

Veterans Pier

(proposed fishing pier at DeVoe Beach)

The idea of a fishing pier at DeVoe Beach is not a new one. Even before the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers constructed the jetty that runs along the Indian River out into Burt Lake, sportsmen knew this spot as a great place for fishing. The only drawback was the difficulty in trudging out to the end where most of the fish were.

The Tuscarora Township Parks Commission has been busy securing permits and preparing for a matching fund raising campaign. The application for up to 75% of the project will be submitted to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Trust Fund by the spring of 2008. The estimated cost of the project is \$500,000. Our share of the matching funds will be \$125,000. This money will be raised by donations from local service groups, private industry and citizens eager to see a beautiful addition to our community.

A parallel steel sheet wall will be constructed out to the bend in the original jetty then curve around to form a 12'x12' oval platform. The boardwalk will be 6' to 8' wide and will be handicap accessible with ample room for fishermen along the river. The walkway will either be wolmanized wood or recycled decking material. Low voltage lights will illuminate the ramped walkway and the steel sheeting will be capped and railing will be erected on the elevated platform.

The name Veterans Pier was suggested as a way for our community to honor the service men and women, living and dead, who have given of themselves in the protection of our freedom and security. It is our small way to acknowledge such a large sacrifice.

Veterans Pier will be an ideal place to just sit and relax, cast a line or watch a beautiful sunset. It will be a tremendous asset to our community as it enhances outdoor recreation and promotes the inland waterway as well as the entire Indian River area. Please support this project in any way you can.