

SPRING 2023

BOB-LO Tatler

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF
BOIS BLANC ISLAND - FOUNDED 1891

"All the news and updates, supplied by readers, fit to print."



"Here is a picture of the kids at Pines School on Pajama Day with their stained-glass butterflies. They learned about decoupage. We had a lot of fun making them. They are taking the M-step right now, so we've had some extra down time which means a lot of time outside and art class." -Christine Hasbrouck

Bois Blanc Island Association News

Greetings in 2023! The countdown is on for us all to have some Island time here in the next few months – the silver lining of not having much ice this last winter is an early arrival on the Island.

The BBI Association has been around for many decades and continues to be committed to working to make Bois Blanc Island a better, safer and more enjoyable place to live and vacation. Our goal is to start each year's "season" with the production and distribution of the Tatler. We also, last year, produced the Island Directory, a biennial event.

The 2023-24 dues are payable in June and they will remain at \$20 a year. By paying these Annual dues, you receive the benefits of the Association including the Tatler and the Island Directory as well as fund the activities referenced below. (Please let us know if you have not picked up your Directory or received one in the mail, and we will get you one. The Directory was last published late last summer.) The Association works with the East End, West End and the Pines to help fund various projects identified by the general population in addition to supporting the Thursday night square dances and Salvation Army visit (if they are able and willing to make a trip to the Island).

In the past, we have funded special needs around the Island from Fire Department needs, to providing funds for vaulted toilets on the North Shore, to repairing sidewalks that are used by everyone on the Island – to name a few projects. We also initiated and completed the rebuilding of the Island Gazebo last year, which is scheduled to get a fresh coat of paint here this Spring. This year – we will deliver the Tatler, coordinate meet and greets in a central location (stay tuned for dates/time), continue to work with the Island folks from all areas on needs as well as support Thursday evening square dances and host the Salvation Army. We are also very excited to continue to work with the Township and the Pines School to locate, design and begin building a Pavilion that can be used by the school, house our summer's weekly Farmer's Market and also serve as a gathering place for all Islanders to use. This Pavilion will be in memory of Loren Gibbons and a result of a generous donation to the Association and Foundation by Judie Groleau for this purpose. This will be such a beneficial addition to the Island, so we are working all the appropriate channels to make this happen. We are so thankful for this generous donation in Loren's name!

With The Tatler is your annual dues statement. Note the dues run from July 1 – June 30. Anyone paying now will be "whole" for the July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024 year. Please complete the form and submit as indicated with your annual dues to the address on the dues statement. We also will be emailing you a dues statement in the near future if we have an email address for you on file.

We continue, although slowly, to get this more electronic and we are committed to that. Recent year's Tatlers and the annual Island Calendar have been made available on the BBI Foundation website (https://www.bbicf.org/BBI_Association.php). Because the platform for the website has become outdated and needs to be updated, updates can no longer be posted there. We will be working with Sally Sperry and the Foundation to help get this updated. Many thanks to Sally Sperry and the Foundation for maintaining this site for all these years!

If you are interested in being involved or have areas that you have suggestions regarding the activity of the BBIA, content in the Tatler, or ideas on Island needs, please contact any of the officers or Island Representatives listed on page 3.

Carol Blundy, BBIA President



Photo : Mary Kay Weber



Photo: Meg Shaker Rarey



Photo: Louise Edwards

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The Tatler is produced and distributed by the Bois Blanc Island Association - Enjoy!

BBIA Board Members:

President - Carol Blundy
 Vice President - Suzette Cooley-Sanborn
 Secretary - Kathy Landschulz
 Treasurer - Sally Cook



Carol Blundy, has faithfully served as BBIA President for 5 years, and 10 in all capacities! Thank you, Carol!



Tatler news wrangler, Brandie Dunn, in her natural BBI habitat.

BBIA Area Representatives:

Pines - Joyce Peccon, Kathy Landschulz, Jamie Nye, Robin Lees, Sally Cook
 East End - Bob Stowe, Jim Blamer, Susie Fisher Phillips, Brandie Dunn (Tatler Editor)
 West End - Suzette Cooley-Sanborn, Carol Blundy, Tom Wybranowski, JoAnna Duncan, Mary Struble-Deery (honorary)

I have immense gratitude for all who "foster a spirit of community" on BBI and took time to generously share content for the 2023 Tatler! Do you have thoughts or ideas on future content you would like to see included? Please feel welcome to reach out to Brandie Dunn at Nativebeelady@gmail.com.

Kieran and the Caterpillar



"Our family walks through fields on Bois Blanc Island; the thistle, and snake grass brushing our jeans. Waxy-leafed, purple-flowered, and deliciously fragrant milkweed—the only plant monarch butterfly feed on—stands out from other plants. This photo is a close-up of me last summer, holding a milkweed leaf being munched by a monarch caterpillar. Our grandson Kieran's happy baby paw, fingers splayed in delight, is reaching toward the critter. Both Kieran and the caterpillar are finding their way in the world by crawling, but soon the baby will be toddling and the insect—after forming a chrysalis and emerging as a butterfly—will be floating and fluttering.

In the past, an abundance of butterflies cavorted and soared over these fields and it was easy to spot monarch caterpillars devouring milkweed leaves. On an underside, if we were lucky, we'd find a dangling chrysalis—breathtaking, translucent green bejeweled with black and shiny gold dots.

We'd put the caterpillar in a jar, feed him fresh milkweed daily and witness his miraculous metamorphosis. He formed his chrysalis, which darkened just before hatching. Once free, he pumped fluid from his thorax into his wings, and waited until they were dry enough to sail away. Besides beautifying the world, these little creatures do the job of pollinating fruit, flowers, and vegetables just like bees and hummingbirds.

Sadly, while on BBI the summer of 2022, the number of monarchs I saw floating over the fields was in the single digits. If you know the story behind the story of these magnificent insects, this photo takes on new meaning—because the long-term existence of monarchs is precarious. The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) has officially classified monarch butterflies as endangered. Monarchs face a long road to reaching the population level they held three decades ago when an estimated 700 million made the annual migratory journey.

It is true that a toxin in the milkweed they ingest makes monarchs less palatable targets than other insects. But despite this, bluebirds and Mississippi kite are able to feast on them with no ill effects. Even islanders inadvertently run over monarchs who gather to "puddle" and absorb minerals and salts from our gravel roads. But these foes can't alone have wreaked all the havoc monarchs have suffered.

Is it too much glyphosate along their migration route? Is development decimating milkweed? Or are they endangered due to climate change? The monarch's survival is challenged indeed. Ironically, caterpillars and butterflies are symbols of hope, power, and transformation. Are they now also symbolic of the canaries in coal mines?

We should do what we can to help these beautiful creatures overcome whatever obstacles they've encountered. Below is a link to a resource with suggested ways to pitch in. I plan to join the "Plant Milkweed" campaign at my home in North Carolina. My dream is that we all help monarchs prosper so they can keep filling Kieran's world with wonder year after year, just as they have ours.

<https://www.fws.gov/story/small-efforts-can-make-big-difference-monarchs>



The Bridge of Kinship



IN STORMS, IF THE HEARTBEAT OF KINSHIP isn't riding waves with us, it's doubtful Joy will either – even on BBI. Can we agree there've been some rough waters in life as we knew it (that's putting it mildly) or hoped it would be? Some waves may still be washing over souls, dreams, expectations, and relationships with sorrow never before imagined.

For many, "these waves, too, shall pass" while some folks may live in a spectrum of disconnections, brokenness, or loss that paralyzes. Pain, and the voice of regret echoing through their sense of being adrift in a sea of disconcerting change, creates a sense of vertigo.

