



# Presque Isle Township News

## Fall - Winter 2010



### OUR MISSION:

To protect and enhance Presque Isle Township's cultural, ecological, and recreational amenities for residents and visitors, and to balance the protection and enjoyment of the natural beauty of our township while expanding opportunities for our community. We work together for the common good of the Township and to promote it as a destination of choice for tourists, an attractive locale for homes, and for environmentally friendly businesses.

### Inside you'll find

#### Reports from....

- Clerk
- Zoning Administrator
- ZBA
- Planning Commission
- Parks & Rec.
- Grand Lake Sportsman's Club
- Presque Isle Community Men's Club
- Presque Isle District Library
- Museum Society

#### Also inside...

- NEW! Recycling Program
- NEW! Township Logo Contest
- NEW! Adopt-a-plot program

Olde Fashioned Christmas Event 2010  
December 4 - 5

(Details inside)



## A note from your Supervisor...

Dear Residents of Presque Isle Township,

I just wanted to take a few moments to give you a personal update on what is happening in our great community and the remarkable efforts that are being taken to move Presque Isle Township forward. As you probably know, every season in Presque Isle Township means lots of enjoyable activities for everyone in the family, but it's through the efforts of many that make our Township unique and provide such incredible experiences.

Our Township Boards and committees have been reorganized into more efficient intermediaries that blend and flow through sharing, communication and coordinated efforts as a means to provide a more unified government and direction within our township. In the attempt to keep costs low, we rely on the support of our community groups and volunteers to get most of our projects moving and completed. Though I do not have the room to mention every group or describe all of the endeavors our township is involved in, (I apologize in advance for not doing so because each is vital and valuable), I will list a few here to give you a greater scope of the commitment that exists for our community.

**Cemetery:** The cemetery pavilion was repainted through the efforts of volunteers with the only cost to the township being that of the paint that was used. Volunteers cleaned up brush, repaired and replaced portions of the fence with no cost to the township. To me, the efforts of these volunteers demonstrate a great respect and pride for our cemetery and those who are buried there.

**Lighthouse Parks:** A local resident who enjoyed visiting our Lighthouse Parks with his wife, donated a bench in her honor and memory, thus granting the many visitors to our park, a comfortable place to sit and enjoy the view from the Old Lighthouse. Volunteers have cleaned up underbrush and dead trees at both lighthouses parks, as well as brushing out overgrown vegetation around the Old Lighthouse cottage. Volunteers replanted the area with new shrubbery and flowering plants. Volunteers took on the project of re-grouting the bottom seam of the New Lighthouse and drilled drainage holes to help ventilate and drain moisture that accumulates in the Lighthouse walls. Once again the only cost to the Township was for materials to complete the task. It was necessary to have some major repairs to the roofing on buildings at both lighthouses and to update the electrical system at the Old Lighthouse cottage by our maintenance personnel and outside contractors. The Township Board is overseeing efforts to establish a maintenance program as a means of preserving the treasures our township is fortunate to possess.

**Community Development:** As they say, the third time is a charm... The Old Fashioned Community Christmas sponsored by the Presque Isle Women's Club has brought the efforts of many volunteers together to celebrate the Holidays and our wonderful community since 2008.

Just to name a few, the Presque Isle Community Men's Club continues to serve as volunteers at functions and events within our community as well as offering the support and efforts to clean up our roads of debris and engage in work bees at the cemetery and lighthouse parks.

-The Grand Lake Sportsmen's Club continues with various projects that enhance our area, with their latest efforts being focused on the installation of a break wall at the south end DNRE Launch site and the always popular summer sailing classes.

-The Long Lake Association is continuing their efforts to provide a family-friendly environment by offering their Family Fishing Derby's and monitoring the lake environment along with the DNRE.

-The efforts of the Township Board of Trustees and our Administrative Assistant have brought around a Recycling Program that includes a Recycle Trailer located at the Township Hall for various materials and a Used Battery and Tire Recycle Day.

