



Northern Lights Watch: Beaver Island
Charlevoix County Support for Beaver Head Lighthouse
Mike Green's Last Captain's Ride
Féile is On!
Toys for Tots
Wreaths Across America
WVBI Beaver Island Home Companion
Broadband Grant Update



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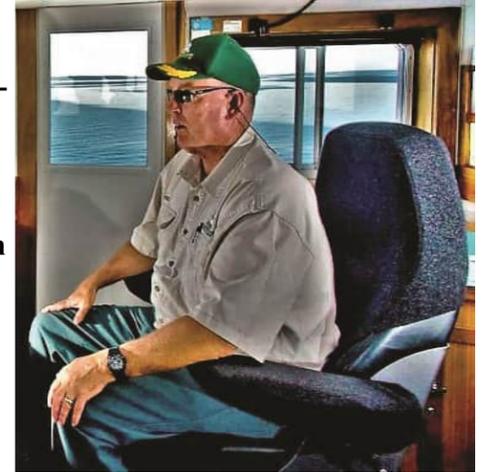


For only \$30.00 you can place a greeting, in color, in the February issue of the NorthernIslander Newspaper, and we will ship them a copy in time for Valentine's Day!

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Captain Mike Retires

After nearly fifty years, one of Beaver Island Ferry Company's captains took his last trip at the helm aboard the Emerald Isle Ferry. Mike Green has been a part of the crew since the mid-70s and has seen thousands of residents and tourists ride his boat. Green called this goodbye bittersweet. But, Green also said there are some things he's looking forward to doing with his new free time.



"I have gardens in the summertime so I'm going to expand my gardens. You know I wanted to take in a Tigers ballgame," said Green. "I haven't been able to do that in a while. Fishing, I love to fish so I'll spend time with my grandkids and my daughters."

Green's last trip was on Monday, December 20, 2021, a trip made memorable with many friends and family on board. In honor of his last trip, Beaver Island Boat Company waived all passenger fares for people traveling to or from the island. Danny Gillespie and Brother Jim Boynton were, of course in the Beaver Island tradition, on board and played a poignant rendition of Over the Waves. Captain Green was also presented with a Resolution of Recognition and Appreciation by the Beaver Island Transportation Authority.



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**Beaver Head Lighthouse Restoration Project...
Donate now!**



We are finally ready to move forward on restoration and preservation of the Beaver Head Lighthouse! Please join us as we begin this exciting project! You can make a difference by donating today to Beaver Island Historical Society. Donations can be made via this gofundme page or mailed directly to the Beaver Island Historical Society, PO Box 263, Beaver Island, MI 49782. Please note on your check "Beaver Head Lighthouse." To reach the society via email: [email redacted]

The Beaver Island Historical Society, in collaboration with Charlevoix County and Networks Northwest, is fundraising to bring a group of historical preservation expert students to the island in the summer of 2022. Eastern Michigan University's Historic Preservation Graduate Field School will assess the preservation needs of our Beaver Head Lighthouse--the third oldest on the Great Lakes.

Our vision is for the lighthouse to be restored and sustainable. We have many ideas for public access including a museum in the Keeper's House attached to the lighthouse. All funds collected will be used to help graduate students with lodging, travel, and preservation supplies needed to complete their work.

Eastern Michigan University's Historic Preservation Program (EMU HPP) conducts an annual one-week, hands-on field school with about twenty students, two faculty members, and a field school managers assist in the preservation and/or restoration of an historic structure or its contents. The Field School introduces a variety of preservation and restoration techniques such as masonry, plastering, painting, cataloguing of artifacts, documenting the historic structure, and much more. For more information about the program visit: <https://www.emich.edu/geography-geology/programs/historic-preservation/glance.php> To learn more about the Beaver Island Historical Society's mission to Preserve and Share the Unique History of the Archipelago please visit <https://www.beaverislandhistory.org/>

First Ever-Beaver Island Home Companion Radio Show Recorded Live at the Shamrock Bar & Restaurant



Beaver Island's Radio Show Captain, Kevin Boyle has long held a dream to perform a recorded radio show on WVBI 100.1 FM that would be similar to the Prairie Home Companion Show from Garrison Keillor.

Enter Jackson Frederick Smith, talented and touring musician from the Detroit area and Steve Girbach, owner of the Manchester Underground Entertainment venue in Manchester, Michigan. Jackson and Steve host Songs from the Trail on Saturday nights on WVBI. Jackson also wanted to develop a home town radio show that would feature artists and entertainers likely to show up on the Beaver Island scene.

Saturday, December 11th after some initial planning but little rehearsal, several WVBI show hosts came together at the Shamrock Bar and Restaurant to bring the Beaver Island Home Companion to Life. Country Classics show host, Sheri Timsak joined Cynthia Johnson, host of the Top Ten + Five Countdown show to complete a set live on the scene where they were joined by Robert Cole and Hilary Palmer. Hilary performed several songs and a very special Beaver Island Ballad written by Hilary and Robert. Robert also related the story of the Christmas Ship. Island Reflections show host, Cindy Ricksgers pre-recorded a story about Emma Jean Belfy and working at the Shamrock. Mark Beltaire of the Saturday Blues Cruise and Rockin the Blues show fame weighed in on pre-recorded material. A pre-recorded story by Phil Gregg was inserted into the final show edits along with a skit, songs by Jackson and Sheri and some banter and song from the audience. So it was, and it is, and it will be, the first-ever Beaver Island Home Companion Radio Show was finished and aired several times during the Christmas Holidays on Beaver Island. Show hosts and creators had called for material and performers but extreme weather that night kept many potential attendees at home.

It is hoped the Beaver Home Companion will continue and become a tradition. If you have ideas for material or stories or would like to perform, contact programming@wvbi.net or call the station at 231-448-2022. Word is, they are cooking up and looking for ideas to present for an Irish St. Paddy's Day, Beaver Island Home Companion radio show. Get your limericks polished up and practice your toe-stepping Irish music. In the meantime, tune in to www.wvbi.net or ask Alexa to "Play WVBI."



The annual Beaver Island Christian Church held a Holiday Bazaar, December 14th, 2021. The photo shows Ralph and Kimberly Williamson with items made by women artisans in Haiti that was for sale at the Holiday Bazaar from 11:00-2:30. Ornaments, cards, baskets, aprons, purses, totes, dolls, jewelry and much more. 100% of sales goes directly to Haitian Artisans for Peace International, where my Ralph and Kimberly teach in Mizak, Haiti. Items can be dropped off or shipped if you did not make it.





When I was your age...Lonnie Allen

Wow 2022 is here. Personally, I'm truly amazed and praise be to the King of Kings for blessing me with another day. Where does the time go? With age, I'm beginning to understand more about the dynamic between my younger self and the adults around me during my growing years.

When I was younger, I never understood why the adults around me would say to me when I was your age, when I was kid? I would think to myself, here we go with the "I walked a mile to school in snow neck deep. Seriously? Where did they come up with this stuff? Or the "I didn't have it nearly as good as you do," in response to something I must have done. I am sure many of you have heard words like or like that over time.

I'm serious, I never thought I would make it past age 30. So, seeing God has graced me with a couple of more decades I'm grateful. Thinking about it all I began reminiscing and indulging in enjoyable recollection of events I've witnessed. Think of my upcoming ramblings as a tribute to the Greatest Generation and the generations before them. Hey, millennials and Generation Z, and so on, here is my "when I was younger," nostalgic moment.

When I was younger, there was a time in a television set far away. Thursday nights on NBC were considered the epitome of appointment viewing. Friday morning water cooler small talk was dominated by the funny misadventures of Jerry Seinfeld and the other Must See TV line up. I mentioned Seinfeld by name because I recently have been re-watching episodes on Comedy Central. Seinfeld was the show co-workers — at the time— and I always talked about the next day. The antics of Kramer, George, Jerry, and Elaine had us saying to each other on Friday "did you see Seinfeld last night?" "Can you believe that episode," and so on. Repeating some of the lines from the previous night's episode was a stress breaker from being in the weeds on a busy Friday night cooking on the line. "No soup for you, or not that there is anything wrong with that," brought laughter to all of us who have watched the episode.

If any of us had to work a night the show was on, we had to set the VCR. Setting the VCR to record a TV was such a pain, half the time it didn't record or recorded the wrong show. The DVR was a God send for me when that came out.

Television-watching habits have changed substantially since then in a sea of change in the way TV content is consumed today. Now there's a multitude of mobile devices, online-only programming, and new ways to watch favorite shows. Streaming and Apps like Disney+, Paramount+, Discovery+, and far too many to list, you all get the point.

Thank goodness for the internet so we all can enjoy many of new favorite TV shows. The internet is an-



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other amazing thing I can say I enjoyed, once I got on the World Wide Web. It was 1998, when I footed the bill to purchase my first computer and get online. I would love to see a Millennial dial-up to get online. That annoying blip, buzz high pitched noise was music to my ear as I waited to hear the words, "You've got mail."

If I look at it now, living in the period of dial-up and DSL speed is probably why I don't mind the internet speeds on Beaver Island. Compared to dial-up, the internet on the island is lightening speed. Though, I am still amazed that I have lived to see many advances in science and technology and so on. Of course, not everything today is sunshine and butterflies. I'm not amazed to witness a pandemic, nor climate change, school shootings, wars and other crappy things that I once thought would only happen in a movie.

Though, through all the good or not so good of life, each generation has an experience, which allows the older of the two, to share their story, that sometimes may begin with "when they were a kid" or with walking to school in some insane amount of snow.

~Lonnie Allen is the former editor of the Charlevoix Courier and Beaver Island Commission on Aging



Everyone's an Artist!

I am excited to announce that we are able to present 'Everyone's an Artist' at the Museum Week Art Show, again, in 2022.

Betsy and Glen Borre's sponsorship make it possible for me to offer this opportunity. If you are interested in participating, please submit up to 3 photo's that you would like to enter. Please, remember to provide a large enough digital file (Facebook images are too small). Send in the largest possible size. From these entries we will choose photo's to be printed.

The prints will be displayed during the Museum week art show and offered for sale. 100% of the proceeds/sale will benefit the Historical Society. You do not need

to be a professional or even consider yourself an artist to enter. The event is open to everyone. This 'call for artists' will be open through February 15, 2022, so that we have time to print/frame. All accepted pieces will be displayed, and several will be framed and displayed. The photographer will retain copyright.

