

# Les Cheneaux Historical Museum Revamped; Announces Summer Programs

By Amy Polk

Volunteers and staff of the Les Cheneaux Historical Association spent the winter refreshing the interior of the museum in Cedarville, and displays have been changed and updated with artifacts that were previously in storage or are recent acquisitions.

At the entrance is a wall of photographs of some of the community's founding residents and former stores and taverns. Portraits include Jacques Liberty, who farmed on Marquette Island, and "Barefoot" Dave Sugden, Arthur Johnson's log cabin gasoline station, and the Rendezvous Bar.

Beneath them in a glass case are items from the area's resort hotels, including dishes, a carved wooden candle holder, and light covers. A set of silverware from the former Cedar Inn is also on display.

Exhibits have been reorganized to lead visitors around the museum, starting at the Native American corner to the left of the entrance. The new display of the area's original residents touches on the land, people, government, shelter, transportation, and clothing of Native Americans. The display



Les Cheneaux Historical Museum employees Pat Smith (left) and Mary Hill hold this year's prizes in the Historical Association's quilt raffle, inside the newly arranged Historical Museum in Cedarville. To the right of the women is a historic clothing display showing (from left) an antique sailor-style bathing suit, a dress and cape owned by Ida (nee Truscott) Hamel, and a wedding gown worn by Mrs. Amelia Wetherby. Mrs. Hamel was a former Chicago resident who moved with the Truscott family to Mackinac Island in 1867. She wore the dress in the photograph when she married in 1884, and on the boat that brought her to her new home in the Les Cheneaux Islands. Hamel family members said she wore the cape shown here when she met and shook hands with President Abraham Lincoln. Mrs. Wetherby was a Big LaSalle Island cottager and Niles resident, who wore the wedding gown pictured for her second marriage in about 1880.

contains photographs of some of the area's oldest and best known Native American families. A basket display enclosed in a glass case features thick bark baskets, woven rush mats and napkin rings, and baskets featuring sweet grass. Baskets by the late Kathryn Osogwin, a Native American artisan who sold her baskets in the area more than 50 years ago, are also in the display, along with the advertisement for her business.

The display continues through Native American transportation, including traditional birch bark and dugout canoes. A clothing display showing styles worn by Midwestern and Eastern woodland tribes features pictures of four time periods, 1615, 1715, 1760, and 1780. Each picture shows how the clothing styles changed over time, and with the influence of European settlers. The end of the Native American display includes art, including items like ornate porcupine quill boxes, a beaded belt, and moccasins.

An exhibit recognizing the *Les Cheneaux Breezes*, an annual magazine published by Guy Hamel

Turn to page 12: Museum

## Clark Twp Board Approves Special Building Requests

Zoning Board: From page 3

Township is planning to forbid the practice of camping in recreational vehicles for extended periods.

The board removed the principal structure designation of the existing storage building on the lot and placed it on the proposed house.

Joyce and Henry VanderWerp will attach a 12-foot by 25-foot carport to an existing 30-foot by 40-foot garage on Pennsylvania Lane in Cedarville. The VanderWerps requested the addition in 2005 when they requested a variance to build the garage, which would have exceeded the maximum allowable accessory building square footage

## Auditors Suggest New Policies

Audit: From page 3

establish three new policies. Commissioners, said Mr. Talsma, should adopt a fraud policy, which would address suspected fraud, fraud, and actions to be taken by the board.

Also, state law requires an electronic banking policy. The policy would state the type of transactions that would be made electronically and who would be allowed to activate an electronic transaction.

A check cashing policy should be adopted, said Mr. Talsma, that would clarify if the county would cash checks using its petty cash, and if the board agrees to allow the process, a limit should be set.

Based on advice from the state, the treasurer's office already has established a policy not to cash anyone's check, said Treasurer Nora Massey, who attended the meeting.

Commissioners did not set a time to begin working on the policy.

with the proposed, attached, 10-foot by 40-foot "lean-to." They were denied a variance to build the "lean-to" at that time. Since then, Mr. VanderWerp wrote in a letter to the board, neighbors have complimented the appearance of the existing structure, and have no objections to the addition. The garage and addition are screened from view of the road by large trees, he said, and the VanderWerps need more space to store their boat and trailer.

Mr. Lofdahl's motion to approve the addition noted the structure will be screened from view and will not impede the use of neighbors' properties.

The next Zoning Board of Appeals variance hearing will be Tuesday, July 22, at 7 p.m., when members will hear a request to tear down and rebuild an existing boat-house at the Hunt property on Marquette Island.

## State Police Fire Marshals Still Determining Cause of Blaze

Fire: From page 3

She received a call from her husband, who heard about the blaze over a police scanner. She checked on employees who live upstairs from the shop. They were coming down the stairs as the fire department burst into the building, she said.

To liquidate inventory damaged by smoke, Shirt Tales reopened Friday, June 27, through Sunday, June 29, for a fire sale. The store was closed again Monday, June 30, through Friday, July 3, to restock with fresh inventory.

