Established 1994 - Published the first & third Thursday of each month.

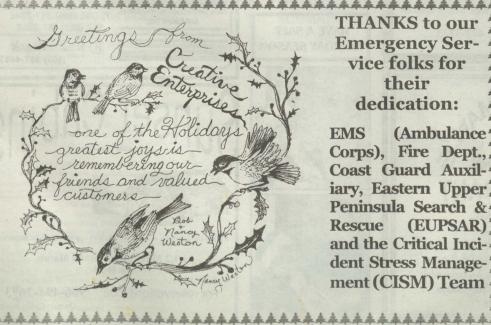
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VOL. X NO. 8 DECEMBER 18, 2003

75 ¢







THANKS to our **Emergency Ser**vice folks for their dedication:

EMS (Ambulance Corps), Fire Dept., Coast Guard Auxiliary, Eastern Upper Peninsula Search & Rescue (EUPSAR) and the Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) Team



oring this great event.

GRAND MARAIS LION'S CLUB **NEWS**

The Grand Marais Lion's Club Raffle was held Friday, December 5, 2003 at the Community Center. Dave Robertson won the \$50.00 prize and G. Whitener and Ron Bergeron won \$25.00 each. On December 12, 2003 the final drawing was held at the Community Center. Carol McCutchon, Karen Brzys, Joe McDonald, Nancy & Ira McDonald and Julia Archibald names were drawn. These Grand Prize winner each received \$500.00.

NOTICE

To the tax payers of Burt Township

In compliance with MCL211.44(2), I will be in my office on all Fridays in December. Taxes may be paid at any time the office is open or through the mail; the purpose of this notice is to comply with the existing law.

James T. Seibert Burt TownshipTreasurer





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or contact Sue @ 494-2510 or Nancy @ 494-2744

GRAND MARAIS SENIOR MEALS LUNCH

FRIDAY Dec. 19

Pork Chop - Parslied Potatoes - Savory Carrots - Apple Sauce

MONDAY Dec. 22 Spanish Swiss Steak - Boiled Potatoes - Green Beans - Fruit

WEDNESDAY Dec. 24 CLOSED CHRISTMAS HOILDAY

FRIDAY Dec. 26

Chicken Noodle casserole -Stewed Tomatoes - Tossed salad - M'Oranges

MONDAY Dec. 29

Spaghetti w/Meat Sauce -Vegetable - Garlic Bread -Fruit Cup

WEDNESDAY Dec. 31 CLOSED NEW YEARS EVE

FRIDAY Jan. 2

Baked Chicken - Mashed Potatoes - Green Beans - Bars

(Items subject to change.)

Senior Nutrition Program meals are provided by Alger-Marquette Community Action Board (AMCAB) for persons 60 or older & their spouses.

HAVE A SAFE HOLIDAY SEASON





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A Message from the Supervisor By Lee Durrwachter, **Burt Township Supervisor**

Homestead Exemption is Being Policed by the County

At last Thursday's Board of Review (BOR) meeting several letters from property owners were reviewed regarding invalid Homestead Exemptions. Property with possible invalid Homestead Exemptions are now being challenged by the County Treasurer. In addition, failure to respond to the County Treasurer's letter of notification within 30 calendar days will automatically deny your exemption. The County billing includes back payments and interest at the rate of 1.25% per month. To validate your property's status,

the County will ask you to verify the following:

1) You are a Michigan resident

2) You are the owner or one of the co-owners of the

3) You occupy the property as your principal resi-

4) You are not claiming a homestead exemption or similar exemption in any other location, whether in Michigan or another stat

At stake here is your Principal Residence Exemption from School Property Taxes (F/N/A Homestead Exemption), which is 18.000 mills, or \$18 per \$1,000 of Taxable Value. (Please review your Summer Tax Bill. All School Property Taxes constitute your Summer Taxes. The 18.000 mills are just one part of the bill.)

Please Note: Up until February 29, 2004, if you find you have an invalid Homestead Exemption, you should still be able to pay your 18,000 mills at the Township level for this taxable year, 2003. Check with the Township Treasurer for the exact amount. He's in his office every Friday this month. Prior years e. 2002, 2001 can only be corrected and/or paid at the County level.

Another question raised at the BOR meeting was, can a 501(C)3, non profit corporation, be exempt from property taxes?

First, all property in the Township is assessed, regardless of the property owner's status

Second, special circumstances can be heard by the BOR, and a request by the property owner can be made at that time. And,

Third, if the property owner is not satisfied with the BOR's decision, they can appeal to the Michigan Tax

Revenue Sharing Targeted for Another 6% Cut Governor and legislative leaks at a recent budget meeting are being reported by the media that an additional 6% cut in Revenue Sharing is being proposed to help solve the \$900 million budget deficient for this current fiscal year, which began on October 1, 2003. This cut is in addition to revenue sharing payments that were already implemented in the 2004

fiscal year. According to MTA, the original cuts were slated to be 3% over what communities received the previous year, however, due to sales tax revenue (constitutional portion) reductions in the slow economy, the size of the cut has "bloated" to 4.21%. Add the newly proposed 6% cut to this amount, and local governments are taking a cut greater than 10% in this fiscal year. Our Township planned for these large cuts, and still seem to be within budget so far. Stay tuned.

GovBenefits.gov

Finally, there's an attempt to have a one-source location for State and Federal Benefit Information. In a February 2002 budget proposal, President Bush outlined a management agenda for making government more focused on people and results, which included expanding eGovernment. According to MTA, eGovernment uses the latest technology and the Internet to make it easy for citizens and businesses to work to gether with the government and save taxpayer dollars. Currently, the federal government provides more than 1,400 benefit programs to more than 80 million eligible people. In addition, there are benefit programs managed by state and local government agencies, many of which involve the use of federal

Currently, information about these programs is spread across 31 million federal government Web pages. Before GovBenefits.gov, there was no single source for citizens to use in determining their benefit eligibility. According to MTA, even citizens who knew the programs they were eligible for were confused about which agency Web site, call center, or office could help them. Ultimately, citizens will have instant access to information for all government benefit programs and services, and be able to apply online through a single Web site - GovBenefits.gov

What this Web-site features is an easy-to-use online tool to help visitors to the site find out if they are eligible for government assistance programs. By anwering a few confidential questions such as income level, marital status, and family size, users can re-ceive a list of benefits for which they may be eligible. The Web site also provides descriptions and contact information for each benefit program

In addition, MTA reports, GovBenefits.gov will reduce the amount of time it takes to identify and access important information about government benefit programs that match citizen's specific needs. GovBenefits.gov will improve the ability of government agencies to evaluate program performance. creating new opportunities for more efficient funding of these programs. GovBenefits.gov will also allow local governments to quickly identify and match citizen needs with the right benefit program.

