JUNE 2024

CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2024!
READ THE GRADUATE PROFILES ON PAGE 10 & 11

WHO IS HELEN COLLAR?
HEAR THE STORY FROM CONNOR & YORICK ON PAGE 20

NO ONE CAPTURES HISTORY LIKE MICHELLE
READ STORIES FROM THE FRONT PORCH ON PAGE 6

BEAVER ISLAND RETREAT NAMED #2 IN THE NATION BY USA TODAY!
BEAVER ISLAND + GLAMPING = MAGIC

9TH ANNUAL SUSTAINABILITY FAIR
TEAM MONARCH
BEAVER ISLAND SUSTAINABILITY FAIR 2024
THIS PROGRAM WILL TAKE YOU FROM THE EARTH TO THE STARS
LEARN HOW ON PAGE 24

BIRHC ANNOUNCES NEW BOARD OF DIRECTORS
NEW BOARD MEMBERS ELECTED: TIM & MARIA
CATCH THE FULL STORY ON PAGE 8
Welcome Summer, we made it. Our busy season has arrived and while we welcome old friends we also welcome new ones. Every day I look out my window and see new faces who have arrived to experience the bliss that we call Beaver Island. We hope that you all enjoy the island and if you need advice, please feel free to swing into the Museum and or Beaver Island Community Center and we will point you in the right direction.

This month we have plenty to be thankful for. We would like to first honor all our Beaver Island Graduates and wish them luck in their futures. We are both proud and excited for your next path in life but always know that your family will be here with open arms. Once a Beaver, always a Beaver.

It is with great pride that we Congratulate the Beaver Island Retreat for the incredible honor of the 2nd best glamping spot in the United States by USA Today. Montana? Alaska? Florida? California? These lovely states were left in the rearview mirror of our one and only Beaver Island. If you are looking to escape, they offer a unique luxury experience in the heart of nature!

Next, I encourage you all to take a moment to wish that special man in your life a Happy Father’s Day. I realize that this happens annually, but for me, I take the time to thank my Dad every day for all that he did, does, and will continue to do so. I would not be the person I am without you. To all the dads out there, we appreciate and celebrate you.

Lastly, I thank all our subscribers, advertisers, and supporters, as we embarked on our First Anniversary. Without you, this paper would not be where we are today. We are so proud and honored to serve this community and look forward to many years together. Thanks to all that came out to celebrate with us as your support is greatly appreciated.

Kind Regards,
Amy Marschner
The Beaver Island Historical Society is ready for the Summer to Begin! We have new Michigan items in our gift shops and have updated our museum displays. We hope to visit with each of you as the summer progresses and you stop in with friends, family and visitors. The Print Shop gardens are getting some love too! Thank you Lu O’Connor for replanting the front garden and porch boxes. The Pollinator garden is shaping up too. Most of our plants survived the winter and we are adding a few new native species and pieces within. Thank you to the Island Roots group for overseeing the work, especially Juli Runberg and Sally Stebbins.

Have you noticed the new ramp to the Marine Museum? McDonough Construction has been busy building a new ramp and deck for the Museum. A big THANK YOU to Kevin & Crew for getting this completed for our summer season.

The lunch-time history chats resume on June 17th at noon beginning with Marine Museum Mondays and followed by Picnic on the Patio. The series will run weekly on those two days and locations ending on August 7. More to follow regarding the topics. In general, all chats at the Marine Museum have a Maritime theme and chats at the Print Shop include all other historical themes.

Are you looking to volunteer in the community and are not sure where help is needed or who to talk to? We have you covered! The Print Shop Museum will host a Volunteer Fair on Thursday, June 13th 1-4 PM. All groups are encouraged to set up a table at the fair and chat with interested residents about how they can make a difference on Beaver Island. Hope to see you there!

Our hearts grieve for the passing of Dickie McEvoy. A special story about him and the Beaver Head Lighthouse can be found on page 26.
UPDATE ON ST. JAMES TOWNSHIP PARKS AND TRAILS -PART 2

By Bobbi Welke- St. James Township Supervisor

Last month, the companion Part 1 article covered the township’s acquisition of harbor property which will expand the town beach. This article described the beach as being extended 360 feet to the south. The town beach property was extended 452.3 feet! The township’s Public Works Committee has worked diligently over the winter to plan improvements to your park system.

Several actions were taken, and more are planned, as follows:

• Our island friend Jim Flanagan created a township recreation map showing Port St James Association (PSJA), Little Traverse Conservancy, and township recreational properties. Please refer to the map in the May issue to identify the location of the projects discussed within this article.

• A $7,000 environmental grant was received from the Charlevoix County Community Foundation to improve the Gull Harbor Natural Area (GHNA). This grant will fund improvements that will protect, educate, and improve access to the GHNA. Informative signs lost during the winter of 2021/2022 due to high water, ice, and winds will be replaced. The west most trailhead will be moved to the south end of the driveway located on this property (the driveway will be closed to vehicles) with planned area parking and other trail amenities.

• Three township-owned properties in the PSJA area were established, in coordination with PSJA, as trail locations with new names and the properties were surveyed. Trail development is planned, as is the purchase of trail signs.
- The Great Blue Heron Park (in memory of Jim Flanagan) along the west shore of Font Lake, along Font View Ct. BIATA has agreed to develop this trail.
- Sunset Trail South, along Lake Michigan and on Island Woods Road is north of Trout Island Ct. This property has an existing trail along the south property line adjacent to a county drain. This trail will be evaluated for improvements.
- Sunset Trail North, along Lake Michigan on Indian Woods Road is near the northwest corner of this island is located along Whiskey Island Ct. A trail will be developed on this property.

We have begun conceptual consideration for various projects which will be introduced to the public for input as the concepts get further developed. These projects are:

• The proposed Doble Bay Road Bike Path between the township campground and beach property on Doble Bay.
• The proposed replacement of the Marina North docks.
• A proposed fishing pier on the harbor. This has been the most difficult project to get underway due to issues associated with finding the appropriate property to place this pier. We are working toward a solution.

TIRES ARE NOW BEING MOVED OFF THE ISLAND

By Bobbi Welke- St. James Township Supervisor

We’re excited to share that tires are now being moved off the island. The first load of 1,100 tires left on the barge on May 9th.

A second load will go off later this year, which will clear the current buildup of tires at the Transfer Station. In 2025, there will be more routine hauling of tires off the island as the Transfer Station staff works with property owners to remove tires on the island - Report from the Transfer Station

HOW TO PROPERLY DISPOSE OF YOUR GARBAGE

By Amy Marschner

Beaver Island Transfer Station and Recycle Center offers residents, non-residents and commercial customers a safe, clean and environmentally friendly location to dispose of all solid waste and recyclables. The Beaver Island Transfer Station and Recycle Center is jointly operated by Peaine and St. James Townships and is located on East Side Drive. Please help us to preserve and protect our beloved Island by disposing of your garbage the correct way! We make it easy to keep the island clean and GREEN. For additional information feel free to visit the highly informative and friendly staff.

HOURS OF OPERATION
Closed Sunday and Holidays
Monday- Saturday
• May 1- November 1 (8AM-5PM)
• November 1- May 1 (11AM- 5PM)

GENERAL RULES
• Recycle during business hours ONLY
• Please use GREEN bags for garbage
• Please keep recyclable materials separate and place in labeled boxes:
  -Plastic, Glass bottles/Jars, Tin cans, Aluminum cans Cardboard (flattened), Magazines/newspapers/catalogs

WHERE TO BUY GREEN BAGS
• In Peaine Township: Island Energies & BI Transfer Station and Recycle Center
• In St. James Township: Mc Donough’s Market & Power’s Do it Best Hardware

NOT ACCEPTED OR RECYCLABLE
• PVC Vinyl
• Window Glass
• Stryrofoam Peanuts

* For Household Hazardous Waste disposal please call the Transfer Station at (231) 448-2228*
**EXERCISE YOUR RIGHT AS AN AMERICAN - VOTE!**

**RECENT ELECTION RESULTS**

### 2016 Presidential

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### 2018 Governor

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### 2020 Presidential

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### 2022 GOVERNOR

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<td><strong>Dixon</strong></td>
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### 2024 Presidential Primary

#### 2024<br>**Republican**

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<td><strong>Haley</strong></td>
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#### 2024<br>**Democrat**

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SOURCE: CHARLEVOIX COUNTY ELECTIONS DEPARTMENT

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**YOU CAN MOVE ANYTHING ON THE BEAVER**

*Home in Transit*

**ON IT’S WAY TO LAKE SHORE ON DONEGAL BAY**

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**Happy Father’s Day**

*From Your Friends at The Beaver Island Historical Society*
Howard is a true musician. At 86 he still practices drums almost every day. He has spent a lifetime perfecting his craft. I asked Howard all the usual questions. Where were you born? (Chicago) How did you get here? That's the story I really wanted to hear. It took Howard over 70 years to get here, but I think he got here as fast as he could.

Howard grew up mostly in Miami, but from a young age knew he wanted to be a drummer. He attended college in California, where his dad lived at the time. Howard had a wonderful step mother, Inez. She really helped to shape him. He looked to them as a wonderful example of what marriage should be.

He didn't realize he loved music at first, he just 'did it'. As the years rolled along, he became more serious about it.

When he told his dad he wanted to be a musician, his dad reluctantly gave his blessing, telling Howard he never wanted him to say I woulda, coulda, shouda...

Now that's love and support! His first job was at about 15 years old. He played at the Knights of Columbus hall in Miami. His brother had to drive him and his rented set of drums. He admits he really didn't know what the hell he was doing. He made a friend in a man named Joe Morello. Joe took the time to give a basic fundamental lesson to a 15 yr old kid he thought he'd never see again. To this day, Howard still practices those lessons.

When he got serious and joined the Musicians Union in New York there were 82,000 members. At that time there were no garage bands. You needed a tuxedo, a white shirt and black pants. You developed a reputation as an accompanist, and you took whatever job came in the door. He likened it to a contractor hiring his crew. Everyone has a job

When they couldn't find what they were looking for individually, they referred to as "The Rhythm Section" For instance a hotel bar would have an orchestra for dancing and then would hire a well known singer. The singer traveled with his own rhythm section that would replace those 3 members(piano, bass and drums) during the singers show. Howard was one of those guys. He replaced the orchestra's drummer.

