

Mackinaw City Summer Celebration Draws Visitors

The Mackinaw City Summer Celebration at Mackinaw City's Historical Village was a success, organizers reported. Highlighting the Saturday, August 2 event, which included history-themed activities, was a vintage base ball game. This year, the Mackinaw Boys played the Ludington Mariners.

The Boys won, 10 to 9.

"The Boys went ahead early and the Mariners came on strong at the end," said Sandy Planisek of the Mackinaw Area Historical Society, which hosted the event in conjunction with the village gov-

ernment.

"Hitter 'Big Thunder' for the Mariners really socked the ball, over the school, past the outhouse, and was a crowd pleaser," she said.

The team's "behind," known in modern baseball terms as a "catcher," was well-liked by the crowd, however, "the Boys youth and vigor carried the day," Mrs. Planisek said.

Tours of restored buildings at the Historical Village, children's games, a quilt display, and musical performances were included in the celebration.



Holding equipment for historical games, children pose during the Mackinaw City Summer Celebration at the Historical Village Saturday, August 2. Pictured, (from left) are Jacob Harrison of Waterford, Cole Harrison of Waterford, and Ethan Rommes of Minneapolis, Minnesota. (Photographs by Nicole Harrison)



Vintage base ball, played by 1800s rules, is enjoyed by fans, known as "cranks" in 1800s parlance, at Mackinaw City Historical Village Saturday, August 2. Here cranks in support of both the Ludington Mariners and the local Mackinaw Boys watch the game. The Boys were victorious.

Early Child Development Team Meets August 21 in Kinross

The Kinross Early Child Development Team will meet Thursday, August 21, from 6:30

p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Kinross Recreation Center. Food and refreshments will be provided.

For reservations, call Tonya Adair at (906) 495-1274.

Play Group Makes Kites in Moran

The Moran play group, sponsored by Great Start of the intermediate school district, will meet Tuesday, August 19, from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the playground in Moran. Children will make and fly a kite. For more information, call Heather Bird at 643-0096.

Great Start Hosts Infant/Toddler Play Group Aug. 18 in Kincheloe

The infant and toddler play group in Kincheloe will meet Monday, August 18, from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the Kinross

Recreation Center.

The theme is soap bubbles, with children experimenting with bubbles, creating shapes, using different kinds of bubbles, and finding creative instruments as bubble wands.

Also, a car seat safety inspector will examine car seats and explain the new car seat laws.

The activities will be outdoors, weather permitting. This event is sponsored by Great Start.

Pajama Party Presents Skit Based on Book

Participants in the Pajama Party in Pickford will present a skit based on the children's book "If You Give a Moose a Muffin" Thursday, August 28, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Pickford Town Hall.

Parents are asked to bring a dish to pass, along with the recipe. Votes will be cast for the best dish. Donations of quarters will be used to vote for a favorite dish.

The party is sponsored by Great Start of the intermediate school district.

Rip Currents Pose Danger for Great Lakes Swimmers

During the summer swimming season, it's important to be aware of rip currents in the Great Lakes. The Michigan State Medical Society (MSMS) encourages swimmers to learn to identify rip currents and how to escape them.

Rip currents are the leading surf hazard for swimmers with more than 100 drownings that result from rip currents in the United States each year, according to the United States Lifesaving Association. Rip currents are responsible for 80% of beach rescue efforts.

A rip current is a powerful current of water channeled away from shore and directed out to deeper water. They start as incoming waves that create an underwater sandbar close to shore. Waves then push more water between the sandbar and shore until the pressure is so great that the weakest part of the sandbar collapses, and the water rushes outward. This channel can be 25 to 100 yards wide.

Rip currents also can occur under and around Great Lakes piers, presenting a danger for swimmers who may become trapped under the pier or carried out to deeper water.

Signs of a rip current include:

- Churning or choppy water
- Lines of surface debris being channeled out to sea
- Rough water on both sides of a flat surface area

The danger occurs when swimmers get caught in this current and try to swim against it. Fighting a rip current will only fatigue a swimmer.

To escape a rip current:

- Remain calm, do not panic.
- Swim parallel to the shore.
- Once the pull of the current subsides, swim to shore.
- If someone is caught in a rip current, shout instructions about how to swim out of it; many people drown while trying to rescue someone from a rip current.
- Call 911 immediately.

Some general swimming precautions that may be followed include:

- Swim only when a lifeguard is on duty.
- Swim with a buddy.
- Don't swim too far from shore.
- Great Lakes piers are designed as navigational structures and are not meant to serve as walkways; avoid swimming around piers, especially when water is spilling over the top.
- Piers should not be used as diving or swimming platforms.

The Michigan State Medical Society is the professional association of more than 15,000 physicians in Michigan.

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