Please, contact me if you have any questions. Digital entries can be submitted to Calstipp1@aol.com.

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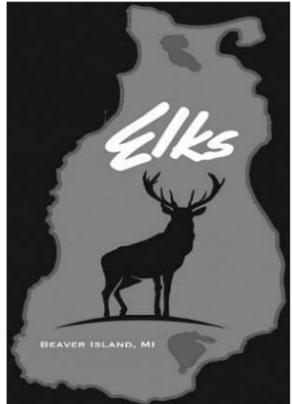


Island Treasures Resale Shop has had a record breaking year. Mountains of donations arrived, and our shoppers were delighted. The booming real estate market certainly contributed to the high volume of merchandise.

It was our pleasure to purchase new turnout gear for the Beaver Island Fire Department this fall. This is the attire that protects a firefighter from the flames. Each person was custom fitted for the top of the line equipment. We were able to pay \$39,000 for this safety gear because of the generous support of our community.

The busy season has not quite wound down yet. Our faithful crew of summer and year round volunteers works long hours unloading, sorting, pricing, stocking, and selling the Treasures. We plan to be open Thursday, Friday, and Saturday from noon until 4:00 except for the weeks of Christmas and New Year's celebrations. Thank you Beaver Island.

Orion Dark Sky mini-boodle
Notes from Dark Sky Man
Bill Markey



December 29 2021
 9:25 - 9:40 pm. Good/ excellent
 Kings Hwy south 21.53 mags/arcsec sq
 Little Sand Bay NP. 21.53 mags/arcsec sq
 "Orion, Sirius, little pup, Pleiades, Taurus,
 Beautiful deep sky. No Northern Lights yet. The light dome of Harbor Springs/Petoskey has grown a horrible amount."
Huge asteroid will pass Earth safely January 18
Here's Some Events to Plan For in 2022

Morning of January 29: Crescent moon, faint Mars, bright Venus. The waning crescent moon will form a line with faint Mars and brilliant Venus on the morning of January 29, 2022. When you see them, realize that Mars is far across the solar system from Earth, having passed behind the sun as seen from Earth on October 8, 2021. Read more about Mars. Meanwhile, Venus will be nearly at its closest to Earth, having passed between us and the sun on January 8-9, 2022. Read more about Venus. Binocular users with dark skies will see a bonus feature, the subtle glow of the star-forming nebula M8, forming a triangle with the moon and Mars

Mornings of February 11 to 16: Venus, Mars and Mercury. See all 3 of the rocky worlds that are Earth's neighbors in the inner solar system on the mornings of February 11-16, 2022, shortly before sunrise. And, of course, look straight down to see the 4th rocky planet, Earth!

Romance Under the Stars for Valentines Day!
 Morning of February 27: A celestial treat to start your day. The waning crescent moon forms a line with Mars and Venus 60 minutes before sunrise on February 27, 2022. Unseen to stargazers, the asteroid Vesta lurks stealthfully nearby, positioned between Venus and Mars. You'll need binoculars or a small telescope, away from city lights, to spot Vesta.

Beaver Island SkyWatch: brought to you by the Beaver Island Dark Sky Sanctuary Committee and made possible by the Beaver Island Elks Lodge.

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Due to our continued growth, we are pleased to announce that we are reducing our minimum seat airfare requirement for flights to Mackinac Island!

Effective Monday December 6th, the NEW minimum seat charge will only be TWO seats! This will be continued throughout the winter season!* We would like to thank everyone for their continued support, we truly appreciate your business and thank you for giving us the pleasure to serve you and our community!

Please note - Minimum seat charges only apply to flights that are not already scheduled
 Thank you again,

Photo taken from the Beaver Beacon Archives

**On This Date**

Ten Years Ago: The December Beacon's cover story was about the school addition. The architect held an open meeting, primarily for Island contractors and tradesmen. The state required the General Contractor to be bonded, which in turn required a company's net worth to exceed the amount of its bid. Thus almost all of the Island contractors would be ruled out, although it was hoped an off-Island General would sub out much of the work to locals. To facilitate this, wording was inserted in the request for bids to indicate that weight will be given to those Generals listing several locals in their list of subs. Joddy Crosswhite was hired to act as Project Supervisor.

The St. James Town Board requested Supervisor Neal Boyle to ask the DNR to limit the number of deer taken on the Island until the herd is built up. Bud Rouch won the big buck contest with a 205-pound eight-pointer. All in all, about 55 deer were taken during the combined seasons.

Two Kalamazoo couples, the Tom Lammon, Ray Sears, and their wives, were declared legally dead five months after their Cessna 172 disappeared from radar after passing Northport on its way to Beaver Island. A few fiberglass shards that washed up near Good Hart could not be positively identified.

Archie LaFreniere celebrated his 80th birthday. His grandfather had been a logger who worked his way north late in the nineteenth century as the big pine disappeared, finally crossing the ice on foot and settling on Beaver. Archie was in the Coast Guard in its last days, and then bought the Village Inn, moved it across the street, and renamed it the Shamrock, which he owned and ran for 35 years. After selling it, he opened the Island's first gift shop, where he sold small paintings he did on stones he picked up on the beach.

Twenty Years Ago: In December of 1982 the Island went dark when a tug dragging a line severely damaged the cable connecting us to Cross Village. Power would have to be supplied by the generator until repairs could be made in the spring--its constant chugging became a feature of St. James--so Island residents were asked to reduce their power use during peak times and relinquish, wherever possible, electric heat. A back-up generator was located and delivered to the Island.

The Volunteer Fire Department was organized, with Tim McDonough and Jim Wojan accepting the top posts.

BJ Wyckoff spent two intense days teaching basic CPR to 80 residents. The Island got its first bank when the First State Bank of Charlevoix opened a branch in the building now housing the Tanning Sa-

taken on Beaver and 14 on Garden. Richard Hodgson and Paul Welke announced the merging of their flying services to form Island Airways.

Thirty Years Ago

The Game Club reported a comparable harvest to the preceding year: 25-30 deer taken on Beaver, 3 on Garden. Several coyotes were shot, most suffering from the mange. Snowshoe hares and partridge were hunted as well.

Archie's daughter Judy married Rick Hansul. Audrey (Wojan) Potter delivered her son Jason, and Buddy and Coleen welcomed Katrina into their family. New winter residents included Vivian Visscher, Phyllis Townsend, Martha and George Miller, Shirley and Dave Gladish, and Annie and Tink Hayhoe.

A meeting was held at the School in which both townships' Boards introduced various mainland agency representatives to interested Islanders to tell them about their options for receiving technical and financial assistance. Included was the County Executive Agriculture Stabilization Conservation Service, Pete LoDico.

Thanksgiving dinner at the Christian Church was attended by 36 people.

Forty Years Ago

The December Beacon, which was edited by Sheldon Parker because Phil Gregg was at outboard motor school, relayed a hunting story that demonstrates Beaver Islanders' ability to improvise: "While Timmy McDonough, age 5, and Jimmy Wojan, age 8, were playing in the back yard of Skip and Bud McDonough's home, their beagle pup, Butch, chased a rabbit past them. Tim and Jim took off in hot pursuit, armed with a mop handle and a pocket knife. Leaving a wake of dust and swirling leaves, they gained enough on their quarry to warrant a hefty swing on the mop handle, which found its target. The knife, thrown by Tim, brought the chase to an end, and two proud hunters came strutting home with meat for the table."

Another hunter was not so lucky. As 16-year-old Bob Tricker Jr. from Pontiac changed his rifle from one hand to the other it went off, imbedding small particles from the blast in his cheek and eye as the bullet passed through the visor of his cap. He was treated by Dr. Haynes and then flown to Munson

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The deer season produced 260 hunters, who took 120 deer: 62 antlered bucks, 31 adult does, 12 female fawns, and 15 male fawns. Two high school students bagged their first buck: Johnny Gillespie and Danny Gallagher. One hunter, Floyd Fasset from Charlotte got lost trying to hike from the mouth of Iron Ore Creek to Nomad, where he'd arranged to be picked up. By dusk he'd reached the southwest edge of Lake Geneserath, but was mired in a wetland. He waded along the shore until he reached high ground, and then built a fire and prepared to spend the night. Keeping it going kept him from sleeping. At dawn he set off again to the north, and found an old logging trail that carried him to a half mile west of Wicklow Beach. Just past noon he was spotted by a member of the search party--Phil Gregg, who drove him to town and treated him to a hearty breakfast.



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Beaver Island Students Chosen to Represent Northern Lights All-League Teams

Northern Light League All-League Volleyball Teams 2021:
Teams: Beaver Island, Big Bay De Noc, Hannahville, Mackinac Island, Olga Burton has been named to join the First Team and Alyssa Martin was chosen for the Second Team!
Maplewood Baptist, Munising Baptist, Ojibwe
The All-League teams are selected by all coaches from each of the Northern Lights League schools

Northern Lights League, All League Soccer Teams 2021
Teams: Beaver Island, Big Bay de Noc, Grand Marais, Hannahville, Mackinac Island, Munising Baptist, Ojibwe
1st Team: Jared Robert Beaver Island
Honorable Mention Team:
McKenna Turner Beaver Island
Micah Richards Beaver Island
Aidan Dean Beaver Island
Below: Trophy Winning Basketball Team Northern Islanders after League Tournament!



