

This Year's Pickford Hay Days Is a Celebration of 'Home'

By Amy Polk

The scene in Watson's Shoe Store window shows children playing with old fashioned toys at home, activities for rainy days. A nearby sign reads, "There's No Place Like Home."

The sentimental image of home was one of many interpretations of this year's Pickford Hay Days theme, which appeared on everything from T-shirts to parade floats last week, August 2 to August 6. Many who marched in the Friday evening parade reprised the roles from The Wizard of Oz, recalling its famous line repeated by Dorothy when she wanted to return to Kansas, "There's no place like home."

People this year were encouraged to celebrate their hometown of Pickford and any other town where they were born or now reside. The Kiddies Parade included children from Chicago. Melanie and Jim Bolton's one-year-old grandson, Jonah Fetter of Lansing, rode in the parade as a Michigan State University Spartan. Eight-year-old Linda Raynard of

At right: Linda Raynard of Pickford, 8, dressed as a "mom," showed the crowds at the Pickford Hay Days Kiddies Parade Friday night, August 4, that there's nothing like home cooking. Participants in the Kiddies Parade received free ice cream for their creative costumes and variations on the theme, "There's No Place Like Home."

Pickford dished up a platter of homemade baked goods and dressed as "a mom" to demonstrate the appeal of home cooking.

Riding in the main Hay Days parade Saturday were the Yooper Red Hats under the banner, "There's No Place Like Home to Hang Your Red Hat," and Old Mission Bank's child-sized home, with cars and a snowmobile in the yard. Several entries declared, "There's No Place Like Home on the Farm," while the Pickford 4-H Livestock Club promoted home as the best place to be at Christmas with a festive float of Yuletide decorations.



Pickford's Kaylynn Portice was named the 2006 Hay Days Queen, selected for her essay about her dream for the future. Her dream, she wrote, is to help people, and she quoted Thomas Edison: "We make a living from what we get. We make a life from what we give."

Other candidates were Chelsea Belonga, Alicia Bjunes, and Cheyenne Cline.

She suggested starting programs like free tutoring after school, visiting elderly people in surrounding communities, or starting a community-wide recycling program.

"All that matters is that I help someone along the way," she wrote. "I know I may not be able to help everyone."

A list of winners in some of the events that took place over the Hay Days week follows.

Horseshoe Tournament: First Place - the team of Ron Nettleton and Dick Fischer; 2nd Place - Bo Jermain and Jackie Jermain team.

Checkers Tournament - Lou Markstrom, 65, was the winner in the adult division, while Bram Schroeder, 10, won the youth division.

Hay Days Parade - Best Class Reunion Float: Class of 1996; Best Commercial or Business Entry: Old Mission Bank; Best Organization or Club Entry: Pickford Senior Citizens' collection of senior dolls seated in a cozy living room scene; Best Walking Entry: Pickford Elementary Cheerleaders for the second year running; Best Musical Group: Pickford High School Band; Best Theme Entry: Pickford 4-H Livestock Club; Best Antique Vehicle: Dennis Panik's 1929 Chevy Landau; Best Team of Horses: Linda English's miniature horses; Best Equestrian Entry: Chippewa County Sheriff's Posse; Best Off-Road Vehicle: Rutledge Racing, and Best Comical Entry: Watson's Shoe Store's "Rocky the



Erin Smith of Cedarville, dressed as the Scarecrow character from the Wizard of Oz, rides "Bailey," in the Pickford Hay Days Parade Saturday, August 5. Her costume reflected this year's theme, "There's No Place Like Home."



Pickford's Senior Citizens Club was represented by (from left) Eugene Crawford of Sault Ste. Marie, who escorted his sister, Evelyn Debro of Pickford, this year's Hay Days Belle. They were joined by the 2005 Belle, Idena Dodds of Pickford, who was escorted by her grandson, Spencer Dugan of Rudyard.

Clown," portrayed by Tommy Curtis. Special Recognition Awards went to the Yooper Red Hats and Law-White Veterans of Foreign Wars and Ladies Auxiliary and Pickford American Legion color guard marchers.