Howard's real love was Jazz, but that didn't pay the mortgage. Working with well known singers did. Every now and then he would quit to go play jazz, until he had to make some money. Howard thinks that reading music is crucial. He says if you look at it, it's really just a set of printed directions. Having that skill would allow a musician to jump in at any point. It was necessary, because rehearsals were expensive.

Howard's career in music took him all over the United States and about 30 foreign countries. I asked Howard if he still loved Jazz best, and he said yes but that he loves all kinds of music. Howard's love of Beaver Island came as a direct result of his long time friend Audrey. They met in Washington D.C. Audrey had told him so much about growing up in Michigan, and spending summers in East Jordan and coming to Beaver Island that it piqued his interest. Audrey was in the market for a place to spend her retirement, and was coming to see some properties. Howard had some free time one weekend, and Audrey asked if he wanted to come along. He did, and in one visit fell in love. He thought it was so beautiful. He had signed a letter of intent to teach part time at a University in the East. Trouble was... he didn't want to do anything but stay here.

When he told his older, only brother what he was doing, his brother proclaimed him nuts! With the help of Google earth he was able to see what Howard saw in the natural beauty of the island. Sadly, his brother never made it here. He loves the people best. He says there is a warmth, kindness of the people here. Howard loves to spend time in the kitchen. Cooking pasta and chicken dishes, and making salads are his favorites. He is learning to use different oils and vinegars. We compared our love of Fustinis. His vision is worsening, but definitely not his sense of humor. His closeness with his friend Audrey is something to see. They seem to count on each other. Howard spends a lot of time listening... to what people have to say, to audiobooks. He thinks people really need to just listen more. I agree... Thanks Howard, for having me over for a long overdue visit. I enjoyed myself. I hope you did too.
34075 Western Shores Road
Beaver Island

2 Bed, 2 Bath Home plus Guest Cottage with 285' ft. of Lake Michigan
Waterfront and 10 Acres - $855,000

It doesn’t get better than summer sunsets on the deck from this private west side location with views of High Island, and 285’ feet of Lake Michigan shore. There is plenty of room for entertaining guests in this spacious 2 bed, 2 bath home and the guest house offers additional living space with its own kitchen, bathroom, & sleeping loft. The property is thoughtfully designed and well maintained with quality finishes, high-end appliances, in-floor heat, and a woodstove for cozy nights. I’d love to talk with you about this unique property, and fill you in on all of its wonderful features.

Heather Robinson, Realtor

cell: 231.350.9414
office: 231.448.2947
Heather@BayNorthRealty.com
www.BayNorthRealty.com
brokerage office: 231.622.3235

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**My Grandmother’s Table**
Cooked with Heart - Served with Love!

**DAILY SPECIALS!**

8:00 AM - 11:00 AM

**BREAKFAST - $2**
2 Eggs - 2 Bacon - 2 Toast

11:00 AM - 2:00 PM

**HOT DOG - $3**
Regular, Coney or NYC Style!

**BURGER - $4**
All Beef or Vegan!

**Choose 2 Sides:**
Baked Beans - Grilled Pineapple
Potato Salad - Applesauce

115 Bridge Street – Charlevoix – 231.437.3132

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**Whiskey Point Lighthouse Tours**

// START MAY 25TH //

Wednesday 4-7pm
Sat & Sun 10-Noon

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Pierre wants to know
If you have a story?
Share it with us!
To submit your piece for consideration,
email our Editor at
editor@beaverislandhistory.org
On May 1st the Beaver Island Rural Health Center announced two new board members and the re-election of one existing member to its Board of Directors: Tim O’Connor, Maria Dal Pra and Lori Taylor Blitz.

With these changes, the Rural Health Center Board will have nine directors, seven of whom will have been elected and two of whom are appointed by Island Township trustees. Two-thirds of the BIRHC’s Board seats will now be held by women and one-third by medical professionals.

Frank D’Andraia, President of the Board, said, “We are pleased to welcome Maria and Tim as new directors and congratulate Lori Taylor Blitz on her re-election to a second three-year term on the BIRHC Board of Directors. We are confident they will provide valuable perspectives as the board of directors continues to execute its strategy and enhance its value to the community.”

Dr. Brad Grassmick, Chair of the Nominating, Qualifications, and Selection Committee, said, “These appointments are the culmination of a robust search process that began several months ago. As the Health Center continues to evolve, we are committed to regularly evaluating our Board’s composition to ensure we have the right mix of skills and experience to advance our goals and reflect the diverse views of team, and community.”

D’Andraia added, “On behalf of the entire Board, I thank outgoing directors Larry Birch and Vicki Matella Smith for their valuable perspectives and incredible commitments to the Health Center over the past three years. Their numerous contributions and thoughtful insights have been invaluable, and we are grateful for everything they have done for the Health Center.”

Lori Taylor Blitz is the Executive Director of the Beaver Island Historical Society. During her tenure, the Society completed a major addition to one of the two museums it operates, more than doubling the exhibition space of the Print Shop Museum. Most recently, Lori Taylor-Blitz championed the Society’s acquisition of the Northern Islander newspaper, whose aim is to preserve and honor the Island’s history, as well as deliver Island news.

Lori Taylor-Blitz is a resident of St. James Township and maintains a home in Escanaba, MI. She joined the BIRHC Board as an elected director in 2020. In 2022 Ms. Taylor-Blitz was asked to serve as Vice-President of the BIRHC Board and in 2024 she was re-elected to a second three-year term as a director. Lori Taylor-Blitz is a member of the Health Center’s 1953 Society.

Maria Dal Pra joined the Beaver Island Rural Health Center Board in April 2024 as the appointed representative for Peaine Township. Appointed Board members serve two-year terms.

Maria is the Supervisor for Peaine Township, one of Beaver Island’s two Townships, where she is responsible for monitoring the overall operations of the township and its departments. With an MBA and PMP (Project Management Professional) certification, Maria brings over 25 years of small business ownership, corporate management, and program management in her role with the BIRHC.

Additionally, Maria and her spouse, Brian Vaeth, own and operate the Beaver Island Retreat. The Retreat is a limited liability company operating on Beaver Island since 2019. Maria is a native of Wooster, Ohio. Maria Dal Pra and Brian Vaeth are residents of Peaine Township.

Timothy J. O’Connor is an experienced retailer and the former President (1969-2017) of O’Connors, a privately held retail company that was founded in 1949 and headquartered in the place in which it was founded, East Tawas, Michigan. As a resident of East Tawas Tim was active in a number of philanthropic and civic organizations, including nine years as a member of the Tawas St. Joseph Hospital Board and chair for two years; nine years as a member of the Tawas St. Joseph Hospital Foundation and six years as chair; ten years as member of the Physician Recruitment Committee; and six years as a member of the St. Joseph’s Development Association.

Tim attended Northwood University (Midland) and is a US Army veteran. Tim and his wife LuAnn are native Michiganders. The O’Connors moved to Beaver Island in 2017 and are full-time residents of St. James Township. Timothy and LuAnn O’Connor are members of the Health Center’s 1953 Society.

BIRHC ANNOUNCES NEW BOARD OF DIRECTORS
By Frank D’Andraia

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Beaver Island Rural Health Center

N A T I O N A L
M E N ’ S H E A L T H
A W A R E N E S S M O N T H

- 40% WON’T GO TO A DOCTOR UNLESS THEY HAVE SERIOUS SYMPTOMS
- 41% HIGHER MORTALITY RATE THAN WOMEN
  INCLUDING, HEART DISEASE, CANCER, AND STROKE
- 31% EXPERIENCE DEPRESSION; ONLY 1/4 TALK TO A PROFESSIONAL;
  ONLY 1/3 TAKE MEDICATION
- PROSTATE CANCER IS 2nd LEADING CANCER CAUSE-OF-DEATH; GET A PSA TODAY!
- ED CAN BE EARLY WARNING SIGN OF HTN, DIABETES OR HEART DISEASE

CALL 231-448-2275

JUNE 2024 | NORTHERN ISLANDER
May was an active month at your Community Center, as ferry operation resumed and our program calendar grew and changed while we shifted into the tourist season. In addition to weekend movies, COA luncheons, and Trivia Nights, we held a special Mothers’ Day event and Indoor Garage Sale, and hosted the annual BICS stage play along with a couple BI Birding presentations. Meanwhile Pickleball moved outside for the warm months, and our Wednesday Time for Art classes wound down until next fall.

Details of June’s BIC Center offerings can be found on the Community Calendar at biccenter.org, but here are some highlights: our off-season double-feature movies on Saturday move to Monday nights in June, featuring mostly PG-rated crowd-pleasers with one R-rated remake. Let’s Get Quizzical! Trivia night comes on June 12, paring down to a once-monthly program through summer. June 15 boasts two great events, one a Dad’s Rock! Fathers’ Day program including a continental breakfast and rock-painting craft time for the kids. That’s followed at 6 PM by an entree & cocktail pairing courtesy of Vicky Fingeroot’s Bodega Catering and Grand Rapids’ esteemed Long Road Distillers, focusing on Summer Menu food and drinks.

Segments of the 9th Annual Beaver Island Sustainability Fair take place at the Community Center from June 18-21, showcasing Dark Sky presentations, Community Story Sharing, and a special concert by The Pairs, a vocal trio of women whose astounding harmonies were a hit at last year’s Beaver Island Music Festival. More luminous music finishes that week on June 21 with a return performance by the renowned Claudia Schmidt, an island favorite. Claudia brings her exuberant music to the stage as part of the 2024 Beaver Island Jazz Series, mixing a multi-octave voice, 12 string guitar and mountain dulcimer to weave together song, story and spoken word in a one-of-a-kind presentation that will fill your heart and refresh your soul.

The month wraps up with two performances from Central Michigan University’s Summer Theater Program, long-time visiting artists to our venue. The first on June 28 is Exit: Pursued By A Bear, a dark comedy that explores domestic violence, abuse, and relationships through humor and theatrics. The second show on June 29 is Nothin’ But a Good Time: An 80’s Review, a nostalgia-fueled music and dance journey through the Decade of Awesome with songs like ‘True Colors’, ‘Man in the Mirror’, and ‘I Love Rock’n’Roll’. Tickets for these and other programs are available at tickets.biccenter.org or the BIC Center front desk.

