

Mackinac Island

The snow! The snow! The beautiful snow has fallen from the heavens above, blanketing Mackinac and turning it into a winter wonderland. One of the magnificent sights to see early each morning and late each evening, is the rising and the setting of the sun. When the sun descends behind the Mackinac Bridge, it is truly a breathtaking sight.

At Christmas, all roads lead home!

The Mackinac Island community sends deepest sympathy to Matthew and Loree Dale on the sudden death of their beloved year-old son, Nicholas, Monday, November 24, at Mackinac Straits Hospital in St. Ignace. Nicholas is survived by two brothers, Christopher, 4, and Nathan, 3. Services were held in Marquette Monday, December 1. Mrs. Dale is head of Human Resources at Mission Point Resort.

The Surrey Ridge Condo Association is mourning the death of association president Dave Shaw of Mount Morris, who passed away Monday, December 1. Mr. Shaw, his wife, Mary, and their two daughters, Jana and Sierra, have been summer residents of Mackinac Island for the past two years.

Last winter, as we snowmobiled up through Hubbard's Annex, a lovely new cottage was being built for Cordie and Judd Puttkammer by Gamble Construction. Now it is the winter of 2008, and the little home is picture perfect. The Puttkammers are enjoying their new cottage and will remain on the Island until mid-January.

Cathy Andress will once again head up the Meals on Snowmobile program this winter. This is a tremendous service to many of our senior citizens. Anyone who would like to make a donation to this worthy cause, may do so by sending it to Nancy Marks at St. Anne's Church.

Happy anniversary to Frank and Jennifer Blosswick December 2. Hope you enjoyed your day.

*When Christmas comes again
'Mid holly wreaths and snow,
The precious gift of friendship
Takes on an added glow.*

I am enjoying my favorite hobby, feeding the wild birds and the ducks that come daily to our patio door. They know when it's dinner time. They're fascinating to watch.

Happy birthday to little Vincent Davis December 7. Hope you had a great day.

We give a warm welcome to all the folks who have beautiful homes in Woodbluff, Stonecliffe Manor, Stone Brook, Hubbard's Annex, East Bluff, and West Bluff. Many cottagers enjoyed the Thanksgiving holiday on Mackinac, including the Tom Lockwoods, Dr. Robert Spitzer and family, Tim and Sherry Pluchatt, and the David Levy family. Many of the homes have a magnificent view of the Straits of Mackinac.



Santa Claus arrives on a Mackinac Island fire truck for the annual Christmas Bazaar Saturday, December 6. Jason St. Onge is the driver.

With each Christmas card we write, we see a dear friend's face and treasure each fond memory that time cannot.

There is no season so dear as Christmas!

Main Street has turned into a Christmas fairyland, with fresh balsam wreaths adorning each lamp-post and the stately blue spruce Christmas tree standing in the center of town for everyone to see. What a special little town we call home, from the busy summertime to the winter holidays. The beautiful tree was donated by Dr. Bill and Sue Chambers and was cut down by Larry Rickley Sr. and Larry Rickley Jr., who both donated their services. This truly is the Christmas spirit. The tree was placed in the center of Main Street and decorated by Mark Chambers and the city crew. Friday evening, December 5, little Gabriel Hepker flipped the switch, illuminating the 2008 city Christmas tree. The large gathering of folks and children cheered at the beautiful sight, as snow fell gently to the ground. Special thanks to Mark Chambers and Dan Wightman of Edison Sault Electric Company and to the city crew for all their hard work turning Mackinac into a Christmas paradise.

*Christmas carols, Christmas greetings, and joyful gatherings, too.
May Christmas in its coming,
bring all these and more to you.*

Big exciting news! Island-born Bob Benjamin has published his new book, "Mackinac Album." It has beautiful Island pictures and his-

By Jeannette Doud
847-6298



gery at Munson Medical Center in Traverse City. Island friends send best wishes for a speedy recovery.

Monday evening, December 8, family and friends gathered at the Mustang Lounge to celebrate Dennis Brodeur's 88th birthday. Trooper Joe Brodeur of Ypsilanti and Tony and Loretta Spata of Traverse City joined the festive crowd. Island friends send special birthday greetings to Dennis.

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas!!

Please send birthday greetings to Helga Doud, who will celebrate her 102nd birthday Saturday, December 13. Helga will be in Petoskey for the winter and her new address is: Hiland Cottage, 1 Hiland Drive, Room #2, Petoskey, MI 49770. She would love to hear from her many friends.

Christmas is for giving and showing that we care.

It is so nice to see Margaret McIntire's Boardwalk Cottage open for the season.

Mike Iles of 7th Heaven Salon & Spa will entertain his family on Mackinac for the Christmas holiday. It's wonderful having the shop open three days a week during the winter.

Joe and Rosemary Kompki departed St. Ignace Thursday, December 11, for Englewood, Florida, where they will spend the winter. It was so great to see them at the Christmas Bazaar. Have fun in the sun!

Ed and Nona Chambers attended the memorial service for Nona's father Saturday, December 6, in Bay City. Island friends send deepest sympathy to the family.

Judy and Robbie Bynoe visited the Randy McKay family in Chassell Friday, December 5, and Saturday, December 6. Happy birthday to Robbie December 17 and Judy December 22.

Mary A. Dichtel of Green Valley, Arizona, passed away Wednesday, November 19. She was the daughter of the late Nick and Mary Donnelly Cummings and the granddaughter of

tory and depicts many of the old postcards. It is very interesting and enjoyable.

The mighty *Huron* is as mighty as ever, making daily trips to and from the mainland. It is gaily decorated for the season with brightly-colored Christmas lights and a lighted tree on the upper bow.

Christmas is for giving and for showing that we care.

A building project is taking place on the East Bluff by Marshall Builders of St. Ignace. The former Terwilliger property has been purchased by the Phillips family and is being completely renovated. We give them a warm welcome to Mackinac.

Peggy Bynoe enjoyed the Thanksgiving holiday with her Island family. She is a music teacher in Grand Rapids and will return for the Christmas vacation.

Ron Dufina continues to recuperate at his Island home, following sur-



Mackinac Island summer resident Wendy Young (left) and her grandson, Sam Piper, 8, of Frankenmuth visit with Trish Martin (right) and Cordie Puttkammer during the Island's annual Christmas Bazaar Saturday, December 6. Ms. Martin, who paints Island scenes on ornaments and glasses, also offers a variety of Christmas decorations for purchase each year at the bazaar.



Gabriel Hepker of Mackinac Island shows his wish list for Christmas presents to Santa Claus at the firehall Saturday, December 6.

the late William Donnelly of Mackinac. Mary spent many happy summers on Mackinac at the Donnelly home on Market Street. She is survived by her husband, Francis, three children, 10 grandchildren, her aunt, Adelaide Donnelly Oenning of Chicago, and many cousins. Deepest sympathy to the family from Island friends.

Winter hangs her icy festoons everywhere, for all to see.

We send special greetings to Dr.

Al Sibinic, who is spending the winter in Arizona. We look forward to seeing him back on Mackinac in the spring.

Jeff Shaffer and Dwight LaPine spent Thanksgiving in Gwin, visiting Jeff's parents, Jack and Sharon Shaffer.

The snowflakes glisten as they fall, and soon the snow will cover all.

We send Christmas greetings to
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