

## Beachcombing for Shipwrecks

Stories and wrecks emerge from the depths

By Jed K. Jaworski  
Current Contributor

The warm sands of summer are now under foot along the northwest Michigan coastline. In past years, most beach walkers and boaters were completely unaware that just beneath those shifting sands lie the graves of many once proud Great Lakes vessels. Recent extreme fluctuations in Great Lakes water levels, though, and severe winter storm and ice conditions have conspired to reveal many of the ships that have been out of site for decades and even centuries. Beach walkers, boaters, divers, and pilots have been reporting new discoveries regularly over the past few years here in Benzie, Leelanau, and Manistee counties.

“It’s really quite incredible to come across



A piece of wreckage, believed to be from the 1848 steamship *General Taylor*, appears on the beach at Sleeping Bear. Photo courtesy of Jed Jaworski.

shipwreck... it’s a piece of history, a physical connection to a very dramatic and compelling past,” says Judy Walton, who strolls the beaches regularly with her dog, Belle.

Indeed, the often heart-wrenching stories of shipwreck and survival that played out along the coast paint a colorful picture of early exploration and commerce, portraying both the best and worst of humanity.

“Townfolk all up and down the shore often risked their own lives to aid mariners in distress,” says Thomas Stoltmann, maritime historian with the former Northwest Michigan Maritime Museum. In the case of the sailing vessel *J.H. Hartzell*, which went ashore at Elberta in 1880, townspeople toiled all day and night in bitter cold and wind to

Please see Shipwrecks on page 11

## Giving Back Moore

The Garden Theater receives generous donation



“It was an honor for The Garden Theater to be part of the 2014 Traverse City Film Festival in downtown Frankfort,” says Rick Schmitt, co-owner of the theater, pictured second from left. “Equally exciting was to have Michael Moore here to introduce the film and make a personal donation to the ongoing renovation of the theater.” While introducing *The German Doctor* on July 23, Moore (center) donated \$5,000 of his own money to the theater, fulfilling a promise of returning tax credits for making films in Michigan. Also pictured, co-owners Jennie Schmitt (far left) and Marci and Blake Brooks (right). Photo by Aubrey Ann Parker.

## Benzie Boomerangs

Two millennials who ditched the city for Northern Michigan

By Jacob Wheeler  
Current Editor

Frederik Stig-Nielsen and Betsy Mas were done with Portland. The Pacific Northwest city — defined by its bourgeois, new-age hipsterdom and parodied, as such, in the hit online show *Portlandia* — was just too perfect and too homogenous for the young couple, who wanted to live in a place with a grittier, more genuine lifestyle. “I didn’t need to have 10 vegan options down the street,” laughs Stig-Nielsen. “Life was so easy there,” explains Mas. “It didn’t feel real. It was too easy to be healthy, to eat organic foods, and to recycle. Life came on a silver spoon... We wanted a place that had more of an edge.” So after finishing law school at Lewis & Clark College in May 2013, the young, dy-



Frederik and Betsy. Photo by Jacob Wheeler.  
Please see Boomerangs on page 10

## Bones in the Muck

A mystery unfolding

By Jordan Bates  
Current Editor

A few months ago, Sonja Moehle knew almost nothing about the various subspecies of elk in Michigan. Nor about the endless, dusty drawers of meticulously labeled prehistoric bones at the University of Michigan’s Natural History Museum. Nor how to retrieve an animal skeleton from lake muck to help determine how the animal died.

Now she knows quite a bit about all those subjects, and much more. She has a team of expert advisors in Ann Arbor and around the country, and her family has become her research and support team. The family’s basement has become her laboratory, and a community of online friends and anonymous donors have become her funders. It seems more likely that Sonja — known as “Sunny,” probably for her wit and ever-cheerful disposition — is a graduate student working on a thesis project than a 10-year-old homeschooler in the middle of Benzie County. Now the whole family is helping Sunny to answer dozens of new questions. Not the least of which is: what exactly did she find in the lake this past Easter?

“Dad called Mom and said, ‘We found dinosaur bones!’” Sunny recalls with a smile. She is sitting in the family’s living room, which also serves as an office. The office wall expands and contracts as needed — expanding to take up living room space when work needs to be done, contracting when work seems claustrophobic, or when guests are coming over, or maybe just because — similar to an accordion-like room divider in a Victorian-era painting. Her mother, Amy, sits across the room and adds that she had been patiently watching the Easter roast beast get drier and drier as she waited for her husband and youngest daughter to get home from an early spring paddle on a favorite lake, while the older daughter, Nadia, was nursing a cold and watching a film. Behind Amy, the room’s walls are not covered in the flowery, repeating designs of typical wallpaper. Instead there are quotes, draw-



Sonja and David Moehle show the scale of their mysterious antlers. Photo courtesy of Amy Daniels Moehle.

ings, caricatures, and other written works sketched about by family members. There are hundreds of books on shelves that jut out from the wall drawings, and they range from a two-foot-tall monster volume of DaVinci to an entire shelf on mythology, with some popular fantasy books speckled in there, as well. The mismatching chairs and couches that the family sit on only look mismatched in appearance, as they have intention in common; the intention of comfort. A rocker to lull a child to sleep, a window seat to contemplate, a couch to share the awkwardness, or the familiarity, or just the comfort of being close to another person.

It is this flexibility and focusing of intentions that Amy and her husband, David, hope to instill in their children.

Please see Antlers on page 6





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# Jack Gyr: On the Run, or Passing Gas

Questions & Answers with community faces

From Staff Reports

When Jack Gyr first moved to Benzie County in the late 1970s, he lived in a 100-square-foot tiny house in a field of wild-flowers that overlooked Crystal Lake and Lake Michigan. That was before Gyr started his family or his printing business, appropriately titled Field Crafts, which has morphed from a one-man system of screen prints featuring his original artistic designs to a 12-person shop of local and national custom printing for businesses like Art’s Tavern, Cherry Republic, and Stormcloud Brewing Company.

Field Crafts later moved out of the field and into its first office building at the top of the hill in Benzonia, in a space that is now occupied by the Roadhouse, and the office recently moved down the hill next to the Cherry Bowl Drive-in Theatre in Honor. For nearly 40 years, Gyr has been a positive leader in the Benzie County business community. With some creative thinking, Field Crafts has been able to thrive year-round, even in the slower fall and winter seasons that plague many a Northern Michigan business.

In the winter, Jack can be found participating in the Polar Plunge into South Bar Lake in Empire. In the summer, you’ll find him running in the Crystal Lake Team Marathon, a popular annual team run around the lake — starting and ending in Beulah — that consists of four 5-mile intervals and one 6.2-mile stint. The 34th annual marathon takes place on Saturday, August 9, and Gyr has missed only two of them since the first. (Oh, and the T-shirts that they hand out at registration: those are all from Field Crafts and have been since the beginning!) You’ll see the tall and lanky Gyr at the starting line, high-fiving other runners and motivating his team with his telltale, jocular “Hey-ooooo!” Typical members of Gyr’s team range from a brother or two from out of town, a cousin, a high school friend, a local friend or two, and maybe one or both of his sons, Leland and Emery, if they are home for the weekend. The Snails Pace Trotters always have a good time, though 60-year-old Gyr admits that now it’s more metaphorical than literal, like in the days of their youth.

We talked to Gyr about why he loves running around the lake each year.

**BETSIECURRENT:** What’s unique about the Crystal Lake Team Marathon? What excites you about this annual event?

**JACK GYR:** “Fun” and “good energy” are at the heart of this race. There’s always lots of energy around a race day, and this is a gathering and community of teams of runners, adding to that sense of camaraderie. There’s more talking, sharing, and partying because it’s a team event. There’s planning and preparation



Gentleman Jack Gyr cheers on teammate Nadine Gilmer at the Crystal Lake Team Marathon. This year will be his 32nd year running the race. Photo courtesy of Jack Gyr.

with team members and incentive to tell stories of each leg of the race, each person’s part. It’s a blast... Part of what I think is so great about this run, too, is that people can decide on a whim to participate. They just say, “Yeah, sure, I can run five miles.” And they do.

**CURRENT:** Since you’ve run the race almost every year it’s been around, any favorite memories?

**GYR:** There are always laughs and dunks in the lake after a run. Friend Bruce Gerhart started this race in 1980. I helped him with it the first year, and he ran on our team the second year, though he was so involved in the logistics that he didn’t show up at the last exchange for his part of the race. So I started running his spot and — half a mile down the stretch — he came racing up in a car, jumped out, and started running. I’d say a favorite part is all the friends over the years who have participated in this foolishness and love it. My cousin, Andy Cary, has driven up from Ohio for 32 years, and another long-term teammate is Don Theodore, who has run it 20 years. We’ve had teammates from Switzerland, British Columbia, Washington, D.C., Wisconsin, and other states.

