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## Beaver Beacon

the Island Monthly since 1955

*published by*

Paradise Bay Press

Beaver Beacon

Box 254

Beaver Island, MI 49782

(231) 448-2476

[www.beaverbeacon.com](http://www.beaverbeacon.com)

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Dock, 1936



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## 4. NEWS FROM THE TOWNSHIPS

### St. James Township

A special Town Board meeting was held on October 28<sup>th</sup> to consider three bids to repair the Island Treasures Resale Shop. Since the payments were to be made by St. James Township, which would then be reimbursed by Island Treasures, attorney Bryan Graham recommended it award the contract, which it did—to K & M Diversified Contractors Inc. (Ernie Martin), low bidder (by \$110) at \$9,680.

At the regular meeting of November 5<sup>th</sup>, the supervisor announced that Charlevoix County was proposing an ordinance that would make ORV use on some roads legal, with a public hearing to be held after the first of the year. CCRC manager Pat Harmon recommended King's Highway and Michigan Avenue be off-limits to ORVs.

The Road Commission did not hold its usual once-a-year meeting on Beaver Island because of budget concerns. Supervisor Don Vyse wrote a letter in response to its report of that meeting, asking how the county road millage fund would be distributed, how the county was progressing on the plans for a new Island garage, and where the situation with gravel rests. He also commended the local Road Commission crew, Dave Adams and Doug Gillespie.

The conservation easement for Arranmore Park was recorded; now the

Town Board will begin to develop a plan for the park's use.

The engineer/architect's plans and estimate for the Whiskey Point Light tower rehab indicated the cost might run \$196,000. The State Historic Commission must approve the plans. Don Vyse met with GLLKA's Dick Moehl and Terry Pepper to discuss how to proceed with raising funds.

Ron Gallagher informed the Board that various neighbors had stopped to talk to him about the possibility of rebuilding the Keeper's House, which they knew he was against, and that all of them were also against this; they signed a petition against this, which he had drafted. Don Vyse responded that they were a long way from even considering this possibility, and that such a task would be very difficult. For one thing, he said, the State Historic Commission would have to approve every step along the way.

Supervisor Vyse reported that he and Mike Scripps and Terry Saxton, members of the Airport Committee, and Rachel Teague, Airport Manager, had met with the FAA in Lansing to discuss the procedure for developing a 5-year plan, which will include building a new terminal. A parcel adjacent to the airport's north edge was given to Peaine Township and will become airport property, and now another parcel, of 5 acres,

## BALLAST WATER LAW UPHELD

A federal appeals court upheld the 2005 Michigan law designed to prevent Great Lakes ships from bringing more invasive species in their ballast water,

which had been challenged by the shipping industry. The law requires a ship to get a DEQ permit certifying that it has onboard technology to kill live organ-

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has come up for sale near the north end of the N/S runway. The FAA was not encouraging about providing funds for its purchase, but the Airport Committee may decide to buy it and then formally apply for reimbursement. If the Committee doesn't act, there are other buyers standing by.

Usually the Board accepts an in-the-fall bid for providing fuel oil to the Town Hall, Fire Hall, and Government Center for the coming year, but this fall it decided to wait until spring, since its tanks were recently topped off, in the hope that prices will continue to fall. It will solicit bids from mainland suppliers then, in case any of them would put a tanker truck on the ferry.

### Peaine Township

Twenty-three people attended the Peaine Board meeting on 11-12.

Supervisor John Works announced that the Department of Agriculture had approved a \$7,000 Rural Development grant to purchase two generators, one for the East Side Fire Hall and the other for the Town Hall—roughly half the cost. It will now be up to the Town Board to decide in the weeks ahead whether or not to proceed with this purchase and installation. An audience member wondered if the generators' warranty would be voided if a non-certified maintenance man worked on

them. No one knew the answer.

Pete LoDico reported that after talking with former MDoT head Bob Welke he wanted to apply for an Economic Development grant for funds to repave the King's Highway; he hoped to work with the Charlevoix County Commission to also get help for this project from the recently-passed county-wide road improvement millage.

Paul Welke said the Planning Commission had approved Rich Gillespie's rebuilding plan (on a narrower footprint) with the stipulation that a green belt be included. He also announced that he was resigning from the PC.

Two bids were opened for Hall maintenance. One was not considered because it involved a price of \$25/hour, whereas the bulletin-board posting had indicated the pay would be \$14/. The other, by Veronica Bigelow Mestelle, was accepted.

As the meeting closed, several audience members thanked outgoing supervisor John Works for twelve years of dedicated service, citing his many accomplishments. He had served in local government for 22 years, since he was 26—starting with the Planning Commission. He was given a hearty round of applause, after which he presented a plaque from Peaine Township to Tina Morgan, the outgoing and much-respected Treasurer.

isms in its ballast water if it wants to dump it in the Great Lakes.

At least 185 invasive species have been detected in the Great Lakes so far.

At this point over a hundred ships have complied with the law's requirements. The National Wildlife Federation applauded the court's stance.

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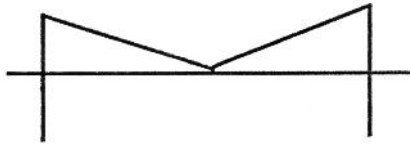
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## 6. LETTERS: THANKS FROM JOHN

I would like to thank all those who supported me in the recent election.

It has been my honor and privilege to serve Peaine Township as township supervisor for the past 12 years. Working with my fellow board members, I labored hard to make Peaine Township a great place to live, work, and raise children. After 22 years of government service it is time for this hayseed to retire to his farm for awhile, and maybe play a little golf. As Theodore Roosevelt said, "It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles or where the doer of deeds could have done better. The credit belongs to the man who is actu-

ally in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood, who strives valiantly, who errs and comes up short again and again, because there is no effort without error or shortcoming, but who knows the great enthusiasms, the great devotions, who sends himself for a worthy cause; who at the best, knows in the end the triumph of high achievement, and who, at the worst, if he fails, at least he fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who knew neither victory nor defeat."

May God bless you all.

Thank you,  
John W. Works, Jr.

## SUPPORT THE CHAMBER

As we are all aware, the economic life of Beaver Island is dependent on tourism. With a recession now clearly at hand, our 2009 Chamber of Commerce membership drive takes on renewed importance. Please join us today.

Did you know that anyone can become a Chamber of Commerce member? You don't have to own a business to join. An Individual Supporting Membership costs as little as \$150 a year. If you own rental property, the web site exposure makes membership a "sure thing."

At least half of our total budget is spent directly on marketing Beaver Island. Currently our "You've never been to Beaver Island?" campaign is focusing on a quarter of a million Michiganders who live just a short drive from Charlevoix. Our job is to let these

people know that a unique and inexpensive vacation destination is just a short flight or relaxing cruise away.

If you're one of the few business owners who are not part of the Chamber marketing team, we urge you to get on board today. We all benefit from the group marketing effort. Please pay your share by becoming a member.

Your Chamber of Commerce has doubled in size to about 120 members in the last seven years. We pledge that as we continue to grow we won't be spending your dues on fancy decorations for the new Community Center office or anything else frivolous. We will focus on bringing visitors with money to spend to Beaver Island. Please join the Chamber team and help us help our special Island.

—Kathy Speck and Steve West

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# ISLANDS, UNITE!

7.

The Beaver Island Association is pleased to announce that Beaver Island will be hosting the 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the Bi-national Collaborative for the Conservation of Great Lakes Islands on August 28, 29, and 30<sup>th</sup>. This event will bring together stakeholders, policy makers, island managers, and researchers on a regional and bi-national level. The focus will be on best practices to protect fragile island natural resources within our Great Lakes basin. Environmental policies specific to islands will be integrated with the latest science-based materials. Commonly-held threats to island ecosystems will also be presented and addressed. In addition, island alliance-building will take place through dialogue and the development of a basin-wide communication platform.

The participants' Beaver Island experience will further be enhanced by

the ability to showcase the latest state of the art facility at CMU's Biological Station. Researchers and policy makers will be presented with island-protection conservation practices while using the latest technology.

This entire community will once again be asked to rise to the occasion and show our Beaver Island hospitality as we host this bi-national event. Much planning remains to be completed. Meals and activities will be scheduled for the symposium participants, but hotels and motels may prove challenging for bringing in 100 people.

We are asking for property owners who have the ability to host individuals to contact Craig Schrottenboer at [cschrottenboer@ghyfc.org](mailto:cschrottenboer@ghyfc.org) or Pam Grassmick at [mcgrass@ameritech.net](mailto:mcgrass@ameritech.net)

For further information please refer to [www.beaverislandassociation.org](http://www.beaverislandassociation.org)

## NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION

With 2009 approaching, we want to take a minute to thank all who make the *Beacon* their regular reading. 2008 began as a most difficult year, but our many friends—writers, advertisers, and subscribers—carried us through, and the year as a whole turned into the *Beacon's* strongest to date.

We've been very lucky to have the talented Frank Solle shine covering Island sports and stories. We've been blessed with a wide variety of other features. Paul Welke's *View from Five Hundred Feet*. Lois Williams. Several poets. Larry Hansz' *Destination Paradise Bay*, a brilliant series on our Islandness.

And Joyce Bartels' reader favorite *One Hundred Years Ago*. And we've been overjoyed to have more individual story contributors than ever before this year.

Despite tough economic times, our advertisers have supported the *Beacon* in our effort to promote the Island, and in our pages we're proud to represent the most successful Island businesses from the smallest to the largest.

And most importantly, thank you to all our subscribers for making each issue possible. Despite the uncertainty in the world, here's to an even better 2009 on this precious Island haven out in the middle of Lake Michigan.



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Beaver Island property owner Mary Acker's new month-long show in Bay City has received wonderful reviews. She has lifted her photography from what she calls her "mom level" to professional.

Her first solo show opened at the Nielsen Gallery, and included 25 to 30 pieces.

She employs several photography

techniques: black-and-white infrared, Polaroid transfer and manipulation, digital color, and digital panoramic compositions. She also paints watercolors. Some of her video productions (including one featuring the singing of Glen Felix) have circulated on the Island.