Everything spinning, unexpected winds of shaming can render anyone unable to shape words to create bridges in moments of pain. Instead, protective walls are constructed because navigating threatening waters is unsafe when one feels... Unseen. Unheard. Bullied. Discouraged, or guarded about what may happen next because trust was violated or anger was empowered.

On an island that's a heartbeat of beauty and peace, kinship matters; the kind that reaches across miles in winter months or knocks on cottage doors inviting a friend to walk in the woods. Kinship that becomes a centerboard, listening, stabilizing, and guiding, is the game-changing presence of empathy when wrestling in uncharted waters.

As skies darken and waters rise, there's sacredness in kinship that becomes the steadying rudder of someone's rocking boat. Compassion silences shaming, wrapping wounds in the sanctity of healing and the tenderness of caring-in-action. A kindred gets it, and they get you, stepping over lines naysayers draw in the sand to sit with you, building sandcastles of kindness and mercy in your spirit.

A year ago, my youngest son and I invested a day not just sailing in kinship with the open ocean stretched lovingly before us, but in listening to the sacredness of each other's heartbeat. We rode the waves of memories lived when he was a pre-k sailor on Snow Beach, then a 12-year old captain of his first sailing vessel. He & I found value in life's past winds, and in how they guide as he & his wife navigate at the helm of their family.

In simple but meaningful ways that glorious day, his understanding and encouragement taught me to face a fear, positioning myself to ride it out with excitement, trust, and confidence. His adventurous spirit modeled how to duck the sails of what is avoidable, center myself in peace, and hang on in winds and waves I can't control. When I'm willing to take chances as everything I'm standing on is rocking, kinship invites me to experience the wink of new delight.

Life is about navigating with acts of caring to strengthen transitions that create transformations, breathing kindness & compassion & joy & goodness & laughter into the heartbeat of fellow sojourners and into BBI, one beach fire, lunch invitation, or island adventure at a time. Red sky at night, sailors' delight. Here's to red skies in the horizons of your life, this summer and always.

Written by: Lysa Fischer, East End

BOB-LO TATLER



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BOIS BLANC TOWNSHIP & SERVICES



Bois Blanc Township has a new and more informative website which has been created with our constituents' input to keep us informed about township news ranging from committee/commission, to meetings scheduled, ordinances, forms and cemetery burial sites. You can now subscribe to our website and be notified each time there is a change.

Come check us out.

boisblanctownship.org

BBI AIRPORT

Bois Blanc Island Airport (6Y1)

The Bois Blanc Island Airport (6Y1) sits at an elevation of 664 feet, just 3 miles Northwest of Pointe Aux Pins. With 3,498 x 75 feet of asphalt, runways 10 and 28 provide vital lifelines for year-round and seasonal island residents and guests, especially during the winter months when the ferry doesn't run. The airport is also home to local pilots, and is a frequent destination for many flying enthusiasts.

The airport was busy again this past winter with hundreds of air taxi flights provided by Fresh Air Aviation, and twice-weekly (weather permitting) mail and package deliveries from the Post Office and Plaunt Transportation. Regular snow and ice events made keeping the runways clear an ongoing challenge, often requiring very early morning and late evening snowplowing by Brent Sharpe. Our airport is widely known by local pilots to always be the first open with clear runways following a snowfall. We have Brent to thank for that reputation. And we have Phil Radala to thank for the great work he does in keeping the airport grounds and equipment looking good and running well.

We are also pleased to report that for the second year in a row, the airport was deemed by the Michigan Department of Transportation's (MDOT) Office of Aeronautics as one of only a few airports in the state to have no deficiencies. MDOT completed its most recent inspection on September 7, 2022, which included among other factors a review of the airport's facilities, operation and safety measures, compliance with regulations, finances, and planning.

BBI AIRPORT (Continued)

When visiting the airport, please keep the following in mind:

- Federal and state law prohibits unauthorized individuals from entering restricted airport property (including the runway, taxiways, and entire land area cleared of trees for the runway, sides, and each approach end). Violating these laws pose serious safety risks and will result in prosecution.
- The terminal building is not available for general use by the public. This facility is for the use of pilots.
- Free short-term airport parking is limited to 72 hours, and all vehicles parked beyond 72 hours require a permit from the Township Office.

For additional information about the Bois Blanc Island Airport, visit our website at: www.boisblancairport.com

Chris Viers
Airport Manager



Bois Blanc Island Fire Department

"We also remind everyone--and this cannot be stressed enough--that Bois Blanc Island has ZERO onsite physicians, paramedics, hospitals, or urgent care clinics."

The Bois Blanc Island Fire Department has welcomed several new members to its crew since the fall of 2022. They include Damien and Stevie Nelson, Chad Vallance, and Megan Hawver, all of whom became full-time, year-round Bois Blanc residents just last year. If you see Megan, Chad, Stevie, or Damien here on the Island, please join us in thanking them for their desire to serve our BBI community.

Nearly all rural volunteer and part-pay fire departments struggle with dwindling membership. This is especially true in seasonal resort communities, in which fire and EMS resources are comprised of a small number of year-round, full-time volunteers who strain to keep up with the population swell during spring and summer months. That's why Bois Blanc and the BBIFD are so fortunate that these individuals chose to make the Island their permanent home, and made a commitment to be here when someone needs help, at any time of year.

As of this writing, our crew is comprised of 10 active members, with six (6) active members currently trained as Firefighters and/or Emergency Medical Responders (EMR). While any or all members may be available to respond to emergencies at any time, these six trained members rotate On-Call shifts, meaning two members at a time are committed to being on the island and prepares to respond during their three or four-day shift.

For this service, each ON-Call responder receives approximately \$1.49 per shift hour. Our On-Call responders also monitor the BBIFD non-emergency and burn permit hotline, (231) 634-7085 between 8am and 9pm daily.

Each year, we remind our residents and visitors that Bois Blanc Island is covered by Mackinac County 911 Emergency Dispatch. **For emergencies requiring urgent medical, fire, and/or law response, CALL 911 from any cell phone OR land line phone on BBI. Do NOT attempt to call individual BBIFD members, and do NOT call the Fire Department non-emergency burn permit hotline in the event of an emergency.**

FOR BURN PERMITS

(231) 634-7085

8:00am-9:00pm



**FOR EMERGENCY
CALL 911**

Bois Blanc Island Fire Department (Continued)

We also remind everyone--and this cannot be stressed enough--that **Bois Blanc Island has ZERO onsite physicians, paramedics, hospitals, or urgent care clinics.** If you or someone in your family or group is injured or someone becomes seriously ill, emergency medical evacuation off-island is the **ONLY** option. The BBIFD works with 911 Central Dispatch to arrange medical evacuation by medical helicopter, plane, or marine rescue, weather permitting. For this reason, it's important to think twice before taking any chances with health or safety while visiting Bois Blanc Island.

Stay tuned to the BBIFD Facebook page at www.facebook.com/BBIFD for updates on fundraisers and other activities during 2023. Donations are gratefully accepted via check to the Bois Blanc Island Firefighters' Association (BBIFA), P.O. Box 815, Pointe Aux Pins, MI 49775. As always we thank the entire Bois Blanc Island Community for its support.

EMERGENCIES: Call 911

BURN PERMIT and NON-EMERGENCY HOTLINE: (231) 634-7085



HEALTH CLINIC

At this time, a nurse has been identified that, it is hoped, will be available once a week through the Clinic. More details are forthcoming.

Phlebotomy services are available, from Clover Schlund, trained phlebotomist, for those who need blood draws while on the island. Drawn blood is shipped to the mainland and processed by McLaren Northern Michigan Health, according to the prescription you present. Anyone needing a blood draw can call Clover @ 231-634-7500.

