

News About People on Mackinac Island

Doud: From page 19

vacation Bible school, Fourth of July festivities, bicycling, visiting Fort Mackinac, and meeting new friends.

Mary Jane Newman of Royal Oak, an annual visitor to the Windermere Hotel, left Wednesday, July 15. She had a great time attending Tuesday night bingo, the concert at Little Stone Church, and visiting her many friends on the Island.

Happy birthday July 19 to Patty Schoenborn and Anna McGreevy. Have a great day.

Dr. Jeff Chambers of Minnesota visited family and friends last week on Mackinac.

The annual opening party for 2009 was held at Wawashkamo Golf Club Saturday evening, July 12. It was a great gathering of friends and good food on a clear, crisp Mackinac night. Everyone sang "Happy Birthday" to Brian Dunnigan, who was celebrating his 60th birthday.

We give a warm welcome to our good neighbors, Janey Hart and Ann Bronfman, who are enjoying the beautiful Lake-wood Cottage.

Brenda Bunker, Paul Wandrie, Sr., and Pam St. Onge will celebrate their birthdays July 21. Have a wonderful day.

Leo Krzeminski and daughter, Julie, enjoyed the Fourth of July festivities on Mackinac. They attended a great cookout at Vanessa and Ken Hardy's home in Harrisonville.

Jody Chambers and daughter, Clara, left Mackinac Friday, July 10, for Jackson, where Jody attended her class reunion. They also visited Richard Chambers, who is living in Clark Lake.

Every Sunday night at 10

p.m. an evensong service is held at Ste. Anne's Church. Everyone is welcome to attend.

We give a warm welcome to Muffin Ernster and her family, who are enjoying their cottages in Hubbard's Annex. I enjoyed being with Muffin on a great carriage ride all over the Island with Buck Sharrow. We stopped by to visit Shannon Schuler, and I had a wonderful tour of her lovely cottage with its magnificent view of the Straits of Mackinac. Her flower gardens are beautiful, and the little pony enjoying his noon lunch of hay in the corral was darling.

Warmest wishes to Charlotte Sweeney Schmitt of Burr Ridge, Illinois, who is not able to be on Mackinac this summer.

Many brides had wonderful sunshine for their special day Saturday, July 12. Many weddings were held at Ste. Anne's, Little Stone Church, and other outdoor settings. The happy couples would drive by in the various wedding carriages celebrating the happy occasion.

Kitty Bourisaw Schadel left Mackinac this week for her home in Arcade, New York. Kitty has spent three weeks visiting her home on Bourisaw Lane.

Happy birthday to Brett Horn July 22. I'm sure little Dakota will help you blow your candles out.

Monday, July 13, the Boy Scouts were giving tours of the Old Round Island Lighthouse. Unfortunately, the wind really kicked up and the tours had to be cancelled. We love to see the light shining year-around at this historic structure.

Happy birthday to Emma Chambers July 23. I'm sure Clara will help you blow your

candles out.

Lloyd Karzen and his wife of the Chicago Yacht Club arrived Wednesday, July 15, to prepare for the arrival of the fleet, which will leave Chicago Saturday, July 18. Windermere Point will become alive with activities as the finish line trailer is put into place and the large tent from Fort Mackinac is erected for information and check-in for all the sailors. It will be a festive time. Let us hope for perfect weather. The boardwalk will soon be lined with well wishers cheering for all of the sailors who will pass the finish line between Round Island Lighthouse and Windermere Point. A familiar sound will be heard as the cannon announces another sailboat has finished the race.

Happy birthday to Matt Myers and Dylan Szabo July 23. Enjoy your day.

Mark your calendar for the Festival of the Horse, which will start Thursday, July 23, with a reception at The Gate House. Activities will be held Friday, July 24, and Saturday, July 25, at the Borough Lot by the Mackinac Island Public School. There will be fun for all ages.

Ellen Putnam, secretary of the Department of Public Works, will celebrate her birthday July 25. Have a great day.

Happy birthday to Kristi Gough July 19, and to her cousin, Josh Lee, July 21. Enjoy your day.

Enjoy the Chicago to Mackinac Race!

Island State Park Joins DNR

Parks: From page 5

For other matters, Mr. Porter has been working with DNR Director Rebecca Humphries to facilitate the move since it was first announced in February. Human resources, communications, and budgeting divisions of the DNR will all be working with the Mackinac Island State Park Commission in the months ahead.

"The welcome that we've already received from the DNR is very positive," he said. "It very much respects the commission's authority, and they also say they are excited to have us, to work with us, and to have us be a part of DNR."

The budget will still dominate the commission's concerns.

This year, the Mackinac Island State Park Commission received \$1.5 million from the state, and early talks on the new budget in October indicate the state's allocation could remain the same or dip to \$1.175 million, a \$400,000 cut in state support.

"This is one of the things we are wrestling with right now," said Mr. Porter, "to keep the cut to Mackinac as small as possible and certainly no more than any other agency. Then we will try to live with it again and hope the economy turns around someday."

A money-saving furlough imposed on state employees this summer is bringing new challenges. Under it, state

employees must take six days off without pay. Two already have been taken, and the final four days the state will close will be every other Friday beginning July 24. For much of state government, closing offices is like another holiday, but without pay. But for Mackinac State Historic Parks, which operates museums and other summer attractions for tourists, losing its staff for a day can be a problem. Its sites are open seven days a week, 15 hours a day, and 2,112 man hours have been lost to the furlough program.

"The question becomes, OK we've got the bathrooms open, but since they are open for 12 hours, who closes them?" Mr. Porter asked. "It's that kind of thing where we are really scrambling."

Cool weather and rain dominated the spring, but the weather has improved in the past week.

Admissions are down about 4.5% so far this year, however, last week's attendance was up more than 16% compared to the same week one year ago, Mr. Porter said. He is optimistic attendance will continue to improve through the season.

"Tourism is a successful

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