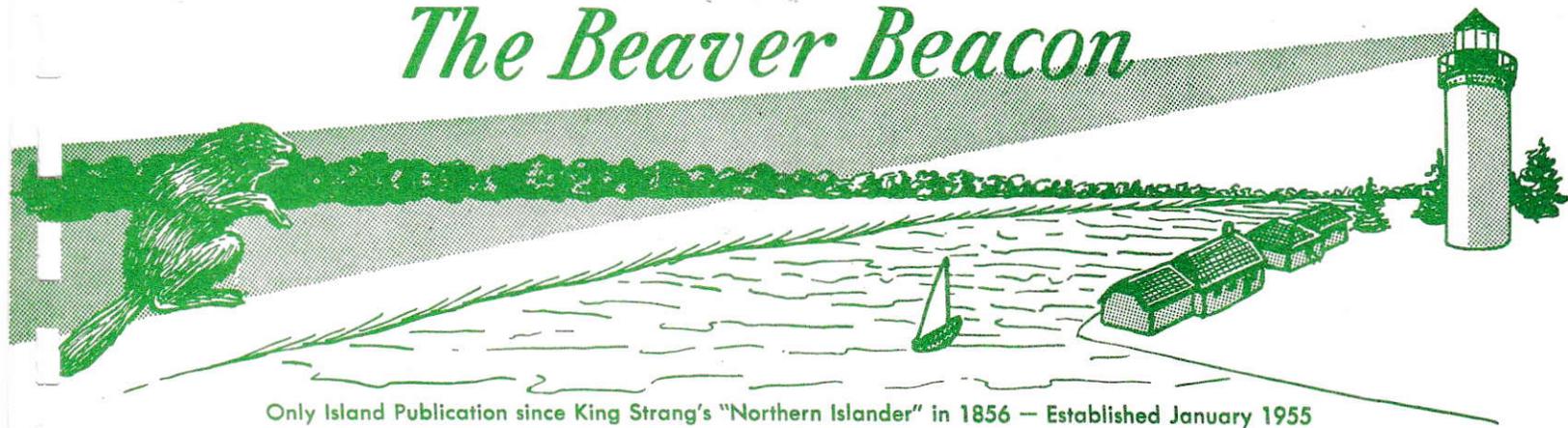


THE BEAVER BEACON  
1967  
Established January, 1955

Only island publication since  
King Strang's "Northern Islander"  
in 1856

# The Beaver Beacon



Only Island Publication since King Strang's "Northern Islander" in 1856 - Established January 1955

January 1967

Snow, snow, snow, it just keeps coming. The Island is truly a winter wonderland, cloaked in a heavy blanket of white, furnishing the kids a perfect base for sled coasting and skiing. With some shoveling, the ice on the harbor provides a perfect rink for skating.

**WEATHER:** The December weather report as reported by Fire Officer Bill Wagner.

December weather for the most part was cold and snowy.

The highest temperature of 49 degrees occurred on the 8th and the low, of 7 degrees, on the night of the 2nd.

The average high temperature was 31.6 degrees and the average low temperature was 20.7 degrees.

$\frac{3}{4}$  of an inch of rain fell on the 6th, 7th and 8th, and then it turned cold again.

Total snowfall for the month was 7.5 inches.

Total precipitation for the month was 1.53 inches.

$10\frac{1}{2}$  inches of snow on the ground on the first of the month melted down to  $5\frac{1}{2}$  inches by the end of the month.

Those interested in the Island hunting stories should make a point of picking up February's issue of "Sports Illustrated". The article describes Island coyote and rabbit hunting in mid-winter.

**Deer Report** - In 1927 and 1928 deer were released on 55 square mile Beaver Island located in northern Lake Michigan. The season was closed until 1938. Between 1938 and 1957, when antlerless seasons started, the number of hunters per square mile varied between two and five. Since 1957 it has increased to the record high of 531 hunters in 1966. This is still less than 10 hunters per square mile. Percentage hunting success has been good to excellent since antlerless seasons started in 1957. Winter deer range on the island is becoming badly browsed, and biological data from deer examined during the past two seasons indicate the physical condition of the herd is probably starting to go down hill

A total of 531 hunters took 147 deer on Beaver Island this year for a hunter success of 27.7 percent. Both the kill and success were up slightly over last year. Poor hunting weather probably affected the total kill, only the first 3 days were decent. For the next 5 days it rained and this was followed by a snow storm and high winds that kept drifting the roads closed. Access to the south half of the island was practically stopped for the rest of the season.

Biological data collected during this season indicate average weights and antler development of bucks have declined over the past few years. A few sub legal (less than 3" antlers) yearling bucks have been taken over the past years, even in years when the average weights of year and a half old bucks have not been bad. A partial explanation for this may be that the fawning period is drawn out and late fawns are being dropped well into July. However, the major factor contributing to average weights and antler development declines must be poorer food conditions. Cedar is all but gone from the available winter foods and the islands deer yards are looking more like those browsed out swamps on the mainland.

During the ten years with antlerless seasons more than twice as many hunters, as is the ten years of bucks only hunting (1947 - 1956), took more than 1.7 times as many bucks and close to four times as many total deer. Since 1958 the number of antlerless permits available to Beaver Island hunters has exceeded the number of hunters. For all practical purposes these seasons on Beaver with the exception of 1961 when only bucks were legal, have been any deer seasons. But in spite of this, the winter range is becoming badly overbrowsed and the physical condition of the herd may be starting down hill.

Turkeys - A large flock of Turkeys were sighted down by the Harbor View and Isle Haven Motels on December 31st. Before they flew away, many people had the opportunity to take pictures of the flock.

ISLANDER EARNS REST: With the end of the Holiday season came the last trip of the year for the Beaver Islander. Bucking heavy seas and ice conditions, her last trip was a rough one, ending the busiest season yet. Early in the spring, the Islander will go into the shipyard, at Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin, for minor modifications and bottom painting.

FROM OUR MAILBAG - NEWS FROM ARIZONA: News has been received from Bob Pischner for an address change:

Sgt. Robert A. Pischner  
U S 56379694  
1st AUN BN Co A 1st Inf. Div.  
A.P.O. San Francisco, Calif. 96345

Hurry home, Bob! We miss you.

Helen Pischner has arrived at her home in Arizona after a five week stay with Mr. and Mrs. LaDonis Mooney and their family in Detroit. Mrs. Mooney was in the hospital but at the last notice seems to be doing much better.

Mr. and Mrs. Julius Allers spent the holidays in Tucson, Arizona with their daughter and her family, Mr. and Mrs. Bob LeBaron.

We are sorry for the delay in announcing the arrival of Mr. Matt Melville in Mesa, Arizona. He arrived here in September and is very much at home.

Mr. and Mrs. John Gillespie recently visited their son and his family in California. On their way back they stopped in Las Vegas. They recommend this trip to everyone.

HOME FOR CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S: Many Island families had their families home for the holidays. Bill Gillespie visited his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jewell Gillespie; Ed Wojan visited his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Wojan; Mike Fogg, son of Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Fogg, came home and the John A. Gallagher's had their sons, Ronald and Arthur, and their daughter and her husband, Mr. and Mrs. Don Heileg, visit them. Also, visiting during the holidays were the Bernard McCafferty family, Bussy & Alberta LaFreniere, June Quarterman, Tom Elms, Charlie Earley and his daughter, Bruce McDonough, Loretta and Glenn LaFreniere, Mr. and Mrs. Harold (Rosemary Nackerman) Smith, Jack Cull and his two nieces, Susan and Patricia Lockton, Mrs. James (Margaret Ann LaFreniere) Plemons, Margaret and Carol O'Donnell, Mr. and Mrs. Gus (Beverly O'Donnell) Walgres, Ronnie O'Donnell, Joe LaFreniere, Colleen and Jack Volk, Joe Evans, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jim Evans, John Adams and sons, Owen Boyle, Marie Gauthier, Kay Tyghe, Mark Hagerity and Mr. and Mrs. Jack Dykstra and family and Butch Left. Quite a gang! We do hope we haven't left anyone out and we hope you all come back next year.

BIRTHS: Mr. and Mrs. Gabe Campbell, of Howell, Michigan, are the parents of a daughter, Kathleen Gabrielle, born on December 12th. The Willard Pischners of Charlevoix are the proud grandparents.

AWAY FOR CHRISTMAS: The following people spent Christmas visiting their families on the mainland. Mr. and Mrs. Rogers Carlisle; Mr. and Mrs. Duane Newstead and son; Mr. Lawrence Malloy and Dr. and Mrs. H. B. Haynes.

HOSPITAL NOTES: Timmy McDonough, son of Mr. and Mrs. Bud McDonough, has returned to school following an emergency appendectomy during the Christmas holidays. He was rushed to Charlevoix Hospital, where he was operated on December 30th.

Ed Howland has returned from a Bay City Hospital where he spent two days for x-rays and examinations.

Sister M. Wilma, O.P., our 1st thru 4th grade teacher, is recuperating in Grand Rapids following an operation during the holidays. We know many would like to send her a card so here is the address:

Sister M. Wilma, O.P.  
2025 Fulton Street  
Grand Rapids, Mich. 49503

WELCOME: At this time we would like to say welcome to Sister M. Paula, O.P., who is replacing Sister M. Wilma, O.P., while she is away. Sister M. Paula, O.P. is very familiar with the Island, as she taught some years ago on Beaver Island.

ALTAR SOCIETY: The Holy Cross Altar Society elected new officers on January 10th and following is the new slate of officers.

President -	Mrs. Skip McDonough
Vice-President -	Loy Malloy
Secretary -	Mrs. Marie Reigle
Treasurer -	Mrs. Nancy Martin

Congratualations to you all.

GONE FOR THE WINTER: We are now giving you the last list of Islander's to leave for the winter. Stanley Floyd, Mrs. Elizabeth Gallagher and Mr. and Mrs. John A. Gallagher.

WINS AGAIN: The luckiest family on the Island is the Malloy family. Again they came up the winner and this time Bob Malloy won the Hi-Fi that the Junior Class gave away. In the past the Malloy's have won a television set and a polaroid camera. Congratulations, Bob and we are all happy for the Malloys even tho they do get kidded.