"This is very incredible," gallery owner Christine Nielsen said. "It's beauti-

ful. It's not just ordinary stuff. She literally stops traffic in downtown Manhattan to get the perfect shot." Before this show she displayed her work at the Saginaw Art Museum and has a couple of her pieces hanging at Central Michigan University, where she took classes on Beaver Island.

It was through her studies and much



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trial and error that she perfected her techniques. Black-and-white infrared images are produced with a special film that is sensitive to heat. "Any plant material, anything reflecting sunshine, is going to have a heavenly glow about it," she said. "Anything very cool, like water or rocks or a shady area, is very dark. It's very high contrast, very ethereal."

She talked about her digital panoramics: "They're made up of several photographs, sometimes four or five. I download the images into a computer program and select the pictures I want. The program processes it for me and puts everything together as if it were one picture."

Other work involves Polaroid trans-

fer images, which are made with old-fashioned pull-apart film in a unique process to create images similar to sepia tone. "What you have left is your picture on a piece of watercolor paper," she said.

She's looking forward to being in next summer's BIHS-sponsored Art Show here, starting on the Wednesday after the third Monday of next July.



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## ARMISTICE DAY

**T**wenty members of AmVets Post #46 turned out in chilly weather on November 11<sup>th</sup> for a commemoration ceremony at the memorial on the west side of Holy Cross Church, this time officiated by Ron Stith.

In addition to a little history, a prayer and the playing of Taps by Post Chaplain Bob Hoogendorn, Bob Tidmore's recitation of past Islanders who perished while serving their country, and a Kathy Speck-led singing of *God Bless America*, the audience was treated to a dramatic reading about the cyclicity of war by Jack Spanhah, which incorporated a sequence of moving 15-second skits typifying the repeating tragedies in each of our past four conflicts. Jack's performance let the audience feel the loss of war in their bones.



The C3F supports the Community Center's winter program





## NO MOSS ON RICH

An ordinary person might be plunged into a severe depression by losing a lifetime's acquisitions in an emotionally devastating fire such as the one that destroyed the Rich Gillespie Enterprises complex at Four Corners last month, but we all know Rich is far from ordinary. Almost immediately he and his men were back at work, interrupting their scheduled jobs to sift through the rubble (literally—with a huge screen) for anything salvageable and then clear away the charred remnants, break up and haul away the concrete slab, acquire all the necessary permits, and begin construction on a new building. "What're you gonna do?" Rich asked. "To not go forward is to go backward." That's another thing we know about Rich: he's never been one to go backward—no matter how imposing the obstacle.



The new Gillespie polebarn trusses going up December 4<sup>th</sup>



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## 12. OSA CIESLAK OFFICER OF THE YEAR

Word has been received that Osa Cieslak passed away in mid-November in a Petoskey nursing home. She had arrived here with "Joe Nuke" in the early 1980s, and had been involved in the establishment of Sanctuary Farms, a quasi-hippie enterprise which provided employment and promulgated an alternative lifestyle for five years. She owned the old John McCauley home looking out on Round Lake, but moved to O'Grady's on Donnel Mor Lane when she married Dennis Cieslak.

Osa was born in Brooklyn, NY, and passed away at Bortz Health Care in Petoskey, MI.

In her lifetime, Osa lived in Virginia and California before making her way to Beaver Island. She had one son, who was born in California and preceded her in death, Brandon Elliot Livingston (1972-1999). Brandon also resided on the Island temporarily, but had moved back to California before he died.

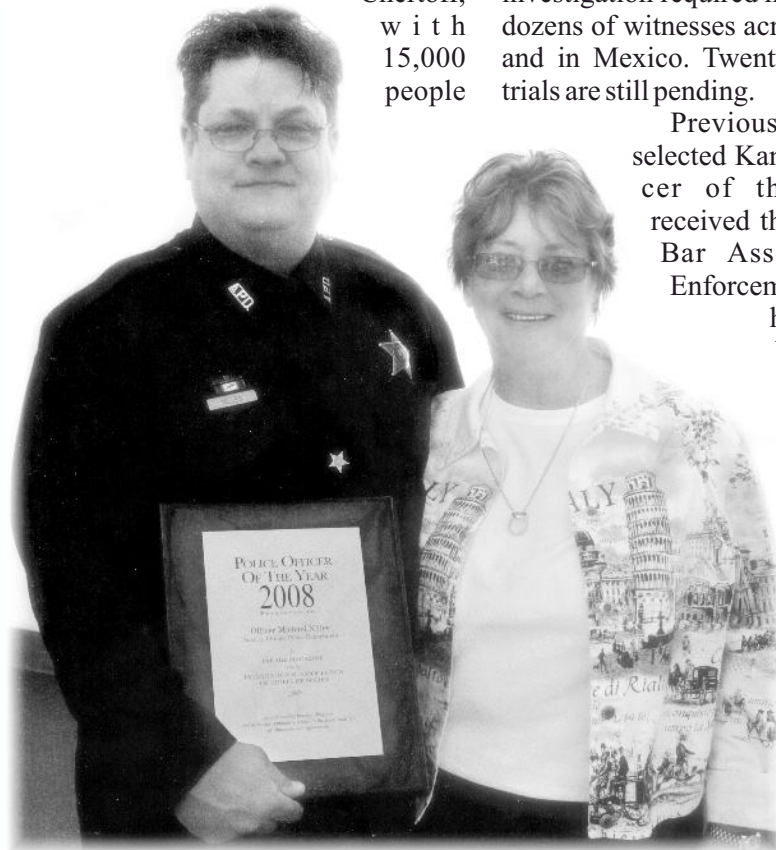
In 1984 Osa married Dennis G. Cieslak (Keech) with whom she had her only surviving daughter, Britta B. Cieslak. On the Island Osa volunteered at the school for a few years and later became active in the Beaver Island Christian Church Choir.

Osa was famous for her "hala" bread.

Beaver Islander Jackie Madigan received a wonderful surprise: her son, Michael Nilles, of Aurora IL, was named by *Parade* magazine as its 2008 Police Officer of the year—and presented the award at a meeting featuring Homeland Security chief Michael Chertoff, with 15,000 people

watching. Mike Nilles was lauded for consistent excellence during his 20-year career, and for his dedication in solving 22 cold-case homicides, which resulted in the arrest of 31 gang suspects who were charged with 179 counts of first-degree murder. His investigation required him to interview dozens of witnesses across the country and in Mexico. Twenty-five to thirty trials are still pending.

Previously Mike was selected Kane County Officer of the Year, and received the Illinois State Bar Association Law Enforcement Award for his work in bringing murder and other charges against 11 gang members in 2005.



## STOCKING UP FOR A LONG WINTER

Winter has come with a full force on Beaver Island, catching many residents without proper emergency stores of food, water, flashlight batteries, and other 3-day supplies.

The Island churches, the school, the Health Center and Community Center, as well as several citizens, have all offered to collect canned goods, as well as other non-perishables, to be used by area residents in need of a "hand up" during these winter months.

There are many summer residents and snowbirds heading south around Christmas, and it may be of interest to them to look through their cupboards for items they will not miss, which would not be of use this winter. Any of you who have already left and still want to donate items, please call a neighbor

and make arrangements for somebody to get them from you.

For those of you who started donations for Father Pat, please continue with your pledge until his project is finished. We could use additional help in the winter months after the holidays.

Anyone leaving the Island before the Dec. 19<sup>th</sup> boat can call me to pick up your donations if you cannot get to town with them (Lemon 448-2894) or please remember to bring an item or two to either the Health Center during regular hours, or to PABI's Community Center during the day. The Christian Church is also open during the day; they will welcome such donations at the Cantata Concert. Jean Kinsley will be at the Prudential Office during regular office hours for drop-offs as well.

The area churches will coordinate getting items to the school for people to pack into "care" boxes and distribute them upon request. All donations will be used on Beaver Island. If you or your family member is in need, or know of a stranded neighbor in need of assistance, please do not hesitate to call one of the following persons to help you out:

Judi Meister (2963) Slopstown Rd. area  
Jayne Bailey (2933) in town  
Miranda Rooy (contact school)  
Jean Kinsley (2856) Lake Geneserath  
Nancy Tritsch (2178) Donegal Bay

We hope your Christmas will be Merry and that your holidays and New Year will be bright. Please let us not forget anyone this winter.

—Lemon Jacobson





## Join Your Chamber



- Support for marketing Beaver Island is more important than ever in 2009. Help continue the “You’ve never been to Beaver Island?” campaign that reaches out to northern Michigan.
- **Attention rental property owners:** Chamber membership is a “sure thing.” The web site [www.BeaaverIsland.org](http://www.BeaaverIsland.org) gets 75,000 visits a year. List your property for far less than one week’s rental.
- **Everyone is welcome to join.** An individual supporting Membership is only \$150 a year. Membership has doubled in the last seven years.
- At least one half of the total budget is spent directly on marketing Beaver Island. Our job is to let people know that a unique and inexpensive vacation destination is just a short flight or relaxing cruise away.
- Support the Chamber that supports our community, Citizen of the Year, Air Show, July 4 Parade, Celtic Games, Bite of Beaver Island, Island Boodle, Visits by Journalists, Marketing & Advertising and a Professional Staff that responds to thousands of phone and email inquiries each year.
- A membership form can be found at [www.BeaaverIsland.org](http://www.BeaaverIsland.org)

Questions / Call (231) 448-2505 M-F 9-3

## 14. ON THIS DATE

**Ten Years Ago** Kathy Maudrie and Laura and Julie Gillespie won the 1<sup>st</sup> prize at the Halloween costume party by coming as a replica of the Titanic. Colleen and Bud Martin appeared as Cleopatra and Marc Anthony; Paul Baron dressed up as “the petrol queen—Colleen”; and Tammy and Bill McDonough impersonated the angel and the devil. Bongo Bob Banville came as Marilyn Monroe.

Five candidates applied for the position of Peaine Treasurer; John McCafferty was selected. Jon Barrett asked the Peaine Board to designate ORV-approved roads. (The township attorney said operating ORVs on county roads was illegal.) The St. James Board requested PABI to find a new site for the Community House because of the limited parking downtown.

Lindsey Russell was awarded a \$6,000 scholarship to Aquinas College.

