



It was "iffy", but the annual Boyne City Elementary Parade went off to sunny skies for the umpteenth year in a row Tuesday. The most popular costume looked like witches again this year, but there were many Draculas, a few Batmans, some ballerinas, a pack of cats and even an eagle in the parade.

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30 Cents

Breakwater shows seven floats to stop waves

Boyne City finally received plans for the proposed experimental breakwall the city needs so they can expand the City Marina by adding 24 more floating slips out into the middle of the harbor and 12 floating slips along the Veteran's Park breakwall, for boaters.

The plans show seven floating sections, each about 15 feet apart

from each other, that would reach out into the natural bay 225 feet. The sections will each be anchored to the lake floor by chain and cable to concrete blocks placed on the lake bottom.

At a first glance, City Manager Randy Frykberg said that breakwall is different that what he was thinking. Others had expressed hopes the breakwall would be con-

nected to each other so it could be walked out on to fish and for other water activities.

But with the 15 feet between each floating section, it appears that those hopes were not considered by the designer of the plans. The designer, Jim Muschell, told the press that the design at this stage would not allow the floating system to be connected to

the shoreline for fishermen to use. He did say that at some time in the future, the floating units may be connected either hydraulically or by some other system.

The plans were designed by United Design Associates of Cheboygan.

Their plans call for the floating sections to be six feet wide by 40 feet long and will be eight feet

deep in order to slow down and stop the wave action coming from the prevailing winds of the west. The breakwall will be installed off the existing peninsula in a south, southeast direction.

The sections will have steel framing with side and bottom steel plates. The floatation pod will be in the middle of the section to hold the section about 20 inches above the water. At the bottom of each section will be two chambers that are open to water flow and will suppress the wave action.

The experimental breakwall will become the property of Boyne City, if it passes the three year testing period. Because it is experimental, the breakwall will be under the control of the DNR during the testing period. If it receives final approval, the city will have to purchase it from the company at a cost about \$75,000. The city hopes to pay for the breakwall by the increase slip rentals the new piers would bring to the marina.

United Design submitted the plans for the breakwall and the new floating slip design to the DNR and the Corps of Engineers for their approval so that it can be installed. If the permits are approved, the project would begin in November with completion expected by the end of December.

It will be manufactured and installed by Floatation Dock Systems, which has done work for the Harborage Marina in Boyne City.

The area where the breakwall will be installed ranges in depth from 11 feet to almost 22 feet. The units will be anchored to the lake floor by chains and cable to large concrete blocks that will be placed on the lake bottom.

Muschell said that the wave action of the lake is greater than most people think. He said agencies like the Corps of Engineers are constantly doing research on wave action to learn more of what can be done. The Boyne project will be

See Marina/Page 4

Parks board trying to get lower bids

County Parks and Recreation officials decided Monday night to ask other contractors if they could submit lower bids after review of the bids showed they were about \$40,000 over the estimated cost of building the new bath house at Whiting's Park.

Board Secretary Mike Davis was asked to see if the bids could be lowered about \$10,000 to \$15,000 by the contractors bidding. If they can't, then the board authorized Davis to sign a contract

to the low bidder, Alfred Hass and Company, to build the structure that would have bathrooms and showers. Hass's bid for the project came in at \$69,614 and included the work necessary for the site, the septic system and the drain field.

The next higher bid did not include any site work, drain field or septic and was \$58,190.

The project is under a deadline for completion by the end of the year in order to get the state grant money that is paying for it.

Another part of the bid was for the new paved roadwork which went to H & D of Petoskey for about \$40,000. Both of the bids totaled over the amount projected for the rebuilding of the lower part of the park.

One change was made which will allow the existing road along the lake to continue to be used for servicing the campsites, but park officials said that it would not be maintained and is still scheduled to be eliminated in the future. Officials expect the road will wash

out within a few years if high water comes back.

In other action, the board set rates for those who wish to use the Community Building during the winter at a cost of \$10 per day and the cost of heat and electricity. They also accepted a high bid for a tractor, that is not being used, of \$610. The tractor is a 1967 model that was purchased about ten years ago from government surplus.

City budget survives scrutiny

"Boyne City's finances are in pretty good shape," said Niles Hill of the firm Hill, Woodcock and Schroderus, the auditor for the city's books, "considering all of the problems of personnel changes. It's a sound community, overall."

Hill and John Blair both presented the financial picture to the city and both noted that the city went through some trying times due to change in City Treasurers, the in-

frastructure and the difficulties of installing a new computer system.

The firm did note that the city had paid out more than it took in, over-spending its budget in both the General and TIFA funding. They noted that the city had to amend the budget to adjust the actual spending to what was projected.