Stay tuned to our website and social media platforms for more information on all our June offerings - and we’ll see you at the Community Center!
April Joy Burgess

What is your favorite activity? Making bread, reading, playing basketball, and rock climbing.

What are your plans after high school? Get an Associates Degree in General Studies, and continue exploring a variety of opportunities.

What are your future goals? My long term goals would be to someday have my own land and homestead. I want to source all of my food from my own home, and raise a family there. Academically, I always want to keep learning, and I would be interested in a variety of careers, especially those that allow me to work from home.

Who has influenced you the most? How have they influenced you? My mother. She has always inspired me to be better, and she is consistently a person that I can go to for advice of any sort. She is non-judgmental, open to new ideas, and one of the kindest people I know. She is someone I strive to be.

What is your proudest accomplishment? Maybe this wouldn’t be considered an “accomplishment” but I would probably say living on the road for two years with my family is something that I feel proud of. Even though I didn’t really have a “choice” I feel like it was one of the defining times of my childhood where I was learning about so many different kinds of places and people. I was taught how to be open to new ideas and be more independent.

April Words of Advice:
Be the reason someone’s day is better. We’re not all perfect, but every whisper you pass, every face that you make, every time you degrade someone’s name, either behind their back or in front of their face, you are bringing an entire space around you down. Be a person that lifts a space up. That inspires a room. Make people comfortable, and happy to be themselves. You don’t have to like someone to be nice to them. This applies to school, work, and your home. Just be kind. Smile.

Ethan Mace Kubesh

What is your favorite activity? Playing sports like soccer, basketball, floor hockey, disc golf, and volleyball.

What are your future goals? My future goal is to move out into my own place.

What is your proudest accomplishment? My proudest accomplishment is graduating school with valedictorian. Seeing the effort I’ve put in over the past few years turns into something rewarding.

What is your proudest accomplishment? My proudest accomplishment is winning a The soccer trophy First Team during the Soccer Tournament Fall 2023.

Ethan’s Words of Advice: “Treat others with kindness, respect, and generosity!”

Jacob Bontrager

What is your favorite activity? I like going on bike rides, video games, and spending time with family.

What are your future plans? My plan is to graduate from high school and get a job.

What are your future goals? My future goal is to move out into my own place.

Who has influenced you the most? How have they influenced you? My parents have influenced me the most. Teaching me life lessons, letting me figure out what I want to do in my future all on my own, they never really told me to work one specific job. They have created a space to let me find what I want to on my own.

What is your proudest accomplishment? My proudest accomplishment is graduating from high school at this moment in my life.

Jake’s Words of Advice: “Keep pushing through!”

Aedan Cole

What is your favorite activity? Spending time with Family and Friends.

What are your plans after high school? I plan to go to GVSU and hopefully find something that interests me and that I can pursue for a career.

What are your future goals? My main goal for the future is to figure out what I want to do for a job. I’ve tried a few different things but haven’t really gotten enough experience to know what I really want to do. Additionally I would also like to see as much of the world as possible while I’m doing this. Someday I would love to have traveled all across the world.

Who has influenced you the most? How have they influenced you? The person that I would say influenced me the most was my sister. I have learned a lot from both copying her good qualities and learning from her shortcomings. She has taught me how to be proud of yourself and not care about what others think. Yet, she has also taught me that no ones perfect and that people’s flaws are actually usually the best part about them.

What is your proudest accomplishment? My proudest accomplishment is graduating school with valedictorian. Seeing the effort I’ve put in over the past few years turns into something rewarding.

Aedan’s Words of Advice: “The best piece of advice that I have for people in general but especially highschool students is to prioritize the relationships you have with people. Everything else you could be worrying about whether its school or money will only last for a short amount of time. Your knowledge will eventually fade or be outdated and your money will eventually get spent. However, the connections you have with your family, friends, and community have the chance to last a lifetime.”
Maggie McCafferty

What is your favorite activity?
Working out

What are your future plans?
My plan is to go to Central Michigan University to study Exercise Science and graduate with a Bachelors in Exercise Science.

What are your future goals?
My future goals are to complete my Bachelors degree in Exercise Science, become a personal trainer and start a family.

Who has influenced you the most? How have they influenced you?
My mom and dad together as a team have influenced me the most. They have shown me how to be a hard worker, value morals and have integrity and strength, they have taught me what a strong team partnership can accomplish.

What is your proudest accomplishment?
My proudest accomplishment is building myself into a strong young woman with a solid foundation in faith, the care for others, and having integrity for my self-worth.

Maggie’s Words of Advice:
“Don’t worry too much about the future, it will all fall into place exactly as it is supposed to, focus on the present in the present moment and don’t let it pass you by.”

Kiley Anne Pritchett

What is your favorite activity?
Baking, and making healthy dishes.

What are your future plans?
My future plans to go to Kalamazoo Valley Community College to acquire an Associates Degree in Applied Science of Nursing, then transfer to a University to graduate with a Bachelors in Nursing.

What are your future goals?
My future goal is to become a Registered Nurse, and have a family.

Who has influenced you the most? How have they influenced you?
Mrs. McGee has influenced me the most. She guided me and believed in me!

What is your proudest accomplishment?
My proudest accomplishment is becoming a certified clinical medical assistant while still in high school.

Kiley’s Words of Advice:
“Don’t let yourself get behind and don’t take high school for granted.”

Baccalaureate Ceremony
FOR GRADUATES

Beaver Island Christian Church
will honor the 2024 graduates of Beaver Island Community School at a Baccalaureate ceremony during the morning worship service on June 2.

This year’s graduates are Jacob Bontrager, April Burgess, Aeden Cole, Evelyn Ivy, Ethan Kubesh, Maggie McCafferty, and Kiley Pritchett. Family and friends are cordially invited to join us in celebrating with the graduates. Coffee and cake will be served after the worship service. The service begins at 10:00 a.m.
When the Health Center’s new building was completed in 2004 there was no money left over for landscaping. Pictures of the facility during those first few years expose a stark scene of nothing but wood chips in front and weed filled sand around the sides and back. There had been 2 attempts to start grass in the rear which a persistent flock of turkeys sabotaged!

The idea of beautifying the grounds of the Beaver Island Rural Health Center was the brainchild of Leonor Jacobson, an energetic gardener and fundraiser who resided part time on Beaver Island for 25 years. Her vision was to create a soothing, attractive area which would promote healing for those who came to the building seeking relief from illness. She coined the name “Wellness Gardens” and it stuck. Undeterred by the fact that not only was there no Health Center funding available for plantings, but also none for caring for gardens, Leonor decided to put an article in the Northern Islander appealing to volunteers for the project. Shortly after the article appeared another avid gardener, BJ Wyckoff, responded. BJ was well known for the extensive gardens at her Lake Geneserath home and her longstanding support of the Health Center. A more capable and enthusiastic cofounder of the project could not be found.

The first step towards realizing these two women’s vision came in the fall of 2006, when at BJ’s request, Jim Wojan donated and placed 5 large boulders in the front. These handsome rocks were the hardscape around which the first plant materials were placed. On a chilly day in October 2006 the planting began. Helpers that day were BJ and Phil Wyckoff, Bruce Kinsley, Leonor and Bruce Jacobson, Davi Stein, Sandy Birdsal, Pam Moxham, Connie Wojan and Charlevoix Marvin’s Gardens owner Gary Marvin. BJ had been a longtime customer of Gary’s and convinced him to come over to the Island with a trailer load of the first plantings: Three large pines, cedars and a few small bushes. With the aid of Phil’s tractor all were planted along with many, many day lilies taken from BJ’s gardens. Everyone there remembers the delicious lunch BJ prepared for them. In the next few years flowering trees and bushes were added to the front (all donated). Along the way daffodil and crocus bulbs from BJ were planted for spring beauty. Next step: Designing the large sandy clearing in the back of the building which is visible from the many windows in the Health Center’s waiting room. So where to start in creating a design for this huge area?

Leonor was successful in recruiting many of the Island’s top gardeners for this task: Barbara Rahn, Pam O’Brien, Cheryl Podgorski, Heidi Vigil and Marianne Weaver all designed areas with a theme. These can be seen today delineated by rocks donated by Sally and Andy Stebbins. Examples are: the Fairy Garden, designed by Cheryl Podgorski, toys added and care done by Jacque LaFreniere and her students, expanded by Sally Stebbins; the children’s garden, originally designed by Cheryl, later whimsically expanded and lovingly maintained by Sally; the Peace (white) garden first laid out by Heidi Vigil and soon meticulously perfected by Dana D’Andraia; the butterfly garden designed and planted by Marianne Weaver, kept in perfect order by Jan Paul; the pink (cancer survivors) garden designed by Pam O’Brien; the wild flower garden (planted with rescued plants) by Ed Lueck and Jim Luteyn and later taken over and added to with rescued plants by Betty Scoggins. All of these back gardens were planted either with donated plants (often in memory of loved ones) or purchased at end of the year discounts with money from the group’s fund raising efforts e.g., plant sales, silent auctions, Bite of Beaver booth sales and most popular of all, the annual garden tour. When the Forest View Community senior housing building was opened in 2011, the wellness gardeners and provided plant material and the labor to landscape it as well. For many years Sandy Howell and Alana Anderson looked out for the tender new plants.

As the gardens expanded and became more lush, many outside the Wellness Gardener group were inspired to donated things to make them even better: a simple irrigation system (Gerald LaFreniere, Roberts John Service), a handcrafted wooden arbor (Ryan Smith and Richie Gillespie), labels for the wildflowers (by CMU in memory of Ellie Hohn), large planters, daffodil bulbs and an artistic statue (Nadra Johnson), an American flag and pole (Joe and Marilyn Reed), statuary from the gardens of deceased gardeners Bruce Struik and Betty Hudgins, and many loads of free mulch (Jim Wojan). Just as appreciated were the many hours of labor put in by Beaver Island Community School, light house school and CMU honor students and private labor paid for by Nadra Johnson. From a completely blank slate in the fall of 2006 Leonor and BJ’s vision has been fully realized, thanks to endless hours of labor by the Wellness Gardeners (many of whom are over the age of 60) and generous support from the entire community.
Our brick & mortar is gone, but

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BODEGA CATERING

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• Anniversaries
• Fundraisers
• Anytime you don’t feel like cooking

Vicky Fingeroot will work with you to customize your menu and create the food and experience you want

Events to look forward to this summer:
• June 15: Refreshing signature summer cocktails with multi-course dinners in partnership with Long Road Distillery
• June 24: Cooking class with Bodega
• August 24: Fall into whiskey and multi-course seasonal food pairing

*All events will be held at the BICC

For More Information:
(231) 448-2857  |  vickyfingeroot@yahoo.com
www.HarbourBodega.com  |  Harbour Bodega  |  Harbour Bodega

This year Vicky Fingeroot’s Harbour Bodega transitions into Harbour Bodega & Bodega Catering, going from a brick-and-mortar specialty food market to an exclusive catering service. Closing her Main Street venue and pouring her creative culinary skills into local and mainland catering offers a distinct advantage: with her energies freed from running a store, she’s now able to focus exclusively on her clients, through offerings ranging from a simple tin of gourmet Mac & Cheese to full-service packages featuring multi-course meals complemented with aesthetic table arrangements and printed menus. In her words, she promises the skills of a private chef “catering for your campfire or cabin”, with attention to many needs in between.