BUFFET SUPPER: On Saturday, January 14th, the Ladies of Beaver Island held a Buffet Supper at the Beaver Island School in the new Multi-purpose room. The proceeds of the dinner went to the Convent Fund Drive. A movie was shown following the dinner and the grand total for the evening was \$137.55. This brings the grand total for the Convent Building Fund to approximately \$18,000.00.

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## BEAVER TALES

### Part I

Lying just west of Beaver Island, is High Island, so named for its high timbered dunes along its western shore. Perhaps only a third as large as Beaver, it possesses an abundance of rare natural beauty and a history nearly as unique as its mother island. Lacking a protected natural harbor, High Island never enjoyed continued habitation, leaving gaps in its recorded past.

We will turn back the pages of history a relatively few years, long after the Strang era and begin about the year 1920.

Isolated islands must have held a fascination for bearded prophets, as did Beaver Island, for King Strang in 1846; for in 1920 "King Ben" sought High Island as an investment in seclusion and virgin timber.

Born in the hills of Kentucky, in March of 1861, of poor parents, Ben Purnell, with little formal schooling, became an astute and fiery orator. In the early 1900's, with his wife Mary, Ben Purnell traveled as an itinerant preacher, before becoming attached to a House of Israel group in Detroit.

Leaving the Detroit group, after it's leader, Mike (Prince Michael) Mills had difficulty with police over a morals charge, the ambitious young leader made his way through Ohio and Indiana to Benton Harbor, where he set himself up as Seventh Messenger and head of the House of David in 1905.

A colorful character, with flaming red beard and shoulder length hair, Ben Purnell was accumulating a large number of followers, through his dynamic oratory. Soon known to the world as "King Ben", he led his group to prosperiety. House of David members worked hard in all the trades and were provided food, clothing and shelter on a modest level, with the rest going to King Ben, as was the custom of the sect. Some

of those joining were people of considerable means and cult holdings at one time reportably included oil wells in Texas. House of David investments were made with care and varied from small business to Benton Harbor's trolley car system and included the purchase of a good share of High Island from the U. S. government.

King Ben decided to have his summer castle built on High Island, and in 1920 a small migration to High Island began. A large eight sided building was erected at the north-east end of the island, to serve as the King's Castle. Many log houses were soon under construction plus a good sized sawmill. Being experts at agriculture, fertal gardens were soon yeilding bumper crops of potatoes, cabbage and other vegetables. The Israelites, as they were known, were friendly hard working people and their relationship with both the Indian residents on High Island and the Irish of Beaver was good, promoting a healthy trade of produce and goods.

Rumor has it written in the pages of the past, that the island served as sort of a penal colony for members who disobeyed their leader, yet older residents of Beaver Island, who remember this era, don't recall the Israelites as being forced to stay on High Island, even though some found the life a hard one.

Transportation from Benton Harbor to High Island was furnished by the Israelites own vessels, the "Mary Belle" and the "Rising Sun", carrying supplies and passengers and their own trading goods. Also included in their fleet, was the little freight boat, the "High Islander", that soon became a familiar sight in the harbor of St. James, loaded with fresh vegetables and boxes of fresh picked berries. There was always a great demand for their produce and trading was brisk. To Beaver Island visitors it was a strange sight to see men with flowing beards and their long hair tucked under their hats while the younger boys had their hair in a single braid down their backs.

High Island was becoming quite a little community, including a temple for the Israelites and a Catholic Church for the Indians, a post office, school, shops and a busy sawmail, along with the growing number of new dwellings.

(Part II of this Beaver Tale will be continued in next month's Beacon)

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CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

CIRCLE M LODGE  
FEATURING  
STEAKS - CHICKEN - SHRIMP  
NATIVE WHITEFISH  
LIQUORS - MIXED DRINKS - DRAFT BEER  
TAKE OUT ORDERS  
CHICKEN - WHITEFISH - SHRIMP - PIZZA

OPEN 12:00 NOON

FOR SALE: Cottage for sale in Beaver Harbor. Contact Jewell Gillespie, St. James, Michigan 49782.

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BEAVER ISLAND CIVIC ASSOCIATION

CIVIC MEMBERSHIP IS DUE.

THE BEAVER BEACON IS SENT MONTHLY TO ALL MEMBERS.

MAIL WITH YOUR FEE TO BICA MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN, ST. JAMES, MICH. 49782

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

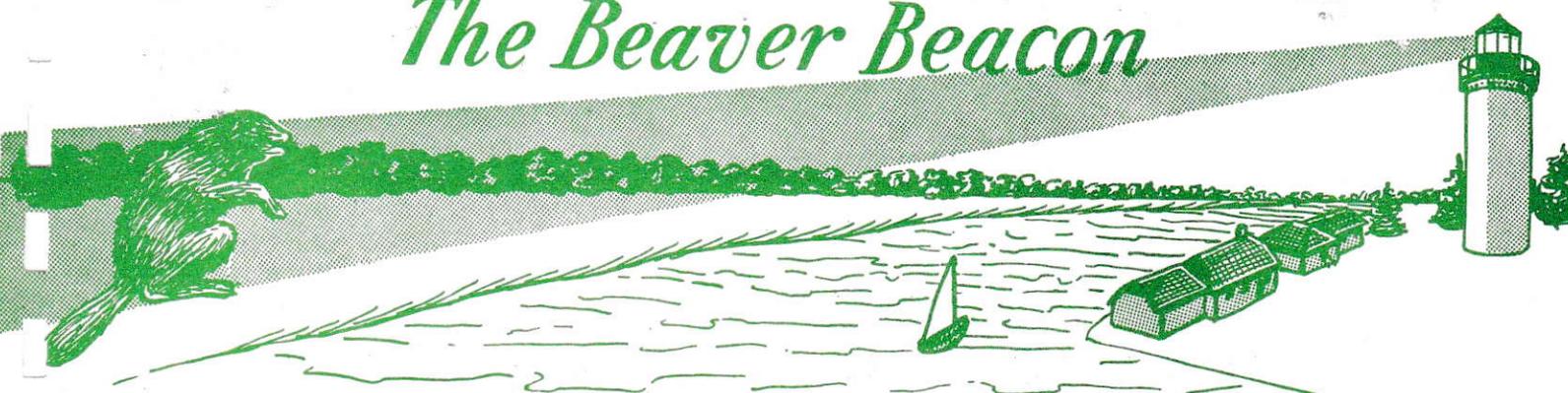
HUSBAND AND WIFE \$3.00

BUSINESS \$25.00 INCLUDES AD IN BICA TOURIST GUIDE FOLDER

REMEMBER THE BEAVER BEACON MAKES A FINE GIFT ANYTIME

21 JUN 1972  
ST. JAMES MI

# The Beaver Beacon



Only Island Publication since King Strang's "Northern Islander" in 1856 - Established January 1955

February 1967

Mid-winter finds the island ringed with ice and the harbor populated with eighteen ice fishing shanties. The snow is at a moderate level as compared to our friends well south of us. High ridges of wind-blown pack ice are forming along the eastern shore of the island, changing the sea-scape with each passing day.

**WEATHER:** The Beaver Island weather as reported by Fire Officer Bill Wagner, for the month of January.

January the first found us with five inches of snow on the ground, and bare spots in the fields. On January thirty-first the conditions were about the same but 17.7 inches of snow had fallen and left. Total precipitation was 2.06 inches, including the water equivalent of snow. On the evening of the 24th and the morning of the 25th, we received .52 of an inch of rain. The daytime temperatures varied between 11 and 45 degrees. The nighttime averaged between 2 and 34 degrees. No sub-zero temperatures were recorded. Average high temperature was 30 degrees, with the high for the month of 45 degrees falling on the 23rd and 25th. Average low temperature was 20 degrees with the low temperature of 2 degrees falling on the night of the 18th. Total snowfall for the month was 17.7 inches, and 45.7 inches of snow has fallen since November 1st. Although most of the month was cool, the temperature did climb into the 40's on two different days. 13 days the temperature was into the 30's and into the 20's for 14 days. Only two days were recorded below 20 degrees.

**ST. PATRICK'S PARTIES PLANNED:** That time is here again and we have just received word from Mrs. Rosie (McDonough) Zajakowski about the Chicago Party. This year it will be held on March 18th at the Flying Roof Hall at 364 Torrence Avenue, Calumet City, Illinois. Next month we will have more details about the party but at this time just make a big GREEN circle around the 18th.

**St. James -** The St. Patrick's Day dinner will be held at the Holy Cross Parish Hall on March 19th. Admission will be \$1.25 for adults, \$.50 for children and pre-schooler's free.

Why not plan a trip to Beaver Island, then you can celebrate twice - once on March 17th and again on the 19th.

**REMEMBER - CELEBRATE ST. PATRICK'S DAY ON THE FOLLOWING DATES:**

March 17th - Anywhere you are March 18th - Chicago March 19th on B.I.

**GAME NEWS:** Things are comparatively quiet in this department. Adverse weather has held rabbit hunting to a minimum, but signs show there are more rabbits on the island than was previously suspected. Perch fishing in the harbor has been anything but spectacular, with small catches, but as any sportsman knows, this picture can change quickly and, of course, this is the big hope. Coyotes seem to be having a great winter as their numbers appear to be growing. The Island's band of avid coyote hunters are planning to alter the situation in the very near future. We would like to add another reminder that the February issue of "Sports Illustrated" will feature an article describing Beaver Island winter hunting. This should be on the news stands by the 16th of this month.

**ICE CUTTING TIME** - A rare sight anywhere, but on Beaver Island, is the cutting and hauling out of lake ice. Charlie Martin and his crew are quickly filling their ice house with 200 lb. blocks of blue ice and carefully packing it in sawdust, to be used for icing fish during the coming Whitefish season. After selecting a spot where the ice has frozen clear and smooth and to a thickness of approximately 16 inches, the ice is scored with an ice plow, into a grid determining the size of the blocks. After hand sawing the starting row out, the blocks are split out with a spud along the scores. The ice is then poled along to the point where a wooden ramp is placed into the water and extends to the height of a truck bed. With the aid of a line, one end attached to a sling that is placed behind the blocks, and the other end to a small truck, the blocks are slid up the ramp onto the bed of another truck. Of course, in years past, horses were used instead of trucks and the ice was usually hauled directly into the ice houses that once fringed the harbor. How carefully the ice is packed in sawdust, determines how much ice will be left come mid-summer. Even the type of sawdust is important. Soft wood is used with the best results, for it's insulating qualities are far better than sawdust from beech, maple or other hardwoods.

