

Beulah Newsletter

Spring 2011

From the Editors: WinterFest, fishing contests, winter sports, grants and streetscape efforts, the library millage and the new concern about the Beulah Post Office have been keeping Beulah residents busy. It's very exciting to see new businesses coming into Beulah and others staying. As a small community, everyone's input and support is needed to help Beulah continue to thrive.

Phil Downs & Vicki Carpenter-Downs, Editors

From the Village President: It has been a long winter, but the good news is we may see spring soon! Though the lake is still frozen over this second week of April, forecasts are for warmer temperatures and sunshine in the immediate future! We almost made it through the winter without a waterline break, but had a small line freeze and break the last week of March. The good news is that it was during the daytime and it was a sunny day. Brian and the guys got it repaired in good time with no frozen fingers. Just a reminder to vote for the 0.6 library millage on May 3. By doing so, the portion of your taxes for the Darcy Library of Beulah will actually go down significantly. See the details in an article in this newsletter. Our new well project is proceeding on schedule with completion expected by mid May. The well was drilled in March and a good aquifer was tapped at 340 feet. Our goal was to achieve a flow of 350 gallons per minute, however once the pump was in place it produced about 1000 gallons per minute! It was finally certified at 500 gallons and will more than satisfy our needs for years to come. We were also able to save considerable monthly expense of emergency phone lines that alert to troubles with the system by going to electronic telegraphy for communication between the wells and our pump houses. An on-going savings of about \$1500 per month! The beachfront revitalization project has been approved and Councilman Charlie Kinzel attended a meeting with Governor Snyder releasing funds for the

project. Work will probably not begin until after Labor Day, but in preparation, all docks will be positioned north of the boat launch this year to make room for the project. Enjoy the spring and summer, we are all looking forward to seeing that blue water on Crystal Lake very soon!

Jim Kilgus, President Pro Tem



For many anglers, even a bad day of fishing is better than a good day at work...

Darcy and Benzonia Library millage vote on May 3: After many meetings and discussions, a joint committee with each Library's Board support has determined that a Benzonia Township 0.6 mill proposal will be on the May 3 ballot. Currently, only the Villages of Beulah and Benzonia pay a library millage. This new 0.6 mill would **decrease** the tax rate for both Villages. The 0.6 mill would apply to Benzonia Township, the largest user of library services and provide a more stable and broad based income source. Beulah's tax rate would drop from 0.8684 to 0.6 mill and Benzonia's from 0.7620 to 0.6 mill. Information is available at both libraries, Village offices and the Chamber of Commerce. Every vote counts!

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Crystal Lake Community Business Association (CLCBA) Past and Future Events:

WinterFest: The Crystal Lake Community Business Association is proud to announce the winners of the 2011 Beulah/Benzonia Winterfest **Chili Cook-Off:** Individual winners: 1st Place: John Darien, 2nd Place: Kathy Englebretson and 3rd Place: Ryan Dittmar. The Bayside Grille-Frankfort won for business entries.

Duck Race winners: Businesses: Honor Bank, Classic Interiors & Design, Northwoods Lodging. Individual winners were awarded cash prizes and the businesses each were awarded the Golden Duck trophy.

New this year was the International Weight Pulling Association (IWPA) sanctioned dog weight pulling event and the IWPA organizers were pleased with the number of spectators and participants. Medals and prizes are awarded, based on different dog weight classes and amounts of weight pulled on the sled. Look for the event to return next winter.



New WinterFest event of dog weight pulling

The new Outhouse Race entries premiered during the WinterFest parade and the races took place on the trail next to the Beulah Trailhead Building. Youth and adult categories each ran twice, took their best time and were also judged on Best of Show. Eight entries participated in this inaugural event for Winterfest, start planning for 2012!

Youth Division: 1st: We Love Our Libraries (Darcy/Benzonia Libraries), 2nd: Team Slime Business/Service Organizations: 1st: Nugent Ace Hardware, 2nd: ReStore/Habitat for Humanity, 3rd: Kehr Denistry

Best in Show's traveling toilet seat trophy was awarded to Nugent Ace Hardware, beating out Kehr Denistry by 1 point. Other entries were: Hungry Tummy Pub, Beulah Boosters and the Benzie Sunrise Rotary Princess Team.



Winning team from Nugent Ace Hardware

The softball tournament returned with several softball teams playing on the lake with Kelly's Pub team winning and Honor Insurance team placing second.

Due to the high number of participants, tracking winners of the frozen turkey bowling, frozen fish toss and redneck horseshoes wasn't completed. However, these events continue to grow in popularity. The evening ended with a beautiful fireworks display on a very frozen Crystal Lake. The day and evening long bonfire was appreciated, thanks to the Village crew for the wood supply. The CLCBA thanks all its members, volunteers and participants.