"We're well insured. I'm pretty sure everything's going to be fine," Mrs. Gross told *The St. Ignace News*.

The cause of the blaze has not been determined, but it is not considered suspicious, Mr. Thompson said.

Investigators from three insurance companies and Michigan State

Police fire marshals from Gaylord have been working to determine the cause. The fire began at 2:30 p.m. and was almost completely out by 4:30 p.m. The Mackinaw City Fire Department kept a fire engine outside all night.

The blaze was fought by fire departments from Mackinaw City, the City of St. Ignace, Carp Lake, the City of Cheboygan, Pellston, Topinabee, Tuscarora Township, the Readmond/Friendship Township Fire Department, and Mackinac Island.

Police fire marshals from Gaylord have been working to determine the cause. The fire began at 2:30 p.m. and was almost completely out by 4:30 p.m. The Mackinaw City Fire Department kept a fire engine outside all night.

**BELONGA EXCAVATING**

**Land Clearing ~ Site Preparation**

**Foundation Excavation**

**Septic Tanks • Systems • Drain Fields**

**Water & Sewer Installations**

**COMMERCIAL SNOWPLOWING**

115 Elliott Street • St. Ignace • 906-643-9595

**Spencer Insurance Agency, Inc.**  
INDEPENDENT INSURANCE AGENT

Home • Mobile Home • Auto • Renters  
Farmowners • Life • Recreational Vehicles

~ Since 1911 ~  
P.O. Box 398, 11259 W. Main Street, Rudyard, MI 49780  
(906) 478-4191

Made in Michigan

**POLAR SEAL**  
Since 1950

• Store Fronts  
• Mirrors  
• Auto Glass  
• Stained Glass

Custom Made to Order  
FREE Estimates

**POLAR SEAL VINYL REPLACEMENT WINDOWS**

10994 N. Straits Hwy. • Cheboygan, MI 49721  
(231) 627-4426 • 1-800-624-0027  
**Straits Area Glass Inc.**

Serving the Straits Area Since 1966

## Visit us at... www.MackinacProperties.com

WELCOME JULY 4<sup>TH</sup> GUESTS! Thank you for making the St. Ignace area your holiday destination. We hope you enjoy your stay in St. Ignace and while you're here, get a chance to tour the area. You've just landed in the 3rd oldest community in the United States. Steeped in history and surrounded by the Great Lakes, this area is situated in the center of the Fresh Water World also known as "The Great Waters". St. Ignace and the surrounding communities are full of recreational and cultural activities, visit our museums, parks, marinas, boardwalks, lighthouses, beaches, forests, trails systems & places of business. The best part are the people that you will meet. Please find time to learn about us, stop in your local Chamber of Commerce, or ask around, people are glad to help. If you are considering any kind of property or business, we may have just what you're looking for.

**WATERFRONT HOMES**


**HOME BY THE BRIDGE**

**CONDOMINIUMS**

--	--	--	--

**RESIDENTIAL**

**COMMERCIAL**

**ST. IGNACE** - Nice selection of homes in and around the Straits area.

**BREVORT LAKE** - 4400 acre all-sports lake, 15 mi. to bridge-homes and vacant parcels

**EAST LAKE** - Small wilderness type lake, 25 mi- from bridge-camps-building site, cottage

**HELSEL AREA** - M-134, 25 miles from bridge St. Martins Pt. Lake Huron waterfront home

**MACKINAC ISLAND** - 4287 Forest Way-home in the Woodbluff subdivision \$559,000

**PTE. AUX CHENES** - 10 mi. west on U.S. #2, waterfront homes, riverfront lot and building lots

**DETOUR-M-134** - 45 mi to bridge. Beautiful Lake Huron building parcels, From \$125,000

**DRUMMOND ISLAND** - 50 mi. to Ferry, Lake Huron Log Home Condominiums \$169,900

**VILLAGE OF MORAN** - Sportsman paradise-15 mi. to bridge, lots, homes, Brevort Lake, East Lake

**VILLAGE OF BREVORT** - Wildwood Rd. bluff home, 20 MI-to bridge, lots, bluff condominiums and 2 bluff homes to choose from

**Vacation Rentals**

A large selection of homes, camps, and building lots available

**THE MACKINAC PROPERTIES TEAM**  
REAL ESTATE and VACATION HOMES  
226 N. State, St. Ignace • (906) 643-9242  
Cheryl Schlehuter, GRI, ABR, e-PRO REALTOR®/Broker/Owner  
Serving the Straits of Mackinac and the surrounding area.

email: info@mackinacproperties.com


For these listings and others including vacant land and commercial contact:  
**George or Barb Yshinski, Realtors**  
436 N. State Street, St. Ignace • (906) 643-8525 • (906) 643-8218 • (906) 630-3321  
e-mail: barbara.yshinski@cbgreatlakes.com • www.cbgreatlakes.com