

West Michigan News Company

## Saugatuck Township January 2nd Meeting submitted by Bonnie Wilkins

It was heartening to see over 300 people again pack the room in the Saugatuck High School Cafeteria last Wednesday, January 2nd for the Saugatuck Township Board Meeting.

The meeting started with a surprise. An attorney representing Aubrey McClendon, Jim Bruinsma of Grand Rapids, spoke in the absence of Stephen Neumer. He stated that Saugatuck LLC has listened to the concerns of the Saugatuck Township community voiced in the township meetings and the many letters to the press. Saugatuck LLC asked the Township Board to table the proposed Settlement Agreement until the developer submits a PUD (Planned Unit Development) application for the North Denison. They also agreed to stay (as in not yet proceed to challenge) the 2007 real estate tax tribunal cases for a period of 1 year.

After this announcement, Supervisor Bill Wester opened the meeting

for public comment. He intended to limit the number of speakers (one per row with a three-minute limit) as was done at the Dec. 19 meeting, but Joe Milauckas, Saugatuck Township Planning Commissioner, voiced that everyone that wants to speak is entitled to speak. The Board then agreed to allow everyone to comment with a one minute time limit.

28 people then spoke eloquently in support of R-4 zoning and the current tax assessment of the former Denison. In summary:

The Saugatuck Dunes Coastal Alliance again offered the legal assistance of Olson, Bzdok & Howard and announced a legal fund in excess of \$80,000 to help the Township.

Planning Commissioners from both Saugatuck and Douglas offered their entire 2008 stipends to use in the legal defense of the Tri-Community Plan.

Patty Birkholtz quoted a 5-



Saugatuck Township Board of Trustees

page letter from Paul McEnroe (a member of the House family) of Riverside Farm, adjacent to the McClendon property. McEnroe described representatives of Saugatuck LLC using wedge tactics, ultimatums and threats to bully his family into selling their property. (Mr. Neumer has since stated that they were willing sellers.)

The Holland League of Women Voters representative spoke in support of conservation

Continued page 3

### WMNC.biz

- National Clean Election Lawsuit Filings
- Video and lab report on arsenic poisoning
- Cynthia McKinney speech at Benton Harbor
- Election videos showing election officials breaking the law and hiding the ballots
- Religion Section
- Business Section
- Links to local & national internet news, local group, & religious websites
- Register for local news and email updates

### Inside this issue:

Calendar of Events	2
Arsenic Poisoning is OK	2
Saugatuck January Meeting (con't)	3
New Hampshire Recount (con't)	3
Judge Paul L. Maloney	3
Book Review: Magna Carta Manifesto	4
Letter to the Bureau of Elections	5

## New Hampshire Recount excerpts from Dennis Kucinich's Request

I am not making this request in the expectation that a recount will significantly affect the number of votes that were cast on my behalf... Serious and credible reports, allegations,

and rumors have surfaced in the past few days...It is imperative that these questions be addressed in the interest of public confidence in the integrity of the election process and the election machinery - not just in

New Hampshire, but in every other state that conducts a primary election.

Ever since the 2000 election - and even before - the Ameri-

Continued page 3

# February 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	

## Schedule of Events

- Feb 6th—Saugatuck Township Board Meeting on the Blue Star Highway at 7pm. Citizens invited to come and express their feelings about the Denison property.
- Feb 11th—South County Democratic Club 7-9 pm -Moose Lodge, 101 South Red Bud Trail, Buchanan
- Feb 12th—Ottawa County Democratic Party 7-9 pm—Main Conference Room, Administration Building, Ottawa County Fillmore Street Complex ( Fillmore St. near 120th Ave.)
- Feb 13th— 7:00 pm at the Benton Harbor City Hall a presentation is made showing how big money interests overthrew a recall election to steal Jean Klock Park
- Feb 26—Cass County Democratic Club 6-8 pm —CCDP Headquarters 804 E. State St. Cassopolis, MI. Ph: 269-445-1651

