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Spring 2004

Hardwood Lake from the air. This view is looking south with Hardwood Heights at the bottom, leading into the swampy area. The "Point" is at center.



Lake News

Afeasibility and tax hearing will be held by the Hardwood Lake Improvement Board on Saturday, July 10 at 9 a.m. at the Richland Township Hall preceding the associations annual meeting. (See the story on page 3 about the new township hall.) This meeting is open to the public. All property owners will receive a notice by mail. The hearing will recap the previous years of treatment and discuss continuing the next 3-year cycle (2005-2007) of lake weed control. We are in the third year of our current 3 year program and must have the hearings to determine if we will continue treating the lake. A representative from Progressive Engineering will be there to answer questions.

HLPO Association Meeting

The annual summer meeting will take place following the public hearing around 10 a.m. Association

Picnic

The annual summer association picnic will be held at the home of Dan & Pat Brady on Henderson Lake Road. A date has not yet been set.

Weed Treatment Update

Treatment of Hardwood Lake began May 12 with Flouridone by Aquatic Services, Inc. of Goodrich under the supervision of Progressive Engineering. The Floridone treats the entire lake for the aggressive nonnative Eurasian Milfoil. Our last treatment was four years ago.

The firms have received a permit for a more aggressive attack on planktonic algae. This is the green scum that forms on the lake in mid to late summer. Instead of surface treatment near shore they can treat to a 4-foot depth.

There will be little or no weed harvesting this year. If there is harvesting it will most likely be limited to lily pads. Treatment costs this year will be about \$24,000. If you find problem areas on the lake please contact Lake Association President David Sommers so that he may coordinate treatment with Progressive Engineering.

Election of officers at the Annual Meeting of the Hardwood Lake Owners Association held July 12, 2003:

President - David Sommers **Directors** - Clayton Dees, Carl Peevey, Randy Nasuti and Bob Hanes were elected by acclamation by the members present. All are two-year terms.

Homes or property for sale 3047 S. Henderson Lake Road, Sowa

3177 S. Henderson Lake Road, Holland

3169 S. Henderson Lake Road, Krohn

3030 Hardwood Heights, Virgin

3022 Hardwood Heights, Berry

3049 Martin, LaPan

Congratulations

Congratulations to Ken & Judy Sheehan on the birth of their grandson born Friday, October 24 to daughter Jessica. His name is Ethan Storm and weighed in at 6 lb. 15 oz and 19" long.

Fish facts

EDITORS note: The following information on Hardwood Lake is from DNR Records. We will publish more information as space permits

Stocking History

Largemouth bass:

1979 50 adults

Northern pike:

1981 115,000 fry

1981 1,761 spring fingerlings

1985 15,000 spring fingerlings

1986 11,500 spring fingerlings

1988 2,896 spring fingerlings

1990 11,500 spring fingerlings 1999 1,000 spring fingerlings

In 1980, a survey using 3 nets showed that the panfish population had exploded and represented 89% of all fish caught, 8% were bullheads, and only 3 % were predators. Panfish growth slowed. Management then focused efforts on thinning the panfish population through manual removals. A removal was conducted in 1982, 1983, 1984, and in 1985. Timing was late for the first few years, and numbers removed were somewhat lower than desired.

1982-1300 lbs. (7.5 lbs./acre) 1983-3218 lbs. (19 lbs./acre)

1984 - 4571 lbs. (26.6 lbs./acre)

1985 - 2413 lbs. (14.0 lbs./acre)

1986- 1339 lbs. (7.8 lbs. /acre)

The conclusions following these removals were that the lake was extremely rich and very productive. and that it may not be possible to reduce the panfish population. A survey in 1990 showed that the population of the lake remained largely unchanged. Growth of predators and panfish was improved. and was now above state average.

Few northern pike were collected and again management suggested stocking additional pike.

No prescription was ever written when the stocking request expired. Records do indicate one private plant of pike in 1999. No additional work was done at Hardwood Lake in the 1990's.

