Shamrock at (231) 448-2278.

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Upcoming DSL Decision

TDS will soon make a decision on whether DSL is in Beaver Island's immediate future or not. "All required information and analysis for DSL on Beaver Island is in and has been scrutinized by our team," Dean Watkins, Account Executive at TDS says; "they must now prioritize requests based on several factors that include demand, cost, and ongoing support and maintenance. I'm told a decision will be given at the end of February for Beaver Island." Obviously it is important that anyone who has an interest in DSL broadband being available on Beaver Island lets TDS know, as Beaver Island's market will be compared with other potential markets in other TDS service areas. If you have an interest, *please* let TDS know: (517) 625-6400 or dean.watkins@tdstelecom.com

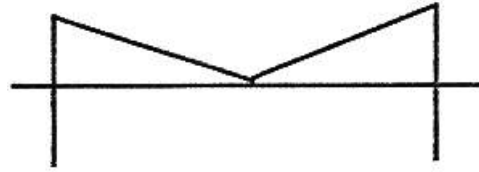
Hopefully next month we will have a positive report on whether or not DSL will be possible in 2006.

Summer Writers Wanted

Pick your favorite magazine. Pick your favorite topic. Learn how you can become a published writer. During July 2006 a writing workshop will be held in the Beaver Island Community School. Dates are Monday through Thursday, July 17-20, 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

The workshop is a coached writing experience in which participants produce their own article. It's not about how to write an article--it's to actually produce one. The workshop is for people who have had little or no experience in writing for magazines, but who want to see their articles in print.

Instructor Dr. Larry Schlack from Western Michigan University has conducted the workshop on Beaver Island for several years. He helps participants develop a clear, forceful writing style and shows them how to open, flesh out and close the article and then how to submit it to a magazine. Information and a brochure are available from Western Michigan University at 269/387-4174 or by email to cheryl.lay@wmich.edu. Schlack says, "There's no better place to do some writing than Beaver Island in the summer. It has the peace and the pace that lead to getting the job done."



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“Beaver Effects”

A Beaver Island Wind Scale Entry by Deb Plastrik



0-1 mph: Donegal Bay lies like glass, either placidly or sullenly, depending on the color of the sky;

1-3: dune grasses stir slightly, but not milkweed plants;

4-7: the Bay's summer collection of wind socks, American and Irish flags moveslightly;

8-12: breezy enough to tempt kite flyers on the shore;

13-18: small waves start to come ashore, can't hear loons calling from the Bay over the noise;

19-24: bald eagles float lazily over the Bay, just having fun; bird feeders start to swing far enough that chickadees have to work at landing right;

25-31: bird feeders start to pelt the windows with seed as they swing wildly, wooden American flag plaque starts to bump against the siding, wind in the trees will wake you from your nap;

32-38: pug dogs get blown sideways when they step out of the shelter, time to bungee-cord down every-

thing that can move; bird feeders blow off their hooks;

39-46: garbage can gets lifted from its sheltered and strapped-down position and thrown down the side of the dune;

47-54: folks from town call to see if we're still okay; we stay inside and watch the Bay waters crash wildly against sand bars, rocks, and shore; and

55-above: haven't seen it, and don't want to!



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One Hundred Years Ago

by Joyce Bartels

Charlevoix Sentinel February 1, 1906 **Local News:** "The tug *Maeta* took the mail to Beaver Island Saturday, but could get no nearer than Big Sand Bay. She was met there and the mail exchanged. The run was made with reasonable good weather. As we go to press this morning, Capt. McCafferty is waiting for a chance to make the run, bad weather preventing. Cable reports state that the ice field is creeping south. Capt. McCafferty says he will continue the mail trips as long as he can touch any part of the Island."

Charlevoix Sentinel February 8, 1906 **Local News:** "The mail will leave St. James tomorrow (Friday) for Cross Village, and take back a very large accumulated mail from Charlevoix. Cross Village reported three inches of ice there yesterday, which has probably increased considerably since. We shall probably receive a Beaver Island mail here Saturday or Monday."

"The Beaver Island mail has settled down to the Cross Village ice route. The last boat trip was on Saturday, January 24th, and the run was made easily, so far as ice was concerned. Capt. McCafferty has been watching for a chance to make another trip, but heavy weather prevented all last week. Now the ice field extends from the straits to the Foxes, and there is no longer any hope of getting over. We shall probably be



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exchanging mail this week via Cross Village."

"The court of claims at Washington will decide soon whether or not the Ottawa and Chippewa Indians of Michigan are entitled to \$125,000, which they claim is due them from the Chicago treaty of 1836."

Charlevoix Sentinel February 15, 1906 **Local News:**
"The mail with a pony team, started out from St. James last Monday morning for Cross Village. They succeeded in getting as far as the head of Hog Island that night, where they remained until morning. Tuesday morning the blizzard prevented any progress, and after waiting there all day, and the feed running low, the outfit returned to St. James. They expect to make another start tomorrow morning."

Charlevoix Sentinel February 22, 1906 **Local News:**
"Not a ton of ice has yet been put up at Beaver Island, and they are beginning to be nervous about prospects."