**MARCH OF DIMES PROVES SUCCESS:** With the Island's unique way of raising funds for the March of Dimes, the results were hardly short of spectacular. Many items, from loaves of home-baked bread, to a plane trip for two, were auctioned off to the highest bidder by Lawrence McDonough. The final proceeds amounted to \$225.21, which certainly must be some kind of a record for such a small community. The party was held on January 28th, with a snack lunch being served after the auction.

**FIRST-AID CLASS:** Promoted by the Beaver Island P.T.A., several classes in First-Aid are being offered to the public. Dr. H. B. Haynes is the professor of the hour. His talks, both enlightening and sprinkled with wit, have been met with a very good attendance. About one more lesson and those attending should be ready to cope with most any emergency first-aid problems.

**WHY MOTHER'S GET GRAY:** A story that filtered back to the island concerns a summer visitor's six year old child who energetically raised her hand in school when the teacher asked if anyone knew what a Shamrock was. Her reply, "It's a beer joint on Beaver Island", nearly floored the teacher.

**C.M.U. GETS BIG GRANT FOR CLASSES ON ISLAND:** Central Michigan University, which conducts summer classes here, has received word that the

University will receive a \$44,940 grant to support a "Summer Institute of Biology for Secondary School Teachers" at the Beaver Island Biological Station next summer.

The grant was announced by Judson W. Foust, University President. The grant is under the direction of Dr. Matthew H. Hohn, professor in the C.M.U. Department of Biology, who is director of the Institute as well as the Station.

This summer's Institute will run from June 19 to August 11. Covered will be field biology, including limnology, aquatic insects, field botany and biological problems. Central Michigan faculty members will staff the Institute.

Facilities at the Biological Station limit the enrollment to 32 students Dr. Hohn points out. This summer about 25 who have participated in previous sessions will be returning for advanced work. This left only a few available openings. Junior and senior high teachers of botany and Biology are eligible to apply and should contact Director Hohn for admission. Credit received at the Station is counted as on-campus credit, either for graduate or undergraduate work.

SCHOOL NEWS: The Faculty of Beaver Island Community School releases the Honor Roll for the third marking and first semester of the current academic year.

For the third term, the following have earned a "B" average:

Jeanne Wojan	- Grade 12	Gerald Connaghan	- Grade 3
Ronald Wojan	- Grade 10	Mary Teresa Green	- "
Joan LaFreniere	- Grade 6	Christine Martin	- "
Jan Howland	- "	Kathy McDonough	- "
Audrey Wojan	- "	Diane Wojan	- "
Julie Gillespie	- Grade 5	Karl Crawford	- Grade 2
Dawn Martin	- Grade 4	Kathleen Martin	- Grade 1
Patricia Wojan	- "	Bernadette Green	- "
		Linda Wojan	- "

For the first semester, the following students are worthy of honorable mention. This means that these students have a "B" average for their work for the entire semester.

Jeanne Wojan	- Grade 12	Patricia Wojan	- Grade 4
Ronald Wojan	- Grade 10	Gerald Connaghan	- Grade 3
Angie Wojan	- Grade 9	Mary Terese Green	- "
Joan LaFreniere	- Grade 6	Christine Martin	- "
Audrey Wojan	- "	Kathy McDonough	- Grade 2
Dawn Martin	- Grade 4	Karl Crawford	- "

Congratulations, everyone!

Thank You: Sister M. Wilma, O.P., our 1st thru 4th grade teacher, would like to thank everyone for their prayers, plants, cards and get well wishes that were sent her while she was recuperating in Grand Rapids following surgery during the holidays.

HOSPITAL NOTES: Don Burke returned this week from the Charlevoix Hospital, where he had been a patient for a week.

Ben O'Donnell is a patient in the Charlevoix Hospital. He has been there since he left the Island in December.

Francis Ricksgers is recuperating at home after being hospitalized for very severe burns on his back and hands. He will be returning to the hospital in the near future for skin grafts.

Mrs. Russell (Joy) Green is a patient in Little Traverse Hospital in Petoskey, following surgery on February 9th.

Mrs. Mae Coppens is a patient at the hospital on the Kinchloe Airforce Base.

Tom (Red Hughie) Boyle is a patient in the Veteran's Hospital in Chicago, Illinois.

CIVIC ASSOCIATION ELECTION: The following officers were elected at the January meeting of the Beaver Island Civic Association.

President	- Archie LaFreniere	Secretary	- Lillian Gregg
Vice-President	- Perry Crawford	Treasurer	- Mary Minor

OBITUARIES: Our condolences to the following families.

Karl Martin - A visitor to Beaver Island for many years passed away with a very sudden heart attack on January 4th.

Mrs. Nora (Procter) Allen - A former Beaver Island resident passed away in Grand Rapids on January 4th.

Vern Runberg - On February 3rd, Mr. Runberg, passed away after a lingering illness. He is survived by his wife, the former Marqurite McCann; 2 sons, John and Manis; a daughter, Mrs. Tom (Maureen) Bussells and 12 grand-children. He was employed by the Dow Chemical Company before his retirement two years ago.

BUFFET SUPPER: On Sunday, February 12th, the ladies of Beaver Island held another Buffet Supper at the Beaver Island School with the proceeds again going to the Convent Fund Drive. The total for the evening was \$140.05.

This brings the grand total for the Convent Building Fund to approximately \$18,200.

BIRTHS: Mr. and Mrs. Leroy Hooker, the former Patricia O'Donnell, announces the birth of a daughter, Grace Ann, on December 24th.

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## BEAVER TALES

### Part II

In continuing our thumb-nail sketch of High Island's history we must admit an error in time. The Israelite move to Highbegan just after the turn of the century, as close as we can determine, between 1906 and 1910, not as late as 1920.

The Israelites were a communal group, devout in their efforts and remarkably good at their trades. Strictly vegetarians, they did not

believe in killing, even though they were living in the midst of some of the best fishing grounds in the country, they made their way without entering the industry that was the prime business of the area. Anything earned beyond their immediate needs, went directly to the Mother Church, in Benton Harbor. They ate in one large dining hall and the food was prepared by their own specialists in cookery and baking. Each had their own particular job and for the most part, did them well.

King Ben very rarely visited his Island domain but instead placed one of his Church Elders in charge. The man most remembered in this position was a colorful character by the name of George Boskie. In the frequent trips from High to Beaver Island to sell their produce, George was there to oversee the trading. Though generally considered temperate George soon made friends with many of the Irish fishermen of Beaver, who liked to spend some of their idle time bending an elbow at the local bistro. In due time, much of the profits from the sale of produce, ended up in the cash registers of the local taverns, instead of the coffers in Benton Harbor. On some occasions a good party would require more than one load of produce in a single day. During this time the population of Beaver Island was at its post-Strang era peak. All the farms were occupied, many of which can now hardly be distinguished, yet during this time the Israelites supplemented all of the produce to the islands and none had to be shipped from the mainland. On top of this, shipments of lumber and produce were also being sent down the lake to Benton Harbor. Even though George Boskie occasionally strayed from the laws of his religion, he was well liked and kept the growing community on High Island running smoothly.

Often times in the summer, many of the group from High Island would take a Sunday outing to Garden Island. The large field along the eastern shore of Indian Harbor was the usual site of these outings where many a ball game was played. Rich home-made ice cream, cakes and a wide variety of other food made the outings complete. As lengthening shadows marked the end of the day, the group would board their boat and amid laughter and singing, head back to High Island.

The large eight sided building that was first presumed to be King Ben's Castle, was used to house the young girls of the Israelite families until they were of age to be married and their activities were pretty much restricted to the working day. Noted for their beauty and purity, a nightly guard was posted around their quarters, known as the "House of Virgins".

When winter settled down upon the islands, the industrial activity on High Island was confined to cutting timber. As the ice gained in thickness, transportation between High and Beaver Islands was made easy for horse drawn cutters and sailing ice boats. On one occasion, Beaver Islander's paying the Israelites a visit by auto, were flabbergasted to discover, when it came time to leave, that the ice had gone from between the islands and they watched helplessly as their car drifted away on a cake of ice.

The public school on High Island was taught by one lay teacher and handled grades from first to eighth. It was located along the eastern shore of High Island, perhaps a little over a mile south of the northern tip. Some of the teachers were of the Israelite group and others were from Beaver Island and from the Petoskey area. Some of those who taught on High Island are Madeline Kishego, of Harbor Springs, Lucille Gillespie, Catherine Floyd and Jane McDonough of Beaver Island and Della Wyland, of the House of David. We realize of course, that this list is incomplete for our information is somewhat limited.

The Catholic Church on High Island was built for the Indian colony and governed by missionaries of the Brown Franciscans, as was the Church on Garden Island. The headquarters for this order was at Petoskey. A humorous side note is the fact that the Church on Garden Island was built by the "Devil". Hugh, "The Devil" Gallagher, as he was called, of Beaver Island, constructed the edifice on Garden Island. King Ben died on December 16, 1927. An order that the sect be disbanded was dropped and Judge Dewhirst, of Benton Harbor, and an official in the Church, took over the leadership of the Colony. A fight ensued for control of the multi-million dollar kingdom, between Judge Dewhirst and King Ben's wife, "Queen Mary". In 1930 a settlement was reached in court and "Queen Mary" left the House of David with about 200 supporters.

Judge Dewhirst gained control of the High Island venture, yet, the colony on the island were anti-Dewhirst and pro-Mary, causing the end of the Israelite era on High Island. Judge Dewhirst sent William Wright to High Island to supervise the moving off of the island and to take inventory of his assets.