Passings noted included Bernadette (Malloy) Moore, who was born here and graduated from BICS before leaving the Island, and Grace (Gillespie) Cole, 90. Grace was considered one of the best Island cooks, working at the school cafeteria, the King Strang Hotel, and her own restaurant, the Killarney Inn. Her husband perished on the *Marold II*.

**Twenty Years Ago** A well-attended joint township meeting was held to consider the mandated closing of the dump.

The cost for capping the landfill, fencing it, and providing monitoring wells was estimated at \$300,000. The DNR had offered to pay 75%—which would leave the townships with a \$75,000 bill. Construction of a new licensed landfill would cost \$500,000, so a recycling center was thought to be a better investment—especially since “Clean Air” funds might be available for its construction.

In Grace Hill’s profile of McDonough’s Market, the *Beacon*



traced its history. Built in 1901 by Wilbur Gill, it was sold to the Beaver Island Lumber Company a few years later, which sold it to John Grill when it left. Grill ran it as “Grill’s Grocery” from 1915 until Lloyd McDonough bought it in 1933—with the help of a loan from his wife’s father, Nels LaFreniere. During the Lumber Company’s reign, the loggers and mill hands provided volunteer labor for several projects, such as the construction of wooden sidewalks and the building of

the Parish Hall.

Bill McDonough set up a check station at the Market to gather data on the deer hunt for the DNR. Over a hundred hunters attended the Hunters’ Dinner, feasting on venison, antelope, caribou, rabbit, raccoon, and beaver. The Big Buck contest was won by Bob Barnes, who took an 11-pointer on Garden Island.

An Arts Grant provided three professionals to teach a brief course in set design, lighting, makeup, and acting. A gymnastics teacher was engaged to come over once a week as well. A video production team was due in January to instruct the students on the creation of a video about the Island.

The Wade-Trim group mailed a survey to Islanders to begin its work on a master plan.

The townships appointed a delegation to meet with the Charlevoix County Road Commission and suggested that funds for the King’s Highway be used instead to add gravel to the East Side Drive, Darkeytown Road, and the Donegal Bay Road. The CCRC rejected the idea.

Lois Williams, representing newly-formed BIPOA (40 members), spoke to both town boards to urge them not to move the western part of the road at Iron Ore Bay back behind the dunes, as was done to the eastern part.

Stewart Island, home to 450 people a two-hour ferry ride from mainland

### Beaver Island Association

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Contact: Annette Dashiell, Treasurer  
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Beaver Island Association

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New Zealand, was compared to Beaver Island; it was similar in many respects.

**Thirty Years Ago** The deer hunters' report was in: 404 took 75 on Beaver, and either 20 or 21 shot 2 on Garden.

The highest GPA in high school belonged to senior Ann Wojan (3.87), with senior Bill McDonough and freshman Gena Delamater tied at 3.75, followed closely by senior Beth Green (3.73) and junior John McCafferty (3.72).

The Historical Society finished the interior of the Post Office Addition, and, thanks to the generosity of Helen Cooper, had its first telephone installed. Now they said they would turn their attention to fencing the Heritage Park and installing some agricultural exhibits.

In a resolution of appreciation, St. James Town Board expressed its thanks to Vera Wojan for her thirty years of service—including twenty-five years as Treasurer.

In the election, the supervisor, clerk, and treasurer for each township were reelected: John Gillespie, Vivian Visscher, and Jim Wojan, in St. James, and Ed Palmer, Bud Martin, and Rose Connaghan in Peaine.

A group of Sweet Adelines from Howell entertained at the CMU closing, hosted by Matt and Ellie Hahn and attended by 140 people.

Passings noted included Vickie Connaghan, the wife of Island-born Lester Connaghan; they had moved here from Chicago in 1975.

**Forty Years Ago** Around four hun-

dred hunters took 144 deer with a gun and eight more with bow and arrow, plus 3 more on Garden. Del White from Holt bagged the biggest, a 14-pointer at 187 pounds. The average buck topped the mainland average.

The Game Club began pruning old orchards around the Island under the direction of Gilbert Bailey.

The telephone line was extended down the East Side Drive to reach the furthest resident, Ed Howland.

Jerry and Carol LaFreniere moved into their new home on the King's Highway at the edge of town after Jerry did much of the finishing work.

Winnie McDonough and Evelyn Kujawa instructed the schoolgirls in making Christmas wreaths, which were sold in Lansing.

TV Channel 9 & 10 sent a crew to the Island for Winnie McDonough's surprise birthday party.

Plow operators Don Cole and John Gillespie were busy pushing snow, and the *Beaver Islander* was wearing a coat of ice.

Passings noted included Gus Sendenburgh and Charles LaFreniere. Gus, the son of Henry and Hattie (Gallagher) and the brother of Joe M'Fro, was the acting captain of the Frankfort car ferry *Victory* when he suffered a fatal heart attack on board. He was the fourth of nine children of "Old Freddie" and Susan (Boyle) Sendenburgh. He was born on Beaver Island in 1898.

**Fifty Years Ago** The percentage of gun hunters taking deer was good: 338 bagged 147. The 43 archers only bagged two. The largest buck weighed 188 pounds—Gary Dean of Bay City. The hunters' dinner served ham and perch to 158. Three Game Division agents were on hand to record data about the kill.

Thanks to a donated movie projector, the school began showing educational movies.

High-schoolers to make the honor roll were seniors Loretta LaFreniere, Sally Martin, Gary McDonough, and Eleanor Pischner, and juniors Mary Gallagher, Anne Gatliff, Barbara Pischner, and Darlene Schmidt.

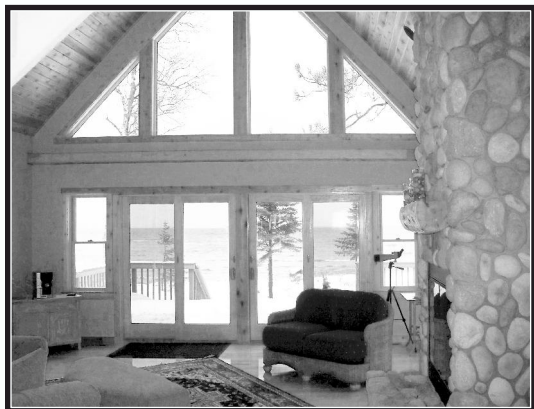
A teen-age recreation program was sponsored by Holy Cross Church. A scavenger hunt had 19 kids scouring the village, with Walt and Vera Wojan in charge.

A fire damaged the interior of Rose and Jack Connaghan's home. Tony was awakened by the smoke and roused the family. Jack and Rose got the blaze under control with a garden hose.

The Coast Guard station closed until April—the first time ever since its inception in 1917.

A fund was started to help the families of the *Bradley* crew. The Island doctor was involved in the attempt to treat a crewman, who died before Dr. Luton could be lowered by helicopter to the ship on which he was resting. The mail plane pilot, Don Hansen, spent seven hours in the air, locating bodies.

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<http://stores.ebay.com/Beaver-Island-e-Store>

## 16. BONNEVILLE ROCKS THE (COMMUNITY) HOUSE by Frank Solle

Traveling blues troubadour Ray Bonneville visited Beaver Island and the Community Center for a single, inspiring show on November 9, completely captivating a small but appreciative crowd. A talented musician, Bonneville creates a small-band sound by himself, using a custom-made steel slide on his left pinky combined with a unique thumb-strumming and string slapping technique on his guitar, a variety of harmonicas, and a home-made, amplified, plywood foot-tapping board, or as he put it, "my unpaid drummer." And of course there is his weathered, been-down-the-road voice. A common question during the short break between his two sets was, "How does he make all those sounds?"

And while creating a wide variety of sounds, Bonneville also shares a wide variety of poetry in his personal songs, each telling a story gathered from his life and from his travels over the last 20 years of performing world-wide.

Bonneville's stories aren't limited to his songs as he smoothly develops an

easy rapport with the audience—nearly as smooth as the rapport this audience built with him, for it was, after all, Beaver Island, and everyone did their best to make him feel welcomed and at home, prompting him finally to comment,



"You're all a bunch of comedians." Later he said he'd rather have everyone up on the stage with him, sitting closer than the auditorium allowed. It nearly happened.

The song that received the most response was "I Am the Big Easy," his tribute to the city of New Orleans and its spirit of recovery following Hurricane Katrina. Bonneville lived in the city for a

number of years and his love for the history, music, people, and river tradition came through loud and clear in his emotional performance. This was one of a number of songs he played from his latest recording, "Goin' by Feel," released earlier this year by Red House Records.

Between his short song introductions, Bonneville mentioned fellow singer-songwriter friends Tim O'Brien and Ray Wiley Hubbard. If you aren't familiar with them, he could have easily mentioned John Prine, Willie Nelson, Guy Clark, or the late Townes Van Zandt as others whose music and methods reflect Bonneville's wide talents.

It was Van Zandt who once said there are two types of music: the blues and zip-pity do dah. And while Bonneville's singular songs and playing style have plenty of crowd-pleasing zip, there is no -pity or do dah, just real, down-to-earth blues, and plenty of truth. These are the things that make a performance memorable and Bonneville's will be remembered by those who were there for years to come

Photograph by Joe Moore, [www.beaverislandnews.com](http://www.beaverislandnews.com)



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### Becker Home - 31450 East Side Drive

A very comfortable, very energy-efficient, year-round home with 1125 sq. ft. of fairly new living area on 100 feet of sandy beach frontage, on the north side of Point of LaPar (very south end of Sand Bay). This 2 bedroom, 1 bathroom house and lot come with a two-story 26' x 32' garage with a 16' x 32' apartment above (1 bedroom and 1 bathroom in the garage apartment). The garage and shop with workbench is insulated with a ceiling hung propane furnace. In addition to this second building there are also two other outbuildings - a 12' x 20' shed with an attached 10' x 12' lean-to, and another short 8' x 12' storage shed. Al and Pat Becker have done an amazing job of blending this house and its accessory buildings into a wooded site of red and white pines and red oaks that make this site a very pretty but protected homesite on a beautiful piece of lake frontage. Using a low price of \$125,000 for the current value of the lot, the replacement cost of this property with its three main buildings comes to \$333,900. Its current market value is around \$295,000. Because the sellers have already purchased a new farm home on the mainland they are offering this attractive property at the low price of \$250,000. This is a real bargain for someone. This whole setup is perfect for a permanent resident or retirees moving to the Island, but it would also make a nice lakefront summer home for someone looking for a lakefront cottage; as a summer home it could still be used year-round or rented in the off-season.

