

The Beaver Beacon



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

July 1967

The peak of the summer season is near and for the most part, balmy July days have kept the Island's activities in high gear. Fishing, swimming and boating topping the list.

WEATHER: The beaver Island weather for the month of June as reported by Fire Officer Bill Wagner.

Warm and sunny most of the month with scattered showers. Total rainfall was 3.27 inches and it was foggy for 12 days. The highest temperature was 81 degrees on the 14th and the lowest temperature was 40 degrees on the 24th. The average high temperature was 70.5 degrees and the average low temperature was 52.5 degrees. Temperatures were in the 80's for 1 day; in the 70's for 14 days and in the 60's for 15 days. High winds occurred on the 14th.

GAME NEWS: The out islands have been producing some fine catches of small mouth bass with perhaps the most productive being the bays and coves of Hog Island. Lake Geneserath is providing excellent bluegill and pike fishing, while Barney's Lake is holding its own with a good supply of pan fish. Fox Lake can be pretty much crossed off the Trout fishing schedule for the time being but hopes are high that next year it will be high on the list again. However, Bluegills are being caught in Fox Lake this summer.

Fishing in the harbor is growing in popularity with each passing day and many will be happy to hear that the perch are showing promise of coming back. Nice catches of jumbo perch have taken from the docks of the Conservation Department, Charlie Martin, L.Z. Reigle, Clyde Fogg and Beaver Haven.

CIVIC HOSTS 4TH: To help celebrate Independence Day the Beaver Island Civic Association scheduled a full day of activities, starting with a boat parade around the harbor. Being the first parade of this sort on the Island in many years, it left room for improvement in the future, yet those that entered did so with much enthusiasm. Approximately eight boats took part and were decorated in various degrees. Clyde Fogg's boat "Foggy" took first prize, being well decorated and with Uncle Sam standing in the Crow's nest. Honorable mention must be given to Pittman's canoe entry that had a tough time keeping up with the fleet that was powered by other than muscle.

Prior to and after the parade a Bazaar was held at the Holy Cross Hall with short order lunches being served in the kitchens. Shortly after the parade Robert Donley of Lansing, Michigan made a free fall parachute jump with the ball diamond at the point being the intended target. Winds carried him slightly off target, however, and he landed waist deep in a swamp behind the Conservation Department building. As darkness fell, the fireworks were put on display over the harbor, putting a finale to the 4th of July 1967. Archie LaFreniere won the television and Mrs. Rodney Nackerman won the "Basket".

SHIPWRECK SALVAGE: Jim Sawtelle of Shipwrecks Unilimited, in Charlevoix, has located the ruins of an ancient sailing vessel in the shoal waters in northern Lake Michigan which he believes dates back to the early 1700's.

Sawtelle, the originator of "shipwreck" furniture, says the schooner must have sunk sometime before 1730 because of the wooden rudder, and the few metal fittings used.

He raised the rudder, which was separated by half a mile from the rest of the wreck, and towed it into St. James harbor with his pontoon boat. The Eager Beaver took it to Charlevoix where it was unloaded with the help of Don Meggison's tow truck and transported out to Sawtelle's home to dry.

Eventually, the rudder probably will become a coffee table or a bar. The remainder of the assembly will find its way into other Sawtelle creations.

Sawtelle says he intends to remove the remainder of the wreck for use in his unusual furniture business.

Time, water and minerals wear away the wood of sunken sailing vessels into unusual contours and give it an attractive dark coloration.

Sawtelle and his wife, Nancy, use the wood to make furniture and jewelry for sale in their Charlevoix shop.

HOSPITAL NOTES: Willie Schmidt was a recent patient at the Charlevoix Hospital from injuries received in a tractor accident.

Tony Connaghan, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Connaghan, is a patient in Little Traverse Hospital in Petoskey. Tony is undergoing hip surgery and one other sad note is that he will have to celebrate his birthday, July 26th, in the hospital in a cast. We all wish you a happy Birthday anyway, Tony.