Some of Beaver Island's enterprising traders could foresee some golden opportunities during this period. On High Island, the Israelites had some beautiful livestock, milk cows and prime breeding stock. On the other hand, the Beaver Islanders had a number of decrepit animals that were nearly ready for the fox farm. With some carefully planned strategy, a trade of cattle was made prior to Billy Wright's arrival at High Island. Upon arriving and supervising the loading of livestock for shipping to Benton Harbor, Billy spent some time carefully stroking his beard, as he pondered the decision as to whether or not it would be profitable to ship these aging critters. Eventually, all that was worth moving was loaded aboard their vessels and sent down the lake. Their little freight boat, the High Islanders, was purchased by Nels LaFreniere, of Beaver Island.

Claude Swafford, his wife and three daughters, were left behind to manage the potatoe farm on the island, as this chapter in High Island's history came to a close.

(Part III of this Beaver Tale will be continued in next month's Beacon)

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CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

FOR SALE: Cottage for sale in Beaver Harbor. Contact Jewell Gillespie, St. James, Michigan 49782.

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CIRCLE M LODGE

FEATURING

STEAKS - CHICKEN - SHRIMP

NATIVE WHITEFISH

LIQUORS - MIXED DRINKS - DRAFT BEER

TAKE OUT ORDERS

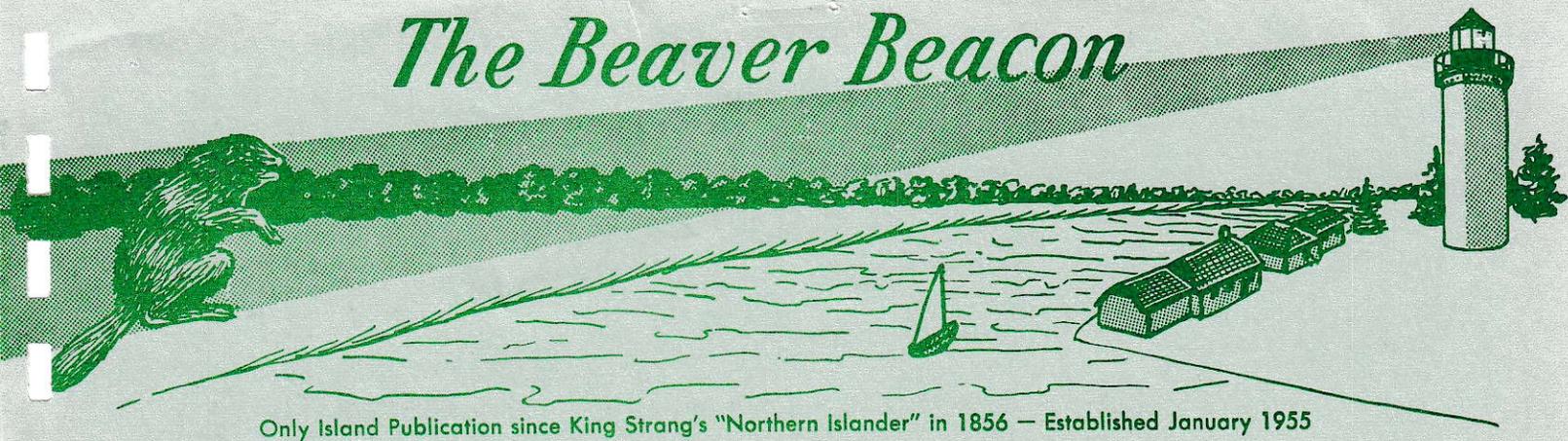
CHICKEN - WHITEFISH - SHRIMP - PIZZA

OPEN 12:00 NOON

HIGH ISLAND

21 TOWNES HIGH BEACON

# The Beaver Beacon



Only Island Publication since King Strang's "Northern Islander" in 1856 — Established January 1955

March 1967

The lion of March is slowly transforming into a pussy cat as the bite of winter eases its grip on the island. Under all of that snow, the ferns and spring flowers are waiting to display their splendor in announcing the beginning of another season.

**PARTY LINE FIRE:** How do you call for fire fighters when the switch-board is burning? This was the problem faced on the night of the 11th of March, when the Telephone Company Office Building caught fire. By the time the fire was finally extinguished, the telephone equipment was completely destroyed and communication to and from the Island was severed with the exception of the Conservation Department radio and Dick LaFreniere's aircraft unicom. Sunday morning a temporary portable phone was installed at LaFreniere's store. Phone service will be resumed as soon as new equipment can be installed in the old kitchen of Holy Cross Hall. Origin of the fire has yet to be determined.

**WEATHER:** Beaver Island weather as recorded by Fire Officer Bill Wagner.

February was cold and snowy for most of the month. Five inches of snow laid on the ground on February 1st and at the end of the month the average was 24 inches. Cold temperatures held thru out the month with the high of 36 degrees falling on the 10th and 14th. The low temperature of 10 below fell on the night of the 6th and 7th. Average high temperature for the month was a cool 22.4 and the average low as a cooler 7.5 degrees. There was 22.5 inches of snowfall for the month with a trace of snow falling on 6 days. Snow fell on 14 of the 28 days.

**GAME NEWS:** This is the quiet season after the end of the small game season. Rabbit hunting was much less than spectacular this year, yet those that spent much time at it had fair results.

Perch fishing in the harbor has been improving rapidly and some fine catches have been made this winter. It can be safely said that Perry Gatliff is the undisputed perch fishing champ, with Duane Newstead coming up close behind. Hopes are high that we may have a perch run this spring, after the ice goes out. It has been over eight years since the last good run and is a much missed sport.

**DINNER FOR ST. PADDY:** The doors of the Holy Cross Hall were opened on the 19th of March, emitting the aroma of roast turkey, with a wide assortment of many other good things to eat. The Holy Cross Altar Society women were at their usual best at producing a bountiful table

of food for the many patrons.

A program put on by the children of the Beaver Island School was enjoyed by all. Only one flaw in the whole production was encountered when the furnace ran out of fuel oil and the filler pipe, buried under ice and snow, took some time to locate. Just before reaching the point of freezing, the heat came on and all went well to the end. Mr. Charles Early won the portable Radio given away at the dinner. The total proceeds for the evening was \$225.00. After expenses were deducted the Convent Fund received \$70.00 from the radio and the Altar Society received \$90.00 for the busy day.

**CHICAGO PARTY:** At this time the only report we have had from Chicago is that everyone had a grand time. Without telephones, we are having difficulty receiving news of the party. Islanders who planned on attending the Party were Rita and Jewell Gillespie, Bob Malloy, Matt Melville, Mary and Perry Gatliff and Robert Gillespie. We'll have a full report in next months Beacon.

**LOST & FOUND:** After making arrangements to leave their little house dog with Dick LaFreniere, James and Billy Evans took off in their plane for a few days trip down state. The dog, not being used to the new surroundings took off for parts unknown. A search party was deployed, made up of many of the island children and some of the adults, but -- to no avail. Hopes dimmed as darkness fell, along with the thermometer, for three consecutive nights. For a little dog well up in years and not being used to the outdoors, it looked pretty hopeless. Upon returning to the Island, Mr. and Mrs. Evans decided to hike the beach toward town, from their home at Sand Bay. As luck would have it, they discovered the dog, scared, cold and hungry, curled up under a juniper bush, a little more than a mile from home.

**ENGAGED:** Mr. and Mrs. Henry O. Stoltz announce the engagement of their daughter Margaret Dougherty to Lt. Thomas N. Gallagher, son of Mr. and Mrs. Norbert M. Gallagher of Rochester, Indiana, on January First.

**WEDDINGS:** Mrs. Marilynn Newell Rennie and Mr. Fred Moellendick Borwell announce their marriage on Saturday, the twenty-first of January in Flossmoor, Illinois.

**Adams - Huard:** On Saturday, February 4, 1967, Miss Carol Adams, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Adams, of Mt. Pleasant, Michigan, became the bride of Mr. Gary "Dock" Huard, of Mt. Pleasant. The groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. John Fay, of Memphis, Michigan, and spent the last four summers on the Island working for Beaver Haven. A reception was held in Mt. Pleasant immediately following the wedding in Mt Pleasant Sacred Heart Church and a second reception was held in Memphis, Michigan on Sunday, February 5th. An added note is that Mr. and Mrs. Gary "Dock" will be on Beaver Island this summer and are planning on building a summer cottage here.

**HOSPITAL NOTES:** Mrs. Bernard (Marge) Wagner returned to the Island on Saturday, March 18th, following surgery in Little Traverse Hospital.

Mrs. Roland J. (Ethel) McCann is recuperating at her home following surgery. Her address is 9001 S. Cicero Ave., Box 234, Oak Lawn, Ill. 60456.

Donna Ricksgers, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Francis Ricksgers, is recuperating at home following surgery in a Detroit hospital.

Mrs. Frank (Nellie) O'Donnell is a patient in the Charlevoix Hospital. Nellie fell in her home and has a fractured rib.

AWAY TO SCHOOL: Gary McDonough, son of Capt. and Mrs. Lawrence McDonough, has arrived at Ingelwood, California and is enrolled in Electronic Engineering at Northrop Institute of Technology, 1155 W. Arbor Vital Street, Inglewood, California 90306.

CONGRATULATIONS: Michael Crawford, son of Mr. and Mrs. Perry Crawford, won a Philco Transistor Radio in the Ford Motor Company's "Safe Driving Incentive Program for Young Americans".

OBITUARIES: Our condolences to the following families.

Thomas "Red Hughie" Boyle, of Chicago, passed away on March 10th following a long illness. He is survived by his wife, Catherine; one son and a sister, Mary Greene; two grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.

Mrs. Joan (nee Miller) Tiggleman, aged 47 of Belleair Beach, Fla., passed away unexpectedly Friday, March 10th, in Florida. She is survived by her husband, Frank. One stepdaughter, Mrs. David (Sharon) Marckini of St. Clair Shores, Michigan; two sisters, Mrs. Arlie (Beverly) Albrecht of Grand Rapids, and Mrs. Joseph (Skip) McDonough of Beaver Island. Funeral services were held Tuesday, March 14th, at the VanStrien-Almon Mortuary, with Rev. Edwin J. Arnold of the 2nd Congregational Church officiating. Interment in the Restlawn Cemetery.