And on a personal note: Let's hope last Saturday's capture of Saddam Hussein stuns the opposition factions into laying down their arms and to seek a peaceful solution and our troops can come home

WEATHER SUMMARY

DATA is compiled by Karla Bugg. Cooperative Weather Observer

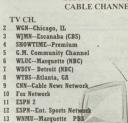
Date	Max.	Min.	Prec	Snow
DEC. 2	30	24		
DEC. 3	36	17		
DEC. 4	40	17		
DEC. 5	38	21		
DEC. 6	35	20		
DEC. 7	30	7		
DEC. 8	39	7		
DEC. 9	37	32		
DEC.10	35	31	.69	1.5
DEC.11	31	21	.18	. 3
DEC.12	23	16	.16	3
DEC.13	22	6	.04	1
DEC.14	31	12		
DEC.15	34	19		
DEC.16	32	29	.24	3

From the Bugg House have a **Merry Christmas** and a Happy New Year

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=31

32 33 34

35 36 Hallmark

37

23 CNBC

C-Span
CHS - Country Music Videos The Weather Channel FOX News

43 The Disney Channel

who dwelt among us now can dwell within us.

Have a Blessed Christmas and a prosperous **New Year**

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We encourage our readers to use these pages as a community forum for a free exchange of ideas. Your letters are welcome.

The one stipulation is that letters to the editor must be signed. Pen names will not be accepted. We will not publish anonymous letters. We reserve the right to edit for space and clarity, and we will publish your comments as space

Further, the views expressed by our writers and guest correspondents are welcome additions to the forum. They reflect, however, opinions of the writer and correspondents and are not those explicitly endorsed by the Gazette.

> The Grand Marais Gazette Marc Oglevie, Owner Grand Sable Publishing Co., Inc. PHONE: 906-494-2492 FAX: 906-494-2492 E-MAIL: thonyous@jamadots.com

The Grand Marais Gazette is published the first and third Thursday of each month for \$15.00 per year in Grand Marais and \$20.00 per year atside of Alger County - 1st Class delivery for \$27.00.

OFFICE HOURS: If you see the dark blue Chevy Suburban out front. give it a try. If you have any questions please call and leave your and phone number on the answering machine. We'll get back to you.

Postmaster send address changes to: Grand Marais Gazette, P.O. Box 370, Grand Marais, MI, 49839-0370

PICKLE OF A DAY

AROUND THE BAY:



I am sure you are all aware now that the groomers have been on the snow trails and sleds are finding there way into town. I hope that we will have a safe year and no accidents. Obey the speed limit signs and remember, do not drink and drive.

The volleyball and basketball team did well Friday night. They were both winning teams. Congratulations.

I understand Stary, Stary, Night was good for the local businesses over Thanksgiving weekend. Thanks to all the local people that shopped in

Woman's club had a potluck and Santa joined in last week. Was so nice to see everyone out and about enjoying the holidays.

Woman's club had their winter dinner at the Sportsman's Saturday. What a lovely time they had.

Glad to see everyone got along without me while I was in Florida slaving away. Not really, I helped my folks Gerrie and Andy Bailey move into their new condominium in Englewood. It was nice to be in the warm weather before our winter really kicks in here. So really, painting, scrubbing walls, and washing windows and cleaning what ever needed to be cleaned was not that bad when you can have the windows open with a nice warm breeze blowing in.

George Kendall was able to get away for a few days for Thanksgiving to visit with his mother in Clare.

John and I were able to get away for Thanksgiving to the home of our daughter Jenny's and her husband Ben in Ithaca. Joining us were Gerrie and Andy Bailey, Wendy, and her husband Steve, and son Johnny Sohl from Hazel Park. Sara and Ray Scaife, and Warren Scaife. My sister Maggie and her husband Greg. My brothers George Bailey and his wife Suzanne, and Bruce Bailey and wife Carlene, along with numerous nieces and nephews. All in all, 31 of us enjoying mom's great pies and a fabulous dinner.

We were all grateful to see Grant (the Schawn man), Vanna's nephew from the Soo, in for the day. Grant picked up the route for this week, and informed us that Doug, the former driver will be returning to his old route next week.

In for the weekend were Sara and Ray Scaife from Pleasant Lake, along with Ray's brother Warren and dogs, Sosa and Pork Chop. They went sledding with their sister Elisabeth and enjoyed hot tubbing at our house a few times. The dogs really enjoyed playing in the snow too. Our dog Sailor enjoyed having company to play with too.

Penny Barney from Marquette came over for the night. She was able to visit with her grandparents Ruth and Neal Beaver and visit with Sara while she was here.

Nice changes at the local Wilson's Market and Hardware store. New owner's Tim and Debbie McKinstry are making everyone feel welcome. They have extended their business hours too. Glad they like it here and I hope you all make them feel welcome. I am certain we will see Karl going south and looking for a warm place to golf this winter.

Keep an eye on the Grand Marais web site. Kay is always updating it and adding new pictures. She is doing a fabulous job with Cathy Egerer

We all hope you have a Merry Christmas and see you Around the Bay. Keep on smiling..... Evie morriso3@jamadots.com

Thank You!!!!

To the people of Grand Marais thank you for all you do for one another. Thank you for caring about each other. Each time someone speaks a kind word, waves to a neighbor, picks up meds at Putvins, volunteers at school or at a fire or on the ambulance crew, delivers food or groceries to shut ins, stops by to check on friends, or attends community functions, the spirit of what makes our town special prevails. Living here has its challenges, but the people here make it all worth it!