One of my strongest desires when I was elected in 2008 as Township Supervisor was to establish a means that would promote and encourage a true sense of community and belonging to all of our residents; a vehicle that would encourage and allow our friends and neighbors to truly feel they are a part of their community and contributing to it. I soon discovered that there are were many residents who felt disconnected, yet when teamed up with the coordinated efforts of community groups and township committees, these people have volunteered hours of their time, talent and energies toward building a stronger, positive community for all of us to live in. I'm learning that they feel they are more enriched by the experiences, enjoy the fellowship, have established new friendships and gained a sense of partnership with their township. And that is what I hoped would happen.

Our township has many plans and projects "on the table" to move Presque Isle Township forward, and if you feel you would like to be a part of it, please contact me at home 595.6695 or the Township Hall 595.2752. As always, I appreciate hearing your comments, questions and concerns and encourage you to come to our Township Board of Trustees Meetings which are held the second Monday of every month at 7 p.m. at the Presque Isle Township Hall. This is your Township and it is you we are here to serve.

With Warm Regards,  
Patrick Pokorski



## A Message from your Township Clerk – *Cynthia Paavola*

I have been the Clerk since July 7<sup>th</sup>, 2010. It is my pleasure to service this Township in this role. If I can help or direct anyone, please feel free to call me either at the Township Hall at 595-2752, or at my home at 595-3230. I will look forward to speaking with you.



## Zoning Administrator – *Linda Taylor*

### Consumer Alert

Public Act 480 of 2006 commonly known as the “Uniform Video Services Local Franchise Act”, charges the Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC) with implementing the Act and now has the responsibility to handle cable inquires and complaints.

**Are you having a problem with your cable television provider?** If so, you should first contact your provider and attempt to resolve your dispute. If you are dissatisfied with the provider’s response or the dispute is not resolved, you may then file an informal complaint with the MPSC. The provider will then have 10 business days to respond and provide a detailed resolution to both the customer and the MPSC.

**If you are still not satisfied you may file a formal complaint and request for hearing.** To do so you must prepare a letter explaining the complaint and send the original and seven copies to the MPSC Executive Secretary MPSC at PO Box 30221, Lansing, MI 48909.

For more information you may call 866 552-7725 or check out the website at [www.michigan.gov/mpsc](http://www.michigan.gov/mpsc).



## Zoning Board of Appeals – *Jerry Broad, ZBA Chair*

Greetings and best wishes for a happy, healthy, and prosperous 2011. There is not much new to report from your ZBA as we meet only four (4) times per year, once a quarter, and have not had many requests for variances from our Townships Zoning Ordinance. This may be, in part, due to the downturn in the economy and the slowdown in construction of new residences within our Township and throughout the State as a whole.

Should you be considering a project on property you own in our township, I suggest you first contact our township office to see if the proposed project meets all of the zoning ordinances currently in place. Periodically new ordinances are enacted to preserve the nature of the township and protect its citizens. A new lighting ordinance is one of those recently enacted “laws” that is designed to enhance living in our rural setting and prevent “light pollution”.

Remember that your ZBA is here to protect you and your property values, and you are welcome to attend ZBA meetings at the township hall. Meeting dates are posted at the township hall, and public hearings are advertised in the Alpena News. Your input at ZBA meetings is welcomed as we do our best to interpret the spirit of the ordinance in question, and apply it to each, individual request, for a variance.

One final note, if the variance requested is due to some physical change of your own making regarding the property in question, the variance will most likely be denied.



## Planning Commission

Over the past few months, the faces on the Planning Commission have changed, but progress continues. The three new members to introduce are Steve Lang, Michelle Styma, and Bette Tadajewski. Members are currently working on a project to enhance the Range Light Park and develop it into a public day-use, beach-front park, complete with a pavilion-type structure, bathroom, grills, picnic tables, and a designated swimming area. Members have also recently been assigned the task of updating the Zoning Ordinance to incorporate the medical marijuana moratorium that went into effect in October. In addition to that, they are also working on the update to the Master/Comprehensive Plan. This plan is updated every ten (10) years and is based primarily on the input provided by residents/property owners. Approval has been given for the use of an internet based survey. Details on this, however, are still being worked on. A few changes to the zoning map were also approved and new maps reflecting those changes should be available shortly. Monthly meetings are still held the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of each month at 7:00 pm at the Township Hall.