**THE HIDEAWAY AT BOIS BLANC ISLAND PRESENTS
THE FIRST ANNUAL**

FACE PAINTING **TOUR** **FAMILY FUN!**

GLASS BLOWING BOOTH!!
ARMADA GLASS COMPANY

FOOD BY WILLE'S GRAB AND GO

The Hideaway Music Festival
Bois Blanc Island
August 18-19

FEATURING LIVE MUSIC FROM
ALTER EGO REHAB · THE DARWIN PROJECT
THE WILL PRENTICE BAND · ERIC RIPPER
THE BURNOUTS...PLUS MANY MORE...

BRING YOUR TENT · CAMPING SPOTS AVAILABLE
WALK-ON FERRY TICKETS AVAILABLE AT PLAUNT TRANSPORTATION
SHUTTLES WILL BE RUNNING TO THE HIDEAWAY

\$20 ADMISSION or \$30 INCLUDES TENT SPACE

FEATURING LOCAL ARTS AND CRAFTS VENDORS

LARGE RAFFLE PRIZES · FIRE ENGINE KIDS EVENTS
PROCEEDS WILL BE MADE TO THE BOIS BLANC ISLAND FIREFIGHTER ASSOCIATION

PARKS & RECREATION



Parks and Recreation Department
Bois Blanc Township
PO Box 898
Pointe Aux Pins, Michigan 49775-0898

The Bois Blanc Island Parks and Recreation Committee has been very busy this last year. We have decided to focus on four major projects, which includes the upgrade and improvements on Bright Waters Park, Liedel's Landing, North Shore, and Nichols Point.

MAJOR PROJECTS

Bright Waters

Our new park on the west side of the island has a new driveway and parking lot. The skid pier will be installed in the spring, along with a final grade on the road once the base layer has a chance to settle. We will also be cleaning up the beach area. A park sign, picnic tables and trash receptacles have been ordered.

A feasibility study for a more permanent pier is scheduled this spring with Eastern Upper Peninsula Engineering and Architects, Inc..

We have a dedication planned for Saturday July 1st at 10:00 am just before the Kite Festival.

Lake Mary

The Liedel family has generously donated some property on Lake Mary by the boat ramp. With this property we will be creating a parking lot for vehicles with trailers. This area will be referred to from now on as Liedel's Landing.

Signs for the campground and Liedel's Landing have been ordered.

We are currently working on a grant with MI Sparks for the cost of one additional space to the camping area (picnic table, trashcan, fire ring, and fire bucket), the parking area by Liedel's Landing and road repairs.

North Shore

The long-awaited vaulted toilet is coming to the North Shore with the help of the DNR, Community Foundation and the Association. Permits have been pulled and we are getting ready to install.

Nichols Point

The DNR has recently completed a land review on Bois Blanc Island. The department has offered the township the opportunity to purchase 27 acres of property for a new community park.

The land is located at Nichols Point with Lake Huron waterfront on the southeast part of Bois Blanc Island. The DNR has offered this land to the township for \$63,000.00. We were able to raise \$102,131.00 for this project from community donations with an additional \$63,000.00 coming from Mackinac County once our survey is completed and engineer plans are submitted. We also applied for a \$5,000.00 grant from PIE and G and are waiting to see if our proposal is approved. But a special thank you needs to go out to the Jahn Foundation for helping make all this possible. A list of the many, generous community members who made contributions towards this purchase may be found on the BBI Township website.

We have purchased this land and the surveyor has been out walking the property. We are getting ready to meet with the engineer. Our goal for this space is nature trails, a picnic area, driveway and parking, restrooms, and a drinking fountain.

OTHER NEWS

Kite Festival

A Kite Festival is being planned for this summer on Saturday, July 1st from 10:00 am - 2:00 pm at Bright Waters Park. We invite everyone to participate in the celebration of one of our newest parks. Young and old, seasoned kite flyer or newbie to the hobby, all are welcome. Bring your kites and enjoy an afternoon at our new Bright Waters Park. Hot dogs, chips and pop will be available for purchase or bring a picnic basket for your family.

A table will be set up for the children to make kites. We will be hosting a free kite drawing for all that attend.

PARKS & RECREATION (Continued)

Art Show

An Art Fair is currently in the works for Saturday, July 29th. 10:00-2:00. Marianne Miller has asked if she could have Bois Blanc Island Parks and Recreation sponsor an Art and Craft Fair. It will be at the Bible Farm.

Logo Contest

The Parks and Recreation Committee was looking for a logo. We hosted a contest with a \$200 reward for the winner. Winnings were provided by Bois Blanc Realty. Emma Kaminski was our islands creative winner, who has donated her winnings back to the Parks and Recreation Department. Plan on seeing her new innovative design on all our new park signs that have been ordered.

Photo Contest

Another contest we hosted last year was the First Annual Photo Contest. All ages were encouraged to participate. We had 72 entries, and the winner was Michelle Reynolds (cover and September 2024). We also had 15 additional runner-up contestants, Mark Bracey (September 2023), Michelle Reynolds (October 2024), Peter Struble (November 2023), Michelle Reynolds (December 2023), Louise Edwards (January 2024), Julie Maynard (February 2024), Greg Widseth (March 2024), Carol Hoppe (April 2024), Sally Sperry (May 2024), Michelle Reynolds (June 2024), Louise Edwards (July 2024), Greg Widseth (August 2024), Louise Edwards (October 2024), Brandie Dunn (November 2024) and Mark Bacey (December 2024).

We have a Bois Blanc Island calendar for 2023-2024 with the winning pictures from the 2022 Photo Contest. The calendars will be available for purchase for \$30.00 this coming summer at the Farmer's Market on Saturdays, at the Township Offices Monday - Thursday 10:00 am - 2:00 pm. and at the Art Fair on July 29th. All proceeds will be directed to the Parks and Recreation program.

We are kicking off our second Annual Photo Contest. Entry fee is \$15. per photo or 4 photos for \$60. and get the 5th photo entry free. A \$200. prize will be given for first place and the top 12 photos will be included in 2025 township calendar. Photo entries are to be submitted by November 1, 2023.

Silent Auction

Each Saturday last summer at the Farmers Market, we had a silent auction item given away to the highest bidder. All proceeds went to the Parks and Recreation Department.

Tie Dye Shirts Event

Last Labor Day weekend at the Farmer's Market, a table was set up for a Tie Dye event hosted by Morgan and Evelyn Pickering. Each person was able to dye a shirt to take home, while enjoying a snack and time with friends. We plan to host this event again this summer on Saturday of Labor Day weekend at the Farmer's Market from 10:00 am - 1:00 pm. More details to follow. This year we will also have other items to tie dye like bags and tank tops. Do not worry adults we will be ordering more additional sizes, so nobody is left out.

Commemorative Gift Program

We are starting a Commemorative Gift Program. This program will be a meaningful and distinctive way to pay tribute to a deceased loved one, to honor someone you love or respect, say thanks to a person/ group, or to commemorate life events. This is a gift that will be enjoyed by the community and park visitors and will be a constant memory of the reason it was given.

We will be making items available to purchase, such as park benches, picnic tables, picnic shelters, or even monetary donations. You will even be able to select the park that you want the gift placed. Watch our Township website for upcoming information on this new program.

The Bois Blanc Island Parks and Recreation Committee is proud to help the community maintain outdoor spaces to enjoy our wonderful island and we thank you for the support to do so.

Sincerely,

The Bois Blanc Island Parks and Recreation Committee

Tom Bach

Jay Beugly

Ginger Canup

Diane Akright (Board Liaison)

Karen Beauchamp (Prior Member)

Missy Phillips (Prior Member)

Save the Date

Memorial Day Program

On Monday, May 29 at 11:00AM, (rain or shine), there will be a Memorial Day Program at Veterans Park (next to the Pines Dock.)

Following the service Wille's Grab n Go will be offering hot dogs, chips and a drink for donations to Veterans Park.