"On Tuesday morning of this week, at Holy Cross Church, St. James, by Rev. Father Paschal Foerster, Mr. Michael J. McCann was married to Miss Anna, daughter of Mr. And Mrs. Frances Donlevy, both of St. James. Mike has many friends on the mainland that would like to climb over to the Island during the honeymoon. Good luck to Mike and Mrs. Mike."



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In a beautiful wooded setting near the
riding stables. Walk out the back to
Sweeney's Pond. See the eagles and
deer; let the loons lull you to sleep.
Reduced rates for the off-season. Nice
touches; everything brand new!
Call (231) 448-2397



BEACHFRONT HOUSE FOR RENT:

Exciting cottage with view of High
Island from large deck. Open floor plan,
huge windows on extremely private
beach. 2 BRs with 2 full beds + loft
with 2 twins. 1 1/2 baths, TV/VCR, W/D,
microwave, gas grill, all amenities.
\$1095/week; spring & fall \$895. Limit 6
people. Please call (706) 268-2022,
(219) 874-4676 May to Nov: 448-2001

Real Estate, For Rent

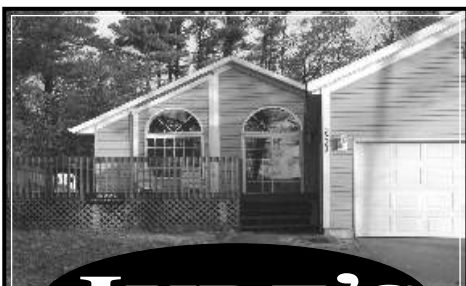
COTTAGE BETWEEN THE SHORES - Conveniently located 1
block from harbor district, yet tucked
away on McDonough Rd. 2 king, 1 dou-
ble, 1 twin, 2 sleeper sofas. Fully
equipped kitchen & laundry facilities.
Arbor deck with hammock swings and
gas grill. \$750/weekly. Call Beth Anne
@ (989) 561-5079 or (989) -330-9528.

BEAVER SANDS BEACH HOME -
Located on Sand Bay, beautiful Lake
Michigan waterfront home, available
summer of 2006: 3 bdrms; sleeps 8; 2
full baths; w/dry; full kitchen, including
dishwasher and micro; wonderful sun-
rise views with sandy beach & safe
swimming, screened porch & large

deck, everything included. Prime
weeks open. Call Nancy: (810) 227-366
nrosso@hotmail.com.

**LOEW'S LODGE ON LAKE
GENESERATH** - 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.

HARBOR HOUSE - Weekly Rental
Close to town (short walk to
Dalwhinnie), Sleeps 6, 1 1/2 bath,
washer/dryer, linens furnished, freshly
remodeled, pet friendly, \$800.00/week,
Contact Ryan & Gretchen Fogg at
(616) 836-1597.



JUDE'S Rentals

**Apartments & Homes
Nightly or Weekly**

* **7 HOUSEKEEPING UNITS**
Completely Furnished
Great for multi-family groups.

* **6-BEDROOM HOME**
3 1/2 baths, 3 kitchens, 2 large decks
Lake Michigan across the street!

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

Beaver Island Calendar of Events

February 1st, St. James Township
Board Regular Meeting, 7:00 pm
St. James Twp. Hall

February 8th, Peaine Township Board
Regular Meeting, 7:00 pm Peaine
Hall - Trails Committee Meeting
following regular board meeting.

February 11th Valentine's Dinner at
Nina's-bring your valentine out for

a great meal at Nina's.

February 25th The 40th Annual Beaver
Island Club of Grand Rapids St.
Patrick's Celebration. See page 13.

March 17th & 18th Happy St. Patrick's
Day on Beaver Island!

March 18th - BIRHC Annual Meeting -
2:00 pm Peaine Township Hall

April 15th Hoping for Spring, a dinner on

Subscription: ☐ New ☐ Renewal

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

☐ \$28.00 / Year (Standard Rate U.S.P.S. Postage)

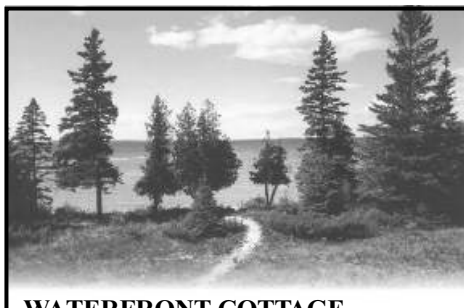
☐ \$36.00 / Year (First Class Mail - faster, especially out of state, and forwarded.)

Please Mail to: The Beaver Beacon . Box 254, Beaver Island, MI 49782



BEACHFRONT HOME FOR RENT:

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



WATERFRONT COTTAGE FOR RENT:

Fabulous sunset view. Quiet, wooded
location near Indian Point (NW side).
One BR and loft. Sleeps four max.
Everything you need is there! Sorry,
no smoking or pets. \$650/week in
season. Off season available.
dtm76@sbcglobal.net or call
(616) 396-6468 or (616) 490-3330



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

SAND BAY - "BAY HAVEN" COTTAGE - WEEKLY RENTAL -

Lake Front, Sandy Beach, 3BR, great
view, laundry, East Side Dr., brand new
home. \$1700.00/week, available in
June, September 2006. Call Laurie Bos
at (616) 786-3863 or email
lauriesbos@chartermi.net
Photographs of Bay Haven can be
viewed at bayhaven.beaverisland.net

WEEKLY RENTAL - Harbor Beach
Two-bedroom Condos. \$500/week.
Call Satch Wierenga at (231) 448-2808.

