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4. NEWS FROM THE TOWNSHIPS

St. James Township

The State rethought its budget and decided it could not fund a *phragmites* program on the outer islands after all, so our just-formulated five-year plan will have to be revised.

Bill McDonough had some talks in Lansing about the Whiskey Island swap, but nothing about possibly forgoing the appraisal was definite yet.

The State Tax Commission gave St. James a score of 97 on the card review, and complimented the Township on having brought its assessing up to par.

Supervisor Speck said that while the tanks were being repaired at the community septic system, he discovered that the badly-eaten tops were precast and shipped here from the mainland. No damage had been done below the water line. The quarterly payments will begin in September. The ordinance controlling the rates was amended to raise the fees from \$14/unit/month to \$24/unit/month. Some users, such as Jeff Powers, Eric Hodgson, and the Township, have several units each. The number of units the system was designed for is 110; 80 are in use at present; Matela's home is the last connection.

Pat Nugent was hired as the assistant harbormaster and trash pick-up man after being the only one to apply.

John Fiegen was interested in being reappointed to the planning commission; he was the only applicant.

Barb Schwartzfisher reported on BITA's progress. She said BITA received a grant for the design of a replacement for the Beaver Islander, and it has been working with the Northern Lakes Economic Alliance to evaluate the feasibility of a new boat. A committee has been formed to decide on a naval architect; two applicants were interviewed, and a group from Seattle was recommended; they specialize in ferry designs, and will work with BITA's program. BITA is investigating construction funding sources. The design should include public input and will take about six months. Delivery of a new boat might occur in five years.

Don Vyse reported on a suggestion made at a meeting of the Whiskey Point Lighthouse Committee meeting that the light tower be whitewashed. The state historic agency approved this temporary protection. Don said there's enough money in the account to do this.

Ed Wojan spoke to the Board about the former NREC commission, citing his current opinion that the work it was doing was important and should be continued by a committee controlled by the Townships. He said he was convinced the effort should be resumed by a



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Township Steering Committee. He cited the European swamp thistle proliferation and the monitoring of the emerald ash borer as examples of something new that require a concerted effort from a consortium of agencies. He distributed a draft of a new resolution to create a steering committee (NRESC), and a proposed set of by-laws. Such a committee would have no power to do anything beyond recommending actions to the Townships. The draft came from extensive meetings with a few members of the Townships' boards and former NREC officers. The Board thought it should be sent to its attorney for his comments. The Board felt both Townships should confer and reach an agreement before either passes it. Ed suggested that the two supervisors contact all the Island agencies to say they approve of the new committee and ask if they will be involved. Pam Grassmick said that the committee members would determine the new officers if this was passed.

Peaine Township

Much of the discussion at the Peaine meeting revolved around three topics which had also occupied the St. James Board: a new ferry, the fight against *phragmites*, and the need to manage our natural resources.

Barb Schwartzfisher delivered a comprehensive report on BITA's quest for a new ferry. Thanks to a \$204,000 grant (work on obtaining this grant began five years ago), the design stage is about to begin. RFPs were sent to several companies; of the four responders, two were selected as finalists. One of them will be chosen soon, and then meetings will be held (for 4 to 6 weeks) with members of BITA, BIBCo, the Captains and other personnel, and other interested parties to develop a program for the design. At this point everything is on the table: speed (although noise and wave issues will probably prevent a fast boat), freight vs. passengers, and size (although it will be less than 200' and hold no more than 149 passengers, enabling it to avoid additional requirements, which would slow the process and increase the expense).

No Township funding will be required. The plan is to draw \$6,500,000 from the federal government and add it to up to a \$2,000,000 local match (from BIBCo).

The *Beaver Islander* is 60 years old (the *Emerald Isle* is 14); renovations are needed, but they would be quite expensive. A transportation study was done in 04/05, which indicated it would be more prudent to build a new boat. The guiding principle *continued on page 6.*

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News from the Townships, from page 5.

is to improve the comfort and convenience of the traveling public.

Jacque LaFreniere and Pam Grassmick spoke about the dilemma created when the state backed out of treating its land on Beaver and the outer islands for phragmites because of economic problems. The recent plan approved for local treatment was to hire an applicator for the private land on Beaver, paying it with \$10-\$14,000 from the \$28,000 currently in the SOS fund. The question was whether or not to use this fund to also treat the state land, at least on Beaver. If the reed is untreated for three or four years, the cost of eradication goes up geometrically; there are areas along the East Coast where eradication now would cost \$100,000,000.

Talk centered on treating the Island's state land at a likely cost of \$6-\$8,000. This would draw down the SOS fund, but it might be expandable through the same kind of donations and grants that built it up in the first place. The idea of holding off in the hope that the state would have more money next year was considered unwise because the finances of the state are likely to get worse. Of the 45 miles of Beaver Island shoreline, the state has not much more than 6, but it is the part with the most difficult access.

The Board voted unanimously to treat the entire shoreline regardless of ownership.

The phragmites administrator and an assistant (a paying job, just posted; estimated time: 45 hours) will use GIS technology to map the location of all colonies on the perimeter and the inland lakes (some has been detected on the Greene's Lake north shore); a copy of the map will be available at the library. RFPs will be requested for late July and a contractor selected in early August; treatment will begin in late August or early September. Brian Mastenbrook has agreed to obtain the DEQ permits for us. At present there is no plan or ability to treat the outer islands.

In the transition from this matter to the question of NREC it was mentioned that there had been opportunities to apply for grants to cover phragmites treatment costs but there had been no agency or mechanism in place and no applications had been made.

Ed Wojan spoke about the extensive meetings (nine hours on five afternoons) that had taken place with former NREC officers and members of each Town Board, which had led to the drafting and polishing of a proposal to form a Natural Resources and Ecotourism Steering Committee. Fifteen fresh copies were

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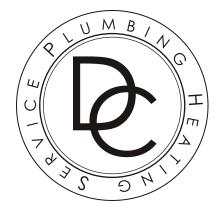
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distributed to the audience. The only power such a committee would have would be to recommend actions to the Boards. He believed the previous Commission had not communicated well with the public, which developed the notion that NREC was headstrong and might inadvertently affect the path the Island has chosen for its improvement: a stressing of the importance of tourism, second-home construction, and real estate development done in a way that enhances our natural resources, which are our greatest draw.

He thought a Steering Committee could avoid this criticism, and was certainly needed. He cited the missed opportunities for *phragmites* funding, the necessity to fight new invasives (such as European swamp thistle), and the help needed to establish Wildlife Certification as examples of the need for a broad-based group.

He thought the antagonism that

FMTS PASS FXAM

All five—Dan Burton, Danielle Dedloff, Tammy LaFreniere, Vince Pickhardt, and Kevin White—of the students who devoted so much time and effort over the winter taking the EMT course passed the National EMT Registry Exam and are now full-fledged members of the team.

developed between NREC and 7. those who opposed its style would be less likely to arise again because both sides have admitted they made mistakes and would make the necessary adjustments.

St. James was conferring with its attorney about the proposal, and Peaine agreed to do the same. Then Board members from each Township would meet to resolve any questions that arose. In the meantime the two supervisors will draft a letter to send to each organization which was previously a member of NREC to gauge its willingness to participate in a reconstituted group. It will be composed of volunteers, with no compensation.

If the results from these letters, the response from the attorneys, and the meeting of representatives of each Board are positive, the Townships are likely to approve a resolution forming the NRESC at their July meeting.

WALLEYES ALIVE!

The Beaver Island Wildlife Club had another successful season raising baby walleyes in the pond near Barney's Lake, as evidenced by their trap-net being full of inch-long fingerlings when it was raised on June 17. The next day the babies were taken to Lake Geneserath and released.









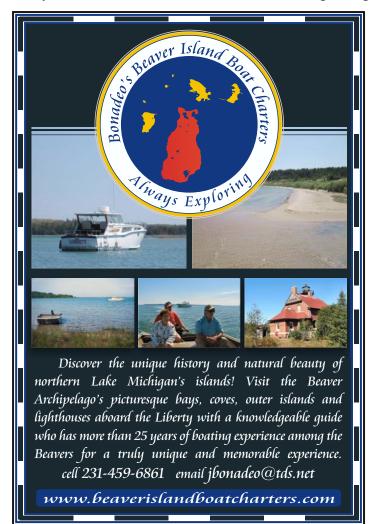


St. James Mission Church in 2001, Baroque on Beaver has grown to a week-long classical music festival at venues around town, with musicians from across the state. Jean Howell and Jane Maehr organized the first concerts and, with the help of Ruth Kelly, spearheaded the development of the festival. Jane remembers the first year when musician Chas Krutz,

who had been appearing as Johann Sebastian Bach throughout the Midwest, proposed bringing Bach to Beaver. In 2001 he performed on a handmade harpsichord, and the next year entertained audiences by playing a horn made out of a garden hose!

Ten years later the Beaver Island Cultural Arts Association supports Island artists throughout the year, as well as organizing the festival, which now includes a wide variety of classical music. This year's concert program, July 26–31, will feature an orchestra of thirty-one Michigan musicians, a chorus with singers from on and off the Island, and internationally known soloists, as well as a visit by Chas Krutz, who has been a regular for ten years.

The 10th Anniversary Baroque on Beaver will offer several new events and continue the traditional favorites. It











will begin with a potluck welcome dinner for the musicians at Gregg Hall on Monday, July 25. All Islanders are invited to enjoy the evening; Suzuki violin students from Beaver Island Community School will provide entertainment for the musicians and other guests.

A new and very popular event last year was the opening night benefit recital. This year four incredible artists will delight audiences on Tuesday, July 26, 7:30 at the Community Center. A highlight of the evening will be Martha Guth's performance of the world premiere of a commissioned piece by composer Tom Cipullo, based on poetry by Robert Cole. Martha describes the combination of poetry and music as "a truly beautiful offering." Tickets, required for this concert only, are available at the Community Center for \$25,

\$50, and \$100.

Thursday, July 28, at 2:00, at the Community Center, the Family Music Fair will be a brand new, interactive event for children of all ages. Participants will make and play their own instruments. At workshops the week before, 21st Century Summer School students will learn drumming and drummaking from a professional percussionist; "Poetry Beat" *continued on page 10.*









Baroque on Beaver, continued from page 9. and "Rhythmic Visual Arts" classes for the 21st Century Summer School students will support the Fair through workshops in June and earlier in July. Funding for these activities is provided in part by Crooked Tree Arts Center and by BI Community School's grant funded by the 21st Century Community Learning Center.

Another new event will be a concert by a brass quintet from the Festival Orchestra on Friday, 2:00 at Holy Cross Church. The idea for this came from the musicians themselves, who were eager to participate in an additional performance while they were on the Island.