If you have any questions call Kathy Brown at 231-634-7119, or Tom Lower at 616-755-2431.



ANTIQUE HIT-N-MISS ENGINE SHOW

On Saturday and Sunday, July 1st and 2nd, from 10:00 til 4:00, there will be at least 6 antique Hit-n-Miss engines in the front yard at Island Contractors (Joe & Clover's). Each engine should be ready to start for you. Several sizes and types. We will also have firemen boots available for any donations you'd like to leave for our fire department. Additionally, Wille's Grab n Go will also be setup in our yard, so if nothing else, please stop in to grab some great food and POPCORN!! Hope to see you all there!! If anyone with an antique car here on the island, you are very welcome to bring it on down to show off too!!



KITE FESTIVAL AT THE NEW BRIGHT WATERS PARK

We invite everyone to participate in the celebration of our newest park on behalf of Bois Blanc Island Parks and Recreation.



Multiple Activities

- Dedication of Bright Waters Park 10:00am
- Flying kites
- Kite making for children
- Drawing for a free kite
- Willies Grab n Go will be providing hot dogs, assorted chips, pop and water
- Picnic areas/ Bring your blankets and chair to sit on.

Young and old – seasoned kite flyer or newbie to the hobby, all are welcome.

Bring your kites and enjoy an afternoon at our park.

Saturday, July 1, 2023 10:00am – 2:00pm

Come experience some family fun.

SAVE THE DATE (Continued)

Volunteers needed for two group beach sweeping efforts in July and August! Bags provided.

Monday July 3rd thru Friday the 7th Kathy Brown will supply bags to those interested, she encourages everyone to pick a spot to clean (please get permission for private property) for an across-the-island cleaning collective. Please call Kathy to discuss bag pickup at 231-634-7119.

Ice Cream Party the 7th at Kathy's for all volunteers! (Time and address to be announced)

Sunday, August 13th at 11am (or 14th in case of inclement weather) meet at end of Bible Road near the cross. Trash bags, water and a light lunch will be provided by Cayla Begle.

We love our unique island, let's take care of her! Thank you and hope to see you there!

BBI Beach Cleanups '23



BBI Historical Society Ice Cream Social July 15 2:00 - 4:00

BBI Chapel Pancake Breakfast & Quilt Auction July 22 9:00 - Noon



Saturday
29 July, 2023

10:00 am - 02:00 pm
Bible Farm, BBI
? **QUESTIONS?**
Contact Marianne Miller
marianne@jfmdesign.net
260.704.2640



Woodland Glade Cemetery Clean Up Dates

Woodland Glade Cemetery Cleanup Dates
Volunteers Are Welcome from 10a-12p on...

MAY 30 th	ARMED FORCES DAY-1950
June 14 th	U.S. ARMY-estb. 1775
JULY 4 th	U.S. INDEPENDENCE DAY-1776
AUGUST 4 th	U.S. COAST GUARD-estb. 1790
SEPTEMBER 18 th	U.S. AIR FORCE-estb. 1947
October 13 th	U.S. NAVY-estb. 1775
NOVEMBER 10 th	U.S. MARINE CORPS-estb. 1775

SAVE THE DATE (Continued)

BBI Neighbors and Cheboygan Scout Troop 1240 are proud to announce the beginning of RECYCLING and RETURNABLE CAN DRIVES on the island!

We will be at the Main Dock on the following dates, from 1:30-2:30.

June 1, July 13, August 10, September 7 and the final date of the year November 28.

ALL RECYCLING AND CANS MUST BE CLEAN and put in kitchen size, 13 gallon, garbage bags.

The following chart describes what can be recycled.

The Scouts, who are between the ages 10-15, are going to use the money from the cans to pay for Summer and Weekend Camps.

If you have any questions about recycling please call Kathy Brown at 231-634-7119. If you have questions regarding the can drives, please call Lynn Henson at 231-420-7625.



MIXED CONTAINERS STREAM

- Juice boxes, milk cartons & paper cups
- Plastic bottles, jugs & jars
- Metal cans, foil & trays
- Plastic tubs, trays & cups
- Glass bottles & jars



PAPER, BOXES & BAGS STREAM

- Please flatten boxes
- Cardboard & paper bags
- Newspapers & inserts
- Office paper
- Magazines, catalogs & books
- Plastic grocery bags & bread bags

IN OTHER NEWS

DID YOU KNOW?



Thanks to the generous support of some BBI neighbors, 10 BBIFD-approved campfire water buckets (plus 3 replacements) were placed around the Island last spring at multiple North Shore sites, Airport, Mary's Lake, Thompson Lake, and the Pines Dock. Surprisingly, no camper we met while distributing them knew anything about calling for a fire permit, but all promised to do so immediately. We picked the buckets up in the fall, but we'll be back this spring putting them out once again!! This is critically important for all of us - unattended fires put our Island at great risk. If you'd like to contribute to the "bucket brigade," don't hesitate to contact me, melissa.freye@frontier.com. Thank you!

Campfire Water Bucket

Help keep beautiful BBI safe!

- **FREE** burning permit **required**. Call the BBI Fire Dept. at **231-634-7085** to register.
- **Do not leave your fire unattended.**
- Dial 911 Emergency Fire/Med/Police
- Pack in pack out - take your trash home or to the Transfer Station. Info at: www.boisblancetownship.org/transferstation.asp
- Cutting of live trees is prohibited.
- Have a good - and safe - time!



This is not a trash bucket. Please leave this campfire water bucket for the next campers. Thanks!

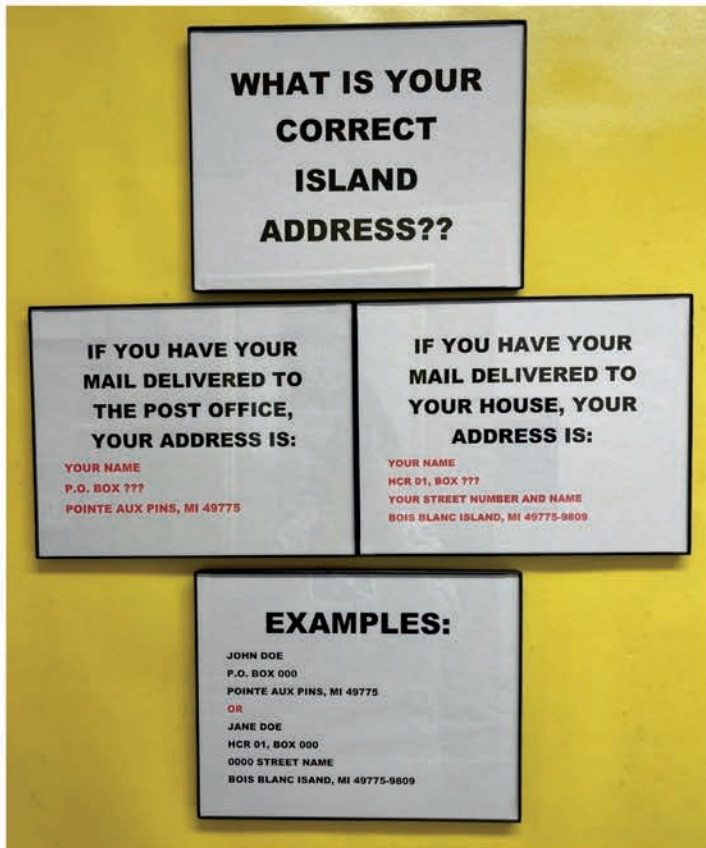
Donated by BBI Neighbors

BBI Post Office News

The following picture is your correct address according to the United States Postal Service.

If you have a mailbox on the rural route, please make sure your name and number are visibly on it.

If you are in need of a box on the route, you need to contact Curt Plaunt. If you want a PO Box, just stop by the Post Office.