## **Parks and Recreation** – *Nancy Kinney, Chair*

Visitors to the lighthouse parks in 2010 have seen some new vistas. One of the most popular "new" views is the one of Lake Huron from the porch of the 1905 House without the trees and tangled bushes across the road. After the trees were cut, brush and stumps were removed, ground, and chipped by volunteers. Soon there will be a landscaping plan for the whole swath to the lake. Both local and out-of-state visitors have been excited to see passing freighters, and sail and power boats as the lighthouse keeper might have viewed them in past decades. The reciprocal view from the lake of the 1905 House with its red roof is also stunning. Clayton Peters and his loyal Monday/Tuesday volunteers at the Lighthouse Parks have been working along with Ron Urban from Posen to remove the potential fire-load of stumps and dead trees, and grade the shoulders of the road to the 1840 Lighthouse. They have also created more parking close to the lighthouse. Deb Trelfa and Kathy Dean have developed a plan for re-decorating and beautifying the loop road of the Old Lighthouse. Give Kathy or Deb a call to find out how you can participate. The 1840 cottage is sporting a new coat of paint, wiring, and lighting, and the grounds feature new landscaping, and the memorial Donakowski bench. The 1840 Tower will soon be ready for its new coat of paint also. Stop by to see the changes. Elsewhere in communications from the Township you will find information about how you can support our annual July 4th Fireworks celebration. With your help, we hope to make it an occasion to remember every year. Check out the Township Website to keep up with the latest developments in our plans and find the names of committee members who would welcome your presence at our meetings at 7:00 p.m. on the last Monday of each month at the Township Office. Call Erika at the Township Office to volunteer for projects or to schedule Lighthouse Parks weddings and parties for 2011. Most importantly, use our Parks responsibly this year; and don't be a stranger!



## **Grand Lake Sportsman's Club** – *Gary Hagen*

This has been a very busy and rewarding year for the Grand Lake Sportsman's Club. Our season starts with our February Fish Derby. The reports from the people who really fish are very positive about the fishing this year. IN addition, in April we begin the Cormorant Control program on Grand Lake. Like last year, the bird population has been substantially down. This is a good thing! This spring, we assisted the Presque Isle Road Commission in improving the Black Bass Bay boat launch. The Road Commission installed concrete ramps and removed much of the brush in the area. The Sportsman's Club, with the help of their 501c(3) tax status, installed a dock at the launch. We also decided to improve the pavilion on the North end of the lake. The pavilion can now be opened or closed in less than 15 minutes. In addition, electricity has been installed with new lighting. Stop by and see how nice this area has become. The pavilion improvements came about with the hard work of Mike and Marion Smith, along with many other sponsors and supporters. The pavilion can be used for free by anyone in the area. If you need the pavilion for a group outing, please call Mike Smith at 595-3619. If you use electricity or gas, a donation is required. In July, we had the annual July Fish Derby, and assisted in the first Youth Sailing Camp on Grand Lake. 34 kids completed the class (max capacity.... we had to turn down 15 kids due to limitations). The 2011 season sailing camp will be for two weeks and the dates are July 25-29 and Aug. 2-5. The ages are a mature 7 to 18 years old. If you are interested in enrolling your youths, please send your name, your child's name, age, address, telephone number, and email address to Gary Hagen. The email address is [sailingyouth@hotmail.com](mailto:sailingyouth@hotmail.com). Telephone numbers are 989-595-9007 or 989-884-2919. The registration will be early next year, however, these fill up fast and you need to be on the enrollment list to receive mailings. We are now in the planning stages of constructing a break wall at the DNR south end boat launch. We know this is needed, and I am sure we will need a lot of assistance. In addition, we have materials to build more fish shelters in 2011. We are also exploring the idea of having some young sailors build their own wooden sailboat. NOAA has expressed their interest in assisting with the project...all we need are kids and volunteers. Membership is now up to 69 members, and our annual dinner was held at Fireside in October. Regular meetings are the second Monday of every month except November, March, and October. The Club is always looking for additional members and new ideas. If you would like to become a member, please contact Dennis Fauver at 595-2637. If you have any questions that I can answer, please contact me at [gchag@hotmail.com](mailto:gchag@hotmail.com), or call me at 595-9007 or 989-884-2919.



