

# Looking Back

Compiled by Ryan Schlehuder



Students gather in front of the former Moran school for a class picture. Moran's first school, an 18-foot by 14-foot building in Allenville, was lost to a fire. The second school was in an old saloon in Moran. The building pictured here was built in the late 1920s or early 1930s. It is now the municipal building for Brevort Township. John Roggenbuck was the contractor, constructing the building for \$648. (Photograph courtesy of Kirk and Julie Lipnitz)

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**Curtis column** - The merry-makers had a most enjoyable time at Brown's pavilion Christmas eve. There was a large crowd in attendance.

**Moran column** - Mr. John Luepnitz, the popular school teacher of the Santiago school, greeted Moran friends Sunday.

**50 Years Ago**

**Thursday, December 29, 1955**

Heavy ice continuing to form in the Straits of Mackinac may curtail the state ferry schedule before the scheduled date of January 2. Captain George Lloyd, superintendent, said Monday that though the boats are now providing hourly departures from both ports, the ice continues to form and may halt the *City of Munising* before its scheduled lay-up on January 2.

Work on the Mackinac Straits bridge came to a stand-still last week and is closed down for the winter months.

A long, hot summer, an early winter, winds of hurricane force, erection of the bridge towers, a heavy highway accident toll, two featured swims at the Straits, and great progress in remodeling and construction in the area marked the headline highlights for 1955, according to the review of *The Republican-News* files.

St. Ignace firemen hustled out to the Sunset Ridge trailer park about 1:45 p.m. Sunday to extinguish a blazing turkey. The Wallaces, who have a trailer in Jim Campbell's attractive park, had their turkey baking in a gas oven catch fire as grease dripped onto the gas flame. They slammed shut the oven door and called the department, who found the turkey some burnt, but little but smoke damage done.

**Moran column** - A capacity crowd filled our auditorium Wednesday evening to see our Christmas program. Our spacious 12-foot by 30-foot new stage was used for the first time, with newly decorated background and improved lighting. It has a seating capacity of over 145.

**35 Years Ago**

**Thursday, December 31, 1970**

The New Year's Eve Tricentennial Ball, to be held at the old Walker Furniture Store Building, will be a gala event, according to Mary McGraw, chairman, Jerry LaNoo, co-chairman, and Bob Sposito, committee member. The ball will be the first official event to celebrate St. Ignace's 300th birthday, 1671-1971. The orchestra for dancing will be The Kings, from Engadine.

Much of the state's prime farmland may be wiped out by sprawling cities in the next 30 years. That is the main worry of B. Dale Ball, director of Michigan Department of Agriculture.

Cigarette commercials will be banished from the airwaves in another few days. A sign of the times.

**15 Years Ago**

**Thursday, December 27, 1990**

The opening of some trails to off-road vehicle use in the Search Bay area has raised anger of members of the Les Cheneaux Chamber of Commerce's Search Bay Committee.

Helen Marks and Eldon Patten were given certificates of appreciation in recognition as heroes for their successful effort to save the life of Nicholas Roberge of Sault Ste. Marie from a heart attack he suffered during a hockey game at Lake Superior State University.

Both George Tamlyn, a custo-

dian for the U.S. Post Office in St. Ignace for 20 years, and Mary Jane St. Louis, a magistrate for the 50th District Court in St. Ignace for 21 years, have retired.



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