There will be four concerts at the Community Center and Holy Cross Parish Hall, from Thursday through





Sunday. The Thursday evening concert, at 7:30, at Holy Cross Parish Hall, will be a celebration of water. Robert Nordling will conduct the orchestra in Wagner's "Overture to the Flying Dutchman," Mendelssohn's "Calm and Prosperous Sea," and Handel's "Water Music Suite." Mozart's "Symphony #40" will be performed by the Festival Orchestra on Friday evening at 7:30, at



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the Community Center. Audiences will also be treated to Bach's "Concerto for Violin in E Major," performed by Albert Wang. Saturday evening the Festival Orchestra and Chorus will present "A Night at the Opera." This will be a very special night of operatic favorites performed by outstanding vocalists including Martha Guth's husband Ricardo Lugo, who sings with

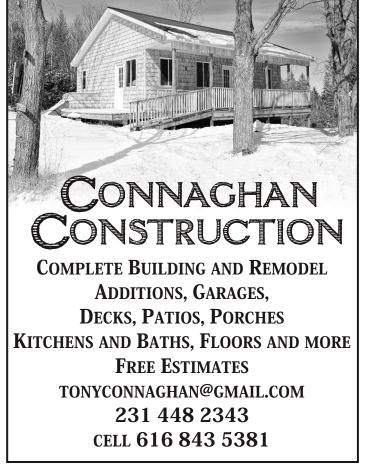


the Metropolitan Opera in New York. The final concert, on Sunday at 2:00 at Holy Cross Parish Hall, will feature the orchestra and chorus performing works by Mendelssohn. A favorite tradition of the Festival, "A Gaelic Blessing" by John Rutter, will conclude the concert and the 10th Anniversary Baroque on Beaver.

Beaver Island's Cultural Arts Asso-

ciation is committed to making the concerts available to all members of the community; therefore, all concerts, except the opening night benefit, are free, with no tickets required. Donations are gratefully appreciated to help cover the costs of the festival, and a free-will offering will be taken at each concert. For more information please visit www.baroqueonbeaver.org.





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Check out www.beaverislandcommunitycenter.org for updates, movies, special summer events, and more!

Beaver Island Comedy Group Sunday 7/3 8pm \$12/Adv



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Museum Week Events - 7/18-24 (p.38)

Baroque On Beaver 7/26-31 A Festival of Classical Music! www.baroqueonbeaver.org

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Beaver Tales 3

Friday, 7/8 8pm \$12/Adv



\$15/Door The third in our Beaver Tales series of original songs, skits and anec-

dotes of Island life and history created and performed by Island folks!

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Davina And The Vagabonds



blues! www.davinaandthevagabonds.com



ver 100 bikers took advantage of a beautiful sunny day, the first in a week, to peddle around the Island at a leisurely pace, picking up poker cards here and there and seeing the sites. A few poked down some of the Island's mysterious and inviting two-tracks along the route; luckily only one got lost. Along the route they enjoyed a

lunch at the Wagner Campground, and then partied into the night. Dozens came early to get the lay of the land and make new friends, and many swore on a Schwinn parts book that they'd be back.

BEAVER ISLAND CALENDAR OF EVENTS

July 3 – **Beaver Island Comedy Group** at the Community Center

July 7 – BIA Nature Lecture: **Migrating** song-birds on Beaver Island. Peaine Hall, 7:30 p.m.

July 7 – **Duke Tumatoe & The Power Trio**, Community Center

July 8 – Beaver Tales³

July 9 – Glen McDonough Concert
July 10 – Third annual Beaver Island

Archipelago Challenge poker run to benefit the Community Center.

July 11 – The **Grand Opening Celebration for Forest View Community** from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. *www.beaverislandcdc.org* July 11 – **BIAAnnual Meeting**, p. 36 July 12 – **Niños y Jóvenes Cantores de la Escuela Nacional de Música**

July 13 – 1st Annual Garden Tour, p. 24 July 13 – BIA Lecture: How to Grow a

Bird Feeder. Community Center, 7:00 July 14 - 16 - Beaver Island Music Festival, how we roll: www.bimf.net

July 16 – **Ladies Golf Tournament** July 18 – 24 – **Museum Week 2011**, in-

cluding a new Beaver Tales on 7-23

July 20 – 22 – **BIHS Art Show** at the Gregg Fellowship Center

July 25 - 31 – **Baroque on Beaver**, p. 8 July 25 – BIA Nature Lecture: **Native** plants of **Beaver Island**, Peaine Township Hall, 7:30 p.m.

July 25 – **Mulebone**, Community Center July 30 – Livingstone Studio's **Meet the**

Artists show and sale. 12:00-4:00

August 4 – **Davina and the Vagabonds** August 10 – **Goitse**, Community Center.

August 12 – Beaver Tales 3 – 8/12 & 9/2

August 13 – Jennie DeVoe

August 12 - 14 - Homecoming

August 19 – CeCe Gable Quintet

August 26 – Ransom Street Big Band September 9 – Claire Lynch Band

September 16 – Makem & Spain

October 8 – **Bite of Beaver** & the **Boodle** Thursdays – **Farmer's Market** at the

Paradise Bay Coffee Shop, 9:00 - 11:00







THE NEW BEAVER ISLAND BOOK

great new hardbound book has just appeared, *Life in the Beaver Island Archipelago*. With 208 12 x 9 pages of lush photos and interesting facts, it should appeal to everyone who loves the Island.

Its mix of hundreds of photographs

of Island scenes and stories combining amusing anecdotes with historic facts makes it something to turn to, time and again. When readers cannot be here in body, at least they can in spirit.

Blending the first decade of the 21st century into a single year, it depicts the shifting seasons, the sweep of color

over the forests, the arrival of soft, blanketing snow and the freezing over of the lakes, and the blooming of a progression of flowers. It builds toward the burst of summer activity, the arrival of pleasure craft, private planes, and, most of all, people—what for Beaver Island constitutes the cycle of life.

When you buy this book, you start with the pictures—the lovely places you know so well from different angles and in colors you never saw before. Then you begin to get a sense of the whole: the progression of the seasons, the occasional portrait of Island craftsmen

and artists. Eventually, you stop to read the text, and you find there a story of the Island that's easy to read, a mixture of the immediate—the here-and-now—interspersed with history that's amusing and intriguing and contains a multitude of facts you didn't know.

Once you start reading Life in the Beaver Island Archipelago, like a thriller, it's hard to put down. It's not just a bunch of terrific pictures, it's a great summer read."

—Charlie Donaldson, author of Emerald Memories

Pick up a copy when you arrive—it's only thirty dollars. Or send a check for thirty-five to Paradise Bay Press (which previously published *Discovering Beaver Island)*, Box 52, Beaver Island MI 49782, and the

stunning book will arrive in a box at your door in a few short days.

For convenience, use the order form at the back of the magazine.

"Here's a phantasmagoria: Photo after photo that leave you awestruck,

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DESTINATION PARADISE BAY SV SUNSHINE IN PARADISE BAY by Larry Hansz

assengers waiting for the Beaver Island ferry in Charlevoix often admire the Sunshine moored just south of the ferry dock. Sunshine has taken more than 20,000 people sailing during its fourteen year career in Charlevoix, and is a regular visitor to St. James harbor. It is usually seen early in the summer before the two month

rush of tourist season and then again late in the year prior to winter storage.

At age 50 Capt. Gary Dawson quit selling computer software worldwide to become a full-time captain. He prepares *Sunshine* for the season in late spring,





works non-stop during the summer in Charlevoix, puts the boat in winter storage in Mackinac City in the early fall, and then heads to the Carribean. There he captains seven-day charter cruises all winter.

Sunshine is often the first large sailboat many passengers have ever boarded. It is a 1983 45' Bruce Roberts cutter ketch

owner-built in Florida. Gary bought the boat in 1992 to charter, and offers three sails daily in Charlevoix weather permitting. Gary and crew Elizabeth Drost and Jane Balasz encourage passengers to participate putting up sails or steering, or





just relax and appreciate the views of Charlevoix's nautical atmosphere.

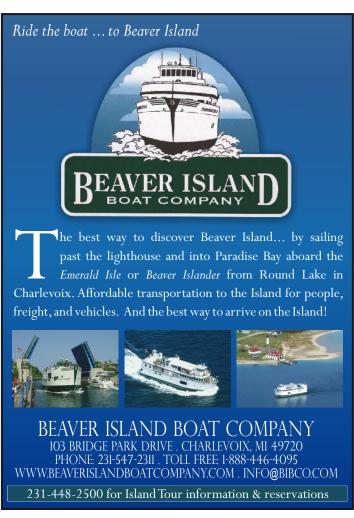
Fifteen hundred to 2,000 people per season take the cruise but this year is the last in Charlevoix. Gary and Allison Clock plan to leave at the end of August and sail to the Carribean and possibly points beyond. They hope to be in the Mississippi River by September and reach the Gulf

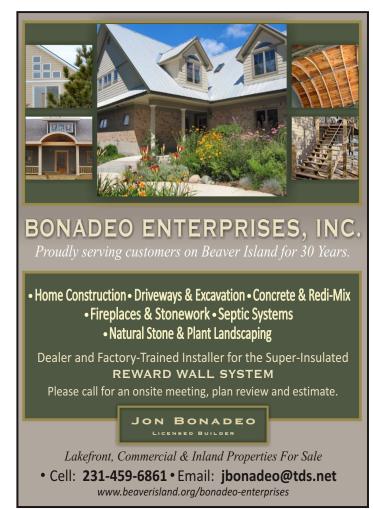
of Mexico at Mobile Alabama by November 1. Then it will be down the west coast of Florida, a visit to Cuba, and on to St. Thomas and the rest of the Antilles. Charlevoix and Beaver Island will miss them. We wish them luck.

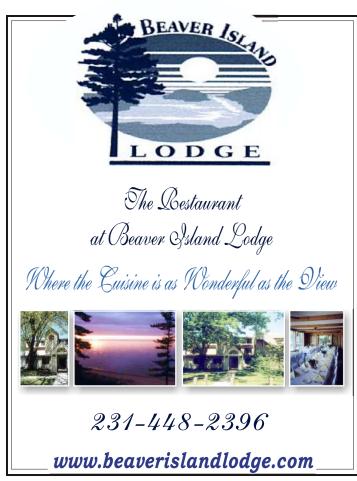


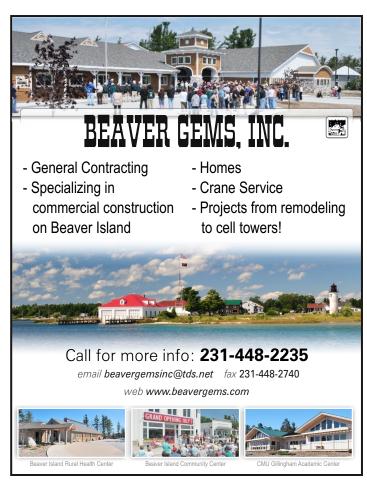












ANOTHER CLEAR-CUT ON BEAVER?

Tithout much public awareness - and therefore with little input from Island residents - the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Environment (DNRE) is recommending that another 33 acres be clear-cut on Beaver Island. This clear-cut is slated for acreage off of Johnny Martin's Trail south of Hannigan's road. It's in an area the DNRE admits is "very difficult access within a wetland complex" and is "blocked by private ownership." The proposed clear-cut acreage will be out of the site of most of us, except for the

potentially surprised hikers, hunters, and private property owners who own land nearby.

Is this clear-cut the best choice for the **Island's future?** It may, or may not be. But at this point most of us have not been made aware of the DNRE's process for making such decisions. We have not been informed what's at stake, what the different options are, or how we can easily have a say.

Beaver Island to take the lead? Doesn't look like it. It is true that public state forest lands on Beaver Island belong not just to

Island residents, but to all Michiganders. This is why when we go over to the mainland and camp at Fisherman Island State Park, or spend a fall weekend hunting, hiking, or horseback riding in the Pigeon River Country State Forest, Islanders can expect to have these state lands serve their needs, not just those of the local private property owners who live nearby. But we've also been told by the DNRE Wildlife Division that Beaver Island is a special case - and we've been asked to "take the lead" in determining the future of the Island's public forests and stateowned lands. This was clearly stated to us several times, by some of the DNRE's Wildlife Division officers, from the Division Chief Russ Mason on down.

