

REPUBLIC TOWNSHIP NEWS

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Citizens join forces to build a better Republic

REPUBLIC, MICH. – A diverse group of citizens is taking action to promote the growth of Republic, Michigan, a historic mining town in the central Upper Peninsula. The coalition, called The Republic Rainbow Initiative, held its first meeting on Feb. 21 at CedarHurst Lodge in Republic.

The objective for the Republic Rainbow Initiative evening was to expose Republic resources and potential and encourage developers to look at Republic as a financial profit center. From the colleges and state representatives, the group wants to gain champions, conduits to the areas/people that can help with resources and expertise for development and access to grants and other funding sources. From the local citizens, the group wanted to gain help sharing the message of the evening with the community.

The Rainbow Project's membership encompasses businesspeople, government representatives, academics and clergy. The group,



Bill DeGenaro, Matt Johnson -Rio Tinto's representative and Chuck Hurst at the Rainbow Initiative Dinner.

which was spearheaded by citizens Bill DeGenaro, Chuck Hurst, Tom Sandblom and Dan Mitchell, has received the support of Gary Johnson, Republic Township Supervisor.

The group currently is soliciting suggestions about how best to achieve its mission: "To recreate a historically interesting, economically viable and aesthetically attractive township."

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Bio-fuels, your money crop?

The bio-fuels market is a new source of income that will be available for Republic Township owners of fields, both existing farmers, and non-farming land owners.

An idea coming from the Rainbow Initiative dinner, the new bio-fuels market can use many types of crops, including sawgrass, commercial hemp, and others.

Conceptual ideas included farmers/landowners han-

dling their own planting/harvesting needs, and potential co-ops. Another concept discussed was the leasing of agriculturally capable land to a manager.

This idea will be followed up, and further information will be made available as it develops.

Republic Community Services

We are in need of new active members or we will be forced to disband in May. Our meetings are at 6:00 p.m. at the R-M School teachers lounge March 19, April 16 & May 21.

If you have any questions feel free to call any of the members.

Thank you!

Community services officers

President Carol Nicholas

Vice Pres. Marie Oja

Secretary, Diane Perry

Treasurer, Ethel Valenzio

Distress Chair, Tammy Kaminen

Republic Sportsman's Club

Winners of the Kid's Ice Fishing Derby were:

1st place, Jeremy Bowing

2nd place, Arvo Lyyski

3rd place Rae Richards.

50/50 was won by Megan Marta

The Sportsman's Club has partnered with the Township Board in applying for grants to build a handicapped access fishing site on School Lake.

Originally The DNR Fisheries Grant was being submitted by UP Engineers, in combination with a DNR Trust Fund Grant. If approved, the grants would provide a northern shore floating dock system, accessible from Republic Ave. in the easterly vicinity

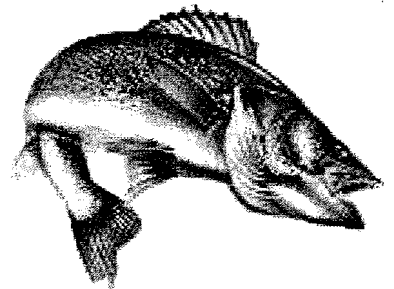
of the Heritage Gardens. The grants would also provide the trail surface for the portion of the Heritage Trail that traverses the northern shore of the Lake.

The Moose Country snowmobile Club has also offered support, both in equipment and manpower, to help in the project.

In addition, the Township Campground, which is being developed in the Festival Grounds area, will include several camping sites on the South end of School Lake.

As the article was going to press, notice was received that the DNR had unexpectedly eliminated fishing access sites from the grant. This will not stop the project, it will just cause additional steps to be taken.

Stay tuned.



Please save for Republic-Michigamme School

*Campbell's products (UPC codes)

*Box Tops

*Econo Food Receipts

*Cell phones and ink cartridges

You can bring them to the school, Republic Branch of the Credit Union or St. Vincent DePaul, Republic.

Remember to save all year long - we still count the points in the summer also.

Any questions call Kasey Saari 376-2026 or Tammy Kaminen 376-8060.

Thank you for your continued support.