Archie James Washegesic, 53, of Charlevoix, was a victim of a hit and run accident on March 10th.

Funeral services were held from St. Mary's Church, the Rev. Francis Denay officiating. Interment was in Brookside Cemetery. Born on Beaver Island May 27th, 1913, Mr. Washegesic served in the Army during World War II, moving to Charlevoix after the war. He was a commercial fisherman.

He was married to the former Mary McSauba Bolton, Nov. 1, 1947. He is survived by his widow, three children Janice, 16, Robert, 14, and Donna, 12; and three stepchildren, Richard, Glenda and Gerald Bolton.

THANK YOU: Mrs. Russell (Joy) Green wishes to thank everyone who remembered her with flowers, prayers, get-well wishes and letters during her recent convalescence. Also, for the many kindnesses extended her family.

Mr. and Mrs. Bud McDonough want to extend their deepest appreciation and heartfelt thanks to friends and relatives for their acts of kindness and expressions of sympathy and for the beautiful floral tributes. Masses and cardstendered at the unexpected loss of Skip's sister, Mrs. Frank (Joan) Tiggleman.

NOT ONCE, BUT TWICE: Clara and Willie Schmidt's chimney caught fire a few days before the Telephone Company's fire, not once but twice. Two rooms were badly damaged, but fortunately, the fire was brought under control before the fire could spread.

**PONTOON HOUSE BOAT BUILDERS:** Mr. and Mrs. Charles Homer of Griffith, Ind., built themselves a house boat after having the pontoons made. The couple started working on the boat in August, 1965. The pontoons are thirty feet long and the living area is sixteen feet by ten feet. The boat was taken by low boy to the Calumet River at Dalton. The couple plan to spend weekends on the boat and will use it for cruises when Mr. Homer, an electrical engineer, retires from his position as vice president of the Fischbach Moor and Mooresy Company at East Chicago.

The boat sleeps six, has a dining area, kitchen, bath with shower, and is equipped with a gas operated stove, refrigerator and hot water heater.

**FORMER ISLAND DOCTOR IS BAY COUNTY MEDICAL FACILITY DIRECTOR:** Dr. Harry F. Vail will begin work July 1st as the first fulltime Bay County Medical Facility director.

Vail, 57, will also, at \$27,500 per year, be moving into the county's number one paying position.

However, county officials and medical society representatives think Vail would have been a bargain at almost any price.

Our biggest problem was talking Harry into taking the job we knew he was the best man for," said Dr. Francis H. Letchfield, chairman of the county social service board.

"It was a pleasure to recommend Dr. Vail for this important job," was the statement from the Bay County Medical Society.

Dr. Vail will have a "free hand" in choosing at \$5,000 per year part-time assistant to help him run the fast growing facility in Hampton Township.

The two doctors will be responsible for taking care of 102 patients immediately and 204 possibly late this year when an addition to the existing facility is completed.

Dr. Vail said he would discontinue his general practice before July 1 when he is scheduled to report to work.

He said he will take a post graduate course in medicine and hopes to get a short vacation.

Dr. Vail was admitted to medical practice here in 1934 and has done public health work, served a hitch in the U.S. Army Medical Corps, and been in general practice in Bay County for many years.

**FATHER MCLAUGHLIN RECALLS YEARS AT BEAVER ISLAND:** The years he spent on Beaver Island, are probably those best remembered by the Rev. Fr. Frank L. McLaughlin, pastor of St. Agatha Catholic Church in Gagetown, Michigan, who is retiring March 1.

He is retiring for reason of health and not due to age, although he is 69. A throat ailment has developed in the past six weeks which restricts his talking to an audience and he has requested the retirement. In 1931, he took charge of Holy Cross Church, Beaver Island and it proved to be one of the interesting highlights of an interesting career. On the island, he organized the first chamber of commerce and served as its first president. He remained on the island four years. He recalls the parish had to generate its own electricity, pump its own water and the close of the navigation season bring in a supply of canned goods, hams, bacon, steaks and groceries to last until the spring. He smiles when he remembers hanging the meat in a shed to freeze in the cold weather. That was in the days before the deep freeze. One of the last contacts with the mainland at Charlevoix was the boat trip with his pickup truck to bring in a truckload of groceries. He also had to import gasoline for his electric generators.

He also let bids each year for a supply of cordwood for heating. "I burned some of the best birdseye maple in my furnaces," he recalls. Those were depression days. He once organized a beef cattle roundup on the island to help out the farmers. Transportation was the stumbling block for the residents, but he solved it with ease since while in college he had worked as chief yard clerk for the Grand Trunk Railway at Durand.

When the surplus beef animals were collected, Fr. McLaughlin hired a boat to take them to the mainland, where he had already had a cattle car spotted by the railway. He consigned the beef to the Detroit stock yards and soon had a manifest and check back. He then distributed the money to the farmers.

He got top dollar in the sale, too. The surprised farmers reported they would have settled for far less.

In 1934, when most of the farm crops were destroyed in a fire, the islanders had no money to purchase feed for their stock.

He solved that problem too, after being turned down by the welfare. Fr. McLaughlin called the office of the governor. An administrative assistant turned him over to an agricultural department official, Burr B. Lincoln, a native of Harbor Beach.

After telling his story of the loss of crops in the dead of winter, the good father was told the department could provide the fodder, but transportation offered a problem across the frozen lake.

The parish priest solved that by calling Coast Guard headquarters in Washington. He got the promise of the cutter "Escanaba" to break through the ice to the island.

The necessary grain and hay was purchased from Charlevoix farmers, who appreciated the extra money in the depression year, it was transported to the island where the farmers there appreciated the assistance.

Fr. McLaughlin remembers, too, that the junior grade lieutenant in charge of the coast guard ship was E. J. Rolland, who recently retired as commandant of the Coast Guard in Washington.

Before leaving the island, he also arranged for six herd sires to be delivered from Michigan State College to improve the beef herds.

He left the island in 1935 to take an assignment as pastor of St. Paul's Church, Onaway, and the mission of St. Monica at Afton.

He has no definite plans for retirement, but plans to live alternately with two brothers, D. J. McLaughlin, Pontiac, and Edward J. McLaughlin, Merrill. He also has a sister, Sister Mary Kevin, O.P. Phd.

HONOR ROLL: The Beaver Island School releases the Honor Roll for the fourth marking period of the scholastic year:

- |                            |                              |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| Grade 12 -- Jeanne Wojan   | Grade 3 -- Mary Terese Green |
| Grade 10 -- Ronald Wojan   | Mark LaFreniere              |
| Grade 9 -- Angie Wojan     | Christine Martin             |
| Grade 6 -- Joan LaFreniere | Kathy McDonough              |
| Audrey Wojan               | Diane Wojan                  |
| Grade 5 -- Julie Gillespie | Grade 2 -- Karl Crawford     |
| Grade 4 -- James Cole      | Grade 1 -- Bernadette Green  |
| Dawn Martin                | Daniel McDonough             |
| Patricia Wojan             | Linda Wojan                  |

Congratulations to these students for their fine academic work and let's see a few more names on the list next time.

BIRTHS: Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Gallagher announce the arrival of a son, Sean on March 7th. Sean weighed in at 8 lbs. 1½ oz. Mr. and Mrs. John A. Gallagher and Mr. and Mrs. Jack Martin are the happy grandparents.

DEVELOPMENT BEGINS: The American Central Corporation, of Lansing, who purchased Henry Allen's Donegal property, is having the platting done by survey engineers from the Norton Gourdu, Miller and Batzer Company in Traverse City. The men will begin work on the project next week.

MONTGOMERY WARD DAYS: On Monday April 3rd, representatives of the Montgomery Ward Company will arrive on the Island to spend two days. Beginning at 12:00 noon, on April 3rd, and continuing thru Tuesday, the representatives will be at the Circle M Lodge to take orders. Refreshments will be served to all attending. On Monday evening, April 3rd, a free full length movie will be presented at 7:00 p. m. and at 9:00 p. m. in the Multi-Purpose Room at the School. Pop and Popcorn, a must at all movies, will be served.

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## BEAVER TALES

### Part III

As commercial fishing began to decline, the remaining Indian settlement on High Island was slowly disbanding either to Beaver Island or to the mainland, seeking greener pastures. As the clouds of World War II loomed over the Nation, High Island became a Ghost Island; its empty buildings standing as mute evidence of a past era.

When the month of March rolls around thoughts of the coming season dominate the minds of islanders. With a winter ending and the bank accounts low, it is also a time of planning for new endeavours. Such was the case one March day in 1951, as Archie LaFreniere and "Bub" Burke sat around the stove of the Shamrock Bar, discussing ways and means of increasing their finances. It had been mentioned that ponies left on High Island by the Indians, had survived in the wild with no ill effects. This being the case, why wouldn't it be a good idea to put some good breeding stock on the island to develop a herd and round up the colts each year? Both agreed it would be worth a try and "Bub" knew of a fine stallion for sale at Petoskey. With its purchase, skeptical islanders began to realize this endeavour was in earnest. Publicity drew the attention of a professional horse trader from down state, by the name of Underwood and soon it was a company of three in the venture. A total of 21 horses were purchased and the Beaver Island Boat Company board was approached to charter the North Shore to transfer the steeds to High Island. A fee of \$50.00 was agreed upon for the charter and Archie had already received permission from Benton Harbor to utilize the island. To defray the expenses, the trio organized a promotional parade down the main street of St. James and soon collected \$175.00 in fares from tourists and Islanders alike, for a trip to High Island, and back. As the North Shore hove to close to the beach of High Island, the horses were shoved out the open gangway and promptly swam ashore. One ashore, the stallion pranced around his harem of mares and herded them off into the interior.