**CURRENT:** What’s the toughest leg of the race? How about the easiest?

**GYR:** The most competitive leg is the first one because everybody starts at the same time, it’s hilly, and everyone gets to watch the runners. So they’re in the spotlight. The second leg has actually the most hills, so ranks as the most difficult. But I’d say it’s a favorite of mine because it has variety. An outstanding performance was watching Dathan Ritzenhein (top-ranked U.S. runner at the time) run the hilly first five miles in 23:40! Amazing!

**CURRENT:** Has your team, the Snails Pace Trotters, ever won any medals?

**GYR:** Sure, back when we were young hot-shots and a few in recent years, too. We won last year. Don Theodore called me and said, “Jack, I read in the paper that we won a medal. We came in first in our age group.” I said, “You’re kidding me!” “No, we really came in first,” Don told me. “But we also came in last. We were the only ones in our age group. I choose to think we came in first, though.”

**CURRENT:** You’re known for jumping in Lake Michigan, whether the water’s warm or cold. When was your first swim this year? How late do you expect to swim this fall or winter?

**GYR:** This year has been wimpy for me. My first jump in the lake was in April. Usually it’s in February with the mad polar-dippers in Empire (about 50 dippers and 80 onlookers, usually). I’ll jump in sometime in October.

**CURRENT:** Benzie loves its outdoor recreation and sporting events. In your estimation, how do these events build community?

**GYR:** There’s the local community and the transient tourist community, and I think the two mingle and jingle well, especially with the Team Marathon. It’s a melting pot of not only runners but spectators and all the merchants who support their ravenous appetites. There are usually 600 runners and a good mix of locals, out-of-towners, serious athletes, and party runners.

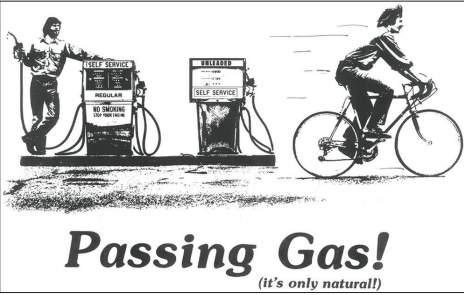
**CURRENT:** What’s new over at Field Crafts, in its (relatively) new location near the Cherry Bowl Drive-in?

**GYR:** We’ve got the best team ever over at Field Crafts with a real seasoned crew. The challenge, of course, is to carry the business on through the autumn and winter. That’s where our patented BookWear® “book” comes in. We sell it to 650 colleges around the country and to many hospitals and corporate customers for marketing, recruiting, and communications. The budgets of many of those customers got hit with the economy, but it seems to be coming back. We work very hard to market and exhibit BookWear® to 24 national conferences a year all over the country.

**CURRENT:** You’ve been a business owner in Benzie for decades. “What are the biggest challenges and rewards of working and living here?”

**GYR:** I’ve run Field Crafts for 37 years, and it has run me. It goes both ways. It takes a hardy and creative stock of people to live in rural Northern Michigan. Many people make their own jobs, and that demands a constant creativity. I travel a lot to exhibit at trade shows, and I love coming home to this area and the great community of people!

To register for this year’s Crystal Lake Team Marathon on Saturday, August 9, or to learn more about the race, check out <https://events.bytepro.net/crystal-lake-marathon> or contact Asa Kelly, the run’s promoter and Benzie Central High School’s cross country coach, at [kellya@benzieschool.net](mailto:kellya@benzieschool.net) or call 231-930-4222. Pre-registration must be completed by 7 p.m. on Friday, August 8.



Jack Gyr is well known for Passing Gas, a unique creation from a deeply creative process. Graphic courtesy of Jack Gyr.

Saturday, August 2nd  
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# Mills Community House Turns 105

Annual fundraiser features Cole Porter music

By Susan Koenig  
Current Contributor

It's delightful, it's de-lovely, it's "An Evening of Cole Porter" on Saturday, August 2, at 8 p.m. The hour-long musical revue, a fundraiser for the Mills Community Association in Benzonia, will be preceded at 7:15 by complimentary desserts, as well as wine and other beverages.

Performers include David Johnson, an often-featured soloist with the Benzie Community Chorus, joined by Owen Anderson, Linda Beaupre, and Carolyn Burnstein. This foursome, accompanied by Anita Delph on piano, Connie Huber (a "Chenille Sister")



Photo courtesy of Mills Community Association.

on percussion, and Michelle Robinson on string bass were all once part of the Black Sheep Repertory Theatre. The upcoming "one-night-only" performance is a reunion of sorts for the group, who will create an intimate Cabaret-style atmosphere for this event.

The Mills House has undergone a visible renovation over the past several months, most evident in a stair-tower addition and expanded parking area (gone is the struggle to find a space). The Upper Hall, which will be the site of the fundraiser, has also benefited from a sound booth area, interior paint, window and stage curtain enhancements, and "blackout blinds" (no more glare). Not to mention — hooray — air conditioning and comfortable chairs.

A center of our community for more than 100 years, the Mills Community House was established in 1909 and named for the beloved Reverend Harlow Mills. In 1972, the building was placed on the National Register of Historic Places. The Mills Community Association is a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit that is supported by donations, rentals, and fundraising events — not your tax dollars.

Most locals know that Mills was once a high school and before that a college, funded by a group of self-proclaimed "ardent educa-

tors" from Oberlin College who settled at the east end of Crystal Lake in 1858. A model of progressive thinking, Benzonia Academy was to be "an institution dedicated to the education of both sexes, without distinction of color or ethnic origin" and with an emphasis on art and music. That vision has endured to this day.

After a disastrous fire in 1909, Reverend Mills managed to rally the community, and \$2,200 was raised for a new structure. A wealthy Manistee lumber baron matched the funds, stipulating that the new building be constructed of brick, not wood.

The Academy closed in 1918 and was deeded to the Benzonia Congregational

atmosphere is both modern and cozy but also a trip into the past. Bruce Catton, our native son and Pulitzer Prize winner, slept here. His father was a headmaster of the Academy, and the Catton room contains the complete collection of Bruce's books. Library director Amanda McClaren will be happy to show you around.

*Fundraiser organizers hope for a supportive response from the Benzie community in attending this event that promises to be highly entertaining for all. To reserve a seat at 891 Michigan Avenue in Benzonia, arrange ticket payment, or for additional information, call Mills at 231-882-0591 or the Library at 231-882-4111.*

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# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## CONSTANTLY FLOWING

### Mondays

Music with Miss Char at Benzie Shores District Library at 630 Main Street in Frankfort. 10-11am

Friends of the Library needs volunteers to help sort for the annual book sale in Frankfort. If you are interested in helping, please call 231-352-4671. 10:30-11:30am.

Grow Benzie Farmers' Market, 5885 Frankfort Highway (M-115), Benzonia. 3-7pm.

Open sewing studio at Grow Benzie. 6-9pm.

### Tuesdays

Benzie Shores District Library offers assistance with technology. Learn how to download ebooks, audiobooks, and magazines to your personal devices. 10am-12pm.

Pick-up soccer for all skill levels at the fields behind Watson car dealership in Benzonia. 7pm.

Dance Benzie: Improvisational partner dancing at the Mills Community House in Benzonia. Free, donations welcome. 8-10pm.

### Thursdays

Elberta Farmers' Market at the Elberta Pavilion Park. 8am-12pm.

Story hour with Miss Julie at Benzie Shores District Library in Frankfort. 10-11am.

Open Mic Night at The Cabbage Shed in Elberta. 231-352-9843. 8pm.

Beulah Music in the Park until Thursday, August 14. 7-8pm

Steve Fernand will be singing songs from the last century on Thursdays and Saturdays from 6-9pm throughout the summer at the Cold Creek Inn in Beulah.

### Saturdays

Frankfort Farmers' Market at Open Space Park on Main Street, between 7th & 9th streets, along the beautiful Waterfront. 9am-1pm.

Join a Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore ranger for a different walk or talk or hike every Saturday — there's always something happening at 1pm. To find out what's happening, visit <http://goo.gl/aLUdAG> or call 231-326-5134 for details.