Republic Methodist Church

April 5th, Palm Sunday Service, 9:15 A.M.
April 9th, Maundy Thursday meal and Worship, 6:30 P.M.
April 10th, Good Friday Service, 7:00 P.M.
April 12th, Easter Sunday Service, 9:15 A.M.
May 2nd, Saturday, Blue Grass Gospel Service featuring the Kings Countrymen, 7:00 P.M.

St Augustine's Catholic Church

April 9th, Holy Thursday, Sacred Heart, Champion, 5 P.M, potluck to follow
April 10th, Good Friday, St. Augustine's, 1 P.M.
EASTER SERVICES
April 11th, St. Augustine's, 8 P.M.
April 12th, Sacred Heart, Champion, 10:30 A.M.

Bethany Lutheran Church

Holy week worship:
Maundy Thursday, 7 P.M.
Good Friday 7 P.M.
Holy Saturday, 7 P.M.
Easter Sunday 8:00 A.M. & 11:00 A.M. with Easter breakfast 9-10:30 A.M.
Passover Seder Meal, Maundy Thursday, 5:00 P.M. Reservations required.
Senior Friendly meets noon, Mar. 12th & Apr. 16th
Come to Worship during Lent, Wed. 7:00 P.M.
Come for soup and sandwich supper at 6:00 P.M, all of March and April 1st.

Apostolic Lutheran Church,

Sunday services, every Sunday at 2.P.M.
Easter Sunday service on April 12th, will be at 2 P.M.
Visitors are welcome.

First Baptist Church of Witch Lake

Sunday services: Bible School, 9:15
Services, 10:30
Good Friday, April 10th, 7:00 P.M.
Easter Sunday, April 12th, 10:30 A.M.

TIFA, What is it?

March 18th, 6:30 P.M. the Township Board will hold an informational meeting in the Township Hall auditorium, to explain to the public a proposal to create a **Tax Increment Financing Authority** for a 1 mile area in all directions around the Republic Basin.

A new concept, authorized by the State Legislature in the fall of 2008, it allows a unit of government to create a TIFA to capture tax increases on a specific area that bounds water, and to use those tax increases for the good of the area.

After the explanation of the process, there will be a question and answer session. Since this is new, some questions will have to be researched, and responded to.

Republic Mine Reunion

The planning for the Republic Miners Reunion dinner is on going.

The dinner will take place at the RMS school August 15th, at 6 p.m., preceded by a social hour starting at 4:30 p.m.

R-M students will provide a brief video presentation, and they and the Republic Historical Society will have other visual demonstrations.

While not final, bus tours of the old mine site, and reclaimed tailing basins are being pursued.

The Historical Society will be mailing letters to all known former employees within a short period of time.

Republic Rainbow Initiative, cont.

Cont. from page 1.

Some of the projects already in the works include:

Further development of the Republic Wetlands Preserve, which covers about 2,300 acres of former mining land. The southern part of the preserve, including a circular trail about 2 miles in length, was opened to the public in 2008.

Further development of the Iron Ore Heritage Trail, a 48-mile, multi-use trail that stretches from Republic to Marquette.

Plans to acquire and refurbish the historic Republic Bank building to period condition so it may be opened as a trail-head site and local history museum. In 2008, Republic received a grant from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Trust Fund to purchase the building.

A town square complex will be constructed next to the refurbished Republic Bank building.

The leveraging of tax initiatives from the State of Michigan to attract film production to the Republic area.

"I was pleasantly surprised by the level of enthusiasm demonstrated by supporters and community members. Pride in our town plus enthusiasm will guarantee success" said Bill DeGenaro, contact person for the Rainbow Group.

Republic, a township of about 1,100 residents, is located about 45 minutes southwest of Marquette. The area's rich history is rooted in the Upper Peninsula's mining era. Republic offers outdoor recreational activities for all four seasons, including snowmobiling, cross-country skiing, fishing, hiking, boating and hunting. The township also is home to several resorts and campgrounds.

The members of the Rainbow Project will continue to meet periodically to plan and implement a variety of projects. Please keep an eye out for public updates.

To learn more about The Rainbow Initiative and the Township of Republic, please visit republicmichigan.com or contact Bill DeGenaro by phone at (906) 376-8007 or by e-mail at rainbow@northpines.net.

A Republic Rainbow Initiative web site is in planning, and should be up within the next month.

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has."

Margaret Mead.



