



REPUBLIC TOWNSHIP NEWS
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A PLACE FOR ALL SEASONS

Dam Dreamin'?

Volume 1 Issue 18	
DECEMBER 2011 ISSUE	
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Are we or aren't we? That is the question. And if it was easy, we'd have the answer already.

What's stopping it? Finance. The tanked economy. When we first laid out the Michigamme Basin TIFA, the economic projection was around 1.25 to 1.5 million dollars in projected revenue over the 20 year life span. Then we received interest in, and planned for a resort/dinner club construction. Then the idea of the assisted living facility came out, and we quickly increased the size of the TIFA boundaries, so we could capture that new construction. All was rosy and we were really rolling. Then the stars re-aligned, as they say. The gentleman that was interested in the resort unit passed away. Then, for multiple reasons, the investor that was going to put in the assisted living facility decided to not go through with that unit. Then came the recession. The 1.25 or so million dollar projected revenue stream has now been reduced to \$430,000 using a 2% cost of living compounded rise per year, expected over the life span of the TIFA. \$430,000 is 2/3rds of the projected cost of the amount needed, as prices stand.

We've looked at multiple things to increase the revenue from the area. Would creating a renaissance zone help? No, because a renaissance zone actually gives tax breaks, lowering the amount of money that is raised through value increases. Increased Personal Property income? Personal Property taxes aren't collected by the TIFA, only increases in the taxable value are collected. We can't control building, or sales, they happen when they happen. Outside help? That is the only seemingly viable solution.

We've sent letters to Kennecott/Rio Tinto, and Michigan Tech. looking for some kind of help or partnership. We've contacted our state and federal representatives, to see what is available in the areas of assistance. Levin's office reported that there is money available in the research and development area, but it appears that it would only be

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I wish we could put some of the Christmas spirit in jars, and open a jar of it each month.
 ~ Harlan Miller

SCAM ALERT

In Channing, recently, a grandmother received a phone call, from her "grandson" Michael, needing help because he was in an accident, and needed money.

Grandma had a grandson, Michael, and probably would have sent the money, until she looked down at caller I.D., and saw "Ontario, Canada". She asked the

caller to speak up, and the caller hung up. She then called the State Police. This is happening frequently in Sagola Township, and the rest of Dickinson County.

Be aware, these scam callers somehow know the personal information of their target, and they prey particularly on the elderly, who will have a soft spot for their family. What looks like emergency needs triggers an internal feeling of need to help. Please be aware this is happening around us.

Township activities:

The Township has a new Zoning Administrator. Mr. Terry Knapp has been appointed the zoning administrator for Republic Township. He can be reached by calling 376-2352.

The Township Zoning Ordinance has been extensively revised, and has been approved. As soon as a digital copy is received from CUP-PAD, the version that is on the web site will be replaced. This version will offer digital definition so as to allow the printing of maps by the assessing department. We will also attempt to have that service available from our web site. Included in the revision is a solution to a problem people have had when purchasing water front property, in the past. On parcels that are less than 1 acre in size, the Health Department requires an engineered water and sewer service plan. The increase of front footage requirements in new splits of parcels, from 100 ff to 150 ff in WR-1, solves that need & prevents conflicts between neighboring lots. This does not impact existing lots, only new lots to be split off from an existing "parent" parcel.

Please save all year long for Republic-Michigamme School

- *Box Tops
- *Campbell's labels
- *Ink cartridges
- *Cell phones
- *Laptops
- *GPS units
- *Digital cameras
- *MP3 players
- *iPods

Drop off at :
 RM School
 Republic Branch of the Ishpeming Community Federal Credit Union
 Republic St. Vincent DePaul

The Township is having a new loading facility constructed at the transfer station. The new concrete loading dock will be open for business in the spring. It is the intention of the Board to replace the other two docks as soon as enough money is accumulated. A new dock is also planned for shingle loading, which is a newer requirement from the Marquette Landfill Authority.

A BIG THANK YOU to everyone that donated items to the school. Donations can be made throughout the school year. Thank you for your continued support. We really appreciate it.

USED HOMECOMING & PROM DRESS SALE!
 Prices starting at \$10.00. All proceeds go towards homecoming expenses. If you would like to donate a dress please call Tammy at 376-8060 or drop it off at the school. Dresses will be on display in the room across from the office. Please pay Robin or Tammy in the kitchen between 9:00 to 2:00. All Sales Final Thank You!

A **Homework Club** will be starting January 8th, 2012 at the Oasis for grades 3-12 from 3-5 pm each Sunday. There will be no charge for this. Volunteers will be needed. Students will be responsible to clean up after. Students will provide their own snacks & drinks. This will not be a babysitting service.

Call Carol Nicholas at 376-8233 for more information/suggestions or to volunteer.