Why not have a public process to review these decisions held here on Beaver Island? Why is there not a process that both educates and informs Islanders of what our options are for managing our public forests? Why is there not a process that more clearly and effectively welcomes local input before these decisions are made?

What happened to 'local input' on a future vision for the Island? Urge the DNRE to refrain from such controversial actions as prescribing another clear-cut here on Beaver Island – until the public has been fully informed, knows what the

alternative management options are, and most importantly, until Islanders can engage in a process of developing a local plan with broad input so we can "take the lead" – as the DNRE has invited us to do. This is exactly what the Natural Resource and Ecotourism

Commission (NREC) was doing: gathering information, monitoring the DNRE's plans, holding public educational forums, and gathering input

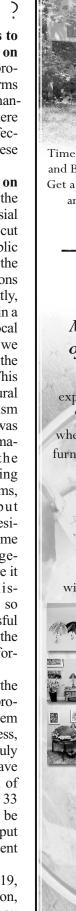
from Island residents for a "home grown" management plan, before it was decommissioned. It did so through successful local events like the well-attended for-

est symposium it sponsored last June.

I urge Islanders to write or email the DNRE and voice your opinion on its proposed clear-cut before July 19. Ask them for a better process for public awareness, education, and local input, one that truly invites us to "take the lead" as they have promised. If you don't, the question of whether or not to clear-cut another 33 acres of Beaver Island's forests will be answered for you - without your input - at the upcoming DNRE Compartment Review on July 19.

Send your comments before July 19, via email or written letter to: John Pilon, Forest Planner: PILONJ@michigan.gov or 1732 W M-32, Gaylord, MI 49735.

-Seamus Norgaard





to meet you at your convenience

20. BANDS APPEARING AT THIS YEAR'S JULY 14-15-16



Wednesday 13th
2:30 Ferry to Beaver Island **Burton's Garden**

Thursday 14th



8:30 Ferry to Beaver Island
Sue Anderson

2:30 Ferry to Beaver Island

Dave Boutette & Goldmine Pickers

6-6:45 Bohemian Seeds

7-7:45 Burton's Garden

8-8:45 Jane Thatcher & the Steadfast



9-10 10:15-11:15 11:30-1am Friday 15th

5:30-6

6:15-7 7:15-8

8:15-9

9:15-10

Goldmine Pickers Black Rose Glean Infusion

2:30 Ferry to Beaver Island



Lindsay Lou & the Flatbellies
Jane Thatcher
& the Steadfast Acrobats
The Northern Skies
AnDro
Lindsay Lou
& the Flatbellies
Hymn for Her

Acrobats

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BEAVER ISLAND MUSIC FESTIVAL



10:15-11 11:15-1am Saturday 16th Kung Fu Rodeo **Goldmine Pickers**

11:30 Ferry to Beaver Island

My Sweet Patootie

11:20 Ferry to Charlevoix

Sue Anderson



Open Mic 1-3 3-3:30 3:45-4:15 4:30-5 2-6 kids time 5:15-5:45

Bohemian Seeds Dave Boutette Black Rose Arts & Crafts & Games The Northern Skies



6-6:45

11:20

2:20

5:20





7-7:45 AnDro 8-8:45 Kung Fu Rodeo 9-9:45 Lindsay Lou & the **Flatbellies Glean Infusion** 10-10:45 11-11:45 **Burton's Garden** 12-1:30 **Hymn for Her**

Sunday 17th Ferry to Charlevoix The Northern Skies **My Sweet Patootie** Jane Thatcher

My Sweet Patootie

& the Steadfast Acrobats

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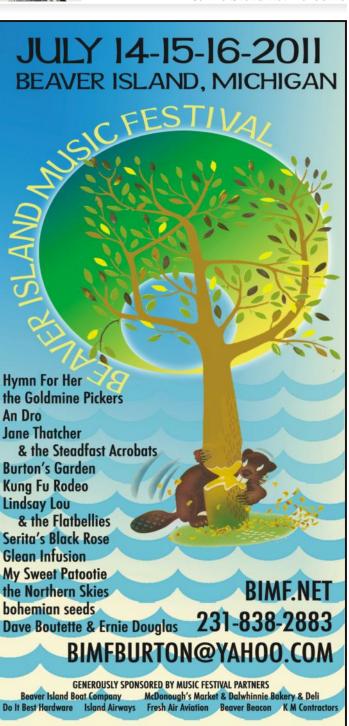
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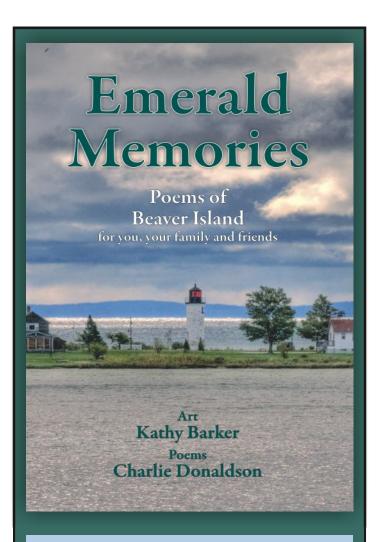
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"Much has been written about Beaver Island, but nothing captures its soul in poetry as well as this small and amiable book, which offers fresh and humorous insights into the Island we love. Charlie's poems often tell a story of Island life: getting stuck in snow on Mrs. Redding's Trail, ingenious ways of putting socks on in your older days, a pleasant but somewhat contentious walk to Barney's Lake, and yearnings and grievings on the boat back to the mainland. You'll revisit the Island in these Emerald Memories."

-Bill Cashman, editor, Beaver Beacon

Maybe you have to leave the Island and you want to take a souvenir for yourself or your kids. Or a Christmas gift for your aunt who couldn't make it this year. Maybe a special gift for spouse or parent. Maybe even someone you're trying to entice to the Island. A famous man once said, "This book of readable poetry is as sweet as the breeze off Donegal Bay and as real as the gales of November. This is a great souvenir and a better book of poetry."

Get Emerald Memories at the Community Center, the Historical Society or order it by writing Protar Press, PO Box 478, BI MI 49782: 1@\$8 2@\$14 3@\$20. Charlie will be reading from the book on July 20 during Museum Week.

Beaver Island Christian Church

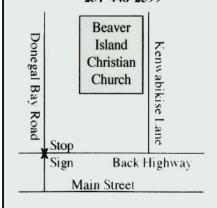


and Gregg Fellowship Center



Multi-Denominational
Sunday Service at 10 a.m.
Sunday School

Beaver Island Christian Church 38215 Kenwabikise Lane 231-448-2599





Visiting Pastors:

July 3: Mark Luckey July 10: Mark Luckey
July 17: Curt Petrak July 24: Pastor Joseph Fox
July 21: Pastor Joseph Fox
11:30: memorial service for Sally Davis

ON THIS DATE

Ten Years Ago The *Beacon* reported that a nesting pair of piping plovers had been discovered at Donegal Bay. It was reported to CMU's Beth Leuck, who alerted UM's Piping Plover Project. Only 15 pair were known to reside in Michigan.

The *Beacon* lauded the recent Vision Quest project, at which 68 Islanders broke into several groups and discussed ideas for the Island's future, which were then put on flip charts by moderator Anne Glendon and later condensed into a report.

Skip McDonough was honored for having been on the board which founded the Charlevoix County Community Foundation in 1991 and for having initiated, along with Joe Reed, the Beaver Island Enrichment Fund.

Chuck Schmidt was praised for his efforts in organizing the Transfer Station, where the accumulation of trash had been getting out of hand before his arrival.

Sympathy was expressed for the loss of Island-born Teresa (Boyle) Gallagher, 94, who had been instrumental in founding the Medical Center before moving to Charlevoix in 1959.

Twenty Years Ago Kevin James was the choice from a field of 25 to become the school principal; he would later go on to become a successful professional comedian. The school also hired Terri Boyle and Mike Myers, picking them from 100 applicants.

The Medical Center added a new service by providing office space for clinical psychologist Andrew Sahara, a CMU grad who had been working in New York. He was to be available every other week.

A benefit was held for Edward Palmer, who fell from scaffolding while working on a roof and was laid up for over two months. Musicians Rich Scripps, Kevin White, Joddy Croswhite, Danny Gillespie, Cindy Gillespie, Glen McDonough, and Russell Palmer entertained a large crowd at the Parish Hall.

Volunteer photographer Phil Becker captured portraits of all 101 attendees to the Lloyd and Eva McDonough family reunion.

Catherine Bauman, the daughter of Ed and Bernadine Jouzapaitis, was named the Volunteer of the Year for her efforts at the Naval Training Center – the

first civilian to be so honored.

Property owners along the Mike Boyle's Beach Road told the township the road was in the wrong place. The township had previously tried to close it to the public but been rebuffed by the Road Commission; it agreed to survey it.

Numerous complaints about Alan Gillespie's white rental jeeps being parked along Main Street led to him agreeing to keep only one on the street.

Thirty Years Ago One issue covered July and August. Joyce Bartels reported meeting the daughter of the owner of the Jennie Weaver, a two-masted schooner that frequently picked up lumber on Beaver Island around 1910-1912.

Walk-on Notre Dame cornerback Mike Masina was given a full football scholarship for his senior year.

Rod Nackerman's son Dan Nackerman earned a degree in architecture from MSU, with his senior thesis being a design for an Environmental Education Center at the Charlevoix Schools' Beaver Head Lighthouse.

Forty Years Ago An early run of big perch had ended, but smallmouth bass were pleasing anglers in the bays of Garden and Hog Islands. Perry Gatliff used a hypodermic needle to pump air into his night crawlers to make them float appealingly. Others were slicing a slit into their worms and inserting a piece of alka seltzer to draw the fishes' attention.

A replica of the *Nonsuch*, a 17th-century sailing vessel, arrived at Beaver Island; the original, a 50' square-rigger with a 15' beam, had appeared on a 5¢ Canadian stamp three years earlier. She had been credited with launching the fur trade by taking two Quebec men from the Thames River across the North Atlantic to the Hudson Bay.

A plaque was dedicated to a master sportsman and hunter who loved Beaver Island, Warren "Dobber" Wenger. A young Mark LaFreniere was present with many adults.

Sympathy was expressed for the loss of Reba Meixsell (whose daughter owns the John Gillespie home on Sloptown), Roy Provancher, the father of Virginia Rountree (who sold her home to Bill and Ruth Hirschey), and Isabelle LaFreniere (the daughter of Patrick and Elizabeth LaFreniere, who died in a three-car crash on her way to Beaver Island).

Fifty Years Ago The Dawn Patrol

dropped to 78 planes after attracting 350 in its second year, 1958. A breakfast was prepared at the Parish Hall, but had to be delayed when a fire broke out in the kitchen wall. A plan to give an award to the 100th pilot to land was changed to the last pilot, but he still hasn't landed.

The Island was invaded by 52 Republicans, who came over on the *Emerald Isle* for an afternoon and had lunch at the Beaver Lodge. The Michigan Independent Telephone Operators arrived a few days later but only numbered 51.

Six boats from the Naval Reserve anchored in the harbor overnight. They had a lot of fun smashing out all the lights on the dock.

Frank Luton, the Island doctor who had been here since 1956, reached 60 years of practice over the course of his productive life.

The ARRL, the American Radio Relay League, held its annual field day on Beaver Island. The ham operators brought equipment to demonstrate how to transmit under emergency conditions. Their messages were broadcast from the Island to places as far away as Labrador, Ecuador, Okinawa, and Mars.

