

NEWS ABOUT PEOPLE ON MACKINAC ISLAND

BY JEANNETTE DOUD



Summer breezes off the Straits of Mackinac blew gently Sunday afternoon, June 26, as Ann and Tim Timmons hosted a delightful party at their home on Lakeshore Drive honoring major donors to the Mackinac Island Medical Center. It was a wonderful gathering where friends met friends, many who had been off the Island for the winter months. There is always such a warm and happy atmosphere at the Timmons' cottage, be it on the verandah with its magnificent view of Round Island and its surroundings, or inside their cottage, being welcomed by their gracious hospitality. A most enjoyable time was had by all.

Monday, July 4, a very special lady, Cecelia Flanagan, will be celebrating her 98th birthday. She lives with her daughter, Kay Hoppenrath, in her comfortable home on Market Street. Cecelia is an expert on Mackinac history and loves to visit with her friends. Please remember Cecelia on her special birthday.

Years back, Miss Stella King planted a small bush in the yard known as the Hildreth Cottage on French Lane. Now it has become a thing of beauty each summer, when it bursts into full bloom covered with yellow roses. Each time while passing by daily, I've come to remember Stella and admire the tree as one of my favorite Mackinac memories.

While writing my weekly column for *The St. Ignace News* and *Mackinac Island Town Crier*, I've met and heard from so many folks who thoroughly enjoy hearing about our much loved Island and its people. Several weeks ago, I had the pleasure of a visit with six lovely ladies from Columbus, Ohio, Ruth Schietzinger, Marie Travis, Rosemary Conroy, Carol Barkow, Mary Jo Holbrook, and Cathy Taris, who were enjoying a get-together at their summer cottage in the Les Cheneaux Islands. It so happened while visiting with them, I learned they were personal friends of the late Margaret and Wes Maurer Sr. It was a most delightful time, since I could relate many happy stories to them about my good friends, too.



Members of Mackinac Island's 2005 Lilac Queen and Court participated in the annual Antique Auto Show Parade in St. Ignace Thursday, June 23. From left are former Lilac Queen Jennifer Wightman, reigning Queen Blisse Beardsley, and Princess Shelby Mosley.

They love the Island and enjoy reading the news each week.

Happy birthday to Jody Chambers July 1. I'm sure your six children will help you blow out your candles. Have a great day.

We give a special welcome back to Mackinac to Lorabeth and John Fitzgerald of Grand Ledge, who are in their cottage on the East Bluff and among their many caring Island friends. Lorabeth enjoyed Ann and Tim Timmons' party on Sunday, where she was greeted by many friends.

Candi Dunnigan is recuperating well at her home in Grass Lake after surgery performed at the University of Michigan Hospital in Ann Arbor, Friday, June 24. It's always a joy to hear Candi's voice over the phone, as she has such a positive and happy attitude. She would love to hear from her friends. Her address is: 4531 North Maute Road, Grass Lake, Michigan 49240. Hopefully, Candi and Brian and family will soon be on Mackinac at their Easterly Cottage on the shore. Hurry and get well, Candi. We miss you on Mackinac.

Kathi (Mrs. Dan) Wightman entered Northern Michigan Hospital in Petoskey Tuesday, June 28, where she underwent a hip replacement. Following a few days in the hospital, she will be recuperating at her Island home. Friends, please remember her with cards and get well wishes.

Great news! Gary LaPine of the Island, who has been critically ill in the Intensive Care Unit at

Community Hospital. Bruce is a special member of our community who always responds with a smile when asked to help with the Christmas Bazaar and many different functions during the year. He is also a dedicated employee of the Island House Hotel, where he is head of maintenance. Get well soon, Bruce, we miss you.

This has been the week of parties on the Island. Heather Fisher Ogle was guest of honor at a pink and blue shower at Ste. Anne's Hall Saturday, June 25, where she received many beautiful gifts.

Friends of Carrie Kaminen hosted a baby shower Sunday evening, June 26, at the Hagenbaugh residence on Lakeshore Drive. Melly is always a gracious host and loves a party. Outside the picket fence at the exterior of the residence, a bed of beautiful peonies are in full bloom. They brought back happy memories to me as her late parents, Thelma and Jim Alford, who were great gardeners, planted the beautiful plants.

Our American Legion post received a nice letter from Gordon Graham of VFW Post 7439 in Cheboygan raving about the hospitality he and other veterans received during the Lilac Parade.

"During my 36-year business career I have been to some pretty fancy outings and to some remote, out-of-the-way places, but I am hard pressed at the moment to remember any that have been so much fun as my annual trip to the Lilac Parade on Mackinac Island," he wrote. "It seems each year it gets just a little bit better than the last."

He continued, "The parade, in itself, is fun to participate in, with all the people applauding as the colors go by and a few who say 'thanks for serving' as you pass. It always gives this old man a sense of pride in having done his small part, oh so many years ago. But nothing surpasses the camaraderie that takes place at the Mustang after the parade is over!"

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