They also noted that ap-

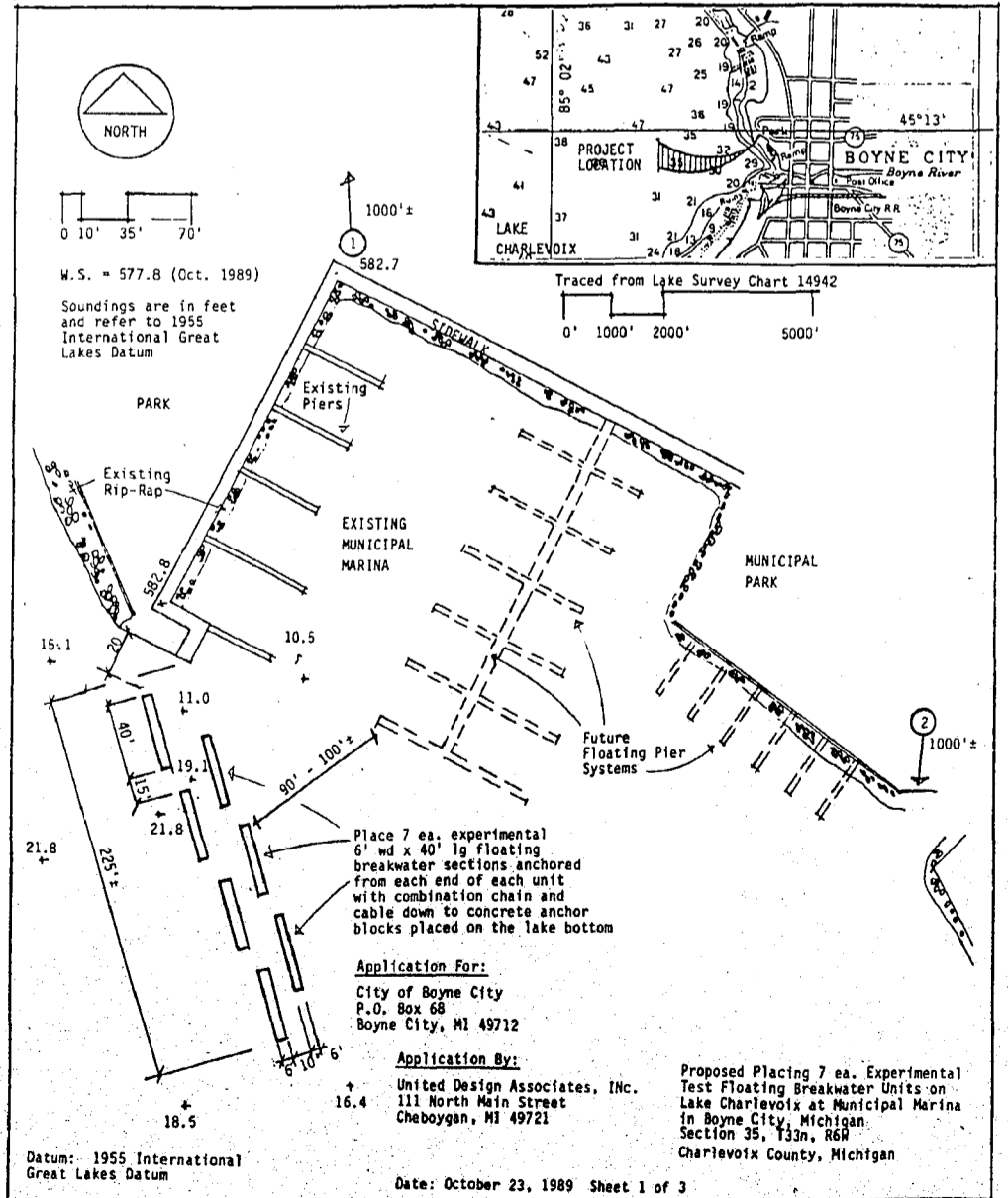
See Noon/Page 4

Partnership takes on Brown's Creek

The Brown's Creek Natural Area is the subject of an outstanding school-community partnership in East Jordan. Brown's Creek, a beautiful nature area located between East Jordan High School and East Jordan Middle School, is receiving a lot of attention from students and citizens alike, thanks to the Brown's Creek Preservation Committee.

The Brown's Creek Preservation Committee includes representatives of the school system, including students and the community, working together, to restore and enhance the beautiful pristine setting that is Brown's Creek. A planning meeting was held last Tuesday to "kick off" the preservation campaign, and a number of topics were discussed, including a Brown's Creek Photography Contest that will be coordinated by the Committee. Details of the contest are available at all school offices, and the competition will include four divisions, elementary, middle school, high school and community.