Vicky comes to her craft with a wealth of prior experience in the hospitality fields, operating an events-planning business early on, then spending years gaining expertise in cuisine at esteemed restaurants in Detroit and Traverse City, along with serving as sous chef for a private chef in Lake Leelanau. World travel has inspired her tastes, with recent forays bringing her to Tokyo to learn the nuances of sushi, soba, yakitori, and ramen; and to San Sebastian in Spain’s Basque region (with more Michelin-rated restaurants per capita than anywhere in the world) for a deep dive into classic Mediterranean fare.

Using a licensed, modern kitchen for her new operations, Fingeroot will be aided by the proven talents of her ‘Bodega Buddies’, staff from the former Main Street venue. Together they’ll serve up a variety of catered entrees for the discerning customer, covering Asian, American Fusion, Southwest/Mexican, Italian focusing on homemade pastas, and fresh whitefish from regional fisheries fashioned into whitefish piccata and pâté. Special ticketed events are planned for the summer and beyond, as Bodega Catering partners with Grand Rapids award-winning Long Road Distillers to stage multi-food and drink dinners such as ‘Fresh and New Flavors for Spring’ and ‘Fall into Winter’, replete with local and international dishes that can be served either as an appetizer or main course - all made from local sources to emphasize convenience.

The business will have a physical presence at Island Farmers Markets during summer, and digitally year-round, with website links to weekly specials which can be pre-ordered. Vicky will also offer in-person and online cooking classes, including an expert-led class in foraging for forest edibles such as mushrooms and other delicacies, all of which can be used in cooking. With all these possibilities, Harbour Bodega & Bodega Catering enters a rich new chapter in the local and regional culinary service.
Beaver Island Irish Heritage Group is pleased to announce and extend heartfelt thanks to Shannon McDonough for her exceptional contributions to our team. We also warmly welcome Katie Johnson, who will be joining us as the Administrative Assistant/Bookkeeper.

Shannon McDonough has been an invaluable member of our organization, consistently demonstrating dedication, expertise, and a positive attitude. Over the past year, Shannon has played a crucial role in the success of the 2023 Beaver Island Irish Féile by providing strong leadership and organizational skills while the Féile was still operating as a committee of the Beaver Island Chamber of Commerce. Shannon's real strength came shining through as she guided the bookkeeping end of things as our organization evolved into the Beaver Island Irish Heritage Group. Shannon set up accounts, policies and procedures and worked with newly formed committees to establish a solid footing for the new organization. Her leadership, knowledge of the nonprofit sector and commitment have greatly contributed to our success, and we are deeply grateful for her hard work and passion for the BIIHG and the especially the Emerald Isle Irish Féile.

"Shannon has been amazing to work with, said Board Treasurer, Lu O'Connor, for her ability to work with everyone and always show professionalism. "We wish her all the best in her future endeavors and thank her for her exceptional service. We look forward to having Shannon's expertise and passion with us from the sidelines."

As we bid farewell to Shannon, we are excited to welcome Katie Johnson to the Beaver Island Irish Heritage Group. Katie joins us as our new Administrative Assistant/Bookkeeper, bringing with her a wealth of experience in nonprofits, fundraising, event planning, marketing, and bookkeeping. Katie and her son reside on the Island and Katie is excited to find an organizational post that will allow her to use her many skills. She is excited to help the board keep up the momentum and enthusiasm that was generated by the 2023 Irish Féile. Her skills will be a tremendous asset to our team as we continue to build one of the best Irish Festivals in the country.

"We are thrilled to have Katie join our team; said Board President, Paul Cole." Her experience and enthusiasm align perfectly with our goals, and we are confident that she will contribute significantly to our ongoing success."

Katie Johnson holds a degree from Bournemouth University in the UK, and her previous work in the business field with Fuji Film and The Higgest Good along with non-profit work for such projects as The Gumpsathon and Help for Heroes has equipped her with the insights and expertise needed to excel in her new role. We are looking forward to the fresh perspectives and innovative ideas she will bring to the Beaver Island Irish Heritage Group. Katie will work with Festival Coordinator Kathleen McNamara to further the work of the board and the festival.

The Beaver Island Irish Heritage Group is a nonprofit corporation presenting authentic and varied activities to recognize, showcase, and preserve Beaver Island’s unique Irish heritage including its connection to Arranmore Island, County Donegal, Republic of Ireland. The signature event of the group is the annual Emerald Isle Irish Féile which it hosts each September.
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New Building Construction | Additions
Garages & Pole Barns | Decks & Stairways | Site Work | Masonry

Phone: 989-772-2202 | Web: www.GreenwaldBC.com
Preston Herren: Preston@GreenwaldBC.com
Maura Turner: Maura@GreenwaldBC.com
Grand Opening of the BIDL Seed Library

Many folks gathered at the Library for the Grand Opening of the BIDL Seed Library on April 20th. Monica Longlet explained how a Seed Library works. Shelby Harris spoke about the need for Native Plant preservation and planting. Kids had many activities to keep them busy and creative. Lois Campbell read The Extraordinary Gardener by Sam Boughton to kids.

The seed library officially opened for all to take some seeds to start in their own gardens. Heirloom seeds primarily. We request that after harvesting, you return some seeds to us to keep the library going!

We are also participating in the One Seed, One State program and just received our Mammoth Dill seeds to distribute. Stop by the library to pick up a packet and browse the catalog for more!

The BIDL seed library program will include a speaker series at least once a month. The first was Shelby Harris at the kick-off event. In May, Nate Walton of the MSU Extension Service, held a Zoom meeting about soils.

GREAT LAKES, GREAT READ

As part of Earth Day commemorations, the Wisconsin Water Library at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, supported by Wisconsin Sea Grant, and the Wisconsin Library Association announced the books selected for a basin-wide shared-reading experience, Great Lakes, Great Read. Both books will be available at the Library, both selected authors will be featured in a free webinar series happening on Sept. 25 and Oct. 2 and 9. All events will start at 7 p.m., ET, and will be open to the public.

Coding Clubs start June 1st - 1 p.m.

Coming soon in June: Coding Clubs for kids and adults. The library will be subscribing to Fiero Code, a program offered to libraries and schools. Participants will learn how to code in a variety of languages through a gaming platform. Open to ages 8 years old+, there will be two opportunities for patrons to join, one for the kids and one for the adults. Kids will be held on weekends during the summer and after school during the school year. Adults will be held in the evenings. Frequency will depend upon the needs of the participants. If interested give the library a call and get on a list! We're excited to announce our summer reading program. Join us for a kickoff party on Tuesday, June 18 at 3:00. We'll have books, fun, and snacks!

Stay tuned for updates about our summer reading programming. Each week we will have elementary storytelling, baby and toddler meetup, and teen cafe. Parents look for a flyer coming home from school with information about the summer reading program. Our goal is to provide literature based, hands on, activities, have fun, and encourage reading.

GLENN HENDRIX BOOK

Islands of Fiddlers is not yet available in the States as it has been printed in Ireland. We are working on getting copies to be sold at the Print Shop Museum on Beaver Island. You can Preorder the books through the library or through the Beaver Island Historical Society.

BOBI BOOK CLUB

BOBI will meet on June 19th at 3 p.m. to discuss The Violin Conspiracy by Brendan Sclobumb. All are welcome to participate and there are books available at the Library. Zoom link is also available. Contact the library for information.

SCAMMER ALERT PRESENTATION

Nick Delaat will be at the Library on June 18th at 1:00 p.m. to discuss ways that you can protect yourself from scammers online. Bring your questions and discover what you can do to keep your information and money safe.

Grand Opening/Dedication of Jan’s Book Nook:

It is ready! Jan’s Book Nook will open Memorial Weekend. We will have a dedication ceremony and event on June 1st at 3 p.m. Snacks available. Also, there will be an opportunity to browse the books for sale (by Free Will donation). Don’t forget to stop inside the library and grab some seeds to plant from the Seed Library!

JUNE SEED LIBRARY SPEAKER SERIES

Pick this, not that! Guerilla gardening can work! This will be the theme of this month’s speaker presentation by Shelby Harris. Wanting to add plants to your garden that are Island natives? Know what you can transplant and what not to transplant. June 12th at 1 p.m. at the Library.

Myths, Monsters and a Summer of Virtual Adventure...pack your bags for a summer camp unlike any other.

The Summer Library Quest will be held from June 19th through July 31st. The Quest will challenge teen explorers to complete a virtual escape room by solving puzzles about mythology and adventure, tying into the Summer Reading program’s theme of Adventure Begins at Your Library. After completing the Quest, teens will submit their entry on the MIQUEST website and be entered into a drawing for a prize at Beaver Island District Library. Contact the library for details on how to join!

JUNE 2024 | NORTHERN ISLANDER
COMMUNITY, COMMUNITY = B. I. ANGELS

By Amy Marschner

This island continues to amaze me daily with the kindness, generosity, and selflessness that is so effortlessly offered in times of need. We are creating this page in support with all Non-Profit organizations on the Island and also in partnership with the “Beaver Island Volunteers” to help promote and recruit the help of our “Island Angels”.

If you are interested in supporting our community then please join us at our first Volunteer Fair on June 13th and or join the Beaver Island Volunteer Facebook page.

