



# Main Street Calumet

In the classic musical, "Fiddler on the Roof," Tevye and company sing about "Tradition."

*"Who, day and night, must scramble for a living, Feed a wife and children, say his daily prayers? And who has the right, as master of the house, To have the final word at home?  
The Papa, the Papa! Tradition.*

*"Who must know the way to make a proper home, A quiet home, a kosher home? Who must raise the family and run the home, So Papa's free to read the holy books?  
The Mama, the Mama! Tradition!*

*"At three, I started Hebrew school. At ten, I learned a trade. I hear they've picked a bride for me. I hope she's pretty. The son, the son! Tradition!*

*"And who does Mama teach to mend and tend and fix, Preparing me to marry whoever Papa picks? The daughter, the daughter! Tradition!"*

"Fiddler" then goes on to show the courage and difficulty it takes to break from tradition, but to still have a healthy respect for what has preceded. Without this change, fathers would still rule their house; mothers would be homemakers; children would be taught their roles for the future early on and have their spouses picked for them.

It is within this realm of necessary change with a strong regard for the past that Main Street Calumet strives. I am sure few of us would like to go back to the days without indoor plumbing or electricity, without the automobile, without gas or electric stoves. To accommodate these improvements some things needed to be modified, leading to a change in tradition — which is not necessarily a bad thing. Every tradition first started out as something new and different. We need to find a way to live in the now and for the future, without turning our back on our history.

Main Street Calumet is committed to that goal. Our Design Committee helps to meld the necessities of today with the structure of yesteryear. Restoring charming old buildings with beautiful facades and updating them for modern use is preferable to tearing them down and putting up generic "boxes," with which you often have difficulty telling one from the other. Our Promotions Committee, for which I have the honor of chairing, tries to balance our schedule in the same manner. Our two main summer events, PastyFest2007 and Heritage Celebration, show this nicely.

PastyFest2007 is a newer event, just three years old. While we are mindful of the rich history of the area, PastyFest has a more modern spin and is our event more amenable to trying to set new traditions. "Fun, Food, Family, and Friends" is its mantra. We hope the Pasty Bakeoff, the Pasty Eating Contest, and the PastyPull, to name but a few, continue for years to come. We are open to new ideas to incorporate into PastyFest that may become traditions of their own.

August brings the Heritage Celebration. Just the name connotes images of tradition! Beginning this year, we are going to be highlighting one group of people, whether ethnic, religious, occupational, etc., who have had an impact on the development of our area. This year we will be saluting the French-Irish and their contributions. Of course, there will also be a lot of entertainment.

All that Main Street Calumet does is only possible with the support of the community. If you have an idea, or if you want to help, either by volunteering or financially, let us know. We have an open door policy, and we entertain all suggestions that can potentially lead to growth in our community. Our meeting times are posted on our website. We look forward to seeing you and hearing from you.

Jeffrey E. Jacobs, MD, Chair, Promotions Committee

## Upcoming Events

June 29-30  
PastyFest2007  
Agassiz Park

4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebrations

July 7, 8  
Keweenaw Trail Run

July 13 – August 26  
The Smithsonian Institution's  
"Key Ingredients: America  
By Food"  
Keweenaw Heritage Center  
at St. Anne's

July 14  
Golden Celebration of  
Dance : Calumet Theatre

Tuesday evenings, July and  
August Movie Magic:  
Calumet Theatre

July 19-21  
Calumet All-School Reunion

July 25-29  
14<sup>th</sup> Gathering of Cornish  
Cousins

July 26  
Holman Climax Choir:  
Calumet Theatre

August 1  
Cookbook Fair

August 18-19  
Heritage Celebration  
Agassiz Park

August 12  
Hotel California: Calumet  
Theatre

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### *From a Historical Perspective...*

This stately building at the corner of Fifth and Portland Streets was recently purchased by Main Street Calumet. Named the Jacka Block after the businessman who built it, but long associated with the Merchants and Miners Bank and its successor financial institutions, the building has had a long and interesting history. The south half of the two-story portion of the building was built first, in 1884. By 1888, another storefront was added to the north, and the building took on the form of a two-story double storefront building with a center staircase typical of the 1880s, with pressed metal pediments over the second floor windows.

Between 1888 and 1897, the Jacka Livery opened in a two-story stable on the back half of the lot, now occupied by the modern one-story addition to the building. In 1906, the building was remodeled for the Merchants and Miners Bank, moving the staircase to the north side of the building, and allowing the bank to occupy the entire first floor. At that time, the storefront and second story windows were reconfigured, the brick veneered exterior of the building was completely redone according to the fashion of the day, and the distinctive

corner turret was added to the building, as seen in this historic c.1911 image.