## Arsenic Poisoning is OK by Pat Foster

After finding levels of arsenic poisoning in the Lee Township containment pond for Lower Scott Lake that are twice the minimum required by state law for a mandatory cleanup, I was put off by Tom Jessup until some time in March. He told me that they need to drill a new

test well and that will be determined if they will even do that at a meeting this March. A simple question: When does the snow start melting and sinking into the aquifers. I would say March. If you have dredgings on the surface of this pond at

14,000 parts per billion when 1,100 parts per billion is the standard, then just where is this arsenic going to end up? The sample I took from their test well in November was at 100 parts per billion is twice the limit for a mandatory state cleanup. Anything over 10 parts per billion becomes a major hazard to the health of the people drinking it.

Many of us believe that our county officials are trying to let that land become contaminated so they can site it for a super landfill that could destroy our county.

The Lake Association will have a meeting in February to set the date of the March meet-

ing that will determine if they do anything to clean up this mess. Meanwhile homes from Lee Township to South Haven will have their wells contaminated with the spring thaw.

Tom Jessup told me that Tom Tierney, the dredging contractor profiting from this project took a test after mine and it showed safe levels of arsenic. There was a FOIA request of his previous samples. The first showed arsenic and after the dredging started, the arsenic completely disappeared in the next two samples. Right, arsenic levels just disappeared after high levels of arsenic were dumped on top of it.



Pipe carrying dredgings going to the containment pond

## Saugatuck Township January 2nd Meeting (continued)

and wise management of resources and the importance of public participation.

One property owner said that they dutifully pay \$70+K/year in property taxes and if McClendon gets relief, they want relief too.

The LLC was urged to slow down to get in touch with the essence of this property that sustains wildlife.

People said there was need for transparency in the public process.

Some very articulate legal opinions were presented, such as the illegality of the current course of action, the need to slow down and study things, the weak case of the tax appeal, and the admonition to exercise caution because Sauga-

tuck LLC has only their own best interests in mind.

Appeals were heard to consider the legacy to be left to future generations.

It was suggested that Saugatuck LLC could gain complete approval and gratitude from the public with an outright donation of the property.

Chris Roerig made a statement calling for "bold action." Damien Jarzembowski restated his commitment to work to do what the people want and need. Clerk Jane Wright then moved to table the settlement as Saugatuck LLC had asked. With little further discussion, the Township Board voted 5-0 to table the settlement agreement until Sauga-

tuck LLC submits their PUD plan in the second quarter of 2008. Board Trustee Chris Roerig exhorted all of us to continue to be vigilant. He encouraged us to use this "cool off" time to build the resources & infrastructure needed to defend wise land use.

### ONE INTERPRETATION OF THIS TURN OF EVENTS:

By asking the Board to table this issue and delay the tax challenge, Saugatuck LLC (Neumer/McClendon) avoided a potentially embarrassing situation. If the Township Board voted against the Settlement Agreement they would be in a very weak legal position to move their development plans forward. If

the Township Board voted for the Settlement Agreement, the Coastal Alliance was prepared to file a declaratory action in circuit court the expected result of which would have established the Settlement Agreement as unlawful. Either way Saugatuck LLC's weak legal position would have been exposed. Tabling the matter allows them more time to convince the community that their intentions are honorable.

IMPORTANT! Please keep in mind we were not going to sue the Township! We would have only filed a declaratory action to have the unlawful Settlement Agreement dismissed. This is an extremely important point to make!

## New Hampshire Recount (continued)

can people have been losing faith in the belief that their votes were actually counted. This recount isn't about who won 39% of 36% or even 1%. It's about establishing whether 100% of the voters had 100% of their votes counted exactly the way they cast them.

This is not about my candidacy or any other individual candidacy. It is about the integrity of the election process.

New Hampshire is in the unique position to address - and, if so determined, rectify - these issues before they escalate into a massive, nationwide

suspicion of the process by which Americans elect their President. Based on the controversies surrounding the Presidential elections in 2004 and 2000, New Hampshire is in a prime position to investigate possible irregularities and to issue findings for the benefit of the entire nation.