Brenda

THANKS

A huge thanks to you Grand Marais, from the Marine Corps. Your giving towards the toys for tots is great. Thanks Again.

Once again we need busy fingers to do the squares for Alzheimer's. See Bess, Vicki or Edna Jean and quite possibly Gee for instructions and yarn. Thanks again. Gee

May His abiding love fill your heart with joy now and always!



Edna Jean Johnson

December 12, 2003 was a "pickle" of a day for the Grand Marais His torical Society and the Pickle Barrel House. On that day, the Pickle Barrel officially became the property of the Grand Marais Historical Society. This event became possible due to the dedicated efforts of a hardworking group spearheaded by Susan Bennett. The "Save the Pickle Barrel" organization wishes to thank everyone for their tremendous support and donations. A special thank you to Edmund Warren, the previous owner. Also thanks to our most generous

benefactor for making this first goal at the dream come true Donations for Restoration can be made to: GMHS/Save the Pickle Barrel, PO Box 179, Grand Marais, MI 49839.

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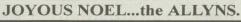
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MERRY CHRISTMAS





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MAY YOUR HOLIDAYS BE **FULL OF JOY**



Abbott & Nancy Fuller



Bryce Christoffersen



and our best to all.

Rich, Treva, Nolan and Dana (as of 10-03-03) Gorski

It's a day for special wishes and only the best will do, for when it comes to special friends--The very best is you!

Sandee Sibbald





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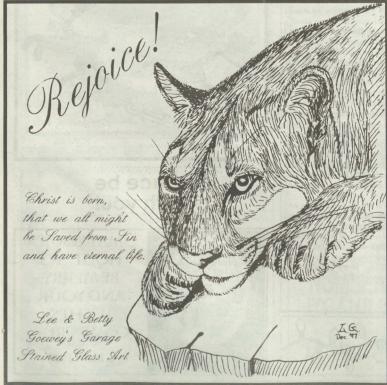


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"HUNGRY" BUTS & PASSES

The capture of Sadam Insane has all the TV time as well it should. I feel the price to catch this slimeball was too high especially in lives. He isn't worth one of our soldiers yet alone the hundreds that have died in Iraq. Although his capture has already become a political issue, it ain't the end of the problems in Iraq and certainly not in the war on terror. Wether it will have much of a positive effect remanis to be seen. Sadam sure looked as though he wasn't enjoying his retirement, didn't he? Although it is necessary for PR reasons, I am angry that now we will be froced to spend millions if not billions of dollars making sure that no one kills him before he can go to trial and then if they don't execute him, billions more to keep him incarcerated. Attaboys are in order for those responsible for his capture

I recently caught a story on TV concerning a raid that we did on a suspected Alquaida stronghold in Afghanistan. Remember Afghanistan? We still have a few members of our Armed Forces there and despite the propaganda that this administration is trying to sell you, Afghanistan is still mostly controlled by the same warlords as it was before we liberated it. It just so happened that, no doubt based on 'intelligence sources" there was a "Bad Guys" cell in a certain area. Well we bombed the Hell out of it and according to us, we got the bad guy. Problem is we took ten children with him. Now I would expect this administration and the hawks of this country to downplay this disaster, after all these kids are nothing but "collateral damage", right George? But when I heard our handpicked leader of Afghanistan, Karzai, sluff it off as though it was no big deal, I was just about ready to kill. I guess that is why our government placed him in power, he will do and say what he is told. Regardless of how a person feels about this war, this kind of reaction is disgusting. I would think that our reaction would have been one of apology and a commitment to find out what went wrong and to make the person or persons responsible for this massacre accountable. I am not talking about the soldiers that carried out the raid. I am referring to the people that gave us the information or if the information did include the fact that there were children in the area, the person who decided to go ahead, knowing children would probably be killed. It is a sad day indeed when we give such little value to life.

Most of the economists and all the president's men are crowing about the recovery of the economy. There are no doubt signs that it has turned around. The problem is, however, that although the rich are getting richer the poor are getting poorer and more numerous. The administration continues to mislead us by telling us that 300,000 new jobs have been created in the last year. This is no doubt supportable but they fail to mention the 2,000,000 jobs that have been lost since this administration took office. They also conveniently forget to tell us that most of the new jobs are no where near as good as the ones lost, less pay and benefits you see. More Americans are without health insurance now than ever have been. This is a problem that this administration was going to fix. Remember the promises of tort reform. Not only has it not happened, to the best of my knowledge, nothing has been tried. The surplus has not only disappeared, now projections are for a FIF-TEEN TRILLION-dollar national debt.

The latest omnibus spending bill that will probably pass right after the first of the year is, according to members from both sides of the aisle, the biggest pork barrel to ever come out of Congress. It includes millions of dollars for a "rain forest museum" in Iowa. Why, because Senator Grassly is from Iowa and has pull. Several other pork projects are included in this bill that also contains some much needed funding for legitimate causes. The greed of the Re-

publicans that were so critical of the Democrats porkbarreling, has exceeded the limits that even the big gest spenders can justify. Texas of course will benefit greatly, no need to tell you why? It wouldn't be quite so bad if we had a surplus and much-needed projects were adequately funded. We don't, and they aren't.

On the state level, jg has decided to cut an additional 6% from our revenue sharing. With a 3% original cut you would think we would have a 9% cut, right? Wrong, it will be a reduction of about 10.5 %. There is also the fact that due to Engler's lousy fiscal policy. there is less revenue to share. I know that Burt Township figured this reduction was coming and provided for it in this year's budget. Others however have no and now are forced to make additional cuts. Police and Sheriff departments are usually the first to feel the knife and in many cases have already been decimated so what is next? It will probably be social programs If the MSU Extension Service had not been funded by a millage in Alger County, it would definitely be gone. The cuts are not over and Burt Township may feel them with Commercial Forest payments, this represents a big chunk of our income and was not figured to be cut. As previously mentioned in my articles, the DEQ has decided that it doesn't have enough money to pay its property tax thus lowering income for all local governments including school districts.