**\$250,000.**

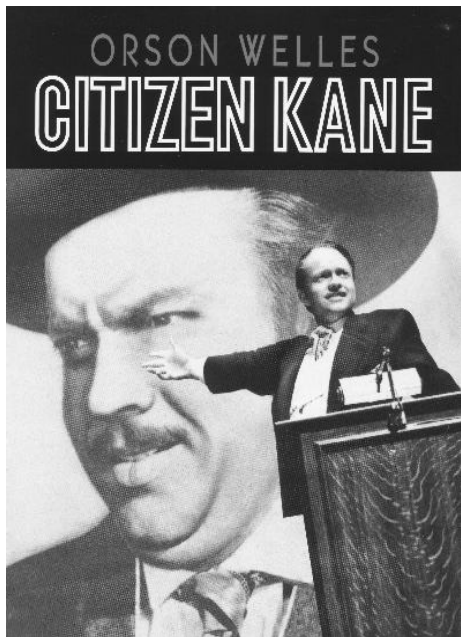




# BEAVER ISLAND FILM FANS ANNOUNCES WINTER MOVIE SERIES

17.

**A**n eleven-movie winter film series is coming to the Beaver Island Community Center, presented by



a new movie club, the Beaver Island Film Fans. The series opened on Thursday, November 20, at 7:30 pm with the 2007 hit movie *Into The Wild* starring Emile Hirsch, William Hurt, Marcia Gay

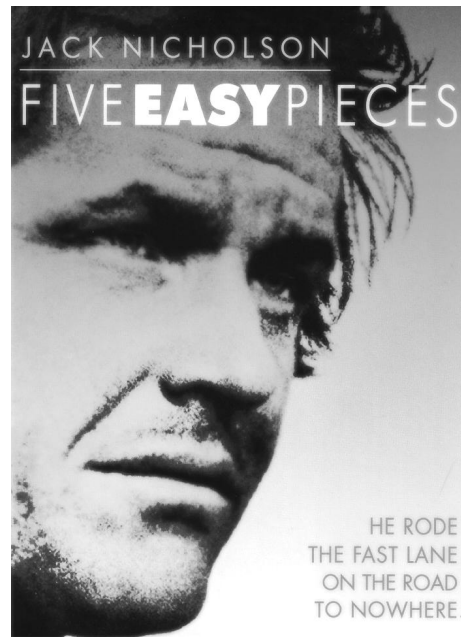
Harden, Hal Holbrook, Vince Vaughn, Catherine Keener and Jena Malone. The Community Center welcomed the first film in the series with free popcorn to the 41 attendees.

Twenty-three Film Fans club members worked together to nominate a list of their favorite movies, and then voted to select their top eleven films to make up the series. Movies in the series date from 1940 to 2007, and range from romantic comedy to thrillers, westerns to epic adventures, and international hits to edgy art. Included in the series is the American Film Institute's #1 American film, *Citizen Kane*.

The club's membership dues will be used to pay for the theatrical performance rights for the films. All movies are open to the general public; admission is \$7.50 for adults and \$5.00 for students. All films will be presented on Thursday nights at 7:30 pm. In addition to the well-received *Into The Wild*, the series includes:

*Citizen Kane* 12/04/08  
*Five Easy Pieces* 12/11/08  
*Open Range* 1/08/09  
*The Man Who Would Be King* 1/22/09

*Amelie* 2/05/09  
*Blue Velvet* 2/19/09  
*A Simple Plan* 3/05/09



*La Dolce Vita* 3/19/09  
*Cry Freedom* 4/02/09, and  
*Blow Up* 4/16/09  
 Previews and descriptions can be seen at [www.imdb.com](http://www.imdb.com).

## BEAVER ISLAND COMMUNITY CENTER

*At the Heart of a Good Community*

### December 2008 Calendar of Events

Thur., Dec. 11, 7:30 pm  
**Five Easy Pieces (R) \***

Fri., Dec. 12, 7:30 pm  
**Anamorph (R)**

Fri., Dec. 19, 7:30 pm  
**Mama Mia (PG13)**

Fri., Dec. 26, 7:30 pm  
**TBA**

**Tickets for all movies:**  
**\$7.50 Adult**  
**\$5.00 Student/Child**

\* Sponsored by the BI Film Fans

#### Sat., Dec. 13: Children's Party - Deck the BICC Tree!

A full day of holiday fun sponsored by Amvets Post #46 and Ladies Auxillary, and your BICC, begins with a hot dog lunch at 11:30am. At noon Santa & Mrs. Claus will arrive for photos. At 1pm there will be a Christmas matinee showing of *Prancer!* At 4pm join in decorating our first BICC Christmas tree. Holiday music, fun and, participants willing, caroling!

#### Sunday, Dec. 14: Senior Dinner

Roast pork, mashed potatoes, coleslaw & apple pie, sponsored by the COA. Suggested donation of \$3 for seniors over 60 and \$6 for all others. Serving from 11:00am - 1:00pm. Make reservations early by calling 448-2022.

#### Sundays, Dec. 14 & 21: Scrabble "Scramble"!

Come show your Scrabble-stuff at an after-dinner aperitif of Scrabble-play as we kick off a weekly competition of vocabulary! Experienced "supervisors" needed! Bring your dictionary and be ready to spell. The fun starts at 1pm.

#### Thurs., Dec. 18: BICS Christmas Program

Support our local kids by attending their annual Christmas program. It's sure to warm your heart and your holiday spirit! Performance at 7pm. Admission is free, as always.

**BICC Closed Wed. & Thur. 12-25 & 26 MERRY CHRISTMAS EVERYONE!**

## USCG 25626; HOME PORT: CHARLEVOIX

**B**oaters on northern Lake Michigan and Beaver Island hear Station Charlevoix on channel 16 VHF radio daily, and occasionally see one of the station's boats in the harbor at St. James. The twenty Charlevoix Guardians tasked with providing our marine safety and security are part of the USCG's Ninth District, covering more than 30 million people in the Great Lakes region. The 6500 men and women who make up the Ninth District are always ready to risk their lives on all the Great Lakes to serve us.

Islanders know when the ice breaker is due in the spring to open the navigation season. Many also drive to the Whiskey Point Lighthouse in the spring to watch the Coast Guard Cutter *Alder* put in the Red 4 buoy just a few yards offshore. However, the USCG vessel more often seen in the harbor is a 25' Defender Class Response Boat Small (#25626), with its four-man crew from Station Charlevoix. This vessel was developed in response to the need for more small fast boats in the wake of the 9/11 attacks. The Department of Homeland Security contracted for up to 700 of these vessels; currently 100 of the initial design and 357 of a refined design are deployed.

The Defender Class is built in Port Orchard, Washington. It is 25' in length and is powered by twin Honda 225-hp four-stroke outboards, and carries 100 gallons of fuel. Maximum speed is 45+ knots and it is rated for operation in a maximum of 6' seas; it is survivable in up to 10' seas. The crew ride seated and belted into shock-mitigating seats. Although it looks like an inflatable boat the hull is aluminum with a foam-filled flotation collar. It is perfect for conducting high-speed maneuvering tactics in a small deployable package. It is easily land mobile on a tri-axle trailer. Station Charlevoix's boat is in the water and available at a moment's notice, while Station St. Ignace's boat is stored on the trailer and is launched at a ramp on the



north side of town.

The Officer in Charge at Charlevoix is Chief Bosun Mate Scott Boop, and the Executive Officer is First Class Bosun Mate Matt Wolanzyk. There are two seven-person duty sections to stand radio watch and man the boats; each section works two days on, two days off, and every other weekend.



Today the crew of the 25626 is under the command of Third Class Bosun Mate Mike Downing who leads one of the duty sections and is the Coxswain (boat driver) when underway.

Mike is twenty eight years old, unmarried, and from Idaho. When he was young, he had a cousin on a small USCG cutter in California and spent summers on the Oregon coast where he became more aware of the Coast Guard, especially at the Marine Museum in Astoria. He went to college to become



*Note: the French family on the SV "Filauvent" finished "The Great Loop" around the eastern U.S. in Mobile Alabama November 4. Following a delay while hurricane Paloma*

*passed through the western Gulf, they sailed to Cuba, covering 701 nautical miles in just over five days and arrived at Marina Hemingway in Havana. Currently they are touring western Cuba*

an EMT and finally joined the USCG in 2003. After basic he was stationed on a small buoy tender in Seattle, then went to two schools in Yorktown, VA to become a Bosun Mate and Coxswain. He is currently completing his private pilot's license in Boyne City.

Twenty-three year old Third Class Machinist Mate Mike Walden from Fort Lauderdale is in the same duty section. Mike grew up around boats in Florida. He is another person who says the Great Lakes feel rougher than the ocean; waves are so close together that "you slam into them," not ride up and over them as in the ocean. He had never been in snow and ice until stationed in Charlevoix. Beside being the engineer onboard today, an MK also works on the mechanical systems on all station vessels. He attended a school in Dayton to learn everything about the Honda 225 outboards. All routine maintenance plus some moderate repairs are done at the Station; if an engine were to need a major overhaul it would be sent to large repair facility and swapped for a new one. He learned to snowboard and likes to surf when the seas are large on Lake Michigan. Mike takes on-line courses from the University of Maryland and may go to the CG Reserves next summer to attend college full time.

When the crew heads into the open lake on 25626 they could be headed anywhere from Traverse City to Cross Village to points about twenty miles west of Beaver Island down to Leland. (See the photo of AOR, Area of Responsibility). It is interesting that Garden and Hog Islands are in Station St. Ignace's area of operation while all of Beaver Island is the responsibility of Station Charlevoix.

Beaver Islanders thank every man and woman of the United States Coast Guard and especially those at Station Charlevoix for serving and being there for us. They are always ready:

"Semper Paratus"

*via rental car. More information is on their web site:*

*<http://filauvent.blogs-de-voyage.fr>  
(Browse their site translated to English through [translate.google.com](http://translate.google.com))*









## BEAVER ISLAND COMMUNITY PLAYERS

As the winter winds began to whip the harbor into a fury, the Island's theater troop gathered the best and most dramatic actors among us to warm up on the new Community Center stage for their inaugural performance under the new spotlights on November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2008.