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- Feb. 5: Ancestry Library Edition-Immigrants
- Feb. 12: Ancestry Library Edition-Military Records
- Feb. 19 26: Ancestry Library Edition-Finding your foreign ancestors

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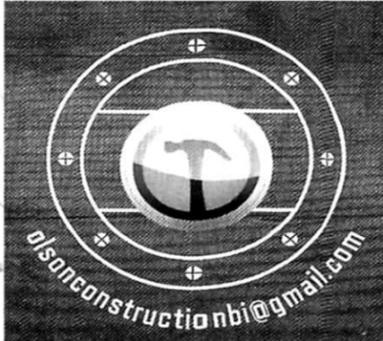
Beaver Island Community School Update by Wil Cwikiel, BICS Superintendent and BIA Board Member

Restoring Islander Traditions
 Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, Beaver Island Community School has endeavored to provide quality face-to-face instruction. Thanks to the support of our partners at the Beaver Island Rural Health Center and the Health Department of Northwest Michigan, we have been able to help support efforts to vaccinate Island residents and to make sound decisions on quarantining, masking, and school operations. So far this year we have been able to hold in-person instruction every day. For those students who have been out on quarantine or isolation due to COVID-19, we have provided remote connections to their teachers so the learning can continue. In the midst of the pandemic, this fall we welcomed two new teachers to the Island who have already proven themselves excellent members of the BICS teaching team. Sara Mullen comes to us from Anchorage, Alaska and teaches art, kindergarten, and first grade at BICS. Amanda Bedell comes to the Island from Cadillac and teaches second and third grade. Both love the Island and are great additions to the community. As we have refined our response to COVID-19 in schools, BICS has started restoring Islander traditions that enrich the educational experience and connect students to the community. In September, with the help of dozens of parent and com-

munity volunteers, we restored the Beaver Island History Adventure Day. This school-wide activity engages students in the cultural history of Beaver Island and included activities like canoeing with a French fur trapper, shooting archery, and pressing apple cider. Although the annual GLIA Island Summit has been cancelled, the schools of the "unbridged" Great Lakes Islands renewed the Great Lakes Islands Basketball Tournament after a one-year hiatus due to COVID-19. The Islander Boys and Girls Basketball Teams and a large delegation of parents and community-members traveled to South Bass Island in Lake Erie the first week in December. The Put-in-Bay Panthers were very generous hosts. The Lady Islanders played hard and did a nice job of containing the Panthers' star three-pointer, but came up just short at the final buzzer. The Beaver Islander Boys' Basketball team successfully defended their title as the Best Great Lakes Boys Island Basketball Team! As we continue the school year, we will focus on quality in-person instruction, working to promote health and welfare for all Island residents, and renewing the traditions that make Beaver Island Community School a great place to live and learn.

**From the Transfer Station...
 Winter Hours begin Monday, JANUARY 1st Monday thru Saturday 11:00 a.m. til 5 p.m.
 Closed Sundays and Holidays**

Charlevoix County Commission on Aging on Beaver Island January update.
 In person activities for Commission on Aging clients are planned to begin in January 2022 at the Beaver Island Community Center. Chair Yoga and Tai Chi are two wellness workshops planned for January. All activities are limited to 10 clients, pre-registration is required, and mask will be required to participate. Call 231-448-2124 to register. Bingo is back on Fridays in January. COA Bingo is scheduled Noon-1 p.m. on Fridays beginning in January at the Beaver Island Community Center. The C.O.A Sunday Dinner is scheduled from 1-2 p.m. on Sunday, January 16, at the Beaver Island Community Center. The dinner is takeout only and people are asked to call 231-448-2124 to reserve a meal. The menu planned is a Baked Spinach Ziti and breadstick; garden salad; fruit cocktail parfait and milk for the beverage. There is a \$6 charge for ages 60 and older and children ages 11 and younger. A \$10 charge for all other age groups. National Popcorn Day is on Wednesday, January 19. Everyone is welcome to stop by the Beaver Island Community Center for free popcorn. For more information about any of the C.O.A January activities please call 231-448-2124.



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Broadband Update
by Dick Mulvihill, BIA President

Islanders were anxiously waiting for November 29, 2021. That was the date the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) was to announce the winners of the Broadband Infrastructure Program grant. But, the NTIA missed the November 29th grant award announcement. Doug Dawson, who wrote Beaver Island's NTIA application, said it's not uncommon for federal agencies to miss their award announcement date. Especially the NTIA, which has the smallest staff of most of the federal agencies. The grant application was filed on August 17, 2021, by the Beaver Island Townships working through their Joint Telecommunications Advisory Committee (JTAC) partnered with Great Lake Energy (GLE). The JTAC and GLE worked with CCG Consulting to prepare the filing. It included a discussion of Beaver Island's unique Island economic ecosystem prepared by Kitty McNamara and seeks \$15.5 million from the NTIA Broadband Infrastructure Program for a gigabit fiber to the home (FFTH) network. The system would pass every home and business on the island and include two new microwave towers (one on the mainland) to provide 4 gigabit backhaul links to the mainland. Township leaders have called the grant is Beaver Island's passport to the 21st Century. The NITA did not mandate matching funds. However, they strongly recommended a minimum 10% matching fund, so the application includes a match commitment of \$1,523,685 from GLE and \$30,000 from the townships. Independent of the Island's application, the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa applied for the NTIA Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program that includes building an underwater fiber from Beaver Island to Northport MI. The application for the island, masterfully crafted by Doug Dawson, President CCG Consulting, articulates why the NTIA should consider Beaver Island's grant request. Among the points it made are the following:

There are few places in the country that are more remote than Beaver Island; The island is the remotest populated island in the Great lakes. The remoteness makes broadband even more important on Beaver Island than on many places on the mainland; Broadband speeds are slow today and are provided by DSL from TDS. Speed tests conducted to support this grant show that the vast majority of homes and businesses have broadband

below 25/3 Mbps – many significantly slower. Residents widely report to the Townships that they struggle to work from home. Tourism is the primary industry on the island, and visitors have been telling us in recent years that our broadband is inadequate. When tourism swells the number of people to over 3,000, the broadband comes to a screeching halt and can become barely functional. The concern is poor broadband will eventually destroy our tourism industry. The island has a robust business community that needs better broadband. There are 32 year-round businesses, 18 seasonal businesses, and anchor institutions. The partnership offered by this grant is exactly what the NTIA was hoping to see. This is a partnership between two rural Townships and Great Lakes Energy Cooperative. The NTIA was hoping for partnerships that don't have a profit motive. As a cooperative, GLE is owned and governed by its customer/members and will deliver the highest quality broadband possible. GLE is highly qualified to accept this grant, and its wholly owned subsidiary, Truestream The cooperative and Truestream have already built fiber to pass over 20,000 homes and businesses and is currently serving over 9,000 broadband customers on fiber. There is major support on the island for better broadband. A survey of residents showed that 96% support the idea of bringing better broadband. 78% of survey respondents said they would definitely buy broadband from a new network. Another 14% said they would probably buy broadband. Only 1% of respondents said they would definitely not buy broadband from a new network. The project includes towers to boost total bandwidth to the island. One of the problems with Internet connectivity today is that there is more aggregate bandwidth demand than what is being delivered to the island on existing microwave routes. The island will never see better broadband from a commercial provider without a grant. It costs more to build anything on an island because of the challenge of shuttling crews, materials, and work equipment. The all-in cost of the grant is \$16,235 per passing – a cost that could never be justified with normal bank borrowing. It is not feasible to upgrade and improve the broadband infrastructure as part of a commercial project without help from a grant. We expected the competition to be fierce with many applicants, and that has turned out to be the



case. There were 230 NTIA grant applications totaling \$2.3 billion. The total amount available for grant is only \$288 million nationwide. But, our application pretty much perfectly fits the criteria established by the NTIA for awards under this program. Being the most remote inhabited island in the Great Lakes and the "the poster child for the rural digital divide" is our ace in the hole.

NTIA Broadband Infrastructure Program timeline stipulates that award recipients have one year after receiving the grant to complete network buildout. Meeting this timeline is dependent on Great Lake Energy fiber optic cable inventory. Due to the supply chain problem, fiber optic cable order today wouldn't be shipped until 2023. We understand that the NTIA would adjust its deadline to allow for supply issues. Stay tuned. As soon as we hear we'll notify you on the status of the NTIA grant award. Keep your fingers crossed. If we don't get the NTIA grant, we're already working on Plan B. Meantime, the Beaver Island Broadband Consortium with leadership from the BIA and Joint Townships Telecommunications Advisory Committee (JTAC) has been working to implement a project to bring pools of 200 Mbps symmetric service to key locations on the island. The system will transport bandwidth across the lake from the UP pursuant to agreements with Northern Michigan University and Merit Networks. NMU is providing tower space, local transport and logistics assistance while Merit will provide internet access. Equipment for the link to the UP has been ordered and the licensed microwave frequencies it will use have been allocated by the FCC's frequency coordinator to the project. While some of the equipment has arrived, key components seem to be hung up in the supply chain mess afflicting so many deliveries. Construction of the UP link can begin even during the winter. The consortium's plan is to begin that work as soon as possible after the equipment arrives. Initially, service will be available at the BICS, the library, the Community Center and the St. James Governmental Center and the Historical Society. Ultimately service is planned to be extended to the Health Center, both township halls and the municipal docks.

Kevin Boyle, former BIA President and chair of the JTAC, contributed to this article.

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|-------------------------------|--|------------------|--|
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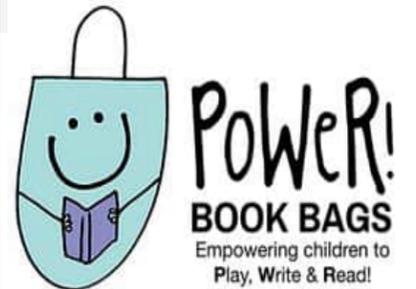
We are delighted to share with the news of our **FIRST ELKS** Community Investment Program grant awarded to the Beaver Island ELKS, Lodge 2886.

THE AWARD WILL FUND TWO STUDENT PROGRAMS ON BEAVER ISLAND

- 1. YOUTH LITERACY.** We have teamed up with PoWer! Book Bags. The program strives to empower Children to play, write, and read today for a better tomorrow. The first distribution will be on December 21, 2021 at the Beaver Island Community School. All Students will be gifted two new, age-appropriate books of their choice and again for Spring, and Summer breaks.
- 1. STUDENT DENTAL HEALTH CARE.** All students will be offered a free dental exam, prescription x-ray and dental cleaning February 7 & 8 at the Beaver Island Rural Health Clinic. This program was made possible with a matching grant from the Beaver Island Rural Health Clinic's Good Samaritan Fund. Please watch for more information to be distributed at the school.

The Elks foster the values of Charity, Justice, Fidelity & Brotherly Love, recognize a belief in God and to enhance the Spirit of American Patriotism on Beaver Island and beyond. Our focus is to serve those in need especially children & veterans. To learn more about the ELKS please visit: <https://www.elks.org/>

Also, shout out to the Elks for helping get multiple books in each student's hands through the Power Book Bags program.