We have been hearing about the improving economy for three years now. I wish it would hurry up and get here. I am sure that we will hear much more about how wonderful or lousy things are as the campaigns begin to tool up. The Supreme Court decision that the McCain-Feingold campaign finance law is constitu tional will have little if any effect on the slimeballs running campaigns. They will find ways to sling the dirt and make this campaign as disgusting as any, if not more so. Money will prevail and unless the De mocrats get their act together, Bush will buy four more years without any money wories

And finally. Christmas is approaching quickly. Our community potluck Christmas party was well organ ized by the Women's Club and better attended than last year. We had a few children there but Santa had to give most of his gifts to old people. If attendance continues to increase, next years party will overflow the community center. The food was delicious and plentiful, as are all Grand Marais potlucks. Even Father Joy got to sit on Santa's lap and give him a Christmas list. On Wednesday the 17th, Sherri and will travel to Marquette for the grandchildren's Christmas programs. Only Dizzy's and Too's classes are having a program this year, I don't know why the other grades aren't participating. The Burt Township School's Christmas program is Thursday afternoon. I am not sure why the middle of the day was picked because it is difficult for many of us to take time off in the middle of the week. I am sure there are reasons but I still hope the school goes back to an evening program next year. I am not sure where Sherri and I vill be for the holidays, Marquette is a good guess. know there are some who decry Christmas as being too commercial, a religious holiday forced down their throats in violation of the separation of church and state, and for other equally stupid reasons. They have a right to their opinion as long as they don't force it down my throat. I will celebrate the birth of Christ. I will enjoy the thrill of children as they see Santa and their excited anticipation of Christmas morning. I will enjoy the good will of most people during this season. I will enjoy family and tradition. I will eat like there is no tomorrow and I will put on several pounds. I will not make a list of resolutions for the New Year that will be broken by January $2^{\rm nd}$. God willing, I will share with you some of my Christmas Season in the

And finally, finally. I will say a prayer for those who will not be celebrating this season with friends and family because they are members of our Armed Forces and not able to be home. I will also pray for all who have given their blood, sweat, tears and in some cases lives so that I can enjoy it.

And finally, finally, finally. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to everyone! Till next year!







Greet each other with kindness and love in the New Year from

> George & Anna McNally



May the Christmas Spirit be with you all year

Jim & Martha Smith





Peace be g with you!

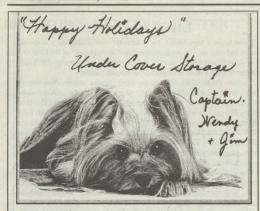


MAYYOUR HOLIDAYS **BE MERRY** AND YOUR WISHES **COME TRUE**

GERI HILL

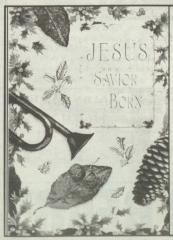
Shallow Thoughts

I made a killing in the market. The farmers market. I ran over a chicken Even if you leave everything to your kids, you can't be sure they'll keep up the payments.









From your friends at Fox River Automotive and the Elijah Schlabach Family

May this be a special time of worship and blessing for you and your family as you celebrate the Savior's birth.

DO THE RIGHT THING

By Lee Goewey

Pay attention: Your life or that of someone you care about may depend upon what I'm about to pass along to you! "What you don't know <u>can</u> hurt you," and "forewarned is fore-armed" are trite but true sayings.

Some years ago I was deer hunting within a mile and a half of the Grand Marais Post Office when I came across a set of fresh footprints in new snow. I'd never-seen such prints before, but thought I knew what made them. Without revealing my suspicions, I asked John Pavkovich, our then-Park Ranger and a man experienced in our Western states, to come look at them. He did, and confirmed my guess: They were the marks of a coupar or mountain lion, as they are sometimes called.

were the marks of a cougar or mountain lion, as they are sometimes called.

Since then, a number of sober and reliable people in Grand Marais have actually seen cougars in our vicinity. Before you dismiss these sightings as hallucinations, I would also note that the DNR lists the cougar as a protected animal in the state of Michigan - a curious thing to do if there are none here. We don't, for example, protect buffalo in Michigan. It is also a fact that wolves were listed in the same manner, long before the DNR ever openly admitted there were any here, and despite a long record of citizen sightings and reports of wolves.

"So what if cougars are here then?" you may ask. They're just one more of nature's wonderful creatures that won't bother us if we don't bother them, aren't they?

Not quite: Despite their mythic reputation, wolves are generally fearful of man and I have read that there is no verifiable record of a human death from wolf attack in the U.S. Black bears may get hostile when their space is invaded, but they seem to pose little serious threat to humans. These facts can lull us into complacency.

Cougars, in comparison, are another thing entirely. They are predators and humans have been the prey. An article in the December 2003 issue of *Field and Stream* magazine entitled "The Face of Danger" puts the matter in perspective. Written by Keith McCafferty, the magazine's Outdoor Skills Field Editor, the one-page article is "must-reading" for anyone who lives in cougar country and that, friends, is US!

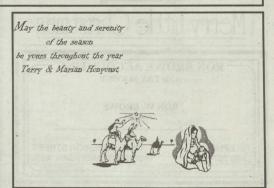
These cats don't hibernate - they are out there 24/7/365. Lest you encounter one tomorrow, before you read the magazine, I'm reproducing McCafferty's chart of levels of lion behavior, the danger it represents and what your response should be, as follows:

LION BEHAIOR	DANGER	RESPONSE
Following at a distance	SLIGHT	Keep your party close; ready weapons; continu- walking, maintaining eye contact with cougar.
Staring, hiding, following	MODERATE	Do not run; face the lion and closer than 50 yards move toward open or higher ground
Crouching or creeping as Lion approaches even closer	SERIOUS	Wave your arms; pick up children; open your jacket to appear larger; talk loudly
Tail switching; body to the ground lion head and ears up;	GRAVE	Prepare for an attack; use pepper spray if the lion within 50 feet is within range
Ears fur side forward; crouching, rear legs pumping	ATTACK IMMINENT	Shoot or fight back; don't give up-if you do, you'll die

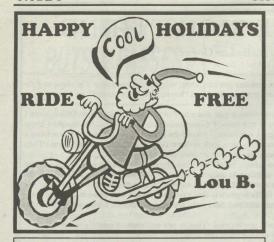
Please, DO THE RIGHT THING and get your hands on this article if you spend any time out of doors in the U.P. You owe it to yourself and your family to prepare to be a survivor rather than a victim of a cougar encounter.

