

Les Cheneaux Community Foundation
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Les Cheneaux Community Foundation

2017 Summer Newsletter

Greetings:

We are fortunate to call home one of the great natural wonders of the world. The 36 Islands, and two communities, are what we fondly refer to as “The Land of Water.” A few years back the Nature Conservancy referred to this Les Cheneaux archipelagos area as “One of the last great places on the earth.”

Since many of us have either grown up here, or vacationed here for many years, we often overlook the area’s beauty, and most importantly, that the area is also very environmentally fragile. We all know, that it is a treasure to be protected as well as shared. Generations past and present have come here to experience the four seasons presented by the wonders of nature.

As our generation passes through our time here, there is opportunity and obligation to do our part in making sure these wonders are available to future generations. The Les Cheneaux Community Foundation is also dedicated to that endeavor. By supporting reasonable economic development with our business community, the educational and artistic resources of the area, we can continue to enjoy our natural resources and share them with others in ways that protects them.

By providing grants to diverse organizations in the Cedarville/Hessel area, the Foundation grows opportunity while protecting the values that both bring us and keep us here. But, we can’t do it without you! Your financial support, whether to a dedicated fund or the general fund, makes this possible. You are the Les Cheneaux Community Foundation, represented by a board of your friends and colleagues, all with the same goal. We need your continued support and ideas.

YOUR community needs YOUR support of local businesses, educational and artistic programs, as well as protecting our unique environment for the next generations. Thank you for that past support and we trust we can continue to work together to promote and protect our valued area.

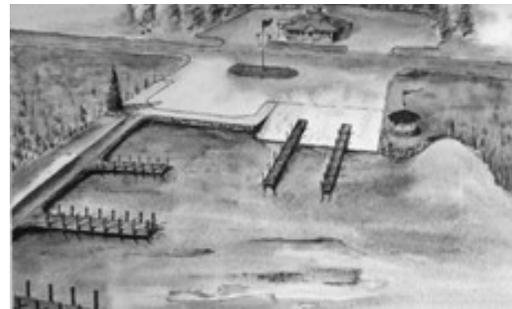
Keith Groty, Chair
 Les Cheneaux Community Foundation

Keith Groty, Chair	Kristi Autore-Merritt
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Bruce Laing	Kerri Mertaugh
Kathy Duman	Katie Eberts, YAC Coordinator

Cedarville Harbor Project Fundraiser

Come join us for the kick off fundraiser to benefit the new community marina facilities in Cedarville

July 28, 2017
 Hessel School House
 6 to 8 pm



Sponsored by the Les Cheneaux Community Foundation and Les Cheneaux Watershed Council

Les Cheneaux Watershed Council

The Foundation granted funds to the Les Cheneaux Watershed Council (LCWC) for the popular visit of the 77 foot tall ship schooner **Inland Seas**. While onboard, adults and children alike helped trained instructors trawl for fish, collect bottom, plankton and water samples, raise the anchor and sails, and take a turn at the helm. While under sail, small groups rotated thru stations to study the collected samples and discuss how they relate to the health of the Great Lakes.

Cedarville Senior Scholarship Recipients

Archie and Ruth Visnaw Scholarship -	Mason Sayles \$500.00
Earl Law/Perry White VFW Post 7958	
- Pickford recipient-	Kristin Harrison \$1500.00
- Cedarville recipient-	Mindy Nordquist \$1500.00
Tassier/Nye Scholarship-	Silas Dunn \$500.00
“Billy” Ryan Memorial Scholarship-	John Harman \$500.00
Williams Family of Coryell Island Scholarship-	Alicia Kasper \$1000.00



Les Cheneaux Community Library

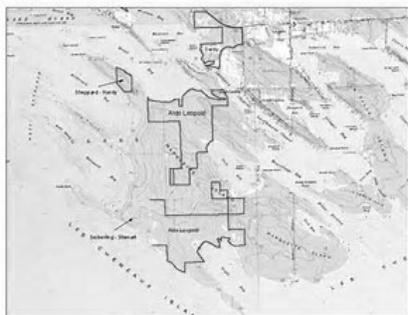
A weekly pre-school program has been developed with the grant received by the library. Every Wednesday throughout the year, at 10:30 a.m., parents and children from newborn to five are able to participate in an alternating art week or music week. The selection of early and young reader books has also been expanded to include more board books for the younger children.



Clark Township

In cooperation with Clark Township and the Little Traverse Conservancy, the Foundation granted funds for a dock system located in Duck Bay on Marquette

Island to allow boaters and kayakers daytime access to both the Aldo Leopold Preserve and the Seiberling-Stewart Nature Preserve.



North Huron Birding Trail & Leopold Preserve

Little Traverse Conservancy requested a grant to fund two projects. A request for the reprinting of ecotourism information and for printing the North Huron Birding Trail Map. Also included in the grant request were funds for interpretive signage at the Aldo Leopold Preserve located on Marquette Island.

St. Ignace Food Pantry

The pantry in St. Ignace serves residents in the Mackinac County area. The pantry has numerous requests that go beyond basic food needs for items that are not covered by food stamps. With the grant from the Foundation, the pantry has been able to purchase hygiene supplies for men and women as well as staples such as laundry detergent and dish soap.



Hessel School House

The Hessel School House, in an effort to promote performance - based art amongst all members of the community, requested funds for stage curtains. The curtains will also help with sound dampening and improve the look of the room.



In ongoing efforts to update the property both inside and out, a new concrete entrance walkway was installed at the north door. This update prohibits water from entering

the building and makes the entrance more attractive.

H.O.M.E.

The Foundation approved a grant for Housing Opportunities Made Equal (H.O.M.E.). This organization assists residents primarily in Chippewa and Mackinac counties with financial edu-

cation ranging from assistance to prevent mortgage and tax foreclosures to financial management. This assistance is provided through financial workshops and in-office help.



Youth Advisory Council (YAC)

It is very clear from the discussion YAC students had about this season's grants that they care about the community and its future. Foundation funds were granted to the Les Cheneaux Community Library for their youth programs and the Hessel School House for renovation purposes. The Needs Assessment information that was collected from the student body last year was given to various organizations to help with their youth outreach including the Les Cheneaux Community Library,

the Les Cheneaux Chamber of Commerce and MSU Extension 4-H. YAC discussion sessions were held throughout the year to talk about topics of leadership, community and education, in which the students demonstrated thoughtfulness, good judgement, and empathy.