Discover **2022** *on* **BEAVER ISLAND** ONLINE CALENDAR AT BICCENTER.ORG/2022

We wish you a **HAPPY & HEALTHY 2022**

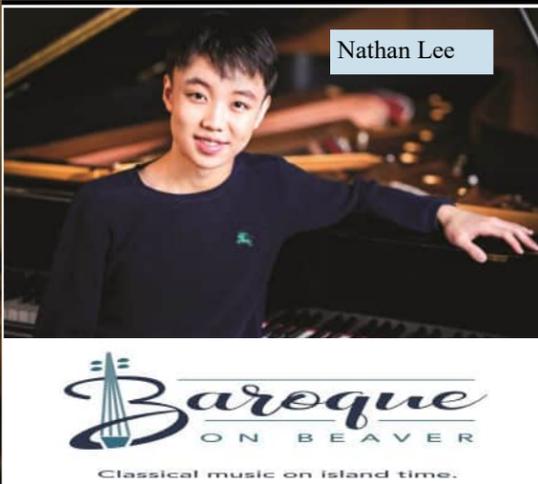
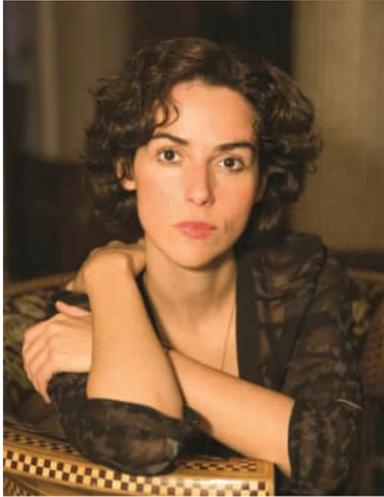
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Discover WINTER BEAVER ISLAND
LEARN MORE AT BEAVERISLAND.ORG



Baroque’s 2022 Season: Paying it Forward

The Baroque on Beaver Festival’s name might make you think you’ll only hear one thing. The reality is very different, say Baroque’s Music Director Robert Nordling and its Executive Director Matthew Thomas. “In addition to honoring the great music of the past – and in particular the Baroque Era - we are very focused on perpetuating classical music and the artists and composers who will create and perform the great music of the next 1,000 years,” says Nordling. “The upcoming season shows this in a number of ways.”

“To begin, last season we added a new-music concert (*What’s New, Baroque?*). Our audience raved about how surprisingly accessible and enjoyable it was. Second, we’ve created a biennial commission program. Every two years, we will pay a composer to create something new just for us,” Thomas said. “Our most recent commission was in 2017 with Mara Gibson’s *Secret Sky: one hundred veils to fall*. 2022 will bring a world-premiere performance of new music by Brazilian-American composer Clarice Assad (www.clariceassad.com) on our Opening Night Gala with The Lincoln Trio.” Ms. Assad’s numerous commissions for the 2022-23 season include the Camerata Pacifica, Music Accord, the League of American Orchestras, the Oregon Symphony, Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra, Los Angeles Philharmonic, Chamber Music America, the Fry Street Quartet, San Jose Chamber Orchestra, and the Philadelphia Orchestra. “Baroque on Beaver will now join that illustrious list thanks to a generous grant from the Charlevoix County Community Foundation and a major gift by Beaver Island resident Tim Turner. We are so grateful for the partnerships with our community and its residents, and this is another wonderful example,” Thomas said. To further illustrate that point, he added that the Gala concert will be sponsored by a separate major gift from Beaver Island residents Bob Sramek and Ed Max. Finally, said Nordling, “This commission becomes even more special since we will welcome another Beaver Island resident, soprano Martha Guth (www.marthaguth.com), to premiere the piece with Lincoln Trio. I can’t think of a better opening night to begin our next twenty years.”

Notably, this extraordinary Festival season will bring two commissions, not one. Petoskey resident Tony Manfredonia (www.manfredoniamusic.com) has been asked to compose a brass fanfare. “The arts world is all about partnerships,” says Nordling, “and this happens in many ways, not just with communities or musicians onstage but with other organizations: We have partnered with the Bandung Philharmonic Foundation to co-commission Tony’s fanfare. It will have two premieres, one here on Beaver Island and the other in Bandung, Indonesia.”

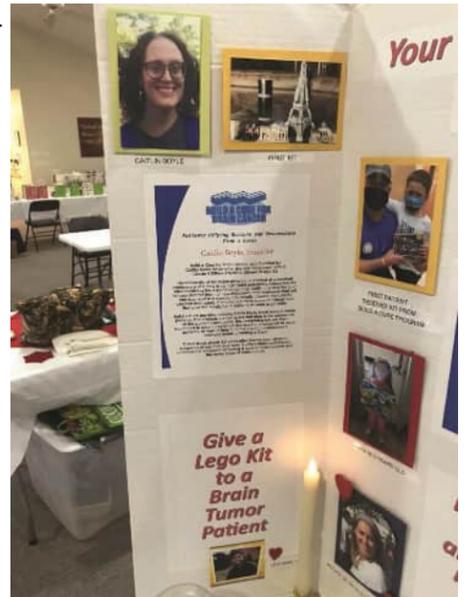
Baroque is committed to paying it forward on multiple fronts: creating and performing new music; artistic and community partnerships; and, finally, by championing young artists. “We do this in two ways,” says Thomas. “One is our partnership with New York’s Young Concert Artists to host their brilliant performers. This year’s guest will be Nathan Lee (www.yca.org/artist/lee-nathan), a pianist who has already embarked on a notable career, having performed with the Cleveland Orchestra, Seattle Symphony, and the Orchestra of St. Luke’s. The other is our new Young Soloist’s Competition.” Open to all high-school age instrumental soloists who reside and attend school in Michigan, it is made possible by a generous financial commitment from Island residents Bev and Larry Seiford. Three cash prizes will be awarded with the first-place winner invited to perform with the Baroque on Beaver Festival Orchestra at the summer 2022 Festival. “We take our role in these collaborations and partnerships very seriously,” concluded Nordling. “It is our responsibility and privilege.” The 2022 Baroque on Beaver runs from July 29 through August 6. For artist, program, and ticket information please visit www.baroqueonbeaver.org.



Wreaths Across America
 On Monday, December 13th, the 4th-6th grade class and the High School Model United Nations class joined dozens of Islanders in the Wreaths Across America program. Together, they paid tribute to the Island’s veterans by placing a wreath on the grave marker of every veteran at both the St. James Township Cemetery and the Holy Cross Catholic Cemetery. This was a great opportunity for our students to learn about their past and express their gratitude and respect.

The BICS National Honor Society is committed to helping people both on and off the island. The group recently raised \$750 for the Build a Cure for Brain Cancer program. It will most likely be more than that, as people are generously still contributing funds.

NHS students took in donations from people who were interested in the kits as gifts, as well as people who wanted to purchase a Lego kit for a brain tumor patient and help support patients who need life-saving medications from trials at hospitals. Thank you to Ralph Williamson and Kim Mitchell who donated the kits. Lego kits were assembled by BICS younger students Addison, David, Charlie, Henry, Cooper, Aurora, Aria, Ryley and Jillian. Thank you to those students and the adults who helped them!



Nineteenth Annual Santa’s Workshop!

Thank You Santa's Helpers!
 Though the weather outside was frightful, the joy that a group of committed volunteers brought to the children of Beaver Island this morning was delightful! This is the 19th "Santa's Workshop." Thank you for keeping the tradition alive!



Beaver Island Wildlife Club News Roy Ellsworth Memorial BIG BUCK CONTEST Winner:

There were 49 entrants into the Big Buck Contest for the 2021 Firearm and Muzzleloading season.



Michael Wojan won the pot this year with a nice buck that scored 111 2/8". We had a few others that were scored as well-some close to that number. John Haggard Jr's buck scored 108 5/8. Michael Dion's buck scored 105 5/8. Brett Maudrie was not in the contest but bagged a monster that scored 127. So there are some big

bucks in the woods of Beaver Island.

Lake G. Ice Fishing Tournament is on!

It will be held Feb. 19-20 (weather and ice conditions permitting) on Lake Geneserath. Food will be provided/organized by the Chamber of Commerce on one of the days. Games and activities for the kiddies too! So get out there and enjoy the weather. Watch for more details about the tournament locally and on social media.



Joseph Reed Joe Reed, a distinguished elder statesman of our island community, died here on November 22. He slipped away peacefully at home on the back beach with Marilyn at his side and surrounded by family. He leaves behind his wife of seventy-one years, four children, eight grandchildren, eleven great grandchildren and countless friends and colleagues here and scattered about the country who join together to mourn our loss and to celebrate the great gift of his long and extraordinary life.

Marilyn and Joe came to live on Beaver Island in 1991 following Joe's retirement from AT&T. Just as he had as a Marine Corps officer, an AT&T executive and Chicago public school reform leader, Joe applied his intellect, worldly wisdom and boundless energy to helping his adopted island community.

He was instrumental in building financial support and leading the early development of the Beaver Island Rural Health Center. Even before construction began on the new center Joe joined other islanders on the Beaver Island Task Force to raise funds to establish an operating endowment for the BIRHC. Leading with a personal contribution, he helped solicit the initial \$300,000 in matching funds that has since grown to a \$1.5 million endowment providing crucial, independent annual operating funds for the center. If you went to the grocery store during summer months on the island you likely ran into a smiling Joe Reed just outside the door asking if you'd purchased your health center car raffle tickets yet. Joe served on the BIRHC board through its early years. When he stepped down, the board honored his leadership contributions to the BIRHC by naming him their first lifetime emeritus member.

His involvement with the health center and recognition of so many as yet unmet needs inspired Joe and Marilyn to establish a family endowment fund to make grants to benefit community projects on the island. Joining with the Broder family, the Beaver Island Enrichment Fund has since made grants to support numerous educational and cultural projects on the island. Joe also served as a trustee of the Charlevoix County Community Foundation to help raise and steer resources to other worthy causes throughout the region.

Joe was a pilot. He earned his license as a 50th birthday present to himself and built up his flying experience shuttling first from Cleveland then Chicago to the island to visit his family as they increasingly parked themselves here for their Beaver Island summers. He eventually owned his own plane and became involved in early efforts to modernize the township airport.

Continued on page 21...

On Friday, December 10th, the BICS Student Council planned to hold a fundraiser to support Northern Family Intervention Services. The volleyball-soccer-basketball-a-thon where students planned to win donations through play could not be completed. The Student Council will also, of course, accept flat donations for those who simply want to support the cause and donate 100% of the proceeds go to NFIS.