## ON THE DOCK

### Thurs - Wed, July 31 - August 6

Oil paintings by Janet Grissom will be featured at Live For Art Gallery in Beulah. 231-882-9370

### Friday, August 1

Benzie Conservation District's Little Platte Lake water tour at North Branch Creek on Deadstream Road. Join us for our third water tour of the year. [www.benziecd.org](http://www.benziecd.org) 231-882-4391. 9am-12pm

### Friday, August 1

Summer Sounds Series features Lee Murdock at Michigan Legacy Art Park at Crystal Mountain. Bring a picnic or refreshments are available for purchase. Suggested donation of \$10 per person. <http://goo.gl/WesV8I> 7-9pm.

### Saturday, August 2

"It's Delightful, It's Delovely, It's Cole Porter" is a spirited musical revue in the Upper Hall of Mills Community House in Benzonia that will get your toes tapping. All proceeds help to fund the building's next stage of renovation. Pre-performance complimentary desserts, as well as wines and other drinks will be available beginning at 7:30pm, with the performance beginning at 8pm. Call 231-882-0591 to reserve a seat, arrange ticket payment, or for more information. Tickets are \$30. One night only! <http://bit.ly/1mEjcw>

### Saturday, August 2

Put your best foot forward! Join us for the Benzie Home Health Care's 34th Annual Walk-A-Thon, a beautiful morning walk along the shores of Crystal Lake. Enjoy a delicious brunch and help Benzie Home Health Care to provide care for Benzie County seniors. Join a team, pledge a walker, donate time, or resources -- you can make a difference! The wall will be in the morning, beginning at Bellows Park on South Shore Drive. Call Mary Dykstra at 231-325-0138 or email [bsbhhc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bsbhhc@sbcglobal.net) For more information. <http://www.benziehomehealthcare.org/>

### Thursday, August 7

Paul Oliver Memorial Hospital Auxiliary's 32nd annual Tour of Interesting Places features a delightful variety of homes in and around Frankfort. This year's theme is "Frankfort Through The Ages," guiding participants through some of the many fascinating homes in the immediate area. Call Beverly at 703-298-9428 for more information and to RSVP. 10am-4pm

### Thurs - Wed, August 7-13

New paintings by Columbus, Ohio-based abstract painter Sharon Dougherty will be on display at Live For Art Gallery in Beulah. Nature and the art of various cultures inspires Dougherty's intuitive abstract pieces. Her work can be found in various public and private collections throughout the United States. 231-882-9370

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### Friday, August 8

Oliver Art Center's annual fundraiser will be a lot of fun. If you want to support artistic, cultural, and economic vision in your community, please plan on attending this

fun evening that does so much for so many. Tickets are \$25 in advance or \$30 at the door. Attendees will be treated to wine, a wide variety of appetizers, and live music provided by Carter Creek Visit [OliverArtCenterFrankfort.org](http://OliverArtCenterFrankfort.org) or call 231-352-4151 for more information. Event begins at 5:30pm at OAC. In addition, 20 percent of sales between 4-6pm at Stormcloud Brewing Company will be donated.

### Friday, August 8

Grow Benzie's Golf Tournament at Crystal Lake Golf Club just outside of Beulah. Call director Deb Query at 231-882-9510 or email [growbenzie@gmail.com](mailto:growbenzie@gmail.com) for more information. [www.growbenzie.com/](http://www.growbenzie.com/) 12-8pm.

### Friday, August 8

The Benzie Audubon Club presents "Birds & Blooms by Canoe & Kayak" with Bryce and Paula Dreeszen, who will lead the search for birds and blooms on Upper Herring Lake. Call 231-313-1881 or visit [www.benzieaudubon.org](http://www.benzieaudubon.org) for more information. 6:30 - 8:30 pm.

### Saturday, August 9

To register for the 34th annual Crystal Lake Team Marathon or to learn more about the race, check out <http://bit.ly/1qI7dVE> or contact Asa Kelly, the run's promoter and Benzie Central High School's cross country coach, at [kellya@benzieschool.net](mailto:kellya@benzieschool.net) or call 231-930-4222. You can run the entire marathon alone or split it up with four other teammates. Begins at 8am. Must be registered by Friday, August 8, at 7pm.

### Wednesday, August 13

3rd Annual Benzonia Art Fair in Academy Park, just to the south of Mill's Community House. Original paintings, graphics, crafts, sculpture and photography. Rain or shine. Contact Anne Ritchards at 231-325-6642 for more information. 10am -5pm

### Wednesday, August 13

Trail building at the Arcadia Dunes St. Pierre Trails with the Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy. Help GTRLC expand the trail system. Visit [www.gtrlc.org/preserve/arcadia-dunes/](http://www.gtrlc.org/preserve/arcadia-dunes/) and please RSVP by visiting [www.gtrlc.org/events](http://www.gtrlc.org/events) or call at 231-929-7911. Event is free. 4-6pm.

### Thursday, August 14

The Benzie Audubon Club's beach potluck picnic and shorebirds. Bring your park pass, food to share, and your own beach chairs to Peterson Road beach, in Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore. All of Audubon's field trips and programs are open to the public without charge, and everyone is welcome! Visit [benzieaudubon.org](http://benzieaudubon.org) or call 231-871-0503 for more information. Birding at 5:30pm. Picnic at 7:00pm.


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**Thursday, August 14**  
*From Depression Poverty to Wartime Prosperity*, a series of photographs of Michigan from 1935-1943 will be the topic of the Benzonia Academy Lecture Series at the Mills Community House. 7pm.

**Thurs - Wed, August 14-20**  
Plain-air paintings by local artist Lisa Wilkins Schulte of Traverse City will be featured at Live For Art Gallery in Beulah. Schulte paints in pastel and acrylic, she and feels that “art should be a fun, positive experience for both the artist and viewer.” Her use of vibrant color reflects her gregarious personality. 231-882-9370

**Wednesday, August 14**  
Invasive species removal at Arcadia Dunes with the Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy. Please dress for the weather, including a hat for the sun and comfortable shoes. Also bring water. All tools will be provided. Visit [www.gtrlc.org/events](http://www.gtrlc.org/events) or call 231-929-7911 to RSVP. Event is free. 10am-12pm

**Thursday, August 15**  
Artist talk with fiber artist Susan Moran. Moran studies world textile techniques and patterns, using them to create her own work that is inspired by the wild places near her Michigan home. This free artist talk is offered

in partnership with the Jean Noble Parsons Center and Eastern Michigan University. Admission is free, but space is limited. Visit [OliverArtCenterFrankfort.org](http://OliverArtCenterFrankfort.org) or call 231-352-4151 for more information. 5:30 pm.

**Friday - Saturday, August 15 - 16**  
38th annual Frankfort Art Fair is the city’s argest two-day art fair with more than 175 artists in Market Square Park. Call 231-352-7251 or visit [www/frankfort-elberta.com](http://www/frankfort-elberta.com) for more information.

**Saturday, Augsut 16**  
Michigan Legacy Art Park will present the 2014 Legacy Award to Travel Michigan’s vice president, George Zimmermann, for his leadership in spearheading the launch of the phenomenally successful Pure Michigan campaign. Tickets to the gala are \$75 per person and can be purchased online [www.michiganlegacyartpark.org/events](http://www.michiganlegacyartpark.org/events) or by calling 231-378-4963. Sponsor tickets start at \$250 and are partially tax-deductible.

**Saturday, Augsut 16**  
Benzie Conservation District’s water tour on Upper Platte Lake. Join for the fourth and final water tour of the year at Veteran’s Campground access site. Call 231-882-4391 or visit [www.benziecd.org](http://www.benziecd.org) for more information. 9am-12pm.

**Friday - Sunday, August 22 - 24**  
National Coho Salmon Festival in Honor. Beginning in 1967, this annual festival celebrates the salmon run up the Benzie County rivers. Honor is considered the ‘birthplace’ of salmon in the state of Michigan, as the first salmon were planted in the Platte River. Will include a parade, carnival, beer tent, horseshoe tournament, smoked fish contest, and car show, as well as arts & crafts and a flea market. <http://bit.ly/1rM3m9s>

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A voice amongst the murmur of the waves  
Saying. “Be still and know that God is near.”


And so, O lovely lake, you gave to me  
A message straight from God. And I still take  
That message with me as I wander far.  
And hope once more to see you, Crystal Lake.”

— *Walter F. Case, February 4, 1895-March 6, 1923*

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# Where in the World Is Steve Fernand?

By Staff Reports

What’s going on in the former Fernand Footwear shop at the top of the hill in Benzonia? Well, Steven Fernand sold his shoemaking business back in 2006 to Tim McKay, who is now relocating to the Grand Rapids area. As Fernand still owns the building on Milliron Lane, behind the Roadhouse, he is cleaning and rehabbing it with paint and repairs, fixing it up for eventual sale. Meanwhile, he has moved his art collection into his former shoe showroom and now offers for sale an eclectic assortment of paintings, antique prints, pottery, art glass, and books that he has found here and there through the years.