Hardwood Lake was treated with Sonar in 2000 to control the large amount of milfoil in the lake. A follow-up treatment in 2001 was denied.

Several riparian residents called with concerns over the Hardwood Lake fishery. This prompted a general survey, which was conducted in 2001.

To be continued in the next issue.

"When The Beach Is Out of Reach!"

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New Richland Township Hall

Richland Township officials held an open house for the new Township Hall on Saturday, October 11, 2003.

The new hall is located at 3620 McLean Road. Directions to the hall from Prescott:

Sage Lake Road South 1 mile

to Sheffer Road - East 2 miles

to McLean Road - South 1/4 mile to the hall.

Mailing address is:

Richland Township Hall

P.O. Box 358

Prescott, MI 48756

The construction of the 40'x72' facility was built last summer by Barriger Builders. It will accommodate 120-140 people. It can be used for weddings, showers, family reunions, funeral dinners etc.

Hall Rental Fees & Reservations can be made by calling Judy at 989-873-4566. Most functions are \$50.00 for residents & \$75.00 for non-residents. There is a \$100 deposit fee which will be refunded providing there is no damage and the hall is cleaned after use.

Dust Control - Road Brine

Richland Township will offer township residents road brine at a discount for pre-paid applications of 250' or 500'. Call Wava Fischer at 989-873-4436 or 989-873-4315.

SWANSON'S EXCAVATING, INC.

2733 Greenwood Road Prescott, MI 48756 Phone 989-873-4419 Fax (989) 873-8123

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Appraisals & Home Inspections

4409 Greenwood Rd. P.O. Box 32 Prescott, MI 48756 Phone 989-873-5214 Fax 989-873-5352

Deanna Kibbe State Licensed N.A.P.I. Certified

Local Calendar of Events

WEST BRANCH EVENTS

June 12 - Arts & Crafts Fair, downtown. Hundreds of crafters, fun and food.

June 19 - Smiley Days, downtown. W.B. City Annual Garage (Rummage) Day Sale.

July 1-4 Heritage Days, downtown. Events include "Voyageur's Encampment"
Reenactment of life in the 1750's-1850's, Midnight Riders Fife & Drum Corp. Horse drawn ride tours, antique auction, sidewalk sales, kids games, beverage tent & more. Contact West Branch Area Chamber of Commerce for 2004 Heritage Days Schedule of Events at 1-800-755-9091.

July 9-11 H.O.G. Rally, Ogemaw County Fairgrounds. Harley Owner's group annual convergence.

August 14-15 Victorian Art Fair, Irons Park. **August 17-21** Ogemaw County Fair.

TAWAS BAY EVENTS

June 12-13 Tawas Point Celebration Days June 19-20 Summer Arts & Crafts Tawas Bay July 14-18 Summerfest 2004.

Midway. Kids & Pet Parade, Street Dance, Classic Car Cruise. etc.

July 26-31 losco County Fair - Hale Fairgrounds call 728-3566.

August 7-8 44th Annual Tawas Bay Waterfront Fine Art Festival & Children's Art Fair - Tawas City Park

August 13-15 Sand Lake Festival 469-3177

August 14-15 8th Annual Tawas Bay Antique Market Show & Sale, Tawas City Park August 14 9th Annual USO-Style Dance

Yankee Air Museum 739-7555

August 27-29 Annual Blues by the Bay Fest 14 Great Blues Bands, Cajun Food, Beer, Wine, Soda. Fun for the whole family.

INDEPENDENCE DAY ACTIVITIES

West Branch July 4 Parade 1 p.m. Fireworks at dusk. 345-0500 Rose City July 4 Parade, fireworks Houghton Creek Park. 685-3347

July 4th Skidway Lake, Fireworks Newman Park at dusk. 873-4411 Parade, fireworks & more. Call the chamber 873-4150.

Tawas Bay July 4th
Independence Day
Grand Parade & Fireworks.
Call 1-800-55-TAWAS

Hardwood Lake Property Owners Association Edith M. Sommers 3664 N. River Road Freeland, MI 48623

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