
◆ News from Grayling MI. ◆

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Published Every Other Month By **Curt Jansen**

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PUBLICATION OF THIS ISSUE WAS DELAYED TO ATTEND A TOUR OF THE FISH HATCHERY BUILDING WITH OFFICIALS FROM THE COA AND THE COUNTY ON HAND TO EXPLAIN THE PROPOSED RENOVATION FOR THE COA. THIS BUILDING IS IN BETTER CONDITION THAN I ANTICIPATED. HOWEVER, SPENDING 1.2 MILLION DOLLARS ON IT FOR THE COA STILL MAKES NO SENSE TO ME. PLEASE DON'T FORGET WHO KEEPS TRACK OF THINGS FOR YOU WHEN YOU, OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW NEEDS REAL ESTATE SERVICES. PLEASE GIVE ME A CALL AND

“ EXPECT SERVICE AS USUAL” .
THANK YOU,
CURT JANSEN

COA - ORV - XYZ

Caution: Contains Editorial Comment

The reconstruction of the Business Loop has commenced and the traffic flow is not as restricted as I thought it would be. However, the real traffic is not here yet, we'll see how it is in July. The cash flow for businesses along the Loop is definitely restricted. Owners I talked to this week say they expected revenues to be off 50%, in reality they are off even more. Please patronize the affected establishments even if you need your boots. You can all stop blaming this project on the City of Grayling administration. It was not their idea; they fought for compromises all along. In the end, their vote counted the same as yours on this issue, zero. There are certainly criticisms due the City, this is not one of them.

The County continues it's search for new homes for the Health Dept. and the Commission on Aging, the plan to move the COA to the Fish Hatchery building having met with enough signatures to force a referendum. The previously approved 1.5 million bond issue will now come to the voters in August. This task is not as simple as you may think. A property within the population base; large enough to accommodate future expansion and parking; easily accessible to those who use it. Think about it, it's not easy to find. It's certainly not the Fish Hatchery building. The focus on that building is an attempt to make some use of a county asset that has sucked up close to half a million dollars with no reasonable plan to use, maintain or operate it. The building could be renovated to accommodate a variety of uses. But should it be the new home of the COA? To me, this use is not appropriate. One commissioner stated that if the bond issue is not approved, the voters will have to approve a millage to construct a COA building elsewhere.

Why can't the bond money be used for a new building? The estimated cost to build new is the same as the the proposed Hatchery renovation. That seems like holding the taxpayers hostage with their own money. If there is some logistical reason for this position, it has not been presented yet. The County Administration has a difficult task ahead and I wish them well with the process. I hope we don't end up with a fine facility that no one can find, like the City Building.

Now a tip of the hat to the County for adopting the new ORV Ordinance. This is the beginning of a process that will involve some confusion and frustration but, in the end will add more commerce to the community. Some say that now we have legitimate access to the ORV trails, but no trails to access. You have to start somewhere. If the situation were reversed and a group was successful in getting more of the existing snowmobile trails designated as ORV trails first, then we would be facing the problem of access to the trails. It will take both things to make the effort produce meaningful results in increased tourism. We could use it. While not quite the volume we see with snowmobiler's, the ORV crowd is substantial. We hardly see them, they stop at Ogemaw County and other areas where the trail system and access to it, has been developed. It may take a few years but we'll get our share of their business and accommodate and remediate the environmental impact they create. It will work out. Next we need to get more trails on line to keep them where we want them.



Helpful Hints From Curt Jansen

Licensed Builder, Heating Contractor,
Master Plumber, Boiler Installer,

Real Estate Agent

A few more notes from 30 years in the construction trades:

Smelly garbage disposal? Run a couple trays of ice cubes through the disposal. Cleans it out slick. Noisy though.

Dryer takes too long to dry clothes? Check the vent. If it's loose or partially disconnected, you may be recycling moist air through the dryer which will extend dry times. If it's plugged with lint, it will restrict the air flow and it doesn't take much restriction to reduce performance. Think about what's going through there. Wet lint. Do you think it would stick to anything? Even a short smooth vent will plug up eventually. If you slow the air flow down with a long or flexible slinky type vent, it's going to plug much faster and require more frequent attention. Don't forget the vent hood outside. The louvered type will collect lint quickly and they are very restrictive in the first place. Clean the lint filter every load not just when it's thick enough to knit a blanket. If the lint filter is ripped or torn, more lint is going through the vent system and of course more of it is sticking to the vent pipe.

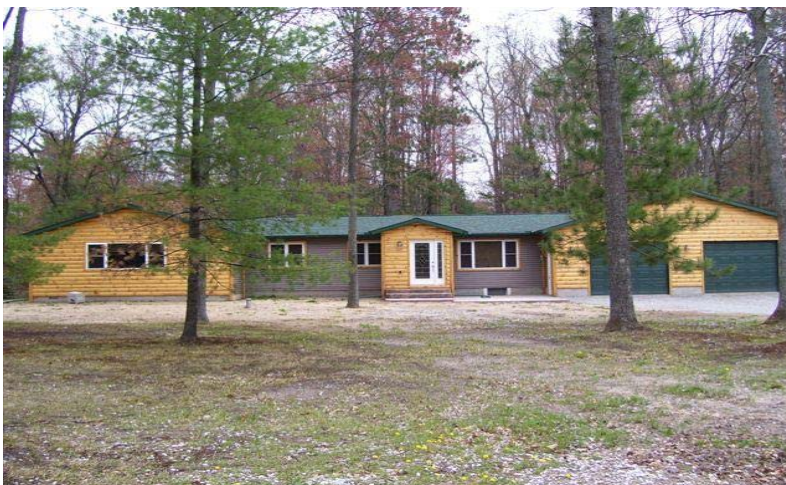
Crawford County Trivia

Send the correct answer back on the form below and I'll send you an indoor/outdoor thermometer, like the one you used to have from Jansen's.

In the 1960's, (may as well stick with a block and a decade) there was a soft drink bottling plant right behind the current Bicycle Shop. What brand of soft drink did they bottle there?

Answer for last issue: Dick Dodge Chevrolet

Featured Listing: Outstanding large family home with 5 bedrooms and 2 baths. A floor plan that accommodates a growing family. 1st floor laundry; study and play areas; in home office; huge master suite and a bedroom for everyone. Heated garage and even an automatic generator to keep everyone safe and happy when the power goes out. \$205,000 #6069



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