On December 31, after 22 years, Cheryl Gahn retired from the United States Postal Service.

Cheryl began her postal career under the guidance of Al White. Then she replaced him as Postmaster Relief in 2000.

Thank you Cheryl for all of your years of service. We appreciate all you did for the island!
Submitted by: Kathy Brown

Remembering those we've loved and lost

Randall Arthur
Bud Berry
Shirley Gahn
Betty Goodin
Mary Ellen Landschulz
Carolynn Lowden
Werner Charles Maki
Matthew Northrup
John Olsen (Vosper)
Monte Sauers
Frank Urbany
Alice Jean Wescott

Note: This list is primarily comprised of those whose families contacted the island sexton and some which shared information on Social Media. Sincere apologies for any omissions.

CHURCH OF TRANSFIGURATION

We are turning our thoughts to warm weather and a beautiful sunny summer on our beloved Bois Blanc Island. We have planned for our visiting priests to help us worship at our historic Church of the Transfiguration. The following individuals will lead us in worship this summer:

July 2 Richard McCandless, our resident retired Episcopal priest on the Island. Many may know him as he visits the Island as often as he can from his permanent residence in Akron, Ohio. He and his wife purchased the John & Glenda Delamater cottage.

July 9 & 16 Rev. Bill McClure who spent most of his life in Gladwin, Michigan. Bill served as Rector at St. James' Episcopal Church in Cheboygan for over 13 years and then moved to Trinity Episcopal Church in Alpena where he served for over 7 years before his retirement. Bill has led funeral & baptism services for Island families on occasion in the past.

July 23 Brad Pickens who serves as Diocesan Missioner working with the communities of Holy Trinity in Iron Mountain, St. Marks in Crystal and Grade in Menominee. Brad was raised on a family farm in southern Indiana. After leaving home for college, seminary and a Ph.D. on theology at the University of Glasgow in Scotland, Brad returned to the family farm where he founded The Farmhouse Mission as a center for spiritual formation, church renewal and community development. Brad and his wife, Kara, have two daughters—Hazel who is 8 and Iris who is 5.

July 30 Lydia Bucklin hails from the Upper Peninsula where she serves the Episcopal Diocese of Northern Michigan's Canon to the Ordinary for Discipleship & Vitality. She has visited us several times and has led baptism services on the Island.

August 6 Bishop Rayford Ray is the current Bishop of Northern Michigan. He was born in Heidelberg, West Germany and became a US citizen when he turned 18. He is married to Suzanne Ray, who is also a priest.

August 13, 20 & 27 We will once again welcome Philip Chester, the parish priest at St. Matthew's Westminster, England who has been here many times. He is always a favorite of the Islanders.

Sept. 3 Richard McCandless will close out the season with our last services for the year

Mark your Calendars!!!

The Church will once again sponsor a fundraiser spaghetti dinner on **Friday, August 4th** from 5-7 p.m. at the Wagner Room. Please come, enjoy dinner out with good food, support our historic church and visit with your Island neighbors.

**Sunday Service @
10:30 JULY & AUG**



COAST GUARD CHAPEL



The Coast Guard Chapel of Bois Blanc Island is a non-denominational, Christian based church that provides worship services on Sundays at 11 am from Memorial Weekend through the end of September. Worship takes place in the Wagner Room until biting insect season eases up, allowing us to begin gathering at the Chapel the later part of June.

There will be a Pancake Breakfast Saturday, July 22nd between 9am and 12pm for everyone to enjoy and meet up with Island neighbors.

Master quilters, Betty Hutchinson and Martha Stowe, have created a beautiful quilt that they've generously donated to support the Chapel's Barnabas Fund. Bidding starts July 1st. The auction for the quilt will culminate at the end of the Pancake Breakfast on 7/22. Stay tuned for more information as summer approaches!

The Chapel will be hosting a joint worship service with the Church of Transfiguration on Sunday, August 13th.

Repairs to the Chapel Cupola are completed. Thank you to all who helped make this happen.



Proceeds go to our Barnabas Fund

The purpose of the Barnabas Fund is to provide help and encouragement to island residents and their families needing financial assistance. Funds are secured through offerings, financial gifts and other special fundraisers.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

VBS

Presented by VBS
KEEPERS OF THE KINGDOM
Standing Strong in Today's Battle for Truth

We are engaged in an epic battle for the hearts and minds of our youth. Every day, they are bombarded with lies about who they are, who their Creator is, and where their salvation comes from. Thankfully, God has given his children armor to wear in this battle between truth and lies, light and darkness, good and evil.

Kids at this VBS learn how they can be part of God's kingdom through salvation in his Son and will be equipped with the armor of God to become Keepers of the Kingdom who stand strong in today's battle for truth.

SCAN THE QR HERE ARE REGISTER TODAY!

At the Bois Blanc Island, MI Coast Guard Chapel

JULY 5-8 TIMES 9-12 PM AGES 4-10

VICTORY BAPTIST CHURCH

Bois Blanc Island Coast Guard Chapel

This year the Chapel will have Vacation Bible School for all children each morning starting from Wednesday, July 5th through Saturday July 8th. Contact Diane Akright at 231-634-7070 for more information.

PANCAKE BREAKFAST & QUILT Silent Auction July 22nd 9 - Noon

Bidding starts 7/1 through 7/22. Call 815-347-2247 and leave a message with your Name & bid amount. Phone bidding ends at 9:00 am 7/22, when In-person bidding begins. In-person Silent Auction takes place during Pancake Breakfast until Auction officially ends at NOON.

IN OTHER NEWS

BOIS BLANC ISLAND COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

The Foundation would like to thank everyone for their generous donations this past year. We hope everyone has had a safe winter and looking forward to seeing you all this summer.

Sincerely,

Sarah Bloom



BBI HISTORICAL MUSEUM & LIBRARY

The BBI Historical Society for the Library and Museum has been active since the early 1980's and has assessed collections that range from newspaper articles, postcards, archeological finds, books, and so much more. We rely solely on volunteers, Board Members, and island residents to maintain and support the organization since its inception. Please see the schedule and news below:

Visiting Hours for the library and museum:

Open hours are Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. The library and museum will be open if staffing needs are met.

Annual fundraising or sponsored events:

Fundraising: The Ice Cream Social and Book Sale, the major fundraiser will be held this summer on Saturday, July 15th of 2023 from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Fundraising: An updated paper interactive map in color was available last summer and was greeted with enthusiasm. The intent was that it be a fundraiser, so the QR code to access it online was eliminated as it makes access free. The maps will be available this summer for purchase.

Sponsored: Story Hour, coordinated by Joanna Duncan, will be held on Wednesdays from 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 on the library/museum grounds.

Sponsored: Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon. This event recognizes the efforts, and generosity of time, resources, and money that the volunteers contribute to the sustaining of the library and museum (and Historical Society). Last summer the event held at the Hideaway. A luncheon will be planned for this summer (2023) and will be advertised on the BBI Facebook page once a date has been set.

On behalf of the Board Members of the BBI Historical Society, we would like to express our gratitude to the following individuals:

- Past President, Lynn Turner, who organized and recruited volunteers for many events
- Linda and Bryan Alaniz, Phil and Mike Radala, for donating their time, expertise, and materials to improve the building's condition.
- Mike White, for annotating 800 pictures now being broadcast on the large screen TV in the library/museum building and for being the island historian, curator, and long-term Board member.
- Joanna Duncan, who coordinated and conducted Story Hour along with other volunteers for donating their time and resources.
- Emily Helmbold, who served as the Volunteer Coordinator last summer to ensure there was always a staff member in the library and museum during open hours.
- The many volunteers who staffed the building to keep it open and helped with fundraising and sponsored events.

