

Islanders Enjoy Golf Outing at Ocean Reef



Wawashkamo Golf Club members pose at their February golf outing in Florida. In columns from back to front, starting on the left: Dan Dunnigan and Carolyn Miller, Fritz George, Marcia Dunnigan, Gary Cousino, and Dean McInnis; (2nd col.) Mike Pope, Kay Berke, Tanita Ey, Greg Faith, Kathy Wisne, and Mary Callewaert; (3rd col.) Larry Berke, Karen Karam, Alan Wisne, Joanna Goddard, Michelle Stuck, Martha Cousino, and Samone Reid; (4th col.) Randy Stuck, Les Parrish, Debra Orr, Lin Sheppard, Julie Rilenge, and Patricia Morden; (5th col.) Steve Rilenge, Bob Benser, Carol Rearick, Ann Parrish, and Vic Callewaert and Sean O'Dell on the stairs; (6th col.) Russ Sager, Jan Sager, and Dave Sheppard; (7th col.) Sandra Orr, Janice Preston, and Lindsey George. In the right corner behind Sean O'Dell are Doug Rearick, Rusty Preston, Rena Callewaert, and Ron Morden. (Photograph provided by Dave Shepard)

Members of Wawashkamo Golf Club enjoyed a two-day outing at Ocean Reef Golf Club in Key Largo, Florida, February 21 and 22. Thirty-two people paired up and played a scramble each day at the club's two 18-hole courses, the Hammock and the Dolphin.

The event was coordinated by David and Lin Sheppard, who are Wawashkamo and Ocean Reef members.

Kathy and Allen Wisne greeted the incoming guests with a cocktail party Tuesday night, February 20, and an awards dinner was held at the Gailey Restaurant Thursday evening, February 22.

Winners were awarded "Wawa Bucks," credit that can be used to purchase items at the Wawashkamo Golf Club. Wawashkamo golf balls were also given to each participant.

The following are results from the two-day tournament:

Wednesday, February 21

at Hammock Course

1st (two-way tie), with score of 60: Les Parrish, David Sheppard, Martha Cousino, and Mary Callewaert; and Randy Stuck, Bob Benser, Rena Callewaert, and Lin Sheppard.

3rd: Rusty Preston, Russ Sager, Karen Karam, and Patti Morden.

4th: Doug Rearick, Steve Rilenge, Kay Berke, and Sandra Orr.

"Whiner" awards: Gary Cousino, Sean O'Dell, Ann Parrish, and Tanita Ey.

Closest to the Pin (women): 1st Rena Callewaert, 2nd Lin Sheppard.

Closest to the Pin (men): 1st Randy Stuck, 2nd Fritz George.

Longest Putt (men or women): Bob Benser and Russ Sager.

Thursday, February 22 at Dolphin Course

1st (three-way tie), with score of 66: Randy Stuck, Les

Parrish, Kathy Wisne, and Carol Rearick; Gary Cousino, David Sheppard, Sandra Orr, and Marcia Dunnigan; and Greg Faith, Larry Berke, Pattie Morden, and Lin Sheppard.

4th (three-way tie), with score of 70: Doug Rearick, Ron Morden, Janice Preston, and Ann Parrish; Rusty Preston, Steve Rilenge, Mary Callewaert, and Michelle Stuck; and Bob Benser Sr., Russ Sager, Tanita Ey, and Debra Orr.

"Whiner" awards (two teams): Fritz George, Sean O'Dell, Karen Karam, and Kay Berke; and Mike Pope, Dan Dunnigan, Martha Cousino, and Rena Callewaert.

Closest to the Pin (women): 1st Martha Cousino, 2nd Karen Karam.

Closest to the Pin (men): 1st Rusty Preston, 2nd Sean O'Dell.

Longest Putt (men and women): Rena Callewaert and Mike Pope.

State Park Continues to Monitor Coyotes

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the project, Smith Group Architects of Ann Arbor, which designed the restoration, and Schiffer Mason Contractors, Inc. of Holt, which performed the masonry work.

Crews will repair existing problem areas this spring, and other areas will be chosen to test paints and masonry products, said Mr. Porter.

The walls were constructed 226 years ago by British soldiers when they moved the Fort from the mainland during the Revolutionary War.

A new request for \$250,000 for a new freight boat for the park is back on the table following omission from last year's appropriations bills, said Commissioner Laurie Stupak, wife of U.S. Congressman Bart Stupak.

"We're told that the projects that were approved last year that then were dropped from the final budget would have priority in this year's budget," said Commissioner Stupak.

The appropriation would be used to replace the commission's 1952 surplus Navy landing craft with a new 74-foot

vessel.

Park staff continues to work with the Bureau of Aeronautics over land issues, zoning requirements, and tree cutting at the Mackinac Island Airport. A contract has been signed with URS Corporation to provide land acquisition and easement acquisition services for specific parcels that are in the restricted airspace zone, said Mr. Porter.

Survey work completed last year by the Bureau of Aeronautics revealed that three lots in the Forest Brook subdivision are unbuildable, because they are in the flight safety zone.

Mr. Porter noted that the airport at Frankfort airport is having similar problems with the new federal requirements.