“One might say that I’m in the art-rescue business,” says Fernand. “When I see a neglected piece that has value, if I like it and its price, I’ll buy it, re-do the matte and frame if needed, and either hang it on the wall in my house or sell it. Being an art-picker is much like being a hunter-gatherer, and then a detective to identify the provenance, then a restorer, and then a dealer. I’ve sold many pieces on eBay. Some Japanese wood-block prints that I found in Elberta went to a collector in Australia. A painting that I found at Jerry’s Resale was bought by a woman in Carmel, California, for 50 times what I paid for it — and she was happy to pay what was half the painting’s appraised value. Finding an appreciative new home for an abandoned

work of art is rewarding in many ways.”

Fernand is well known around the area as the “shoe guy.” Originally from Massachusetts, he learned to make footwear in the Virgin Islands and brought his business to the Benzonia Village hilltop in the late 1980s. Of French Canadian heritage, he co-founded K. Jones and the Benzie Playboyz, the ever-popular local Cajun-Zydeco band, 14 years ago. This summer, he’s singing solo at the Cold Creek Inn



in Beulah on Thursday and Saturday evenings, from 6-9 p.m., reinterpreting some of the best popular songs from the middle of the last century, accompanied only by his guitar and harmonicas. He also recently wrote a novel, *Appalachian Carnival*, and published it through his own company, Edgewise Publications. He will soon have a second edition, in hardcover, with new cover art and retitled *A Fool Rides the Wheel of Fortune*. In the winter, we don’t see much of Fernand anymore, as he has found the climate in St. Petersburg, Florida, more clement.

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# Antlers

Continued from page 1

“We carefully curate our children’s interest with a little caution. Just giving an answer can close a door,” Amy says. Thus, when Sunny and David were two hours late from paddling on a lake that was still partially covered in ice, she reserved judgement.

You see, being two hours late in the Moehle household is not the same as being two hours late in most homes. For the Moehles, being two hours late can sometimes be considered earning extra credit. When you are homeschooled or you are in charge of the home-schooling, daily activities can turn into a learning opportunities and unexpected schoolwork.

“Legend says that the lake is haunted by a whole team of horses that were pulling timber, and they fell through the ice,” Sunny says, adding that pristine logs can still be seen along the bottom in parts of the lake. While paddling with her father, Sunny spotted something out of place — and it wasn’t just a log. She thought it might be a horse bone from one of the ghost horses.

This is where most parents would say, “It is just a stick, leave it alone. We’re late for dinner.” A perfectly logical answer that would have closed the door on a potentially amazing discovery. David readily admits that he was pretty sure it was just another stick in the muck. But the Moehle family is not your average family, so David conceded, and a moment later he had hooked into something in the muck with his fishing pole.

It was not a stick.

Rather, it was a vertebrae. A very large vertebrae. David, an avid hunter, knew that this was too large to belong to a white-tailed deer, and now he was intrigued. Was it, in fact, a horse bone?

Since David’s fishing pole wouldn’t be able to pull up a bigger bone from the bottom, they returned to shore, grabbed a gaff hook (for hauling in big fish), and soon pulled up a perplexingly large antler. And then another one to make a matching set. The antlers spanned four feet each, with nine points on one side and eight points on the other side. This was no horse.

After some (dry) roast beast and a flurry of research, the family figured out that what they had found were likely elk antlers. However, the size and scope seemed to rule out the reintroduced Rocky Mountain elk that are

now present in Michigan. So what type of elk was this? Was it the now extinct Eastern elk, which was last seen in the 1800s? Or was it a prehistoric elk, present during the time of the mastodons? Or something entirely different?

Since “the experts” would surely have all the answers they were seeking, the family packed up the car a few weeks later and headed down to Ann Arbor to meet with PhDs at the University of Michigan. Despite a dizzyingly fun and educational VIP tour behind the after-hours closed doors of the university’s Natural History Museum, the Moehles ended up with more questions than answers.

What type of elk is it? The experts said they were unsure, but DNA testing could help



Sonja Moehle: future president, paleontologist, writer, artist, or whatever else she might want to be. Photo by Jordan Bates.

determine the species. How old are the bones? Again they are not sure, but radiocarbon dating could narrow it down. How did the animal die? They can’t be certain, but they suggested that the family could retrieve the rest of the bones themselves — in a scientific manner, of course — and then the experts could help the family to figure it out. Or, they suggested, the Moehles could donate the bones to researchers and perhaps never see them again.

The lack of answers from the experts was a surprise “We thought there was just one right answer,” says Nadia, the oldest daughter.

Would they donate the bones or devote hundreds of hours collecting, recording, studying, researching, radiocarbon dating, and DNA testing these bones?

It was an easy decision for the Moehles.

*Radiocarbon dating and DNA testing is costly. The Moehle’s have started a Kickstarter campaign to cover the costs of the testing and travel (Sonja’s projected total budget: \$5,689.25). To donate, visit their online Kickstarter page <http://goo.gl/iZ9eri> or check <http://www.sunnyandtheelk.org> for further updates and other funding options.*

# Seven New Sculptures

Art Park adds Temporary Exhibit

From Staff Reports

Seven new sculptures by four artists have been installed at Michigan Legacy Art Park for a two-year, temporary exhibit. Ranging in style from stark to whimsical and black to colorful, the works are by artists from Michigan or with ties to Michigan. Six of the pieces will be at the entry gallery of Michigan Legacy Art Park and one is on display on the grounds at Crystal Mountain Resort in Thompsonville.

Sculptor Joshua Ray Smith installed two graceful and fluid pieces which belie their industrial steel nature. Cloud: Dehydrated Improvisation and Time Collector for a Michigan Forest are time collectors, the latter created specifically for the Art Park. This piece references the lines, branches, layers, and spider webs of a Michigan forest and the flicker of sunlight that gest cast through each.

“In the rusting of steel, the elements and time of that specific atmosphere are recorded,” Smith explains about the concept of time collectors. “The rust in its pattern, color, and texture becomes a record of the weather and time that has passed, specific to location.”

Patrons to the Art Park will witness the unique and intended evolution of a sculpture and how nature contributes to and creates art all its own. Smith received an MFA from Cranbrook Art Academy, taught art at Concordia University in Ann Arbor, and lectured at the University of Michigan’s School of Art and Design. He currently resides in Nebraska and is assistant professor of art at Concordia University, Nebraska, in Seward.

Tim Burke is proud of repurposing materials found in the abandoned warehouses and factories of Detroit, what he calls “unclaimed, dismantled, tossed aside gems.” He operates the Detroit Industrial Gallery and has a studio there, where he believes in giving old relics new life.

Burke installed The Parcae near Crystal Mountain’s Wild Tomato Restaurant. This whimsical trio of robots is fashioned from

fighter jet parts, Patriot missile drive gears, and gauges and clocks. At the entry gallery is Fertility Sculpture, using metal from an old Studebaker plant in the abstract, colorful, and intricate design. Burke was recently mentioned in a June 16 column by the Neil Rubin of The Detroit News. He and his family visited Northern Michigan when they came to install his work at the Art Park, and they were overwhelmed by its beauty, particularly on their scenic drive along M-22 with its Lake Michigan vistas.

Both John Merigian’s and Gary Kulak’s works are accessible through their simplicity. Merigian’s On the Way” is a striking, 13-foot steel sculpture of a figure in motion and appears ready to walk into the Art Park. Merigian says that “the movement of the crossing sun through the day is an integral part of creating constantly changing shadows and linear components.” The subtle angles bring the figure to life with bends in the elbow and knee.

Perhaps Merigian’s giant figure would fit in Gary Kulak’s oversized chairs, Crown Chakra: One Moment Can Last a Lifetime and Blue Square Back. These massive and colorful chairs are inviting, symbolic and fun. Kulak also created Barn Chair, a permanent sculpture within the Art Park.

“This work is about structure and framing the environment,” says Kulak, who lives in Birmingham and is currently the head of the fine arts department at Cranbrook Schools in Bloomfield Hills. “The strong influence of the furniture industry in Michigan continues to impact my work for more than 40 years.”

On display through the spring of 2016, these seven new sculptures bring variety and character to the Art Park.