Many groups are involved with the Brown's Creek project, according to Anne Dingman, the Committee Chairperson. Dingman mentioned the East Jordan Garden Club, the City Council, the East Jordan Snowmobile Club, the school system, as well as the DNR. Originally started as part of the "Adopt a Stream" program, the Committee has been able to enlist the help of high school and middle school students, who will use the area as an outdoor educational instructional area.



This view shows where the new floating pods will be installed and the way the new docks will be installed before the ice forms on the lake. If not, Lake Charlevoix. If permits are granted from the state and federal agencies, the manufacturer of the experimental system hopes to get the breakwall and docks installed before the ice forms on the lake. If not, then they will be installed next spring before the boating season.

News Briefs

A \$500.00 reward has been posted for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the vandals who damaged the Nellie Flodquist Memorial Gazebo in the Old City Park on Devil's Night Monday. Information should be called to the Boyne City Police Department at 582-6611.

The Boyne City Schools will be holding Parent-Teacher conferences Wednesday, November 8, and Monday, November 13th. The students will have half day sessions on both of those days. Middle School will dismiss students at 11 a.m. while the High School and Elementary School will dismiss at 11:15 a.m.

Other than about \$500 in damage to the City Park Gazebo and a few pumpkins smashed, the only thing on the Boyne City Police log for Devil's Night was some graffiti written on the Trinity Baptist Church door, said Police Chief John Talboys. In East Jordan, Chief Joe Hammond said the kids were real quiet in that town on Devil's Night, and he hoped they would be the same on Halloween.

Faded Ink

Opinions

Who we like

With the election of City Commissioners in Boyne City next Tuesday, we have looked over the list of candidates and are recommending that both incumbents, Keith Fitzpatrick and Bill Grimm, be retained on City Commission.

The reason we want them to remain is because they have had some experience gained through the years and are familiar with what direction the city is trying to go and what it is trying to accomplish.

That leaves one seat open for contention. We are recommending Vic Ruggles be named the person to hold that seat for several reasons. First, he is one of the few citizens who bother to come to the Commission meetings to find out what is going on in the city government. Because of that, he is also familiar with many of the actions the Commission has made through the last few years and knows the whys of it being done. He is also young, comparatively, and we feel the city needs "young blood" to help actively in city government.

The only other things on the ballot are the two tax proposals and we still urge a NO vote on both.

Jottings

BY JIM SILBAR

"Yep," the old geezer said over a cup of coffee the other day. "There is no more north anymore. I think it disappeared sometime in the fifties when they started to make expressways to the north."

"Now, we are nothing more than just a suburb to the big cities in the southern part of the state and Illinois."

"If you look around the lake, all you can see are homes. It is getting so that when you drive down a road, you see homes and more homes."

But when I interjected that some development of the area was good, he added, "Yeh, and I can remember when all of those roads were just gravel. You could drive like you owned them cause you were the only car going someplace."

"Usually, the only time we came into town was on a Saturday. That's when the wife did the shop-

ping, the kids went to the matinee at the movie house, and I went to the co-op to get more feed for the animals. After that, I went to the bar to catch up on all of the news that wasn't fit to print."

"Heck, it seems that all of the roads are now paved, and we can come into town almost anytime we want...except Saturday. It's too crowded with people."

"Just today, I tried driving like I used to do, cutting the curves to the inside, driving down the middle of the road. I was almost killed by someone coming from the other direction."

"What they were doing out driving on my road, I don't know. Why we used to just about own our township anytime after Labor Day. Ain't that way anymore."

This is just one of the concerns the old man had. He also continued on saying that the world wasn't a fit place to live anymore. "I used to

See Jottings/Page 8

Letters

Setting the record straight

Editor,
After reading Bill Ohle's latest "non-fiction" release, How It Was in Horton Bay, I am unhappily surprised that he lists me in his acknowledgements. I take no credit for anything which Mr. Ohle presents, especially concerning William H. (Major) Smith.

When I offered Ohle a few facts about the Major, he said, "Oh, well, I suppose that would be interesting to a relative." Ohle decided a completely untrue story about "the Major's wooing and winning of Mrs. Smith" would be more interesting, along with some slanted reprints from his first volume, which appear in his latest book on page 46. Care to follow along?

According to Ohle's report, the Major "came to Horton Bay as a single man to work in the Stroud mill."

I would have been impossible for the Major to work at Stroud's mill when he arrived. Stroud didn't bring his mill to the area until the

fall of 1876. Smith had been there since 1873, according to legal documents!