Directed by John Fiegen, the retro-reality *Shop 'Till You Drop Dead* provided a quick framework for Island-favorite players hostess Jayne Bailey, detective Lisa Gillespie, host Phil Becker, Bob Bass, Karen Whitecraft and Susie Fisher, plus Pam O'Brien,

Marianne Weaver, and star Wendy White to play off one another. Phil Becker nailed the role and spent the most time on the stage (literally), while Bob Bass and the four panelist roles provided great supporting characters for this latest BICP drama.







## S H O P

Near the climax, the audience could smell the sulfur of the gun blast waft through the Community Center's new theater seating, as Wendy White became a delightful villain.

*Shop* is just a taste of things to come, with the Community Center providing a great new venue for Island creativity.



Photograph by Frank Solle

The Coast Guard Buoy Tender *Hollyhock* out of Port Huron





## HONORING THE MEMORY OF THE BRADLEY

On November 19<sup>th</sup> a planeload of somber adults set off to drop a wreath on the spot where the *Carl D. Bradley* had gone down fifty years before.

It was a chilly, windy day—but nothing like the night in 1958 when the *Bradley's* captain decided to leave the lee of Lake Michigan's west shore and head his huge steel ship for the "gate of the Straits," which he hoped would lead to kicking back with the family and

enjoying the comforts of home.

Heidi Conner donated a large wreath—the first off her new equipment, and Island Airways donated the air time of two planes, a small one with Paul and Tony, which flew ahead, and an Islander with Neal Boyle piloting and BIHS Board members aboard—plus acting chaplain John Fiegen, who said a prayer as the wreath hit the water, Bill McDonough, who had procured a *Bradley* lifeboat for the Society (on dis-

play in the Marine Museum after restoration by Phil Gregg), and Director Bill Cashman.

The wreath was visible all the way down, but once it hit the roiling blue-grey-green water it disappeared. Neal circled four times with all eyes pressed to the plane's windows, but it could not be seen five hundred feet below. No wonder everything had been so difficult to find during the long search that followed the original tragedy.





*INTRODUCING:*

## **BEAVER ISLAND BUSINESS GROWTH, INC.**



**BIBGROW.COM**

The BIBGROW mission is to develop and support businesses with the potential to expand the Beaver Island economy in ways consistent with the well being of the community and the environment.

\*\*\*\*\*

Need the perfect Beaver Island gift for the hard-to-shop-for family member or business associate?

Discover the "My Beaver Island" gift bag – full of Island arts, crafts, and souvenirs – available only at **BIBGROW.COM**.

Also on **BIBGROW.COM** – BEAVER EARTH – What is it? Who is there? Put yourself on the map!!

**LOG ON TO BIBGROW.COM TO FIND OUT!!**  
**OR CALL 231 448 2626**

## 24. CLOSING THE DOOR ON OPENING THE WORLD THANKS, CONNIE!

by Frank Solle

For the past 23 sporting years the young girls of Beaver Island have had the opportunity to experience the ups and downs of competition as well as a slice of mainland life through their participation in the Beaver Island Community School's volleyball program under the direction of coach Connie Boyle.



Coach Boyle started the volleyball program at BICS in 1986, scrapping to find games or matches or tournaments wherever she could. Despite playing only larger schools with more established programs, it took Boyle's charges only one year to earn the school's first sporting trophy. And, as current Superintendent Kitty McNamara said, "Connie's teams have added many more trophies to the case over the years. Her dedication, skill, and enthusiasm have propelled BICS volleyball from a few students hitting a ball around an undersized gym to a first-rate high school program!"

Yet winning has been far from the only priority for Coach Boyle. "Sports are all about learning," she said recently. "You have to realize you don't know everything and that you need to listen to your coach/teacher/boss." Looking back to that first trophy-claiming team that learned the game from scratch, coach Boyle said, "They quickly turned into a winning team, and that gave them a lot of self-pride."

After a few years of struggling to

find opponents and working to promote 'her' sport in other small schools, Boyle was instrumental in forming the Northern Lights League, which included co-ed soccer and boys basketball.

Boyle also acknowledged how volleyball gave the Island girls another chance to travel, make friends, and see other places. "Back then our students didn't have as many opportunities as they do now to interact with students from other schools." Today, school athletics secretary Kerry Smith, a member of that initial team, agrees wholeheartedly. "This is one of the channels that opens the world to Island kids. It's not just about the games, but it's also forming friendships with other kids and having new experiences."

But let's not forget there is a scoreboard in volleyball. Coach Boyle's teams have won many more games and matches than not. This past season the *Islanders* added yet another league title to their collection. As fellow long-time *Islanders* coach Mike Myers said, "Connie set the standard for volleyball in the Northern Lights League."

That standard was not missed by other coaches, even those outside the NLL. "Connie has done a great job on Beaver Island for many years," said coach Tim McNitt of Pellston, whose team recently advanced to the state semifinal game. "I've really enjoyed working with her and coaching against her. I always knew her teams would play hard and serve aggressively."

Another coaching rival, Heidi Hewitt of Harbor Light Christian, said, "Through the years I've seen her teams improve. She has been very successful in her league. Her coaching style has been uplifting and encouraging to her players. Having started the program and being the only coach to this time is a testament to her commitment to the school and the players."

As the years have gone by the game of volleyball has changed and grown. So have the *Islanders* teams. "We've kept up with the sport of volleyball over the years," Boyle said. "We now move faster and hit harder." And so have the other NLL teams. "For many years only two schools at a time were true contenders,

but for the last five years or more the majority of NLL teams have been very competitive."

And, as coach Myers pointed out, setting that standard were Coach Boyle and the *Islanders*. As coach Tom Ohman of Hannahville said, "The *Islanders* always play tough, but never degrade their opponents and are always friendly. Beaver Island is the team we've tried to be like."

When coach Boyle spoke recently of this year's group of four seniors, she could have been talking about all her players over the years, "They played hard and serious ball. They were very good leaders, and were very positive with each other and with the team."



Such is the philosophy coach Boyle has passed along to her charges. "I wanted my players to realize they could do anything if they worked hard and were positive," she said. "I tried to teach them that a challenge is fun, and, when the going gets hard, and you're down in a game, you need to find it within yourself to be yourself and play your hardest." It's a philosophy she has coached by as well. "It has been 23 years of a lot of hard work, but also a lot of fun," she said. "We have the best team in the NLL and I'm very proud of everything we've accomplished over the years."

So is everyone else, coach. Thanks for the memories.





*Luke 2:11*

*For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour,  
which is Christ the Lord.*

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Kristy saves



Heather smashes



Jenna returns

## ISLANDERS CLAIM FINAL TITLE

by Frank Solle

The Northern Lights League volleyball title came down to the final day and the final three matches as the *Islanders*, along with the *Soaring Eagles* of Hannahville, traveled to Mackinac Island on Nov. 1 for a season-ending tri-meet.

The host *Lakers* held the edge, having not lost a league match on the season. The *Islanders* were hot on their heels, losing just one league match, a home battle against the *Lakers* avenged the following

morning in a non-NLL match due to the vagrancies of scheduling. The *Eagles*, meanwhile, entered with one league loss, but had yet to play Mackinac so two matches between those rivals were scheduled in addition to an *Eagles-Islanders* match. Vagrant? Indeed.

The gist of all this was much more plain. The *Islanders* needed to win both their matches—one against Hannahville and one against Mackinac. Then,

Hannahville had to win one of its two matches against Mackinac in order for the *Islanders* to claim the title.

Cut to: storybook ending.

The *Eagles* made things easy by besting the *Lakers* in four games in the opening match. The *Lakers* came back in the second match, but by then their fate had been sealed.

The *Islanders* kept their hopes alive by first beating Hannahville in straight

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Devon takes aim



Alex concentrates



Caitlin attacks

## F O R C O A C H B O Y L E

games, 25-22, 25-15, 25-11. And so the stage was set for the final showdown. With each team now having suffered a league loss, the match winner was to be the season champion.

How hard could that be? Plenty.

Mackinac took the opening game 25-14. In a game as dependent on momentum as volleyball, that could be a killer. But the *Islanders* responded by claiming the second game in even more dominat-

ing fashion, 25-7. Yet momentum, it is said, is, in this case, a fickle mistress. The *Lakers* took game three 25-19, setting up a do-or-die situation for the *Islanders*. As their fans know, these girls are do-ers, and they did it, sinking the *Lakers* 25-21 to set up a dramatic, 15-point tie-breaker game for all the marbles.

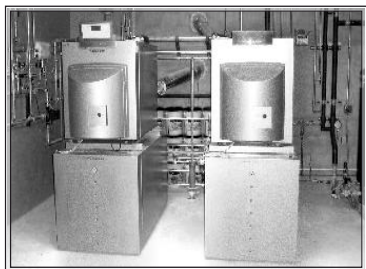
"We've had trouble in the past with tie-breakers," *Islanders* coach Connie Boyle said, giving a hint to the team's

mental state heading into the deciding battle. As the teams fought back-and-forth until the *Islanders* held a 9-8 lead, coach Boyle told her charges, "just keep making one good play at a time." And that's what they did, holding strong until the end and the win and the title at 15-12.

"These girls all performed at an outstanding level," Boyle said. "Everyone worked hard, met the challenges, and

*continued on page 28.*

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28. **Title For Coach Boyle**, from page 27. ended the day victorious as league champions! I'm as proud of them for their character as for their record."

The *Islanders* finished 9-1 overall and 7-1 in league play. Mackinac Island finished second in the league (6-2), Hannahville third (5-3), Paradise fourth

(2-6), and Grand Marais fifth (0-8).

The eight players making the trip were: seniors Heather McDonough, Maeve Green, Devon Cook, and Caitlin

## ISLANDERS FALL AT DISTRICTS by Frank Solle

It's never easy for a small-school sports program to compete against larger schools. Not every outcome is worthy of a "Hoosiers" script. But then, let's not lose sight of the true value of scholastic competition; it is, after all, a learning proposition.