The Students also planned a bake sale at that event Friday, December 10. and did sell baked goods with 50% of the proceeds going to Northern Family Intervention Services and 50% going to Student Council. Students were making calls as well to garner donations. If you would like a call, or more information, contact adamr@beaverisland.k12.mi.us or 231-492-2458.

The National Honor Society also had cookies in the plans for holiday fundraising and community service. Lovely plates of cookies were delivered to individuals just before the holiday! Beaver Island Honor Society members took a delicious to follow the NHS cardinal principles: Scholarship, Leadership, Service and Character. Congratulations to all! Photos below.



Robotics Season is in Full Swing (of the robotic arm!) Kevin Boyle and Brian Foli are ready to teach BICS students the principles of STEM this year by training students to build a robot and use Science, Technology, Engineering and Math. Robotics competitions have become an exciting part of Computer Science for teams involved. BiRobot came away from its first season by winning entry into national competitions and continues to participate in local and state FIRST Robotics Competition matches.

You can find information about our robotics team (which is BiRobot FRC Team #6098) on the team website and on our Slack site. www.birobot.org Additional information about our class work outside of the FRC season will make its way here at some point.

If you are the parent of a student on our team or a team mentor and would like to be added as a user on our Slack site, please contact Kevin Boyle or call BICS. 231-448-2744. As with any other school activities, support or donations are welcome! Go BiRobot! www.birobot.org.

The new trailer for FRC 2022 Kickoff Season is available for viewing and you can find all the excitement of Beaver Island Robotics there! "Combining the excitement of sport with the rigors of science and technology. We call FIRST Robotics Competition the ultimate Sport for the Mind."





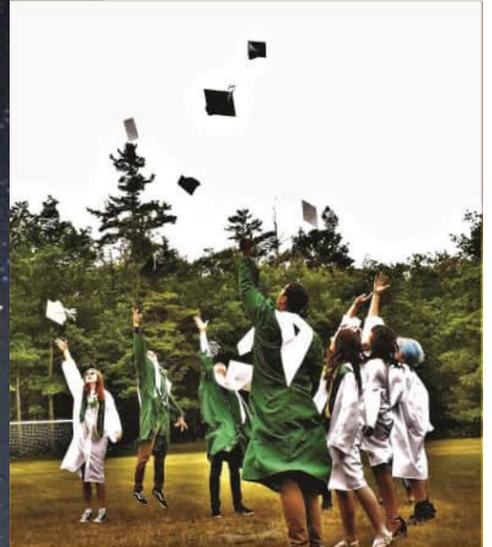
THE YEAR IN REVIEW: SCENES in 2021





January Made us Shiver; with each paper we'd Deliver

2021: The Year



In Review

Beaver Island Church Groups Team with McDonough's Market to Provide Community Dinners

In lieu of the annual Community Turkey Dinner at Gregg Fellowship Hall, Beaver Island churches joined forces with McDonough's Market to distribute Turkey Dinner Fixin's for families that would normally attend the Community Dinner. Another Beaver Island social event affected by Covid-19 restrictions. Judy Meister said, "McDonough's Market has been wonderful and worked extra hours to get items ordered in time for the November 22nd distribution."



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**2022 ANNIVERSARIES
Twenty Some Years Ago**

First Bite of Beaver: 2002

Happy 175th Birthday, Peaine Township
On August 24th, 2022, the township will be 175 years old.

How old is the Beaver Head Lighthouse anyway? The yellow brick lighthouse keeper's dwelling at this site was constructed in 1866. The attached 46-foot (14 m) cylindrical tower was built in 1858, to replace an 1852 tower. Thus, it is actually 170 years old, but the original tower would be 164 years old, its replacement a mere 152 years old. Still, it is the third oldest lighthouse on the Great Lakes and was placed on the National Historic Register in 1978.

The First Annual Beaver Island Classic Car Show was held in 2002, Celebrating Antique Cars.

120 years ago, the Charlevoix Sentinel reported that the Beaver Island Lumber company would employ 200 men and W.F. Gill began constructing a railroad on the island.



Save the Date for St. Paddy's Day on Beaver Island

Where better to celebrate St. Patrick's day than on America's Emerald Isle? Come experience the classic cart race on Main Street, the fish toss, and the tug-o-war between the fish chokers and the hay seeders. See whether Paradise Bay turns green. Learn about Irish Blarney. In addition to games during the day, check out Brother Crowe playing in town, movies at the BIC center and island shopping. Come over early to be part of the BICS Alumni basketball and Volleyball tournaments and enjoy the school's Chili Cookoff

Looking for some music to go with your St. Patrick's Day celebration? Catch Brother Crowe on the island--playing both Friday and Saturday at venues to be announced (but likely to be the Shamrock and Whiskey Point Brewing Company). An up north and island favorite, this two man band hailing from Detroit always puts on a great show, and they are especially happy to be headed to the island for the Great Day.

Upcoming Vaccination Dates

In response to parents' and Islanders requesting to get vaccinated ASAP in the face of the Omicron variant, the Beaver Island Rural Health Center is scheduling several vaccination clinics over the holidays. Because the dosage is slightly different for those who are under 12, and the boosters are available for those who are 16 and older, please note the different days for each category. In order to get your vaccine, please contact the Beaver Island Rural Health Center to schedule your appointment.

Tuesday, 1/11/22 (2nd dose for 5-11 years (but 1st dose welcome too!))

Parents—please note that the HDNW has not planned another vaccination clinic at the school for the foreseeable future. Thank you BIRHC for making this very convenient option available for our students to get vaccinated and for our Island residents to get boosted!



A Note from Connie Boyle: When I started this program, the Marine Headquarters in Traverse City let me use the name, "Toys for Tots," since, at that time, they didn't come this far north to collect toys. When Ellen was gone, I decided to name this program in her honor, as a way of recognizing Ellen for all her support over the years and reminding people of all her contributions to the children of our community. If you knew Ellen, you can imagine how much time and money we put into shopping for toys and treats for all the children - both on and off the island!

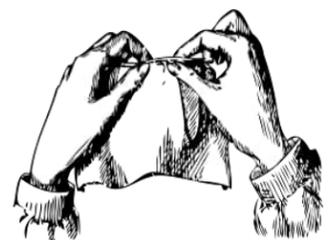
Beaver Island Collection is the BEST! ~Connie Boyle: Thirty Years of Toys for Tots

Like the Energizer Bunny, some volunteers just keep going and going. 2021 was 30 years of organizing the collection of Toys for Tots on Beaver Island by Connie Boyle. Here is her annual message that tells the story. "The Annual Toy Drive has begun! The toys collected go to children who qualify for assistance. Any child who lives on Beaver Island or Charlevoix County and qualifies will receive brand new toys.

If you would like to donate, please drop off the toys to Connie Boyle at home, leave it in her car (or Neal's), bring it to the school office or the collection box at Island Airways Airport Terminal (on the Island or in Charlevoix).

This toy drive is in memory of Ellen Welke. She always organized toys and treats for every child on the Island. Ellen made arrangements for Santa to fly to Beaver Island every year. It was important to her that every child have a fun holiday! Toys should be donated by December 14th. If you have toys to donate after the 14th, a second shipment can be made. Having them by the 14th helps the Social Service staff know how many toys they have and if they need to do any extra shopping. If you would like to donate money for toys, contact Connie Boyle. Toys should be unwrapped so staff can decide which age and gender the toy is appropriate for. Thank you so much for your generosity - I am told every year that the Beaver Island Collection is the BEST! ~Connie Boyle (You can call me at 231-448-2491 or email me at conieb@bics.us)"

Join other islanders (and visitors) who enjoy sewing, quilting, needle point, knitting and other crafts for a time of fellowship, fun and crafting help Wednesday mornings during the off season. Bring yourself, supplies and a smile for several hours of crafting fun.



9:00 am Peaine Township Hall

2022 Islander Basketball Season Calendar

| | |
|---|--|
| January 7/8 | Beaver Island @ Hannahville |
| January 14/15 | Ojibwe @ Beaver Island |
| January 21/22 | Mackinac Island @ Beaver Island |
| January 28/29 | Beaver Island @ Big Bay |
| February 4/5 | Maplewood @ Beaver Island |
| February 11/12 | Munising Baptist @ Beaver Island (Boys Only) |
| February 18/19 | Northern Lights League Tournament in Rudyard |
| ** Paradise @ Beaver Island (Dates to be Determined) | |

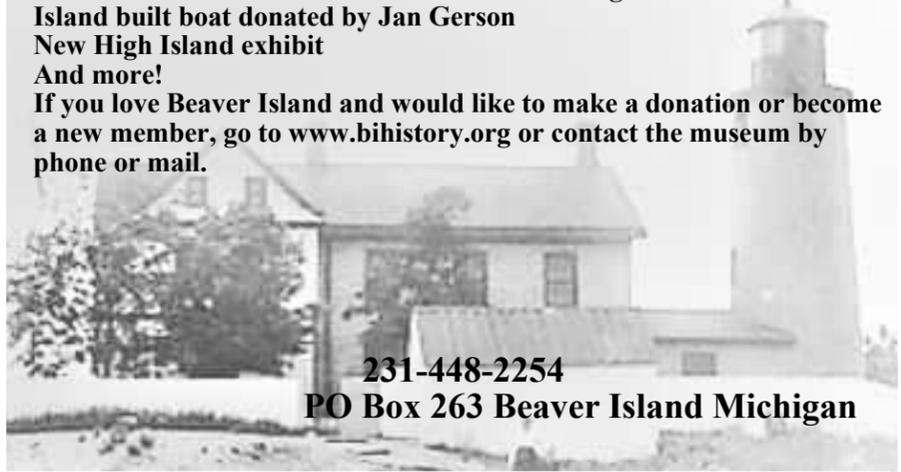


Beaver Island Historical Society Year End Review

- Museum Week
- 35th annual Music on the Porch
- 35+ annual Art Show featuring the "Everyone is an Artist" program sponsored by Betsy Borre.
- Our 2 interns developed and led the sold-out Kid's Camp
- Best-selling author, Miles Harvey, spoke to an overflow crowd
- New exhibits--Gutsy Women of Beaver Island, First Land Survey of Beaver Island, and the Oswald Boyd/Marold Disaster
- Marine Museum Mondays and Picnic on the Patio Wednesdays were lunchtime talks presented outside the museums
- Hosted 3 Dendro Archeologists who dated various Island buildings by determining when the trees used for lumber were cut
- Popular cemetery walks held on six Sundays
- Work done by our volunteers:
 - 60 volunteers worked 1000 hours doing everything from staffing museums to cutting brush
 - Clean up of Heritage Park, assembling new picnic tables and trash cans: ● Cleaned up and opened the Peter Doney house at Sand Bay
- Collaboration with the community and other non-profits:
 - Worked with the BI Chamber of Commerce and were awarded money for the Historical Driving trail signs, a new Beaver Island app and hiking trail safety improvements
 - In conjunction with the Little Traverse Conservancy and Sauve Art Foundation, opened the historical Peter Doney House as part of a Public Art Initiative and installed two sculptures in the preserve
 - Joined forces with community members who wrote their family stories for the first volume of Beaver Island Family Histories planned for publication later this year
 - Hosted twenty first-time visitors at a day-long geocaching event