Ohle then writes a ridiculous story about Major Smith's search for a local wife, then for a mail-order bride, substituting a picture of Alonzo Stroud in place of one of himself so he wouldn't "kill any chance of success."

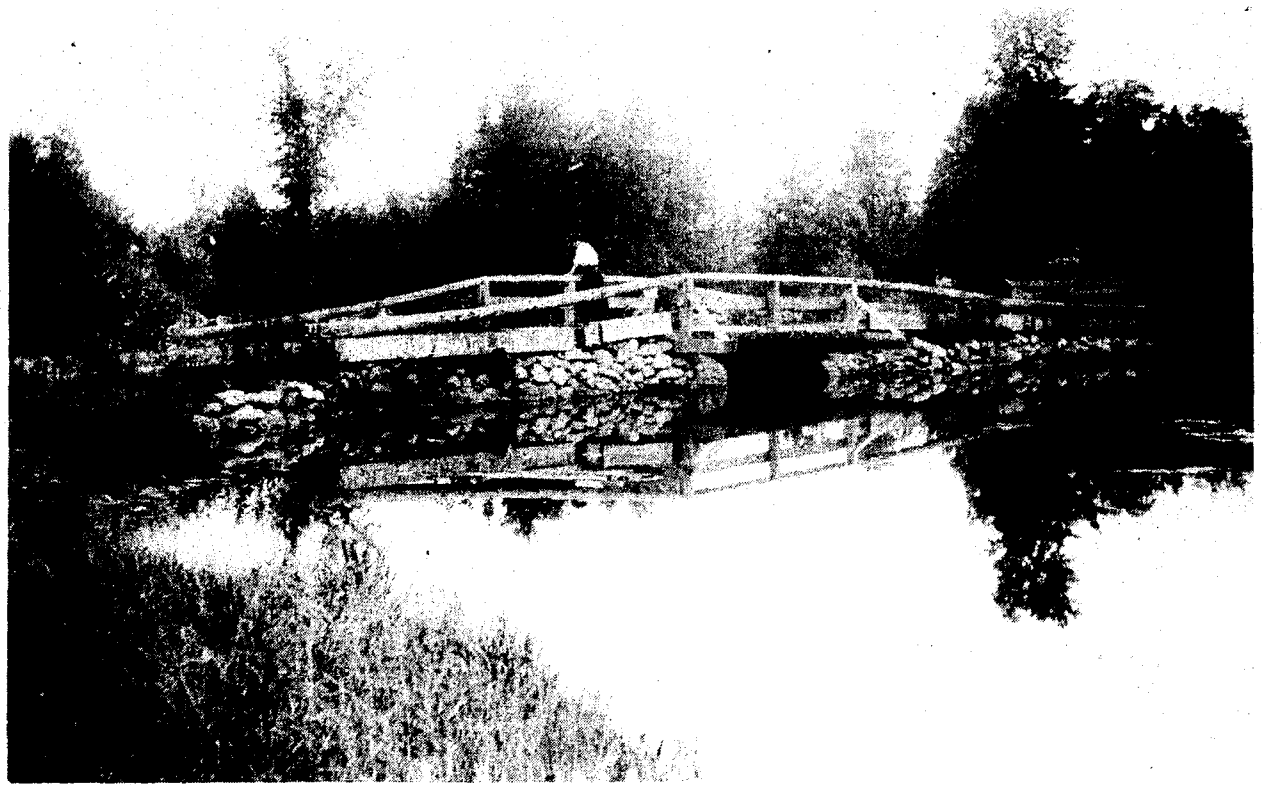
William H. Smith married his one-and-only wife, Julia Mary Palmer, seven years before he came to Horton Bay. To be exact, they were married on August 19, 1866 in Paris, Michigan. The Palmer family had known Smith ten years prior to the marriage. (documented) Some mail order bride!

The, Ohle writes, this mail order bride, who, of all things, was a Seventh Day Adventist, had the nerve to attend the Methodist Church "dressed to the nines in odd clothes and a floppy hat adorned with a feather plume."

Now, really, you would think

See Letters/Page 4

Remembrances



About the turn of the century, this bridge over Porter Creek in Advance was the only way out into the peninsula that divides the north and south arm of what was then called Pine Lake. The road, back then, was closer to the lake so it looks like the water formed a

pond, but that is really nothing more than Lake Charlevoix in the foreground. We can't identify the lady looking at the water flowing under the stone and wood bridge.

Marshall Sayles

I know three people who are going to vote against the request to raise the Michigan sales tax. They are me, myself and I.

Now, let me speak to our young folks if you will. Thank you.

Many of our youth can't help feeling that when they ripen they will not be like we who seem to be caught in the web of social security and afternoon coffee clatter. Age will not blunt the mind like it has we the elder. I used to think like that when I had my hair and wasn't afraid to look into the mirror.