And so it was on Saturday, Nov. 8 at Pellston when the *Islanders* volleyball team found themselves pitted against the host *Hornets*, ranked fifth in the state in Class D, in a district tournament semifinal match.

The *Hornets* had already played one match, a long, competitive, five-gamer against their main area rival, Harbor Light Christian. Despite the effort needed to dispatch the *Swordsmen*, the *Hornets* were riding high, and looking to advance to the district final and beyond.

The *Hornets* proved their ranking was well-earned as they defeated the *Islanders* in straight games, 25-11, 25-12, and a heart-breaking 25-23.

Despite the outcome, *Islanders* coach Connie Boyle was impressed with

her team's effort against such a strong team. "We did an awesome job digging against them," she said. "Those balls were coming in hard. It took us some time to get used to the speed on the ball as we're just not used to that game. But we played aggressively the whole match."

Pellston coach Tim McNitt was complementary of the *Islanders'* efforts as well. "We had some runs in the first two games, but Beaver Island didn't let us get that kind of momentum in game three," he said. "I knew the *Islanders* were going

## WINTER SPORTS TEAMS START PRACTICE by Frank Solle

The *Islanders* boys and girls basketball teams have hit the hardwood in preparation for their respective winter seasons.

But while the teams are getting ready to play, it won't be until January before they play at home as the sports schedule continues to work around the construction project.

A change this year brings coach Mike Myers back to the bench as he replaces girls coach Marianne Brown

following the inaugural girls season. The Lady *Islanders* shared the Northern Lights League title with Paradise last year. "We have a group of girls out there really working hard and battling for positions," Myers said. Myers is no stranger to his players as he coached them all through elementary and intramural programs. "They know what I expect," he said, adding, "I'm going to try to make them champs."

This year's Lady *Islanders* include

Maeve, Green, Deven Cook, Heather McDonough, Kristy Bousquet, Jenna Butler, Alex Kuligoski, Briana Maudrie, Claire Kenwabikise, Jenna Battle, Brogan Maudrie, and Olivia Schwartzfisher.

Coach Dan Martell returns for his second season leading the boys team. "We are working very hard and have a positive attitude," the coach reported. "We should be a pretty strong team this year." The *Islanders* finished second in

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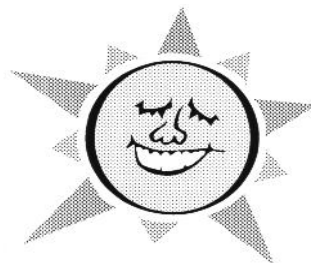
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Boyle; juniors Kristy Bousquet, Jenna Butler, and Alex Kuligowski; and freshman Jenna Battle.

While the four seniors will be

to play hard and were going to serve aggressively," he added, "and they snuck in a few aces on us (in game three) and when that happens the game can turn on you. I'm just glad this didn't go to a fourth game."

Pellston went on to win both the district and then the regional tournament, as well as their quarterfinal match against Crystal Falls of the U.P., advancing to the state semifinals at Battle Creek, where it lost to the adept blockers of tall and experienced team from Westland Lutheran.

the NLL last year behind Mackinac Island. Martell sees a three-way race taking shape for the league title between the *Islanders*, Mackinac Island, and Grand Marais.

Another change this year is the inclusion of games at DeTour, providing both *Islanders* teams with a good early-season non-league challenge. "It should be a fun trip," Martell said. "It will be a good test to see how we match up against someone outside our league," he added.

moving on, also moving on is coach Boyle who is sliding off the bench after 23 years of guiding *Islanders* volleyball teams from day one of the

The *Islanders* finished the season 9-2 overall.

Two things that helped the team this year were participating in a pair of nine-team tournaments, one at Mackinac Island and one at Ellsworth. "These events really helped our girls prepare for our final matches in the league and for the district tournament," Boyle said. During these events the *Islanders* defeated teams such as DeTour and McBain Northern Michigan Christian, another regional finalist this year.

"We don't usually do that until we play at the district tournament. This will get us ready for the start of the league schedule"

The *Islanders* players are Patrick Cull, Cameron LaVasseur, Dereck McDonough, Bryan Timsak, Doug Campbell, Jacob Drost, Matthew Cull, Billy Lemmink, McCauley Connaghan, Jewell Cushman, and Ron Marsh. A good mix of talents gives them a shot at the title.

program. It was a great way for these hard-working girls and their hard-working coach to finish up their *Islanders* careers.

The district match marked the career finale for coach Boyle after 23 years of leading the *Islanders*. In speaking of this year's four seniors who also marked the completion of their *Islanders* careers, coach Boyle said, "They played hard and serious volleyball. They were very good leaders and were very positive with each other and with the team."

In that regard they are no different than the 22 teams proceeding them, and it is lessons such as those taught by coach Boyle that give the game its value.

## SCHEDULE

*Home games in bold*

Dec. 5-6 at Hannahville

Dec. 12-13 at DeTour

**Jan. 9-10 vs Ojibwe**

Jan. 16-17 at Paradise

**Jan. 23-24 vs Grand Marais**

Feb. 6-7 at Mackinac Island

**Feb. 13-14 vs Hannahville**

**Feb. 20-21 vs Mackinac Island**

Mar. 2-6 Girls District

Mar. 6-7 NLL Boys & Girls tourney

Mar. 9-13 Boys District

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## 30. HEALTH CENTER BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS

In late November the BIRHC opened its meeting with an examination of the financial report for the first 11 months of its fiscal year. As everyone knew, income had not met projections (patient revenue was down by \$50,000+), but, thankfully, expenses were also less than anticipated.

Another positive note was that with input from Phil Hoffman and guidance from Jason Allen and others, the Health Center was working toward obtaining some funding help from that state.

Friends of Beaver Island with connections to the Michigan legislature will be asked to lobby them to help advance this cause as it gains definition.

Due to setbacks in the market, the Endowment Fund has dipped below a million dollars, and its future earnings are iffy.

Board members and other supporters also met with the CEO and Treasurer of Northern Michigan Hospital to discuss possible benefits

from a kind of partnership. We would benefit in purchasing, IT support, training opportunities, facility insurance, and upgraded medical records, and NMH would benefit by being able to claim, in its grant requests, that it was lending support to a "frontier outpost" of medical care. The Board will try to arrange a similar meeting with Munson.

The latest edition of the evolving Strategic Plan was discussed. Committees will be formed at the next

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## D E X T E R —

Just a word of thanks to you for letting me lead a dog's life. November 17, 2008 I said goodbye to my master and his family for the final time. I enjoyed every day of my life on Beaver Island. I would swim every chance I could. People from all over the world called me by name when they visited. Some would even bring me treats.

I hope that I made your life a little better for knowing me. I walked with many people many times. Out to the lighthouse in the harbor and back to town was a favorite. Please remember to enjoy each day and that we take nothing with us when we leave.

Yes I did get into trouble once in awhile. Like when I moved onto the porch of the delicatessen. The people would feed me, but who can resist the food and goodies at the deli. I learned a lesson in discipline.

I just want to thank all my friends on the Island for all the years of friendship. I was beside my master for close to half of his life. Your patience with some of my eccentricities is appreciated.



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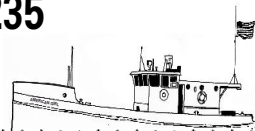
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meeting to each address its various points.

The creation of a sinking fund to help pay for a calamity was approved, with \$10,000 to be put in a restricted account in the spring.

Forty-two surveys had been completed and returned. The blank forms will be made available at the library and Community Center, and elsewhere. The Board stressed its interest in receiving public input from all Islanders.



#### THE "MARINA DOG"

I recommend a dog's life to anyone if they can reside on Beaver Island.

I have found a resting place in a cedar glen near the water I loved so much. Just give me a wave when you pass by, as life goes on.



Six weeks of beach walks around the perimeter of Beaver Island produced a much lower tally of bird carcasses than last year. At this point, under ten bodies were found, and only one was a loon (at Sand Bay). We hope this particular outbreak of *avian botulism* has now run its course.

Thanks go to those who loyally trekked their assigned beach, week after week, carrying a shovel or a disposal bag, at times somberly wading into the surf or clambering over rocks.

To compliment the AmVets' and Community Center's Christmas Events on December 13<sup>th</sup> (see page 17), the Chamber has announced a town-wide open house event, *Paint the Town Red, White, and Green!* Island shops will be open from noon to 6 offering specials and refreshments. Deb Robert said it best: "I have made it my mission this year to do as much of my Christmas Shopping on Beaver Island as possible ... times are tough financially and we all need to stick together."

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## ARMY/NAVY UNITE ON VETERANS' DAY

**D**awn Traficante (ex-Navy) and Adam Wirth (ex-Army – Green Berets) were married at the Christian Church on Veterans' Day by Howard Davis (ex-Marines), with E. Z. Johnson (ex-Air Force) giving away the bride.

Dawn and Adam's combined service to the U. S. military was 32 years, 7 months, and 26 days. Judging from their new-found radiant tranquility after years of each "paying their dues" in the least-expected manner, this thirty-two and a half term was just what they needed to prepare them for the more difficult duty of marriage.

They spent their honeymoon shingling three roofs, conscientiously finishing just in time before the breathtaking early advent of winter.



## SOMETIMES YOU CAN HAVE YOUR CAKE & EAT IT TOO

Highly creative Dan LaFreniere always finds a unique way of accomplishing his goal, and when the contest for selling popcorn was announced, he decided on a strategy not previously tried before on Beaver Island: setting up and manning a one-person phone bank (in addition to making face-to-face appeals at many of the Island's fall functions). His drive was rewarded with a first-place finish and the presentation of a special cake, made with the only bag of popcorn left unsold by the school's master marketers.

## IN THE SPIRIT

The Christmas Cantata is December 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> 3 pm at the Christian Church. The famous Cookie Carnival is the 11<sup>th</sup> from 12-4.



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## BELIEVE IN MIRACLES! ALEXIS PEARL COFFELL

Proud sister Kaylee and parents, Brad and Missy, announce the birth of their baby, Alexis Pearl Coffell.