MEET DONNA & CREW

A visit to Island Treasures Resale Shop is a chance to see a shining example of volunteerism. The processes of intake, sorting, pricing, displaying, and selling goods require many willing hands. We have taken many donated items and turned them into undreds of thousands of dollars worth of life saving equipment for Beaver Island. This amazing process started 40 years ago, before we even had EMS on the Island!

Karen Wojan and I are the de facto managers of Island Treasures. We are constantly obsessed with making the shop clean, attractive, friendly and profitable. We are frequently at the shop on days we are closed trying to keep things working well. We work with women and men who volunteer both year round and seasonally. These people are always willing to do the little extras to make the donation and shopping experience pleasant.

We have supported the BI Fire Department since 1984. ENS has received equipment money from us in recent years. Our special project has been to purchase AED’s for public buildings and spaces all over the Island. The Island Treasures Resale Shop has opened its doors to victims of disasters and setbacks when help is needed!

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS - ROADSIDE CLEANUP DAY

Join us for a community roadside clean-up event on Saturday June 8th, starting at 9:00 am. Individuals interested in volunteering are asked to rendezvous at the Peaine Township Hall parking lot at 9:00AM to tackle litter and spruce up our bucolic Island byways. Every helping hand counts! Whether you can spare an hour or the whole morning, your contribution is invaluable in keeping our roadsides clean and beautiful. Bring your friends, family for a positive and worthwhile morning adventure to make our community shine. See you there!

ROADSIDE CLEANUP DAY

SATURDAY, JUNE 8th
9:00 AM - NOON
MEET @ PEAINE TOWNSHIP HALL

- Volunteers should wear boots or walking shoes;
- Volunteers wear yellow-green safety vests, which are required by federal regulations;
- Volunteers should wear long pants for poison ivy thrives along island roadsides;
- Volunteers must be at least 12 years old. Children ages 12-17 must be accompanied by an adult;
- Volunteers must watch a safety training video and abide by safety guidelines;
- Volunteers between the ages of 12 and 17 must complete a Youth Participation Release Form;
- Safety Vests, Gloves, Pick Sticks, Trash and Bags are provided courtesy of Peaine and St. James Townships;
- Arrangements have been made to haul away the trash that is collected;
- Water provided courtesy of McDonough’s Market;
- There is no fee to participate!

Roadsides to be cleaned up are dependent on the number of volunteers who step up:
- East Side Drive from 4 Corners to the BI Golf Course Entrance
- McCafferty Lane from King Hwy to CMU on East Side Drive
- Barneys Lake Road from King Hwy to Eagle Hill Road
- Sloptown Road to Donnel Moors Lane to Paid Een Ogs Road
- Carlisle Road from Kings Hwy to 25813 Carlisle Rd

For additional information call 231-448-2603
A BRIEF HISTORY OF ST. JAMES EPISCOPAL ON BEAVER ISLAND
By Ken Zick

Across from the township cemetery on Gallagher Street stands a charming log church with a spire capped by a Greek cross. Few understand its place in the history of our island. It has served as a place of worship, spiritual renewal, and community for generations of island residents and visitors.

St. James Episcopal Church was the first protestant church on an island with a rich and meaningful Catholic history. Its beginnings were humble, and it may have never existed but for a serendipitous occurrence connected with the name of none other than Ernest Hemingway.

St. James will celebrate the 70th anniversary of its founding on July 25th of this year. In the summer of 1954 Bishop Dudley McNeil had rented “Windemere”, the Hemingway cottage on Walloon Lake. Although the McNels had looked forward to spending their family vacation at “Windemere”, they found that it was not suitable. So they removed themselves to a home on Beaver Island. Word spread among many island families that Bishop McNeil was coming to the island. When the McNeil family arrived on the ferry, they were greeted by several families who requested that he hold worship services. Until that time the only church services on the island were held at Holy Cross Catholic Church.

Of course, he readily consented, and the first Protestant worship service took place on July 25. Many more followed.

The first worship services for the fledgling church took place at the home of Dr. Harry Vail. Later that summer, Judge David Wilson donated an old home on Free Soil Ave to serve as the first permanent location of the church from 1954 to 1963. Parishioners sat on old fish packing boxes which served as pews. One fish box still remains in the present church as a reminder of its humble beginnings. It certainly conjures up an image of early congregates sitting on crates from which the lingering odor of fish wafted into the nostrils of upright parishioners anxious for the sermon to end! One can imagine the priest holding forth on Christ’s call to Peter to go forth on the Sea of Galilee to fish again after a disappointing catch, and the congregants retching as the priest describes the abundant bounty of netful.. after netful.. after netful of writhing fish! “On this crate I will build my church?”

In 1962 Warren and Beatrice Townsend donated the land for a new church located on Gallagher Street. It was dedicated in September, 1963 and has since undergone many improvements. Over the years countless parishioners have donated gifts to sustain the life of the church. In 1991 Ms. Vivian Visscher bequeathed her house, located near the church on Pine Street, to serve as a vicarage. Through this generous gift many visiting and supply clergy have been able to stay in the house and serve the congregation.

Although the church has hosted many events over the years; including dancing, films, potlucks with other churches, charity events, raffles, and concerts, perhaps St. James’ most singular contribution to Beaver Island has been the founding of “Baroque on Beaver”. Although Baroque was formally initiated in 2003, it actually began as a serendipitous event hosted at St. James by members, Marty and Jane Maehr. Charles Krutz, Professor Emeritus at Concordia College was visiting his longtime friends. Led by Krutz, in 2002 “J.S. Bach and Friends” was held at St. James on a Sunday morning. The following year the program became “Baroque on Beaver”. Islanders and musicians have sustained this precious tradition for over 20 years on the island. Some performances have even been broadcast on NPR’s “Performance Today”.

This author experienced one uniquely island vignette about Baroque as a chorister after a rehearsal in 2013. The program called for performance of “Rule Britannia” as a concluding piece. Several of us blanched at the idea of performing a tribute to British colonial rule on an island with Irish heritage. It did not seem an appropriate selection. After consultation with the orchestral director it was decided that John Rutter’s hauntingly poignant “Gaelic Blessing” would be a more fitting piece. Since then, it has ended every last concert of Baroque.

From Hemingway’s cottage, to fishing crates, to Baroque’s “Gaelic Blessing”, the history of St. James has become rooted in island history. Our mission at St. James is particularly related to our place on the island. It is “to reflect God’s grace, through Christ’s love, in service to one another and God’s creation.” We welcome all comers. Moreover, the doors of our church are open at all hours to visit for prayer and contemplation. The old floors creak as if spirits are shifting within.

Together with the Holy Spirit it seems as if 70 years of warm and inviting former congregants are gathering to join one in prayer.

*Ken Zick, is Sr. Warden at St. James Episcopal. He has drawn this history in part from a 2004 history of St. James compiled by Joan Vyse, and a history entitled, “Baroque on Beaver – The First Twenty Years” written by Jeanne Howell. Ken welcomes any questions about St. James. email: zickk@wfu.edu Sunday services are at 9:00 a.m.
BEACH TOY LIBRARY COMING IN JUNE
By Amy Marschner

What is a Beach Toy Lending Library you ask? It’s one of the latest trends that communities, local businesses and also kids are getting behind. It’s a toy box that will share sand toys, frisbees, and items to play with while enjoying the beach. Residents or visitors may BORROW from the lending library for the DAY, PLAY with the toys, and then RETURN them back to the box before leaving the beach. The first two beaches with the Toy Library will be Iron Ore Bay and the Jewell Gillespie Park.

Let’s point out the benefits:

- Promotes active creativity and group involvement
- Sharing is caring, play with a toy and donate one too
- Helps to save money on purchasing annual beach toys
- Parents- you don’t have to haul all the toys to and from carrying all the sand

This Beaver Island initiative was spearheaded by a few kind and generous souls to start but quickly became a ground swell effort involving the community. Folks are able to donate and or visit an Amazon Wishlist for items to contribute.

Items purchased via Amazon will be shipped to Fresh Air and sent to the team involved. If you would like to make a monetary donation please contact Jennifer Holman-Welch or Audrey VanDyke.

Our beaches are one of many unique attributes of this island, so let’s spread the joy, encourage involvement and stimulate our youth to explore and enjoy! If you stop by and see the toys on the beach, help to keep things clean by putting them back in the toy library so all can enjoy.

Thanks to both Townships, Powers Hardware and the generous community for the support of this project!
HELEN COLLAR- 3rd & 4th GRADE RESEARCH  
By Connor McDonough and Yorick Duffing

Hello! The 3rd and 4th grade class made some books about memorable people of Beaver Island. We made the Memorable People of Beaver Island books to learn about the island history, how to use sources, and it was a class project. All the 3rd and 4th grade students made their own books. Their names are Aria, Charlie, Connor, Declan, Eli, Kori, Lily, last but not least, Yorick. We will be talking about our sources, people we interviewed, and places we went.

We had many sources in our books. A few types of sources are the journals of Beaver Island and interviews. We used newspapers including the Beaver Beacon. We used a lot of books, here are some. A child of the sea, and The Beaver Island history journals. We went to many places (going more in depth later.)

We interviewed two people. They were George Broder and Glen Hendrix. George Broder is Helen Collar’s grandson. With him, we got lots of information on Helen Collar. We also got some information about Ina Redding. Glen Hendix is a person who takes care of Pat Bonner’s fiddle. He gave us valuable information about Pat Bonner. He also knows how to play the fiddle and played it for our class in person. We got to play it too.

We went to many places including the library, Whisky Point Lighthouse, a cemetery, Protar’s place, Protar’s tomb, the Beaver Island Print Shop, the township airport on Beaver Island, Pine Street, Angeline’s Bluff, and Mrs. Redding’s Trail.

In conclusion we made some books about memorable people of Beaver Island. Thanks for reading this. We made the Memorable People Of Beaver Island books so we could learn more about Beaver Island. Thank you to all of our sources to help make our books. There is a lot of wonderful history on Beaver Island.

Helen Collar and grandson George Broder
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If you love Beaver Island, you do not want to miss the 2024 Beaver Island Sustainability Fair for a program that will take us from the earth to the stars!

Mushrooming! Gina Mangra, "mycologist" extraordinaire, opens the fair at the Central Michigan University Biological Station, 9-10AM Tuesday June 18, 2024, speaking about foraging for wild mushrooms. On Wednesday June 19 at 1PM Gina will teach us how to inoculate logs with spores to cultivate mushrooms. Whether you are a gourmet, naturalist, or forager, you will not want to miss Mushrooming with Mangra!

