



## Mackinaw Area Historical Society eNewsletter May, 2015

It must be spring time at Heritage Village. School groups are visiting and learning what a one room school house was like in the 1880's and learning about contagious diseases in the Pest House. It is always enjoyable to see the children at our park.

Another annual event for kids of all ages taking place on May 28 from 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. is the "Plowing of the Fields". All school aged children are invited to try their hand at plowing with a horse drawn plow. They will also learn about horse shoeing, grooming and dressing horses, using horses to pull logs, draying, disking and planting a field. We will end the day with a wagon ride. So pack a picnic lunch and come join us at Heritage Village for this free event. Young and old and "in between" are welcome to try their hands or just watch.

Of course, on Memorial Day weekend we officially open Heritage Village for docent-led tours on Sunday and Monday from 1:00 - 5:00 p.m. Consecutive week-ends include Friday and Saturdays through Labor Day. All other times, the Village is open for peering in windows and walking the grounds. And if you would like to learn more of the history and stories of the buildings, come join us at the docent training on Saturday mornings, June 13 and 20, beginning at 9:00 a.m. in the Freedom School in Heritage Village. Doughnuts and coffee will be provided.

The Anishinaabe Voices committee is out and about visiting representatives from different tribes collecting oral histories. Research on the lifestyles of the Native Americans living in the Mackinaw area between 1880 and 1917 is a project that has been funded through a grant from the Michigan Humanities Council. The culmination of this research will eventually be represented within Heritage Village as an entity all to its own, with a plank house, a TeePee, and a Medicine Wheel. It will also provide educational materials depicting how the Indians lived during that period.

In partnership with the Mackinaw City Area Arts Council, MAHS will host a day camp (9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.) from June 22 - 26 for those students entering 4th - 8th grades next year. Campers will be introduced to Dark Sky activities, the Native Peoples' culture, visit the Bridge Authority to learn about the Mackinac Bridge and freighters, experience Mill Creek with their naturalist and learn the "ins and outs" of archeology at Fort Michilimackinac. Every day will include some art, music, science and crafts. To register for this camp, go to [www.MackinawHistory.org](http://www.MackinawHistory.org) to download the registration form. The cost of the camp is \$25 for the entire week.

We will begin a series of lectures for Road Scholar or what used to be known as Elderhostel tours. We are pleased to be scheduled into their northern Michigan trips. They will visit Heritage Village seven times during the summer and fall.

And finally, we have surveyed our new property and Little Traverse Conservancy is now surveying the flora and forestation. They will be making recommendations on how to care for it and possibilities for how we might want to use these 99 acres, gifted to us by the May (Chamberlain) family.

Don't forget our June 8 Lecture Series featuring Wayne Bloomberg on the Inland Waterways from Petoskey to Cheboygan. Once again, it will be at Pinecrest Village beginning at 7:00 p.m.

As you can see, we have a lot going on. We hope to see you either volunteering as a docent, or as part of our regular Friday morning repair/maintenance crew, or visiting our new Nature Center, or just enjoying the serenity of Heritage Village!

Sincerely,

*Susie Safford*

Susie Safford, MAHS President

