

Local Arts Events

The Mackinaw City Area Arts Council would like to inform residents of several exciting arts events in the coming months:

The Mackinaw Area Youth Chorale, under the direction of Denise Sauter, is forming to rehearse for the 31st annual community holiday sing. Students ages 10 – 16 are invited to rehearse on Sundays, beginning Oct. 13, at the Church of the Straits. The Youth Chorale rehearsals are from 12:30 – 2:00 pm. Adults wishing to participate in the popular holiday program will rehearse from 2:30 – 4:30 pm each Sunday, also at the Church of the Straits. This year’s program, “Sweet with the Song – a Collection of Holiday Carols,” will be presented to the community on Dec. 15 at 2 pm at St. Anthony’s Catholic Church in Mackinaw City.



The Young Americans will be conducting a 3-day workshop for students in grades 3 – 12 in Cheboygan on October 27, 28, and 29. The workshop will culminate with a community performance. Cost of the workshop is \$49 per student. Application forms are available in the school office. Partial scholarships are available to Mackinaw City students through the Mackinaw City Area Arts Council.

For aspiring young writers, applications are still being accepted for Jonathan Rand’s “AuthorQuest” December writing camp. Students ages 10 – 13 will spend four days and three nights with Jonathan Rand and other noted authors at Wolverine Camps in Wolverine, Michigan. Dates for the winter camp are Dec. 27 – 30. Partial scholarships are available to Mackinaw City students through the Mackinaw City Area Arts Council. For more information, students should visit www.michiganchillers.com. For more information regarding any of these exciting events, contact the Mackinaw City Area Arts Council at 231-436-5050 or 231-436-5572.

NEW Dark Sky Program for OCTOBER 18

Acclaimed author Paul Bogard will host a program on Friday, Oct. 18 at the Headlands International Dark Sky Park! This program coincides with the partial lunar eclipse occurring this day.

Time and details: 6 p.m., meet at the entrance to the Headlands to observe the partial lunar eclipse; the group will then drive to the Beach House (or walk if you’re so inclined) for the program with Bogard, beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Through his book “The End of Night ~ Searching for Natural Darkness in an Age of Artificial Light”, Bogard takes readers on a world tour of the state of darkness, while unveiling the consequences of light pollution and light trespass in contemporary culture.

Hydrant Flushing October 21 - October 31 7:30 am to 5:00 pm

Customers should be aware of the possibility of temporary discoloration of water and to remember to be careful when doing laundry to avoid discolored clothing. The water is safe to consume during flushing.

To: POSTAL PATRON

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Mackinaw City Newsletter

FALL, 2013



Our new manager Adam Smith joined us this past Spring. His first day on the job was May 6 and now with 20 weeks on the job, the transition through the reorganization process is well underway. Adam, originally from Farwell Michigan comes to us after five-plus years of administrative management duties from the village/city of Jonesville Michigan. Adam’s style of administration is refreshing, energetic, educational, in-depth and always with a can-do attitude. The many challenges he has experienced so far have been approached with a systematic and professional review regarding the law, best practices and in a very business-like approach to problem-solving. The Council and I look forward to working with Adam as we move forward in bringing Mackinaw City into the 21st century.

The following is a short recap of some of the past year’s projects.

- The casino question is in the hands of the Odawa organization. Their recent election brought new members into leadership. We have asked if they still wish to build a casino in Mackinaw City and are awaiting their answer.
- This past spring we saw the completion of the much-needed bathrooms at Conkling Heritage Park.
- The McLott property acquisition is nearly complete and we look forward to beginning improvements to this much desired waterfront park. Thank you once again to those who contributed financially. This project could not have been done without you. I want to mention that you folks produced a 99.9% return on your commitments. Amazing!
- Dredging of our Marina will occur from October 8 to 25th.
- We are proud to announce that Mackinaw City has a very welcoming new billboard on I-75, located at the veterans clinic property. We were lucky to lease this location without cost, and thrilled to be able to welcome visitors and share our award as the #1 Family Tourist Destination.
- The recreation center is getting a new face lift with new siding on the north and east walls and a clean-up of the grounds.
- We are excited about all the great work our neighbor and partner Emmet County is doing throughout the county but especially in northern Emmet here in Mackinaw City. We continue to support their efforts through collaboration mindful of the importance of the Dark Sky Park and the renewing of history by making McGulpin Pt. Lighthouse available for all people to enjoy and learn.

In closing I want to remind everyone that the reorganization of the Village Administration is an ongoing process. We will continue this process as we face financial challenges through an extensive review. Being mindful of management’s model, our manager Adam Smith will explain our financial condition further in this newsletter.

As always I thank everyone who contributes to make our town a better place, a sense of place, a belonging and a place we love and enjoy.

I put in my order for more nice weather so get out there and enjoy.

Jeff Hingston
Village President

Other Village News

Every five years the Village updates its Recreation Plan. The community will be asked for its input on our recreation offerings and needs, so watch for the time and place.

Winterfest will be the 3rd weekend in January. Promotional dates can be listed for Thursday, Jan. 16th thru Sunday Jan. 19th. Groups or organizations wishing to sponsor games of exhibits should contact the Chamber at 231-436-5574 before October 30, 2013. A Saturday event coordinator and volunteers are needed.

The village has received several grants this summer.

- Trail Town grant to analyze our potential for improved economic development from our trails.
- A Placemaking Micro-grant to be used to re-do 24 of our downtown historical pathway signs.
- Designation as a North Country Trail - Trail Town with new signs at the Village entry.
- Community Tree Planting Grant to replace 10 of the many ash trees dying along S. Huron Ave.