Native plants, Butterflies and Pollinators! Let us go hiking on Wednesday June 19 at 10AM and learn to identify native plants and invasive species at Port St. James Hidden Valley Trail. Beaver Island's own Shelby Harris, Terrestrial Invasive Species Administrator, will lead the hike. On Thursday June 20 at 1PM, we will meet at Tara's Meadow with Team Monarch for hands-on learning about butterfly gardens. Under the tutelage of Lauri Juday, we will enlarge a native garden, replete with native plants, and learn about pollinators and butterfly ecology. Lauri Juday of "Team Monarch" will offer a special program on Saving Monarch Butterflies and their Biology at the Beaver Island Community Center on Friday June 21 at 1PM.

Sustainable Eating, Permaculture and Agroforestry – Come to Gregg Fellowship Center at the Christian Church on Saturday June 22, 12noon – 3:30. Saturday afternoon is action packed, beginning with a Public Feast, featuring a taco bar, with beverages and desserts. We suggest a $10 donation but just pay what you can. During lunch, the 2024 Environmental Award will be presented and we will hear updates from the Beaver Island Sustainable Energy Team. Eran Rhodzell, permaculture and agroforestry expert, the founder of the Sacred Earth Initiative, and owner of Laughing Linden Farms in Benzie County will teach us about how to grow more nutritious food sustainably.

Renewable Energy from the Sun and the Waves! – Tuesday June 18th at 10-12noon see the solar installation by Agathon Solar at Tara's Meadow. Thursday June 20th at 10AM Sara Milles Lucke and Agathon Solar will describe agrovoltaics – the symbiosis of solar installations and agriculture – at the Print Shop Museum. Friday June 21 at 10AM the University of Michigan will demonstrate the Wave Energy Converter at the Central Michigan University Boathouse at Whiskey Point. Adam Duke will discuss Energy Audits & Energy Efficiency on Saturday June 22 at 11AM at the Print Shop Museum.

The Stars will align from 7-10PM Tuesday June 18th at the Beaver Island Community Center! – Hear the celestial music of Melissa Welke, exciting updates about the Beaver Island Dark Sky Project, and Night Sky photography by award-winning photographer, Justin Miller. At 10PM, weather and skies willing, we will meander from the BICC to Whiskey Point for some hands-on night sky photography.

Music and Blessings – The Pairs return to Beaver Island to support sustainability and play and sing some contagious folk tunes Friday June 21 at 7PM at the Beaver Island Community Center. The Pairs will join us Saturday June 22 at 9AM at Paradise Bay for the Water Ceremony and Celtic Blessing.

**JOIN US FOR THE 2024 SUSTAINABILITY FAIR ON JUNE 18-22**
By Sue Holcombe & Seanus Norgaard
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JUNE 2024 | NORTHERN ISLANDER
Richard “Dickie” McEvoy passed away on April 24, 2024, at the age of 77.

Despite the severity of his illness, Dickie showed great courage and continued to live by his own rules until the very end. Dickie served in the Vietnam War as an Army medic. In the following years, he continued to care for people by earning his Bachelor’s degree and working as a Respiratory Therapist.

From Detroit to Beaver Island to Cedar Key, Florida, he has called many places home over the years. Dickie made countless friends and memories along the way. He was always up for an adventure, a good time, and a bit of mischief. During his travels, he visited 53 National Parks and over 10 countries. Dickie was a fierce advocate for his fellow veterans. He worked tirelessly to build connections and help others obtain available resources. He helped them gain the access and the recognition they deserved.

He gave freely and passionately to his communities. Often volunteering, delegating, and using his knowledge and skills to work towards common goals. Dickie took great pride in his projects with the Beaver Island Historical Society and the Beaver Island Head Light (Southside Lighthouse) towards preservation and restoration.

Dickie’s family and friends will forever treasure their memories and the good times they shared. They will continue to honor his legacy by living their lives to the fullest, just as he did.

Richard McEvoy will be interred at the Great Lakes National Cemetery in Holly, Michigan with Military Honors and additionally wake memorials in Attica, MI and on Beaver Island. Specific dates to be determined.

In remembrance of Dickie, any charitable donations can be made to the Beaver Island Historical Society.

Arrangements for cremation have been entrusted to Lynch & Sons Funeral Directors - Capstick Chapel in Lapeer.

Richard “Dickie” McEvoy was a patriot and beloved Islander who was active in the community. Dickie served his Country as a Medic in the Army during the Vietnam War 1966–69. He is survived by his sister Mary Cesarz and many nieces, nephews and friends.

He joined the ranks of the Beaver Island Amvets Post 46 twenty years ago serving on the board 6-8 years, recently as the Vice-Chair. According to Dan Burton, Post Commander, he never missed a meeting. Advocating most for handicap accessible projects such as a paved path with a bench and handrail at Veterans Park. Dickie was a special friend to the Beaver Island Historical Society, a strong advocate for preserving the Beaver Head Lighthouse organizing work bees at the lighthouse with friends to paint, repair the exterior and grounds clean-up. In the November 2023 edition of the Northern Islander, lighthouse volunteers noted, “Dickie calls and tells us to do it, we just simply do it. " Dickie then followed up with the following analogy, "I'm the spark and they are the flame."

As a result of his determined advocacy, the Beaver Head Lighthouse will begin renovations over the summer months, opening a small museum in 2025. With the approval of Charlevoix County and Networks Northwest, the Beaver Island Historical Society has teamed up with Keith Bynum and Evan Thomas to feature the lighthouse in a major network television series. This is an awesome opportunity for our community to move forward and complete long-overdue repairs. The Society will host a This Place Matters Picnic on 8/18/2024 and the public will be able to get a preview of the lighthouse progress.

Fortunate to have worked with Dickie, I know it was his dream to see the lighthouse open and accessible to the public and he was excited to know the project is moving forward. If you would like to help support the work at the Beaver Head Lighthouse, donations can be mailed to BHS, PO Box 263, Beaver Island, MI 49782, on our website https://www.beaverislandhistory.org/ or by calling 231.448.2254 to learn more about how you can help support #DICKIESDREAM.

A celebration of Dickie’s life will begin on Friday, 7/26 @ 7 PM at the Print Shop Museum for a special event featuring maritime author & friend Patrick Livingston. He will chat about his books and how Dickie was influential in his book 8 Steamboats. Saturday, 7/27 an Antique Car Show will be held at the Whiskey Point 12-2 PM. For more details please call the Print Shop Museum or email director@beaverislandhistory.org. Following the Car Show a Military Tribute will be held at the Beaver Island Veterans Memorial Park. Dickie requested the Dire Straits song; Brothers in Arms be played, and a traditional Taps and Rifle Ceremony will honor his military service. Afterwards, a potluck gathering will take place at the Port St. James Association Pavilion.
Thank you to all the volunteers who make the Res!

Below is a map of the island showing the physical locations of the AEDs. Please also note the color coding provides the type of access available. Thanks again to the Island Treasures Resale Shop and the contribution you each make with supporting their efforts!
For the past 8 years, bocce has occupied a very specific niche on the-Island. "It truly is a game for everybody," said game organizer Frank D’Andraia. "You don’t have to be in super condition to play bocce, but it’s a wonderful way to stay active and meet and enjoy the company of others."

Come June 5th bocce players will begin meeting on Wednesday afternoons at 3pm for pick-up games. Play lasts between two and three hours. A maximum 16 players may play at one time. In the interim volunteers are working on preparing the two courts for opening day play on June 5th.

Bocce looks like a form of bowling and it is. While there aren’t any pins involved, bocce requires successful players to deliver the game’s balls at varying speeds, with accuracy, in an effort to score and to outmaneuver opponents. Since the new bocce courts opened in 2023 dozens of bocce aficionados have taken to the new Peaine Township Courts at Font Lake Park for some friendly, spirited competition, and organizers look for that number to grow.

Caig Peirano, one of the bocce regulars said “The new courts are a vast improvement over what was available before. The new courts add complexity and excitement to Bocce matches, showcasing the skill and strategic prowess of players.” The two new bocce courts are covered in crushed oyster shells, which are the highest quality top coat that can be used for bocce courts.

Lisa Franz, another regular, said the new courts make a difference in controlling the bocce balls, especially when speed is needed to outwit your opponent.” She added, “The old grass courts were so unpredictable. With the oyster shell courts you have more certainty as to where your shot is headed.”

BOCCE BALL STARTS IN JUNE- PLAYERS SAY NEW COURTS
HELP TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE
By Frank D’Adraia

There are no fees associated with the pick-up games. All equipment is provided or you may bring your own equipment. New participants are always encouraged, and lessons are available for beginners.

The first bocce tournament was held in 2017. D’Andraia said ticket sales and attendance have increased every year since the tournament began. Island organizations that have benefited from tournament ticket sales have included, among others, the Beaver Island Performing Arts Alliance, Friends of Beaver Island Animals, Forest View Senior Housing, the Beaver Island Food Pantry and the Beaver Island Historical Society. Money raised by the 2024 bocce tournament is to be given to the Beaver Island Community Center. To date about $11,000 has been distributed to Island charitable organizations.
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NMU STUDENTS INTRODUCE NEW WHISKEY POINT EXHIBIT

By Martina Hedlund & Kelsey Oas

The Beaver Island Historical Society’s Mormon Print Shop Museum is hosting a small exhibit showcasing the finds from Northern Michigan’s University’s 2023 summer archeological excavation near the Whiskey Point Lighthouse. This exhibition is meant to show the viewer a timeline of the Island’s history through the important location of Whiskey Point. The artifacts included are primarily personal belongings believed to be associated with the Alva Cable Trading Post, the Life Saving Service Station, and the historic homesteads at the point.

Northern Michigan University’s Dr. Scott Demel holds their archaeological field school every two years, you may remember seeing students digging last summer at Whiskey Point, or in past years at the Mormon Print Shop, Cable Bay, or Protar’s Home. Many interesting artifacts were removed to be analyzed by NMU students, and four students from the 2023 excavation, Cora Blankenship, Jada Drotar, Martina Hedlund, and Kelsey Oas, in corroboration with the Beaver Island Historical Society, have returned to display and showcase to the public the artifacts found. A fifth group member, Aiden Petz, helped immensely in the research and planning, but unfortunately could not make the trip.

