

# Airport Renovation Project To Continue Through Summer

\*Continued from page 4

For the 2007 season, the park has booked 71,466 group visitors, a 2.5% decline from 2006, Mr. Porter said, as schools struggle with tight budgets.

"These are still very large numbers," he noted.

Not included in the total is the Gerald R. Ford Council Boy Scout gathering expected at Fort Mackinac in September.

The park will host 30 weddings this summer, which is two more than last year. Nineteen will be at the

"Somewhere in Time" gazebo, nine are planned at Mission Church, and two will be at Old Mackinac Point Lighthouse.

Cottage owner Frank Pompa gave an update of the Michigan Historic Preservation Network conference held at Grand Hotel in early May, which he had chaired. He told commissioners that the survey of attendees after the conference indicated Mr. Porter's presentation received the most positive comments.

"They said, 'It is amazing the passion that man has for Mackinac Island,'" said Mr.

Pompa.

Regarding the state park and its preservation efforts, Mr. Pompa told the commission, "You guys have done a tremendous job in protecting the historic resources, not only the buildings, but also trying to protect the nature of the Island."

Mackinac Associates, the friends group that raises money for park programs, is celebrating 25 years since its formation and has set a fundraising goal of \$25,000 for the year.

With the goal nearly reached in May, Mr. Porter said, the group will exceed the amount. The donations will be placed in the Education Endowment Fund.

The commission acted on nine use permits during the meeting. The two-year permits identify and regulate small trespasses on park property. A \$58 fee is assessed to property owners for use of the land.

Four properties on Spring Street have front yards on state land. Two lots are owned by Laureate Cowell, a third lot is owned by David and Brenda Kensler, and the fourth lot is owned by Kathryn Ledtke.

A permit is issued to the City of Mackinac Island for the Department of Public Works for the landfill, composting, and recycling facility.

In Harrisonville, Curt and Judy Munson's septic drain field is "just barely across" state park property, said Mr. Porter.

Debra and Sandra Orr own two lots near Little Stone Church.

Each lot has a portion of the backyard on state park land. Also, they have a lot in Harrisonville where a portion of a barn wall is on state park land.

Stairs leading to Trinity Episcopal Church and the parish hall are on state park land.

Commissioners also approved three subleases for the West Bluff lot owned by Lydia Pennock and East Bluff land owned by Alice Myron and by Holly Mull and family. A \$150 fee is assessed for a sublease, which allows cottage owners to rent their homes.

The land on the bluffs is owned by the Mackinac Island State Park Commission, while the cottages are owned by the

lease holders.

Lynne Piippo, executive director of the St. Ignace Visitors Bureau, presented commissioners with a letter that expressed concerns over a park staff member who holds a seat on the Mackinaw Area Visitors Bureau.

She requested the commission to establish a policy to prohibit employees from "serving in capacities that would bring them into conflicts of interest such as this." In her letter, Mrs. Piippo asked commissioners, "How can the Mackinac State Historic Parks possibly market their attractions fairly when their marketing staff has an interest in the success of another entity competing directly with us [St. Ignace]?"

The commission took no action on the matter.

Local area leaders included Mackinac Island City Alderman Armand "Smi" Horn, Mackinaw City Village President Robert Heilman and City Manager Jeff Lawson, and Ms. Piippo.

Commissioners next meet Friday, July 20, at 1:30 p.m. at Post Hospital at Fort Mackinac.

## The Original

Truly A "Must See" Family Attraction!



Featuring Butterflies and insects from Central, South and North America, Asia, and Africa!

The Original Mackinac Island Butterfly House is Beginning its

16<sup>th</sup> year as the 3<sup>rd</sup> Oldest Live Butterfly Exhibit in America. Every Year We Try to Offer Something New and Fun to Our Customer While Keeping With the Original Idea of Being an Educational Facility. And This Year Proves No Different! **NEW FOR 2007 : An Expanded Tropical Insect Museum.** See 14" Walking Sticks, 6" Cockroaches And Some of the Largest Spiders in the World! Visit Our Live Turtles, Lizards, and "Rose" the Tarantula. Talk With Michigan State Interns Who Will Answer Your Questions About Entomology and Zoology.

Visit Our Customer Friendly Gift Shop Where all Children 12 and Under will receive the Original Butterfly House and Insect World Wrist Band Free with Paid Admission!

**BONUS!!!** Pay once and you can visit as many times as you'd like while staying on the Island.

The Butterfly House is located behind Ste. Anne's Church, only 3 blocks from downtown toward Mission Point Resort.

Open 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Every Day During Peak Season  
Phone (906) 847-3972  
[www.originalbutterflyhouse.com](http://www.originalbutterflyhouse.com)

## FOR RENT

Monthly or Seasonal



### Matthew Geary House

Market Street  
Mackinac Island

Summer 2007  
May - October

For information call  
(906) 847-3328

## Horsefly Bites Are Painful

\*Continued from page 19

allows for wintering over in temperate climates. Temperature can greatly affect the length of time needed for growth into adulthood. Generally, the colder it is, the longer it takes.

In addition to the painful bites horseflies can give to mammals, they've also been known to carry a number of diseases to cattle, horses, dogs, and camels, as well as humans. A number of trypanosomes are transmitted to various organisms, causing "surra" and other diseases. In addition, equine infectious anemia virus and Western equine encephalitis can be carried by Tabanids (the

horseflies in that genus, Tabaninae).

Not all flies are bad. Many of them play an important role in pollination and decomposition, but I have to say that, all in all, especially relating to horseflies, I agree with Ogden Nash.

P.S. Because of the warm weather and the lack of rain, many of our wildflowers are passing very quickly. Fireflies and grasshoppers are already out, and the beech trees are beginning to drop leaves owing to the lack of water.

Trish Martin is a year-around resident of Mackinac Island, has earned a master's degree in botany from Central Michigan University, and owns Bogan Lane Inn.



We had planned to return to Mackinac Island for our 5 year wedding anniversary, but instead we'll just have to order your wonderful fudge and recall the atmosphere of the Island!

Thank You,  
Mary Gates

For Mail Order Service Call 906-847-3530  
[www.Murdicks.com](http://www.Murdicks.com)

What More Can We Say?

The Original on Mackinac Island Since 1887

## Main Street INN & SUITES

[www.mainstreetinnandsuites.com](http://www.mainstreetinnandsuites.com)



P.O. Box 178  
Mackinac Island  
906.847.6530

BEAUTIFULLY APPOINTED DELUXE GUEST ROOMS AND SUITES  
CONVENIENTLY LOCATED IN THE HEART OF HISTORIC MAIN STREET

Featured Amenities:

Air-Conditioning • Elevator • Private Baths  
Handicap Accessibility • Secure Bike Storage  
Ceiling Fans • Daily Newspaper • Pillow Top Mattresses  
Cable Television • Internet Access • Pool Table & Games  
Refrigerator • Microwave • Coffee Maker • Telephone  
Deposit Box • Turn Down Service • 24 Hour Front Desk