Fundraiser Basketball game

December 2, 2011
 MS girls against MS boys
 RM School 6:00p.m.
 Chinese Raffle
 Hope to see you there!

(Continued from page 1)

available (in this case) to assist in a hydroelectric upgrade. The Governor's office is waiting for us to get the projections from the two (Mead Hunt & Kaiser) engineering firms on how much electricity the dam would produce, so we can sit down and discuss what help they can bring to the table. Kennecott/Rio Tinto is reviewing our request, and there has been no response to date from Michigan Tech on a possible co-owned project. The bottom line on outside help is, without a hydroelectric intent, none has surfaced, yet. And to be able to leverage any financial assistance for the hydroelectric project requires ownership of the dam.

The only way we have any say in the river levels, is to be at least part owner of any structure that is controlling the water level. Without a direct say in water level operations, the Republic beach as it was the later part of this summer is what we can expect. Is the river navigable enough for a fishing derby the way it is?

And contrary to the misguided beliefs by individuals, that any owner of the dam "owes" us something, we can't say that the next owner would play "Santa Claus" for us, as the present owner has. What any owner, including the current owners or new ones, can or will do in the future has to be in their best interest. Financially, why should the present owners continue? What is the financial benefit to them? No business owner that wants to stay in business is going to take a continual financial loss. With that understanding, we are trying our best to find a solution to the situation. *If* we can.

A majority of the committee members have generally accepted that a decision has to be made, and no later than the end of the year. The committee members themselves are tired of spinning their wheels, going nowhere. We either find a way, or fold the TIFA. Soon.

Republic Michigamme School/Public Library:

We had a wonderful Scholastic Book Fair. It could not have gone any better with the helpers that I have. I could not do it without each and every one of you. To top it off, we exceeded last years sales. With that sales we receive a percentage and purchase more books for our library. Thank you to all that participated. I also thank everyone that has done an exceptional job on getting the coke rewards caps and case numbers to me. I am so impressed even by the kids at school that go out of their way to drop them off. This has purchased multiple items for the elementary classes and a few items for the library. Thanks to each and every one of you. With winter fast approaching, we will have some days in our homes sitting by the fire and staying warm. Come check out a good book, or books to read while we await Spring. I hope you all have a wonderful Thanksgiving and a Blessed Christmas.

Nancy E. Currie - Librarian

Community Services

Children's Christmas Party

The Annual Republic Community Services Children's Christmas Party will be held on Saturday, December 10th from 1-3pm. at the Multi-purpose room at the Republic-Michigamme School. It has been reported that Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus will be there to meet with the area children so they can get their Christmas wishes on Santa's schedule. Pictures will be taken and there will be games for the children. Music of the season will be provided by one of Santa's boosters, Mr. Glenn Adams.



We, the Republic Sportsmen's Club would like to **Thank all of you** who sold or purchased tickets for our Flat Screen TV raffle.

It was a big success!

The money raised will go into our Fireworks account at the Credit Union. We are still working toward having them again at our next years Fishing Derby.

Don't forget to take a chance on the **\$100 gift card** from Wal-Mart that is in the Summer Place. Drawing is December 5th.

Keep a look out for more Raffles to come, **your Help is still Needed!**



Republic Community – Christmas Tree Pick-up

The Republic Lions Club will pick up Christmas trees on **Saturday, January 7, 2012** beginning at **10:00 AM**. If you would like our service, please leave your tree by the curb. The trees will be taken to the South Republic sled hill for the tree burning in the evening.

Thank you Republic Community

The Republic Lions Club members send out a hearty **Thanks** to all the folks in the Republic community who brought potato dishes to and attended the Potato Fest in September. You helped to make our fundraiser a great success. You generous people truly help us to serve our community.



Lions Club Pie Social

Republic Lions Club Pie Social

is held the **1st Wednesday** of each month in the **Township Hall, 10:00 AM-2:00PM**

Please join us and enjoy a slice (or two) of pie and coffee to support our Sight and Community Service Programs. All proceeds will be used in our community to assist in **The Lions Club Sight Care Program and Community Service Projects**. A suggested donation of \$3.00 gets you a piece of homemade pie and coffee. A delicious variety will be available. You can enjoy it there or take it home. We welcome pie donations from the community.

To donate a pie contact **Ann Carne** at **376-2580**

Epiphany Bonfire

Saturday Jan. 7 at 4pm

Bonfire lit at 5pm

We gather at the base of Carlson's hill in South Republic. Come for snow shoe baseball, sledding, hot chocolate and a Christmas tree bonfire. Say **Good-bye** to the Christmas season with style!



St Augustine's Catholic Church

We invite you to join in the Christmas eve Mass at St. Augustine Church on Saturday, December 24th at 7 P.M. We look forward to your presence as we celebrate the birth of the Lord Jesus.