THE FISHERMAN'S HOUSE -
Great 'In-Town' location. 4 BR/2 Bath;
W/D; Beautifully appointed. For avail-
ability, call Bill or Tammy (231) 448-

2499 or (231) 448-2733.

RENTAL CABIN - for rent - Sand
Bay-sleeps 8-amenities-available May
to September \$950.00 wk plus security
deposit. (231) 582-5057 or email
robin@robinleeberry.com

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

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. \$650/week. Call (734) 769-7565.
mschroer@a2mich.com *continued p. 34.*



FONT VIEW: right on the water. 4 BR –
2 bedrooms on the upper level with queen
beds, and 2 bedrooms downstairs with
walk-out sliding doors. Sleeps 6. Full
Kitchen, screened-in porch and large deck
overlooking Font Lake. \$850.00 per week.
loonsong@biip.net (231) 448-2902

the glassed in porch at Nina's! For
Reservations: 231-448-2396

June 16th - 17th 150th anniversary of
Strang's shooting; reenactments on
the Harbor, and the presentation of
papers in the afternoon

July 17th - 22nd Museum Week 2006

July 21st - 22nd Beaver Island Music
Festival 2006

Islander Sports

February 3rd / 4th – at Mackinac Island

February 11th – Volleyball at Engadine
Tournament

February 17th / 18th – **Hannahville at**
Beaver - Fri. 6:30 p.m., Sat. 9 a.m.

February 24th / 25th – at Grand Marais

March 4th – Volleyball District Tourney

March 6th-11th – Basketball District
Tournament

Gift Subscription

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Message for gift card _____

Gift From _____ ☐ \$28 Standard ☐ \$36 First Class

The Convent *in the Village*



Beautiful Harbor View

*Full Housekeeping Home
Sleeps 15 - 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

Real Estate, For Rent *continued from page 33.*



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, 1½ 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



BEAUTIFUL SECLUDED NEW CHALET: Near Donegal Bay's beach. 3BR, 2Bath. MBR has garden tub. W/DR TV/VCR Grill. Upon availability, bikes & auto for your use. Sleeps 6-8. No Pets. \$790/week. Off season rates available April thru June 15 & Sept 15 thru Oct. Evenings (708) 389-0621

DONEGAL BAY COTTAGE - Nicely furnished 3 BR, 1 bath, washer/dryer. On dune w/ beach access. \$775/ July & August \$600 off-season weekly. Dana Luscombe (248) 549-2701 eve or dpluscombe@msn.com

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. **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. **LOG CABIN ON SAND BAY -**

Real Estate, For Sale:

WOODED HOMESITE IN PORT OF ST. JAMES - Huge lot, surveyed, perked, power available, 3 mins from Donegal Bay Beach, 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.



FOR SALE - HARBOR-AREA HOUSE:

Four bedroom, 1 ½ bath house on two lots with garage. Wonderful location near town and the harbor. Asking price is \$225,000.

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

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 villpsych@aol.com.

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

FOR SALE BY OWNER - END OF ROAD LOT NEAR LAKE - Contoured very nice site. Font View Court; Double-size lot, design your creative or



FABULOUS NEW HOME FOR SALE

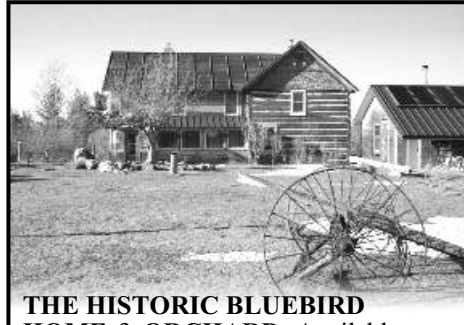
Located between Lake Michigan and the Harbor. Two bedrooms plus huge loft, one full bath, living room, w/2-story ceiling, kitchen, utility room, large front & side decks, truly "Turn-Key" with appliances, furniture, bedding, down to dishes and silverware! Easy walking distance to everything in town.

Offered at \$235,000⁰⁰

CALL ERIK PETERSON, OWNER
(269) 857-6084 or (616) 240-8980



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 mrdoig@hotmail.com \$750.00/wk off season rates available.



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



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

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 email nprawat@yahoo.com
WATERFRONT COTTAGE - On the east side. Available by the week or weekend. One BR, full kitchen and bath. Enjoy the water and the woods, year

round. Off-season rates. Complete privacy. (231) 448-2907.

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

traditional home here. Borders 30-acre preserve. Perked. Maps, elevation, info & comps available.: \$27,500. (917) 628-8263 or onthenews@aol.com

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.

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

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.

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

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.



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



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.



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www.beaverbeacon.com

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