

Spotlight on Community Involvement

Year End 2008

2008 has been a challenging year. In addition to the broad range of clients we have had the pleasure of working with this year, we have been able to find ways to serve several organizations that provide necessary services to our communities. In these hard economic times it has often been difficult to provide pro bono services, but it is rewarding and necessary for the organizations that we help. We would like to salute these agencies and offer our sincere thanks for allowing us to help them continue their work which is vital to all of us who live, work and play in Northern Michigan.

Raven Hill Discovery Center, East Jordan Michigan

Preliminary design has been completed and the process is underway to raise funds to renovate the historic schoolhouse at Raven Hill Discovery Center in East Jordan, MI. The existing building will receive structural improvements as well as a ramp and additional items to meet ADA requirements.

Two new screened porches will supply additional learning spaces, and a complete renovation of the existing building will allow it to continue displaying an educational timeline of schools in the US. Built-in bookcases, seating, and storage will improve the efficiency of both the new and existing learning areas.

A historically accurate bell tower and wood doors and windows are important components of the overall design. To learn more about Raven Hill Discovery Center's programs, please visit: www.ravenhilldiscoverycenter.org



Communities for a Lifetime

Since the fall of 2005, Bradley J. Butcher, AIA has been a member of the Otsego County – Communities For A Lifetime Assessment Team. Brad, together with a group of professionals and community members, under the guidance of the Michigan State University Extension, has developed an assessment tool for use by communities across Michigan to evaluate the quality of life presented to their senior population. As a part of this committee, Brad has taken great interest in the growing demographic across America, the aging Baby Boomer generation. This interest has been fueled by the generation's interest in accommodating an Aging in Place effort that permits older adults to stay in their homes and home communities longer in life.

For more information about Aging in Place and Otsego County's Michigan Communities for a Lifetime Initiative, please visit: www.otsego.org/efc

Area Commissions on Aging we are proud to serve:

- Otsego County Commission on Aging
- Crawford County Commission on Aging

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