Hardly had the horses reached shore when the publicized trio began receiving indignant letters from horse lovers, charging them with cruelty. Soon the Humane Society brought their guns to bear and plans to evacuate the horses had to be made. During the following winter, when the ice was well made between the islands, the herd was rounded up and brought across to Beaver. The enterprising trio then set up a horse sale in the Shamrock and trading was brisk among the Islanders, replacing their old horses for one of these of a more recent vintage. The traders were more interested in bulk weight than age, so many a single trade was made in exchange for a heavy working team. When the boat made its first run from the Island in April, its main cargo was made up of over forty field worn steeds destined for the market. Whether it is coincidence or not, we are not certain, but it was just a few shorts weeks later that the horse meat scandale broke out in Chicago. Once more High Island stood quiet, but only for a short time. Warren Townsend, of Holland, purchased the island shortly after the horse episode and proceeded to go into the cattle business. An expert pilot, Warren cleared an air strip in the interior, built a barn, living quarters and put his two sons to tending the cattle. Operational expenses proved too much and the project quickly came to an end after a year or so.

The State of Michigan purchased the Island from Warren Townsend, and now use it for game experimentation. Most of the old buildings are gone now. The eight sided foundation is all that remains of the "House of Virgins" and depressions in the ground are about all that mark sites of other dwellings. Remains of school desks amid rotting timbers confirm the fact that a school once stood there. An old boiler near the beach is a souvenir of the laundry that the Israelites once operated. Ghosts of the past are easily found throughout the Island, as once more it stands alone, deserted and beautiful in a sea of blue.

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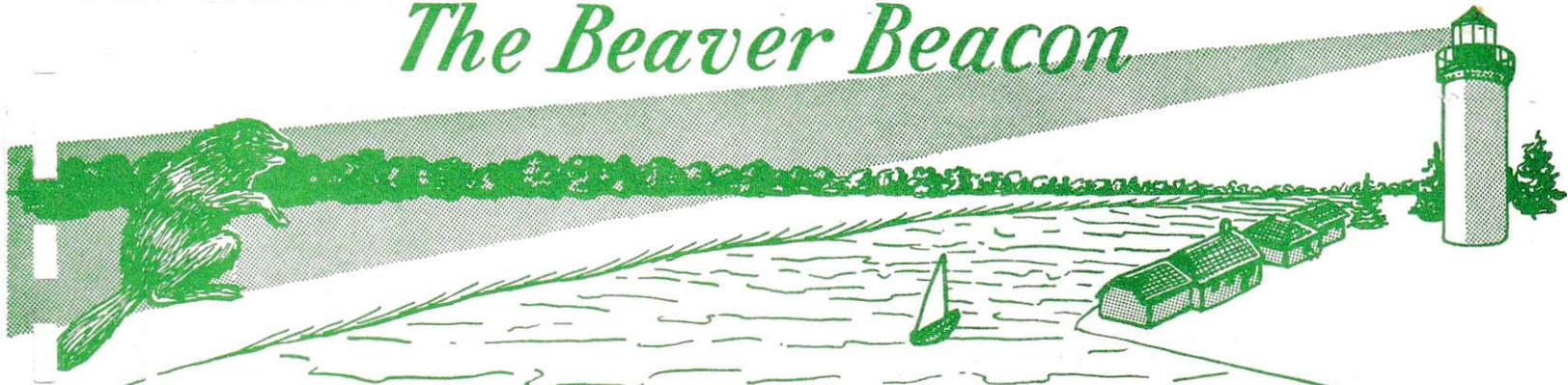
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# The Beaver Beacon



Only Island Publication since King Strang's "Northern Islander" in 1856 - Established January 1955  
April 1967

Spring showers are washing away the evidence of the winter just past and stimulating a new cloak of green to decorate the island for the approaching summer season. With diminishing wood piles and oil supplies at a low ebb, the start of the Beaver Islander's season will be met with anticipation by many Island inhabitants.

**WEATHER:** Beaver Island weather as recorded by Fire Officer Bill Wagner for the month of March.

Most of the month was rather cool and stormy. For 24 days during the month the temperature was above 30 degrees. We had 23 inches of snow on the ground on the 1st of the month, and it melted down to bare field and roads by the end of the month. Some snow remained in the woods by the end of March. We received 9.5 inches of snow this month and .68 inches of rain on the 27th and 28th.

Daytime temperatures varied from 16 to 61 degrees, with a high of 61 degrees falling on the 31st. Average temperature for the month was 36.3 degrees.

Nighttime temperatures were somewhat cooler, with a low of -14 falling on the 8th. Nighttime temperatures varied from -14 to 39 degrees, with an average of 17 degrees.

Below zero temperatures were recorded on 4 nights.

Total snowfall for the month was 9.5 inches and total since November 1st was 67.2 inches.

Total precipitation since November 1st was 11.77 inches. Oh yes, we received 6 inches of snow on the 1st day of Spring.

Temperatures were below 20 degrees for 1 day, in the 20's for 6 days, in the 30's for 16 days, in the 40's for 7 days and in the 60's for 1 day.

**GAME NEWS:** Now that the roads are open all the way around the Island, we can get an idea of how our game survived the winter. Deer coming out of their winter yards appear healthy and numerous. Those getting the best look at conditions in the woods at this time of the year, are the Beaver Trappers. Rogers Carlisle, Karl Kuebler, Ron Wojan and Dennis Wagner have found evidence of quite a bit of coyote activity. There is no doubt that the coyotes have taken their toll of deer, rabbits and turkeys for this time of year the evidence can readily be seen.

Anglers will be interested to learn that the Conservation Department is planning to poison out the brook trout, pan fish and rough fish from Fox Lake next fall. Bob Drummond, District Fish Biologist, said the lake will be re-planted with rainbow trout. The brook trout, that were

planted in 1960, have fallen victim to gill lice, a parasite that infects the gills and fins of trout. Drummond explains that the rainbows are far less likely to be so infected. Gill lice, he said, have no effect on persons who eat fish infected by them.

Members of the Beaver Island Game Club requested the re-poisoning and replanting of Fox Lake. Rainbows of four to six inches will be planted each year thereafter. By the spring of 1968 these rainbows will be keeper size. At maturity, they should reach a length of 18 inches.

During mid-winter, a lone Beaver decided to move into town and set up housekeeping under Henry Allen's boat house. Very much unafraid, he nonchalantly chewed on small saplings along the shore, directly in front of the Post Office. "Poor" Milt Bennett, took several close up pictures of the Beaver in action, one of which was published in the Charlevoix Courier.

LAND SWITCH: The American Central Corporation, of Lansing, Michigan, recently purchased most of Henry Allen's property on Beaver Island, including the Donegal Bay area, much of the land surrounding Font Lake and other sizeable pieces. On the 1st of April, Howard J. Bonnet, Vice-President of American Central Corporation, invited business persons from the Island, Charlevoix and Harbor Springs to a luncheon at the Circle M Lodge, to explain their plans of the future. Mr. Bonnet explained that his company is strictly a land development concern with aims of plotting out the parcels, building roads and selling lots. Much time was spent by Mr. Bonnet, answering questions of interested islanders. The entire development will span many years, so immediate changes will be very slight. The area of development will be called "Port St. James" with lots ranging in size from 60 to 100 ft. frontage. Three sample cottages will be constructed near the Yacht Dock and will house their real estate office. Fifty-seven people attended the luncheon, including Henry Allen, Grover Geneit, Charlevoix County Register of Deeds, Joe McPhillips of the McPhillips Flying Service and Tom Roe of Phillips Flying Service, Harbor Springs.

BEAVER ISLANDER MAKES FRIST TRIP: With a capacity load of freight, the Motor Vessel, Beaver Islander, pulled away from her berth at Charlevoix at 1:00 p.m. on the 15th of April, and put her bow into the choppy sea of Lake Michigan to start another season of ferry service to the Island. For the past week or so Captain Lawrence McDonough, Engineer John A. Gallagher and Russell Green, have been busy getting the vessel ready for the new season, dressing her in a new coat of paint and checking equipment.

ARIZONA NOTES: We would like to announce the arrival of Sgt. Robert A. Pischner at the home of his parents Mr. and Mrs. Elston Pischner, in Phoenix, Arizona. Sgt. Pischner arrived home from Viet Nam on the eleventh of March and will leave the tenth of April for an additional six months in Viet Nam. He has been over there for the past thirteen months but he says it's so nice that he would like to finish his army career over there.

Matt Melville left the beautiful state of Arizona for the cold of Michigan. He went by way of California and from what we hear he enjoyed his trip.

After being in Phoenix for such a short time, Mrs. Sophia McDonough

left the eighteenth of March for an indefinite stay in California. The former Eileen Gatliff and her husband came to Phoenix so Mrs. McDonough went to California with them. Sister Mary Thomas, daughter of Mrs. Mary Gatliff, had a brief stop in Phoenix on her way from California to New Mexico where she will make her retreat.

**TEE TIME:** Golfers will be glad to hear that Matt Melville has plans for extensive improvements at the Golf Course this spring. In the plan of improvements will be the completion of the fairway irrigation system and the remodeling of number four and six greens. The greens will be planted to Toronto C 15 Creeping bent grass, as soon as the growing season starts. A schedule of golf events are in the process of printing and will be published in the near future.

**CHICAGO PARTY:** Results are now in on the Chicago St. Patrick's Party. Besides everyone having a wonderful time, the party netted \$600.00 for the Convent Fund, making it truly a success.

**ENGAGED:** Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Gauthier, of Lake Leelanaw, announces the engagement and forthcoming marriage of their daughter, Marie, of Grand Rapids to Mr. Owen Boyle, of Chicago, son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Boyle. The marriage will be solemnized at St. Mary's Catholic Church of Lake Leelanaw, September 16, 1967.

**OFF TO THE SEAS:** Archie Minor and Don Burke left the Island for their respective ships on the great lakes. Archie is aboard the S. S. P. Roberts, Jr. and Don is aboard the S. S. Henry Phipps.

**AND HOME AGAIN:** Returning recently from the mainland, where they spent the winter, is Maria Gallagher, Katie Connaghan, Rose and Pat Bonner, Matt Melville, Lillian and John Gallagher, Mary and Bert McDonough, Stanley Floyd and Raymond Lewis.

**BIRTHS:** Mr. and Mrs. Richard O'Donnell announce the adoption of a son, Michael Daniel. Mr. and Mrs. Frank O'Donnell and Mr. and Mrs. James Gallagher are the proud grandparents.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard (Ellen Nackerman) Verduyn, 1577 Beverely St., Madison Hts., Michigan, announce the arrival of twins, Bruce and Brian on Friday, March 31st. Bruce weighed in at 6 lb. 5 oz. and Brian was 7 lbs. Mr. and Mrs. Frank Nackerman are the proud grandparents.