## **Presque Isle Community Men's Club** – *Jerry Broad, outgoing President*

The Presque Isle Community Men's Club meets the first Thursday of the month at 9 am for coffee, pastries, and fellowship. Our guest speakers cover a wide range of topics that seem to be of interest to all of us up here in the beautiful north woods. Membership is open to ALL men, no matter where you live. Dues are only \$12 per year and one dollar is collected at each monthly meeting to cover the cost of the coffee and rolls. We publish a local telephone directory about every 3 or 4 years as a fund raiser to give us money to give away to local charities and projects of local interest that benefit all of the community.

Come on out and give us a try. Members currently include ages 5 through 90. We are NOT political, just a fellowship of men interested in supporting the community and natural beauty that surrounds us. Meetings are held on Kauffman road at the Presque Isle Association clubhouse. See you next month, ok?



## Presque Isle District Library- Grand Lake Branch *Jan Stevenson & Don Dimik*

Great things are happening at the Grand Lake location of Presque Isle District Library. We have added two additional computers this year and new tables thanks to our Grand Lake Friends. We will also be adding a sprinkling system for the lawn early next spring. If you have not noticed, the wet sod in the back has been replaced with white stone and we hope to expand that around to the left side of the building next year. Gutters have not yet been installed but we hope to be able to do that as well in the spring.

The District also launched its all new website this year so be sure to log on to [www.pidl.org](http://www.pidl.org) where you will find current programming, special events, an online catalog so you can browse for books from home, new book releases, computer training classes and times available, current information on your local branch, and so much more.

The Library and the Grand Lake Friends will be presenting Skippy & Dave's Rock & Roll Christmas on Saturday, December 4, 2010 at the Grand Lake Location of the Library. There will be two performances, one at 11:00 am and the other at 1:30 p.m. Dave Parker is a professional ventriloquist/vocalist/guitarist and has authored several story songs. Skippy and Dave's performance will include "Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree", "12 Days of Christmas", and "Jingle Bell Rock", and more, with audience participation. Come join the fun and have a "Rockin" good time. All ages are welcome.

The Library always welcomes donations, which are fully tax deductible on both federal and state taxes. With such drastic budget cuts we need your local support more than ever. If you have questions, need information, or just have a great idea or suggestion for the Grand Lake location or the District in general, please feel free to contact Jan at 734-2477, extension 222 or call Liz at 595-5051 in Grand Lake.



## Museum Society News— *Drew Matuszak, President*

The 1905 House opened Memorial Day weekend and it has been a great summer with lots of visitors. Through Labor Day we greeted 3,834 guests from 43 states and five countries. On one day alone, 252 guests toured the house meeting Elmer Byrnes and enjoying our artifacts!

The Volunteer Recognition Luncheon was held June 5 at Garrity Hall with 40 volunteers and "greeters" [formerly known as docents] in attendance. This year the Board gave each volunteer a bookmark with the 1905 House printed on it to show appreciation for their dedication and hard work.

Good weather drew a large crowd to our Independence Day Picnic. It was a patriotic, festive, family-day event that started with a Parade followed by hotdogs and brats with 347 people served. Due to inclement weather the Labor Day Picnic got off to a slow start, yet by the end of the day 187 people braved the wind and rain for some good old fashioned fun as well as lunch!