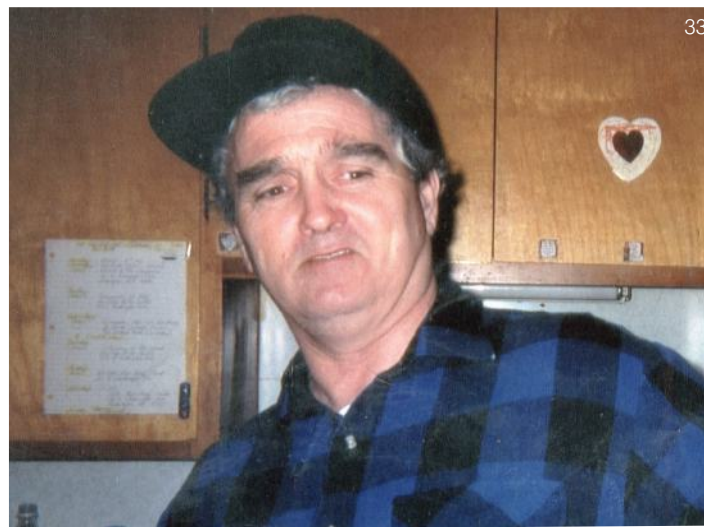
Alexis was born premature (at 29 weeks) on August 26<sup>th</sup>, 2008.

She was born at the neonatal unit in Saginaw weighing 2 lbs 15 oz and 14 1/2 inches long.

Alexis has recently been discharged from the hospital and is staying with her mom and sister at her grandparents, Dan and Rose Benjamin, in Mt. Pleasant. Alexis now weighs 7 lbs and is doing wonderfully!

The family would like to thank everyone for their support and prayers during this emotional yet joyous time.

They look forward to returning to the Island in the spring!



33

## EMMETT MARTIN

IN MEMORY: 10-6-47 TO 11-23-07

Dad,

It's been a year since you left, since God called you home. I hated to watch you go.

I will meet up with you in Heaven, but not too soon

– Love, Julie

Papa,

You're missed at all our ball games; you always loved to go to all our school events. Nobody liked to brag about us more than you. Your eyes twinkled when we were around. You were especially missed last summer by us and every kid in town when you weren't around to give rides on the lawn mower. We must have put a thousand miles on it and never left the yard. We love you.

– Jacob Emmett, Brennan, Levi, and Evan Daniel Martin

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*Charlevoix Sentinel* Thursday, December 3, 1908 **Local News:** "During the gale of last week Wednesday and Thursday, the steel flagstaff on the storm warning tower at St. James was broken off at the top of the tower, and is out of commission for this year."

*Charlevoix Courier* Wednesday, December 9, 1908 **Just Among Ourselves:** "Captain Campbell of the steamer *Beaver* asks all passengers to be at the Wilbur dock at 7:30. This is the time he will start in the future."

"The Steamer *Beaver* made a trip to Petosky for a load of groceries for the Beavers. Captain Campbell had a green crew, Captain Finnican acting as first mate and O. F. Wilbur as second mate."

*Charlevoix Sentinel* Thursday, December 10, 1908 **Beaver Island News:** "Phill C. Gallagher, who has been on the sick list the past two weeks, is reported to be improving."

"Albert Seitz and family, of Freesoil, have moved here for the winter."

"Born to Mr. And Mrs. Arthur Gallagher Thursday, a boy."

"A. Dodge and family are here for the winter."

"Chas. Tilley and Gus Milke (sic) have purchased the lath mill formerly owned by the Allers Bros., and will operate same the coming season."

"The light house tender *Sumac* was in the harbor last week storm bound."

"The schooner *Waleasky* (sic) took a cargo of staves to Chicago. She will bring back a cargo of coal."

"Rev. Fr. Norbet (sic) attended the ceremonies of consecration of the new church at Petosky."

"Willie P., son of Mr. and Mrs. Pat McDonough is tussling with an attack of pneumonia."

"The steam barge *Schroeder* made her last trip from here last week."

"The steamer *Wente* is expected this week with a cargo of coal."

"Mr. Fred Nackerman returned from Charlevoix, where he was called as a juror."

"H. R. Boyle returned home last week."

"Mr. and Mrs. Peter McCauley, who have been at Manistique the past two months, are here for the winter."

"Mr. H. Frankel, the tailor who left for his home in Chicago a month ago, has returned again and will remain all winter."

"The steamer *Knobloch* took a cargo of coal here Sunday from Charlevoix."

*Charlevoix Courier* Wednesday, December 16, 1908 **Just Among Ourselves:** "Mrs. Joe Belonga of St. James, is a Charlevoix visitor this week."

"Charles Belonga of St. James, was in the city the first of the week on



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his way home from Escanaba where he has been visiting friends."

"Mrs. May Gallagher of St. James returned home Monday after a ten day visit with Charlevoix friends."

*Charlevoix Sentinel* Thursday, December 17, 1908 **Local News:** "Chas. Novak, of the Charlevoix cigar factory, went to Beaver Island Monday and came back with a suitcase full of orders."

"The steamer *Lena Knobloch* went to Beaver Island Monday morning with a load of coal for the fish tugs. The whitefish spawn season expired Monday night. So long as weather permits, fishing is resumed and three tugs, beside several gasoline boats, will be out. In all probability there will be thirty days of fishing, subject to weather conditions."

**Beaver Island News:** "Miss Ruby Bissell, who has been away from the Island for the past five or six years,

returned for a few weeks visit with her parents."

"Born to Mr. and Mrs. 'Val' McDonough, a girl."

"Mrs. Mary Norton, Edward McCauley, and Teresa O'Donnell are victims of pneumonia."

"Chas. Novak transacted business here this week."

"Miss May Gallagher and Miss Della Mooney returned from a two weeks visit at Charlevoix."

"The steamer *Knobloch* returned with another load of coal."

"Born to Mr. and Mrs. Dick Parcel last week, a twelve pound boy. This is quite a neat little parcel."

"Mr. George Heinford of Traverse City was here a few days last week looking after his timber interests on High Island."

*Charlevoix Sentinel* Thursday, December 24, 1908 **Local News:** "Billy Scheid, book keeper for the

Beaver Island Lumber Co., was in town yesterday, on his way home from Manistee."

"The steamer *Beaver* made her Island run Tuesday with good weather."

"Nally Cram, representing Booth and Co. at St. James, is home for the winter."

"W. W. Boyle came over on the *Beaver* from St. James yesterday, on his way to Harbor Springs to spend Christmas with relatives."

*Charlevoix Sentinel* Thursday, December 31, 1908 **Local News:** "James McCann, of St. James, came over on the *Beaver* Monday and expects to return home on the *Violet*."

"The steamer *Beaver* made her last Island trip Monday, and is laid up. The fishing tug *Violet* came over Tuesday, and, weather permitting will return today. The *Violet* will carry the mail as long as the lake is open."

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## 36. LET'S SAVE THE TREES

As a regular visitor to Beaver Island, one of my favorite jaunts is walking from Fox Lake to the big birch, an easy walk, and a gem of road to hike along. On my last visit (in Oct.) I took this quiet hike again, soaking in the



solitude and glowing woods, admiring the sturdy beech, the scarlet leaf of the oak, and gnarly maple, finally arriving at the base of the big old birch.

What I saw was sad, and alarming.

Scrawled into the birch in several spots are the initials of some unthinking

revelers. Not only does this damage go down into the cambium tissue of its limbs, but it appears to have infected them; and with time they may very well rot and fall. How long has this been going on? And where is the concern?

Of course, no tree lives forever, but with this type of activity, the birch will certainly meet its end all the sooner, and as most people on the Island know already—the largest of the specimen trees on Beaver Island are fast becoming a scarcity!

As an arborist and certified naturalist, I have a few suggestions (if you folks want to save this rare and valuable asset):

1) signage to warn people of their foolish act, and it's repercussions

2) Allow all the vegetation to re-emerge under/around its canopy (to the drip line), perhaps culling unwanted saplings only from time to time. (No mow?) This will benefit the tree greatly, and not dry out as fast, plus shade its

root system.

3) consider roping or fencing off (15-20' from trunk) to protect its root system. The big problem now: this type of vandalism has a strange way of mutating, and once it appears it is diffi-



cult to stop (i.e: elevator graffiti). The snowball effect.

Best of luck, and hopefully the good folks of Beaver Island will look into this!

—Edward Max; Landscape designer/Arborist/Naturalist

## HEALTH CENTER BEAUTIFICATION

After a summer of wonderful weather and with the help of our numerous donors and volunteers, we are nearing the completion of Phase 1 of our landscaping project at the BI Health Center. This summer we added a few bouquets of annuals (thank you, Skip McDonough!) sprinkled throughout the front as well as replacing a shrub or two. We received so many compliments from patients and other Island visitors,

many commenting on the lovely flowering trees as well.

Thank you Connie Wojan for your diligent watering and weeding, as well as Linda Dunbar, our chief "bark hauler," who single-handedly spread a whole truckload of mulch! Thanks also to our board members Denny Cook (and wife Mary and daughter Devon) and Rick Speck, who participated in the heavy projects. Thank you Marilyn Reed, Jean Carpenter, Pinky Harmon, Amy Burris, Joyce Runberg, and all of you who offered your perennials.

This October we received another crate of goodies from Gary Marvin of Marvin's Gardens. BJ Wyckoff was responsible for all these arrangements as well as the intensive labor of Phil Wyckoff and Bruce Kinsley. We really appreciate Kris Ries and Bruce Jacobson for planting shrubs and weeding. We also have planted crocus and daffodil bulbs, and a row of foxglove, courtesy of BJ Wyckoff.

Now with the aid of our resident Landscape Artists Extraordinaire (Cheryl Podgorski, Heidi Connors, and Pam O'Brien) we will work on some finishing touches. The last of our plantings (Phase 2) will take place after

the completion of the senior housing construction project on Carlisle Road just behind the Health Center. We are hoping to connect the two buildings with a passage surrounded by lovely garden areas for all to enjoy. (There may even be a fountain built by one of our Island residents!) Ahhhhh, so many dreams so little time.... See you back in the gardens next spring!

—Leonor Jacobson

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## 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 \$215,000.