Mr. and Mrs. Dale Brown announce the adoption of a daughter, Darlene Eve, on March 27th. Dale is the son of Stella and Francis Brown of Chicago. Mr. Lawrence Malloy is the happy grandfather.

Bob (Holiday) and Charlotte McDonough, of Grand Rapids, announce the arrival of a son, Kevin Barry. This is number fifteen for the McDonough's and their third son.

**BURNING PERMITS ARE REQUIRED:** By state law, burning permits are required for all open fires whenever the ground is not covered with snow. Permits can be obtained from Conservation Dept. Field Stations. If possible, all trash and debris should be burned in a covered trash burner. No permit required when burning is done in a covered trash burner.

SCHOOL NEWS: Penmanship Awards from the Zaner-Bloser Company to:

5th Grade - Pam McDonough, Carol Kujawa and Raymond Cole  
6th Grade - Joan LaFreniere and Audrey Wojan  
7th Grade - Allan Crawford and James Wojan  
8th Grade - Daniel Gillespie

The Company grades the papers and sends a report of those students whose writing is up to the standard for their grade level.

The Faculty of Beaver Island School releases the honor roll for the fifth marking period of the academic year. Deserving of honor are the following:

Grade 12 -- Jeanne Wojan	Grade 4 -- Dawn Martin
Grade 10 -- Ronald Wojan	Timothy McDonough
Judy LaFreniere	Patricia Wojan
Grade 9 -- Angie Wojan	Grade 3 -- Diane Wojan
Grade 6 -- Janine Howland	Kathy McDonough
Joan LaFreniere	Grade 1 -- Bernadette Green
Audrey Wojan	Linda Wojan
Grade 5 -- Julie Gillespie	

There is only one more try for the missing names! Let's try and make it, students.

April 17 marked the annual Senior Government Day which was held at East Jordan Public School. The five members of the Beaver Island Senior Class attended and found the day most profitable educationally. They discussed current topics of interest such as moral and juvenile problems, civil rights and education. The Seniors were asked to give a report of each topic upon return to their local Government Class. The Seniors would like to take this opportunity to thank all who made this trip possible for them -- among who especially are the Beaver Island Board of Education who paid their transportation across the lake, and the Charlevoix - Emmet Intermediate School Superintendent -- Mr. Charles Robinson who drove the class to East Jordan from Charlevoix.

April 18 was the day that the "miracle" happened! It was truly a day of FIRSTS for the fifth, sixth, seventh, and eighth grade pupils of the Beaver Island School. They had written their radio teacher, Miss Joan Knoertzer of Ann Arbor, that it was not possible to attend the song festival. She wrote back that she had contacted a few people and to keep hoping.

Thanks to Mr. Robinson, to the Beaver Island Boat Company, to the Beaver Island School Board, to the weather, to station WJML, to Sister Kenneth Marie, to the chaperones, Mrs. Rita Gillespie, Mrs. Rose Conaghan, and Mrs. Winnie McDonough and Sister Julia Mae the trip to Boyne City was made possible. The real highlights of the trip were: the FIRST class trip for the pupils, the FIRST school bus ride, the FIRST song festival, the FIRST lunch in a school cafeteria, and the FIRST time to be met on the Charlevoix side by Mr. Robinson, the Superintendent of Schools, Mr. Harry Welliver of the University of Michigan radio station, the photographer from the Charlevoix Courier, Mrs. Hoper, the school nurse, and Mrs. Marge Jengle, the Charlevoix School bus driver. It was truly a day that will not be forgotten.

HIGH FLIERS: March 31st marked the date of the annual Beaver Island Kite flying contest, held at Frank O'Donnell's field. With no lack of wind, kites were soon doing their antics in the sky, swooping, diving and occasionally crashing to the ground. Final results were:

Boys' Division: Winners Judges: Frank Nackerman  
Highest: Richard Gillespie Jerry LaFreniere  
Longest: Steven Connaghan  
Homemade: Joseph Kenwabikisee  
Uniqueness: Jeff Howland and Hugh Cole

Girls' Division: Winners Judge: Carol LaFreniere  
Highest: Pamela McDonough and Joan LaFreniere  
Best Flyer: Audrey Wojan  
Longest: Jan and Weston Howland

PHONE LINES: A hearty thanks are in order to Dick LaFreniere, who during our telephone blackout, manned the portable phone installed in his store. This kept the communication line open between the island and the mainland until temporary phone service could be installed.

THANK YOU: The family of Vernon E. Runberg would like to extend their grateful appreciation to their many friends, for the beautiful floral tributes, Masses and kind expressions of sympathy.

Mrs. Bill (Marge) Wagner wishes to thank everyone who remembered her with flowers, prayers, get-well wishes and letters during her recent convalescence. Also, for the many kindnesses extended her family.

CANCER PARTY: An auction of donated gifts was held on the night of April 15th for the Cancer Fund. Headed up by Joy Green, the many items were auctioned off by Frank Schnaudigel and Phil Gregg to a comparably small crowd, with the net results of \$138.80. A good time was had by all attending and following the auction, coffee, sandwiches and cakes were served.

OBITUARIES: Funeral for Dr. Albert F. Litzzenburger, 63, Charlevoix County Health Officer for 27 years, was held March 28th from the Stackus Funeral Home in Boyne City, with the Rev. R. J. McBratnie officiating. Burial was in Maple Lawn Cemetery. During his many years of service, Dr. Litzzenburger came to the Island many times to take care of the Island children.

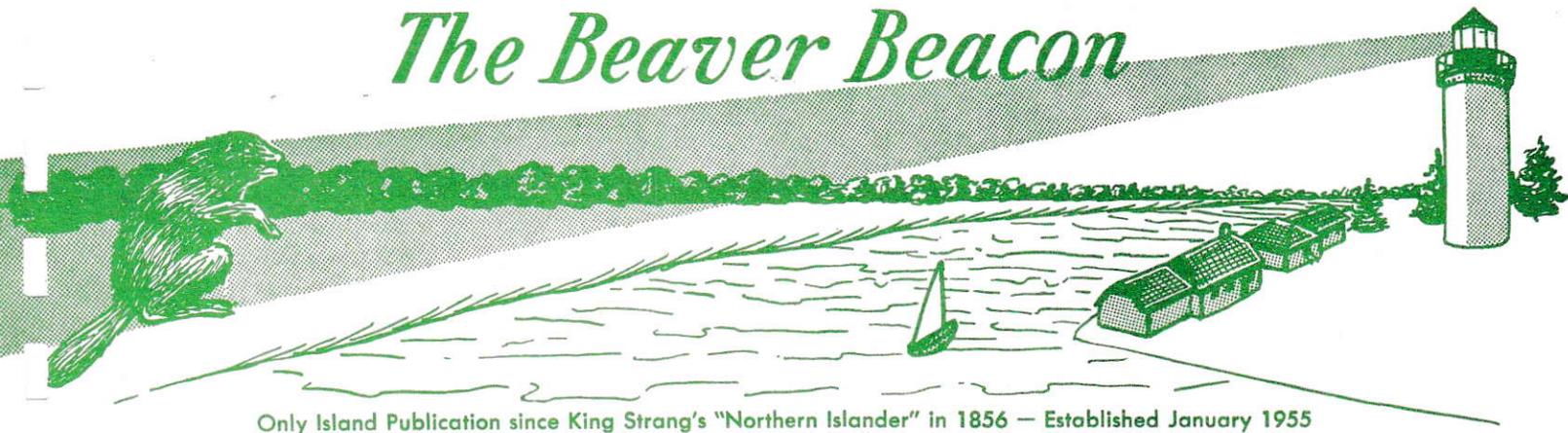
FREE RUNNING DOGS TO WILDLIFE YOUNG GREAT DANGER: Michigan dog owners are reminded by the Conservation Department that they only have through April 15th to field train the winter kinks out of their animals this spring. After that and until July 15th, dogs may not be worked afield except when they are being used exclusively for fox hunting. Reason for the three month moratorium on dog training is to protect nesting wildlife and their young.

All dog owners are urged to keep their pets at home or tied up during the highly important nesting period. Free running dogs take a high toll of young rabbits and fawns, prevent successful nesting of ruffed grouse and destroy ground nesting song bird young.



NAME	NEW NUMBER
Annand, Fred W.	448 - 5320
Beachcomber Bar	448 - 9481
Beaver Island Telephone Company	448 - 5341
Beaver Lodge	448 - 5231
Bissell, Melville R.	448 - 5321
Bonner, Patrick	448 - 5301
Brown, Arthur	448 - 5308
Burke, Don	448 - 5610
Central Michigan University	448 - 5325
Circle M Lodge	448 - 5318
Connaghan, Jack	448 - 5323
Crawford, Perry	448 - 5240
Davis, Clark	448 - 5328
Dillingham, Olive	448 - 5309
Dominican Sisters	448 - 5285
Erber, Karl	448 - 5324
Erin Motel	448 - 5240
Floyd, Stanley	448 - 5280
Fogg, Clyde	448 - 5780
Gallagher, Nora	448 - 5379
Heflin, Paul A.	448 - 5286
Hill, Walker	448 - 5331
Killarney Inn	448 - 5268
Kujawa, Leo	448 - 5722
LaFreniere, Vernon H. (Store)	448 - 5360
Ludwick, Dr. John E.	448 - 5329
Martin, Ada	448 - 5251
Martin, Charles	448 - 5252
Martin, Erwin	448 - 5346
Martin, Gerald	448 - 5250
Martin, John F.	448 - 5318
McCann, Edna	448 - 5355
McDonough, Lawrence	448 - 5287
Nackerman, Frank J.	448 - 5351
Neer, Frank	448 - 5283
Nelson, Dr. Paul F.	448 - 5322
O'Donnell, Frank	448 - 5302
Powell, Robert	448 - 5254
Ranger, John J.	448 - 5305
Reigle, L. Z.	448 - 5708
Ricksgers, George	448 - 5300
Rustic Villa	448 - 5331
Schmidt, William	448 - 5281
Schnaudigel, Frank	448 - 5306
Shamrock Tavern	448 - 9491
Stan Floyd's Rent-A-Car	448 - 5290
U.S. Coast Guard	448 - 5330
Welke, William	448 - 5326
Airport Paystation	448 - 5311

# The Beaver Beacon



Only Island Publication since King Strang's "Northern Islander" in 1856 — Established January 1955

May 1967

Each warm spring day has been at the expense of a half dozen bone chilling ones, as winter is still trying to get in a few last jabs. Wild flowers are having a tough struggle fighting morning frosts and for the same reason, mushrooms are few and far between. This month should see the warm days getting closer and closer together, however.