Merry Christmas! God bless you and your as we celebrate the birth of the King of Kings.

It's
the
simple
little
things
that
bring the
greatest
joys.







May the joy and peace of the season be with you today and always.



Katie & Robert Alexander



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Library News

If you haven't been to our "New Library" now is the time you should come and visit us. We are located in the "Green House" of the Community Center and can be entered either by the door opposite the Youth Center or by the main door of the Community Center.

Center or by the main door of the Community Center.

We have the latest books with the more popular authors. You can try new recipes with Diane Mott Davidson in the "Who done it" (Chopping Spree); go on a spy mission with Tom Clancy (The Bear & the Dragon); learn about the settling of the United States with John Jakes (North & South); have a romantic interlude with Danielle Steele (The house on Hope Street); see how smart cats can be with Lillian Brown (The Cat That Bought Down the House); visit the 17th Century with Patricia Cronwell (Blow Fly); plus many other famous authors.

You can browse these and many other books in comfort (4 rocking chairs to lull you) and pleasant surroundings. We also have a magazine rack with the latest Time, U.S. News, Consumers Report and the Smithsonian magazines.

We are open Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 12 noon to 2 p.m.. Hopefully in January we will be able to schedule one evening a week to be open. Also if you so desire, you can join us for a senior meal. A sort of one stop for an afternoon away from home.

A way you can make this a more special place is to join the "Friends of the Library" group, it is an organization where we raise money for special needs that the library requires. Check with Edna Jean for more information on this.

Please come and visit us. We do need your input on which books you would like. If we don't have it, we can probably obtain it for you from the Munising Public library.

POLAR BEAR BASKETBALL

By John Bauknecht

The Grand Marais Polar Bears took to the basketball court in front of a large crowd for the first time this season in regional play with wins against Paradise on Friday night, November 21st and again Saturday morning, the 22nd. Clay Wilson led the Polar Bears during Friday night's match up with 16 points and quite a few rebounds. Matt Beaupied and Hunter Capogrossa followed Clay's scoring drive with 13 each. Chris Purple added 8 more weaving in and out of traffic while taking a beating underneath the boards. Those Paradise boys were pretty rough and by the end of the evening, 3 of their 5 starters had fouled out. Glen Bronson added 2 with a great effort on defense until he got into foul trouble late in the 3r quarter. Stephen Simpson came in for Glen and scored 3 points and had 5 boards of his own. The final score on Friday night was Polar Bears 55, Para-

The Junior Varsity match up Friday night was just as exciting with Stephen Simpson leading the way with 18 points, followed by Michael Bell with 8. The "big guy" barely had to leave his feet. Stephen had a considerable size advantage over the entire Paradise J.V. team. His teammates just kept feeding him the ball and all he had to do was turn around and drop it in the hoop. Final score of the J.V. game was Polar Bears 26, Paradise, 8.

The Polar Bears were back in action again Saturday morning with another impressive win over Paradise. Hunter Capogrossa with 20 points led his team with numerous steals for easy lay-ups and some very nice outside shooting. Co-captain Matt Beaupied hit some great jumpers and sank almost all of his foul shots for 12 points, followed closely by team Captain Clay Wilson and Glen Bronson with 10 each. Chris Purple matched his total from the night before with 8 points. Stephen Simpson added 2 more for a final score, Polar Bears 62, Paradise 31.

The J.V. team came out a little slow on Saturday morning, but picked up the pace in the 2nd quarter and went on to win by the score of 24 to 16. Stephen Simpson led the way again for the J.V. squad with 12 points followed by Bauknecht brothers, Andy and Brad with 4 each. Michael Musselman and Michael Bell each added 2 for their second straight win. Good job guys!

On Tuesday, December 9, Maplewood Academy near Kinross visited the Grand Marais Polar Bear den for their first game ever. It was a non-conference/scrimmage, but you couldn't tell by the way these teams played. The Maplewood Varsity moved the

ball around well, but proved to be no match for the Polar Bears, who extended their record to 3 and 0. Chris Purple was on fire for the Grand Marais squad. It seemed like everything he put up went in for a total of 19 points. Matt Beaupied added 11 with his sharp shooting, followed by Glen Bronson with 10, most of which came from great rebounding. Clay Wilson found the bottom of the net with 12 points, which included an exciting last second "buzzer beater" from 3 point range and Hunter Capogrossa ended up with 8 points and 4 steals. Final score was Polar Bears 78, Maplewood Academy 39.

The "young guns" saw action during the 3rdquarter with the "little guys" taking over the show. Michael Bell and Devlin Tapert looked like "M.J. and Scottie" out there finding their mark for 6 during regulation play and 6 more during the 2 "extra quarters" that were played after regulation play had concluded, Brad Bauknecht was tough underneath adding 4 points, while his brother, Andy found the bottom of the net for 2.

The next game is scheduled for Friday, December 12th with Munising Baptist here at Grand Marais. A special thanks from the coach to all who come out and support our Polar Bears!

The Polar Bears took to the court once again Friday night, December 12th hosting our neighbors to the west, the Munising Baptist Bobcats. The game started out evenly matched with both teams keeping it close in the first half. Glen Bronson suffered the first injury of the season in the 2nd quarter with a sprained ankle, which forced the tough forward to sit out the rest of the game with only 2 points. The tall freshman, Stephen Simpson came off the bench and filled in nicely for the Polar Bear Varsity, grabbing a number of rebounds and scoring an impressive 8 points on the side. Good job Stephen! However, it was Matt Beaupied's consistency that led the way for the Bears during this match up. Matt's sharp shooting from outside found the bottom of the net for 17 of their 63 point total. Hunter Capogrossa was on the prowl once again partnering with teammate, Chris Purple for several steals resulting in 12 points each for the Grand Marais squad. Team captain Clay Wilson got into a little foul trouble early while fighting the 6 ft. 5 in. Munising Baptist center for rebounds underneath the boards. Clay ended the game in double digits with 10 points and at least as many rebounds followed by Michael Bell with 2 points. Final score was Polar Bears 63, Munising Baptist Bobcats

GO POLAR BEARS

BURT TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT

Superintendent's Corner

Brenda M. Greenhoe | Smith 906-494-2543 bgrandmarais@hotmail.com

The winter snows have arrived. Looking around at the fluffy white snow is refreshing. I held this in my head as I drove through many miles of white out conditions. When you are driving but can barely make out the front of your truck, let alone the road or oncoming traffic, you can choose a variety of responses. I will concede the experience is somewhat daunting if not ominous.

