

Three days last week were the worst of the summer season, bringing torrential rain and wind. Sunday morning, August 21, when the brilliant sunshine appeared, the Island took on the cleanest look of the summer. Everywhere the lawns, gardens, and flowers were a breathtaking sight. Marquette Park was a carpet of fresh green. What had been dust prior to the rain now has turned into a thing of beauty. Windermere Point has changed from brown to a most welcome sight, where visitors enjoy sitting under the umbrellas admiring the Straits and the big freighters passing through, often sending a salute or two.

Saturday, August 20, many weddings had been planned. When the rain began to pour, we thought of all those brides who chose Mackinac for their very special day. Happy is the bride that the sun shines on. The Barr family, West Bluff cottagers, had made big plans, hoping for a warm sunny day. At 4:30 p.m., following a most disagreeable morning, brilliant sunshine broke through the dark, black clouds, making a perfect setting for a bride on her wedding day. Carmen Aranda rode to the Old Mission Church in a special wedding carriage for her marriage to Christian Barr. The remainder of the day and evening was perfect.

Sunday, August 21, was a very special one on the Island, for it was the big auction at Grand Hotel, the proceeds of which support the Mackinac Island Medical Center. What a party it was. Friends and neighbors came from far and near to join in the fun of bidding on their favorite item. Following a delicious buffet dinner and bidding on the silent auction, the big auction began with David Levy as the auctioneer. David dedicated the auction to a very special lady, Alice Myron, who could not be with us this year. Alice and her daughter, Sue, always did an excellent job running the silent auction. David was assisted by Bob Tagatz, Buck Sharrow, Bruce LaPine, and Smi Horn.

Tension began to grow as bidders sought to outbid their neighbors and friends. Prizes ranged from Grace Armour's homemade cinnamon bread, antique photographs of the Island, antique brass candlesticks, lasagna dinner for 12 at the home of Kay and Larry Berke, handmade afghans, photographs by the late Emerson Dufina, a Waterford crystal bowl, Grand Hotel Presidential Suite, floral bouquets, Cannondale bicycle, handmade sweaters and quilts, Italian supper for 10 at Fort Mackinac Sergeant's Quarters, Piston tickets, Grand Hotel Masco Cottage, a painting by Marlee Brown, stained

glass shell pieces made by Tim Timmons, a turtle necklace from a Petoskey stone made by Frank Blowski Jr., a big talking horse, and Lions vs. Bears tickets. As always, it was a terrific evening. Special thanks to each and everyone who made the party such a huge success. To Grand Hotel and the Musser family, to all who donated and bought from the auction, to David Levy and his helpers for auctioneering, to Kay Hoppenrath, Lorna Straus, Jennifer Blowski, Betty and Barry BeDour, Greg Main, Suzanne Munger, Howard Burdette, Margaret Doud, Rick Lynn, Brian Schoenborn, Robert Chambers, and Jamie Bynoe, and to all who helped with the silent auction.

Last came the big raffle prizes: \$5,000 to Stephanie Arbib, \$3,000 to William Twomey, and \$2,000 to the Bacon family. The 50-50 raffle winner was Randy Stuck. A special thanks to Vic Callewaert for doing an excellent job on ticket sales and to all the wonderful folks who sold and bought tickets.

We can be especially proud of the great facility which is our Mackinac Island Medical Center, standing proudly on the hill by Cloghaun Cottage, staffed by dedicated doctors, nurses, X-ray technicians, and office personnel. The beautiful flowers and green grass

on the hill of Cloghaun add even more to the beauty to the center.

St. Ignace folks seen enjoying the big auction were Pat and Dave Ramsay, Janis Holle, Paula McNamara, Judge Tom North, and Nancy, Rod, and Cory Nelson and Nancy's father, Ralph Oman of Vandercook Lake.

The highlight of the Sunday night party at Grand Hotel was the presence of the honored guest, Judge Ned Fenlon of Petoskey, who is 102 years of age. Ned enjoyed a wonderful time greeting all his many friends, looking very dapper with his Irish shamrock pin tucked safely in his lapel. Everyone stopped by to greet their special friend. He was accompanied by his nurse companion Meryl Hanke and several friends. Wonderful to see you, Ned, displaying your rich Irish wit.

As we near the month of September next week, we do feel that the season of fall is at hand, when Mackinac takes on the colors of orange, brown, crimson, and yellow, making just another beautiful time of year.

In June, Dan Seeley was visited at the Stuart House by Pat Smits of Leslie, Missouri, Rue Dewacloche of Detroit, and Carol Higginson of Muskegon. These ladies are first cousins and the grandchildren of Alfred (Fred) James Doherty II, who operated the Mackinac Island Light and Power Co. from 1911 to 1918. later, Frank Doherty operated the Island power plant from 1918 to 1929. The ladies presented a box of

early photographic negatives and other memorabilia, which will be placed in the Stuart House City Museum archives.