Mr. C. C. Ludwig visited from East Lansing and talked about banding birds on the Island over many years – 55,000, including 37,000 herring gulls. He had one of 2,200 banding licenses given out in the country each year. He said a Caspian tern he banded on Hat Island washed up on an ocean beach in South America, and gulls banded here were later found in Hawaii.

Dr. John Ludwick revealed his basscatching secret: he and his friends order 200 frogs each season.

A letter from Ted Charrney in Chicago said he was writing a book about the Rouse Simmons, which prompted a mention of how it had been scuttled in Torch Lake in 1903 to prevent her bashing against pilings. Manus Bonner bought her, raised her, and sailed her until 1912, when he chartered her to Captain Schuenemann, who lost her in a fierce November gale while attempting to deliver Christmas trees to Chicago. The Mackinaw cutter searched for wreckage but found nothing. For years, though, Christmas trees turned up in nets. In 1925 the Captain's wallet was pitched up on a beach at Sheboygan, its rubber band still intact.

24. STEVE HAMILTON COMING

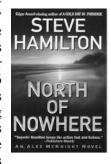
Thanks to Lois Stipp, the highly regarded writer Steve Hamilton will be at this year's Museum Week Art Show, all afternoon on Thursday, July 21.



Steve's latest Alex McKnight

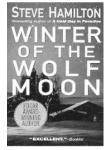
mystery was just released. In it a young man loops one end of a long rope over the branch of a tree

on a frozen January night and ties the other end around his neck. A snowmobiler will find him 36 hours later, his lifeless eyes staring out at the endless cold water of Lake Superior. It happens



in a lonely corner of the Upper Peninsula, in a place they call Misery Bay.

Alex McKnight does not know this young man, and he won't even hear about the suicide until another cold night, two months later and 250 miles away, when the door



to the Glasgow Inn opens and the last person Alex would ever expect comes walking inside to ask for his help. What seems like a simple quest to find a few answers will turn into a nightmare of sudden violence and bloody revenge, and a race against time to catch a ruthless killer.

Hamilton's novels have won numerous awards. His very first book, A Cold Day in Paradise, won the Private Eye Writers of America/St. Martin's Press Award for Best First Mystery by an Unpublished Writer. After it was published, the novel went on to win the Mystery Writers of America Edgar Award for Best First Novel and the Private Eye Writers of America Shamus Award for Best First Novel, the only first novel to win both awards. That book introduced Alex McKnight, an ex-cop now making a living renting cabins in the small town of Paradise in Michigan's isolated Upper Peninsula, who becomes a reluctant private detective.

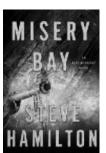
Hamilton's second Alex McKnight novel, *Winter of the Wolf Moon* (2000), was named one of the year's Notable Books by The New York Times Book Review and received a starred review from Publishers Weekly, as did his next three novels, *The Hunting Wind, North of Nowhere and Blood is the Sky* (which won the 2004 Gumshoe Award).



There are now seven books in the Alex McKnight series, and they have been translated into 12 languages.

Night Work is a departure from the Alex McKnight series, featuring

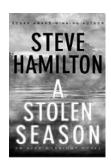
instead a probation officer in upstate New York, although Hamilton has



indicated that he will return to McKnight at some point. Night Work was nominated for the Crime Writers' Association top award, The Duncan Lawrie Dagger.

In 2006, Hamilton won the

Michigan Author Award for his entire body of work.



His 2010 novel *The Lock Artist* won him a second Edgar Award, this time for Best Novel. With this second win, Hamilton joins only four other authors who have won the award twice.

FIRST ANNUAL GARDEN TOUR

Proceeds benefit the lovely new Beaver Island Wellness Garden.

Board the vans, tour four unique Beaver Island gardens, stop for a lovely lunch on the patio of the Lodge, then continue on to four more gardens.

The vans have limited seating so only 30 tickets will be available at \$40 for that. Twenty more tickets for walker/bikers are also available at a discounted price of \$30.

The luncheon is also "limited seating" so please make sure you buy your Tour ticket as soon as possible. They are available at the Beaver Island Health Center. Ask for Betty, or call Leonor Jacobson at 448-2894.

The gardens each will have a specific visitation time so we ask you to kindly observe their privacy and only

visit with the Tour at the designated time. Those of you who want only a "garden viewing" ticket can purchase that for a \$10 donation.

Stop by the Health Center Monday-Friday 8 a.m. -5 p.m. for tickets and more information. We will accept cash, check or visa/mc for payment. This event is advance purchase only.

Rain or Shine, wear comfy shoes and a hat!

This is our first such event and is limited to in-town. We hope we can go out-of-town next year for an even bigger one! With so many unique and beautiful gardens hidden away on Beaver Island we are planning to do this annually.

If you want your garden to be on the tour next year let us know!

NOW

Dark morning, no horizon. Lake and sky, same cold gray. Call a name, no answer. Your limbs are heavy.

Suddenly, a swatch of white Center sky. Startling in the only light

Startling in the only light Its wings, in every moment, Light and purposeful.

Rise now, walk: here's the day.

—Charlie Donaldson

CHALLENGE

For a fun afternoon cruise around the Beavers and a fabulous dinner, enter this year's Archipelago Challenge on July 10^{th} . \$100 per person. (231) 409-6034





LEARNING ABOUT LIFE ON BEAVER ISLAND

by Ezekiel Clark, Nia Dye, Emma Westerhof-Shultz and Lillian Wiser

ur 7th grade class traveled six and a half hours by bus and boat from Walden Green Montessori School in Spring Lake, Michigan to Beaver Island. We chose to come to the Island to explore the themes we've been studying – interdependence, ecosystems, natural resources, service learning, economics

and Michigan History. Our classmate Lillian's grandmother, (Mary Elizabeth) and her great grandparents, (Lillian and Johnny Andy Gallagher) were all born and raised on Beaver Island.

When we got off the ferry we were met by a water snake and a bank beaver — the latter being the symbol of the Island. We walked to the Convent and

after unpacking, we took a walking tour to Whiskey Point. Later in the week we did an art project: printmaking based on the sketches we made of our favorite island landmark. Whiskey Point Lighthouse featured largely in many of the prints. These prints became special memory keepsakes for us to remember our fun experience.





In preparation for our trip, we read two books about Feodor Protar's life. At the Beaver Island Historical Museum we learned more about Protar's home life, gardening, seasonal farming techniques, and medicinal studies. Mr. Bill Cashman gave us an interesting tour and offered a scavenger hunt. Later Dr. Protar's life story came alive for us as we toured his cabin and went to visit

his grave. We saw the cross Protar placed there in memory of David Chase. Mr. Cashman also took us over to the Maritime Museum, where we saw the model of the *Elizabeth G* – which was a fishing boat owned by Andy Gallagher, Lillian's great, great grandfather.

Director Ken Roehling showed us the South End Lighthouse. It is the second oldest lighthouse on the Great Lakes. "It was a cool historical experience," 7th grade student April said. We were all very impressed with this amazing school.

We joined Dr. Leuck's ecology class at CMU to set mammal traps. We tagged two chipmunk's ears so we could track how many times they came back to that particular campground. We went on a nature walk in Miller's Marsh where we





captured and held snakes, found various wild flowers, and witnessed the ongoing work of the local beaver family.

We joined CMU students to participate in their dune successional sampling project located just off Mrs. Redding's Trail on the west side of the Island. One of our groups, which included Halla, Kendra, and Emma, found a cluster of 20-25 morel mushrooms. We're still

trying to figure out how the CMU students ended up walking off with those in their bucket!

In our economics class we visited our local grocery store in Spring Lake to calculate the cost of feeding a family of four for a week. On the Island, we all walked to the local grocery store, McDonough's Market, and took a survey of the prices to compare them. We found everyone at McDonough's very welcoming.

We went to the Beaver Island Community School and helped the local 7th and 8th graders with the Island clean-up. We were glad to help since all of the Islanders we met were so generous to us. After we raked, John and Joyce Runberg served our class an appetizing lunch.

In our free fun time we ventured to





Mary Scholl's Toy Museum. There were lots of cool and interesting things inside. "The toy museum had amazing deals!" said Halla. We checked out the gift shops in town and enjoyed some very relaxing time at the library. We climbed Mount Pisgah and ran down it, which was exhilarating. At sunset we ventured to Donegal Bay to fly kites.

One night we went to the Gallagher Cottage for a bonfire on the beach. We put waders on and used dip nets to catch minnows and crayfish. One of the crayfish we caught had a huge clutch of eggs. After carefully taking pictures we returned her gently to the place we found her. We ended the evening roasting s'mores and admiring the bright stars.

Before we returned home, we got a tour of the ferry boat. We went down to the engine room, where Captain Kevin McDonough talked about how everything works. He also showed us his cabin. We found this experience very interesting as most of us had not seen what it takes to operate a large boat.

We all loved every minute we spent on Beaver Island. "It was an experience I will never forget!" said April. "I felt peaceful and free," said Alexis. "I hope we can do that trip again!" Greg said. Walden Green Middle School teacher Cindy Smith thought, "It was an experience of a lifetime, a feast for the senses; so intellectually stimulating, and more fun than anyone has a right to have!"















LETTERS: MY THOUGHTS ON THE NEW NRESC

uite a number of Beaver Island residents have said to me lately "What are you doing? You helped decommission the NREC, and now you are trying to bring it back. Why?" I've answered, "That's right, we really do need an organization — under the control of the Township Boards — that will do, for all of us, a lot of what they were doing." I've said many times since February that it never was my intention to have the NREC stop their work completely. I just wanted to bring their action plan "back down to earth," and I wanted it made clear that the NREC officers could not speak for the Island and think they were going to decide everything that would or would not be done here. Many Township Board members thought the same. The "decommissioning" sent that message.

Now it's time to get over the animosity of the first four months of this year and get on with the business of promoting Beaver Island in a way that does not ruin what we have here. The Island needs the new Natural Resources Steering Committee to continue its important work on the eradication of a number of invasive species (a serious problem that we could lose control of). The most active member of the former NREC, Pam Grassmick, needs a "platform" from which she can work on these and other vital projects — with the

help of the Townships. It is essential to support her efforts for the Island by setting up this committee as an important part of our Townships' government. The invasive species work is, however, a small part of what NRESC could do for the Island. It can do research and guide us in many areas. It can enlist the help of the Michigan and Little Traverse nature Conservancies, the DNRE, the State and Federal Governments, etc. with problems we have and projects we need to do. It can help the Townships secure grants to preserve ecologically sensitive areas and fix environmental problems. There are dozens of other reasons we need a Township Committee such as this, but there is not space here for detailing all of them. For over forty-five years I have tried to protect private property rights through zoning and planning and lowdensity subdivisions. I have tried to promote "quality vs quantity" on the Island. I've already done my part in helping to preserve many areas of the Island for "green spaces" and public use. Much more of this work needs to be done by others. The remaining private land will become more valuable and attractive for new residents. The Island really needs an "arm of the Townships" to work on keeping Beaver Island as natural and beautiful as we can without stopping the construction of second and retirement single-family

homes.