Looking forward in 2022:

Museum Week is July 17 - 23. We will feature our annual programming and offer Kids Camp again!
 We will add 4 new Ladies to the Gutsy Women exhibit at the Print Shop Museum
 The Black History 101 Mobile exhibit will be on display in April at the Print Shop Museum
 We are hosting the Eastern Michigan University Historic Preservation Graduate Field School at the Beaver Head Lighthouse in May with related public programming!
 Special programming for Beaver Island Family Histories
 Expanded virtual exhibits and archival access
 If you have a request for a specific event, please give me a call and share your ideas!
 Summer return of the 11-12 Marine Museum Mondays and Picnic on the Patio Wednesdays at the Print Shop - pack a lunch and stop by!
 Marine Museum Wooden Boat Exhibit featuring a Bill Freese Beaver Island built boat donated by Jan Gerson
 New High Island exhibit
 And more!
 If you love Beaver Island and would like to make a donation or become a new member, go to www.bihistory.org or contact the museum by phone or mail.



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2021 YEAR-END SALES RECAP

Sheri Richards ~ Beaver Island Resident Associate Broker



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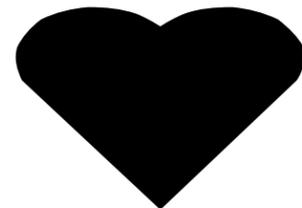
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Services include: companion care, transportation, in-home meal prep/portioning, light housekeeping, and up to 24/7 care.

Cheri Irmscher: Caregiver

231-448-2555

Cheri.friendsofthefamily@gmail.com





Big Grins at the Island Health Center

Beaver Island’s Elks Lodge #2886, one of The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks newest lodges, has awarded the Beaver Island Rural Health Center a \$3,000 grant. “We are beyond grateful,” said Ann Partridge, Acting Managing Director of the Health Center when she was advised of the award.” Partridge was one of several Center personnel and supporters involved in the Good Samaritan Dental Project. The \$3,000 grant moved the Center’s Good Samaritan Fund one step closer to activating its dental initiative. The Good Samaritan Fund will oversee the opportunity for all enrolled Community School students to have a free dental exam, x-ray and cleaning.



East Side resident Nadra Johnson quickly made the project a reality by matching the Elks grant. The Johnson Family has a tradition of involvement in the Center's Good Samaritan Fund. Johnson, upon learning of the Elks award said, “Insuring island youth have access to proper dental care can be truly life-changing. Good dental care and habits can improve the overall health and self-esteem of an individual. This is such a meaningful project. I’m so happy for the Center and island youth. How could I not support such a worthwhile project?”

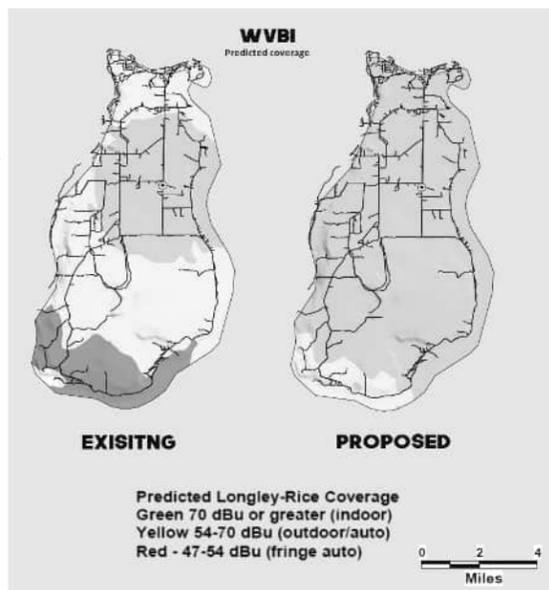
Lori Taylor-Blitz, a member of the Health Center Board of Directors and a member of local Elks Lodge #2886 noted the Elks mission is to invest in their communities through programs that help children grow up healthy and drug-free, meet the needs of today’s veterans, and improve the quality of life. The Elks are always looking for appropriate ways to give back to the community. I know our membership is delighted to demonstrate our value to the community by participating in such a unique project.”

The free dental exam, x-rays and cleaning will be done on the island by the Dental Clinics North clinicians. DCN operates a clinic within the Island's Rural Health Center complex. Ann Partridge indicated the project is expected to commence in February of 2022.

The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks has made more than 12 Billion in donations since they first started 153 years ago. The Elks annually donate millions in cash, gifts, and time to make communities better places to live.

WVBI 100.1 FM Coverage Area Increase Map

Last month we informed you about the increase in the power of broadcasting to the WVBI Radio waves. Here’s the map showing that increase,. You can now turn on that car radio and stay tuned to Island news, events, stories and music, all day long and almost all the way around the Island! Take a long at the light-shaded area and watch it cover the white!



Www.wvbi.net
100.1 FM

BEAVER ISLAND RURAL HEALTH CENTER

CAREER OPPORTUNITY

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Send letter, resume, and/or request for information to:

Beaver Island Rural Health Center
PO Box 146
Beaver Island, MI, 49782

Via email to ann@biruralhealth.org

Phone inquiries may be directed to Ann Partridge, Acting Managing Director at 231-448-2275.

COVID-19 VACCINE & BOOSTERS AVAILABLE!

Call **231-448-2275** for an appointment.

Due to the supply chain issues for Rapid tests we will be sending PCR tests to the Lab. Anyone with symptoms should get tested. Results are typically received within 48 hours.



COMING UP AT BIRHC:
JANUARY

- 3 MON – DR. DANIEL MANN, FAMILY HEALTH**
- 10 MON – DENTAL CLINICS NORTH/HYGIENIST 231-547-7650**
- 12 WEDS – DR. AARON WILKIN, LAKESHORE CHIROPRACTIC 231-237-0665**
- 17 MON – DR. DANIEL MANN, FAMILY HEALTH**
- 17 & 18, MON & TUES - DENTAL CLINICS NORTH/DR. KOOISTRA 877-321-7070**
- 24 MON – DENTAL CLINICS NORTH/HYGIENIST**
- 26 WEDS – DR. AARON WILKIN, LAKESHORE CHIROPRACTIC 231-237-0665**

FEBRUARY

- 7 & 8, MON & TUES - DENTAL CLINICS NORTH/BICS STUDENT DENTAL CLINIC**
- EVERY TUES & THURS – MARK BABCOCK, PHYSICAL THERAPIST 231-547-8630**

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Commission on Aging

January FEAST



January 16, 2022

Come one, come all to the Charlevoix County Commission on Aging on Beaver Island Sunday Dinner. Start off 2022 with a delicious curbside takeout meal from 1-2 p.m. at the Beaver Island Community Center. Meals are a \$6 charge for ages 60 and older & children 11 and younger, and a \$10 charge for ages 12-59. Please call 231-448-2124 to reserve one of the 50 meals being prepared. RSVP by 1/12/2022.



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Dale & Terry Keyes, Proprietors
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Michael Fleischman Perdue 1977-2021

Beaver Island resident, Richard Gillespie collaborated with State Representative Ken Borton to prepare a wonderful tribute to Michael Purdue and present it at Michael's wake in Gaylord. Richie said the family was very touched but none had the strength to read it aloud. Hundreds came through to pay their respects, a somber but good day! God speed!

The December NorthernIslander contained a statement from the Catholic Diocese in Gaylord and now have the complete obituary here, continued on page 20.

Michael Fleischman Perdue, 43 of Gaylord, a loving father, husband, son, brother, grandson, cousin, nephew, uncle, good friend, teammate and coach to many, died tragically and too suddenly in a plane crash on his beloved Beaver Island, Michigan on November 13, 2021. Michael died holding and protecting his daughter Laney, the most precious gift he could ever have left for us.

Michael was born on December 5, 1977 in Spokane, WA. Michael, or "Mike," was a fighter from the beginning, as he was born premature and not expected to live. Through a miracle as defined by doctors, Mike began breathing on his own and grew into a tall, beautiful, and loving man.

Growing up in Traverse City, MI, Michael came from a tight-knit Catholic family. He constantly cracked jokes at the dinner table and made everyone laugh so hard they could hardly eat. His humor was quiet but witty and right on point no matter who he was talking to. Michael loved all things baseball and hockey, and played both his whole childhood. In high school he played on both the baseball and hockey teams at Traverse City Central High School, as pitcher and a defenseman, respectively. His pitch was so fast and accurate that he received scholarships to college baseball teams, eventually joining two of his siblings and cousins at the University of Dallas in Texas, where he pitched for the UD Crusaders baseball team. He is mourned deeply by his former coach and teammates, whom he had kept in close contact with over the years.

Michael graduated from UD in 2001 with a Bachelor's Degree in Politics. On October 2, 2004 Mike married the love of his life, Christie Heller, an island girl, on a windy day on Beaver Island and forever cemented his ties to his beloved Beaver Island. Together they built a beautiful life in Gaylord, MI where Mike joined forces with another Beaver Islander, Ryan Wojan, to purchase and build Smith Realty Group. Mike's ease with clients and his masterful ability to make connections between people in all facets of his life made him a great realtor and friend.

In 2010 Mike and Christie welcomed Laney Megan to the world, to be followed by Addie Haynes in 2013 and Henrik Heller and Bo Michael in 2019. Above all, he treasured his family and his children. He was their coach, their protector, their comedian, and their hero. Mike's most treasured moments were on Beaver Island with his family, boating, watching

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Joe Reed continued...