Mrs. Pat Smits also donated a handwritten letter from Edwin Orin Wood, which had accompanied the 1918 gift to her grandparents of his famous "Historic Mackinac." A decade ago, Pat Smits donated this set of "Historic Mackinac" to Mackinac Island Public School as per the wishes of her late mother, Margaret (Doherty) Weberly.

The ladies enjoyed lunch at the French Outpost, where they went to call on Sandra and Debra Orr. The late Dr. Rex Orr was the best man at Carol Higginson's wedding.

The Doherty family moved from Mackinac Island in 1929, when the Mackinac Island Light and Power Co. was sold to American State Public Service Corp. of New York City. The Dohertys moved to Clair and opened the Doherty Hotel, which is still owned and operated by members of the family and which hosted a family reunion this past week.

Adrienne and Zola Murray

received the Holy Sacrament of Confirmation Sunday, August 21, while Zola also made her first Holy Communion. Celebrant was Father Rey Garcia of Ste. Anne's. Grandparents Norman and Joyce Beauchamp of Port Huron attended the mass at 11 a.m. Charles and Elaine Murray were sponsors for the girls and hosted a family party at their condominium at Lesley Court following the celebration. Other family members were Jerry and Reine Murray and Brian and Michael Murray. Proud parents of Zola and Adrienne are Steve and Anne Murray. Congratulations to Adrienne and Zola. The Murray family dates back many, many years on Mackinac, where the family home is now Harbor View. Happy memories.

The beautiful East Bluff cottage, with two Japanese trees standing stately in the front lawn, is being enjoyed by owners Mark and Ann Timmons and their children from Missoula, Montana. They were seen enjoying the auction at Grand Hotel Sunday night.

*Please turn to page 21

Gould City

We certainly hope that Glenda Sharret is recovering after her terrible ordeal last week when her house burned to the ground. I'm sure that there will be many things that Ms. Sharret will need. Our heart goes out to her and her family.

The Curtis Centennial Committee has decided to put together a hardcover book that will preserve the early history of Curtis. Many of the pictures and articles that were collected appeared in the *Curtis Centennial Courier* newspaper, sold this summer to help raise money for the festivities September 2 to 4.

Besides the previous stories, production of a book over this winter will allow inclusion of family histories that missed the earlier deadline. It will also give the committee time to correct any errors from the previous book. To either update a contribution in the *Courier* or offer new photographs or family history, contact Rick Soder at Curtis Service at (906) 586-9832.

The Luce-West Mackinac County Fair will be Thursday, August 25, through Sunday, August 28, at the fairgrounds in Newberry. It will feature a senior citizens program Friday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. with contests, door prizes, free refreshments, and entertainment. Seniors can register for a variety of contests from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. that will include a "Homemade Cookie Contest." Seniors 60 and older are asked to make one dozen cookies and place them on display during the program. The 2005 Fair Queen and Junior Miss and Little Miss winners will be the judges.

Contests include the senior citizen with the most grandchildren (must be able to provide proof); most recently married senior citizen couple (must be present); golden anniversary couples (must be mar-

ried 50 years or more); oldest senior man present; oldest senior woman present; and senior citizen traveling the furthest to attend the fair. In addition, the Tahquamenon Area Senior Citizens Center of Newberry and the fair board will sponsor a prize bingo program and will be open to the general public from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Cost per individual (of any age) will be \$5 for two cards. Money raised will be used to purchase additional chairs and folding tables for the fairgrounds. For more information, contact Marie at (906) 293-5621.

News has it that the Marquette "Finn Fest" featured a wife carrying contest. Yes, you read it right. This tradition goes back to the 19th Century. When men wanted to steal the wives of other men, they literally picked them up and carried them away. The idea was recently thought of by a group of people in Finland and was meant to be a joke, but the idea took off and now there are wife carrying contests in Canada, Estonia, the United States, Australia, Germany, and elsewhere. We're certainly glad that this custom was not carried into our world. It seems that it has now been turned into a competitive sporting event that will be included in Marquette's Finn Grand Fest activities. There is a world championship competition in Sonkajarve, Finland, since 1993. At the world competition, a man must carry a woman (who is at least 110 pounds) a distance of almost three football fields.

The time and date for the race have yet to be determined, said Jerry Maki, Finn Fest's wife carrying coordinator. He also said, "There will be no weight restrictions and the woman and the man do not necessarily need to be married." Anyone who is interested may call Jerry Jaki at (906) 475-

By Marilyn McNeil

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4612. It might be fun to watch, but I don't know about being carried.

Lumberjack Days are going on Saturday, August 27, and Sunday, August 28, at the Tahquamenon Logging Museum on M-123, north of Newberry. Breakfast will be served from 7 a.m. to noon. A logging competition, country music, woodcraft, concessions, and family entertainment will be available for the day.

Happy birthday to Forrest McArthur August 25.

Jim and Cherrell Rourke are celebrating a wedding anniversary August 27, so we will wish them a wonderful time.

Stay safe and stay well. See you next week.



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'02 Oldsmobile Alero GL 4-door 29,000 miles	\$8,200
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