

Island Master Plan Work Slated To Begin June 29

Island Master Plan work is slated to begin Wednesday, June 29, with initial discussion to center around getting organized, setting priorities, and mapping out a strategy. The meeting was set during the Planning Commission's monthly meeting Tuesday, June 14.

Leading the city through the Master Plan updating process will be Connie Dimond of JJR, an Ann Arbor consulting firm. The service will cost the city \$50,000. State law requires municipalities to review and, if needed, revise the plan every five years.

Building Inspector Dennis Dombroski said the city is developing a Web site and a page would be dedicated to the master plan progress.

Committee members will be working to update the current Master Plan that was adopted August 4, 1999. The committee will include three members each from the planning commission, city council, and residential community, along with city staff.

Commissioners also discussed and sent to the Zoning Board of Appeals a request for a

variance to change an existing storage building into a commercial rental storage building with an attached apartment. Richard Coates has asked for a variance to change a storage building previously used by Stonecliffe Mansion for hotel accessory storage to a commercial building that would be used as storage rental space.

Mr. Coates said the building would be subdivided into 10 or more 12-foot by 14-foot rental units that could be used for storage of items like snowmobiles. Part of the building also would be converted to an apartment.

"It sounds like a nice use of the building," said Commissioner Mary Dufina, who added that she would like to see a site plan.

The Commission asked that the site plan include roads, parking, and a garbage storage, and asked for a modified floor plan showing the storage area partitions, a modified apartment floor plan, and a list of materials to be stored in the building.

The next Planning Commission meeting will be Tuesday, July 12, at 3 p.m. at City Hall.

Tall Ship To Trade Cannon Salute With Fort Mackinac

The tall ship *Friends Good Will* will pass Mackinac Island Tuesday, June 28, trading cannon salutes with Fort Mackinac.

Friends Good Will is a reconstructed schooner, com-

pleted last year and now housed at the Michigan Maritime Museum in South Haven.

The original sailing ship was captured by the British at Mackinac Island during the War of 1812.

Tall Ship Tours To Benefit Island Community Foundation

Rides aboard the tall ship *Windy II* will be available this weekend when the boat docks at Mackinac Island, with some of the proceeds to benefit the Mackinac Island Community Foundation.

Windy II will arrive Friday afternoon, June 24, and remain until Sunday morning and will offer rides Saturday, June 25, at 1 p.m., 3 p.m., and 7 p.m. The ship is a 150 foot traditional four masted gaff topsail

schooner and can hold 150 people.

Tickets are \$25 for adults and \$20 for children under 12 and seniors over 60. They may be purchased at the Community Foundation office on Hoban Street or at the ship after 10 a.m. Saturday, June 25.

The "Public Adventure" tours last 1.5 hours and include occasional cannon firings.

The ship's home port is at Navy Pier in Chicago.

Church To Offer Summer Programs

Square dancing and other summer programs at Ste. Anne's Catholic Church are now in full swing.

Evensong is Sunday evenings at 10 p.m. Square dancing night on the church deck is Tuesday at 8 p.m., with light refreshment, and free employee dinner nights are Fridays at 7 p.m., with food

donated by local businesses.

All social activities are non-religious and are meant to foster a sense of community and to provide safe, fun events for those on the Island, said Brother Jim Boynton.

Lightning Causes Power Outage

A brief power outage occurred on Mackinac Island Tuesday, June 21, when lightning struck a lightning arrester. The lightning strike caused a reclosure in the switching station to open, which shut down the circuit to Harrisonville, Mission Point, and West Bluff at 7:40 a.m.

The arrester was behind Harrisonville General Store. Edison Sault Electric Company had the power restored by 9:50 a.m.

Michigan Politics

By George Weeks



Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney Has Michigan Ties

As Massachusetts Governor Mitt Romney tests national waters for a 2008 presidential bid, the Water Wonderland where his father once was governor is a prime sample. He was just here for the second time this year and is likely to be back in September on Mackinac Island.

Romney, son of ex-Gov. George Romney, was the featured speaker at a March fundraiser for state Senate Republicans and was the draw last week at one for U.S. Rep. Joe Knollenberg of Bloomfield Hills--where the Romneys long lived.