*Michigan Legacy Art Park is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit located on a 30-acre preserve, leased by Crystal Mountain for \$1 per year. Michigan Legacy Art Park features more than 40 outdoor sculptures that celebrate Michigan’s culture and history along 1.6 miles of wooded hiking trails.*



Beep-boop-zzzzp-blop-gook-splak-beep. Photo courtesy of Michigan Legacy Art Park.



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# Supporting Arts, Culture, and Education

Art Center celebrates three years at the Frankfort Coast Guard Station

By Jacob Wheeler  
Current Editor

The Elizabeth Lane Oliver Center for the Arts (OAC) will celebrate three years in the fully renovated Frankfort Coast Guard Station on Friday, August 8, with its annual fundraising event.

This year's event is themed Fun-Raiser, because it "offers something for everyone to enjoy, with games, live music, and a chance for everyone to take part in art," says executive director Steve Brown.

The fundraiser will feature live and silent auctions, with prizes that include a three-night stay in a deluxe North Carolina cabin or a private opening reception with local artists Steve and Ann Loveless (who won the 2013 Grand Rapids Art Prize), to be held before their exhibition opening in November at OAC. Participants will also be able to bid on paintings by Lauren Everett Finn while they are created live at the Fun-Raiser. Other art-themed items include one-on-one drawing and ceramics workshops, framed works of art by Tony Couch and Douglass David, and commissioned portraits of the winner's home or pet.

"This is one of the best ways to support artistic, cultural, and economic vision in our community," Brown says. The fundraiser hopes to raise \$10 of every \$100 needed to operate OAC seven days a week, all year round, free of admission. "That means that exhibitions, artist talks, free events, and staff and operations budgets rely on our fundraiser's success. We think the Art Center is an excellent way to invest in our community's future."

Brown, who came aboard as executive director two years ago, sees the Art Center as an integral part of the Benzie community. "Oliver Art Center has a measurable positive impact on the area economy by drawing visitors throughout the year," he says. "By anchoring visitors once they're here, and by highlighting businesses through sponsorship opportunities and with our distinctive Business Alliance Membership plan."

Still, the most gratifying experience for Brown has been witnessing the consistent support and dedication that our community brings to the Art Center.

"During my time with the Art Center I have learned to think of community as a verb, not a noun," he says. "That's a lesson I will never forget."



Support the Oliver Art Center and you might win a private opening reception with Beulah artist Ann Loveless, winner of the 2013 Grand Rapids Art Prize, pictured at OAC last year on the far right. Photo by Aubrey Ann Parker.

Tickets to the August 8 fundraiser are \$25 in advance or \$30 at the door. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. Attendees will be treated to wine, a wide variety of appetizers, and live music provided by Carter Creek. Just

before the Fun-Raiser, supporters can head to Stormcloud Brewing Company, where 20 percent of sales made between 4 p.m. and 6 p.m. will be donated to OAC. It's a great way to support the Art Center and local business while enjoying a craft brew or a snack.

"We're very excited about the innovations we've made to this year's event," says Elaine Peterson, OAC board chair. "We truly believe that anyone who attends will have a great time, while also supporting a great organization."

Visit [OliverArtCenterFrankfort.org](http://OliverArtCenterFrankfort.org) or call 231-352-4151 for open hours and information.

## Cultural Cornerstone


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Formerly the Crystal Lake Art Center, OAC has been a cultural cornerstone of Benzie County since it was founded in 1948. The Art Center has moved buildings three times in its history to accommodate growth and still maintain an educational program for the advancement of the arts, which it promotes in the forms of literary, visual, performing, and culinary. Now located in the former Coast Guard Station, the Art Center's three floors include two exhibition galleries, three spacious classrooms, a demonstration kitchen, office space, storage and artwork preparation space, an outdoor deck, and ceramics studio space, all of which are accessible to people with disabilities. OAC facilities were awarded LEED platinum certification – the highest possible environmental certification – in 2013, as well as Michigan Historic Preservation Network's 2014 'Building Award.'

The building's history is not forgotten. "We have a beautiful new history display in our entrance hall that links our current organization to the Coast Guard's long and rich presence in Frankfort," Brown says. "While there aren't any ghosts lurking about our building that I know of, you don't have to wait around for very long to see active duty Coast Guardsers wandering our galleries and hallways."

What's around the corner for this community treasure?

"The Dennon Museum contacted us just recently to partner for their fall 2014 'Big Draw' event," Brown says. "We are currently working with the Platte River Fish Hatchery and Benzie Schools to put together a class program, a weekend event, and an autumn exhibition about drawing aquatic habitats that highlights creativity and local natural environments."




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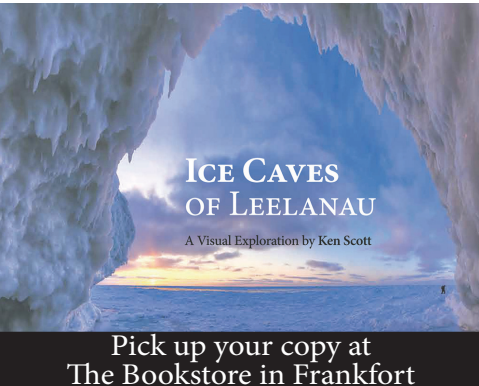
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UNLEASH YOURSELF

# Volunteers at Inland Seas

Originally published by the Glen Arbor Sun, sister paper to The Betsie Current.

By Kathleen Stocking  
Sun Contributor

There are approximately 250 volunteers helping out at the Inland Seas Education Association, a 25-year-old Suttons Bay-based nonprofit whose mission is to help people of all ages to experience the science and spirit of the Great Lakes through hands-on, experiential learning activities aboard a traditionally rigged tall ship schooner.

“We’d be unable to function without all the amazingly talented and amazingly dedicated volunteers,” says executive director Fred Sitkins. There are doctors, lawyers, teachers, fish biologists, interior decorators, housewives, and retirees of all kinds, including retired school administrators, pipe-fitters, and electronic hospital-equipment salesmen.

Why do they do it? Because they can, and they think somebody should. Because they want to be part of something larger than just their own personal existence. Because they have some specific skills — like doctoring or woodworking — and know they’re needed. Because they want to give back to a country that has given them so much. Because they feel that we’re all in this together. Because it’s just what people do.

It’s why carpenters from Leelanau County loaded up their trucks and drove to New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina in 2005.

It’s why people at the Chick-fil-A off Highway 40 in Texas or the Dunkin’ Donuts Drive-through in Detroit, or the McDonalds in Fargo pay for the person behind them. It’s why others go into Target at Christmas time and anonymously pay off someone’s lay-away for toys for their kids.

Local volunteers have been the reason that Michael Moore was able to start the 10-year-old film festival in Traverse City — and keep it going. Volunteers have allowed tiny St. Mary’s School in Lake Leelanau to educate kids for years, sometimes with not much more than chicken dinners, quilt raffles, and prayer. Volunteering is ‘the American thing to do,’ and we’ve been doing it spontaneously and continuously since the barn-raising of previous centuries.

Inland Seas began in 1989 as a way to inspire the stewardship of the Great Lakes by taking school children out on a 19th-century schooner and teaching them about fish and water quality. Founder Tom Kelly — a University of Michigan-trained fish biologist who was inspired by Pete Seeger’s similar program aboard the *Clearwater* sloop on the Hudson River in New York — decided to do something like it on the Great Lakes.

Initially, the Schoolship program operated with borrowed ships, but eventually funds were raised to build a 19th-century schooner, the *Inland Seas*. From the start, the program was run with volunteers. Dr. Bill Weiss, a

25-year veteran of the program with a PhD in environmental engineering from Texas A&M University, says, “Tom called up some of his science buddies and asked if we’d like to teach

Traverse City Area Public Schools and famously the husband of long-time mayor Carol Hale, thus he jokingly refers to himself as Traverse City’s “First Gentleman.” He has been



The red-sailed Inland Seas schooner will visit the Frankfort Harbor from August 13 until August 17. Visitors are welcome. Photo courtesy of Inland Seas Education Association.

kids about plankton and water quality.” And, in the case of Weiss and a few others, they’ve been doing it ever since.

Sander Kushner, a family doctor in Suttons Bay for many years after semi-retiring from his position as chairman of Wayne State University’s department of family medicine, comes in one day in April to get the first-aid kits in shape. Kushner was recruited by Tom Kelly to be the medical advisor for Inland Seas. Kushner, like many of the volunteers, also volunteers for other organizations: he goes to Guatemala every year with his daughter, also a family practice doctor, and together they serve in remote villages and orphanages where people seldom see doctors.