The park has obtained a year-around permit to destroy any coyote that poses a threat to humans or airport safety, Mr. Porter announced.

The park staff has been working with wildlife biologists to address concerns over the coyote population on the Island. They have no natural predators here and they have no way to leave the Island,

except over the ice in the winter, Mr. Porter told commissioners. There was little ice this winter, he added, and under these circumstances, "the population will continue to grow."

He estimates that six to eight coyotes live on the Island, and if they reproduce, the population could double.

"We're looking to manage the pack," he said.

Initial abundance of wildlife, native or introduced, could have presented an appetizing invitation for these predators to hang around in the winter, but they are becoming a nuisance as they begin to interfere with human activities.

A visitor broke a hip last fall when his horse was startled by a coyote, a plane had to abort a landing at the airport because of a coyote on the runway, and the animals are being blamed for disappearing pets.

These incidents, plus complaints from residents concerned for the safety of their children, led to the shooting of one coyote last fall by a state park employee.

Commissioners next meet May 25 in Mackinaw City.

School Trustees Seek More Advance Notice on Issues

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wonder if that is going on here."

Teacher Vicki Urman, however, took issue with the characterization of the staff, by some parents and board members, as defensive and disruptive.

"The staff is not opposed to change," she said. "We are a progressive staff."

She noted that teachers are dedicated to their jobs and are not afraid of evaluations or afraid of change.

Dr. Schrock requested his evaluation be discussed by the board in private, and during a two-hour executive session that followed, the board made a pact to communicate with one another better, Mr. St. Onge said Monday, March 26.

"The biggest problem in all of this is a breakdown in communication," he said. "We agreed that each one of us needs to communicate more, send more memos, call one another on the phone."

Mr. St. Onge warned at Thursday's meeting that personality clashes among the school board, teachers, and front office distract the school from educating students.

Dr. Schrock agreed that everyone in the school system, including himself, needs to do a better job of communicating with one another.

"This executive session was very productive," announced board president Ben Mosley after the board reconvened and voted to continue Dr. Schrock's contract. "We went over the evaluations. Dr. Schrock explained some things, some board members explained some things."

"Out of this evaluation, it's not only going to be a working tool for Dr. Schrock, but it will be a working tool for myself and the board."

Mr. Mosley added that the board learned "there was some perceptions and things that people had that may or may not have been there, mostly not been there."

The board's vote was taken with fewer than half the audience remaining, and while voting unanimously, several hesitated to vote yes.

Ms. Brodeur, in voting to extend Dr. Schrock's contract, paused before stating, "It's hard. I wasn't going to do this tonight. This is in support of the unity of our school, our teachers, our staff, and for our kids to move forward in a positive manner. I will be working very hard towards making this work."

Ms. Martin agreed.

"We had a very constructive discussion this evening," she

said. "I'm hoping with the ideas that were brought forth [during the executive session] and with some of the changes that are going to be made, that the school will move along properly and that we can get to where we need to go and take care of our kids properly," said Ms. Martin, before voting. "So, in support of the school, I shall vote yes."

After the vote, some of the audience applauded. Board President Ben Mosley said after the meeting that he believes the meeting's procedures are fine. As for postponing action to facilitate discussion, he said, "The board members have a right to table something, as long as a majority of the board agrees."

Both Mr. Mosley and Ms. Brodeur admit there are times the board is faced with having to make a decision on an issue that is timely, however, Ms. Brodeur said, "I'd like to see a little bit more information come through in our packets, to be more informed, when we can."

Mr. Mosley also told the *Town Crier* that the public is allowed to address the board during any public discussion, so where public input is reserved on the agenda is irrelevant.

"The only reason I can think of why people would need to comment at the end of a meeting is to get clarification on something we discussed, but they are allowed to do that during our normal [meeting] discussion," he said.

As for the correspondence issue, Ms. Martin said after the meeting, "We, as a board, are planning to discuss how correspondence should be handled."

In other discussions during the regular portion of the meeting, Ms. Martin said she believes the board needs to update its superintendent evaluation form, as it has not been reviewed or updated in six years.

"We need to look at the process and perhaps add features in there that I've seen from other schools, such as adding comments from teachers and staff members," said Ms. Martin.

Ms. Brodeur said Les Cheneaux Community Schools is one school that recently invited teachers and staff to submit evaluations, although they are not weighed in the approval rating given by the board.

The school's negotiations committee will look into extending its pay scale for incoming teachers in the new teachers contract, in hopes of attracting more applicants for the vacant special education teacher position. The school's negotiations committee

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City Requires Trailers To Be Pulled by Horse-drawn Drays

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onto a dray.

Trailers are hitched to the back of the drays, and, Mr. Roe said, the farther back the weight, the harder it is for the horses to pull the load.

When loading drays, he noted, the heavier materials are placed to the front, because it is easier for the horses to pull. The maximum weight for a standard dray load is 4,000 pounds.

In the off-season, Council

can allow trailers to be pulled by a tractor, said City Clerk Karen Lennard. In those cases, the person must receive a temporary trailer permit and a temporary motor vehicle permit.

"The preference is that a trailer be pulled by a dray," she said.

All trailer permit applications are deliberated by the city council, and copies of approved applications are forwarded to Mr. Roe, who has the final say in the matter.