Board members staffed booths at the Wooden Boat Show and the Grand Lake Arts and Crafts Fair to promote Society membership and raise awareness of our third-order Fresnel lens. A number of new members joined the society at these events. With respect to the lens, informational fliers were distributed throughout the community and to visiting boaters in our marina, with the goal of continuing the effort to replace our repaired third-order Fresnel lens to its rightful place in the tower of the 1870 lighthouse. With all the repair work completed and a grant in place to cover the costs of re-installing the lens, we are currently awaiting the results of a study authorized by Congress and the Senate which would allow the lens to be reinstalled. Our fingers are crossed that soon the Fresnel lens will again shine its light on Presque Isle.

This past summer the Museum received some noteworthy donations. A braided rag rug crafted by Marie Lawrence was placed in the upstairs bedroom, and an oriental rug was added to the family parlor. There was also a generous donation from Robert and Nancy Sloan of a number of artifacts. Judy Kimball, Artifacts Committee Chair, continues to search for a copper or tin bathtub.

Our Annual Meeting was held August 7 in Garrity Hall. Linda Kaufman, Manfred Strobel and Barb Nichols completed their terms as Board members and were thanked for their years of faithful service to the Society. Nancy Courtright, Steve Lang and Cathy Spencer were elected to the Board of Directors and Chuck Winters was appointed to fill an unexpired term. Officers for the coming year are Drew Matuszak, President; John Porter, Vice-President; Steve Lang, Secretary; and Nancy Courtright, Treasurer.

We are blessed to have the many dedicated volunteers that support the 1905 House throughout the season and we thank all of you for your time and support. If you know of others that would like to help preserve and promote our maritime treasures please have them contact one of our board members or attend one of our events. "This Old House" needs you! For more information or to learn more about our treasurers please visit our Web-site [www.keepershouse.org](http://www.keepershouse.org). Have a great winter!!

# Fireworks Fundraising – Help Save the Fireworks!

Due to some changes in budgets, and the ever decreasing revenue sharing from the State, the Township, along with everyone else, has needed to make some cuts. With that being the case, the Independence Day fireworks shoot for 2011 is in jeopardy. In order to ensure that the fireworks continue, we are in dire need of community support. As it stands, we will only be able to spend/shoot what we can raise. If we raise \$1,500....we can only spend \$1,500 on the shoot. (Last year's shoot cost about \$7,500). Various fundraising efforts will be done throughout the upcoming year, beginning with a postcard mailing. The cards will be mailed out sometime in January, so please look for them in your mail box. ANY amount that you can donate will make a world of difference. (If each resident gave *just* \$10.00, we'd be more than set!....AND, you're donation is tax deductible!)



## Olde Fashioned Christmas Event Calendar December 4<sup>th</sup>- 5<sup>th</sup>



### Saturday

10:00 am – 4:00 pm

- Arts & Crafts Show – Township Hall, 12653 E. Grand Lake Rd.

11:00 am

- “Rock Around the Christmas Tree” Puppet Show, Dist. Library, GL Branch, 18132 Lk Esau Hwy.

11:00 am – 2:00 pm

- Soup Luncheon – Grand Lake Community Chapel, 8025 E. Grand Lake Rd.

11:00 am – 4:00 pm

- “Christmas at the Lighthouse” events and horse-drawn wason rides, New Lighthouse Park, end of E. Grand Lake Rd.

1:30 pm

- “Rock Around the Christmas Tree” Puppet Show, Dist. Library, GL Branch

2:00 pm

- New Day Singers Christmas Concert, Grand Lake Community Chapel

3:00 pm – 5:00 pm

- Children & Family Activities, PIHA Clubhouse, 6424 Kauffman Rd.

### Sunday

11:00 am – 2:00 pm

- East Grand Lake Fire Dept. Open House and Fireman's Chili Cook-off, 8954 E. Grand Lk. Rd.

