

# Families Enjoy Games on Marina Lawn, Concert, Fireworks at Mackinaw City

By Michael Ayala

Mackinaw City was a lively scene during the Fourth of July, with large crowds of people enjoying games offered at the marina during the afternoon Saturday, watching the Straits Area Concert Band in the evening, and finishing up the night with a colorful fireworks display on the waterfront.

At the marina, children found a penny scramble game, golf contest, and basketball shooting contest available free of charge.

Pennies were scattered throughout a large pile of hay and different age groups of children, from 9 to 10 and younger, dove into the hay in hopes to collect as many pennies as possible.

Marina employees tossed 500 pennies into the pile for each group. Many children were content gathering as many copper pieces as they could, while some had added incentive. Five-year-old Annika Berg of Onsted was promised to have her pennies doubled if she managed to collect

**On the Web site:** Video footage of Mackinaw City events can be viewed at [www.stignacenews.com](http://www.stignacenews.com). Click on the "watch videos" bar on the left-hand side of the home page. Videos and event photo albums can be viewed here free of charge.

more than 10, Teri Benevich said. Ms. Benevich is the girlfriend of Tom Allor, Annika's uncle. After Annika collected 11 pennies, Ms. Benevich handed Annika a single penny and let Mr. Allor cover the rest.

Annika, her mother, Micki Berg, and the others stopped by Mackinaw City to see the fireworks. The family had visited the village for five years, but had never seen the fireworks show.

The penny scramble was intended for younger children, but the golf and basketball contests were available to all ages. In the golf game, contestants had a single shot to sink a hole in one on a miniature golf stand. Skilled players could win a free ice cream. In the basketball game, each player was granted a single shot at the basketball hoop to win



Children at the marina park dive into a pile of hay and attempt to collect as many pennies as they can in three minutes. Nearly 500 pennies were scattered into the hay for each group of children who participated.

a cold soda.

The other games available were more competitive. An egg

toss, disc toss, and three-legged race were offered to all and separated into age divisions. In the

disc toss, players needed to throw a disc through a hoop. Those who succeeded moved onto the next round, while those who missed were eliminated from the game. Spectators were cautious, as some of the discs flew wide of their intended target and into the crowd. The winners of each division each won a small trophy and a hearty round of applause from those watching.

The egg toss proved to be a crowd favorite, earning laughter whenever a contestant was splattered by a poorly aimed or roughly caught egg. Players tossed an egg to their partners. Many contestants soon found that a dropped egg often exploded when caught, even if there was no visible damage. Andrew Stemkoski, 10, of Mackinaw City, and nine-year-old Lisa Reynolds of Grand Rapids were among those participating in the toss. The pair were

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## 2009 St. Ignace Car Show Award Winners

Winners: From page 9

8. Bill and Janet Willey of Ceresco, 1933 Ford Roadster
9. Vern and Lisa Bennett of Adrian, 1965 Pontiac GTO
10. Reggie DiRezze of Warren, 1968 Volkswagen
11. Kurt and Tiffany Wangerin of Stephenson, 1973 Plymouth Baracuda
12. Don and Dorothy Wangerin of Stephenson, 1960 Dodge Dart
13. Nick LeVeck of Berkley, 1967 Oldsmobile Delmont 88
14. Paul LeVeck of Berkley, 1968 Oldsmobile Delmont 88
15. Ken and Marsha Nicholas of Eaton Rapids, 1970 Oldsmobile
16. Fred and Dee Koenig of Alpena, 1935 REO Speedwagon
17. Kathy Baumgarten of Onaway, 1970 Chevy Chevelle
18. Rick Madol of Harrison, 1953 Willys Jeep
19. Alan Zimmer of Marne, 1969 Oldsmobile
20. Jer Swanger of Hudsonville, 1957 Chevy
21. Don Boak of St. Johns, 1955 Chevy
22. Nick Lombardo of Jenison, 1966 Chevy Nova
23. Bill and Staci McKee of Kalamazoo, 1975 Hurst Oldsmobile
24. Tom Perkins of Reese, 1972 Chevy Nova
25. Mike Todd of Sterling Heights, 1996 Ford Ranger
26. Larry and Connie Button of St. Johns, 1959 Chevy Corvette
27. Nelson Capestany of Caledonia, 1951 Chevy Pick up
28. Lonnie and Joy Harris of Newaygo, 1971 American Motors AMX Javelin
29. Terry Eddy, Houghton Lake of 1972 Chevy C-10 Pick up
30. Adrian Gauthier of Cheboygan, 1969 Chevy Camaro
31. Joe Dochod of Sparta, 1965 Buick Skylark
32. Norm Schmelzle of Fair Haven, 1969 Chevy Camaro
33. Walter Schmelzle of Troy, 1967 Chevy Corvette
34. Hank Smith of Kalamazoo, 1951 Ford F-1 Pick up
35. Mark and Ann VanDerMoon of Cadillac, 2006 Ford Roush Mustang
36. Bob Cutler of Niagara Falls, Ontario, 1934 Ford Panel Truck
37. David Simon of Indian River, 1964 Mercury
38. Larry Baker of Perrinton, 1978 Dodge Diplomat
39. Phil Allen of Grand Rapids, 1970 Chevy Chevelle SS
40. Rose Cartwright of Goetzville, 2008 Smart Car

## Grants Will Go Toward Wawatam Park Project

City: From page 7

occurrence for liability, a \$250 deductible per vehicle accident, and a \$250 deductible for property and crime. There is also coverage for sewage system overflow.

Under the previous year's contract, the city had seven claims.

### Resolutions Pass for Special Events, Chief Wawatam Park Project

The council passed two resolutions to override Ordinance No. 413, "The Peddler's Ordinance," to allow for two annual events to take place legally, Fish Feast and Sidewalk Sales.

Since the events are both held on city property, one at the marina and the other on city sidewalks,

the resolution is necessary to confirm that the events meet criteria set out in the ordinance.

Fish Feast is scheduled for Saturday, July 25, from noon to 10 p.m. and will take place at the city marina.

The annual Sidewalk Sales in the downtown area are scheduled for Saturday, August 8, from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.

The city council also approved a resolution to accept the terms of a grant agreement with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to fund the Chief Wawatam Park project. This DNR trust fund grant provides \$134,000 in reimbursement funds, to be matched by \$38,000 from the city to complete the project on the

former railroad ferry dock in St. Ignace.

The DDA has also received \$38,000 from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation for planning handicapped accessibility into the park's design.

The park is planned to include walkways, landscaping, a fishing platform, picnic areas, and local historic education.

The agreement will be sent back to the DNR and, once it is signed, St. Ignace Downtown Development Authority Director Deb Evashevski can begin the construction process.

"I'm hoping to get a shovel in the ground by late summer or early fall," Mrs. Evashevski said. "I'm anxious to get this going."

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