Ah, but open you eardrums to this-

As you mature, age will bring you caution as well as a lot of shop worn experience, not to mention vain regrets and dentures that can be left in a glass of water overnight. These conditions will creep up on you even as you are thinking they never will.

But let me open the bag and let some of the goodies out. Being older ain't all apple rot. Heavens no. The good times roll but maybe a little slower. So go ahead, spend your youth until you, too, are a healthy has been. It's wonderful really. There's no life to compare with it if you ask me, but I'd rather you didn't.

Was I mad Sunday! When I got out of bed I was thinking that I would forget the past and concentrate upon the wonderful things I was going to do in the future. The past was past and I wasn't ever going to let it bother me again. It was good, healthy thinking. Until my wife came in and said, "This is the day we turn the clock back."

Only the language has changed....

People used to say upon occasion that they felt down in the dumps. But no more. Today those who experience a worthless feeling of languishment must visit a sanitary landfill until the melancholy seizure expires. That's because there are no longer any local dumps to feel down in.

And take our nuclear dumps you are hearing so much about. The government wants to put one in the upper peninsula. Folks there are fighting the idea at the top of their voices.

The are going to lose because they are objecting to the wrong thing. What the government is

going to put in the upper peninsula is an "engineered waste facility."

The state and federals say there are no longer any local dumps or nuclear dumps, so there.

I could rant and rave for a long time about how our officials are

changing language to make something look like what it isn't. But a dump is a dump is a dump, by no other name.

I'm really disgusted with all this but I've got to hold my tongue. That's because it isn't healthy for

man with horse sense to go hog wild.

Now, speaking like the government, I think this particular column turned out to be an imperfect success.

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SEND ADDRESS CHANGES to The Charlevoix County Press, P.O. Box A, 108 Groveland St., Boyne City, Michigan 49712. Phone 616-582-6761.

Boyne homes dress up for Halloween



This is just a sampling of the many homes that were decorated up this year for Halloween. It seems that Boyne City enjoys the spirit of Halloween more than other communities as each year more and more

homes get dressed up with more than a pumpkin glaring out to the Trick or Treaters.

with Bea Smith

Hales of DNR says Great Lakes should have own emergency response

The Great Lakes region should have its own emergency response center to deal with oil spills, Director David F. Hales of the Department of Natural Resources told Members of Congress Wednesday, and funding should be restored for the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) inspection program for oil facilities.

Hales testified before the Senate Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management, chaired by Sen. Carl Levin (D-Mich.).

"We must use what we have learned from the Exxon Valdez tragedy," Hales said, "quick response is the key to avoiding irreversible environmental damage."

In his testimony Hales pointed out that the Great Lakes are the most important source of fresh surface water in the world. The lakes contain 95 percent of the nation's fresh water supply and 20 percent of the world's fresh water.

"More than 24 million people in eight states and two Canadian provinces depend on the Great Lakes as their sole source of drinking water," Hales said, "and while oil spills on the oceans and along our seaboard are not to be minimized, an oil spill in the closed Great Lakes system, into fresh

water drinking supplies, would be disastrous."

Hales cited deep concern over reductions in funding and changes in priorities which have crippled the EPA's Spill Prevention, Containment and Countermeasure (SPCC) inspection program. Only 22 inspections were conducted in fiscal year 1988-89 in all of Region V, including a very small fraction of the oil storage facilities in Michigan.

He called for restoring the number of coast guard strike teams, which were cut from three to two in recent years, and said that was imperative if the oil industry failed to establish an emergency response center on the great lakes.

In addition, Hales said Gov. James J. Blanchard, along with governors from the seven other Great Lakes states, signed the Great Lakes Oil Spill Control Strategy Agreement in July which identifies measures for improving the protection of the Great Lakes from oil spills.

As a result of that agreement, a task force has been appointed to develop a comprehensive emergency response plan, chaired by J.D. Snyder, Director of the Michigan Office of the Great Lakes.

Cooking

ROOT VEGETABLES

I find that it is interesting to know that for centuries, it has been common knowledge that the correct time to plant root vegetables is during the waxing moon. So it might be a good idea to

wait until after a full moon to plant them. Of course, corn and plants that yield above the earth should be planted during the waxing moon, before the full moon. The Indians knew this and so did the early settlers.

The following root vegetables are at our supermarkets almost the year around: potatoes, sweet potatoes, beets, parsnips, turnips, leeks, carrots, onions, rutabagas and red radishes (also those very large white varieties) are in the fresh produce sections.