12:00 pm – 4:00 pm

- Arts & Crafts Show – Township Hall, 12653 E. Grand Lk. Rd.

- “Christmas at the Lighthouse” events and horse-drawn wadone rides, New Lighthouse Park

2:00 pm – 3:00 pm

- Bifocal Brass perform at Garraty Hall (New Lighthouse Park)

## IT'S HERE! Township Recycling Program

Following many, many months of work, the Township Board of Trustees approved the purchase of an 18-cubic yard mobile recycling unit, and IT HAS ARRIVED! Thanks to the amazing cooperation of Wayne at Evergreen Recycling, we will be able to implement this recycling program within Presque Isle Township at no additional cost to the residents. The present plan is to have the unit stationed at the Township Hall, and it will be available for the disposal of sorted recyclables 24/7. Being that this is a mobile unit, we have the ability to place it at different locations throughout the Township for added convenience. These locations will be determined based upon the feedback of residents. The items currently being accepted for recycling will be:



#1 & #2 Plastic  
Tin

Office/Glossy Paper (including magazines)  
Newspaper  
Cardboard



For your added convenience, tin and plastic will not need to be separated. As the on-going efforts of Evergreen Recycling continue, we/they hope to be able to add to the list of accepted items in the future. We are very pleased to be able to offer this to our residents, and sincerely hope that it is utilized abundantly and respectfully. For more information, contact the Hall office

# Volunteer Appreciation Day!

## Presque Isle Township

12653 E. Grand Lake Rd.  
Presque Isle, MI  
49777

PHONE:  
989.595.2752

FAX:  
989.595.3522

E-MAIL:  
pitownship@speednetllc.com

We're on the Web!

See us at:

[www.presqueisletwp.org](http://www.presqueisletwp.org)

A Volunteer Appreciation Day has been set for May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2011. Further details will be made available at a later date, however, names and/or recommendations for individuals deserving recognition are being accepted. Please contact the Hall to provide names. Thanks!

## Township Logo Contest

With the development of new parks and the upgrading of existing parks, we have decided to take a step towards consistency by establishing a uniform color scheme and more simplified logo (for ease of reproducing, stenciling, etc.) for the Township. The color is "cinnamon cherry", but the logo is up to you! The only request is that it not be too detailed (so that it can be easily transferred and/or reproduced). Deadline for submissions is Dec. 31, 2010. Please mail or email submissions to the Township Hall.

## "Adopt-a-Plot" – Lighthouse Beautification Project

Get involved and bring your "green thumb" to adopt a 25 foot section along the roadside leading into the Old Lighthouse. You will have the opportunity to enhance and help Mother Nature along with beautifying one of our great parks. All it will take is a commitment to plant (as approved), nurture, and maintain so that it can develop into something you will be proud of. Certain guidelines must be followed and criteria met. Contact Kathy Dean, 595-6303, Debbie Trelfa, 595-3149, or Norma Crouch 595-2218 for more information. Your pledge to adopt a plot is asked to be in by April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011. Contact Clayton Peters at 595-2529 for work bee schedules.

## Quick 'n Easy Chocolate Peanut Butter Fudge (compliments of an old Girl Scout)

In a medium saucepan, combine;

- 2 cups white sugar
- a dash of salt
- 1 stick butter (or margerine)
- 6 Tbsp. cocoa
- 8 Tbsp. milk

Stirring constantly, melt the ingredients together and bring to a boil (don't stop stirring). Cook and stir until mixture forms a soft ball. Remove from heat and add;

- 2 heaping Tbsp. of peanut butter (creamy or crunchy...whichever you prefer)
- 1 tsp. vanilla

Beat mixture until glossy. Spread into a greased pan/tin and let cool (should harden within 20 minutes....if you can wait that long! ☺)

### **PRESQUE ISLE TOWNSHIP HALL**

12653 E. Grand Lake Road  
Presque Isle, MI 49777

