



July 1956

St. James, Mich.

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER edited and published by the Board of Directors of
the Beaver Island Civic Association

HARBOR DREDGING,.... began with the arrival of equipment on Sat. June 23rd. A 180 ft. barge-like craft tied in at James Gallagher's dock. It was loaded with 51 forty foot sections of 12 inch pipe supported by two pontoons; over 2,000 feet. Two small tugs and another barge with a crane and dredging gear form most of the equipment. The pipe sections when joined reach from the main boat dock almost to the Coast Guard Station at the mouth of the harbor. Each pipe section is supported by 16 oil barrels, which serve as pontoons, totalling over 800 barrels in all. The main barge has 8 engines for such jobs as pumping, digging and hoisting. The job will take approximately 3 weeks and is under contract to the Lyons Construction Co. of Whitehall, Mich.

FIRST SOLEMN MASS was offered by the newly ordained Father Jerome (Roland) McCann of the Dominican Order of Preachers in Holy Cross Church on Beaver Island, Sunday June 17th. Fr. Jerome, a one-time resident of the Island, was assisted by his Dominican confreres from Grand Rapids, Somerset, Ohio, Washington D.C. and New Haven, Conn. Father Charles Wilson, Chaplain of Marywood in Grand Rapids, preached the sermon. Fr. Jerome is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Roland J. McCann, of Chicago. He was ordained at the Dominican House of Studies in Washington, D.C., where he will return for post-graduate work. A reception was held at Holy Cross Hall in the afternoon in honor of Fr. Jerome and was prepared by the women of Holy Cross parish.

4TH OF JULY PICNIC..... sponsored by the Beaver Island Civic Association was well attended at the School Grounds. There were games, food and refreshment in the afternoon and fireworks at night.

WHITEFISH..... are back again after having been crowded out by the sea lamprey. Willie John Gallagher reports that the fish are there and if he were a younger man he'd set more nets and there would be much larger lifts.

JOIN AND SUPPORT THE BEAVER ISLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY! Copies of the first sheet of the last edition of the Northern Islander, the newspaper published in the days of King Strang, are available at Musette's Souvenir shop for 25¢ a copy. Proceeds from the sale of these souvenir sheets will be used to further the work of the B.I. Historical Society.

STATE HISTORICAL COMMISSIONER....Dr. Albert Heustis, of Lansing, visited the Island with his wife and son, Bruce, on June 26th and 27th. He met with the Medical Center Committee to discuss the replacement of Dr. Vail, whose resignation as resident physician will become effective in September. Dr. Heustis had his first opportunity to inspect the new Medical Center, not having been on the Island since he turned the first spadeful for its construction three years ago.

MR. ELMER ECKROAD, draftsman and photographer for the Corps of Engineers of the U.S. Army, will show colored slides of the Soo Locks for the benefit of the Civic Association Thursday night. This year marks the centennial of the building of the Soo Locks.

DOCKING FACILITIES FOR PLEASURE CRAFT.....are soon to be improved, June 22nd, the Conservation Patrol Boat No. 1 brought the State Waterways Commission to the Island. Fred Lefton is Director of the Commission, and Harold Finan, Thos. Latt and Dr. Fred Wellman are the Commissioners. They were here to check the site. After a complete survey is made, boat slips will be constructed. Although not to be expected this summer, we have the word that work will be moving right along on this project.

ST. JAMES EPISCOPAL MISSION - has resumed services for the summer months. Services will be at 8:00 and 10:00. Communion at 8:00.

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH - Masses are at 8:00 and 10:00.

GRAND OPENING OF THE KING STRANG DINING ROOM.....on July 1st was a great success. 93 chicken dinners were served. Cheers for Ruth and Olen Wanty and their wonderful help!

BAKED GOODS.....to take out are available to resorters and Islanders at the Strang Dining Room. Home made breads, coffee-cakes, pies,

and fried cakes are for sale.

SWEDE'S REFRESHMENT STAND.....at the Point has reopened for the season.

BIRTHS.....Born to Mr. and Mrs. Richard Sanderson (Charlotte McDonough) a son, Richard Bates, on June 12th.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Bill Foster (Rosalie Bennett) a daughter, on June 6th.

MARRIAGES..... Robert Bonner to Rosella Bussey at St. Mary's Church, Lake Leelanau on June 23rd.
Jack O'Donnell to Catherine O'Connell at St. Felicita's in Chicago, also on June 23rd.

ORCHESTRA PRACTICE.....will be held every Wed. night in the Hall at 8:30 P.M.

MAGNOLIA TREES were in bloom at the Roger Carlisle's last month!

ARTHUR JOHNSTON...has accepted the appointment as a member of the Charlevoix Board of Education to fill the unexpired term of the late James H. Gallagher.

THE PUBLIC TELEPHONE.....has been moved to Gillespie's Sales and Service.

A U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY crew under the direction of M.V. Thompson is currently charting topographical maps of the Beaver Island group. Part of the crew is based in Traverse City where C.C. Juhre is in charge of the complete expedition. North and South Manitou Islands are also being mapped. In about a year, these maps will be on sale. They may be ordered from the U.S. Geological Survey Office, Box 133, Rolla, Missouri, or U.S. Geological Survey Office, Washington, 25, D.C.

ON JULY 9TH, 100 YEARS AGO....King Strang died. He lived for 3 weeks after being shot on the dock at Beaver Island. He was taken to Voree, Wis., where he was tenderly cared for by his parents and some of his loyal followers. Tho he knew the end was near, he refused to name a successor, telling his followers to take care of themselves as best they could. He was buried in the Voree cemetery and later, a daughter of Strang had his body moved to the Burlington cemetery where it rests today in an unmarked grave.

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THE TRAGIC CRASH.....of a United Airlines DC-7 and a TWA Constellation over the Grand Canyon in Arizona brought sadness to Beaver Island as well as many other parts of our country. Al Widdifield, a native of Charlevoix and frequent visitor to Beaver Island was aboard the DC-7. He was Vice-President, in charge of advertising, of the Sunbeam Corp. of America. He was enroute home from a business trip to the west coast at the time of the accident, and had reservations at Beaver Lodge for this week. The sympathy of the Island people is extended to his family.

ON JUNE 19TH.....a Destroyer Escort vessel entered our peaceful harbor and gave us quite a start - bristling with guns! The ship was on a Naval Reserve Training cruise.

"THE MIGHTY MAC".....icebreaker, and pride of the Coast Guard, paid us a visit on the evening of July 5th. The Mackinaw was on an inspection tour of the local station, and gave Islanders and resorters a real treat as they viewed her riding at anchor in the evening, with lights ablaze.

USCG RESCUE ON HOG ISLAND - During Sunday's storm and fog (July 1st) a 36 ft. fish tug, the Gypsy, owned by Jake White Sr., went aground in shoal waters off Hog Island. The tug carried a fishing party of eight Charlevoix men. When they had not returned by late Monday, a boat from the Beaver Island Life Boat Station and a plane from the Traverse City Air Station were dispatched to the scene. Provisions were dropped to the men, and Tuesday afternoon the combined efforts of Coast Guardsmen from the Beaver Island and Charlevoix Lifeboat Stations freed the tug and it was towed into port at Charlevoix.

THE CHRISTIAN BROTHERS.....are arriving (as we go to press) for their usual summer retreat.

SCHOLARSHIP....at Aquinas College in Grand Rapids has been awarded to Rosemary McDonough.

SEE YOU NEXT MONTH