*"American people have been losing faith in the belief that their votes were actually counted."*

See page 5 for letter to the Michigan Bureau of Elections regarding local election issues.

## Judge Paul L. Maloney by Pat Foster

"I'm going to make the majority the minority, and the minority will become the majority." Words spoken by Judge Maloney from the bench as he reversed the Benton Harbor Recall Election of City Commissioner Yarborough who tried to transfer Jean Klock Park from Benton Harbor to the Harbor Shores Development Corporation.

This action is highly suspicious considering Mr. Yarborough was recalled by over 50 votes and there were only 3 to 7 votes that were

questioned by the court. Not one vote had ever been challenged during this election. Since Bush v. Gore, it appears if elections cannot be stolen, they can be overturned by a court.

Judge Maloney needed a reason to make such a decision, and without allowing the Rev. Pinkney to defend himself in the People of the State of Michigan v. Jean Nesbitt, Clerk of the City of Benton Harbor and the City of Benton Harbor, he proceeded to convict him in the Press

with unfounded accusations against him during this trial. In our country, we are considered innocent until proven guilty by a jury of your peers. To date, the Rev. Pinkney has never been given that opportunity.

Judge Maloney on the other hand was rewarded for his conduct by being appointed to the federal bench in 2006 by George Bush and applauded by Representative Fred Upton, whose family is involved in the Jean Klock Park takeover.



Judge Paul L. Maloney



West Michigan News Company

WMNC

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Without light, there is no Democracy

**WMNC.**

**Email re: Judge Alfred Butzbaugh the judge who convicted the Rev. Pinkney**

*Al Butzbaugh stands to profit from Harbor Shores. Look for yourself*

*Currently, he is President and Director of the "Law and Title Building Condominium Association," whose address is 811 Ship Street, St. Joe. MI Corporate ID #: 824077. David F. Upton is VP.*

*Also located at 811 Ship Street is the "Law and Title Realty, LLC."*

*The "Law and Title Realty, LLC" has numerous aliases, including, "Ship Street Realty," "COUNSELORS-SHIP STREET REALTY," and "COUNSELORS REALTY.com" All share the same MI Corporate ID # B58808*

*Resident Agent: CHARLES AMMESON*

*Now, "Ship Street Realty" is a doubled. "Ship Street Realty" is on 811 Ship Street in St. Joe (B58808), AND "Ship Street Realty" 325 W. Main Benton Harbor (B2126U).*

*Tod A Marsh is the agent for "Ship Street Realty" in its Benton Harbor Location. At its Benton Harbor address "Ship Street Realty(B2126U)," is legally titled the "ALL AMERICAN GROUP, LLC." It too has 4-5 other aliases.*

*Check out COUNSELORS REALTY.com to see about the Grand Blv. profit opportunities.*

*Hey Gremlin, Why was Jesus crucified? Surely not because he was subject to rulers, authorities, etc.*

*Why was this Judge allowed to preside over the case of someone whose case is inextricably linked to Harbor Shores, and all its preludes?*

**Magna Carta Manifesto by Peter Linebaugh Book Review**

"This is an original, powerful and ground breaking book. It is utterly fascinating and charts a path that gives me, and will give others, hope for a better future. Linebaugh sends an important message to a world that increasingly believes that private ownership of our resources can make us more prosperous. As we struggle to regain lost liberty The Magna Carta Manifesto makes us understand that freedom is about guaranteeing the economic and social rights that allow all of us to partake of political freedom."--Michael Ratner, President of the Center for Constitutional Rights

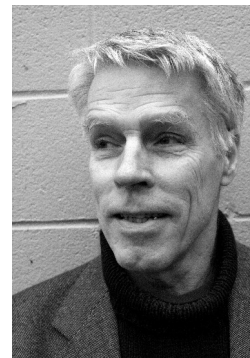
"Ideas can be beautiful too, and the ideas Peter Linebaugh provokes and maps in this history of liberty are dazzling, remind-

ers of what we have been and who we could be. In this remarkable small book, he traces one path of liberty back to the forests and the economic independence they represented for medieval Britons, another path to recent revolutionaries, another to the Bush Administration's assaults on habeas corpus, the Constitution, and liberty and he links the human rights charter that Magna Carta represented to the less-known Forest Charter, drawing a missing link between ecological and social well-being."--Rebecca Solnit, author of *Storming the Gates of Paradise*