Haybale Races - This year's event was changed from the previ-

ous round bale races that used teams, and pitted individuals against each other to push rectangular bales in wheelbarrows down the street. There were 12 participants in a race, and winners follow: 1st Place - Charlie Halsey, 12;

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Project Backpack Now Taking Donations

About 70 students in St. Ignace Area Schools and Gros Cap School are on a list to receive school supply donations from Project Backpack, which is currently matching sponsors and families, said Ronda Engle, community outreach worker with the Department of Human Services in Mackinac County.

The program is seeking donors who wish to sponsor a child's back-to-school needs or who would like to make contributions of money or school supplies. Project Backpack is coordinated by the Child Protection Roundtable, which hosts child abuse and neglect prevention awareness programs in Mackinac County.

Backpacks and school supplies will be collected Friday, August 18, for distribution to families. To learn more about donating school supplies or sponsoring a child, call Ms. Engle at 643-6115 or Sheri Damron at 643-6122.

Early response to the appeal has been positive, Ms. Engle said Wednesday, August 2. Letters have been sent to businesses and churches about the program, which will serve any family in need in the county, and donations are being collected now. Other school districts are welcome to submit the names of children in need, she said, and several districts are collecting school supplies through their own internal programs.

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WED., AUG. 9
Noon to 3 p.m.
Pete Goehring
Dulcimer Music

WED., AUG. 16
Noon to 3 p.m.
Annegret Goehring
Egg Decorating

Demonstration and hands-on teaching
Sponsored in part by a grant from Michigan Council for the Arts and Cultural Affairs.

Moose 999 Kid's Fund

Lake Perch & Whitefish Dinner (with Salad Bar)

Sunday, August 13th, 3 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.
Suggested Donations
Adults \$8 • Kids 10 & Under \$4

JR's TAILGATE PUB

Wednesday
Deck Party 8 p.m.-midnight

Friday
Live Music 9:30 to 2

Saturday
Karaoke 9 to 2

Sunday
Live Music 3 to 7

Daily HAPPY HOUR 4 to 7
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101 East Central Ave. • 231-436-8540

Bayside LIVE!
Entertainment Series

7:00 p.m. - Thursday, Aug. 10
Blue Water Ramblers

7:00 p.m. - Thursday, Aug. 17
The Overtones

Downtown St. Ignace Marina Pavilion
FREE ADMISSION

LOCALS ON THE BAY
7:00 p.m. - Wednesday, Aug. 16
MJ Bishop

Brought to you by:
The City of St. Ignace, St. Ignace Downtown Development Authority, First National Bank of St. Ignace, St. Ignace Chamber of Commerce, Kiwanis Club of St. Ignace and grants from the Michigan Council for Arts & Cultural Affairs.

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ANNUAL CRUISE

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Two Les Cheneaux Islands Channel Cruises leave Hessel at 12 noon and 2:30.
The return trip from Hessel to Mackinac Island leaves Hessel at 4:00 p.m.

Call 906-847-3351 for further information.

Christopher J. Gunnell, MD
HAS JOINED THE STAFF OF THUNDER BAY COMMUNITY HEALTH SERVICE, INC.

Please join us in welcoming Dr. Gunnell to Thunder Bay Community Health Services, and the community of Onaway.

Christopher J. Gunnell, MD has joined the staff of Thunder Bay Community Health Service, Inc. as of July 10, 2006. Dr. Gunnell is a Family Practice Physician with 15 years experience in health care. He received his medical degree from the University of North Carolina, and did his residency training at Family Practice Residency in Kalamazoo. Dr. Gunnell was most recently employed by Mackinac Straits Hospital & Health Care in St. Ignace. Dr. Gunnell enjoys water sports, martial arts, songwriting, reading and writing.

Appointments can be scheduled at the Onaway clinic site by calling 989-733-2082.

Thunder Bay COMMUNITY HEALTH SERVICES
21258 W. M-68 Hwy., Onaway, MI 49765