My first reaction to the experience was, "Oh no!" After my initial view, I realized that I had many miles to travel to get to my destination and scheduled meeting. I knew that to arrive there safely I must reframe the situation. The variety of possible responses involved; fear, anxiety, caution, tenacity, persistence, faith and optimism. I chose to combine optimism and faith with tenacity, persistence and a 'pinch' of caution. I knew I had the ability, I just had to employ the positive to make i through the storm.

I found that depending upon the positive and maintaining that focus, I was able to accomplish my goal. I also found that my mind began to reflect on how much this experience replicates what we, as educators face daily. The snow squalls were, at times, blinding. Periodically, the sun would peek through lighting the way (albeit, momentarily). There are times, in our lives when 'life's squalls' make it appear there is no end in sight. The promise of 'the sunlight peeking through', helps us to get through it and reframe our thinking

Miko Bryers (high school social studies teacher at Burt) frequently reframes negative student behaviors and school situations to be positive attributes and possible solutions. He helps us all see that all is not gloom and despair, but rather there exists the positive in all people and situations. He provides this when we (and our students) most need it.

So, based on his example, I employed this technique to the storm. The positive embedded in the falling snow is many faceted. The promise that winter has finally arrived and good skiing and snow shoeing is eminent. The promise that business in Grand Marais will soon be hop-ping. The reality that the students at school will once again experience the glee of sledding and snowmobiling. The ability to reframe is essential if one is to maintain a positive spirit.

So also, based upon Miko's wisdom, we at Grand Marais schools, reframe student behaviors and experiences. We look for the positive elements and accentuate them. Students today face enormous pressure from peers and our technological world. Our students are but a micro cosm of the greater world. They have access to and experience the same things as students linked to the internet throughout the world; cosmopolitan and rural alike, in all hemispheres and in most locales. We can no longer exclude them from these elements, but we can protect them and help them to 'reframe'. This allows us, and them to maintain a positive spirit; in ourselves and those around us. Thanks Miko for helping us all!

All of us at school wish you the happiest of holidays and a new year filled with positive experiences. We also wish you the ability to seek the positive when faced with, what appears to be ominous and threatening. May reframing people and experiences be part of your new year; the willingness to see the positive and to share that with others.

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY 2004!

As always; Happy living, Happy teaching, Happy learning, ©Brenda

SEUDENTS

FROM

SYAD

1704

AP



BURT **TOWNSHIP** SCHOOL November Student of the

Month



Bryce Ward-Harbaum

Bryce Ward-Harbaum awarded Elementary Student of the Month at the December 10, 2003 Board meeting. His parents are Rob Harbaum and Lea Ward. Bryce likes sledding, biking and playing soccer. In school he enjoys helping others and doing jobs around the classroom and Social Studies class His favorite subject is science Bryce participates in Kids Club Bryce would like to be a doctor when he grows up.



Abbie Helsel

Abbie Helsel was awarded Secondary Student of the Month at the December meeting. She is the daughter of Cassie Helsel of Germfask. Abbie's interests include running, singing and nature walks. She enjoys raising and training puppies. She is a student aide and involved in publishing class. Abbie's favorite subjects are math and history She is exploring her many options for the future



Mrs. Ross Class

What a day! Christmas is here The world is full of Christmas cheer!

But soon the day will be over. But still the memory will last forever.

by Rachel 4th grade

Everyone wake up! very cold outside elves rabbit hopping you can stay up and see Santa Claus one person stayed up and saw Santa never sleep in Everyone wake up! It's Christmas.

by Brandon 3rd grade

Stockings all around north pole tree angels

by Max 3rd grade

C is for Christmas. Christmas H is for hearing bells. Chocolates R is for red and green. Happy I is for invitations. Ribbon S is for Santa. Icicles T is for trading gifts. Santa Claus M is for music A is for apple cider. Merry Christmas S is for Santa's sleigh. Angel by Morgan 4th grade

Nicole's Merry Christmas

Candycanes Chocolate Happy Rudolph Housetop Reindeer Ice cream Icicle Santa Santa Tree Merry Merry Christmas Angel Antlers Stocking Sleigh

Sleigh

by Jesse 3rd grade

by Cody 4th grade

Candy

Heaven

Ribbon

Santa

Tree

Merry

Angels

Ice cream

by Nicole 3rd grade

Candy Holly Ribbon Ice cream Sleigh Tree Merry Christmas Apple cider Santa by Kyle 4th grade

Stockings

by Michaela 3rd grade







2003-04 Polar Bear Basketball / Volleyball Winter Schedule Basketball coach: John Bauknecht & Volleyball coach: Stacey Stachnik

Hannahville January 9-10 January 16-17 Mackinac Island January 23-24 Hannahville January 30-31 Beaver Island February 6 Munising Baptist February 13-14 Paradise

Away Home Home

Away *6 p.m. start Away Mackinac Island Homecoming

*Friday Games start at 6:30 p.m. | Saturday Games at 9:00 a.m. unless otherwise noted. All games are played in coordination with volleyball game

May your holidays be filled with lots of good, fun Christmasy stuff and people.