Carrots, potatoes and onions are staples that we are never without. Yet, let us not pass up those other delectable vegetables, they add so much to our daily meals as well as to those special occasions. Parsnips and carrots have a long European history and were adopted by the Indians when brought to America. For variety they were combined. Here is an old recipe.

PARSNIPS AND CARROTS

1 bunch (1 pound) carrots
1 bunch parsnips
Parsley
Butter
Pepper
Cut equal quantities of carrots and parsnips into shoestring sticks. Start the carrots in boiling salted water; after a minute or two, add the parsnips, which cook more quickly. When the vegetables are done, serve garnished with parsley, butter and pepper. Serves six.

Old time cooks also combined potatoes and rutabagas or turnips the same way. It was possible that they did not have enough of either one for their large families, so they mixed the two together. However these mixtures really do compliment each other. The parsnips lend a sweetness to the carrots, and potatoes lessen the strong flavor of the rutabagas.

Beets are something else, they stand out by themselves. They are good just cooked, seasoned with butter, salt and pepper. Grandmother would have a vinegar cruit on the table for fresh cooked beets. They are delicious pickled. I understand that beets were beloved by the ancient Greeks.

Beets are a vegetable that I like to buy in the can; the canning process has not diminished their flavor and they are all ready to be made into Harvard beets; and old time favorite.

HARVARD BEETS

1 large or 2 medium cans of beets, drained (save the juice)
3 tablespoons butter
1 tablespoon corn starch
1 1/2 cups beet juice (you might need to add a little water)
1/2 cup brown sugar
1/4 cup vinegar
Salt, cloves and nutmeg
Melt the butter or margarine in a sauce pan over low heat. Blend in cornstarch and stir in the beet juice drained from the can. Cook stirring constantly, until smooth and thick. Add the sugar and vinegar, then salt, cloves, and nutmeg to taste. When well mixed, add the beets and serve hot. Serves six.

How about leeks? Their history goes back to the old Bible times, and have been used by good European cooks through the ages. Now, they are gaining in popularity in this country. I can

usually find them in our produce market.

You could make this "cock-a-leekie" soup taken from my *Recipes From Scotland* book. You will have all of that good chicken left to make into sandwiches or casseroles besides having the delicious:

COCK - A - LEEKIE SOUP
A Scottish Classic
1 plump cock or fowl
2 or 3 bunches of leeks
1 dozen prunes (optional)
Pepper
2 quarts stock (beef or veal) or water
Salt

Place the fowl in a large pot with the stock and three or four leeks, blanched and chopped. Bring to the boil and cook gently for 2 hours or until the fowl is tender, when it should be removed. Clear all the grease off with paper. Add the leeks, washed, blanched (if old and strong) and cut into inch lengths, with more salt if required, and pepper to taste. Simmer very gently until the leeks are tender. Half an hour before serving, the prunes (if desired) should be added whole. Nowadays they are usually omitted. A little minced fowl may be added to the soup. If water is used

in place of stock, add a clove, a blade of mace, a sprig of parsley, and six peppercorns tied in a bag and remove along with the fowl. Although not in the tradition, some cooks add two tablespoons of rice.

If you do not want to cook the chicken, you can savor the taste of this soup by cooking the leeks in canned chicken broth, using the above direction. Add the prunes or rice if you feel like it. Leeks which are split and cut into long slices cooked in broth are great for a garnish for a roast or served as a side dish.

NOTICE

CITY OF BOYNE CITY GENERAL ELECTION

TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, That a City General Election will be held in the CITY OF BOYNE CITY, County of Charlevoix, State of Michigan on:

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 1989

At the place or places of holding the election in said City as indicated below, viz:

CITY HALL - BOYNE CITY

Precinct No. 1 and Precinct No. 2

For the purpose of electing the following offices, viz:

THREE CITY COMMISSIONERS, four year terms.

Plus the following State Proposals:

PROPOSAL A

A PROPOSAL TO INCREASE THE SALES/USE TAX FROM 4¢ TO 4 1/2¢ PER DOLLAR AND CONSTITUTIONALLY DEDICATE FUNDS FOR LOCAL SCHOOLS

The proposed constitutional amendment would:

- 1) Constitutionally dedicate to schools:
 - a. 1/2¢ increase in sales/use tax;
 - b. Current statutory revenue sources, including lottery profits and some cigarette/liquor taxes;
 - c. Increased share of existing sales/use tax (51% to 68%) to substantially replace annual school appropriation.
- 2) Distribute dedicated funds to school districts as provided by law.
- 3) Activate increased statutory penalty to deny 100% of state funds to schools not adopting core curriculum and improvement plans.