We also need a committee of the Townships that interacts regularly with outside organizations that can help us with our goals and needs. We need to improve our economy to keep our young people here, supply jobs, a good tax base, etc. WITHOUT RUINING THE ISLAND that we and visitors have loved for so long. To do this we desperately need a good collaboration of "tree-huggers" and "land rapers" (what better to call the two extremes?) EVERYONE here needs to compromise and work together to develop a simpler plan that allows development but also tries to keep Beaver Island beautiful and preserves its special natural features. Part of the plan for a new NRSC is to include a real estate and construction representative as a voting member. Then, along with the Chamber of Commerce representative I'm hoping we'll have a committee that has the support of both Townships, business owners, property owners, and more of the residents. With all elements participating NRESC will be able to set up and implement a good plan for controlled development AND the preservation of Beaver Island's natural resources. For yourselves (and especially for your great-grandchildren) and for Beaver Island please support this new effort.

—Ed Wojan

WELLNESS GARDEN AUCTION

mid the hustle and bustle of moving into your summer place, picking up company at the airport or ferry dock, and buying extra groceries at the store, don't forget to swing into the Health Center and take a look at some of the generously donated items which are being bid on this summer.

The highest bidder will win the various items on a designated day, and be announced on our board in front of the Health Center (below the baby). The first item to be won will be our beautiful hand stitched quilt designed, cut, and pieced together by Kathy Jones. The piece is entitled "Ellen's Stars" in honor

and memory of Ellen Welke, whose material was used to make the quilt.

The deadline for bids is July 13th at noon. The winner will be announced on the Garden Tour.

Charlie Creasser has hand-made a wonderful cherry plant stand (Stickley design); final bidding on that piece will be on July 28th at noon.

Other art pieces will be announced in August, many by local artists participating in the Museum Week Art Show as well as being shown at Livingstone Studio. Included in that (so far) are Betsy Borre, Frank Solle, Krys Lyle, Ruth Kelly, Nancy Peterson, Vicky Rockwell, Sue Thomson, and Judy Jones. On August 10th we will give the winner of the highest bid for our Beaver Island Bounty Basket a real treat! This includes homemade items such as wine from Pete Lodico, bread from Barb Murphy, eggs from Sally and Jon Fogg, maple syrup by Jackie and Mark LaFreniere, jam by Anne Glendon, pickles from Heidi Vigil, a seasonal pie of your choice from Shirley Detwiler, and also a lovely handmade apron by Connie Wojan.

Come in and browse, pick up a flyer, sign up for a bid, and check out the Garden Tour info; tickets may still be available. If you need more info, call Leonor 448-2894.

30

hragmites was on the agenda at both the May and June Township meetings. The need for a tentative 5-year plan was discussed and also the potential depletion of the Save our Shores (SOS) fund.

First, the five year plan. Beginning this year and alternating years following, *Phragmites* Administrator Jacque LaFreniere and DNR Wildlife Biologist Brian Mastenbrook recommend a complete GPS survey and mapping of the shoreline of Beaver Island, followed by treatment by a chemical contractor hired by the townships. The Townships will conduct the bidding process and will select a qualified herbicide applicator identified from other northern communities with similar programs.

Next year, the recommendation is to coordinate a volunteer effort, similar to last year's, to survey and treat the Island shoreline. With a little over \$28,000 left in the SOS funds, this alternating year

plan would attempt to stretch funding.

However, recently the DNR notified the townships that their funding was minimal and probably would not cover the cost of treatment of the state lands on and around Beaver Island. Both townships voted to treat the state land from the SOS funds and ask the state for reimbursement of the costs of treatment.

The SOS funds will be seriously depleted by treatment of Beaver Island this year. Alternate funding sources (through grants etc.) must be explored and applications made to continue treatment of *Phragmites* on Beaver Island and the surrounding archipelago.

New shoreline property owners were notified via mail of the *Phragmites* survey and treatment plan. All property falls within the *Phragmites* Eradication Zone created by the townships in 2008. If *Phragmites* is identified on your property and you feel your property should

not be included in the Eradication Zone Treatment Area, you must contact the townships in writing by August 1, 2011 to be considered for removal from the treatment area.

Treatment for *Phragmites* will take place at the end of August, 2011 or beginning of September, 2011. There will be a public meeting with the contractor held just before.

The survey will take place prior to July 7. Equipment will be on loan from the Charlevoix County GIS dept through Brian Kelly. Maps will be created by the CC GIS and posted at the Township Library and both Township halls showing where Phragmites has been located in 2011.

Any questions about the *Phragmites* program for 2011 or beyond should be directed to Jacque LaFreniere, *Phragmites* Administrator, at (231) 448-2220.

—Jacque LaFreniere





IN MEMORY: CARL FELIX

Carl Felix, 91, passed away after a long and adventurous life. As a WWII veteran he fought in Central Europe, and took part in the Battle of the Bulge. He received the Bronze Battle Star for action against the enemy while he and his men were working unarmed. Threatened by a counter-offensive, he led a group into a village where there was a small weapons depot, gathered up the weapons and munitions, and returned to those still at the work site, arming them just in time to take action against approaching enemy troops.

He and his wife and children lived on Beaver Island in the 1950s, when he designed and built the Rustic Villa. He set up a boat-building factory in Mexico, went diamond prospecting in South America, and taught boatbuilding in Maine for many years. Twenty years ago he returned to Beaver Island and tried to buy the Beaver Haven Marina, but the deal fell through. He purchased Perry Fortier's bermed stone house and set up a shop in the old McDonough's Market, where he made custom boat models on demand and regaled visitors with colorful stories from his rich life.

Despite losing his sight in one eye and generally failing health, he remained an excellent driver in his grey Subaru right up to the end. He was always helpful, and a friend to all. He will be greatly missed.

HAIKU FOR YOU

One of the functions of Haiku, as so ably demonstrated by Phyllis Kayne's examples, is to redefine an ordinary moment as special, to make the reader realize its extent.

> fireflies wink as they flit among trees ... upstage all the stars above

lone night sailor's constant companion ... North Star comforts, stays the course

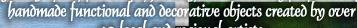
wasps commandeer the feeder; hummingbird hovers gauging when to charge

—Phyllis Kayne

Livingstone Studio

celebrating the creative spirit within us all

Livingstone Studio, a gallery of art, fine crafts, jewelry, and unusual gifts featuring a unique collection of handmade functional and decorative objects created by over 40 local and regional artists:















Cabin 3 Gallery: Artists Beth Scully & Lois Stipp through July: Meet the Artists Show & Sale July 30: 12-4



























Displayed in two cozy Rustic Villa cabins overlooking the harbor. Just past the Toy Museum — look for our colorful flags!

Artists include:

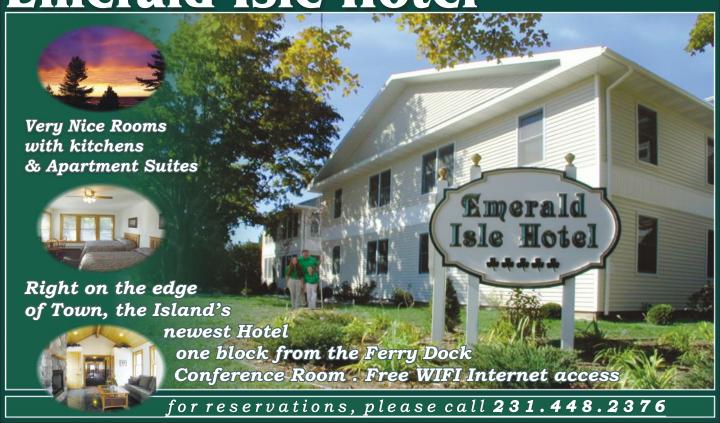
Janine Andrew, Dody, Avery, Char Bickel, James Blanchard, Judie Bomberger, Edwina Borovich, Lenny Chambers, John Diem, Dawn Elzy, Joann Falk, Karen Golhardt, Ruth Kelly, Doris Larson, Lars Larson, Diane Mauer, Judy McBride, Larissa McGinnity, Joane McIntyre, William McNerney, Teri Moody, Nancy Newman, Nancy Peterson, Tom Richards, Cindy Ricksgers, Laura Reid, Jaqueline Roberge, Tom Rockwell, Vicky Rockwell, Beth Scully, Lois Stipp, Jim Thomson, Sue Thomson, and Fair Trade Artisans around the world ...

Open 10:30 - 5:00 through August - then call for hours 23I-448-2975

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Emerald Isle Hotel

www.emeraldislehotel.com





very rare offering of a newer home ON BEAVER HARBOR with a fantastic view of the entrance to Paradise Bay. The house sits up on a bluff overlooking the harbor offering an unequaled view with a deep running lot from the King's Highway to the water's edge. The frontage has a pure sand bottom, great for swimming and safe for kids.

The first floor level has two bedrooms and one full bath, a formal dining room, a living room with a wood-burning fireplace, an excellent fairly new kitchen, and a screened-in three-season porch. There is an open deck on the lake side in front of the living room, and a protected private hot tub area below the porch with a full view of the harbor just outside the walkout basement door. The walkout basement is being used as a master bedroom by the current owner (with a second ¾ bath on this lower level). There is also a laundry room in the lower level.



his home is unique: very few homes in the town of St. James have a view of the harbor like this. If you like the idea of watching the boats come and go, and seeing sunrises and moonfalls, this could be your perfect retirement spot, a very nice summer home, or an excellent rental property.



The finished area downstairs can be used as a spare bedroom, family room, or any other use a new owner might desire. The house has over $1,740 \, \mathrm{ft}^2$ of finished living area. It also has an attached one-car garage. It has recently undergone extensive renovations and improvements by the owner/builder Mike Collins. A new roof, new electric hot water boiler, and new, long-lasting shake shingles were installed last year. In 1989 a new deep well was put down, and in 2001 a new septic system was added. New landscaping and walkways were put in, and a double-insulated dog door was installed in the basement to a 15' x 100' dog run. New floor coverings are on the first floor level, and a new stove and refrigerator is in the kitchen. Because this is some of the most valuable lake frontage on Beaver Island (a minimum of \$2,000 per front foot), this house is priced right at \$399,000.

Contact owner and Agent Michael Collins / Ed Wojan Realty phone: 231.313.8739 email: Mjc3855@gmail.com

Published in a recent issue of the *Beaver Beacon* was a brief article regarding the current situation with the exotic Mute Swans that are nesting on Barney's Lake (and other inland lakes) and their impact on the Island loon populations.

While I was pleased to have this important issue brought to the attention of its readership, there was little information that might help educate those not familiar with this ongoing and urgent situation.

The Common Loon was in fact once common throughout most of Michigan, but its numbers have declined sharply due in large part to human encroachment. It is currently a State Threatened Species, which affords it protection under the Endangered Species Act of the State of Michigan. Included in this protection is the requirement that efforts must be made to encourage the reproduction and well-being of the species.

The Mute Swan is an exotic species from Eurasia that was introduced to the Eastern United States sometime in the nineteenth century to ornament the lakes and ponds of parks and estates. Since that time it has escaped its domestic settings and spread over much of the county, including the Great Lakes region. Mute Swans are notorious for their territorial nature and aggressive behavior toward native waterfowl, including the Common Loon. Their

preferred nesting sites are the very ones chosen by the loons, and the time of nesting (March-May) coincides with that of the loons as well.

When the exotic Mute Swans and the native Common Loons inhabit the same lakes, particularly small lakes such as Barney's, the Mute Swans typically end up with the best nesting spots and leave the loons without a safe and viable place to reproduce. While it remains to be seen whether the two species can coexist over time on the larger inland lakes of Beaver Island, such as Font and Geneserath, it is very unlikely that they will on Barney's.

Over the past century, the Great Lakes have been inundated with introduced and invasive plants and animals from all over the world including such well-known species as the sea lamprey, zebra mussels, and *phragmites* grass. New threats include the Asian Carp, and the Mute Swan. Of course none of these species have actually created the problems that they now pose to native species; we humans have. And it is we humans who must now make difficult and timely choices that will benefit our native species, including the loons of Beaver Island.