BBI HISTORICAL MUSEUM & LIBRARY (Continued)

We need volunteers this summer and more ideas for events! Please submit your ideas for educational events that the Historical Society can sponsor or as fundraisers for the society, by emailing them to rellimgrace@gmail.com. Thank you to Kathy Brown, for taking the initiative to propose and organize (past and) future events such as: *A Night at the Museum for children with popcorn and beverages for summer 2023*, and others that are in the works to be announced on the BBI Facebook page once scheduled and approved.

The position of President of the Historical Society is vacant:
The BBI Historical Society Board President Lynn Turner recently resigned from her role as president to pursue other interests. The Board asks those interested to email, Grace Miller at rellimgrace@gmail.com for the Board to review. We have people expressing interest and would like to ensure that all residents be aware of the position's availability. Until then, Grace Miller, volunteered to act in the role as Interim President until the President position is filled, hopefully by early June once the Board members reconvene in person. Then, Grace will resume her role as Secretary.



Photo credit: Kathy Brown

Words from the Outgoing Board President of the Historical Society

By Lynn Turner

What an honor it was to serve as board president for the last two years. Sadly, I had to submit my resignation to the board in February 2023. This was as the earth and air was beginning to shift toward Spring. My last official day was March 12, 2023.

Like most of the board members, I am involved in other work in addition to the efforts for the Historical Society & Museum. However, over the winter I have two projects that have become all consuming. It would not allow me to give the Historical Society the time and attention it deserves. One of the projects that I am currently working on is the final writing of my own book. My goal is to publish the book this year.

I would encourage those who are interested in the historical society & museum to consider applying for the board president position. It is a volunteer position, and it is true that there is something magical about volunteer work. One typically gains much more back than what is required to put in. I certainly found that to be the case in this position.

The historical society & museum represent both the detail and the gestalt of the island. It is a beloved and cherished place that hundreds of people support. I am grateful for the collaboration over the past two years and wish the new president the very best in the upcoming season.

WALKER'S POINT U. S. LIFE-SAVING STATION

TELEPHONE LINE

By Mike White, revised March 3, 2023



A petition was sent to the U. S. Congress by owners and operators of vessels in 1888 asking that life-saving stations on the shores of Lake Huron have telegraph or telephone communication.

The Life-Saving Service at Walker's Point began operations in 1891. The Life-Saving Service had their own superintendent of telephone lines with seven linesmen. They would have installed this line with the assistance of the life-saving crew. The telephone line would have been connected to a telegraph station on the Cheboygan side of the Straits, or possibly, with a telephone service if one existed then.

A cable, about an inch, or more, in diameter, was laid across the south channel from Cheboygan's Lighthouse Point, right where the remains of the Cheboygan Lighthouse is today, in the state park. It entered Bois Blanc where the pole was located at the base of the little bay on the east side of Packard Point. It was at a sharp curve in the county road. The marine cable ran up the pole to a wooden box with a phone inside. I know because I saw it as a curious teen in the 1960's. This pole began the telephone line that went all the way to the Life Saving Station at Walker's Point. It was probably used by everyone nearby.

The reason for having a phone on the pole was in case a tree fell on the line, or some other problem arose that prevented the phone from working at the station. The crew could travel to the phone on the pole and be able to call across the Straits to the mainland. At the old Cheboygan Lighthouse site, the cable could still be seen entering the lake in 2010. Out in the little bay on the BBI side, the cable could be seen on the bottom of the lake, all twisted up, back in the 1990's. The poles were insulated from the line using glass insulators. Some of those insulators are on display in the Historical Society museum.

This pole stood by the road for over 100 years. Eventually someone took the phone. People became concerned and Plaunt Transportation moved the pole to the museum. There still are a few poles standing in the woods. Most were cut and taken. Stubs can still be found.

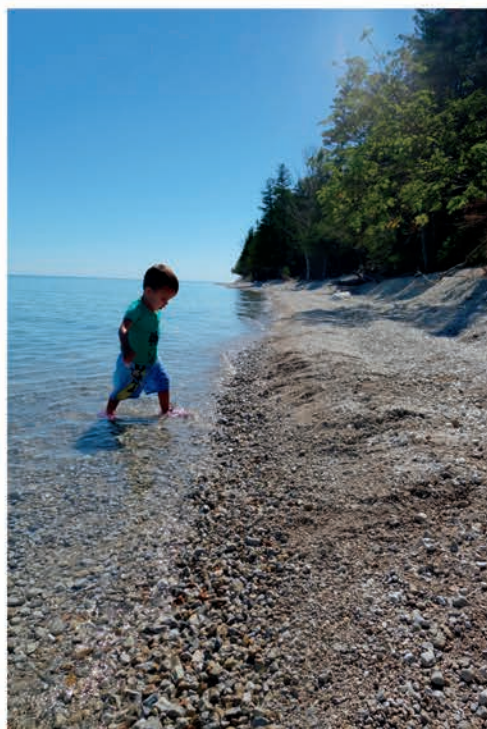


Cheboygan city overnight parking rates utilized by individuals traveling to Bois Bland Island for the 2023 season are as follows:

\$5/night
\$15/week
\$35/month
\$150/year

Seasonal parking in the Plaunt Transportation lot is \$175/season

Bois Blanc and Childhood



In the summer of 2022, I got to see my children explore the shores and forests of Bois Blanc Island for the first time. They spent hours dipping in and out of the cool waters of the big lake, scrambling around on stones, and keeping sharp eyes peeled for toads in the woods. When I heard my oldest ask, yet again, "Can we go look for crawdads one more time, Mama?" ...I reflected on the role that Bois Blanc can play in shaping a childhood.

My children are the 4th generation of kids in my family to play amongst the unsullied natural beauty of Bois Blanc. My grandfather searched the woods for rattlesnakes in his youth. My mom tells stories of snorkeling over to Round Island, and of nearly starving while camping here because she and her siblings were blithely optimistic in estimating how many fish they would catch. I built rustic forts here with my cousins and read books while wrapped in a blanket, looking up every few minutes to stare at the way the lake water laps against the shore on a calm morning.

In today's fast-paced, tech-driven world, there is so much emphasis on STEM education. When we're integrating more and more technology into education, and preparing our children for careers that don't even exist yet...does a place like Bois Blanc still have a valid role in the making of a great childhood?

I would argue that it does. And, perhaps, in spite of the fast-pace of advancing technology, there's an even greater need than previous generations experienced. I'm not alone in this type of thinking. Social media movements like "1000 Hours Outside" aim to encourage families to spend a total of 1000 hours outside every year, and regularly quote studies and development experts who talk about the immense benefits of unhurried time spent in nature during the early years of childhood. In a world where more and more children are spending most of their free time indoors, with devices, many are advertising the need to get kids outdoors again.

It's good to hear it, but I don't think I really needed experts to tell me that summers spent on the trails of Bois Blanc Island are beneficial for a child. It's easy to clock 1000 hours outside in a place so beautiful that you head outdoors first thing in the morning and don't return 'till dark. But as I watched my children play on these unspoiled shores, I didn't feel any need to count the hours. I didn't need a certain number of hours to tell me that this combination of sun and rock and water and island was good for them. After all, I was once a child here, and the magic hasn't left my soul yet. Out of the vast worldwide population, only a few will ever get to spend beautiful weeks or months scrambling along these rocky shores...and oh, how grateful I am that my family got to be among them.