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Upcoming CLCBA Sponsored Events:

Easter Egg Hunt: Sat., April 23, 1 pm at Memorial Park in Benzonia

Fishing Events/Contests: check with Five Corners

Music in the Park begins Thurs., June 30 at 7 pm, every Thursday through mid-August

4th of July: enjoy 5K races, park events, food, 1:30 parade, fireworks on Crystal Lake approx. 10:30 pm

Sidewalk Days: Sat., Aug. 6, downtown Beulah

Crystal Lake Team Marathon: Sat., Aug 13, check the website for registration forms and info

Archibald Jones Day: Sat., August 27 in the park

Membership: support the CLCBA and become a member. PO Box 754, Beulah, MI 49617 For more info, visit the website: clcba.org



.The 2011 hunt will be Saturday, April 23 at 1 pm at Memorial Park/Benzonia

Village Office Hours

Clerk-Laura Spencer, Tues-Wed-Thurs 10-2 pm

Treasurer Dawn Olney, Mon & Wed, 5-7:30 pm

Phone 231-882-4451 Fax 231-882-5759

Free Fax services available to residents

Web Site: www.villageofbeulah.org

The Village Newsletter, Park Plan and Village Council minutes can be found on the web site.

Village Meetings: First Thursday after the first Monday each month (at 7 pm).

The public is welcome and encouraged to attend.

Village Council Trustees and Staff and Terms

Jerry Rank – President-2012

Dan Hook–Equipment-2014

Co-Chair: Gary Pallin

Maxine Hansen– Law and Finance-2014

Co-Chair: Gary Siderman

Jim Kilgus – Water and Sewer-2012

Co-Chair: Charley Kinzel

Charley Kinzel– Streets and Sidewalks-2014

Co-Chair: Jim Kilgus

Gary Pallin – Parks and Recreation-2012

Co-Chair: Dan Hook

Gary Siderman – Buildings and Grounds-2012

Co-Chair: Maxine Hansen

Laura Spencer – Clerk-2012

Dawn Olney – Treasurer-2012

Brian Moore – Supervisor

John Lawrence – Village Crew

Chris Adsit – Village Crew



A Planning Commission for the Village, as mandated by the State, was appointed earlier this winter. From left: Dan Smith (chairperson), Phil Downs, Charley Kinzel (Council Rep) Thor Goff, Nikki Lennox (Zoning Administrator) and Steve Loveless

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Public Information is posted on the windows of the Village Office. Minutes, agendas and upcoming events in the Village Park are listed. Also posted would be notices such as: run water alerts, annual drinking water report and boil water warnings.

Sponsors of special events that require Village support, such as barricades or staff, should make a request to the Council using the Event Request form available from the Village Office or web site.

Did You Know:

- Benzie County Road Commission reports that 110.5 inches of snow fell this winter!
- Beulah's public beach runs the length of Lake Street, from the beach house playground to the end of the paved section. The docks are privately owned and space is rented from the Village, however, the beach front is available for public use.
- DNRE boat launch project on Crystal Lake near Railroad Point is continuing. No opening date has been determined.
- Thick ice on Crystal Lake helped with training for emergency crews from throughout Benzie County. A night exercise with the fire department as well as a mock rescue on a Sunday afternoon were held. Many thanks to all the volunteers who work to provide help when needed.
- New flag is now flying at the Village Park!
- The Benzie Bus will have millage proposal on the May 3 ballot. This county-wide proposal is asking for a renewal of 0.5 mill. There is a bus stop at the Betsie Valley Trailhead Building in the back parking lot; call for information and pick up times: 325-3000.
- Between snow storms, the Village crew was able to update paint and replace ceiling tiles in the Village office and meeting room and paint the interior of the garage building. All 3 spaces look great. Good job!



Crews get briefed before practice rescue drills

- Wireless Internet (WiFi) is available at the Phoenix Café and the Darcy Library
- Darcy Library has an ongoing book sale inside the library. Donations of new or gently used hardbound and softbound books are appreciated.
- Conservation District's plant sale was held in mid April. Stop in the office on Benzie Blvd, for more information.
- Congratulations to the Odyssey of the Mind teams from Crystal Lake Elementary as 3 teams qualified to advance to the State level competition to be held in Grand Rapids in April. Platte River Elementary also sent one team.
- Master list of upcoming events is posted in the Trailhead display sign.
- Village has a paper shredder and FAX, both are available to residents and businesses during business hours.
- Sheriff's Office was awarded over \$42,000 from the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa & Chippewa Indians. Monies will be used on personnel training and software for jail management as well as a prisoner housing contract. Source of dollars is from the required 2% allocation from gaming income.