Kushner is the son of a Russian immigrant who came to the United States when he was 12 years old to escape the ravages of World War II. Kushner says that his father walked from Odessa, on the Black Sea, north to Leningrad — a journey of more than 1,500 miles — got on a boat, and came to Ellis Island.

“He couldn’t speak a word of English. No education,” Kushner says of his father, who later became an upholsterer in Detroit and learned English by reading Zane Gray novels.

Asked why he volunteers, Kushner says, “I was lucky enough in my life to acquire skills, and I can share my skills. I can help. It makes me feel good. Of course going out on the schooner is a wonderful experience. I’ve always loved sailing. It’s old-fashioned. It relates to the past.”

Jan Hale is a retired math teacher from

volunteering at the Inland Seas Education Association since 1991, when they were still renting ships to host school groups. Hale [no relation to Senior Captain Ben Hale] got his captain’s license in 1999 and has volunteered at Inland Seas ever since. He doesn’t teach on the boat, instead serving as a crewmember and captain.

Donna Popke, an interior decorator with a degree in speech pathology, has been an Inland Seas regular since inception because, she says, “I had a great fourth grade teacher who taught me to love science.” She came to Leelanau County “to visit a friend” in 1975 and never left. She loves mucking around in streams and out on the lake. “Every water quality sample is a marvel and a wonder,” she says.

Jerry and Carol Inman of Kingsley are a retired school superintendent and elementary school teacher, respectively. Carol says that seeing the kids really engage is a thrill for her every time. Jerry says, “I like to tell the students, ‘Anyone can come and take a picture of the bay. Everyone does it. But to protect the bay, you have to understand it from the surface down.’” Jerry says he likes the history of schooners. “Schooners on the Great Lakes helped rebuild Chicago after the fire of 1872. They carried all that lumber down the lake.”

Sally Somsel who works in the oil and gas industry is on the board and has been a volunteer instructor and crewmember since 1991. She says that she saw an ad in the paper and joined up, even though she had been on

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a sailboat only once before that. Somsel grew up downstate near Grand Rapids in an area where there were fossils and an Indian chipping station for making arrowheads. “I always loved science. I wanted to be a paleontologist.”

Scott Reitz, a retired fisheries biologist and forestry service worker, comes every year from Warren, Pennsylvania. Reached by phone at his home out east, he says that he’s baby-sitting for his eight-month-old granddaughter, Chloe. He and his wife have four nearby children and eight grandchildren, so they take turns, two days a week each, baby-sitting for one of their daughters’ children. Reitz first came to Inland Seas with a Pennsylvania Girl Scout Troop and has returned almost every year for 15 years, driving the 11 hours north, to volunteer for a two-week stretch.

Len Klein is another longtime volunteer, lead instructor, and crewmember. He taught math at Oakland Community College until he retired Up North and now teaches probability and statistics at Northwestern Michigan College. “Working with the environment has always been a passion,” Klein says. “You see the kids, some of them for the first time, get excited about learning. You see them just light up, and you don’t forget that.”

Jack Messer is a retired Michigan State Police officer and former emergency services coordinator. “I like the chance to pay back, pay it forward,” Messer says.

“I’m 100 percent supportive of the Inland Seas Mission,” says Bob Hagerman, a retired organic chemist from Dow in Midland. He is a lead instructor and crewmember. He had never sailed before volunteering, so he especially enjoys the acceptance by the crew.. “Teaching stewardship of the Great Lakes, hands-on science, team work. It’s great.”

“I fell in love with Leelanau County. I love the isolation, the wild beauty, the lakes and the dunes,” says Kaz McCue, who has a degree from the Parsons The New School of Design in New York City and now teaches art at the Leelanau School in Glen Arbor. He began volunteering at Inland Seas only recently but already loves going out on the ship. “I’m impressed by how put-together the program is.”

Leo and Pat Pavaglio started volunteering in 2010 after Leo saw a public service announcement at the YMCA. Both are retired teachers and, in one of those uncanny life coincidences, Leo is the former math teacher of Senior Captain Ben Hale from when both were living in Lapeer. The work “combines sailing, education, science, kids, and hands-on learning; all of it enjoyable,” Leo says. The Pavaglios love to travel and have been to the Grand Canyon, the Galapagos off the shore of Ecuador, and Machu Pichu in Peru. Pat says, “Leo finds these great things to do, and I say, ‘Oh that sounds like fun.’” This fall, they’re going to Antarctica as part of the well-known travel society, Road Scholars.

Frank Simkins began volunteering at In-

land Seas after he retired from selling hospital equipment in 2012. “I love fish. I love fishing,” he says. The son of a Wayne County sheriff, Simkins grew up in the Detroit area and came north in the 1980s to sell healthcare electronics for Philips. He crews on the *Inland Seas* in the summer and comes in three or four hours a week in the winter. He cleans all the aquariums in the education center. “I clean one aquarium a week,” he says. “So by the end of the month, they’re all clean.” Describing himself as an amateur naturalist, Simkins says he has a blog about fish and is currently writing about the bowfin.

Gloria Veltman, a retired police officer and bookseller, began volunteering more than a decade ago and hasn’t stopped. She was born in Mexico, where her father was in the Foreign Service, and has lived all over the United States. She says that she volunteers because “you hope to trigger an interest. You hope to inspire a kid. [Volunteering is about] giving back to the community, but it’s also a pursuing of your own interests.” She loves sailing and began with her father when she was a child.

Jim Henry is the prototypical Renaissance man. A pipe-fitter from Adrian, he is a voracious reader who has restored a 1938 Indian motorcycle, the kind of motorcycle made famous in the movie *The World’s Fastest Indian* with Anthony Hopkins, and he’s shown it on the Course d’Elegance in California. He and his wife, Cheryl, have just purchased a 1930s vintage cottage on Northport Bay. The cottage, like a movie set, is an astonishingly perfect period piece in pristine condition. In one corner of the bayside porch is an ancient 12-foot-long pair of skis, carved by a Norwegian farmer in Northport a century ago and recently rescued from a destiny as firewood. Jim and Cheryl both love old things, and Jim says that his appreciation of the schooner is part of that. “It’s all done with wind and water and human hands,” he says. “I like that.”

Ken Cerny is an Inland Seas volunteer extraordinaire. Not only does he go out on the ship and teach water chemistry, he helps with the July nautical flea market and classic boat show. Between 2005 and 2008, he was the coordinator of the volunteers, which meant doing the scheduling and making reminder calls for as many as 100 volunteers a week.

“Every nonprofit exists because of the volunteers,” Cerny says. “And if you’re going to do this right, you’re going to spend 30 hours a week on the phone.” He says that when he was handling volunteers, he took a photo of each one and knew them by name. “If you want to retain your volunteers,” he says, “You need to interact with them. You need to recognize them. You need to thank them.” Cerny’s wife, Marilyn, is on the board of the Traverse Symphony Orchestra. Both are active in their church, and Cerny is a current member and past president of the Suttons Bay Rotary. He and his wife have been full-time volunteers since retiring in 2000.

“You have an incredibly talented pool of volunteers up here,” Cerny says, adding that Leelanau County is the second wealthiest county in the state after Oakland County. “You have doctors, CEOs, teachers. One of the guys building a boat downstairs a few weeks ago was a neurosurgeon.” The important thing about recruiting volunteers, he says – which is something Inland Seas does exceptionally well – is: “You make people feel that what they’re doing has value, that they’re part of something bigger than themselves. And you keep them by interacting with them.”

“I’m so grateful for our volunteers,” says Sitkins, who recently arranged a special sailing trip for volunteers as an expression of

that gratitude. “Inland Seas wouldn’t exist without them.”

Kathleen Stocking is author of the acclaimed book, *Letters from the Leelanau* (University of Michigan Press, 1990). She is currently working on her next book, *The Long Arc of the Universe*. The red-sailed Inland Seas was featured in the Cherry Festival for the first time this summer. It will also visit Northport on August 12, Leland on August 13, and the Frankfort Harbor from August 13 until August 17. Visitors are welcome.

# CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

1 "Lorna Doone" character

5 Sinbad's bird

8 Demolish: Brit.

12 Idea (Fr.)

13 Alas

14 Cheese

15 Leg ends

16 Burmese knife

17 Taro

18 Small S.A. rabbit

20 Pilgrim

22 Skin vesicle

23 Veneration

24 Beginning

28 Blaubok

32 Public vehicle

33 54 (Rom. numeral)

35 Israelite tribe

36 Ringed boa

39 Reading desk

42 Abdominal (abbr.)

44 Have (Scot.)

45 Female falcon

48 Butterfly

52 State (Fr.)

53 Television channel

55 Endearment

56 Mine (Fr. 2 words)

57 Rom. first day of the month

58 Per. poet

59 Maid

60 Compass direction

61 Foreign (pref.)

DOWN

1 Breach

2 Design

3 Profound

4 Hate

5 Fanatical

6 Wood sorrel

7 Rudderfish

8 Flat molding

9 "Cantique de Noel" composer

10 Kemo \_\_\_\_\_

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

M	O	R	A		C	A	D	I		N	E	R
E	M	I	T		A	B	E	D		I	D	A
S	A	D	O		T	A	R	E		C	G	I
				M	E	G		M	A	R	T	E
T	H	E			N	E	A		L	E	I	
E	O	N			I	N	T	L		E	T	A
R	O	C			D	U	M	A	S		A	D
P	T	E	R		S	A	P	A		T	A	I
				L	E	S		N	P	G		E
C	R	A	V	A	T			S	A	G		
L	A	D			B	A	L		A	F	A	R
A	C	U			A	K	E	E		B	A	B
P	E	S			L	E	A	D		I	A	M

11 Turk. title

19 Jap. fish

21 Intimidate

24 Amazon tributary

25 Grab

26 Kwa language

27 "\_\_\_\_\_ Abner"

29 "Fables in

Slang" author

30 Rhine tributary

31 Television channel

34 Car

37 Insect

38 Presidential nickname

40 Helper

41 Caddy (2 words)

43 Male duck

45 Loyal

46 Hindu soul

47 Cella

49 Crippled

50 Dayak people

51 Aeronautical (abbr.)

54 Low (Fr.)

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A2

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# Wholly Cow

10 scoops of ice cream in 15 minutes

From Staff Reports

How did you celebrate National Ice Cream Day on Sunday, July 22? Evan Vandentoorn celebrated by being the first person in history to win The Scoop of Frankfort’s ‘Wholly Cow Sundae Challenge.’ Vandentoorn, 16, is from the Grand Rapids area and was visiting his



Evan Vandentoorn with the Wholly Cow Sundae that he managed to eat in less than 13 minutes. Photo courtesy of The Scoop.

of ice cream, 10 toppings, chopped nuts, 10 cherries, and an entire can of whipped cream — and endure the brain freeze — all within a 15-minute time limit, it was free.

Vandentoorn’s choice was five scoops of Moomers raspberry champagne sorbet and five scoops of vanilla yogurt. He chose four servings of pineapple topping, four servings of hot caramel topping, and two servings of sprinkles. Vandentoorn said that his strategy was to be strong mentally.

“If you tell yourself you can do something, you can,” says Vandentoorn, who credited his family and the crowd’s supportive cheering with helping him to accomplish the Wholly Cow Sundae Challenge in less than 13 minutes. This was the first competitive eating that he had ever done.

When Nancy Plumber — founder of Moomers Homemade Ice Cream in Traverse City — heard the news, she commented that “a challenge always makes it extra fun.” She indicated that only a few people had ever finished the Wholly Cow at the Moomers storefront on Long Lake Road, and none had been on a timer. Nancy said that they are proud to be a part of The Scoop’s history and that they applaud Vandentoorn’s accomplishment.

Vandertoorn commented that, even if someone else meets the challenge, he will always be the first. He also thinks that beating his

time of less than 13 minutes will be really difficult (the actual time will not be released to the public). He also said that he will “give props” to anyone who tries.

As the very first person to win this challenge, Vandertoorn will enjoy a place of honor on the Wall of Fame at The Scoop, as well as a free scoop of ice cream any time that he visits for a year, a “Scoop” T-shirt, and a place in The Scoop of Frankfort’s hearts and history.

# Boomerangs

Continued from page 1

namic, and strikingly attractive couple (she’s 29 and of Chilean heritage; he’s a 28-year-old Dane) applied to join the Peace Corps and moved to Elberta to wait out the lengthy application and placement process. Mas is originally from Grand Rapids, and her mother, Dana Burch, lives in Frankfort, as does her uncle, Mike Farmer. The couple instantly fell in love with this place: its beauty, its friendly locals, its laid-back culture, and its creativity.

The couple didn’t just survive last winter; they embraced it by climbing and snowboarding the steep hills behind Elberta, cross-country skiing across Betsie Bay to Glen’s Market for groceries, and taking part in Wednesday trivia nights at Stormcloud.

“Here, the local food movement was a counter-culture movement, and we appreciated it more than we would have in Portland,” says Stig-Nielsen, who interned at the May Farm just outside Frankfort on Adams Road in order to learn agriculture skills that he would later be putting to use in the Peace Corps. His timing proved fortuitous, as Paul May was battling cancer at the time — he’s on the mend now — and Stig-Nielsen helped run the farm. Meanwhile, Mas worked at Cru Cellars in Frankfort and tended bar at The Cabbage Shed in Elberta.

The Danish transplant also started an “anarchist blues grass” band called Alfredo with Al Pityo and Chris Kuykendall. The local trio play frequently at The Cabbage Shed and Stormcloud Brewing Company, as well as the Western Avenue Grill in Glen Arbor. Stig-Nielsen’s persona is unique: he speaks Danish — with this journalist, who’s also of Viking heritage — with the sophisticated demeanor of the well-healed region north of Copenhagen, but he moved to Kentucky at age 12, so his English reveals a southern twang. Likewise, Stig-Nielsen’s long, wavy hair and tattoos complement his hill country roots.

In the Frankfort-Elberta area, Stig-Nielsen and Mas found what, in their minds, Portland had lacked: genuine economic and social diversity (though Northern Michigan remains racially homogenous).

“The circle of community here is a broad, multi-dimensional variety of people,” Stig-Nielsen says. “People will amaze you constantly with their knowledge and their

hobbies. Here, your job doesn’t reflect how intelligent or creative you are. You might meet a house painter, and — once you engage with them — you realize they have an immense grasp on the world and are doing amazing things. Here, your job does not define you.”

In March they departed for rural Jamaica to begin a 27-month stint with the Peace Corps. But things didn’t work out. The free-spirited, politically passionate advocates say that they clashed with the hierarchal, corporate structure of the Peace Corps. The couple felt that their hands were tied working for the U.S. government and that there wasn’t enough room for growth. So this spring, they returned to Elberta to once again embrace this community’s free spirit.

In so doing, Frederik Stig-Nielsen and Betsy Mas represent the bold exception to the rule — they are fish swimming upstream.

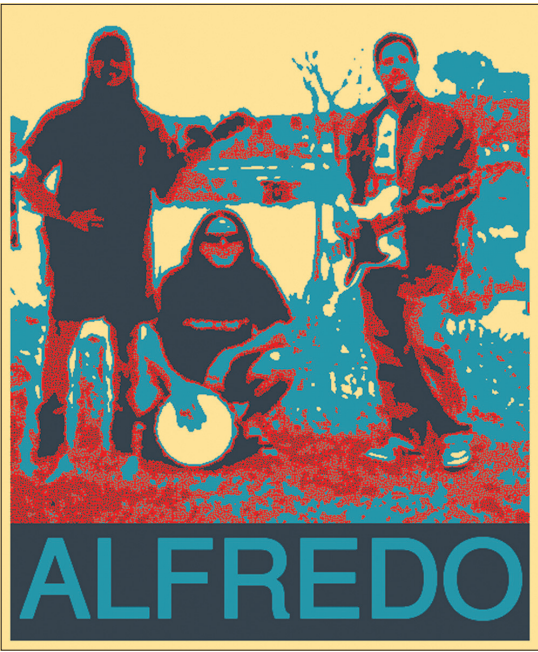
Most millennials who have come of age during the rise of the “creative class” have chosen to live and play in thriving cities — Chicago, Brooklyn, San Francisco, and Portland, too — with stable jobs, urban diversity, public transit, bicycle lanes, and non-stop stimulation. That outward migration has decimated Michigan in the past decade, subjecting the mitten state to an epic “brain drain.”

The futurists got it wrong, Michigan Future president Lou Glazer told a summit of young professionals last May in Lansing. The Netscape Navigator browser launched 20 years ago, marking what many consider the dawn of the Internet age. Because digital work could foreseeably be done from any place, the futurists had predicted that the creative class would return to rural America and work from their cabins, their mountaintops, their riversides. But the opposite has happened. Now ,75 percent of millennials are concentrated in big cities; their generation is more urbanized than any other generation in history.

Michigan powerbrokers — in government, in the private sector, and in communities — are slowly but surely coalescing around the need to retain and attract young talent. Governor Rick Snyder and Jennifer Granholm before him have both prioritized appealing to young professionals. In Detroit, Quicken Loans founder Dan Gilbert is bringing young employees into Motown. Grand Rapids, Marquette, and Traverse City, too, appear younger and edgier than they did a decade ago.