Just imagine what a summer on Beaver Island would be like without the haunting and enchanted cries of these spectacular and iconic birds.

-Owen Neils, Mason, Michigan

THE PETRITZ PRESERVE

ittle Traverse Conservancy holds 15 conservation easements totaling 1,030 acres on Beaver and surrounding islands, private properties with development restrictions generally not open to public use without permission of the property owner.

THANKS TO ALL

Thank you to all walkers, runners, donators and dogs who participated in our "Gail's Walk" event. We were overwhelmed by the people who came, and by their positive comments about the route. We raised a total of \$3,136 due to all of your heart-warming generosity.

The BIRHC will oversee the fund, which is available to anyone who experiences unexpected medical emergen-

One exception is a 27-acre tract with 600' of frontage on the North Shore, known as the George and Althea Petritz Nature Preserve, this easement property, owned by the J.A. Woollam Foundation, is open for public use. It is expected to become an LTC preserve in the near future.

cies. Any questions, call the Health Center and talk to Donna Kubic. Thanks also go to McDonough's for all their help.

If you have suggestions for next year please let any one of us know since we are planning on making this an annual event. Thank you again!

> —Joan Banville, Lynn Ann Cary, Beth Croswhite, Dawn Marsh, Keri Smith, and Lisa Gillespie



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34. UPON RISING

Daybreak –
And already a heart filled by:
Arms of land
Embracing bodies of water.
Morning skies
of graded light,
Asking us to discern
Where Lake ends –
And Sky begins.

Easy enough to tell when: A floating family of geese Are defying gravity, Suspended in that limitless boundary, Somewhere between Earth and Heaven.

Daybreak – And a heart paused in overflow – of joy.

—Dawn George

OUR ALL-STATER

Senior-to-be Olivia Schwartzfisher was recently named to the Class D All-State Girl's Basketball Team, Honorable Mention. "She's good with the ball and has great court vision and basketball IQ," the judges said. "She should be a high draft pick in a few years."

WANTED

Wanted: a few good volunteers who have experience or are trained in dealing cards for a Las Vegas type night. The event will be on Thursday, August 11 at 7:00 p.m. at the Community Center. Games of skill and chance will include blackjack, craps, roulette, and Texas hold-em. All winnings will be cash! If you can volunteer for a 1½-hour shift for this Preservation Association event, please call the Center at 231-448-2022. If you can't help out, please join us for an evening of chance and excitement.

BLANKETS FOR PETS

Organized by Mary Cook, a large number of Island women (Sally Lounsberry, Leonor Jacobson, Ellen Magee, Peg Hoogendoorn, Michelle LaFreniere, Connie Boyle, Connie Wojan, Chris VanLooy, Angel Welke, Donna Kubic, Jessica Carden DC, JoAnne Cashman, Pam Moxham, Sue Welke, Pam Moxham, Kate Garland, Sandra Birdsall, Jan Gerson, Kathy Rick, Ken Bruland, and MG Roe) pitched in to pack three large boxes full of hand-made blankets for pets in Joplin -underpublicized co-victims of the devastating tornado. Eleven hundred pets were brought to the Joplin shelter.

FUROR AT THE CHARLEVOIX AIRPORT

Recently tickets began to appear on car windows whose parking permits were on small pieces of plexiglass instead of directly on the window – making them interchangeable. Those victimized protested loudly, having thought they were renting a space – as is the case in a parking garage, or at a meter. The ire was exacerbated by other recent attempts to gouge those spending their money in Charlevoix while going to and from the Island (a surprisingly high amount), such as the "emplaning tax." Several requests were made of the local bar bands to play the Who's *I won't be fooled again*.

Luckily commissioner Rich Gillespie was one of those ticketed; he knows how to deal with injustice, and got the city to back off. Meanwhile the water truck he got the Road Commission to send over continues to be used to wet our roads before grading, allowing the county plow to do a much better job.

MANY FRIENDS

Thanks to all the recent publicity, the Beaver Island Chamber of Commerce's Facebook page recently passed having a thousand registered friends.

BIRHC HELPS REDUCE ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARDS

The Beaver Island Rural Health Center is serving as a place to bring unwanted or expired prescription and over the counter drugs. They accept prescription drugs, pet medicines, nutritional supplements, and more, anytime. They also have safe needle disposal containers available for home use.

IN MEMORY: ROSANNA JEANNETTE HARVEY

Rosanna Jeannette Harvey, age 79, of Round Lake, died Friday, June 17, 2011 at Condell Medical Center in Libertyville. She was born September 28, 1931 on Beaver Island, Michigan to Daniel and Mable (Perron) Gillespie. On August 1, 1957, she married Tracy Le Roy Harvey Sr. He preceded her in death on January 15, 1988.

A resident of the Round Lake area since 1970, she was an assistant manager and cashier for the Round Lake McDonald's Restaurant.

She enjoyed sewing, ceramics and tending to her flower gardens. She was an avid bingo player and enjoyed her afternoon TV, especially Judge Wapner. Rosanna was a member of St. Joseph Church in Libertyville.

She is survived by a son, Daniel E. (Marlene) of Oxnard, CA, a son, Michael W. (Cindy) of Jacksonville, FL, a daughter, Teresa M. (Paul) Gautier of Chicago, a son, Jon C. (Terri) of Dickson, TN, a daughter, Pamela J. (Terrance) Beddow of Norfolk, VA, a son Brian C. (Colleen) of Kingsley, MI, a son, Jeffrey A. (Sarah) of Ingleside, a son, Steven Fitzgerald of Michigan City, IN; two step-sons, Tracy LeRoy Harvey Jr. of Bellaire, MI, Roy Lynn (Ruth) Harvey of Copperville, MI; grandchildren, Tiena M. (Derek) Ellis, Christopher J. Harvey, Darlene D.

Harvey, Steven M. (Misty) Lucero, Kevin M. Beddow, Stephanie M. (Benjamin) Legendre, Molly J. Gautier, Michael T. Harvey, Phillip H. Gautier, Hunter Harvey; three great grand-children, Zachary and Nicholas Partee of Oxnard, CA and Rion Joseph Legendre of San Diego, CA; a sister, Mary Jane Gillespie of Afton, MI; and many step-grandchildren and nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Tracy Le Roy Harvey Sr.; a daughter, Becky Ann Harvey on August 6, 1971; her parents; a brother, Louis Eugene Gillespie; and a sister, Roberta Mae Dial.



Ed Wojan Realty

Edward B. Wojan - Broker 26300 Back Highway P.O. Box 86 Beaver Island, Michigan 49782





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Beautiful 2-bedroom, 1-bathroom home on Parcel 4 of Bonner's Landing with 200 feet of nice beach frontage and 13.22 acres of land behind. A year-round lakefront

home that could be used as a retirement home but done with good quality wood paneling inside and outside for a wonderful north woods cabin effect. Has a detached garage behind the house. This two-story home has decks on two sides, a sitting deck out in front of the treeline and an open kitchen-dining room-living room area on the lakeside with a lot of glass and sliding doors to the deck. A master bedroom and bath are on the inland side of the first floor. Upstairs there is a sitting-reading-TV room and a second bedroom. The blue letters on the sign on Bonner's Landing Road for the driveway to this house simply says "Heaven." With a land value at \$275,000 this offering will save someone thinking of building up to \$150,000. The home was almost totally remodeled in early 2011; new windows and carpeting were put in, new decks were put on, and the view was reopened.

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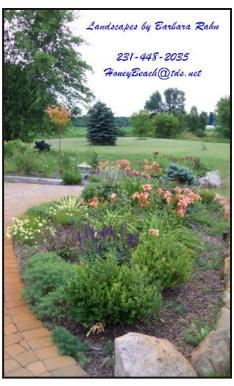


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Beaver Island Association

Supporting Environmental and Economic Sustainability

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MONDAY, JULY 11, 7 P.M. Peaine Township Hall

- Election of Directors
- ➤ Presentation on Environmental Task Force, to inventory and manage invasive and endangered native plant species, and involve members in this and other BIA projects/activities
- Discussion of township governance and local tax issues

SUMMER NATURE LECTURE SERIES

Thursday, July 7: Migrating Songbirds on Beaver Island

Learn what makes Beaver Island a perfect rest stop for small migratory songbirds. CMU Biologist Dr. Nancy Seefelt discusses the stopover ecology of warblers, thrushes, vireos, and other small migratory birds that pause here to replenish their reserves of fat and protein before continuing north for the summer. *Peaine Township Hall*, 7:30 p.m.

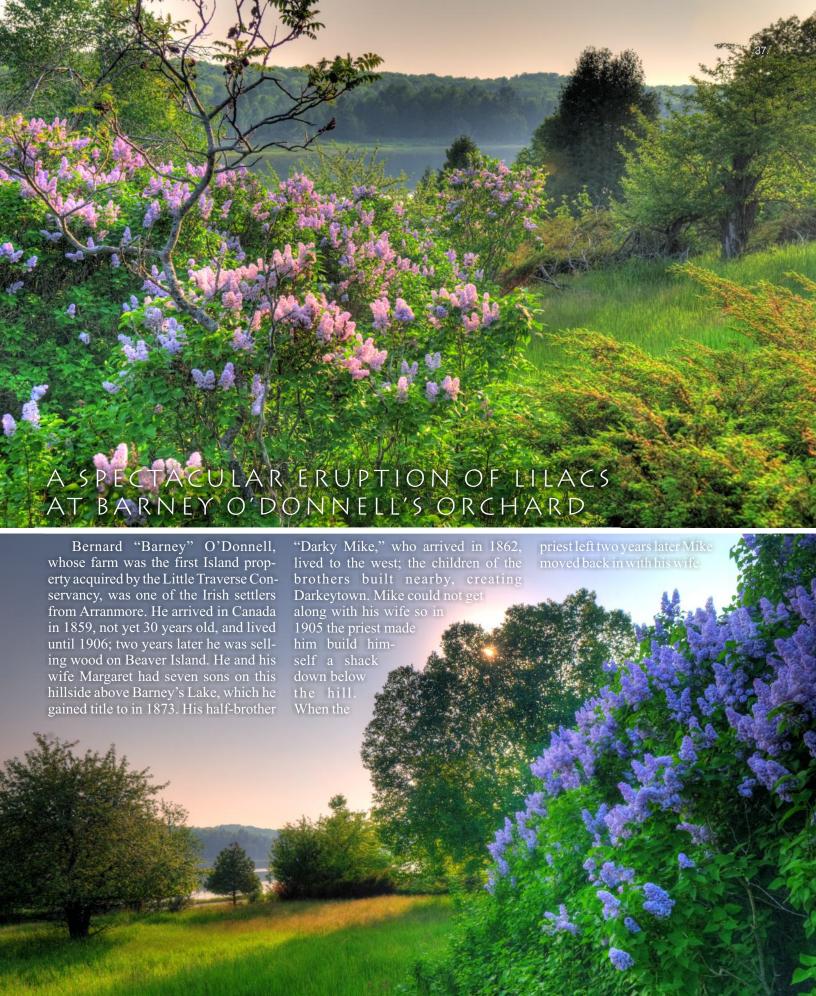
Wednesday, July 13: How to Grow a Bird Feeder

Almost all migrating bird populations have been in serious decline in recent decades, and well-meaning efforts to help them with back yard feeders offer little help, because what they need are insects. Kay Charter of *Saving Birds Through Habitat* will explain how you can *really* help by improving natural habitat on your property not just for birds but other atrisk wildlife as well. *Beaver Island Community Center*, 7 p.m.