BIRTHS: Mr. and Mrs. Don Heilig, of Lansing, announce the birth of a daughter, Lynn Marie, on July 3rd. Mr. and Mrs. John A. Gallagher are the grandparents and Mrs. Elizabeth Gallagher is the great-grandmother.

Mr. and Mrs. Alex Walgres announce the birth of a daughter, Teresa, on July 4th. Mr. and Mrs. Frank O'Donnell are the grandparents and Mrs. Mary "Vesty" McDonough is the great-grandmother.

Capt. and Mrs. Ole Dahle-Melsaether, of Finland A.F.S. in Minnesota, announce the birth of a son, Bryan Thomas, on June 13th. Mrs. Dahle-Melsaether is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Norbert Gallagher.

REWARD - \$20.00: For the apprehension of the person or persons that pulled up and destroyed the plants at the Beaver Island Museum. Not only were the plants destroyed, but the fence around the flower bed

was damaged, also. This destruction took place after 10:00 p.m. on July 4th. We would appreciate all help in finding the persons responsible.

HEARING: A Hearing Clinic will be held on Beaver Island in September providing help can be obtained. 40 adult workers are needed so please contact Joy Greene or Skip McDonough before August 1st.

CWO JOHN COPPENS RETIRES: CWO John H. Coppens retired July 1st after almost 30 years in the U.S. Coast Guard. A native of Frankfort, Coppens enlisted at Charlevoix Dec. 8, 1938 and spent his first hitch on Beaver Island.

During World War II he was attached to the Navy. Subsequent duty assignments took him to Chicago, Mackinaw City, Portage, Munising, Marquette and Boston.

From 1957 to 1960 he served aboard the Coast Guard Cutter Sundew at Charlevoix.

In the early 1960's Coppens was sent to Palm Beach, Fla., where he was in charge of waterfront security at the home of former President John F. Kennedy.

His most recent assignment was aboard the ice-breaker Naugatuck at Sault Ste. Marie.

Coppens and his wife, the former Mae Gallagher of Beaver Island, have four children. John E. is a student at Michigan Tech at Houghton; Mrs. Robert Carlson lives in Riviera Beach, Fla., and Marianne and Charyl Ann are still in school.

Coppens says he still uncertain how he will spend his retirement. He and his family presently are spending some time in Charlevoix.

RESIDENTS OF ARANMORE ISLAND CLING TO BEAVER MEMORIES: There's an island off the coast of Ireland where the old timers dream of returning some day to "The Beavers" and hoisting a few at the Shamrock and the Beachcomber.

The island is called Aranmore, four miles seaward from Donegal and is the home port for many old sea-faring men who used to visit northern Lake Michigan regularly on the early steamers.

Msgr. Victor Gallagher said he made a special point of visiting Aranmore during a three-week tour of Ireland in June.

"I wasn't on the island two hours when old timers would come up to me on the street and ask: "Sure, and are you the father from Beaver Island?"

Msgr. Gallagher said he ran into many people familiar with Beaver Island, including a Mrs. Boyle whose brother, Mike MacCally, is buried there. She herself once made a trip to the island to visit his grave.

A native Beaver Islander himself, Msgr. Gallagher said he spent many pleasant hours chatting with old sailors who remembered his grandfather.

"Sure, and would't it be foin to be back on the Beavers tonight," they ask, their eyes twinkling.

Many of them could't believe that Msgr. Gallagher, who still has a trace of his Beaver Island accent, was an American.

"But you don't talk like one," one old woman protested.

He said the residents of Aranmore are very like Beaver Islanders, not only in the way they talk but also in their outlook on life.

"It's a friendly, relaxed easy-going place to visit," he said.

Msgr. Gallagher toured Ireland by auto and says three weeks isn't long enough to see it all. He plans to return next year.

He says the country is modernizing rapidly, with automobiles competing with horse and donkey-drawn vehicles for room on the narrow, hedge-

lined roads. It is not unusual to see a modern home alongside a thatch-roofed cottage.

In the matter of social legislation, Msgr. Gallagher says Ireland is far ahead of the United States.

"If you want to put in a bathroom, the government will pay two-thirds the cost," he said.