Should this proposal be adopted? YES NO

PROPOSAL B

A PROPOSAL TO INCREASE THE SALES/USE TAX FROM 4¢ TO 6¢ PER DOLLAR, REDUCE SCHOOL PROPERTY TAXES, SET PERMANENT SCHOOL OPERATING MILLAGES NOT SUBJECT TO VOTER RENEWAL, AND CONSTITUTIONALLY DEDICATE FUNDS FOR LOCAL SCHOOLS

The proposed constitutional amendment would:

- 1) Constitutionally dedicate to schools:
 - a. 2¢ increase in sales/use tax;
 - b. Current statutory revenue sources, including lottery profits and some cigarette/liquor taxes;
 - c. Increased share of existing sales/use tax (51% to 75%) to substantially replace annual school appropriation.
- 2) Reduce property taxes in most school districts. Replace school taxes with permanent statewide millage (9 - mills on residential/farm; 14 - mills on businesses) plus non-voted local millage not subject to voter rollback. Limit voter-approved increases to 4 - mills.
- 3) Set per-pupil funding guarantees subject to change by law requiring 2/3 vote.
- 4) Activate increased statutory penalty to deny all non-guaranteed state funds to schools not adopting core curriculum and improvement plans.

Should this proposal be adopted? YES NO

NOTICE RELATIVE TO OPENING AND CLOSING OF THE POLLS:

(Election Law, Act 116, P.A. 1954) Section 270: on the day of any election, the polls shall be opened at 7 o'clock in the forenoon and shall be continuously open until 8 o'clock in the afternoon and no longer. Every qualified elector present and in line at the polls at the hour prescribed for the closing thereof shall be allowed to vote.

THE POLLS of said election shall be open at 7 o'clock a.m. and shall remain open until 8 o'clock p.m. of said day of election.

CITY OF BOYNE CITY
Thomas Garlock
City Clerk
oct 25, nov 2

Heading south for the winter?

Don't forget to give us a call so your paper will follow you there.

CHARLEVOIX COUNTY PRESS
582-6761

Nature's little stinker visits Petoskey

BY REG SHARKEY

I was having my second cup of coffee a few mornings ago when the phone jingled and a feminine voice on the other end of the line said: "There's a skunk backed up in the doorway of McCrory's store on Mitchell Street (Petoskey) and he doesn't want to leave. I called the Emmet County Sheriff's Dept., but they said their animal control officer is tied up in court; said that you might pick the skunk up."

Gathering up my skunk catching gear I hid myself into Petoskey. When I got there Jill Kiffer—the voice on the phone—was standing guard near a cardboard box that contained the dispenser of nature's perfume.

Opening the box to check on the little stinker I beheld a half grown befuddled skunk who assumed a belligerent attitude.

Jill told me that Steve Snyder, bar tender at the Mitchell St. Pub, had crowded the skunk into the box.

So dear people, skunks conserve their precious defensive juice, loosing it only in a last resort situation. I've handled quite a few of them and have yet to get sizzed on.

Oh, yes, I did handle the little fellow out at our place.

My wife, feeling sorry for the woodland bomber, insisted on feeding the little bugger.

So I put him into a large wire pen, complete with a dab of hamburger, water and a leanto for cover. But Stinko wasn't interested in dining out, trying instead to chew his way through his wire cell. So I opened the gate and he waddled out. Circling the brooder house he found an opening between cement support blocks and crawled in to sleep off his scary nighttime adventure.



This is the skunk that visited downtown Petoskey and also found a new home near the woods around Sharkey's home. He warns people that the skunks are looking for a place to live during the winter and will try to find places where they can get under a house. It probably wouldn't be too bad, if they did not have to "let loose" when they are disturbed.

Then last night—it must have been around two in the morning—I was awakened by the odor of nature's Eau de Cologne, and I knew the Mitchell St. Wanderer was staying around our domain.

As I lay there I heard the little stinker softly grunting to himself, and just before I went to sleep the grunting stopped and he must have waddled off.

The next morning as I was walking around the house there on the sidewalk beneath the bedroom window the bugger had left his scatty calling cards, which probably accounted for his grunts of satisfaction. Somehow I think he was trying to get even with me for all his previous day's troubles.

So much for Grunter. That's what I'll call him if he sticks around. And I know if he does my wife will probably be hand feeding him like she did another star boarder last fall before he finally holed up for the winter.

And right here is a good time to once more warn people to skunk proof their homes and out buildings if you don't want to play host all winter to the wood pussys seeking winter quarters.

Every year I warn people to

close all openings that offer entrances to skunks looking for cold weather homes. Yet it never seems to do much good, and pretty soon my phone will start ringing and an agitated voice will ask, "How can I get a skunk out from under my house?"