Author: Rachel Guerrero (Spoelman/Dunn)



STORY HOUR

In just a few short weeks, our beloved island will be buzzing with activity, welcoming back all those long-time friends, family, and neighbors, for another season of slower-paced, restful moments and laughter-filled gatherings. This includes many new Boblo fans from recent property acquisitions, and renters seeking a peaceful getaway or new adventures. I am happy to announce and remind all youngsters from age 1 through early teens, that we will again be gathering for Story Hour, each Wednesday morning at 11:00am (new time!) in July, to continue this much-enjoyed Island tradition. Like last summer, we are thrilled to meet at the Hoover Community Building, to share wonderful stories and books, which are often followed by a simple craft or project, and sometimes even some tasty snacks! Be sure to check out the Bois Blanc Island and Bois Blanc Island Time Facebook pages to get up-to-date information, as summer gets underway. I will announce featured readers, projects, and themes, as well as possible additional dates added in August, if attendance and readers allow it.



Many friends enjoyed Story Hour, led by Dr. Jane Lamp.

I am always looking for volunteers to share their love of good children's literature and/or art, (any retired or current teachers out there?) with our Island youth. Please contact JoAnna Munro-Duncan, if this is something that interests you, (586.536.0619) so we can get you on the calendar! Until then, keep your fingers crossed for good weather, hope for smooth crossings on the ferry, and may the anticipation of Island breezes bring you northbound to Boblo, ASAP!

Submitted by: JoAnna Munro-Duncan



Meg Shaker Rarey with a very engaged listener.

BOIS BLANC ISLAND WILDLIFE ASSOCIATION

The Bois Blanc Island Wildlife Association, Inc. is a registered 501(c)3, non profit, group that promotes the care and conservation of Island wildlife. The Wildlife dinner, held annually the Sunday prior to Labor Day, supports the efforts to protect and enhance habitat for Island wildlife.

The 2022 Annual Wildlife Dinner was held on Sunday, September 4. Winners of the pig raffle were: Todd See, 1st prize; Lester Cutler, 2nd prize; Rick Hayes, 3rd prize. The dinner raised \$13,000 for the association, and the pig raffle raised \$4,500.00 of that amount.

As is done during winters on the Island, hay and corn were purchased as a supplemental feed to help the deer. Unfortunately, most of it was taken before December was over, so the weather proved to be a little more difficult in February and March. This winter, however, has not been a hard one.

Matt Northrop was the President and founder of the Wildlife Association. Sadly, Matt passed away on March 2nd of this year. The association was his dream, and he lived to see it grow. There were many people who volunteered to create and maintain this dream, and he was so appreciative of these volunteers. He knew it couldn't succeed without them. The association will be looking for leaders to keep it going. We hope there are people out there who are interested in doing that.

Submitted by: Betty Hutchinson



ACTIVITIES



ANNUAL GAME

EAST VS WEST

SAT, JULY 29

@ BIBLE FARM
FOLLOWING THE ARTS
& CRAFT SHOW



In the event of rain, check Facebook for possible rescheduling.

RESTORATION Efforts @ Snake Island

Last summer we held 3 Stewardship workdays at Snake Island in an effort to get after invasive knapweed that was outcompeting some of our more rare & unique-to-BBI plant communities. People really showed up in a HUGE way! A super-sized thanks is extended to ALL who participated.

A special shout out to Beth Beson, who joined the first workday and ended up returning on multiple occasions on her own to keep at it! Beth & Connie Gask plan to host another Knapweed pull date in May!



"Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they just have the heart."
~Elizabeth Andrew

Watch Facebook for dates this summer and team up with others who share a love and concern for a healthy & biodiverse ecosystem on BBI!

TODAY'S ACTIONS ARE TOMORROWS RESULTS

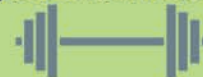


July/August exercise classes will be held Monday-Thursday at 8:30am in the Wagner Room. Exercise varies daily (yoga, strength training, low impact aerobics, Pilates).

Classes are free and equipment is provided.

Led by Martha Stowe

Weightlifting for seniors & every body else.



Starts June 26th every Monday and Thursday
at 10 AM in the Wagner room.

Led by Hilda and Andy Lucas.
BBI prius@gmail.com

ACTIVITIES

BBI BOOK CLUB

The books for the 2023 BBI Book Discussions are:

The Firekeeper's Daughter by Angeline Boulley
Sisters of the Sweetwater Fury by Kinley Bryan
The Five Wishes of Mr. Murry McBride by Joe Siple
Wolves at the Door: The True Story of America's Greatest Female Spy by Judith Pearson
The Invention of Wings by Sue Monk Kidd

Dates, places, and times will be published in late May. Chris McAfee has a limited number of copies of The Invention of Wings in paperback for \$3. If you want one, please email her at chrisomcafee@gmail.com. All the money collected for the books will be donated to the Island Fire Department.

Isabel Dunn heads up a discussion about *The Death and Life of the Great Lakes* by Dan Egan at hostess, Linda Gekle's home on the West End.



Summer Day Camp @ Snake Island



BBI Neighbors will be holding a Day Camp on Thursday, August 3rd (rain date Friday, August 4th.)

Camp will be from 10-2 at Snake Island. It will be by registration only for 5-10 year olds. It will be limited to 20 children. Registration will be in June. Pay attention to the Bois Blanc Island Facebook page and the bulletin boards around the island. No early registrations will be taken. The camp is free.

The topic of camp is going to be about Wetland and Ponds. Doug Lessnau, Connie Gask, Brandie Dunn, and Kathy Brown will be the instructors.

If you would like further information, please contact Kathy Brown at 231-634-7119.



thehideawaymi.com
(231) 634-7029

BOB-LO TATLER



islandtavern.com
(231) 643-7100



theoutpostbbi.com
231-634-7375

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Why I Live on an Island

The most frequently asked questions I get about living here on Bois Blanc Island usually are "Where is it located?" and "What do you do on that island?" Answering the first question is easy, but I must admit that my answer to the second may vary, based on the facial expression or tone of voice of the person asking the question.

The majority do query me with real interest and sincerity, while a few ask the questions with puzzling looks on their faces that say, "Why would anyone want to live on an island?"

For those few that scrunch their faces while asking, I am sure that they must be thinking that I have a screw loose or that I must be running from the law. I have a little fun with my answer by first telling them some of the things that I don't do here on the island. For example, I don't have to stop for any red lights. I don't shop at any malls, or have to go to the bank, or find an ATM machine, go grocery shopping every other day or stand in any lines to get service. Then I proceed to tell them, in no particular order or preference, what I do enjoy about the island.

While driving about, having to slow down or stop for any number of deer, turkey, quail rabbit, raccoons or squirrels that are blocking, strolling, or scampering across the road...

Stopping and getting out of the truck to take a picture of a newborn fawn, lying in the leaves by the side of the road, the mother surely close by...

Stopping to watch an eagle, an owl, hawk, or pileated woodpecker fly by, or perched in a tree...Having to come to a complete stop as a mother goose leads her babies across the road...

Walking through the trails to admire the spring crop of flowers...Trout lily, forget-me-nots, the spring beauty's, trillium, jack-in-the pulpit and the islands trademark, the Michigan dwarf lake iris. Bending over to pull up a leek, squeezing it between my fingers and taking in that sweet, familiar onion aroma...

Accompanying the piano player with my guitar for the Thursday night square dances, and at times, filling in as a last-minute dance partner to complete the square for the next set of dances...

Taking yet another picture of the sun setting behind the Mackinac Bridge...

Having some of the most exciting plane rides across the straits, both in summer and winter...

Driving my 4-wheeler through the woods and trails, soaking up the smells of cedars and the pines...

Driving my jet ski in the shadows of the Mighty Mac and between historic Mackinac and Round Islands...

But what I enjoy the most is having the best times ever with family and friends when we gather here on the island. We live where people want to vacation and visits here to the island are just that- mini-vacations, allowing time for all to let loose, relax, and enjoy our times together. The bonding between my adult kids, and especially the grandkids, is extraordinary. To watch the little ones explore the woods, and have permission to walk to the neighbor's house, perhaps a mile away, without an adult.