From Stu Stuart, Maeve Croghan & the Campbell Street Gallery



From Our House To Your House



Let the birth of Jesus fill your hearts-Happy Holidays

The Rocheforts



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REAL ESTATE COMPANY BOX 354

"ON THE BAY IN GRAND MARAIS"

Edward Bowen, Owner/Broker, 494-2700 Rose Benmark, Associate, 494-2695 Karla Kruse Bowen, Associate, 494-2700 PHONE:

906-494-2700

LAKE SUPERIOR WATERFRONT: 323 feet of beautiful beach with no bluff. This 3.79 acre parcel is high and dry and located on a year round road. Priced at only \$175,000, VW-140

TWO TEN ACRE PARCELS IN THE "BOONDOCKS". These parcels are high and dry and heavily wooded with pines and hardwoods. Located off a seasonal road with deeded access eight miles East of Grand Marais. These would make a great hunting or snowmobile camp. \$19,500. Each. VL-133

LARGE RESTORED HOME IN DOWNTOWN GRAND MARAIS: This famous home was built back in the late 1800's and has been remodeled with new plumbing, roof, kitchen, bath, electrical, and much more. Located on a corner lot in the quiet area of town this is a real show place. \$189,500. R-153

400 FEET OF BEAUTIFUL FRONTAGE ON A SMALL INLAND LAKE: This parcel has lots of pine trees and a sandy beach. Located five miles from Grand Marais with underground power at the site. The road is a seasonal road offering lots of privacy. \$200,000.

NICE HUNTING OR SNOWMOBILE CAMP WITH TWO CAR GA-RAGE: This is located two miles from Grand Marais and has a partially finished great room for a large group. Nice trees and plenty of room to roam. Priced at only \$64,500.00.

LAKE SUPERIOR WATERFRONT: 597 feet of sugar sand beach on Lake Superior. This 10 acre parcel has mixed hardwoods and evergreen, in one of the most beautiful developments in the midwest. Underground electric and phone, paved plowed road, a full time caretaker, and only 32 home sites over 1 3/4 miles make this unique property a dream location for privacy. The drive is in and permits are in place for a home on the waterfront. \$299,500.00

SEASONAL CAMP SEVEN MILES EAST OF GRAND MARAIS: This is a tiny cabin located on #416 which is the East snowmobile trail #8. The road is not plowed in the winter and there is no electricity. It has a partial view of Lake Superior and is on a 1.9 acre lot. It is really cute!! Only \$28,500.00

MAGNIFICENT VIEW PARCEL OVERLOOKING THE GRAND MARAIS HARBOR: This is unbelievable. The land is very deep and heavily wooded. It's 200 feet in width and the driveway is already in. Standing where a building site could be you can see downtown Grand Marais and the break wall. It looks like it could be on a post card. \$149,500.00

100 FEET OF VACANT SANDY WATERFRONT BEACH ON GRAND MARAIS BAY: This is located right downtown and would allow an owner to walk to all stores and restaurants. Grandchildren can walk to the ice cream store! \$119,500.00

VIEW PARCEL: This is located along the ridge overlooking Lake Superior one mile East of Grand Marais. This heavily wooded site has acreage and a lot of privacy with access at the top of the hill off Webb Rd. the width of this parcel is 150 feet. It is priced at \$65,000.00. VW-131

MOBILE HOME ON DEEP LOT IN DOWNTOWN GRAND MARAIS: Located only three blocks from downtown and a short walk to the beach.. This is in excellent condition and would make an ideal second home in Grand Marais. \$58.500.

GROCERY STORE WITH PACKAGE IT QUOR LICENSE: This is located in downtown Grand Marais on this precedent reputation for fresh cut meats. Good gross and location.

LOG CABIN HOME WITH VIEW CIT GRAND MARAIS BAY: This 90% completed home has three bedto its and two baths. Steel roof and five foot crawl space for storage along with a re-kitchen and living room are just some of the features.

HAREWARE STORE IN DOWNTOWN GRAND MARAIS: This well stocked store features a BEST hareware in Downse. The closest hardware is 50 miles away.

THREE VIEW PARCELS: These are located along the ridge overlooking Lake Superior one mile east of Grand Marais. All of these eavily wooded sites have acreage and a lot of privacy, with access at the op on the lill off Webb Rd. Two of them have a nice stream meandering acrost the or only. The stream tumbles and falls over a rock bottom with several with 50 km. Cae parcel has a spectacular waterfall that is registered in the book of Michigan Waterfalls. The parcels vary between 100 feet, 150 feet, and 175 feet. Prices are \$65,000 and \$75,000. The large waterfall is on a 175 foot parcel for \$75,000. The two parcels with the streams are side by side and can be purchased together.

GORGEOUS HOME ON LARGE LOT IN a WN: This ranch style home is on five lots with a two car garage. Full be up in the carpet and decorating, and a beautiful yard with flower gardens and mee. It cannot across from Woodland Park it is in the quieter area of town. \$108,000.00

ONE BEDROOM HOME WITH DETACHE: GARAGE ON THREE ACRES: This home is only two miles East of to yn vid over 400 feet of frontage on Highway H-58. It could be split into the large is vice trees and a lot of recent improvements to the home. \$64,500.00

NEWER CABIN ON A 100 FOOT LOT WITH NEW POLE BARN: This would make an ideal rental we are not visiting Grand Marais. Located three miles out of town it of the salot of peace and privacy. \$64,500.00

TEN ACRES WITH GARAGE, MORLE HOME, AND OUT BUILD-INGS: This is a beautiful piece of peop try, top of good deer hunting and close to snowmobile trails. The mobil from e i 1 feet by 60 feet and is only 10 years old. Very good condition. Two miles southeast of Grand Marais. \$72,500.00

CONDO: It is very rare that a condo on *Co.* st Guard Point comes up for sale. This unit is an upper level, 2-3 bedror... 1/2 teach with some furnishings including a stackable washer and dryer. The includes a storage shed. It is in immaculate condition and priced at only \$110,000. (C-105)

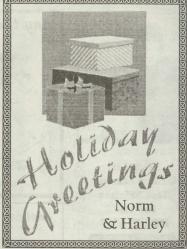
We are open all year, however, during the winter months by appointment only.

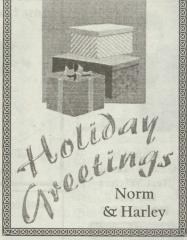
Please call ahead and we can make arrangements to show property even in the "deep" snow.

Please call for an update on new listings. For additional information call: Ed Bowen, owner/broker at 494-2700. FAX: 494-2353

GRAND MARAIS -----THE WHOLE POINT OF ALGER COUNTY!









Have a safe and happy holiday season



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Have a **Merry Christmas** and a blessed New Year. Lucy & Bob Pine

WISHING YOU THE MOON, THE STARS, & THE SKY ...

