

News from Grayling MI.

Volume 4, Issue 5

Published Every Other Month By **Curt Jansen**

Sept, 2010

CONGRATULATIONS TO LOCAL JUSTICE ALTON T. DAVIS APPOINTED TO STATE SUPREME COURT. PLEASE VOTE IN NOVEMBER, HE WILL NEED YOUR SUPPORT.

NEWSLETTER BY EMAIL..... TO RECEIVE THE NEWSLETTER VIA E-MAIL, SEND YOUR ADDRESS TO jansen.curt@gmail.com

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

Local Economic News Positive ?

Caution:Contains Editorial Comment

There are plenty of things happening in Grayling. Those who would tell you otherwise are spending too much time watching TV.

The expansion at **Camp Grayling** is rolling on and the amount of construction is phenomenal, If you would like to see it, drop an e-mail or call and we'll see if a tour can be arranged. This is a major part of our local economy and you should be paying attention.

The **AuSable Artisan Village** and **Watershed Art Project** have just completed the first of many successful summer art workshops at the Gallery (108 Michigan Ave) with eight artists featured. The Chamber of Commerce sponsored Garden Walk and the Watershed Spring Art Walk also evidence the slow but sure introduction of Grayling as a future hub for professional artists.

The Watershed Art Project and the AuSable Artisan Village directors and members have voted to merge the two entities into one. It will be known as the AuSable Artisan Village. Tax exempt status is in application allowing them to accept tax deductible contributions and grants. You will be seeing and hearing much more from them. An effort to merge these two groups with the **Crawford County Economic Development Partnership** was turned down at the August meeting of the AuSable Artisan Village.

What will become of the CCEDP is unknown at present. The Director has been laid off and they have lost funding from the City of Grayling and are not in the upcoming budget for the County. The trustees for Grayling Charter Township, the only remaining governmental contributor, have reduced their contribution by half for the current fiscal year. We certainly need them as part of the area's economic strategy but, it is questionable if they can continue with private funding only.

On July 19, the **Kirtland Board of Trustees** held their regular meeting in Grayling. They toured the building proposed to house the Grayling off campus classrooms for Art and general studies and retired to the Ramada Inn for informal discussion with community members before the regular agenda. This discussion was a very positive exchange between board members and the public centering on the Artisan Village project and Kirtland's roll in it, the general need for an off campus presence here, and the possible inclusion of general studies classes in addition to Art. All of the Board members spoke in favor of the concept. It appeared they were impressed with the turnout, having to send for more chairs, and the cohesive input from the AAV members.



Crawford County Sales for January thru August 2009/2010

Excludes Non-MLS	Sales 2009/2010	Volume 2009/2010	Avg. Price 2009/2010	New listings 2009/2010
Residential	98 / 110	\$7,433,794/ \$10,136,547	\$75,855/ \$92,150	223 / 267
Vacant	16 / 26	\$ 407,900/ \$675,400	\$25,493/ \$25,977	59 / 97
Commercial	1 / 5	\$ 140,000 / \$ 368,900	\$140,000/ \$73,780	15 / 26

Helpful Hints From Curt Jansen

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

Real Estate Agent

NO tips this issue, need the space for News.

The gloom and doom of the **Real Estate Market** you read and heard from the national press recently is not evident locally. Maybe it is to come, as we have always had a lag behind national trends. But where the National figures show a 27% drop in existing home sales for July, our sales actually increased nearly that much on a year to date basis to the end of August. If the comparison is made for just the month of July 2010 vs July 2009, then indeed our number of transactions is down, nearly 30%. But, the dollar volume of those sales and the average selling price are both way up, almost 50% on volume. Does this tell a story? Sure sales are slow. But the quality of the transactions are improving. The core of the local market is no longer distressed and repossessed homes. They are out there and they are pulling down the average sales statistics too. Still, the real market now is primary residences that are nice, livable homes in nice areas from legitimate sellers to qualified buyers. I for one, hope this trend continues. Quality over quantity

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 .

LAST ISSUE: The location of Dharma Records at 600 James St. was originally ??? **Answer:** McEvers Motors (Buick Dealership).

THIS MONTH: The current Subway at the Business loop and State St. was previously "Chicken Charlie's" but before that, it was????



Featured Listing: This mini country estate is located on a paved county road in the center of outdoor recreation. 2.75 acre homesite has a perfectly maintained 3 bedroom home with master suite, 2.5 baths, walk in closets, gas fireplace, and plenty of decking. A 30 x 40 stick built garage has it's own 12 x 30 office/hobby/guest room with a full bath and tons of storage. Nicely landscaped with limestone drive. \$119,900. #6256

For a look at this or any other listing call
Curt Jansen and "Expect Service as Usual"

Century 21 Office 989-348-5474

Private Office 989-348-8818

E-mail jansen.curt@gmail.com

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Mail or Fax this form to **Curt Jansen** PO Box 624 Grayling, MI 49738 / Fax 989-348-6598

My entry for Crawford County Trivia _____

Add this person to the mailing list Name _____

Address _____

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City, State, Zip _____