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Darcy Library of Beulah: Hours & Info

Mon.-Wed.-Fri. 12 to 5
Tues.-Thurs. 3 to 7 pm
Sat. 9 to 1 pm

www.darcylibraryofbeulah.org and or
beulahlibraryblogspot.com, 231-882-4037

Friends of the Darcy Library meet the 1st Wed. of each month at 9:30 am, everyone is invited.

Library Board meets the **1st Tuesday** of each month, 7 pm (date change). Everyone is invited.

Park Yourself at Crystal Lake:

The Village-owned RV park at the beach in Beulah is ready for your 2011 business. Sites at the park are available for the 2011 season. Contact with the Village Clerk at 231-882-4451 or email beulah@chartermi.net for more information.

Dock Space has a waiting list; contact Laurie at the Village Office for info. 231-882-4451.

Upcoming or Ongoing Events:

- Hydrants will be flushed in April
- Election for Benzie Bus (county-wide) and new 0.6 mill (Benzonia Township only) for Darcy and Benzonia Libraries, May 3, voting at Benzonia Township Hall, 7 am – 8 pm
- Village Council mtg., Thurs. May 5, at 7 pm
- Water bills due May 16
- Village Council mtg., Thurs. June 9, at 7 pm
- Village Clean Up, Sat., June 25 from 8-1 pm, get a permit from Laurie at Village Office
- Beulah Boosters host 4th Annual Welcome to Summer at Village Park on Sat., June 25
- July 4th events all day at the Village Park, race, parade at 1:30 and fireworks after dusk
- Village Council mtg., Thurs. July 7, at 7 pm
- Beulah Art Fair, Saturday, July 9
- Crystal Lake Art Fair, Wednesday, July 20
- Every Friday, Children's Story time 11 am, Darcy Library
- Foreign Films at Darcy Library; check web site www.darcylibraryofbeulah.org

- Fishing Contests: check w/Paul at Five Corners



WinterFest Softball, watch for the shanties!

Beulah Post Office Update: New hours for the service counter begin on May 7, 10:30 to 4pm week days and 9-11 am on Sat. Closed from 12-12:30 for lunch. There is additional concern regarding the possible closing of the Beulah Post Office in the future. Currently, as a cost saving measure in addition to the reduced service counter hours, all the routing is now done at the Benzonia Post Office. The Village Council received a letter from the regional representative of the Retired Postmasters Association alerting them to the possibility of closure. A copy of this letter and attachments will be posted on the Village office windows. Future efforts may include a letter writing campaign as well as collecting signatures on petitions. Again, there are no immediate plans to close the Beulah Post Office. Interested persons should go to the following website: www.napus.org, click on retired postmasters association and then on post office preservation. There is a document, "The Red Book," which outlines strategies for individuals as well as sample letters. Efforts will be made to keep citizens informed, check the Village Office windows for updates.

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Outhouse Race entry: 'Little Deuce Poop' from Charles Kehr Denistry took 3rd place in the event

Business Updates:

- Congratulations to Steve Loveless, State of the Art. His photograph of birch trees is on the cover of the Benzie County magazine from the Benzie Chamber of Commerce!
- Grow Benzie is looking for volunteers and people interested in helping others with a garden or having their own. growbenzie@gmail.com
- Volunteers wanted by Grow It Wild to help with Beulah garden maintenance. Contact Jane Gary 231-633-9728
- Market Basket and Crystal Lake Floral opened in early April at the Market Basket site. Telafloral services are available and both business will stay open year round.
- Bucky's Ice Cream has shifted into the larger space at the Papano's Pizza building.
- Congrats to Tammy Radinoff at the Barber Shop. She is now Nurse Radinoff; don't worry, she's still cutting hair.
- John Grogan, attorney, now has an official Beulah office at 244 S. Benzie Blvd. in addition to his Traverse office. Visit jgroganlaw.com or call 231-944-1529.

- Matt Wetmore, State Farm Insurance, has moved his office from Benzonia to Beulah on US 31, next to the laundromat.
- Beading Frenzy is moving up the street to the former Quilts by the Lake/Holly Jean' Mercantile shop. Plans are to reopen later in May.
- Interior renovations over the winter at Northern Décor and State of the Art are complete. Stop in and check out the new space.
- Welcome to Live for Art Gallery which plans to open in mid-June next to State of the Art and the Trailhead Building. Owner Mary Lane will feature art with a Great Lakes connection and in all mediums. Visit her now at www.LiveForArtGallery.com
- Thanks to businesses for clearing sidewalks and Village crew for timely snow removal this winter. Get ready to start mowing!

Energy Grant update: The Beulah Boosters and the Village of Beulah submitted an energy audit grant application last summer which was awarded. As a result, the Village received a free energy audit on all its' buildings, including a review of energy costs. The final audit included recommendations for more efficient and 'green' responses to energy conservation. An unexpected benefit were grant dollars that funded several projects in the Village office. Replacement light fixtures and new light bulbs were the installed this winter and all but about \$10 of costs were reimbursed by the NWMi-CoG energy funds or via rebates. Thanks to Charley Kinzel, Village crew and the Beulah Boosters for their work on this project.