Jon Mykkanen, Rep. Steve Lindberg, and Tom Sandblom share one of John's stories during the Initiative Dinner.

Membership Application For Republic Ambulance "Care Plan"

(Please Print)

Name: Last _____ **First** _____ **Middle** _____

Address: _____ **Fire ID#** _____ **Home Phone** _____

Date of Birth: _____ **Medicare Number:** _____ **Social Security No.:** _____

Single: _____ Married _____ Widowed: _____

Retired

From: _____ **Employer:** _____

Insurance / Supplemental Insurance

Company Name: _____ **Policy Number:** _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip Code:** _____

DEPENDENTS:

Name: Last _____ **First** _____ **Middle** _____

Dependent Social Security or Medicare # _____ **Birth Date** _____

Name: Last _____ **First** _____ **Middle** _____

Dependent Social Security or Medicare # _____ **Birth Date** _____

Name: Last _____ **First** _____ **Middle** _____

Dependent Social Security or Medicare # _____ **Birth Date** _____

Name: Last _____ **First** _____ **Middle** _____

Dependent Social Security or Medicare # _____ **Birth Date** _____

I understand that in order for my membership in the Republic Township Ambulance "Care Plan" to be effective, I must use the services of the Republic Township Ambulance. I understand that the membership fee per year provides emergency medical service plus ambulance transportation at no additional out-of-pocket cost to me, provided it is medically necessary. I authorize Republic Township to bill my insurance carrier or third party payer for any customary charges associated with this service. Republic Township agrees to accept those payments in full. I further understand that local services other than to and from a hospital are rendered at \$235 per trip and \$8 per loaded mile. Republic Township will also charge for materials used, if any. I also understand that physician authorization is required for all routine medical transfers to and from hospitals and that emergency calls have first priority.

I understand that this membership is nonrefundable and nontransferable. My membership will start April 1, 2009 and will expire March 31, 2010 The fee for this plan is **\$15 for one person, \$30 for a couple, and \$40 for a family.**

I affirm that I have read and agree to the terms of this membership as described above.

Signature _____ **Date:** _____ / _____ / _____
Month Day Year

MEMBERSHIP WILL NOT BECOME EFFECTIVE WITHOUT YOUR SIGNATURE ON THIS APPLICATION

This is not an insurance program and does not reduce the obligations of any third party payer. Republic Township retains the right to bill Medicare, Medicaid and private insurance companies for services provided. This program is subject to changes to Medicare reimbursement and may not be changed or terminated without notice.

UNINSURED PARTICIPANT

Last Name _____ First Name _____ Middle _____

Mailing Address _____ Physical Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Single _____ Married _____ Widowed _____

Social Security Number _____

<u>DEPENDANTS</u>	<u>DATE-OF-BIRTH</u>	<u>DEPENDANT'S SOCIAL SECURITY OR MEDICARE NUMBER</u>
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1 _____

2 _____

3 _____

4 _____

Membership will not become effective without your signature on the bottom of this application. This is not an insurance program and does not reduce the obligations of any third party payer. Republic Township retains the right to bill Medicare, Medicaid and private insurance companies for services provided. This program is subject to change in Medicare reimbursement and may not be changed or terminated without notice.

REPUBLIC TOWNSHIP AMBULANCE "CARE PLAN" MEMBERSHIP
CONTRACT FOR UNINSURED RESIDENTS OR RESIDENTS WITHOUT
AMBULANCE COVERAGE UNDER INSURANCE CARRIERS

I understand that in order for my membership in the Republic Township Ambulance "Care Plan" to be effective I must use the services of the Republic Township Ambulance. I understand that the membership fee per year (**\$15.00 for one person, \$30.00 for a couple, \$40.00 for a family**) enrolls me in the "Care Plan" pool as an *uninsured participant*. I understand that if I use the services of the Republic Township Ambulance, the "Care Plan" will pay the first \$250.00 of the ambulance bill, this amount being based on this year's highest verified insured member's deductible, and I will be responsible for, **AND AGREE TO PAY**, the remainder of the bill. I further understand that local services are rendered at \$235.00 per trip and \$8.00 per loaded mile. Republic Township will also charge for materials used, if any.

I understand that this membership is nonrefundable and nontransferable. My membership will start April 1, 2009 and will expire on March 31, 2010.