The exhibit is the final project of NMU’s Museum Studies course, which is an important part in training young historians and museum workers to handle the creative and intellectual demands of the field. The students are very excited to return to Beaver Island and show locals and visitors the little pocket of history that Whiskey Point can show.

THE PRINT SHOP INTRODUCES ALL NEW GIFT SHOP

By Cheryl Oliver Kern

The Beaver Island Historical Society continues to add all kinds of extra goodies including fun events, public programs, hands on experiences for kids, and, of course, gift shops! In April Lori Taylor-Blitz and Cheryl Oliver Kern traveled off island to attend two gift shows in Gaylord, Michigan. They were not disappointed in The Northern Michigan Gift Show and the Gaylord Gift Show and were pleasantly overwhelmed with the quality of the unique offerings, many from our own state of Michigan.

We continue to look for items and would love to add more from here on the island to stock our Printshop Museum and Marine Museum. If you have any island treasures and or suggestions please reach out and contact us for consideration.

We have also added a kid’s corner which includes books and games to keep little ones occupied while their parents are browsing the museum, attending events, or shopping in the gift shop.

A few key highlights to share:
- Native American Culture
- Dark Skies
- Children education, toys, puzzles, books and more
- Michigan made soaps, hand cream and lip balms
- Michigan Nature
- Beaver Island History
- Maritime
- Maps, posters, postcards

Be sure to stop in and see the ongoing changes we are making to both of our museums.
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Every spring around the first week of May, thoughts of the elusive Morel mushroom start filling my head. Those thoughts become obsessive, drawing me literally to want to take the day off work and wonder the forest. I think to myself, is it the right time yet, is that a good spot, did someone else find them before me? Morel hunter’s are a special breed of folks. We wonder for hours, eyes to the ground in hopes of spotting that wrinkled tasty fungi.

Most morels like ground temperatures at 65 or above before they start emerging from the ground. Good rains tend to fill them with joy making them big and fat. Some are yellow, some are black or grey, some like areas where the ground was ravaged with fire. Which ever you find, make sure they are hollow inside with uniformed ridges and pitted caps. These mushrooms like the company of Elm, Ash and apple trees.

Hunter beware, there are toxic look-a-likes lurking in the forest too. There are 2 varieties I have encountered on Beaver Island. Some call it Beefsteak but it’s real name is the False Morel or Gyromitra esclenta. Another is the Verpa bohemica or the Early morel, who’s stem if full of a cottony pith. Now I have listened to people tell me all the time they have eaten these and never gotten ill, but I HIGHLY recommend not consuming them unless you know how to properly cook them. When in doubt, throw it out.

Cooking a good true morel is an adventure in culinary achievements! Paired with spring time ramps and farm fresh eggs, an omelet never tasted so good. Fresh cream, some wild garlic atop a prime cut of meat, oh boy! Cooking Morel mushrooms is a passion for me. I love to explore the many ways other than battered and fried.

Morel Hunting on Beaver Island
By Gina Mangra

Which ever morel species you find, be sure to properly identify them before you consume them. If you’ve never eaten a morel before, or any mushroom at that, eat only a few and see how you feel after. I suggest saving a few in the fridge just in case you do fall ill that way the EMS will know what you ate.

It IS time to put your hiking boots on, hit the trail, take a friend and find those elusive Morel mushrooms. BTW, if you can’t eat them all just send them my way.
LAKE G FISH TOURNAMENT SCHEDULED

The summer version of the Lake G. fishing tournament will be held on June 15th from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. The adults will compete for the biggest Walleye by length, and the biggest Large Mouth Bass by length. Prizes will be awarded for first and second places of each.

The kids will compete for the most panfish caught (total number), and the largest fish by length of any legal species. There will be prizes for the first and second places of each of those as well.

Check-in will be at the Lake G. access. Reminder anyone over the age of 17 must have a valid fishing license available online at Michigan.gov/dnr.

TREES AND SHRUBS WERE DISTRIBUTED

Over 200 trees and shrubs were distributed free to any land owner on Beaver Island. They consisted of American Chestnut, Hazelnut, Elderberry, Cranberry, Serviceberry, Apples and Black Walnut. All found good homes. Grow tubes and stakes were also given with the Chestnuts for protection. The club distributes trees and shrubs for wildlife each spring to help wildlife. They also might get some trees this fall.

Watch locally for details.
Not Only Baroque: Jazz and Drama Featured on BIPAA Summer Schedule

The Beaver Island Performing Arts Alliance (BIPAA) will present multiple summer events in addition to Baroque on Beaver (July 25–August 3). Tickets for all performances are now available at the BIC Center Ticket Page: www.store.biccenter.org/tickets/.

At 7:30 on July 9 and July 10 the two-act play Searching for Eden will be performed at the BIC Center. This two-person play is set in the Garden of Eden and follows the meeting of the first man and woman. Playwright James Still combines Mark Twain’s short stories about Adam and Eve to create the story. The play begins at the couple’s meeting and the battle of the sexes starts, language is deliciously invented, and loneliness and heartbreak are poignantly discovered. In Act Two, Adam and Eve are in their 40’s and distracted by high-powered careers. Eventually, the “first couple” returns to present-day Eden (now an upscale resort called “E”) to recapture the primal passions of their youth. Directed by Beaver Island resident Peter Amster and acted by stage veterans David Breitbarth and Cindy Gold.

The Beaver Island Jazz Series, now in its third season, is sponsored by Bob and Julie Neff and co-presented by BIPAA and the BIC Center. It features three great concerts. On July 17 at 7:30 drummer Greg Vadnais (www.gregvadnaismusic.com) and his quartet will perform. Mr. Vadnais has performed at festivals and venues throughout Michigan since relocating here from Colorado in the early 2000s. The Greg Vadnais Quartet features Ron Getz on guitar, Bruce Dondero on bass, and Dan White on saxophones.

During Baroque Week (details at www.baroqueonbeaver.org) on July 31 at 3:00, the St James Jazz Ensemble performs at Whiskey Point Brewing. This quartet features local artists Layla Hall (drums) and Chris Screven (guitar) along with Traverse City bassist Michael Markley and saxophonist Mark Ortwein.

Lastly on August 14 at 7:30 “America’s Pianist”, the incomparable Kevin Cole (www.kevin-colemusic.com), will return to the BIC Center. A graduate of the Interlochen Arts Academy, his many engagements include the Tonight Show, Los Angeles Philharmonic, San Francisco Symphony, Minnesota Orchestra, Cincinnati Pops, Edmonton Symphony (Canada), Philharmonia Orchestra (UK), BBC Concert Orchestra (UK), and the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. Kevin will be joined by Traverse City vocalist and entrepreneur Judy Harrison (www.highimpactnow.com). Ms. Harrison’s production company includes her bands ReBoot-ed and SwingShift. The evening’s selections will include classic songs from the Great American Songbook along with Broadway favorites.

THE SPORTSMAN LAIR
By Eric Marschner

I have been an outdoor enthusiast since my youth and spent the majority of my life enjoying and appreciating the natural resources of living in Michigan. Hunting, fishing, archery, foraging, hiking and exploring have been my passion regardless of where I have resided in Michigan.

Three years ago, my wife and I moved to Beaver Island (she has a rich history and is the current Editor/Creative Director for the Northern Islander and BIHS) and I have had the fortunate luck to work for Greenwald Construction. We now happily claim Beaver Island our home.

From time to time, I would like to share a sneak peak into the wildlife, tips and reports here on Beaver Island whether it is regarding fishing, hunting and or DNR updates.

As we move into the summer months, the unpredictable weather has certainly caused changes from last year. We have been diligently exploring the lakes and can share the following with you as you gear up to catch your limits.

Blue gill fishing has gotten a late start due to the weed bed being relatively immature. Last year May was the month to slay them but hang tight as they will come.

The bluegill are pre-spawn and have not been on their beds. We are finding them in 8-10 feet water with deep weeds. Use a slip bobber, worms and a small lead head jig.

Lake Michigan has delivered several fisherman limit out days for Trout season.

Early success with Walleye have been using bottom bouncers and crawler harnesses.
CHARLEVOIX COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
SYNOPSIS MAY 8, 2024
The Charlevoix County Board of Commissioners met in the Charlevoix County Commissioners room on May 8, 2024, at 9:30 a.m. Six Commissioners were present.
Motion approved the agenda as amended.
Motion approved the April 24, 2024 closed session minutes as presented.
Motion approved the consent agenda as presented.
Motion approved Resolution #24-049, County Expenditures.
Motion approved Resolution #24-050, Charlevoix County Emergency Operations Plan Update.
Motion approved Resolution #24-051, 2024 Summer Tax Millage Rate Request.
Motion approved Resolution #24-052, Land Bank Properties.
Motion approved Resolution #24-053, Rescind Resolution #23-053. Nays: Commissioner Jess.
The meeting was adjourned to the call of the Chair at 10:28 a.m.
Complete copies of Board minutes can be found on the County website, www.charlevoixcounty.org.
Julia A. Drost, County Clerk
Come fish Lake Michigan with the Kelly Day

There’s an old tale that Edward J. Kelly, mayor of Chicago 1933 - 1947, gave firefighters one day off after seven on duty as a tactic to reduce fatigue as well as overtime pay. Hence, a firefighter’s day-off became known as a “Kelly Day.” When Captain Bob Turner retired from the Detroit Metropolitan Airport Fire Department in 2015, he quickly left the hustle of Southeast Michigan in favor of the more relaxed and nature-centric serenity of Beaver Island. He now enjoys his never-ending days off aboard the aptly named Kelly Day.

Meet Captain Bob

Captain Bob Turner has considered Beaver Island and its surrounding waters his second home, and first love, since he first visited as a boy of 12-years-old. Captain Bob spent 30-years on the Detroit metropolitan airport fire department, where he rose through the ranks to achieve battalion chief/paramedic. Retiring in 2015, the island was still calling and calling for more. Captain Bob and his wife Maura decided to pack-up and finally make their second home their main home.

It seems that Captain Bob has been preparing for island life all along. He has spent a considerable amount of time on the great lakes and many inland lakes as a pleasure-seeker and as crew on the Wendy Ann (a commercial tug boat) as well as other commercial boats. He is also certified as a master scuba diver. Captain Bob earned his USCG-licensed captain on vessels up to 100-tons certification in 2016.