He served on the Airport Committee that helped secure funds build a new terminal and upgrade the services that were crucial to establish the conditions that led to a competitive airline service marketplace for the island. The Beaver Island Boat Company benefited from Joe's leadership and counsel as well. As an early director on the company's board he helped establish BIBCo as an independent firm owned by islanders and operated in a manner that served the best interests of the community.

He served multiple terms on the board though the 80's and 90's helping put the company on stable financial ground and developing the professional management that would keep it that way. Though his "retirement" on the island produced a long resume of accomplishment, Joe knew how to have a good time as well. He and Marilyn somehow found time to travel extensively in Europe and Asia with friends and family. Up until very recently they spent their winters in Columbus, Ohio with family or in Florida and then South Carolina where they left a trail of seasonal friendships that drew many new visitors to Beaver Island over the years. On the island Joe played tennis almost daily though the summer months and could be found tramping island woodland paths, plugged into his Walkman or iPod, in spring and fall. Invariably he would have been listening to the opera music he so loved. He served on the board of the Lyric Opera of Chicago while living and working there in the 1980's. As the AT&T Regional Vice President of Public Affairs he deepened his longstanding interest in public education by building a consortium of Chicago business leaders to help guide school reform in the city. That effort became the Leadership for Quality Education, an organization Joe re-

from AT&T, to lead as its first President. In this capacity he was appointed by Mayor Daley to serve on the Interim Chicago School Board where he served until a new board was elected. LQE continues to operate in Chicago with the same mission to this day.

Ohio State football. Cubs baseball. Tennis and platform tennis. Opera and books. Joe Reed loved to laugh and frequently did among his many friends and with his family. A seventy-one year marriage needs a lot of laughter to continuously nurture the love. What theory can explain such a life -- ninety-three years full of drive and accomplishment and fun and love? Perhaps the course was set at age 22, when he served as a Marine Corps platoon leader in Korea. He won the Silver Star and Bronze Star medals for his bravery in combat there. But does witness to the horrors of war explain Joe Reed's profound humanity, his love of family, a taste for fun and that opera? Maybe, in the midst of so much loss and destruction he saw, he found cause to rebel against that loss and destruction by living a life of commitment to service and by seasoning it with joy along the way.

Forty-five years after leaving Korea he returned there and found a country renewed. He stood on a hill overlooking the city of Chuncheon and saw what had been 1950 hillsides of shredded vegetation and smoldering city ruins replaced by green forests, terraced fields and a gleaming city bustling with traffic. Surveying the 1995 vista he said: "It was worth it."

Wherever that drive and energy and wisdom and humor came from, we are profoundly thankful for it and will strive to pass his wonderful legacy along as best we can.

CHARLEVOIX COUNTY COMMISSIONERS SYNOPSIS DECEMBER 8, 2021

The Charlevoix County Board of Commissioners met in the Charlevoix County Commissioners room on December 8, 2021, at 9:30 a.m. Six Commissioners were present. Motion approved the agenda as amended. Motion approved the consent agenda as presented.

Motion approved Resolution #21-136, Approve County Expenditures.

Motion approved Resolution #21-137, Grandvue Operating Transfer.

Board acted on various committee appointments.

Motion approved Resolution #21-138, Resolution to Adopt the Annual Exemption Option as Set Forth in 2011 Public Act 152, The Publicly Funded Health Insurance Contribution Act.

Motion approved Resolution #21-139, Friend of the Court Referee Contract.

Motion approved Resolution #21-140, Remonumentation Grant Application for 2022.

Motion approved Resolution #21-141, Beaver Island Congregate Meals Agreement.

Motion approved Resolution #21-142, Whiting Park Waterways Grant Agreement.

Motion approved Resolution #21-143, Project Authorization FY 2022 Section 5311 Operating Job Access and Reverse Commute Program.

Motion approved Resolution #21-144, Resolution Authorizing Entry of Participation Agreements in Partial Settlement of the National Prescription Opiate Litigation.

Motion approved Resolution #21-145, Smith & Wesson Simunitions Purchase.

Motion approved Resolution #21-146, Advisacare Office Building Lease.

Motion approved Resolution #21-147, Resolution of Support for the Beaver Head Light & Signal Station Restoration Grant Application.

The meeting was adjourned to the call of the Chair at 11:48 a.m.

Complete copies of Board minutes can be found on the County website.

Julia A. Drost, County Clerk



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(Building 3 behind the Eager Beaver Clean and Store)**

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Concrete Flat Work

"Is Everybody Happy?"

COMPOSED BY PHILIP MICHAEL MOORE

A little press of the key
A little stomp of the pedal keepin' time
In between the verses, he gives his wink
And the shadows they dance
As soon as the master plays the tune
The dancers embrace and then they hear him say-
"Is Everybody Happy?"
"And doin' fine?"
"Have you heard your song this beautiful night?"
Gather 'round the piano
to watch his fingers tickle the keys
All he wants to know
"Is Everybody Happy?"
You know the music doesn't end
That stomp on the pedal still keeps time
Even after the dancers have left the floor
Though the lights may have dimmed
Though the moonlight may have slipped beyond the bay
In your heart, you'll always hear him say-
"Is Everybody Happy?"
"And doin' fine?"
"Have you heard your song this beautiful night?"
Gather 'round the piano
to watch his fingers tickle the keys
All he wants to know
"Is Everybody Happy?"
"Is Everybody Happy?"
"And doin' fine?"
"Have you heard your song this beautiful night?"
Gather 'round the piano
to watch his fingers tickle the keys
All he wants to know
"Is Everybody Happy?"

Michael Fleischman Perdue 1977-2021

sunsets, going for drives, and enjoying a slower pace of life. Later in his life he acquired a love for hunting and fishing, looking forward every fall to deer camp with his father-in-law and dear friend Karl Heller, the entire Heller family, his father, Steve, and brother, Kevin, and friends.



One of Mike's greatest joys in life was coaching and especially coaching his daughters in softball. He also coached the Gaylord High School Hockey Team and the Gaylord Varsity Baseball team. He was a very hands on father and was known and will be remembered for his big bear hugs. He had a wink, a smile and occasionally a slight hip check as a greeting for all he knew and loved. Michael was a gentleman who loved his faith and strived every day to lead a life of honor. If ever there was a calming presence, it was his.

Michael is survived by his treasured wife Christie, their four children Laney, Addie, Henrik and Bo, his parents Steve and Jane Perdue, sisters Jessica (George) Nicula, Amy (Joe) Ettawageshik, Kevin (Veronica) Perdue, Mary (Tom) Freundl, Katie (Neil) Smith, his mother-in-law Sue Heller Martin (Bob), father-in-law Karl Heller, sister-in-law Megan (James) Heller, and many beloved aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, nephews, godchildren, and very dear friends. Michael was preceded in death by his grandparents Herb and Cecelia Fleischman, and William and Henrietta Perdue, infant brother Edward, brother in law Rick Fellows, uncles Tom Perdue and Oliver Muldoon and Rodney Janda and Dennis Janda, and cousin Robert Heller. Words fall short of expressing the loving and immense impact Mike had on all those who knew him. He was a hero in life and a hero in death, and he will never, ever be forgotten. Rest in peace, dear Michael. We know we will see you again.

Laney Perdue, Sole Survivor in Beaver Island Flight Accident

The sole survivor of a tragic plane crash that took four lives is an 11-year-old girl who was bear-hugged by her dad before he died.

Laney Perdue was on the plane with her dad and three other adults when the plane crashed as it flew over Lake Michigan on Saturday. (November 13, 2021) All four adults on board, (including Pilot, William Julian) tragically died in the crash, but Laney, who is only 11, miraculously survived thanks to her dad, Mike Perdue, throwing his arms around her to protect her from the impact.

Rescue services rushed to the scene of the crash to rescue the passengers, but Laney and pilot, William Julian were the only ones still alive. Laney was given chest compression while being transferred to , William Julian sadly died. Four people, including Laney's dad Mike, were tragically killed in the plane crash over Lake Michigan on Saturday It's her last memory before the crash," Laney's mother Christina Perdue, who with Mike had four children, said in a statement obtained by WZZM on Sunday.

"We are heartbroken with the loss of my husband, a father, brother, son and friend. He gave the best bear hugs, and I believe he grabbed our daughter and protected her," Ms. Perdue said. "Our prayers are also with our island community and the other souls lost in the accident." Couple,

From the Editor

Being around the Beaver Island community for some 12 years and a resident for 6 years sometimes brings me closer to the news than I'd like to be. As a newspaper owner, one is compelled to report ALL of the news as a responsibility to the community and to archive history.

As a fond acquaintance of the Heller and Perdue family and all of the families affected, the recent plane crash was a tragedy I never wanted to report. And the most difficult story I have ever had to report.

As with obituaries and other tragedies on the island, this is when I might fail as a news reporter. I am not that reporter, on the scene to take a photograph of accidents or fires and other terrible scenes. While it may be important to report the news as it happens for reasons mentioned above, I just couldn't do it. The story made national and international news, hitting local and state newspapers online immediately. There was and is one heartwarming and heart-breaking story that came out and that was the news of Laney Perdue's miraculous survival due to the protection of her father's arms. Michael Perdue, in the end, lost his life but somehow managed to protect his precious, young daughter. The news of Laney's rescue, survival and recovery spread to national television, and the story below, with minor modifications and updates, originally came from several sources, including one in the UK. I am not that reporter to give Christy a call to inquire for a news story. Here on the island I know that I and others are deeply sad, and moved to tears even as we watch Christy face with courage the onslaught of news reporters in the days and hours of what must have been complete devastation at her losses. Her smile, could only have come from the relief that Laney was not only alive, but would recover and thrive. Here is Christy's update and thanks from the Facebook GoFundMe page set up for the family.