He said meals and lodging, particularly in rural Ireland, are extremely reasonable. "Bed and breakfast" on Aranmore, for example, costs something less than \$2 a day. In the larger cities, like Dublin, it might cost \$12 or \$13 a day.

Getting to Ireland also is relatively inexpensive. Msgr. Gallagher said his round trip ticket from Chicago to Shannon Airport cost \$270. The trip takes only six and one-half hours on Irish Airlines.

The day before he left for Ireland, the former Beaver Islander was elevated to the rank of monseigneur by Pope Paul VI.

Msgr. Gallagher is in charge of the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine for Western Michigan, with headquarters in Big Rapids. His office trains lay workers in the field of religious education.

BEAVER GETS FAST ACTION FROM RUPPE: If you want action, talk to your congressman -- personally.

This was a lesson brought home forcefully during Cong. Phil Ruppe's visit to Charlevoix.

For some months, the people of Beaver Island have been seeking permission to have an electronic "homing" device installed at the airport. Permission was received from the State Department of Aeronautics, but for three months the request has languished in the offices of the Federal Communications Commission in Washington, D.C.

When Jewell Gillespie heard Ruppe was to be in Charlevoix he made the trip to the mainland to discuss the problem with him.

Ruppe listened, and then asked to use a telephone at the courthouse. Within minutes he had the F.C.C. on the phone, and had received assurance that the request would be approved --pronto.

Next problem?

NEWSY NOTES: Karl Keubler celebrated his 74th birthday with a surprise Birthday Party on July 6th at the Circle M Lodge. (And he was surprised)

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Bonner left July 10th to tour France, Spain and England, as a representative of the R.C.A. Whirlpool Co. If time permits, they plan on visiting our Beaver Beacon subscriber, Mr. Hugh Harley of Mt. Charles, County Donegal, Ireland.

THANK YOU: We wish to thank everyone who helped with the 4th of July celebration. Those who gave donations, those that had booths at the booths at the hall and a special thanks to those that helped in the kitchen to make it a lot easier for us. A thank you to those that took part in the boat parade.

This is your community so let us see more of you folks next year give a helping hand. -- Marjorie Wagner and Gladys Schnaudigel - The Activity Committee of the Beaver Island Civic Association.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

FOR SALE: Soft Drink & Ice Cream, Sandwich and Coffee Stand with miniature golf course, near Harbor and Boat Dock. Excellent return on your investment. Good money maker for retired couple who want to supplement their retirement and social security fund. Plenty of room for expansion in several areas. See Mr. A. J. Roy. Phone 448-5743, St. James, Michigan 49782.

HOMES

CABINS

LEO KUJAWA

Builder

St. James, Michigan 49782

REMODELING

PHONE 448-5722

FOR SALE: 8 Room House plus tow baths. Automatic oil heat. Former Sisters Convent. Pleasant Surroundings. Beaver Island. Contact Fr. Louis Wren --- Phone 448-5630

CIRCLE M LODGE

FEATURING

FINE FOODS

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STEAKS - CHICKEN - SHRIMP

NATIVE WHITEFISH

LIQUORS - MIXED DRINKS - DRAFT BEER

TAKE OUT ORDERS

CHICKEN - WHITEFISH - SHRIMP - PIZZA

OPEN 12:00 NOON

WOJAN'S BOATS & MOTORS -- 12 ft. Aluminum boats on inland lakes -- 5 hp motors available.
14 ft. Aluminum boats with 20 hp. motors suitable for adjacent island fishing.
St. James, Michigan 49782 Phone 448-5650

FOR SALE: 9 ft. Refrigerator with Freezer Locker. Push button defrost Very good condition. \$75.00. See at Harbor Hills Golf Building. A. J. Roy.

DECORATED CAKES for sale. Contact Marge Wagner. Phone 448-5550.

FOR SALE: Contact McDonough's Store

NEW: 1 Table top 4 burner electric stove
1 Built-in electric oven

USED: 1 Used Electric Range
2 44" round tables - Formica Tops

ALSO, ASSORTED FURNITURE

Handwritten notes:
J. McDonough, 100 N. 1st St.
St. Louis, Mo. 63102
Phone 434-1234

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