

Mackinac County Foresters Recognized for Quality Efforts

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vice experts.

Multicultural Organization Award: Joe Carrick

Joe Carrick of the U.S Forest Service, Raco Field Office, earned the Multicultural Organization Award for his work on the "Protectors of Earth Program," which took place on Sugar Island at the end of July. The program was sponsored the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians and facilitated by the Sugar Island Youth Camp. It brought minority teenagers from all over the state to learn about the outdoors.

Mr. Carrick taught them about natural resource management and shared his knowledge of fighting wildfires. He also taught the youths about tree aging by taking core samples and analyzing them.

There were approximately 20 kids involved, he said.

They stayed in bunkhouses for the week-long project, and were intrigued to know that they shared the island with a population of bear, deer, and moose, he said.

Mr. Carrick is a timber sale administrator for the Forest Service. He is also trained as a strike team leader, running crews called upon to battle forest fires across the United States.

"The Protectors of the Earth' is a good program," he said. "The first year I didn't know what to expect. But on the on the second, I had a good idea of what the kids were interested in."

Rise to the Future: 2005 Eastern Region Honor Award: Linda Swartz

Linda Swartz, botanist for the East Unit of the Hiawatha National Forest, earned this honor for her work to reduce the spread of non-native invasive species in the area.

One of her main targets was the hardy Purple Loosetrife plant,



Members of the Forest Service, the Straits Area Sportsmen's Club, and the Brevort Lake Homeowners Association met Monday, December 19, to celebrate awards for outstanding work on outdoor projects. The awards were presented by the Forest Service at the Pfister Hotel in Milwaukee December 1. Pictured are (from left) Bill Kemeny, Steve Christiansen, Kari Stanley, Jimmie Miller, and Louie Colegrove.

an attractive, but noxious weed that spreads rapidly and squeezes out native species.

Eliminating invasive plants, she said, is part of her work to conserve rare plants in the area.

Again, efforts were focused on the Brevort Lake area, and she was aided by Bill Kemeny. They removed the weeds the hard way, by digging them up.

"We aren't permitted to use herbicides in the Hiawatha," she said, "and on the private land on Brevort Lake, homeowners didn't want chemicals used."

Despite the plant's ability to regenerate from the root, Ms. Swartz said that the project led to significant improvement. The year after she dug up the Purple Loosetrife, only half the amount regenerated in the area.

A second NNIS she targeted was called the Garlic Mustard



Joe Carrick

plant. By removing as much of the plant as possible, she hoped to help maintain habitat for the rare Michigan Monkey Flower, which had been found around Brevort Lake.

Ms. Swartz, working in associ-



Linda Swartz

ation with Paula Ramelis, helped coordinate the efforts of a 4-H group from Engadine to eliminate the noxious weeds. The group called themselves "The Hardcore."

Honor Roll Students Named

Pickford Public Schools First Quarter

6th Grade: Tyler Allen, Abbie Andrzejak, Christopher Barton, Stacey Beard, Amanda Brancecum, Andrew Brooks, Kristin Cline, Janae Cottelit, James DeGrief, Kristi Gough, Kaitlyn Klier, Desirae Lamoreaux, Jordan LaVigne, Isaac Leach, Jeremiah Leach, Alicia Manfrin, Payton Mastaw, Laycee Nettleton, Gabrielle Patrick, Chloe Rivett, Dustin Rye, Miranda Schwab, Kyle Silvas, Kelsea Spencer, Michael Stefanski, Leah Stoner, Dennis Wondergem.

7th Grade: Cody Becks, Derrick Brown, Kelsie Brown, Jessica Coullard, Kyle Decker, Charles Halsey, Madelynn Hancock, Justine Hatfield, David Hurban, Teresa Kamper, Brandi Kopitz, Robert McBain, Sheila Merchand, Marlee Michalski, Paul Morrison, Jessica Nasser, Katie Raynard, Rachel Reich, Josh Reid, Jason Spencer, Melissa Stevenson, Casey Strieter, Dakota Swinton, Adam Taylor, Courtney Weihman.

8th Grade: David Deuman, Leigha Dilday, Krista Esslin, Amanda Felty, Amber Hill, Alexandra Jeffson, Erica Leach, Jenna Ledy, McKinley Portice, Jamie Rifenberg, Abigail Rose, Dylan Rye, Kayleen Rye, Mary Schoals, Callie Smith, Jaelinn Soeltner, Cody Stevenson, Frank Ygeal.

9th Grade: Megan Arbic, Cheyenne Cline, Burton Gough, Kaitlyn Jenkins, Heather Kamper, Joshua Leach, Tiffany McCord, Jamie Nettleton, Savannah Sterling, Holly Wondergem, Rachel Schmitgal.

10th Grade: Tara Beard, Courtney Bruni, Nicholas Crowder, Kourtlyn Esslin, Richard Gibson, Ashley Haidys, Melissa Kucharczyk, Carolyn Lantzy, Keshia McKinney, Katelyn Parr, Allison Priskhorn, Cassandra Rader, Matthew Rose, Patrick Savoie.

11th Grade: Lindsey Bawks, Alicia Bjunes, Emelia Cottle, Scout Coullard, Jordan Ernst, Veronica Gough, George Hart, LaTara Hart, Brittany Kucharczyk, Jessica Ledy, Sarah Mastaw, Victor Merchand, Caitlyn Mortinsen, Chelsey O'Connor, Kaylynn Portice, Nicholas Raden, Renae Reich, Kristen Schmitgal, Marie Snider, Katelyn Walker, Jennafay Offenbecker, Katie Spence, Valerie Traynor.

12th Grade: Donna Adams, Edward Arbic, Luke Barry, Amy Bawks, Judy Bishop, Richard Boal, Kip Cline, Jordan Hatfield, Elizabeth Johnson, Toby Kibble, Gail King, Chris Leavitt, Shannon Lewis, Cory Maleski, Brian McDonald, Kacey Nyberg, Matthew Romatz, Stephanie Savoie, Jonathan Snider, Roury Templeton, Brittne Wallis, Lauren Waybrant.

Gros Cap School Board To Consider Millage

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fuel-oil tank and replace it with a safer above-ground tank, plumbing, replace two old, inefficient furnaces, and to replace a water heater that blew only days before the board meeting.

Upgrading the school will cost

between \$200,000 and \$300,000, making the three year millage renewal very important, Mr. Peltier said.

"The important aspect of this request," he added, "is that this is a renewal. Nothing new is being asked for."

School board president Janice O'Boyle expressed confidence that the millage would be passed, noting that Moran Township residents had always come through for Gros Cap.

As the school board weighs the costs of future structural improvements, the window replacement project is poised to begin, and the board approved recommendations for construction bids presented by Tim Kraft of the Saginaw-based Wolgast Corporation, the school's construction management company.

Bids for masonry work, new glass, glazing, and painting, came in at \$71,753, approximately \$25,000 less than expected.

Boettcher Masonry, based in Bay City, will do the masonry work. Henry J. Ware, Inc. of Sault Ste. Marie, will handle the glass, glazing, and painting.

Mrs. O'Boyle credited the lower bids on the time of year, saying that contractors don't have as much work in the winter. Having fewer projects drives down costs, Mr. Kraft added. Contractors find it prudent to bid low during this season to avoid losing their workers to other projects in other areas.

Boettcher Masonry plans to take only five days and will bring in a large crew, Mr. Kraft added.

Mr. Peltier said he is pleased with the decision to hire a construction management company to plan and oversee the project.

Gros Cap will soon have a new computer server up and running, paid for with a \$6,900 grant from the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. This is the third time Gros Cap has received money from the tribe.





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