I affirm that I have read and agree to the terms of this membership as described.

Signature

Date

Tammy, Taylor & Rachel Kaminen along with Carol Nicholas are having a fundraiser for the
American Diabetes Association.

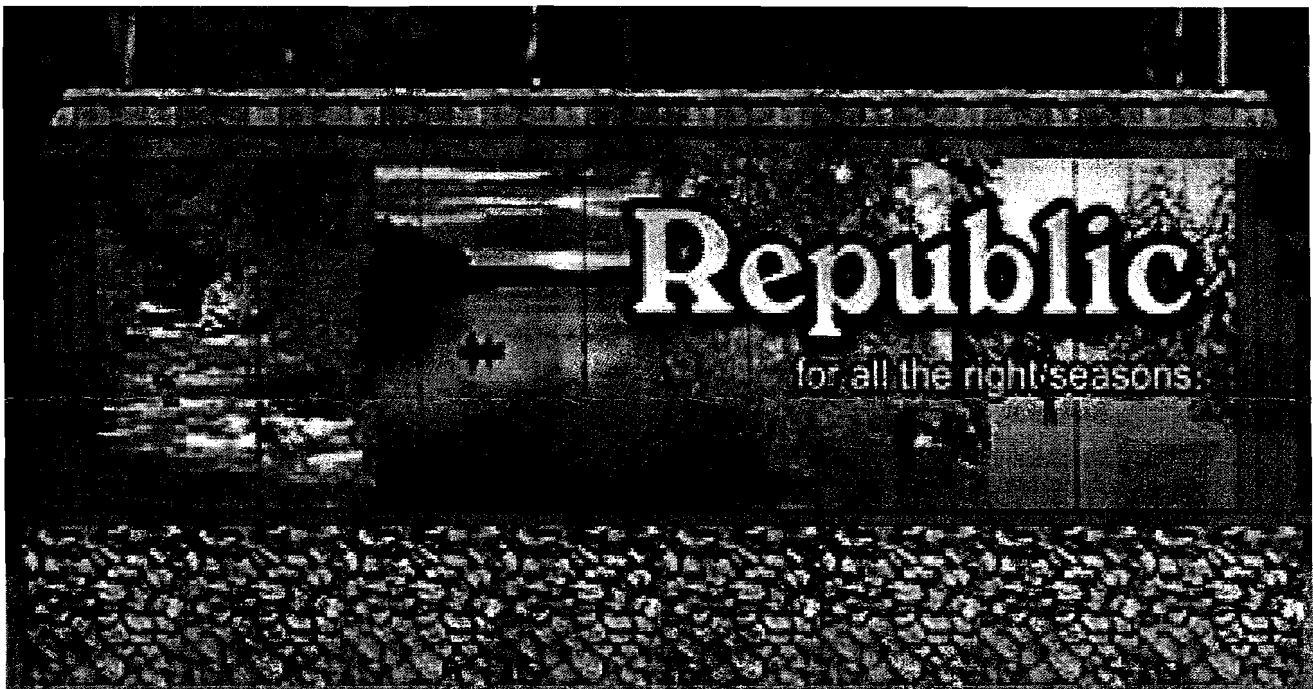
Date: Tuesday March 24 (Diabetes Alert Day)

Time: 2:00 to 3:00

Place: Republic-Michigamme School

Open to all ages. Participants can receive prizes depending on the amount of money they get in pledges. If we raise enough money our school will get to keep a percentage to purchase gym equipment.

To participate, volunteer to work or to donate please call Tammy at 376-8060. We appreciate all the support we can get for the event. THANK YOU!



REPUBLIC COMMUNITY SERVICES SAYS THANK YOU

We would like to thank all who have contributed and those who are still contributing to our annual fund drive.

Thank you to all who shared, contributed and attended our 50th anniversary appreciation cake and coffee that was held at the Republic Township Hall.

A big thanks goes to all who help us yearly with our annual Christmas party, and the food baskets that are given to the elderly and shut-ins.

It is these efforts that enable us to continue doing the volunteer work that we do to help those in need on a local, county, state and national level. New members are welcome and needed for us to continue meeting our goals

With sincere thanks and appreciation.

Carol Nicholas, President.