Monday, July 25: What's that Plant? Should I Keep or Kill It?

Learn how to identify and manage the plant volunteers growing on your property and encourage native plants instead of cultivars and lawns on your property. Dr. Ed Leuck of Centenary College of Louisiana, coauthor of *Plants of Beaver Island* and longtime summer resident, will explain which native plants work best in what types of habitat and how and when to plant and maintain them, and discuss common invasive plants and how to keep them from spreading. *Peaine Hall*, 7:30 p.m.

Become a Member – Annual Dues only \$20
Beaver Island Association, P.O. Box 390, Beaver Island 49782
Visit our website, BeaverIslandAssociation.org.





NEWS FROM THE PRINT SHOP: MUSEUM WEEK 2011

fter conducting a successful Open House at the two Island Museums and celebrating its recent progress in digitizing its interview recordings (thanks to two six-week interns from Notre Dame), the Historical Society turned its attention to this year's Museum Week.

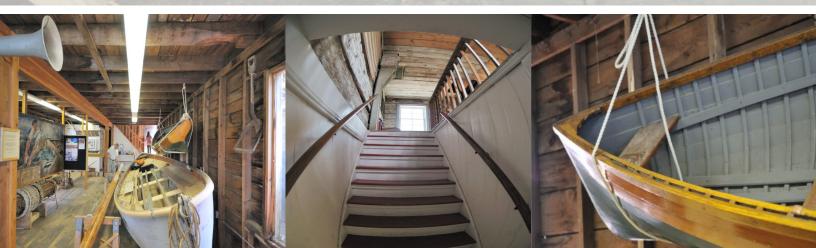
It promises to be quite enjoyable, with two special Nature Walks, a Pet

Show for kids, notable guests at the Art Show (including the writers Steve Hamilton on Thursday and Charlie Donaldson on Friday), a presentation of the new *Beaver Tales* event (tickets can be purchased at the Community Center), and the arrival of Dennis Banks.

Pinky's famous Bingo moves to Tuesday; the odds of *one* person winning *every* game have been calculated

as 14,359,088,884,956 to 1. No, wait; that's the current national debt.

The following evenings will see presentations by Deb Rotman, Herb Manthei, and Seamus Norgaard and Eric Myers. In her latest dig Dr. Rotman stumbled on a cave full of leprechauns, but they scattered into the brush before anyone could snap their picture. Herb Manthei had a similar experience when





he was working with his family in the forests of Garden and Hog Islands. An exceptionally large maple they had wanted to preserve tipped over when its protective neighbors were cut down, and in the exposed soil beneath its tendril roots he found a miniature table and chair, and to the side a pile of rabbit bones, all picked clean.

Antje Price is adding a third open-

ing of the Protar Home during the week—on Saturday afternoon, for those who won't be here for her Monday and Thursday appearances.

There's no charge for most events, but donations will help defray expenses and assist the Historical Society in advancing their many projects.

Much of the Historical Society's focus has been on completing the make-

over of the Marine Museum, directed by troubador Barry Pischner. Because he can't help but sing (and sing well) as he works he's had numerous willing assistants. Jim Dunbar, Doug Hartle, Alvin LaFreniere, and Johnny Runberg have proved adept at providing back-up harmony, and the many intricate projects have been accomplished at an amazing pace.





from Joyce Bartels

Notes from F. Protar's diary with the help of Antje Price

(note: July 2 - storms F. Protar)

Charlevoix Courier Wednesday, July 5. 1911 Page 1 - "Equalized Valuation - Peaine Twp. \$101,675; St. James -\$117,540."

Charlevoix Sentinel Thursday, July 6, 1911 **Beaver Island News**: "James O'Donnel and wife, of Chicago, are visiting here this week."

"W. W. Boyle returned from Harbor Springs with his two children to spend the summer."

"Bishop Richter and three priests were here Saturday to confirm a large class of children."

"W. F. Burns, of Grand Rapids, bought the farm of Gracie Martin at the west side of the Island. And intends to plant fruit trees on same."

"Capt. Fred Sendenburg went to Charlevoix on business last week."

"Dan P. Boyle, was at Charlevoix on business last week."

"John Linn, the Rustic man of Charlevoix, has a number of men peeling birch bark."

"Fr. McDonald of East Jordan, spent a few days on the Island last week."

"Frank Dunlap returned to spend the fourth with his wife."

"Mrs. Geer and family of Glouchester, Mass., returned home after visiting several weeks on the Island."

"Supervisor H. E. Boyle returned home Saturday after spending a few days at Charlevoix."

"John P. Maloney of Chicago, spent a week visiting his mother." (Note: July 8 & 9 - storms 92 degrees in the shade, July 10 - drought broke F. Protar)

Charlevoix Courier Wednesday, July 12, 1911 No Beaver Island related news.

Charlevoix Sentinel Thursday, July 13, 1911 **Beaver Island News**: "John C. Gallagher returned home for a visit."

"Miss Dourgh went to Charlevoix for a visit."

"Lizzie Cull visited her mother last week. Miss Cull is a trained nurse at Grayling"

"Gus Kitzinger of Manistee, was here looking after the building of the B. I. L. Co. Mill." (Note: Gus Kitzinger, Manistee appears in the Hotel Beaver register July 6, 1911)

"Mrs. Fred Pipgrass and family of Chicago, are at the Island for the summer."

"H. O. Boyle is home from Chicago."

"Mrs. C. Bissel is home after spending two months in Milwalkee visiting her daughter."

"Capt. Dan Martin went to Charlevoix on business last week."

"Willie O. Gallagher returned home after visiting at Chicago."

"Fr. McDonald of East Jordan and Fr. O"Leary of St. Louis, Mo spent a few days at the Island."

"Mrs. Will Stevens and daughter, are visiting at Freesoil."

"Henry Laferinere (sic) of Iron Mountain, spent a few days here visiting his parents."

"Born to Mr. And Mrs. Ranshorn Saturday a baby girl."

"Mrs. P. Kilty returned to Chicago after spending two weeks visiting friends."

"Jim Flaggart of Traverse City, is at the Island."

"W. J. Gallagher Jr. And several others are at Petoskey attending the circus."

"Gov. Osborn paid St. James a visit last Thursday, greatly to the gratification of the Islanders. Accompanied by member of his party and some of our own people he walked across the portage, and later, James Donlevy took him for a call on Father Malone and the Dominican sisters, at church hill. The Governor expressed himself as highly pleased with his visit. He has very many friends on Beaver Island." (Note: Chase S. Osborn, Governor of Michigan, Sault Ste. Marie; Commodore Frank W. Fletcher, Yacht "Winyah," Alpena; Wm. H. Gillette, Bay City; Gilueau Marstan Dawe, Dairy & Food Commissioner, Northport, Mich. appear in the Hotel Beaver register, July 6, 1911) (Note: July 15 - rainstorms, steady rain F. Protar)

(An interesting historical note: According to an interview with Pat Bonner, the governor was also taken to see Dr. Protar who was working in his garden. He was asked if he would like to greet the governor. Protar said, "Is he sick?" and when he was told, he wasn't, Protar refused and went on with his work.)

Charleviox Courier Wednesday, July 19, 1911 No Beaver Island related news.



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One Hundred Years Ago, from page 41. Charlevoix Sentinel Thursday,
July 20, 1911 **Local News**: "James
Donlevy, the St. James merchant, was

in the city Monday night."

"Rev. Father Malone, of St. James, came over Monday evening and went to Petosky on the evening train."

"The steamer *Beaver* went to Traverse City Saturday evening and Sunday morning she took an excursion party of Knights of Columbus from that place to Petosky, returning to Traverse City in the evening and reaching here in time to start on time for St. James."

"Governor Osborn's visit to St. James last week was the first time in the history of the Island that a governor of Michigan has set foot on the soil once 'sanctified' by King Strang. It is needless to say that the Islanders are proud of the distinction shown them."

Beaver Island News: "Mrs. J. King and son returned home after visiting at Norwood."

"The L. A. A. O. H. had a card party and dance Monday evening and was well attended,"

"Miss Sylvia Sendenberg went to Freesoil on a visit."

"Mrs. John McCann spent a few days visiting friends at Charlevoix last week."

"Mrs. J. Malloy spent a few days at Charlevoix last week."

"James Connor is at the Island for the summer." (Note: James Connor, Rock Island Ill. appears in the Hotel Beaver register, July 15, 1911)

(Note: July 17-24 – rainstorms, steady rain; 23, 24 - Bad, bad days! Much damage in the garden. F. Protar)

"Father Malone made a business trip to Charlevoix Monday."

"Mrs. Arthur Gallagher is visiting her parents here for a few weeks."

"Mrs. Pratt, of Loraine, Ohio, is here visiting her son Edward."

"Mr. And Mrs. Jim O'Donnell returned home to Chicago after spending two weeks here visiting friends."

"James Donlevy made a business trip to Charlevoix this week."

"John Grill went to Manistee on business."

"Supervisor H. Boyle went to Charlevoix on business."

"Mrs. J. O'Brien returned home from Cheboygan, where she has been visiting."

"Miss Elizabeth Kilty, of Ludington, is visiting friends here." (Note: Elizabeth M. Kilty, Ludington, Mich. appears in the Hotel Beaver Register July 18, 1911)

"E. W. Coulter, of the Ferry Seed Co. Is looking after their interests at the Island." (Note: E. W. Coulter, Charlevoix, appears in the Hotel Beaver register, July 18, 1911)

"Cassie McCauley, of Chicago, is visiting her mother."

"Lawyer Laurigan, of Nebraska, is here for the summer." (Note: T. P. Laurigan, Greely, Neb. appears in the Hotel Beaver register, July 13, 1911)

"Capt. Bonner, Ed. B. Gallagher, W. J. Gallagher Jr., and James H. Gallagher went to Petoskey Saturday to join the K. of C."

"Miss Ann O'Malley and Mrs. Hennessey, of Chicago, are visiting Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Donlevy."

"Capt. John McCann, A. Malloy, Mike McCann, Will Scheid and Wm. J. Gallagher spent Sunday in Petoskey attending the banquet of the K. of C."

"Rachel Donlevy returned home after visiting at Chicago."

"Mrs. M. Herrick went to



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Charlevoix on business."

"Ulysus and Emmet McCann went to Petoskey in their father's gasoline launch, returning Monday."

"Peter Hyer, of Ludington, is visiting his aunt, Mrs. M. J. Bonner."

Charlevoix Courier Wednesday, July 26, 1911 No Beaver Island related news

Charlevoix Sentinel Thursday, July 27, 1911 Local News: "Commercial fishing is very light, and many of the fisherman both here and at Beaver Island are pulling out their nets."

"Sixteen thousand pounds of perch, caught and frozen in the Booth freezer last spring, are being packed for shipment to various points. They are in fine condition. These shipments will empty the freezer for the next "campaign".

Beaver Island News: "Arthur J. Gallagher of Manistique is here on a visit.

"Dr. C. Bernhardi, John Ohleweiler, L. Harms and C. Helpenstell of Rock Island are here for the summer." (Note: Dr. C. Bernhardi, John Ohlweiler, Lothar Harms and C. Helpenstell, all from Rock Island, Ill. appear in the Hotel Beaver register, July 20, 1911)

"Miss Ida Grasselli and Mrs. R. A. Tucker, of Cleveland, are here for the summer." (Note: Miss Ida Grasselli and Mrs. R. A. Tucker, Cleveland appear in the Hotel Beaver register July 19, 1911)

"Sisters Genevieve and Clementina have gone on their vacation."