And once more I politely tell them how to go about the job.

So, dear people, once again, skunks are beginning to look for winter quarters. Now is the time to skunk proof your buildings.

Be aware that Car-deer accidents are at an all-time high

With two million deer roaming public and private land in Michigan—the state's largest deer herd in years—motorists face increasing danger from car-deer accidents.

According to Michigan State Police, nearly 43,000 car-deer accidents occurred in the state in 1988, the highest total ever recorded for a single year in Michigan. These accidents last year injured 1,758 persons and caused two deaths.

In Charlevoix County last year, the total was 492 car-deer accidents resulting in 24 injured persons.

To help reduce the growing number of car-deer accidents, an insurance company is offering Michigan motorists a car-mounted warning device that helps keep deer off the roadway.

The animal warning device, about the size of a thumb, mounts on the front of a vehicle and is activated by onrushing air. The device emits an ultrasonic frequency, inaudible to humans, that alerts deer and usually stops them in their tracks before they cross roads.

The deer alert device is available from agents throughout the state at a discounted cost of \$6.00.

"We are offering the devices at a reduced price because we believe they can help reduce car-deer accidents in Michigan and save lives," said Larry Thomas, an insurance company executive. "Even though half of all deer-vehicle accidents occur in the fall, drivers must realize that deer on the roadway are a year-round danger.

We think the deer warning signals will make the roads a little safer."

The warning device starts working at 30 mph and alerts animals up to one-fourth of a mile away. Pets in the car are not affected by the signal, according to the manufacturer.

Accidents involving deer are related more to traffic volumes than to deer numbers, according to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. Most deer-vehicle accidents occur in southern Michigan, where deer population is lower—but the traffic volume higher—than in northern Michigan.

The DNR also reports that most car-deer accidents occur on paved local roads, within the driver's home county. Most accidents happen at night, when it is difficult to see deer.

Serious injuries and human fatalities occur most often when drivers attempt to swerve to miss deer, then lose control of the vehicle and hit another object, according to DNR studies.

"This year the DNR expects hunters to harvest 450,000 deer out of the state's herd of 2 million," Thomas said, "but car-deer accidents will always be a danger for Michigan drivers. Last year, our company adjusters handled 2,592 claims, totaling \$2.4 million, as the result of car-deer accidents. Our goal is to help reduce accidents and make drivers feel safer on Michigan roads."

Many law enforcement agencies, company fleets, and major corporations require the device on all their cars and trucks.

In Service

Navy Chief Petty Officer Jeffrey L. Mania, a 1978 graduate of Boyne City High School, recently deployed to the Western Pacific Ocean while serving aboard the battleship USS New Jersey, homeported in San Diego.

During the six month

deployment, Mania anticipates visits to Pusan, Korea; Hong Kong; Singapore; Subic Bay and Manila, Republic of the Philippines; Sasebo, Otaru, and Yokosuka, Japan; and Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.

He joined the Navy in September 1978.

Jottings

Continued from Page 3

be able to go out into the woods and get a meal almost anytime," he continued, "Now we have the DNR guys who seem to know when and where there is any action. It's true," he said, "We used to be able to catch native steelhead. Now the lamprey and some other fish have been introduced so all we can get is some salmon. I think the progress we have made over the last few years has changed us around here."

I added that yes, progress has changed the scope of woods. I can remember coming up north to a friend's 24 foot by 30 foot cottage on Lake Michigan back in the 50s. And I can remember going out along the beach to find blueberries for the pancakes, real agate rocks along the beach, and the gravel roads.

But I am also one of those who says that progress and the changes that have occurred are something we will have to live with.

After all, to a person who lives in an apartment sized place in the city, this is still the land where he can put his arms out, breathe real air, and drink real water.

He can still go out and find

blueberries, if he knows where to look. He can still have a cabin that he thinks is the best thing since the tent. And he can still get the feeling that this is an unspoiled land.

Especially when he compares it to what he has to live with in the city.

We do get a little uptight concerning all of the changes that have been going on, but feel that most of them are making the area a better place to live and earn an income.

Another person said that there is just no money up here except in the summer. By that he meant the moneyed people. I told him I like looking at real people rather than just those with dollar signs on their shirts.

We have a unique community around these parts. You don't have to put on "airs," you don't have to get dressed up to go someplace, and you can just be yourself and nobody is going to call you on the carpet for being yourself.

I guess that is why I like it year around. You get a chance to meet people who are the stock of the earth.

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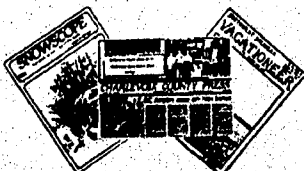
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