Bethany Lutheran

Christmas Worship

~Christmas Eve

*Saturday Dec. 24
at 5:00pm and 7:00pm.*

*Holy Communion and
Candlelight Worship*

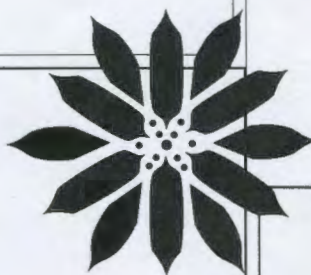
~Christmas Day

*Worship at 10:30am
With Coffee Fellowship at 10am.*

**Ladies Community
Christmas Dinner –**

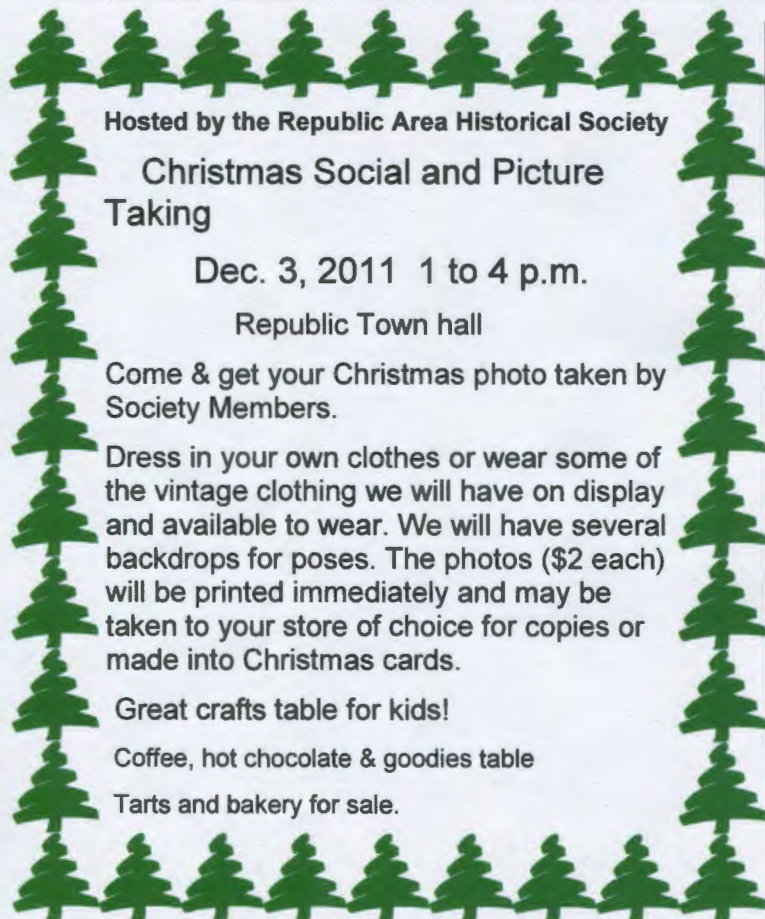
Sunday December 4 at 6:00pm

Tickets \$10.00 for dinner and program.
Call Bethany Lutheran for availability.
All are invited to participate!



Sunday School Christmas Play

Sunday December 18 during 10:30am Worship.
Presented by the Sunday School children, teachers, and parents of Bethany.
All are welcome! A coffee and fellowship reception will follow.



Hosted by the Republic Area Historical Society

Christmas Social and Picture Taking

Dec. 3, 2011 1 to 4 p.m.

Republic Town hall

Come & get your Christmas photo taken by Society Members.

Dress in your own clothes or wear some of the vintage clothing we will have on display and available to wear. We will have several backdrops for poses. The photos (\$2 each) will be printed immediately and may be taken to your store of choice for copies or made into Christmas cards.

Great crafts table for kids!

Coffee, hot chocolate & goodies table

Tarts and bakery for sale.

REPUBLIC

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

INVITES YOU TO SHARE IN OUR FELLOWSHIP AND SERVICES THROUGHOUT THIS HOLIDAY SEASON.

SERVICES: SUNDAYS. AT 9:15 a.m.

WEDNESDAY, NOV 23RD: (At Bethany Lutheran Church 7:00 p.m.)

Sunday NOV 27th: Hanging of the greens

DECEMBER 24th: Christmas Eve Service 4:00 P.M.

Refreshments served following the service.

216 Front Street ,Republic
MI 49879

376-2389



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PL

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR

*Now and then it's good to pause in our
pursuit of happiness and just be happy.*



May this Christmas find you surrounded by those you love and those who love you

HOLIDAY WISHES FROM

Faye

Gary

Marilyn

Steve

Tom

PLEASE SUBMIT REQUESTS FOR PRE-PUBLISHING NOTIFICATION TO republicsupervisor@northpines.net.