

# Superintendent Says Real Strength of the School Is the People Employed

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band boosters is a very active group that gives guidance to the band program and raises thousands of dollars annually in support of the program. The St. Ignace Community Fund, along with area service clubs, such as the Kiwanis, the Lions, and the Moose, give thousands of dollars annually for student scholarships and other needs.

**After-School Program.** Child and Family Services provides a grant to run a year-around after-school and summer program for students in grades K-8. Students with financial need are admitted to the program free of charge. All other students pay a nominal fee. This program provides educational tutoring and experiential programming for all students.

**Full NCA Accredited Schools.** All schools are accredited by North Central Association. This process involves a thorough review of the schools' operating policies, curriculum offerings, program offerings, and facilities.

In order to receive accreditation, the school must meet certain baseline standards. It then must do a self study to identify those areas that have the greatest need for improvement. These improvements must target student achievement. Based upon the study, the school develops goals and strategies for reaching those goals. This school improvement process helps the school focus its curriculum development and professional development resources in the areas that have the most need.

**Staffing.** The real strength of the school is the people employed. In the end, the overall results are far more dependent on them than on any other factor. Our budget reflects that truth. More than 80 percent of the budget goes to staffing expenses. Forty-four certified and highly qualified teachers provide daily classroom instruction and implementation of the educational program. Thirteen teacher aides assist with elementary and special needs students. A technology director maintains and coordinates the district's expand-

ing technology demands. A cultural technician coordinates Native classroom activities. The Sault St. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians maintains an office in the school and staffs a YEA Coordinator to plan academic, leadership, and cultural after-school and summer youth activities for Native American youth. Child and Family Services runs an after-school and summer school program for all K-8 students. The focus of the program is both experiential and educational. Time is allotted during the school day to the athletic director for coordination of the athletic program. The business office is staffed in a way that maintains established business and accounting standards. The district has a full time principal for the K-7 program and a full time principal for the 8-12 programs. Each building office is staffed with a full time secretary. The district employs a staff of five custodial and maintenance people throughout the school year to keep the facilities clean and operational. The district employs five drivers and has a cooperative agreement with Moran Township Schools to provide busing to all students in the greater St. Ignace area. A staff of five oversees the food preparation, serving, and cleanup.

In summary, we made deep cuts in the spending on all programs last year. When funding improves, we have areas that we will target the money toward. A review of what we have helps to keep all in perspective; we still have a very comprehensive program. Sixty-two young men and women were graduated from LaSalle High School May 26. The final measure that will determine our success or failure as a school system will be how well we stoked the fires of creativity, how well we instilled values of personal responsibility, work ethic, and self discipline, how well we succeeded in equipping them with the skills to get along with their fel-

lows and contribute to their communities. In the end, we won't be judged on what we did or didn't have, we will be judged on how well we used what we did have. I believe that we are doing that to the best of our ability.

## Names Sought for Rudyard's Citizen of Year

The Rudyard Township Park Board is seeking names of community members who, over the years, have given their time to serve the community. To nominate an individual for a Citizen of the Year award, send a note with the name of the candidate and a brief description of why they are recommended to: Gary Davis, Chairperson, Citizen of the Year Committee, 11264 W. Welch Road, Rudyard, MI 49780 by Friday, June 16.

Last year's recipients of the Rudyard Citizen of the Year award were Flossie Lawlor and Margaret LaPonsie. Other past recipients include: Al Cardona, Marie Postma, Homer and Margaret Shute, Larry Davis, Dottie Douglas, Leonard "Cap" Tromblay, Gertrude Frecheete, Andy and Sharon Thompson, Vern and Lorraine Cornwell, Vern and Marion VanSloten, Herta Hintz, Mel and Miriam Johnson, Edward and Julia Berkompas, Charlie and Kathy Brown, Ike and Wilma Malaski, Martin and Cathy Gaylor, Margaret and Alan Jarvie, Ronald A. Royer, Gary Salo, Edward and Yvonne Jarvie, Violet Hanna, Bernie VanSloten, Doris Posey, Lori Langstaff, Roy Hamilton, Eugene Ross, and Gary Davis.