**WEATHER:** Beaver Island weather as recorded by Fire Officer Bill Wagner for the month of March.

The average high temperature was 47 degrees.  
The average low temperature was 30.1 degrees.  
The lowest temperature of 15 degrees occurred on the night of the 4th.  
The highest temperature, of 58 degrees, occurred on the 1st and 28th.  
The total rainfall for the month was 2.52 inches.  
 $\frac{1}{8}$  inch of snow fell on the 7th but melted by noon.  
For 10 days the daytime temperature was in the 50's; for 17 days in the 40's and for 3 days in the 30's.

**GAME NEWS:** Game Club members have distributed over 30 mineral blocks throughout the island as a supplement for our deer herd.

The first of May opened the trout season on the island, namely Fox Lake. The trout are running good sized but limit catches are hard earned.

Smelt were slow and few running in the Jordan and Cable's Creeks. Suckers are now running heavy and strangely enough, several Steelhead trout have been taken from these streams. If they become plentiful it would make a big change in the Island's fishing story.

With the closing of the Beaver trapping season reports are now in on the results. Rogers Carlisle and Eddie Connaghan teamed up to gain a hard earned total of fifteen beaver, the largest of which tipped the scales at 50 pounds, a mighty good sized animal for a Canadian Black Beaver. The brown beaver often grow 15 to 20 pounds larger.

Duane Newstead, know as the "Swamp Fox", has been trying to cut down the Island's abundance of Coyotes, with spring traps. This past week resulted in one coyote caught with hopes of more in the near future.

**U. S. COAST GUARD OPENS STATION:** The Beaver Island Coast Guard Station is now open and the following men are stationed here.

Rick Ross BNI, Gary Fortner EN1, Steve Anonen SN, Charles Feyers BM3 and Frank Ferry FN.

**FIRST COMMUNION:** One boy and three girls of the Holy Cross Catholic Church received their first Holy Communion High Mass on Sunday May 7th. They were Karl Crawford, son of Mr. and Mrs. Perry Crawford, Laurel Ann Cole, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Cole and Diane and Mary Kenwabikissee, daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Kenwabikissee.

**DEAN'S LIST:** Edward Wojan, son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Wojan, has been named to the Dean's List of the University of Detroit. This list is compiled of students that have attained a 3.00 average or above during the previous marking period.

**NEW RESIDENTS:** Mr. and Mrs. John Wylie and their seven boys have moved to Beaver Island from East Jordan. Mr. Wylie will manage the Beaver Tail Restaurant.

Mr. and Mrs. Curly Hartsel of Kalamazoo are in the process of moving to the Island. They have sold their home in Kalamazoo and Mrs. Hartsel plans on opening a beauty shop on the island.

Mr. Charles Early has now become a permanent resident of Beaver Island. Mrs. Early and the boys moved to the Island last fall but Charlie just retired from Oldsmobile in Lansing and had to wait until May 2nd to join them.

**WEDDINGS:** On April 15th, Miss Nancy Kenwabakiessee became the bride of Mr. Dennis Harris of South Haven, Michigan. Attending the wedding in South Haven from Beaver Island was Mr. and Mrs. Paul Kenwabakissee and family, Mr. and Mrs. Dwayne Newstead, Melvin Napont and Ernie Martin.

**FIRST DIP:** Unexpected as it was, Ed Davis of Sandusky, Ohio, takes the honor of being first of the season to take a dip in the waters of Lake Genesareth.

While testing a pump at the end of a dock, Ed suddenly realized the other end of the dock wasn't nailed and like being on the heavy end of a teeter totter, Ed was slowly lowered into the water. Upon sensing the frigid temperature of the water, Ed's duration of the dunking was an extremely short one. Ed and Mary Davis are guests of Milt Bennett.

**SIGNS OF SUMMER:** Even though the seather hardly shows it, summer is surely on its way from the increased activity.

The Beachcomber Bar is now open for the summer.

By the end of the month the new Beaver Tail Restaurant will be open for business as a part of the facility of the Erin Motel.

An addition to the dining room is being planned for the Circle M Lodge, which will feature live music this summer

The Beaver Island Yacht Dock will be opening next week under the management of Mr. and Mrs. Dick Martin.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Loretta (Loy) Malloy announces the engagement and approaching marriage (June 3rd) of her daughter, Arlene Ann to Richard Napont.

SCHOOL NEWS: Beaver Island Community School will hold its Commencement Exercises, Friday evening, May 19 at 8:00 P.M. at Holy Cross Church. Father Louis Wren, pastor, will deliver the address to the Graduates. Reception will follow at the Holy Cross Parish Hall. The Graduates are: Patrick Crawford, Phyllis Gregg, Arlene Malloy, Sandy LaFreniere, and Jeanne Wojan. Future plans include college for two of our Graduates -- Patrick Crawford - Ferris at Big Rapids, and Phyllis Gregg - Grand Valley in Allendale.

Baccalaureate Exercises were held at 9:00 A.M. on Sunday, May 14 at Holy Cross Church.

The Junior Class is sponsoring a Banquet in honor of the Seniors on Wednesday, May 17. Other guests will be the members of the School Board, parents of the Seniors and the underclassmen, Father Louis Wren, Doctor and Mrs. Haynes. It is hoped that Mr. Charles Robinson - Intermediate School Superintendent will also attend.

The County Spelling match will be held on Wednesday, May 17 in Charlevoix. Representatives from Beaver Island School include:

- Joan LaFreniere - Grade 6
- Julie Gillespie - Grade 5
- Dawn Martin - Grade 4
- Mary Therese Green - Grade 3

We hope these students will return with much recognition for our school. Good Luck, students.

LOCAL STUDENT GETS READER'S DIGEST AWARD: Jeanne Wojan, Honor Student, of the graduating class at Beaver Island High School, has been given the Annual Award of The Reader's Digest Association for students who by their successful school work give promise of attaining leadership in the community, it was announced today by Sister Kenneth Marie, principal.

Miss Wojan will receive an honorary one-year subscription to The Reader's Digest in any one of its 14 language-editions which she chooses, and a personal certificate from the Editors "in recognition of past accomplishments and in anticipation of unusual achievement to come." The Reader's Digest Association is presenting these awards in senior high schools throughout the United States to the highest honor student of the graduating class.

LOYALTY DINNER: On May 28th a Loyalty Dinner will be held in the Holy Cross Parish Hall with proceeds going toward the Beaver Island Convent Building Fund.

A menu of ham, mashed potatoes, salad, whole kernel corn, relishes, rolls, coffee and home-made pie, is planned.

Admission to the Loyalty Dinner will be \$5.00, which is actually a donation to the Convent Building Fund. Serving will begin at 6:00 p.m. If you are going to be on Beaver Island on the 28th, why not make reservations now for the Loyalty Dinner. Please tear off and mail the coupon below, with your check, to Mrs. Archie Minor, St. James, Michigan 49782.

\*\*\*\*\*

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed please find my check for \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ reservations

ST. JAMES RESIDENT ENROLLED BY NORTHROP INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY: Inglewood, California - Gary Allen McDonough, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence McDonough, Beaver Island, St. James, Michigan is now attending Northrop Institute of Technology in Inglewood, California. Studying Airframe and Powerplant Maintenance at Northrop Tech, McDonough is preparing for a career as an aviation maintenance technician. According to school officials, increased air travel, air freight and air express in recent years have resulted in a shortage of qualified aviation technicians. Upon completion of this program he will be qualified to take the examinations for his Airframe and Powerplant Certificate issued by the Federal Aviation Agency. In addition, he may be accepted by the College of Engineering at Northrop Tech to study for the bachelor of science degree in Aircraft Maintenance Engineering Technology.

Northrop Tech, oftencalled, "the college of the space age" because it has graduated almost 10,000 young men for careers in the aerospace and electronics fields, is a privately-endowed institution. It is accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges. Before he began his studies in Inglewood at Northrop Institute, McDonough was graduated from St. James High School.

THANK YOU: The following letter was received from Mrs. J. C. Sutton of Morenci, Michigan.

"I wish to thank all the wonderful friends on Beaver Island, who have been so very kind to me with their many cards and prayers for my recovery during the many weeks that I was in the Morenci Area Hospital. They were truly appreciated in every way. We are so grateful that our Heavenly Father has seen fit to spare me and give me a chance to enjoy the Island and its many wonderful folks again.

I was able to come home on April 23rd, but have to maintain the same schedule as while I was in the hospital. So you see I really am grounded and will not know for sometime just when we can get up there. If I had my way, it would be tomorrow.

My sincere thanks to all of you grand folks and my very best wishes to each of you.

God willing, we hope and plan to get there just as soon as I am able to make the trip."

HOSPITAL NOTES: Marge (Mrs. Bill) Wagner is a patient in Little Traverse Hospital in Petoskey. She was operated on for a dislocated disc on Wednesday, May 10th.

Bill Wittenburg has been a patient in Little Traverse Hospital recently.

Jewell Gillespie was a patient in Little Traverse Hospital but has returned to the Island.

L. Z. Reigle is a patient in the Veterans Hospital in Saginaw. His address is as follows:

L. Z. Reigle  
1500 Weiss St.  
Saginaw, Michigan

RETURNED FOR THE SUMMER: The following people have returned to their homes on Beaver Island. Nonie Gallagher, Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Roy, Judy Palmer, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Neer, Sophia Mc Donough, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Wittenburg, Mary and Perry Gatliff, Mr. and Mrs. George Egbert,