Among those at the event was west Michigan businessman Dick DeVos, frontrunner for the 2006 GOP gubernatorial nomination and someone who could, as Romney did in Massachusetts, spend his own millions to be elected governor.

Romney and his political media guru Mike Murphy, another former Michiganian, also had private huddles with state GOP leaders. Among them was Republican State Chairman Saul Anuzis, who says Romney would be "a very formidable" prospect for the 2008 GOP nomination.

Indeed he would. When Romney, whose organizational skills rescued the troubled 2002 Salt Lake City Winter Olympic games and now governs a state where only 13 percent of voters are Republicans, was here in March, I noted that Michigan's religious right contended he was not far enough to the right on some issues.

Now comes the conservative National Review magazine, in a glowing June 20 cover story on "Matinee Mitt:

Charming. Smart. Conservative." It said, "the next time the casting director of a prime-time show needs to pick an actor to play the president, he could do a lot worse than Romney."

The magazine's national political writer, John J. Miller, said the big question is whether Romney can catch a break "from conservatives who possess an instinctive wariness of anything emanating from the land of Kennedy, Dukakis, and Kerry. Their skepticism is well warranted -- but Romney also deserves a fair hearing from them as they search for a successor to President Bush. They may come to like the guy."

Anuzis, the Michigan GOP chief, found Romney "very refreshing," particularly for his "candor and straightforwardness." Straight talk was a factor in the 2000 Michigan Republican presidential victory of Arizona Sen. John McCain, another frequent flier to Michigan this year.

McCain and Romney are among prospective presidential contenders expected to be at the Sept. 23-23 Republican Leadership Conference on Mackinac Island. There have been periodic mutterings that Romney being a Mormon could be an issue if he is a presidential candidate. The Na-

tional Review noted that a 1999 Gallup survey indicated that although few Americans said they wouldn't vote for a Jewish candidate (six percent) or a Catholic one (four percent), 17 percent ruled out supporting a Mormon.

"In a GOP primary, the surrogates of other Republican candidates probably will emphasize Mormonism's doctrinal oddities, such as its claims about extra-Biblical revelation," wrote Miller.

That's hardly a problem in Michigan, which gave George Romney, a 1920s Mormon missionary in the British Isles, three terms.

"It's pretty much a non-issue in Michigan," according to Anuzis, who says in these parts there is "almost a hometown boy feeling" about Mitt Romney.

A Native Son.

George Weeks is the political columnist for The Detroit News and is syndicated by Superior Features.

Sell it in the Classifieds!

643-9150



Town Crier

34 Market St., P.O. Box 532, Mackinac Island, MI 49757
Telephone: (906) 847-3788

www.MackinacIslandTownCrier.com

For business and subscription matters, phone (906) 643-9150

Volume 52, Number 9
June 25 to July 1, 2005

Published 22 times a year, weekly from May through September, once in October, December, February, and April.

Subscription: 22 issues a year Mail: \$22 Web: \$20

Periodical postage paid at Mackinac Island, Michigan.
Additional postage paid at St. Ignace, MI and Gaylord, MI
USPS Periodical Publication Number - 324-060

Postmaster: Send address change notices to
Mackinac Island Town Crier, P.O. Box 532, Mackinac Island, MI 49757

Publisher Emeritus - Wesley H. Maurer (1897-1995)

Publisher and Editor Wesley Maurer, Jr.
Associate Publisher/Business Manager Mary Maurer
Associate Editor Karen Gould
Writers Jessica Delaney, Leslie Rott
Advertising Marty Wolski
Subscriptions Wendy Colegrove

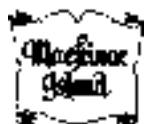


In Mackinac Island Yacht Club Bridge League games for the week ending Wednesday, June 22, Howard Burdett placed first, Nancy Keogh placed second, and Kay Berke placed third.

Capture Mackinac Island



with a subscription to the



Town Crier

To receive a one year subscription please enclose a check or money order.

Subscription: 22 issues a year Mail: \$22 Web: \$20

Mail to:

Mackinac Island Town Crier

c/o The St. Ignace News
P.O. Box 277
St. Ignace, MI 49781

www.MackinacIslandTownCrier.com

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____