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**FOR SALE: 28190 ISLAND WOODS RD:** 3 Bedrooms; 2 Baths; Built in 2005; Immaculate with loads of character; For details and interior photos, go to [Forsalebyowner.com](http://Forsalebyowner.com) (Listing ID #: 21207130) or contact Drew & Sarah at (231) 675-3746

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## FOR SALE BY OWNER:

3 Bedrooms, 2 ½ Baths.  
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Call (616) 293-0055 or  
(231) 448-2535

**FOR SALE - 1300 SQ. FT. HOME** with 12'x12' out-building on Font Lake Court \$99,900.00 Call Mike Collins Island Properties (231) 448-2923

**PRIME 20 ACRES NEAR FONT LAKE** - close to town, w. apple trees, power and road in. \$150,000 Erik Peterson (616) 240-8980.

**FOR SALE, 11 ACRES ON EAST SIDE DRIVE** - good land, 357' on road, 1373' deep; \$28,900. Phone (231) 448-2545

**LAKE GENESERATH** - Lot For Sale Parcel # 15-012-015-013-10, Hemlock Point Road; 140' lake frontage on the North Arm of beautiful Lake Geneserath; lot approved for building on w/o restrictions. (616) 772-9783; (616) 283-7227; [cschrotenboer@ghyfc.org](mailto:cschrotenboer@ghyfc.org)

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

**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. [Odatlo@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Odatlo@sbcglobal.net)

**LAKE GENESERATH** - Beautiful lot on Hemlock Point Rd. 111' lake frontage with lovely view across bay into state forest. Entire lot level with large hemlocks & no wetland or restrictions. \$78,000. (616) 399-5164 or [mfolkner@pol.net](mailto:mfolkner@pol.net)

**LOTS FOR SALE** - Lots 727, 728, 729 in Port St. James #8 on Tamarock Trl. \$12500 ea. Wish to sell all 3 at one time. \$7500 down will finance \$30000 bal at \$350 per mo. for a few years. Will sell for cash for \$34,500. Call Ben at (386) 439-3351



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## Units 7, 8, 9, 11 of Innisfree Dunes

### Condominium

Four beautiful, wooded acreage pieces located on the north side of Donegal Bay Road just four-tenth's of a mile from town and the Emerald Isle Hotel. These lots have access to their interior (north side) off Innisfree Lane but Lots 9 and 11 also have access to Donegal Bay Road. The new bike path runs along the south line of these lots. All four lots are zoned and restricted to single-family residential use. They are very close to town and just about 3/4 of a mile from the public access at Font Lake. Lot 11 is immediately adjacent to Ed and Connie Wojan's home at 26765 Donegal Bay Road. Lot 7 is on the west side of Innisfree Lane and Lot 8 is just toward town on the east side of Innisfree Lane. These large homesites are really hard to find close to town; the nearest anyone will find something like these are 10-acre parcels much farther down the Island. One-half acre lots in the Wojan Plat a little closer to town than Innisfree Dunes Condominium have been selling for \$42,000 to \$45,000 for a number of years. These 2-1/2 to 3 acre lots are therefore really a bargain at

**\$45,000 each**

**10 ACRES OLD FOX LAKE ROAD** Beautiful, wooded, great building site; \$39,000 MUST SELL. (231) 409-1214.

**2 LOTS ON SAND BAY** - 3.3 Acres each. 1700' deep. Sandy Beach. Frontage 117' each. (810) 629-7680 or (231) 448-2257.

**THE WALSH 40** - south of the Beaver Island Golf Course - Walk to the Fairway. Make offer. (248) 649-4909 or (248) 515-8746

**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.

**PROTECTED HARBOR SITE** - 60' Lake frontage by 250' deep. North of the Toy Museum. Call (231) 448-2391.

Post your Island cottage rental in the Beacon and on the Beacon's Beaver Island websites an affordable way to increase your rental revenue in 2009. Call (231) 448-2476 or email [cottages@beaverbeacon.com](mailto:cottages@beaverbeacon.com)





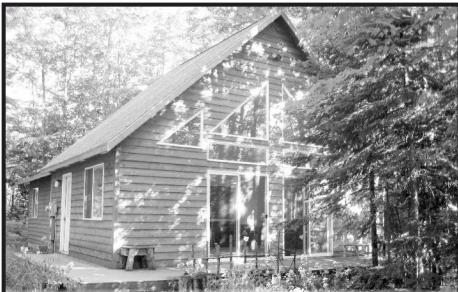
**BEACHFRONT HOUSE FOR RENT:** Exciting cottage with view of High Island from large deck. Open floor plan, huge windows on extremely private beach. 2 BRs with 2 full beds + loft with 2 twins. 1½ baths, TV/VCR, W/D, microwave, gas grill, all amenities. \$1200/week; spring & fall \$895. Limit 6 people. Please call (941) 921-2233 or (317) 769-6563



**LAKEFRONT**  
3 bedrooms, 2 baths, 1 double and 6 single beds, washer/dryer, wrap-around porch, views of sunset & over-looking Garden & Squaw Islands. \$1200/week. (616) 405-8926 Website: [www.whatproperties.com/PL48480](http://www.whatproperties.com/PL48480) E-mail: [Info@whatproperties.com](mailto:Info@whatproperties.com)



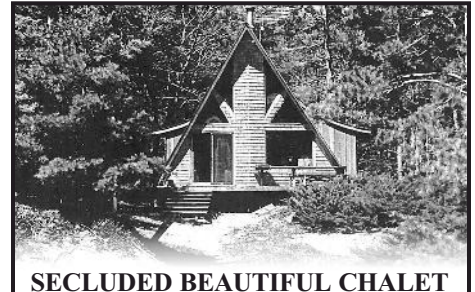
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**BEAUTIFUL COTTAGE** on a wooded lot. This chalet-style cottage is new, bright and airy with a large front room and cathedral ceiling, lots of windows, and double sliding glass doors. Convenient access to the best beach on the island. Only \$675/week. Off-season \$425. Call (517) 927-2374 [nprawat@yahoo.com](mailto:nprawat@yahoo.com)



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**SECLUDED BEAUTIFUL CHALET FOR RENT:** 10 Acres of pine with 360' of sandy Lake Michigan Beach. 2-BR (including loft), one bath, Great Room with 2 sofa sleepers. Fabulous views of the Lake. Large decks. Sleeps 7. Across from state land and hiking trails. Satellite TV. No pets. No smoking. \$800 per week. Call Ed or Connie Eicher (231) 448-2257 or (810) 629-7680



**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 available. \$1050/week. (231) 448-2809



**SAND BAY - "BAY HAVEN" COTTAGE - WEEKLY RENTAL -** Lake Front, Sandy Beach, 5 br, great view, laundry, East Side Dr.- only four miles from town. This home is only two years old. Awesome sunrises—walk to beach is straight and flat out the lower level. Please call Laurie Bos at (616) 786-3863 or email [lauriesbos@chartermi.net](mailto:lauriesbos@chartermi.net) Photographs of Bay Haven can be viewed at [bayhaven.beaverisland.net](http://bayhaven.beaverisland.net)

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

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

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**THE FISHERMAN'S HOUSE -** Great 'In-Town' location across the street from St. James Harbor on the harbor road. 4 BR/2 Bath; W/D; Four bedrooms, three rooms with double beds and one room with twin beds, two bathrooms, bed linens and bath towels provided, fully equipped modern kitchen, washer/dryer, TV, enclosed porch, and open deck with grill. For availability, call Bill or Tammy (231) 448-2499 or (231) 448-2733.

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

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

**LOCH WOOD SHORES -** Located four miles from town on the beach of Sand Bay. 3 bedroom, 1 ½ bath, W/D, full kitchen, gas grill, large deck that you step off onto the beach, gas fireplace, dish TV, and a gorgeous view. Call (231) 448-2733 or (231) 448-2499 [tammymcd107@yahoo.com](mailto:tammymcd107@yahoo.com).





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3BR 1 queen, 1 full, 2 twin & queen sofa sleeper. 2 Bath, Fireplace, W/DR, All Amenities, Satellite TV. / VCR/DVD, grill, bikes No pets. \$790/week. Off season April Thru June 13 & Sept 13 Thru Oct \$590. Call Gale or Warren Evenings (708) 389-0621 Day (708) 214-7049



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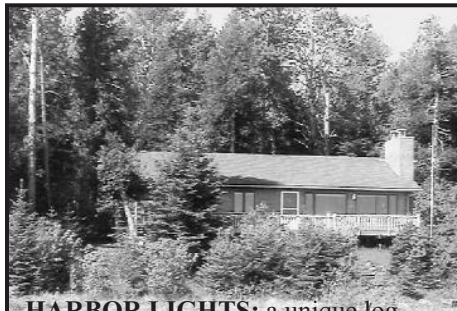


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**LOG CABIN ON SAND BAY** - pets allowed. 2 BR, 1 bath: \$500. Call (734) 449-0804 or email [delzey@earthlink.net](mailto:delzey@earthlink.net)

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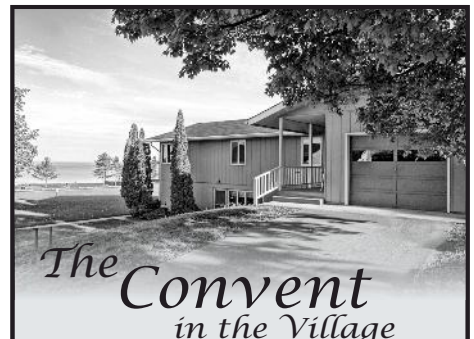
**DONEGAL BAY** - 3 BR 2 bath Home; sleeps 6; many amenities. \$1,000 a week. Reduced rates for off-season. Phone (313) 885-7393, after 4:00 p.m.



**BEACHFRONT HOME FOR RENT:**

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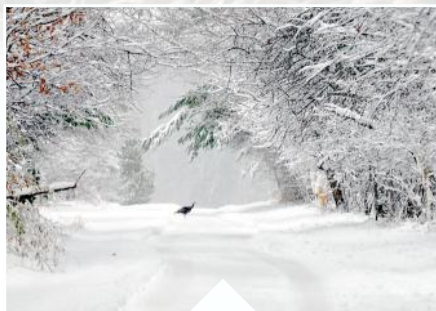
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