





GrandHavenTribune.com

Grand Haven, Michigan

-  Share Photos
-  Real Estate Guide
-  Advertise
-  School Closings



Ottawa County prosecutor gets Crime Fighter Award

[Front Page](#) [News](#) [Sports](#) [Classifieds](#) [Obituaries](#) [Police Blotter](#) [Entertainment](#) [Special Sections](#) [Weather](#)

Officials eye linking area cities with bus system

Tue, Jan 29, 2008

BY PETER DAINING
pdaining@grandhaventribune.com

OLIVE TOWNSHIP — Area leaders agree the time is right to research a bus system linking the triangle of Grand Haven, Muskegon, Holland and Grand Rapids.



[Click to enlarge](#)

Officials from those cities and also Grand Valley State University met last week to discuss studying a mass transit system between the urban areas.

"Everybody left there pretty excited," Grand Haven Mayor Roger Bergman said. "Certainly this is something I've heard people talking about for a long time."

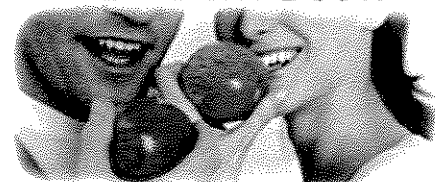
Bergman said businesses such as Grand Haven Plastics and JSJ Corp. are interested in a mass transit system for commuting employees who

SPORTS HEADLINES

- [Veach scores record 32 poi to top WO](#)
- [Girls hoops roundup: Sophomores spark SL](#)
- [Broncos stampede past Fruitport boys](#)
- [Haven girls skiers aim for regional success](#)
- [Buccaneer bowlers overpov Big Reds](#)
- [Fury to play in Wheelchair Basketball Challenge](#)
- [Lela Johnson 3-on-3 enterir 6th year](#)
- [Haven JV boys, girls both p 1st at Cannonsburg](#)
- [Grand Haven girls compete MISCA middle school meet](#)
- [Spring Lake boys hoops ga cancelled](#)

Site Sponsor

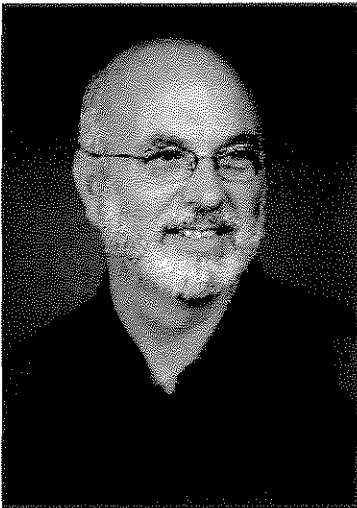
Garrison Dental



616.842.1562

don't have reliable transportation.

er Bergman presented the idea to the Ottawa County Planning Commission on Monday night at the Fillmore Street Complex in Olive Township, the group agreed to narrow the focus of its planned \$110,000 study.



[Click to enlarge](#)

James Bachmeier, GVSU vice president of finance and administration, said a number of cities and groups are planning mass transit studies, making it a good time to join efforts.

"This might really be the time," Bachmeier said. "We've really hit a fortuitous time because so many entities are at the beginning of conducting a study."

It's also good timing, according to Bergman, because Grand Haven's Harbor Transit bus system is in a time of transition with the retirement of longtime director Julie Bildner on Feb. 29.

Ottawa County Planning and Grants Director Mark Knudsen said the county paid for a study nine years ago, and decided then it was too expensive to service rural areas.

Knudsen and the county Planning Commission agreed a similar study with an emphasis on rural areas would likely show the same high costs, and focusing instead on linking urban centers could provide more in-depth information for a more feasible system.

Bachmeier said bus ridership by GVSU students has skyrocketed in recent years, but only from Grand Rapids and the east side of the Allendale campus. GVSU students took more than 1.6 million rides

LOCAL NEWS Headlines

- ▣ [Plan for second Walgreens approved](#)
- ▣ [Road salt supplies squeezed in parts Michigan](#)
- ▣ [Ottawa County prosecutor gets Crime Fighter Award](#)
- ▣ [Love INC receives gift of memories, h](#)
- ▣ [CWIT director resigns after 11 years](#)
- ▣ [People Center seeks 'puzzle challenge teams](#)
- ▣ [Mortgage foreclosure forum Thursday Grand Rapids](#)
- ▣ [Births](#)
- ▣ [Library moves to a new chapter](#)
- ▣ [Walk for Warmth sets high goal for to times](#)

POLICE BLOTTER

- ▣ [Dryer to blame in Crockery house fire](#)
- ▣ [4 children, father die in Rogers City h fire](#)
- ▣ [Scout leader gets 3 years, 2 months f child pornography](#)
- ▣ [Milford man sentenced for pushing daughter into prostitution](#)
- ▣ [GH teen pleads guilty in safe theft](#)
- ▣ [Wilkinson waives court appearance](#)
- ▣ [Investigators have few leads in student death](#)
- ▣ [3 firefighters injured in Stanton house](#)
- ▣ [Killer's release upheld by state Supreme Court](#)
- ▣ [Deaths of 2 Mich. men blamed on arc blast](#)

Arts/Entertainment

- ▣ [Writers vote to end 3-month strike; some TV shows to re this spring](#)

during the 2006-07 school year, up from around 98,821 rides in 2000-01.

Rider demographics have changed because of an increased emphasis on the environment and the high costs of owning and operating a personal vehicle, Bachmeier said.

"Transit has evolved to something much broader," he said. "More people are interested in mass transit than there used to be."

Grand Haven Mi
Save Money on Travel Quick & Easy!
TravelSearch.com

Ads by Google

AP Breaking News Video

Baseball Steroids Hearing - Click Here

- ▶ LIVE NOW: Baseball Steroids Hearing
- ▶ Record Snow Keeps Wis. Road Crews Busy
- ▶ Raw Video: Man Dumped From Wheelchair by I
- ▶ Marisa Miller Graces S.I. Swimsuit Edition

Quick Links

News: [Frontpage](#) | [Local News](#) | [Sports](#) | [Blogs](#) | [Real Estate Guide](#) | [Squink](#)
Classifieds: [Employment](#) | [Real Estate](#) | [Autos](#) | [Garage Sales](#) | [Merchandise](#) | [Search](#)
Specials: [Obituaries](#) | [VIP Coupons](#) | [Discover Guide](#) | [Key to Tri-Cities](#) | [Forms](#)

Contact Us

Online Info
 Grand Haven T
 101 N Third St.
 Grand Haven, I

All Content Copyright © grandhaventribune.com. All Rights Reserved [Privacy Policy](#)

Get Firefox with
Google Toolbar