The Historic Fire Truck committee of Fred Thompson Jr., Jeff Hingston, and Bob Fisher report that all of the mechanical work on the old fire truck has been completed. The bodywork is underway and we should see the truck in operation for the 2014 Memorial Day parade.



Village council from left: Bob Glenn, Belinda Mollen, Matt Yoder, Jeff Hingston (President), Sandy Planisek, Dick Perlik, Paul Michalak

HALLOWEEN

Mackinaw City will have Trick or Treating from 5:00 PM – 8:00 PM on Thursday, October 31, 2013.

McGulpin Point Lighthouse will be decorated for Halloween and open 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily Oct. 27 through Nov. 3 (there is no charge). On October 26th it will be open from 10am to 11pm.

Heritage Village, in conjunction with Emmet County and the Lion's Club, will sponsor our 5th annual Triple Fright Night spook-tacular just before Halloween on October 26 at 6:00-8:00 pm. Costumed docents will greet trick or treaters who will walk from building to building in Heritage Village. Emmet County dares visitors to walk the 1-mile dimly-lighted path from the Headlands entrance to the Beach House. The Headlands Challenge takes place from 8 to 10 p.m. Experience the dark and stay for the show -- the stars above! Telescopes will be provided. This is a free, fun-filled family evening and all are invited. No reservations are needed. Just come in your costume, ready to have some fun. We look forward to seeing you there! *Trolley service among the three adjacent properties will be provided at no charge, beginning at 6 p.m. (The last run will be announced on signs at the properties on the night of the event.)*

Mackinaw Area Historical Society is selling raffle tickets for a tour to the top of the south tower of the Mackinac Bridge for the summer of 2015. Tickets are \$5 each or 5 for \$20 and can be purchased at Coffman Hardware, Teysen's Gallery, the Public Library and from the MAHS www.mackinawhistory.org. Drawing will occur on March 8, 2015 at the Cabin Fever Dinner.

Speaking of the Cabin Fever Dinner, mark off your calendar to save the date for March 9 for the 2014 Cabin Fever Dinner which will be at Audies. After a long winter, we hope you will join us for a great time of coming together with gusto.



Library to open on Saturdays



1) The main branch of the library will be open Saturdays from 10 to 2 beginning **October 5 and continuing through May 17.**

2) The Bliss Branch of the Library is hosting a four session workshop about watersheds and water quality. The workshop is being conducted by Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians water quality specialists Kira Davis and Caroline Keson. Please call the Bliss Branch at 231537-2927 or email blissbranch@gmail.com for more information and to sign up. The Bliss branch is located at 265 Sturgeon Bay Tr, Levering and is open Tuesdays from 2 to 8 and Fridays from 1 to 5.

3) The Library will be starting a new program for young readers on the **second Saturday of the month beginning in October.** Called Beaks 'n Books, children will be allowed the opportunity to read to a friendly chicken in a safe non-threatening environment. Why are we doing this? Because reading to an animal is a non-threatening way for a child to improve their reading skills. Children can be self-conscious when reading aloud among classmates but most children have an instant attraction to animals. This program allows students to practice the skill of reading and makes it fun to do.

4) With one of the most active winter weather seasons in the United States, residents of Northern Michigan have to be prepared for changeable and sometimes severe winter weather. Please join us at the at **6:30 pm on October 28th** when a member of the National Weather Service out of Gaylord will speak at the Mackinaw Area Public Library about winter weather in the Great Lakes region. The talk will cover several topics including what to expect this winter, the historic storm of 1913, and the challenges faced when forecasting winter weather up north.

Call the library at 231-436-5451 or email maplyouthlibrarian@gmail.com for more information or to sign up.

ANNUAL FALL CLEAN UP LEAVES AND BRUSH ONLY

Sept. 16 thru October 18
** weather permitting **

Leaves must be placed at the curb in piles. Twigs and branches must be separated from leaf piles and tied up for removal.



Flu Shot

October 10 from 2-4 pm at St. Anthony's Church, 600 W. Central Ave.
Call to reserve your spot 800-432-4121
Health Department of Northwest Michigan

Hunter Safety Class

The Mackinaw City Police Department and the Department of Natural Resources will be hosting its annual Hunter Safety Education class. The first session will be held on Monday, October 21, 2013 at the Mackinaw City Public Schools from 3:30 PM to 5:30 PM. The second session will be held on Tuesday, October 22, 2013 at the same time. This class will be done in HOME STUDY format. That means that the student will get the study materials beforehand from the school office and have the chapter tests completed prior to class. The course is free and consists of two sessions.

Attendance is mandatory and completion of a written exam with a passing grade will be required to receive a Hunter Safety Certificate. This certificate is required in order to purchase a first hunting license in Michigan for anyone born after January 1, 1960. Please sign the Student/Parent/Guardian Agreement form and return it to the instructor. If you have any questions please contact either Chief Wyman at the police department or Mr. Curth at the school.

Along with Hunter Safety, the police department will also be sponsoring a Snowmobile Safety class at the school sometime this Winter. The information for that will be provided at the school or at the Michigan DNR Outdoor Education website in the future. The police department is also preparing for this year's Toys for the Little Ones program. This program, in its 26th year, is meant to assist needy families who live in the Mackinaw City School District, have student there, and show a need. If you would like to make a donation, please contact Village Hall.