FROM THE KEWEENAW ALL THE WAY TO

GRAND MARAIS

OUR LOVE AND HOLIDAY GREETINGS TO ALL!

TOM & KATHY BAKER





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To All in **Grand Marais Best Wishes** for the HOLIDAYS



Jim & Nancy Carter



Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to All our family & friends.

Superior Expediting Gee & Vicki Petruske

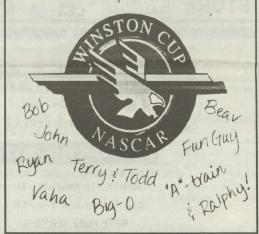


May the Holidays bring you joy! Don & Dolores Soldensk

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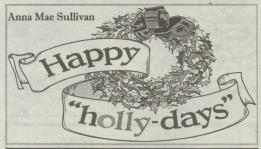




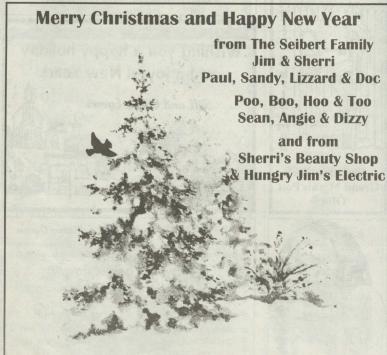






















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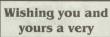




Merry Christmas



Bob & Rose Benmark

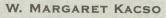




Stephie at the Grand Marais Post Office.



MAY THE TIMELESS MESSAGE OF CHRISTMAS FILL YOUR HEART WITH JOY.





Peace, joy and friendship throughout the Holiday's & the New Year



The Bell's
David, Dianna, Jennifer & Michael









Clivistmas a-comin'. Purt near broke, But while we're a-puttin' the beans to soak, We send this card instead of a letter And hope you're doin' as good ... or better!

Dick & Mary Shaw











Warmest Holiday Wishes from Vicki and Sally at Peoples State Bank.



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Visit www.gottatravelnow.com for 30- 40% off cruises and vacation packages. If you just need to get away this winter, let me make your arrangements and save you time and money. 231-582-4612 or 494-2276 weekends/Lisa



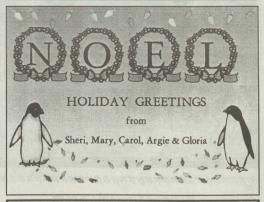








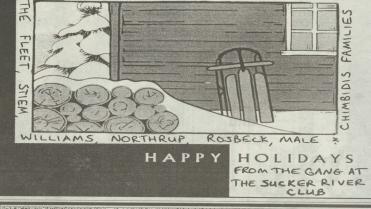


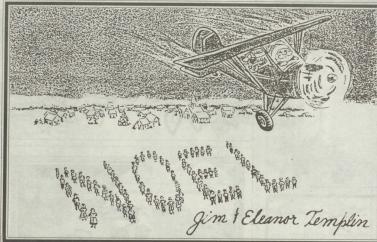




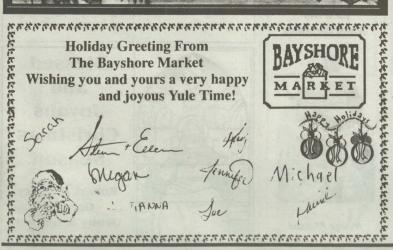
Blessed and Joyous Christmas Season

Robert & Nancy Gardner Jenny & Gabriel









GRAND **MARAIS** CHURCHES

HOLY ROSARY CATHOLIC CHURCH

Fr. Joy Adimakkeel (906) 494-2589 Sunday Mass 9:00 a.m. Sacrament of Reconciliation: By appointment or before daily Mass Weekday Mass: As Announced

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

(ELCA) Pr. Robert Gardner (906) 494-2533 Sunday School: Sunday, 10:00 a.m. Worship: Sunday, 11:00 a.m.

GRAND MARAIS MENNONITE CHURCH

Pastor Stephen Post (906) 494-2724 Sunday School: 10 a.m. for all ages pre-school through adult. Family Worship: Sunday, 11:00 a.m Transportation available and questions answered; call 494-2724. Church located one block west of the main street on Campbell between Randolph &

GRAND MARAIS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Pr. Karen Mars 494-2653 Worship: Sunday 12:00 noon. - Bible Study Wed. 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm

UNITARIAN-UNIVERSALIST **FELLOWSHIP**

(906)-494-2542 for meeting place and topic for Sunday meeting: 10:30 a.m.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

AA-MEETING: Every Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. at the Methodist Church. 494-2364 or

BINGO: Every Sunday at 7:00 p.m. at the Holy Rosary Catholic Church.

BURT TOWNSHIP BOARD: Every 2nd Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. at the Comm. Ctr.

BURT TOWNSHIP SCHOOL BOARD: Every 2nd Monday at 7:30 p.m. at School Library.

GRAND MARAIS WOMEN'S CLUB: Every 2nd Thursday at 7:00 p.m. at Community Center.

GRAND MARAIS LIONS CLUB: 4th Wed, of the month. CLUB: 4th Wed. of the month. (Board) 6:00 p.m. Regular meeting 7:00 p.m. Community Center

BURT TOWNSHIP CHAMBER OF COMMERCE: Every 3rd Monday at 7:00 p.m at the Community Center.

LIBRARY HOURS: M-W-F Noon to 2:00 p.m.; at the Community Center.

GERMFASK-VFW HALL: Second Sunday of each month all you can eat breakfast from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

CURTIS LIONS: Third Sunday of each month all you can eat breakfast from 9 a.m. to

"OLD TIME GOSPEL HYMN SING": First Sunday of every month at 7:00 p.m. Held at the

COAST GUARD AUXILIARY FLOTILLA 28-12: Meeting's 3rd Tuesday of every month at 7:00 p.m. For more information call 494-2622

Classified Ads

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Entire floor of historic Inn located in the heart of downtown Grand Marais 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, etc... Weekly or daily rates (3 day minimum) 616-399-6066

CLASSIFIED ADS:

Deadline for submission is December 26th in order for them to be in the January 1st issue.