"Ranging across the centuries, and from England to Asia, Africa and the Americas, Peter Linebaugh shows

us the contested history of Magna Carta-how the liberties it invoked were secured and (as today) violated, and how generations of ordinary men and women tried to revive the idea of the commons in the hope of building a better world."--Eric Foner, author of *The Story of American Freedom*

"There is not a more important historian living today. Period."--Robin D.G. Kelley, author of *Freedom Dreams: The Black Radical Imagination*



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# West Michigan News Company

January 21, 2008

Mike Ryder  
Michigan Department of State  
Bureau of Elections  
PO Box 20126  
Lansing, Michigan 48901-0726

Re: Allegan County 2006 General Election

Dear Mr. Ryder:

I would appreciate the Bureau of Election's answers for a final disposition of the following issues that occurred both before and after the 2006 General Election:

- (a) Two criminal complaints were filed with Detective Doan of the Wayland State Police Post regarding the failure of election officials to allow us to see and count the ballots physically at:
  - (i) At the recount for the recall election of all of Lee Township's Board, Joyce Watts, the County Clerk and the Board of Election Canvassers failed to allow us to see each and every ballot and take notes during the recount after the Law giving us that right was read to them. (video on [wmnc.biz](http://wmnc.biz) and [blackboxvoting.org](http://blackboxvoting.org))
  - (ii) At Casco Township on the night of the election, a group of Election Challengers requested to see and count the ballots after an attorney read to Mr. Peter Allegrenie of your office the law allowing us to do that. The township clerk and Mr. Allegrenie both failed to comply with that law. (video on [wmnc.biz](http://wmnc.biz))
- (b) After the 2006 General Election at a recount for Neva Tice for Trustee of Lee Township, the following irregularities took place:
  - (i) The ballot canister was removed from Lee Township immediately after the election by Joyce Watts, the County Clerk, and after a seal number was requested from the township clerk, we were told that she could not give us one because Joyce Watts had it in her office.
  - (ii) The Poll Book showed 1,200 ballots for this election and apparently that is what the election officials including the township clerk said at this recount. That should have left 189 unused or spoiled ballots after the election. Yet there were no unused ballots in that container, and Ms Watts showed up with a bag having over 500 ballots in it saying that the election workers could not fit them into the container. During this recount, we were talking to these election officials, and they had told us that there were only 1,200 ballots and the 189 unused ballots were placed in that container.
  - (iii) During the recount, there were three vote counters including myself, and we all had observed that at least 50+ ballots had been printed and not completed by hand. Considering that this printer had broken down early on election day, and was placed in a corner so voters could not use it, we are wondering how they were printed and if anyone has even looked in this container to determine if our charges are correct.

- (c) While I was on both Julie Roger's and Neva Tice's recount groups, I was actually counting your boss's election, Terri Lynn Land, in four precincts, because your office would not allow our request for a recount for the Green candidate running against her. I testified before the state senate committee on elections in front of your boss, Chris Thomas that in all four precincts, the machines gave her from 3 to 5.5% more than the actual ballots. Since your office controls elections in this state, what measures have you taken to audit the actual ballots in the coming election?

This letter is an open letter and will be published. The citizens of Allegan County, the State of Michigan, and avid readers from other states are concerned about the answers you are going to give to these questions. Detective Doan told us that he had talked with your office and was told that everything was "OK". With the Reverend Pinkney from Benton Harbor in jail for election violations that he was cleared of in a lie detector test for far less than what I have just listed, the world awaits your answers.

Sincerely,

Pat Foster, Editor

*You can fool some of the people all of the time, and all of the people some of the time, but you cannot fool all of the people all of the time. Abraham Lincoln*