

The St. Ignace News

and Les Cheneaux Islands Weekly Wave

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Reverend Wayne Foote Named Ambassador of Year

Rob and Heather Aukeman Recognized; New St. Ignace Promotions Announced

By Karen Gould

The Reverend Wayne Foote was named the 2008 St. Ignace Chamber of Commerce Ambassador of the Year for his dedication and deep commitment to the citizens of the

community. He also received special recognition from Governor Jennifer Granholm, Senator Jason Allen, and Representative Gary McDowell.

The honor was announced at the

Chamber's annual banquet Thursday, May 15, at Little Bear East Conference Center.

Heather and Rob Aukeman and Audrey Wyers were also recognized for their contributions to the community during the dinner program. Those honored were selected by members of the Chamber of Commerce.

About 100 people who attended the event also were given a preview of three new programs planned for this summer in St. Ignace, including a guided walking tour, a history-driven trolley ride, and a community education contest designed for business owners and employees.

Mackinac Straits Hospital CEO Rod Nelson, in his introduction,

said Rev. Foote has been an advisor, a promoter of the new hospital, and offered counsel to hospital employees.

"As a true ambassador of St. Ignace," read Mr. Nelson from the document signed by the three lawmakers, "anyone would immediately learn of his love of the water, his knowledge of the history of the

Mackinac Bridge, his concern for the people of St. Ignace, and his ability to convince anyone that this is the most beautiful and best community in the nation."

In 1952, Wayne Foote established Glen Memorial Baptist Church in St. Ignace, where he

*Turn to page 11: Ambassador

Inside...

• Those dead patches in the lawn may mean you have a spring grub infestation. An MSU researcher shares specific advice for how to combat the problem.

... page 3

• Candidates in Mackinac County have announced their campaigns for the August 5 primary. Find out who's running for election.

... page 15

Memorial Day Services Announced

Memorial Day, a holiday to commemorate those who died in military service to the United States, will be celebrated in local communities Saturday, May 24, and Monday, May 26. The traditional holiday is the last Monday in May. Services will be at Cedarville, Curtis, Engadine, Mackinac Island, Mackinaw City, Pickford, and St. Ignace. No services are planned in DeTour or Rudyard. Dates and times of services are listed here.

St. Ignace

There will be two Memorial Day services in St. Ignace, and flags will be placed at veterans' graves at the three St. Ignace cemeteries at 10 a.m. Saturday, May 24. LaSalle High School baseball players will assist local veterans in placing the flags.

Memorial Day will be observed for residents of the Mackinac Straits Hospital Long Term Care facility Saturday, May 24, at 1 p.m. by the local Disabled American Veterans (DAV) chapter. The public is welcome.

Memorial Day services will be Monday, May 26, at 10 a.m., at the Mackinac County Courthouse. Billie Clark of the DAV and Mike Lehto, commander of the American Legion, will speak. Veterans of military conflicts since World War II, members of each military branch, and the United States Coast Guard are expected to attend.

Coffee and refreshments for veterans and the public will be served at the Veterans of Foreign Wars Hall after the ceremony.

Les Cheneaux

The Law-White Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 7958 of Hessel and Ladies Auxiliary will be joined by the Pickford American Legion Post 323 as they lead traditional Memorial Day services at Cedar Cemetery on Four-Mile Block Road in Cedarville Monday, May 26, at 11

*Turn to page 12: Memorial



With his five daughters by his side, the Reverend Wayne Foote holds the recognition presented to him by State Representative Gary McDowell Thursday evening, May 15. The document notes Rev. Foote's contributions to St. Ignace and is signed by Mr. McDowell, State Senator Jason Allen, and Governor Jennifer Granholm. Attending the St. Ignace Chamber of Commerce annual dinner at Little Bear East Conference Center were (from left) Judy Wyse, Jessica Davis, Representative McDowell, Reverend Foote, Jeanne Litzner, Jacque Ward, Janet Peterson, and Rod Nelson, Mackinac Straits Hospital CEO.

Hospital Groundbreaking Is Wednesday

A groundbreaking for Mackinac Straits Health Village will be Wednesday, May 28, from 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the new hospital site at 1140 North State Street in St. Ignace. The event will allow the public to tour the building site and view the new hospital plans.

Construction is anticipated to begin in mid- to late-June and be

completed by late 2009 or 2010. The proposed hospital, long term care facility, and tribal health clinic will be on 16.5 acres, across from Lake Huron.

The two-story hospital building will have views of Lake Huron from its second floor dining room. The entire hospital building and tribal health care

clinic will include about 85,000 square feet for visiting physician offices, expanded chemotherapy, rehabilitation, and dialysis units, an emergency department with a drive-through heated garage, outpatient procedure rooms, 15 acute care rooms, and an updated radiology

*Turn to page 13: Hospital

City's Locker Room Lease Moves Forward

Work on Evergreen Shores Tower Is Near Completion

By Karen Gould

Pending proof that the St. Ignace Firehawks hockey team is a non-profit corporation registered with the state, City Council approved a lease with the team for use of a locker room at Little Bear East Arena. The decision was reached during council's Monday, May 19, meeting.

City Attorney Prentiss M. Brown Jr. said he had checked the Web site of the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth, and found no listing for the organization. Following an assurance from team manager Paula Goudreau that the registration process is complete, council approved the agreement.

The local hockey organization has sought use of the room to meet their growing needs.