Remember:

- All dogs in the Village are to be on leash. Only certified service animals are allowed on the Trail. **Please clean up after your pets.**
- Red trash bags are sold at Village Office, yellow at Stapletons (single bags) and Shop

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& Save (10/pkg). Friday mornings is pick-up for red and yellow bags in the Village. The Village charges \$21 for 10 red trash bags. A weekday holiday, such as Memorial Day, moves pickup to Saturday morning.

- Business owners and staff are encouraged to park in the parking lots in order to save spaces for visitors and patrons.
- **Please don't feed the birds on the lake.** It will only increase cases of swimmer's itch.



MI-DNR 'Fish for the Future' truck stocking 20,700 rainbow trout fingerlings into Crystal Lake in early April

Streetscape Grant Update: Council heard a report from Klaus Heinert of Gosling Czubak earlier this winter, regarding draft streetscape plans as well as feedback. The next step has been to look at the overall project, decide how to divide the project out into fundable parts and determine possible funding sources. Putting the different projects out for bid which will include funding sources will be the next step. This is a large project and will proceed as funding sources are identified and secured. Final designs will be posted on the villageofbeulah.org website. Currently the draft drawings are available to view on the website.



Council member Charley Kinzel (second on left) in Lansing where Gov. Snyder approved funding for DNRE/Great Lake Trust Fund Grants in April.

Waterfront Project: In April, the Governor released funds for the DNRE/Great Lakes Trust Fund project along Lake Street. The waterfront project will include designated sidewalks and biking lanes as well as more area to sit and enjoy the lake. As a first step, all private boat docks will be on the north side of the boat launch, opening up more beachfront area this spring. Next steps are final designs and putting the project out for bid. Physical and visible work will begin after Labor Day. Updates will be in future newsletters.

Sheriff Update:

No Benzie Kids Day this year due to poor attendance last year. We are going to take a year off and try again in 2011.

A K-9 Unit Golf Outing is planned for May 25, 2011 at the Crystal Lake Golf Course with a shotgun start at 1 pm. The outing is a four person scramble format with prizes for women and men golfers. A steak dinner will follow with awards and prizes. Proceeds from the outing will support the Sheriff's K-9 program and will be earmarked for a replacement dog. The current K-9, Ena, is still working but like all of us, is

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aging. The County budget does not support the K-9 program and all money for Ena has to be donated. Our first K-9, Hauso, died of natural causes earlier this year. Contact the Sheriff's office for more information on the golf outing and the K-9 unit, call 231-882-4484.



These rainbow trout fingerlings should be legal by next spring. The ice by the boat launch gave them temporary protection from the sea gulls.

Beulah Boosters Want You!: This winter the Booster volunteers worked on the WinterFest event, pushed an outhouse in the race, as well as hiding Easter Eggs for the annual hunt. Boosters have been active with the Streetscape Design and the NWMI-CoG energy grant. The Day Dock will be out later this spring for boaters to visit Beulah. Upcoming events such as the June welcome party and 4th of July activities will need volunteers. The Booster's goal is to support local groups by providing volunteers and financial resources in order to build cohesiveness in the community and to promote Beulah as a vacation destination. Members of this non-profit are asked to volunteer on at least one community activity each year. Membership forms are available now at Crystal Copies. For more information, please contact Steve Wentworth at: randall_automotive@yahoo.com or 517-202-3807. Everyone is welcome and needed!

Beulah Recycling Information:

Recycling Update-for info call 882-0554 or go to. www.benzieco.net and click on services

Recycling Dates to Calendar:

- Clean out your files, April 20 at Benzie Resource Center on M-115
- Styrofoam at Gov't Center: 6/18, 9/17 and 12/27 and at all County Clean-Up Days
- Hazardous Waste Days: 6/11 & 8/13 (see web)
- Beulah's clean-up day is June 25, see Laurie at the Village Office for permit
- Beulah sites remain behind the Village Offices for glass, paper/cardboard and plastic/tin, available to residents. Businesses should call regarding permits.
- County residents may transport and unload yard waste, tree branches, small brush by appointment. Call 882-0554.
- Cardboard may be dropped at BC High School.
- Large trash cans are in place at all sites for #2 plastic shopping bags.
- Call the Recycling Coordinator, Marlene, with any recycling or disposal questions 882-0554

Suggestions and information for the newsletter are welcome. Please drop a note to the editors at the Village of Beulah, PO Box 326, Beulah, MI 49617 or send an email to: Beulah@chartermi.net

“Every noble work is at first impossible.”
Thomas Carlyle

Keep Beulah beautiful, pick up litter!