The award presentation will be made at the Rudyard Summer Festival Saturday, July 29. Anyone wishing more information can contact Mr. Davis at 478-5244.

## Community Calendar

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4 p.m. Entry fee \$50 per boat. Cash prizes awarded. Sponsored by River Bend Resort and North Country Sports of DeTour Village.

•Saturday, June 17: **Tours to the DeTour Reef Lighthouse**, 8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m., and 3:30 p.m., leaving DeTour Harbor Marina. \$75 for members and \$95 for non-members of the DeTour Reef Lighthouse Preservation Society. Proceeds benefit the Lighthouse Preservation Society. Make reservations by calling (906) 493-6609.

### Engadine

•Wednesday, June 7: **Fraud Prevention Program for Businesses**, 10 a.m., Garfield Township Hall. Presented by Mackinac County Sheriff Scott Strait, Prosecuting Attorney Clayton Graham, and Michigan State Police.

### Curtis

•Wednesday, June 7: **Fraud Prevention Program for Businesses**, 1:30 p.m., Portage Township Hall. Presented by Mackinac County Sheriff Scott Strait, Prosecuting Attorney Clayton Graham, and Michigan State Police.

### Sault Ste. Marie

•Wednesday, June 7: **Children's Summer Reading Program begins at Bayliss Public Library**. Call (906) 632-9331 for schedule and enrollment information.

•Friday, June 9: **Author Karl Bohnak Presents Upper Michigan Weather Stories**, 7 p.m., at Bayliss Public Library. Free of charge.

•Friday, June 9: **Coffee Hour**

with State Representative Gary McDowell, 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. at Snookies in the Avery Square Atrium.

•Monday, June 12: **Office Hours for State Representative Gary McDowell**, 9 a.m. to 10 a.m., Chippewa County Courthouse Annex Meeting Room.

•Saturday, June 17: **"That's Amore" Concert With Eric Shaw and Karen Hughes** To Benefit Soo Theatre Restoration, 7:30 p.m., Soo Theatre. General admission tickets \$20, student tickets \$10, available at the door.

•Saturday, June 24: **International Bridge Walk** begins at 9 a.m., Norris Center, Lake Superior State University.

•Wednesday, June 28: **Chippewa County Caregivers Support Group Meeting**, 2 p.m., Avery Square Center, 510 Ashmun Street.

### Mackinaw City

•Thursday, June 8: **Principles of Customer Service Excellence for Front Line Employees**, presented by Bill Quiseng, 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m., Mackinaw Theater in Mackinaw Crossings. \$15 for Mackinaw City Chamber members or \$20 for non-members. Register by June 4 by calling (231) 436-5574.

•Saturday, June 10, and Sunday, June 11: **Big Mac Shoreline Spring Scenic Bike Tour**. Participants depart between 7 a.m. and 9:30 a.m. Saturday from Mackinaw City High School. For more information or to register, call Mackinaw City Chamber of Commerce at (888) 455-8100.

•Monday, June 12: **Mackinaw Area Historical Society Meeting**, 7:30 p.m., Mackinaw City Library. Speaker: U.P. meteorologist Karl Bohnak. Free of charge, open to the public.

•Saturday, June 17, and Sunday, June 18: **Kite Festival**.

•Saturday, June 24, and Sunday, June 25: **Mackinaw City Fine Arts and Crafts Show**.

### Cheboygan

•Friday, June 9: **United States Coast Guard Band and Coast Guard Dixieland Jazz Band Concert**, 7:30 p.m., Cheboygan Opera House. Free of charge.

•Friday, June 16, to Saturday, June 17: **Summer Arts and Crafts Show**, Washington Park.

•Friday, June 16, to Saturday, June 17: **Street Rods Custom Car Show**.

•Saturday, July 1: **Downtown Cheboygan Summer Street Fair and Craft Show**.

To submit your group's information for consideration in this space, fax information including complete date, time, and location to (906) 643-9122 or call The St. Ignace News at (906) 643-9150. Please submit information at least two weeks prior to scheduled event.



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