Once the lease is signed, the

Firehawks would pay the city \$500 to use the locker room. The lease would run from October 1 to March 1.

Councilman Willie LaLonde asked about the status of funding totaling \$6,800 to help pay for the materials to construct a new fitness room at the arena. Planned construction of the room recently eased the debate over leasing the locker

room to the hockey team, as the team and fitness groups both say they need the space.

The funding is coming from the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians and has been approved by its board, said City Manager Eric Dodson. The grants are expected to be made May 31.

Work on the Evergreen Shores

*Turn to page 11: City

All Restaurants, Bars Will Be Smoke Free if New Bill Passes

County Restaurants Make Move To Draw Customers

By Caitlyn Kienitz

Mackinac Island Town Crier

Three Curtis restaurants and one Mackinac Island restaurant have become smoke-free establishments in recent weeks, ahead of proposed legislation that would ban smoking in all workplaces throughout the state, including restaurants and bars, because of heightened concerns of the dangers of secondhand smoke to workers and the public. The bill passed the Senate May 8, and is now under consideration by the House of Representatives. Under the current version of the bill, Native American-owned establishments would be exempt from the smoking ban.

Weber's Rustic Inn, Chamberlin's Ole Forest Inn, and Cobblestone Bar and Grill, all of Curtis, have all recently become smoke-

free, reported Luce-Mackinac-Alger-Schoolcraft (LMAS) Health Department.

On Mackinac Island, Goodfellow's Restaurant at the Lake View Hotel, which has recently remodeled its dining room to include a bar, has gone smoke-free as of Friday, May 9. Goodfellow's Bar and Grille continues to allow smoking. Goodfellow's is the latest Island business to voluntarily convert part of the establishment to a smoke-free environment.

Because the dining room is in the hotel, owner Geoff Lynch said the conversion helps make the area more accommodating to non-smokers and families with children.

"The main bar is always rowdy and people get offended, so we figured we'd make the dining area smokeless to accommodate everybody," he said.

*Turn to page 6: Restaurants

St. Ignace Show Features Renowned Bike Builder Motorcycles, Mud Run To Highlight Weekend

By Paul Gingras

The Inaugural Yooper Motorcycle Show and Swap Meet, the first mud run of the summer, and an all-terrain-vehicle fun run, will combine for a full weekend of motorized entertainment in St. Ignace Saturday, May 24, and Sunday, May 25. The event is planned by the St. Ignace Special Events Committee.

Following the festivities, there

will be a Remembrance Ride to honor fallen soldiers on Memorial Day, Monday, May 26, at 9 a.m. The ride begins at Castle Rock. A Blessing of the Bikes ceremony concludes the ride at Bridge View Park.

The motorcycle show and swap meet is open to the public from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

*Turn to page 12: Yooper

Mackinaw City To Relive History with Fort Pageant

By Paul Gingras

On Saturday, May 24, Kelly Alexander of Mackinaw City will stand before Fort Michilimackinac dressed in the authentic, creamy white uniform of a 1700s French soldier. As he stands with a troop of his peers, a contingent of British soldiers will march toward him to claim the fort, and in a solemn display, the French reenactors will surrender without a fight, acknowledging defeat in the French and Indian War, and signaling the beginning of a new era at the Straits of Mackinac. The scene sets the stage for the 2008 Fort Michilimackinac Pageant, which highlights a famous battle at the fort in 1763, when Native Americans attacked and defeated the British successors.

The pageant, now in its 46th year, is the largest of many history-related activities around Mackinaw City on Memorial Day weekend, when the village is transformed into an historical showpiece. About 25% of village residents will play, or help others prepare for, historical roles

representing the era between 1715 and 1763. Hundreds of re-enactors from Michigan and neighboring states will also take part. Two main groups that will be a part of the festivities are the Michilimackinac Voyageurs, and Spirits of the North, who take on voyager, trader, trapper, and Native American roles.

The pageant relies on a mixture of artistic license, historical facts, authentic regalia, and the technology of the time, Mr. Alexander said. "The French had the right idea," he said. When they occupied the fort, they offered the Indians gifts, traded with them, and developed a cordial relationship. When they left, the situation declined into a conflict of cultures that serves as the main plot of the pageant.

The new British force viewed the natives with suspicion and treated them as savages. The pageant reenacts the result: a stealthy uprising by the Ottawa tribe under the leadership of Chief Pontiac, who

*Turn to page 13: Fort

Lakeside Memorial Honors Straits Diver Jim Montcalm



A bronze plaque honoring the late Jim Montcalm of St. Ignace was set into a limestone rock Tuesday, May 13, by his wife, Melody, and Sam Staffan of Mackinaw Art and Sign in Mackinaw City. The memorial honoring the dive master and instructor is at American Legion Park in St. Ignace near a dive platform that offers a safe access point for divers. Mr. Montcalm was considered an expert on shipwrecks in the Straits. He died while diving on the Newell Eddy shipwreck near Bois Blanc Island in 2006. The Brow family of St. Ignace donated and constructed the stone memorial that overlooks Lake Huron and the Chief Wawatam Lighthouse.

The St. Ignace News
DEADLINE AND OFFICE HOURS
Memorial Day

The St. Ignace News office will be open
Monday, May 26, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

DISPLAY ADVERTISING DEADLINE
will remain Friday 5 p.m.

DISPLAY CLASSIFIED DEADLINE
will remain 1:00 p.m. Monday.