"I want to personally thank each of you for your generous and thoughtful donations to my family during this difficult and tragic time. There are no words to express my gratitude, other than to say that your generosity and prayers have and will continue to sustain us. As I write this update, Laney is at school attending her Christmas Party! She is still on crutches and a liquid diet due to her jaw wired shut, but she will make a full recovery. Addie, Henrik and Bo remain a light for us all. We thank God daily for Laney's recovery and for the years of joy, fun, and beauty we shared with Mike. Give a bear hug today in honor of Mike, enjoy your holidays, and be sure to thank God for the gift of your loved ones, hug them even tighter. With all my love and endless gratitude, Christie Perdue

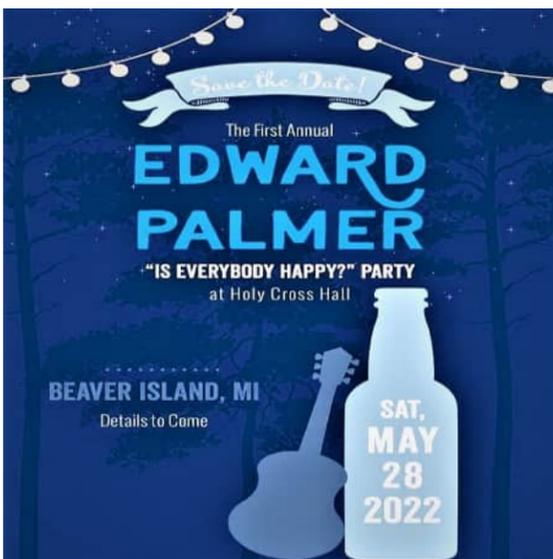
Kate Leese, 35, and Adam Kendall, 37, were also killed in the crash, which happened as the twin-engine Britten-Norman BN-2 aircraft landed at about 1.30pm local time at Welke airport. They were said to be taking their two dogs to the vet on the plane. Both animals were killed in the crash, according to authorities.

An investigation into the cause of the crash has been launched. Talking to CNN about his friend's heroic efforts to spare his daughter's life, Mr. Wojan said: "He cradled her in his arms. "She doesn't remember anything, except for her daddy squeezing her so hard." He added all the girl's injuries were on the opposite side of where her dad was sitting in the plane.

Edward Palmer Memories Stay With the Island...thanks to these beautiful song lyrics and music composed by Michael Moore. You can hear the song on SoundCloud by typing this text into your browser:

[https://soundcloud.com/tara-palmer-pop/b_edward-mp3?](https://soundcloud.com/tara-palmer-pop/b_edward-mp3?ref=facebook&p=i&c=1&si=30CF88A471F14385A39D5D1BA3015361&utm_source=facebook&utm_medium=post&utm_campaign=social_sharing)

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It Was starting to look like an Aurora Borealis Christmas...

It was true! Space and astronomy websites were predicting a Kp4 for December 19th and a Kp5 for December 25th, 2021. On a level of Kp1 to Kp10, a Kp5 is a great level to glimpse Northern Lights.

Clouds and storms wiped out the skies over the holiday, so the lights did not appear for Beaver Island and others. Weather is the biggest factor in play IF the lights are shining so here is what else you need to know. Location, conditions, and timing are all varying factors. I will give you the essentials and tools I use to view the Northern Lights on a regular basis, as evidenced by the photos below. Disclaimer: Aurora Borealis is completely unpredictable along with the weather in its behavior. Here are some websites and apps to investigate for accurate predictions. You may also want to sign up with these apps to receive Aurora Alerts; <https://cdn.softservenews.com/free-member/aurora-borealis-forecast-3-day-bar.html>
<https://www.swpc.noaa.gov/products/3-day-forecast>

Be prepared to interpret unfamiliar information from the National Oceanic Atmospheric Association; this shows UTC(Universal Time) and more. You can also find 3 day and 27-day outlooks here.

After getting your information or alerts, you will need clear, dark skies. Beaver Island is blessed with Bortle Class 2 skies with Sky Quality Meter readings of 21.8 or more and is currently awaiting designation from the International Dark Sky Association to become a Dark Sky Sanctuary. Most of the island is preserved and managed by the Michigan DNR and remains isolated, pristine, protected, and unpolluted by unnecessary lighting management practices. These factors make Beaver Island one of the darkest sky places in the world. Still, other factors may prevent you from seeing Northern Lights. First, it is best to look to the North,



Left, Northern Lights might look like this with the naked eye and varying sky conditions. At right, what the camera picks up is more color, this photo enhanced to illustrate, taken in May 2021. Whiskey Point Lighthouse Aurora show was taken in March 2021, a Kp6!



the best luck looking at the Big Dipper. Northern Lights have been known to appear overhead so keep looking up.

You must, escape from as much light as you can, including interior car lights, phone screens and camera screens. It takes thirty minutes for human eyes to adjust in darkness. I should say, it takes that long to become accustomed to the amazing array of existing light in the nighttime skies. Avoid locations where car headlights may ruin your night vision.

The Northern Lights appear to the naked eye as an unusual glow in the sky. Like glows from the moon, there may seem to be more in the northern skies. Note; unless the Kp Level is remarkably high on the scale, like a 7-10(unheard of practically) the Northern Lights appear to the naked eye as more whitish and not like those stunning photos of vivid greens, reds, yellows, or purples. Most photos you see of the lights are not enhanced or filtered manually, but they are a result of the camera lens having the capability to pick up and reveal all available light in a photograph. See below for a comparison of what the camera picks up and what you might be looking at with the naked eye.

In some parts of the world, the Aurora does appear in colors. In my experiences at Beaver Island, Michigan; the lights appear as pearly, sometimes shimmering, silver white glows. On occasion, they do shimmer or appear in waves, streaks or even what is referred to as piano keys across the sky.

My experience comes from countless nights over five years, waiting and watching in the night for Aurora Borealis to appear. Hours spent, mostly alone, at Beaver Island's St. James Township campground, which is not only a overlooking Lake Michigan and several islands but one can

also view the southern shores of Michigan's upper peninsula. The photo below is a shot of Lansing Shoals Lighthouse, a white flashing light and red channel markers, plus extravagant light pollution shooting upwards from Port Inland and other towns on that shoreline.

Also shown here in black and white is this view typical to me, in a Kp4 or Kp5 scenario, with towers of light reaching up to the skies. The camera picks up the vibrant colors that are realistically viewed as towers of white light, varying in size and scope. What you are seeing are shimmering waves of geo-magnetic light that come from the effects of sunspots and other scientific measurements of solar windspeed and more.

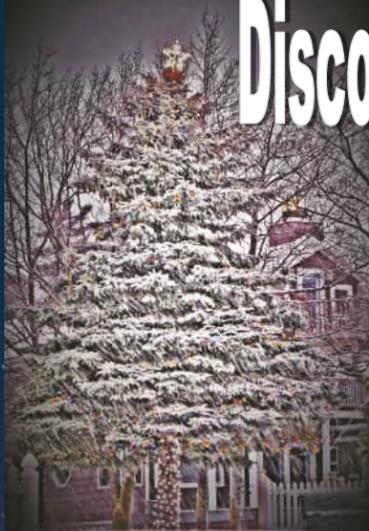
What I love the most is the hours of glorious time I have spent in the night, absorbing the appearance of the skies as they change in varying weather and light conditions. This time spent has made me aware more of what the skies look like under regular conditions and better capable of spotting the Northern Lights when they are showing off. The photos below show the Northern Lights in pale glows at a Kp3, with muted pastel tones. Or delightfully colored skies from near-Aurora conditions. Some of the Aurora glows stem from a strong Kp prediction that does not develop because the other measurements of solar windspeed do not develop simultaneously with the other predictions.

What I love, is seeing the dark skies filled with stars in all phases of the moon, knowing as it grows to a full moon, which we had in a waning state this Christmas 2021; the chance of seeing intense colors lessens. Yet, in very, dark, and unpolluted areas like Beaver Island, it is still possible to see the Aurora in areas with streetlamps and other light-polluted areas. Shown below left, a grand spread of Aurora towers revealed behind the Whiskey Point Lighthouse showed up even in the streetlights of Beaver Island's harbor area.

Does luck figure into the equation? I think so. The first time I saw Northern Lights on Beaver Island, I was scouting and photographing Comet Neowise. The Aurora appeared faintly behind the comet. I had a brand-new camera that I did not know how to use, so I would say that was a lucky shot.

My advice to aurora seekers, overall? Be prepared to enjoy the night. Enjoy your company, the weather, the adventure, and the excitement of night sky viewing. Chances are, you will not see the lights at all due to varying factors mentioned above. Then again, with the help of predicting apps and websites...you just might. And isn't that the adventure?

Chamber Memberships: For the Community



Discover Beaver Island in Winter

Lodging

- Emerald Isle Inn*
- Burton Vacation Rentals*
- Give me Shelter *
- Erin Motel *
- Richards Rental Management *

Getting Around

- Burton's Car Rentals*
- Duffy's Rental Cars

Restaurants / Grocery / Shopping

- Shamrock Bar *
- Beachcomber Pub
- Whiskey Point Brewery *
- McDonough's Market
- Harbor Bodega*
- Island Energies
- Power's Gift Shop
- Community Center
- St. James Boat Shop*
- Dalwhinnie

*Ask about winter specials

Transportation

(Weather Dependent)

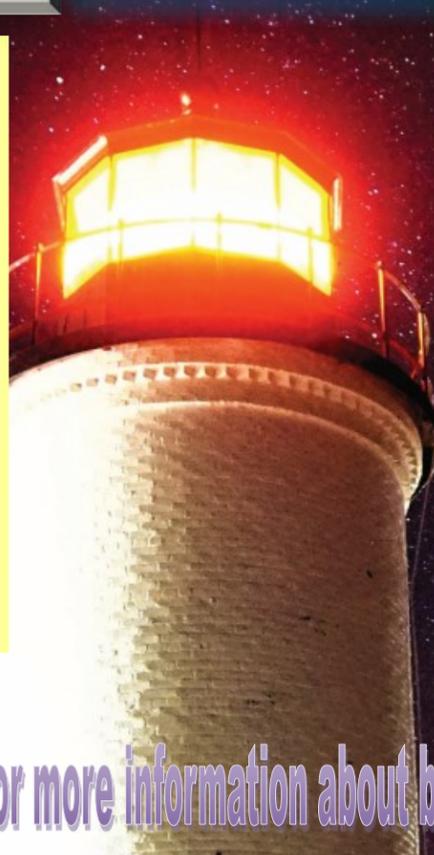
- Island Airways *
- Fresh Air Aviation

Things to Do

- Hiking
- Beach Walks
- Snow Shoeing
- Cross Country Skiing
- Movies at the Community Center
- Private museum tour (by appt.)
- Star Gazing
- Northern Lights
- Community Center Events (TBA)

The Emerald Isle Féile steering committee had a meeting Monday night and we're back on! Our 2nd festival will take place September 8th-11th, 2022!!! And we'll be bigger and better than the 1st Féile! Mark your calendars and ask for vacation time! Stay tuned for more information!!

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