To watch and teach them not to be afraid of spiders, snakes, and bats...

To look for hours into the black sky at night, marveling at the clarity and number of celestial bodies, looking for the international space station or yet another falling star...

Showing them how to maple sap is collected and then cooked to make maple syrup...

Taking them to Mackinac Island on a whim...Sea Shell City...The Mystery Spot...The Soo Locks...The Bob-lo Tavern for Taco Tuesday and shuffleboard...

Riding in the back of the pick-up truck to Hawks Landing (The Outpost!) for ice cream after the square dance...

So, what do I tell them I do here on Bois Blanc Island?

Mostly, I enjoy the simple things in life.

When Life Hands You Lemons

As my dad and I pulled into the driveway of the cabin to open it for the season, I was nearing twelve hours without a meal – unless you include the beer I drank as the ferry pulled away from its mainland port. The last thing I needed was any kind of hiccups while opening up the cabin.

That's exactly what happened when I started up the water pump and water began spraying out of the toilet, pooling around the bathroom floor, and trickling like a stream into the kitchen. The weeks that I spent preparing for my move to the family cabin for the summer couldn't save me from a leaky toilet.

My dad shut off the valve and sighed, "It is what it is."

He boarded the ferry the following afternoon, tired from stoking the woodstove every couple of hours throughout the night and aggravated with the plumbing situation. This left me in a cabin without a working toilet. My only companion was the lemonade pitcher I'd used to manually fill the tank of the toilet to flush it.

I called the island's most trusted jack-of-all-trades, Ted Spray, knowing he'd always come out to help within a few hours. He called back, explaining he wasn't feeling well, and wouldn't be able to make it out until he'd recovered. It looked as though the lemonade pitcher and I were about to become good friends.

Even with the trials I faced during my first week living on the Island, I still appreciated the same benefits of living on the Island that had always existed. Each day, I walked across the county road and stared over the endlessness of Lake Huron as it churned and changed colors depending on the weather. I jogged to various landmarks that I've known since I was born: The Coast Guard Chapel, the Old Pines Dock, the gazebo, Snake Island. Every day, I breathed in fresh lake air and still thought I'm lucky to be right here, right now.

Each night before I went to sleep, I set alarms every 2.5 hours throughout the night to stoke the fire in the wood stove. Life continued in this new normal manner for six days until the toilet was repaired, each day feeling like a greater test than the last.

My first week on the Island last summer reminded me that no matter the amount of planning I do, I can never truly plan to come to an island. There will always be something – no matter how many lists I make and bags I pack – that I forgot, that broke, or that just didn't turn out quite right. That element of surprise is part of living on an island. It's what makes the people up here self-sufficient. Without adapting, we'd all have gone home.

So, next time life hands me a broken toilet – I'll just get the old lemonade pitcher.



Written by Emilie Helmbold shortly after her move to Boblo Island in May 2022



Photo: Snake Island

A Vision

If we will have the wisdom to survive,
 to stand like slow-growing trees
 on a ruined place, renewing, enriching it,
 if we will make our seasons welcome here,
 asking not too much of earth or heaven,
 then a long time after we are dead
 the lives our lives prepare will live
 there, their houses strongly placed
 upon the valley sides, fields and gardens
 rich in the windows. The river will run
 clear, as we will never know it,
 and over it, birdsong like a canopy.
 On the levels of the hills will be
 green meadows, stock bells in noon shade.
 On the steeps where greed and ignorance cut down
 the old forest, an old forest will stand,
 its rich leaf-fall drifting on its roots.

The veins of forgotten springs will have opened.
 Families will be singing in the fields.
 In their voices they will hear a music
 risen out of the ground. They will take
 nothing from the ground they will not return,
 whatever the grief at parting. Memory,
 native to this valley, will spread over it
 like a grove, and memory will grow
 into legend, legend into song, song
 into sacrament. The abundance of this place,
 the songs of its people and its birds,
 will be health and wisdom and indwelling
 light. This is no paradisal dream.
 Its hardship is its possibility.

The Selected Poems of Wendell Berry



Photo: Bible Rd

POST OFFICE

Monday thru Saturday

May and June 12:30 - 2:30 pm

July and August 9:30 - 11:30 am

Sept. - November 12:30 - 2:30 pm

Dec. - April 9:30 - 11:30 am

Window Hours (no Sat's)

Telephone (231) 634-7211

TOWNSHIP OFFICE

P O Box 898- 431 Sioux Ave
Pointe aux Pins, MI 49775-0898

10 am - 3 pm Monday - Thursday

Telephone: (231) 634-7275

2023 BBI TOWNSHIP TRANSFER STATION HOURS

Phone: 634-7154

DECEMBER - APRIL

CLOSED

Sunday 12:30p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

New Years Day, Easter,
4th of July,

MAY, JUNE,

SEPTEMBER, OCTOBER, NOVEMBER Thanksgiving, Christmas
Sun. & Mon. 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Thursday 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 a.m.

When closed for a holiday the Transfer Station
will be open the following day/same hours.

JULY AND AUGUST

OPEN

Sunday and Monday 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Memorial Day &

Tuesday - Saturday 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 a.m.

Labor Day

TRANSFER STATION RATES

Each household will receive 10 free trash bags, to
be picked up at the Township Hall.

Additional Township Printed Bags: (available at the
Township Hall) \$3 each or 17 Bags for \$45

NON-Township 30 Gal Bag \$4.00
Contractors Bags: \$8.00

NOTE: BAGS OVER 30 GAL SIZE WILL BE CHARGED
EXTRA & CAN BE REFUSED

Small Household Appliances, Microwave Ovens, TV's,
etc. \$4.00

EACH Piece of Household Furniture or Bed Mattress
\$8.00

Carpeting \$8.00
ALL Couches \$20.00

*** All metal and larger appliances,
microwaves & TV's should be taken to Rob
Cochran at: Bois Blanc Island Lumber Mill &
Land Services (BBILM &LS)

Littering Laws Shall Be Strictly Enforced

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

July

- SAT 1 Antique Hit-N-Miss Engine Show 10-4
Kite Festival, Bright Waters Park, 10 -2
- SUN 2 Antique Hit-N-Miss Engine Show 10-4
- MON 3 Beach Clean Up Week
Volunteer Ice Cream Party 7/7
- WED 5-8 VBS @ Coast Guard Chapel
- SAT 15 Ice Cream Social & Book Sale 2-4
- SAT 22 Pancake Breakfast and Quilt Auction,
Coast Guard Chapel, 9 - Noon
- SAT 29 Art & Craft Show 10 - 2
Annual East v West Softball Game @
Bible Farm 2

August

- THU 03 Summer Day Camp @ Snake Island
- FRI 04 Spaghetti Fundraiser, hosted by
Church of Transfiguration
- SAT 05 BBIA Annual Mtg 10am, Wagner Rm
- SAT 12 Annual Babcock Sale
- SUN 13 Bible Beach Clean Up 11am
- 18 - 19 Hideaway Music Festival

September

- SUN 2 - Wildlife Association Annual Dinner

RECURRING EVENTS

- BBI Coast Guard Chapel Sun's @11:00
- BBI Historical Museum- Tue/Thu/Sat- 10-2
- Story Hour- Weds in July 11:00
- Church of Transfiguration Sun's @10:30
- Exercise- M- Th July/Aug 8:30 Wagner Rm
- Weightlifting- M & Th, 10:00 Wagner Rm
- Farmer's Market Sat's, 9 - Noon
- FUN Night @ Chapel - Tues's @ 7:00
- Just Because- Thurs's @ noon
- Square Dance- Thurs's @ 6/29 - 8/17
7:00 @ Wagner Rm



Thank you for the following submissions to the Caption This! Contest. Participants win a Gift Card to The Outpost!