Spend the day on the lake

As retirement is the opportunity to begin writing a new chapter, Captain Bob is happy to share his Kelly Day with you! Troll the waters off Beaver Island fishing for salmon and Lake trout while enjoying breathtaking views. The Kelly Day is a sturdy 1987 Webber’s Cove trolling vessel built in Maine. At 34-feet-long with an 11-foot beam, the Kelly Day comfortably accommodates up to six passengers.

Fishing expeditions run twice per day. Morning - 7a - 12p; and afternoon 4p - 9p. Book your retreat on the storied waters of Lake Michigan now! Excursion rates are $350 for up to six passengers. Contact us at (517) 974-0414 or kellydaycharters@gmail.com. Excursion scheduling is flexible, but weather dependent.

WANT TO CATCH A KEEPER ON LAKE MICHIGAN?

By Amy Marschner

"Life is too short to only fish on the weekends"

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Tried and True Favorite Family Recipes by Rach Becker

Skip McDonough’s Sloppy Joe’s for 40 People

Each month, we will be featuring recipes that are sure to have you coming back for second helpings. The recipes that we grew up with and still make today.

She was a serious card player. Hand and Foot was one of her favorites. She would play for hours. She was instrumental in getting the Beaver Island Community Center operational.

Food is a big part of every family gathering. This is no exception in the McDonough family. At least once a year, when the family was all together, Skip had her brood of seven, their spouses, and her 22 grandchildren. She needed something she could throw together in a pinch. This was an old standby in the family. Make it for your next family gathering. Or even cut the recipe in half!

Sloppy Joe’s For Forty People

- 10 pounds ground beef
- 2 cups Celery (chopped fine)
- 5 cups onions
- 2 cups tomato soup (still in concentrated form)
- 3/4 cups dried mustard
- 3 Tablespoons Worcestershire sauce
- 1 cup brown sugar
- 1/2 cups catsup
- 2 teaspoons salt

Combine all ingredients and simmer for at least two hours, stirring occasionally.

Great in a crock pot.

Blanjet (Irish for delicious)

The Beaver Island Sustainability Fair Welcomes

The Pairs!

Powered by soaring sister harmonies, this quirky trio’s unbottled chemistry quickly connects them to their audience.

The Pairs offer a unique blend of music with stories of life’s hope, hilarity, and hardship, and blur the line between the stage and the crowd as if we’ve pulled up a seat around their family’s lively kitchen table.

Don’t Miss! The Pairs in Concert, Friday, June 21

Beaver Island Community Center

7pm: Meet the Pairs & Community Sharing
“What Sustainability Means to You?”

7:30pm Concert

Tickets: 231-448-2022
www.store.biccenter.org/tickets
MEET OUR JUNE GUEST PASTORS

Our visiting pastor on June 2 will be PASTOR STEVE MORGAN: Pastor Steve and his wife Angela serve in their home church in the metro Detroit area. They are parents of four adult children, all married, and they have six grandchildren so far. In addition to ministry Steve is part owner of a growing family business, and Angela has a business as a milliner, making period correct head-ware for women in the historical reenactment community. Steve and Angela love to spend time with family and friends, as well as sightseeing and exploring beautiful Michigan. They are always up for a little adventure, playing board games or spending a quiet night in.

Our visiting pastor on June 9 will be PASTOR MIKE GAFÁ: Pastor Gafa is a second-career pastor. After two decades in corporate leadership, his last two decades have entailed serving in ministry roles including co-pastor, pastor, classis leader and adjunct professor. He is currently co-pastor at Covenant Life Church in Grand Haven. Mike and his wife, Pam, are parents to twin sons: Spencer (an architect in Grand Rapids) and Trevor (a translation/quality specialist in Tokyo, Japan). Trevor and Yuki have made Mike and Pam proud grandparents of Shihiro, Soshi, and Sami. Mike’s interests include teaching, coaching, and mentoring; kayaking, biking, and hiking; writing and reading; and traveling—especially to Beaver Island, which is always a treat for them.

Our visiting pastor on June 23 will be JENNIFER RYDEN: Jennifer has been a chaplain at Hope College since 2018. She is grateful to be a part of the Hope community and the Campus Ministry team. Her main responsibilities are to minister to students through pastoral care, faith formation and discipleship, and chapel leadership and preaching. She loves the higher education setting and is honored to walk with students during the college years. She is ordained in the Reformed Church of America and is passionate about building up the church of Jesus Christ as hope for the world and the joyful witness of our God. Jennifer is married to David, professor of political science at Hope. They have three children and have fostered three more. When Jennifer is not shuttling kids around, fixing a meal, or doing the dishes, she loves to walk and bike, read, go to garage sales, and watch Hallmark movies and silly baby videos on YouTube. Beaver Island is such a special place and we are grateful to return.
Jim was born in Chelmsford, Essex, England and came to the United States when he was eight years old. From then on he became a lifelong Chicagoan. He attended DePaul Academy and DePaul University. At the university he joined Shat al Arab and made lifelong friends. After graduation he served two years as a conscientious objector cleaning surgery at Peoria’s Methodist Hospital.

After moving back to Chicago, he became a community organizer, founding block clubs to improve the neighborhood of North Beverly.

Years as an educator

He came to St. Clotilde School (84th & Calumet) where he found his love of teaching. He taught math and science for many years to 7th and 8th graders. Moving to North side he taught at St. Benedict grade school. While teaching at both schools, he pioneered the use of computers in education and passed on his knowledge to other teachers in classes.

John Mundt, 10/1946 – 2/2007, seeing Jim’s talents, encouraged Glenview District 34 to hire him as the technology director. Together they created the T.R.E.E., a technologically rich educational environment, where students of varying ability and ages, used problem-based learning with total access to computers. Participated with DePaul University and District 34 in developing the Clinical Model Teacher Training program. After several years there, he finished his career as the technology director of the Maine Township Schools.

Jim was one of the founding members of Illinois Computing Educators (Now IDEA), and Illinois Chief Technology Educators (Now ITEI) He worked with the Illinois Century Network which started with one school providing internet connection to a few schools and grew to a world class network that served close to 8000 educational, governmental and health care constituents.

And then came Beaver Island

When he visited Beaver Island Michigan, he discovered that many of the people there were descended as he was from Arranmore Island, County Donegal, Ireland. Thus each year after that, he spent as much of the summer as possible on Beaver Island. After retiring, he spent six months each year once his home was built.

He was involved with many aspects of the island - the trails committee, for one, and the Port St. James Association Homeowners Group. Any donations in his memory should be sent to the House of the Good Shepherd. A memorial service is to be held in the near future. Fond memories and expressions of sympathy may be shared at www.drakeandsonfuneralhome.com for the Flanagan family.
THE BEAVER ISLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY PROUDLY ANNOUNCES THE RE LAUNCH OF THE BEAVER BEACON AS A HISTORY MAGAZINE DEVOTED TO TELLING THE STORY OF BEAVER ISLAND.

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2024 ONGOING HISTORICAL SOCIETY EVENTS

- June 17-August 12: Marine Museum Mondays: A lunch-hour chat. Pack a lunch and join us for a variety of Maritime presentations
- June 18-August 14: Picnic on the patio: A lunch-hour chat. Pack a lunch and join us for a variety of Beaver Island History presentations
- June-September: Friday Events: Weekdays and Saturdays 1-3 pm
- May-November: Beaver Head Lighthouse Tours- Tower Open

2024 SPECIAL EVENTS

- May 4: Northern Islander 1st Anniversary Celebration 1 pm
- May 16: Decant Appreciation Luncheon 12 pm
- June 1: Museums Open House
- June 1: BICG Read Realty Time TBD
- June 13: Volunteer Fair 1-4 pm
- July 24: 75th For The People 7 pm
- July 25: Baroque Festival 7 pm
- August 15: BICG Donor Appreciation Event 7 pm
- August 18: Beaver Head Lighthouse Picnic Tours
- November 4: Beaver Head Lighthouse Reveal- Title TBD
- December 14: Holiday Stacked 7 pm

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Wild Strawberry Cafe

Summer Hours
Monday - Saturday: 7am - 2pm
Sunday: 8am - 12pm

Dinner Hours
Starting Friday, June 14th
Thursday - Saturday: 4pm - 7pm

OPEN
July 4th
7am-12pm
& 6pm-Fireworks!
At one time Mary and I had five dogs, two cats, two little doves, four or five Koi's fish, and ten chickens. What a family. We loved them all. There was Stryder, a big Aussie. Sadie Hawken, a big pom, Muber Duber a Cairn Terrier, Grandophie a little black and white pom, and Tina Bina, a little all-white pom. Then there were Opie and Pearl the cats. So before I run out of space, I'll get back to the story.

I who once thought I was a Viking Tarzan, prone to taking chances and proving himself. That's why I've had so many broken bones. Ok enough already. It was a beautiful sunny day in the dead winter of 2014. Me and the dogs are out at Gull Harbor, my old playground. It's bright and sunny but like stink. The onshore winds are splashing foot-and-a-half waves against the thick ice, forming a smooth radius like the side of a fifty-five-gallon drum. The crystal-clear water beneath is about five feet deep. I could see the bottom. It was wild really, wild. Nature at its beautiful dangerous best.

So where does “El-Nutso” go? You got it, right up to the edge and who comes running up behind me? My sweet little Tina Bina slid on her little white butt right over the edge into the freezing lake. She's too far below me to reach. I strip off my coat, slide down into the waves, and throw her up onto the ice. She's wet and freezing in ten-degree winds two feet above me. I'm standing in five feet of water with big waves crashing up against me and a wall of ice.

In some of my stories I've mentioned: “I wasn't alone”! This was one of those, big time. I have no idea how I got up there but there I was. I ripped open my shirt, put her cold little body next to mine, wrapped us in my dry coat, breathed warm air on her little head, and headed for home. All five of us ran like hell through the woods, snow, and all. Well, we made it ok and sat around the old wood stove to warm up and be thankful for our
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Calling All Beavers:  
Please Join Our Northern Islander Family

The Beaver Island Historical Society is delighted to have acquired the Northern Islander newspaper. Our aim is to preserve and honor our history, deliver Island news, educate our readers, and provide endless smiles and memories.

We are committed to creating a new publication with an authentic vision and enthusiastic leadership team dedicated to producing relevant storytelling experiences for the community, by the community.

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