"M. S. Gregory, M.D. of Traverse City, spent a week here."

"The Gallagher Bros. took a party to Lake Genesareth last Saturday. They caught quite a few fish."

"H. L. Perkins is here on a visit."

"W. H. Marshall of Traverse City, and J. Bisbee, of East Jordan, spent a few days here last week."

"Mrs. Nellie Roddy and her niece, Miss C. Sherden of Milwaukee, are here on a visit."

"Mrs. Grace Gallagher of Escanaba, is visiting her brother, Dan."

"Joe Roddy of Milwaukee, is visiting his mother."

"Fr. Malone of Ludington is visiting his brother."

"Mrs. J. Maloney and family, of Chicago, are visiting friends here."

"Mrs. O. D. Gallagher and Mrs. N. Gallagher, of Milwaukee, are visiting here."

"Miss Winnie Weaver of 43 Charlevoix, paid us a visit last week."

"Nat Burns and a party of ladies of Charlevoix, paid us a visit last week."

"The storm last Monday did great damage to the fruit trees on the Island."

"Mrs. C. Reidoin of Chicago, is visiting her brother, Robert Gibson."

"Miss Mamie Dougher of Hancock, is visiting her sister."

"Miss Golden returned home after three week's visit with friends."

"Irwin F. Roenfels and family of Chicago, returned home after three week's visit to the Island." (Note: Miss Beatrice Roenfels, Chicago; Miss Clotilda Roenfels, Chicago; Mr. and Mrs. Irwin Roenfels, Chicago; Richard Roenfels, Oak Park appear in the Hotel Beaver register July 3, 1911)

"The yacht *Illinois* went ashore at the north end of Sand Bay in Monday's gale of wind. Captain Owen Gallagher of the Life Saving station with the life saving volunteer crew with the steamer Shamrock, Capt. James Martin, towed them off and brought them into Beaver harbor. The crew were near exhausted. They repaired the boat and went to Mackinac Tuesday.

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he Parish Hall was filled with well-wishers on the eve of much-loved Father Pat Cawley's departure. Music and songs entertained the large crowd as they



enjoyed a potluck meal, which was followed by a sequence of testimonials about how much Father Pat has meant to the Island during the past fifteen years. Despite the frequent comic overtones,



the event brought tears to many eyes.

At the end, everyone smiled through their tears and said if there was room in his motor home they would be glad to go along to bait his hooks and carry his creel.



CLAIRISSA KENWABIKISE



Clairissa Kenwabikise, a charming young woman who attended BICS until her family moved to Charlevoix for her senior year, graduated a few days before her Island classmates.

FIRST TRIP ON THE ISLANDER

This is Kevin's son named after my Dad -Russell Jonathan Green II. Thought it was too cool not to share. —Beth Anne



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Dan LaFreniere proved he has the mettle of one in a thousand by jumping through all the hoops needed to earn the rank of Eagle Scout. Many set out, but few finish even as part of a troop, and of



400 lone scouts in America, only one would reach the rank of Eagle. Standing with Danny was CMU's Zach Egan, proud parents Mark and Jacque, and Donegal Bay's Senator Phil Hoffman,



who administered the oath. Once you're an Eagle Scout, no matter what other commitments and paths you take, you're always an Eagle. His perseverance will serve him well throughout his life.



WELCOME ADELYN RAE



Adelyn Rae Grogan was born April 5th, 2011 to Andy and Rachel Grogan of Charlevoix. Weighing 8 pounds (exactly) 19 ½" long, smaller then big brother Andrew but beautiful and healthy. Grandparents are Jim and Diane McDonough of Beaver Island



and Jimmie and Lynn Grogan of Tuscaloosa, AL. Great Grand Parents are Skip McDonough of Beaver Island and Dave and Lois Postma of Grand Rapids



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46. LETTERS: TOWNSHIP CONSOLIDATION REVISITED

No matter how many times the serpent of Township consolidation is stomped on it always seems to become alive from time to time. The idea was killed in 2002 but the letter by Paul Glendon appearing in the last issue of the *Beaver Beacon* indicates that it has become alive again. What has intervened in the interim period of nine years or so to justify entertaining this idea once more? The downside of Township consolidation which prompted discard-

ing the idea in 2002 continues to exist and even has been reinforced in the intervening period

The present push appears to be prompted by the general economic pressure to achieve more economical government. But in this case, the economies to be achieved from the consolidation of the two Townships are largely a myth. The expanded work and responsibilities in satisfying the needs of both Townships that would fall upon the trustees of

a combined township would certainly result in the mandated five elected officials and their deputies seeking more compensation than they now receive. In addition one or more full-time employees may be justified to handle the work load. The suggestion that employing a professional manager is a possibility with township consolidation belies the idea of any cost saving. The other items often referred to as possible savings such as utilities, insurance, office expenses and professional services are relatively minor items in the operating budget. Accordingly, the only real savings from township consolidation, namely in the area of administration, just do not exist from a practical standpoint.

An exhaustive study issued by the Michigan Township Association in January of 2010 concluded that, "Simply combining local government services does not result in cost savings unless the service consolidation allows for reducing staffing levels or eliminating major capital purchases, and these opportunities cannot be assumed. Increased costs resulting from expanded administrative oversight can also quickly eat up any savings resulting from eliminating redundancies." A recent article in the Wall Street Journal (June 8, 2011) exploring the move for governmental consolidation sought by Gov. Snyder indicates that the principal cost savings to be achieved by the consolidation of various government governmental bodies are when adjacent communities provide identical services such as fire departments and police departments or snowplowing services. That situation does not exist on beaver Island. Moreover, the Journal article also noted that in certain instances governmental consolidation resulted in increased costs "as new bureaucracies emerge."

The real economic impact of township consolidation insofar as Beaver Island is concerned is in the shifting of the tax burden, as noted in Mr. Glendon's letter. But the amount shown as the tax burden to be shifted to Peaine residents is only a snapshot at one point in time. If one examines the situation more closely, it is obvious that the tax disparity between the two Townships can only become greater in the future. Between 2002 and 2010, Peaine's assessed taxable

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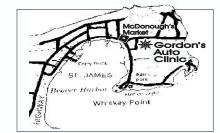
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Michigan Certified Master Mechanic MI10391 P.O. Box 175, St James, MI 49782 value has increased 57% whereas that of St. James rose only 55% on a smaller base. Moreover, Township expenses for Peaine increased 48.4% and its millage even decreased slightly, whereas Township expenses for St. James increased 57.6% and its millage in relation to its taxable value rose about 2%. All of this means that the shifting of the tax burden to Peaine residents would be even greater in the future than currently.

These differences are a reflection. in part, of the differences between the two Townships. St. James' potential growth in taxable assessed valuation is limited and because it is the commercial hub of the Island, St. James has paved streets and sidewalks and a sewer system In short, the question presented by township consolidation is how much should Peaine's taxpayers contribute to St. James' sewer system and other infrastructure. The suggestion that the sale of one or the other township halls could produce monies to offset future tax increases is only grasping at straws and, at most, would be only a temporary situation. When we are talking about township consolidation, we are talking about a future that extends indefinitely.

Apart from the myth of cost savings and the increased tax burden put on the residents of Peaine, considered in Part I, the common arguments put forth in support of consolidation are (1) to achieve greater governmental efficiency in the resolution of common issues; (2) to attain greater accountability and responsibility; and (3) to ensure more uniform planning for the future. Each of these arguments assumes that Beaver Island is a homogenous whole insofar as its interests and goals are concerned. Unfortunately, this is not true. There are, in fact, several diverse interests on the Island. Clearly identifiable as separate interests are the business interests and those of the part time residents. And to be perfectly objective, the interests of the native Islanders are not necessarily those of the "off Islanders." Geographically, St. James Township represents the Island's focus on commerce and includes most of the native Islanders, many of whose careers are tied to those commercial interests, while Peaine Township reflects primarily vacation and leisure residents. This means that in many cases

the two Townships have different objectives and serve different masters.

The number of common issues that come before the two Townships is relatively limited and, for the most part, these issues do not require substantial time. Moreover, those common issues of any complexity can be handled efficiently, as they have in the past, by designating responsibility to a single township or by establishing a working committee with joint township representa-

tion. It also needs to be recognized that the dual consideration of common issues has certain advantages in that one independent body may be a counter check against the other. In short, the existence of common problems is not of sufficient concern to outweigh the benefits of two independent townships.

It has been suggested that one of the benefits of township consolidation would be elimination of the lack of harmony that has existed continued on page 48.



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48 **Consolidation Revisited,** from page 47.

between the two separate Township boards over the past few years. If that disharmony, so called, is attributable to the personalities involved, that is not a basis for township consolidation. That problem can be remedied by the voters of either Township at the next election. If, however, the lack of harmony is the result of differences in the approach to issues, that is simply proof of the disparity between the two Townships and is a further reason why township consolidation does not fit Beaver Island.

It is difficult to envision how accountability or responsibility would be increased by a consolidation of the Townships. Accountability is already clear cut insofar as each individual Township is concerned. The people of

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St. James Township know to whom to

look for the satisfaction of their require-

ments and the same is true for Peaine's

residents. On the other hand, consolida-

tion could destroy that very account-

ability. In view of the fact that the needs

and interests of the two Townships are

not necessarily the same, it is easy to see

how should all, or at least a majority, of

the members of the consolidated town-

ship board be elected by St. James vot-

ers they would be accountable to St.

James voters and not to Peaine and the

needs of St. James Township would

take precedence over any needs of

Peaine. And should the voters of Peaine

outnumber those in St. James, at some

time in the future, the reverse would

probably be true. In short, given consol-

idation, one group or the other would

	ife	in	the	Beaver	Island	Arch	ipelago
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Name		
Address .		

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lose the ability to hold the township board accountable for serving its needs. Thus, consolidation raises the specter of engendering Island divisiveness rather than cohesion; a possibility not worth risking for the ephemeral advantages of consolidation. The fact that the two Townships are so disparate is what sets Beaver Island apart from other areas

As to planning for the future, it is obvious that any comprehensive plan must reflect an amalgam of those interests affecting the island as a whole as well as the differences in more localized interests. E.g., planning or zoning for business on Main Street or for the harbor perimeter involves different issues than those presented by the primarily resort-residential character of Peaine. The

Townships, in their wisdom, have 49 recognized this fact by establishing a joint planning task force but still preserving to each Township the responsibility for taking final action on the matters affecting that Township. Even though, arguably, the same planning and zoning could be achieved under a consolidated township, the final action will have greater public support when the individual township most affected takes that action.

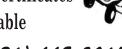
Beaver Island presents a unique situation. That was recognized when the two Townships were established. Interestingly enough, Peaine Township celebrated its 155th birthday last August and is still functioning well. I say, "If it ain't broke, don't fix it."

—Henry Hill

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continued on page 50.

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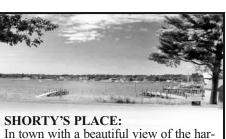








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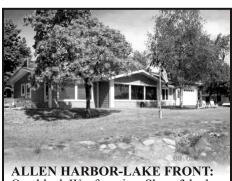
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Continued from page 49.

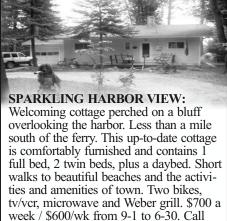
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