For now, Stig-Nielsen and Mas are thrilled to call Elberta home. They’ve shelved their law degrees in favor of community, beaches, bartending, and playing music.

This state will boost its chances of making a full economic rebound if it can attract more millennials like them.



A poster from Stig-Nielsen’s band Alfredo with bandmates Al Pityo and Chris Kuykendall. Image courtesy of Alfredo.



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# Shipwrecks

Continued from page 1

rescue the crew. In contrast, the steamer *City of Boston* wreck, just south of the Hartzell, was supposedly lured ashore with a false harbor light and then was pillaged. In the case of the *Marinette*, *Menakaunee*, and *Pursue* wrecks near Watervale, lifesavers traveled all the way from Point Betsie in drifting snow to attempt rescue, and local farmers sheltered and cared for survivors. However, the newspaper headlines read, “Robbing the Dead! Bodies Coming Ashore From Wrecks Stripped of Clothing and Valuables” just a few days later.

So, what wrecks have been turning up and where?

Pieces of the aforementioned *J.H. Hartzel* wreckage often uncover along the Elberta beach, to the north of the remains of the steamer *City of Boston*, which can be found just off the Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy’s Green Point holdings. The steamer has been there since a snowstorm in November of 1873; its nearly intact hull is just offshore in only eight to 12 feet of water. The wreck can be viewed from the observation deck atop the bluff, and its steam engine and large rudder are even visible at times.

If you continue south along M-22, you’ll find more shipwrecks. Just north of the Arcadia breakwall, for instance, is the massive hull of the 200-foot, four-masted schooner *Minnehaha* in shallow water with a large section of hull on shore near the public beach. The schooner’s 24-year-old captain was the only survivor of the wreck, which occurred in October of 1883. North of that, extending all the way up to the Herron Creek outlet, are the wrecks of the *Marinette*, *Menakaunee*, and *Pursue*. Only six people survived from these three vessels that all wrecked in the same storm in late November of 1886. A 90-foot-long piece of the *Marinette*’s hull was just reported as uncovered on the shore to the south of the old Watervale pier.

And if you head north along M-22, there are even more wrecks to be seen. About two miles north of Frankfort near the Congre-

gational Summer Assembly (CSA) beach is the 120-foot, three-masted schooner *Ida*, wrecked carrying lumber in a 1908 fall gale. In just eight feet of water, its anchor chain and other artifacts can be easily viewed. Supposedly some of the first CSA cottages were built from lumber that had washed ashore from the *Ida*. Between the *Ida* and Point Betsie, the steamer *St. Lawrence* recently uncovered after being buried for a century. The huge 239-foot wooden ship stranded in a snowstorm on November 25, 1898, carrying 64,000 bushels of corn. The *St. Lawrence*’s hull lies in 16 to 22 feet of water, and pieces of it have been turning up on the beach along the Point Betsie

and Crystal Downs area for decades.

In Leelanau County, a section of the engine room bilge from what is believed to be the 1862 wreck of the steamer *General Taylor* washed ashore a few years ago at the foot of

sections of lost ships’ hulls scattered about just off shore.

“We live along a shipwreck coast,” Stoltmann says. “Thousands of ships have been lost over the centuries, some lost in the cold deep waters, but more often driven into the raging surf or ashore.”

Pieces of wreck can appear and disappear quickly with storms and the area’s active coastal dynamics. Stoltmann also commented that “shipwreck sites now serve as important archeological resources, helping historians to study early ship construction and past ways of life.”

These time capsules, preserved beneath the shifting sands, are a part of our culture and community.

“It is part of who we are as residents of a maritime region,” Stoltmann says.

So, the next time the weathered gray timbers of a shipwreck reveal themselves along the shore, contemplate the story they may tell. A story that begins with old growth trees that were selected by shipbuilders for staunch and sturdy construction; the excitement of launching and the hopes and aspirations of the ship’s owners; the people who sailed it; its home port and the places it served, hauling people and goods throughout the Great Lakes and beyond. Finally, the wreck event itself... by storm, fog, fire, or ice; the fate of its crew and the community, which by circumstance, will forever be intertwined in its story.

In 1987, local residents garnered State Legislative designation for a 272-square-mile Manitou Passage State Underwater Preserve, helping to protect submerged cultural resources and promote economic activity. Thus



The *Ida* in better days, before she wrecked in a 1908 fall gale near Frankfort’s Congregational Summer Assembly. Photo courtesy of Jed Jaworski.



the Sleeping Bear Dunes. This delighted park visitors at the nearby Glen Haven Coast Guard Station Maritime Museum.

Along the Port Oneida shore in Sleeping Bear Bay, recent discoveries have been made on the beach which have been attributed the schooner *W.B. Phelps*. The *Phelps* went ashore with a cargo of beer in November 1879. Local townsfolk received the Congressional lifesaving medal for their heroic efforts to save the crew. On the southern shores of both North and South Manitou islands, shipwreck material is frequently observed, with broken

the approach of “take only pictures, leave only foot prints” is best if shipwreck items are found. When people come across a shipwreck or artifact, they should inform the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Law Enforcement Division or the State Historic Preservation Office.

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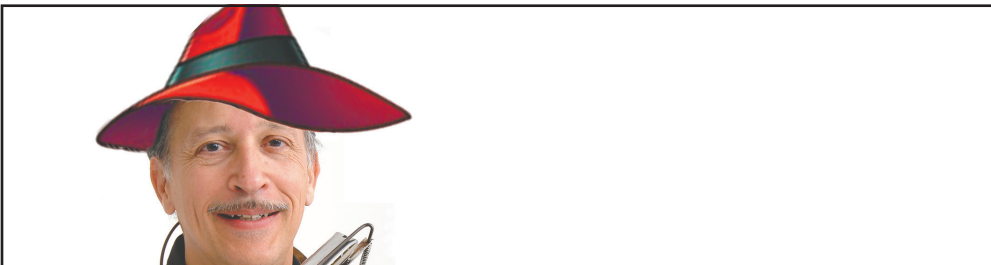
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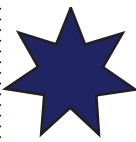
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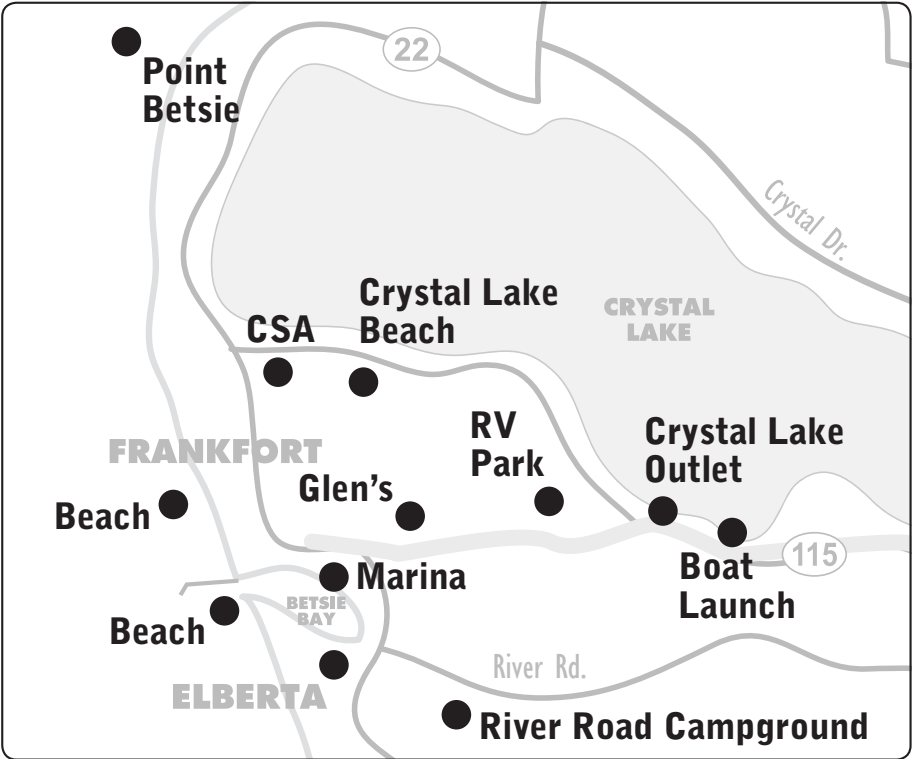
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