Prior to moving to the Jacka Block, the Merchants and Miners Bank first occupied a small wood-frame structure at the northwest corner of Mine Street and Red Jacket Road. This building was later used by C&H, and then by a local telephone exchange. It was replaced by the modern telephone switching station seen on that corner today. From 1889 to 1906, the bank was located in the south storefront of the Union Building, on the corner of Fifth Street and Red Jacket Road, where the ghosted letters B-A-N-K can still be seen above the corner entrance over 100 years after they moved out.

The second floor offices of the Jacka Block have always been occupied by a variety of professionals, including doctors, dentists, optometrists, and lawyers. The rear suite of offices on the second floor is said to have served as the corporate headquarters of the Calumet and Arizona Mining Company, which was bankrolled by well-known local investors, including Thomas and James Hoatson, Norman McDonald, and others.

Jeremiah Mason, Archivist  
Keweenaw National Historical Park

## Organization Committee Happenings

By Joan LaRoche

The third annual Main Street Calumet Volunteer Dinner on April 18<sup>th</sup> proved to be an enjoyable evening. This year the dinner was held at Carmelita's, A Southwestern Grill, in Calumet. The food was excellent. It was a somewhat low key friendly evening with thirty in attendance. The highlight of the evening was the presentation of the Volunteer of the Year Award to Lorri Oikarinen. For the past four years Lorri has chaired the Main Street Calumet Design Committee. Members of the Organization Committee thank Lorri for her and the Design Committee's contributions to the "Main Street" of Calumet. The physical appearance of Calumet has improved with the merchants' adopt a planter program, known as the "Front Porches Program," the "Spring Clean-Up Program," conducted for the past four springs, and the design assistance program that has advised building owners doing façade restorations.

Increasing Main Street Calumet membership, especially corporate membership, continues to be a goal for the Organization Committee. With that in mind we have created a document titled *Main Street Calumet: The First Three Years*. It is an organizational report that begins with the inception of the program in our community in 2004 and extends to 2006. This document looks at just what the Michigan Main Street Program is and what has been accomplished so far in downtown Calumet. We look forward to having this document published, and after publication it will be available on our web site: [www.mainstreetcalumet.org](http://www.mainstreetcalumet.org).

Individual Main Street Calumet membership remains a priority. There is a need to expand our membership base throughout the Keweenaw as well as to visitors who perhaps have ancestor's that lived in Calumet during the early 1900s. To attract this membership we have

## Design Committee News

By Lorri Oikarinene

The Main Street Planters are back on the street, and adding a bright touch to the downtown streetscape. Many thanks to Design Committee members Staci Gibson, Stuart Baird, Norm Kurz, and Sgt. Holmstrom and his R.O.T.C. students from Calumet High School. There are still a couple of planters that are available for adoption.

Highlight your storefront and enter the Key Ingredients:

continued to craft membership premiums. For 2008 we selected the Calumet Theatre as our historic building premium ornament for membership at the \$100.00 level. As always, we intend to craft a porcelain coffee mug bearing an image of the Calumet Theatre that will be available at the \$50.00 membership level in 2008. Still available in 2007 is the premium ornament of Calumet's Union Building as well as the coffee mug with the image of the Union Building.

As historic preservation is a priority in the Main Street program, I am looking forward to summer activities in Calumet. Special interest will focus on the 14<sup>th</sup> Gathering of Cornish Cousins, which will celebrate the immigrant experience of the Cornish that came to Calumet as immigrants. As part of the 14<sup>th</sup> Gathering experience, Calumet will establish a sister city relationship with Camborne, Cornwall, England. A "twinning ceremony" during the 14<sup>th</sup> Gathering will establish Calumet's connection with Cornwall. The Organization Committee is playing a small part in this event as we are working with the Village of Calumet to organize the twinning ceremony.

Lastly I would like to mention our need for volunteers. One function of the Organization Committee is to recruit volunteers. All Main Street Calumet activities rely on work provided by volunteers, whether it is for PastyFest, Heritage Celebration, or membership on a committee. Consider getting involved, become a Main Street volunteer. Call us at 337-MAIN (6246) and tell us you can volunteer. We'll match your talents and interests with the appropriate committee or activity.



**2007 Membership Premium Ornament  
at the Superintendent Level**

America By Food Calumet window Display contest. Businesses and storefront owners are encouraged to create a window display that connects with the Key Ingredients exhibit. The Key Ingredients exhibit will be on display at the Keweenaw Heritage Center at St. Anne's July 13-August 26, 2007. By creating interesting window displays, we hope to highlight our community's connection with local history and foods. Contest rules and prizes will be announced at a Window Display Workshop to be held at the Elks Lodge, Wednesday, June 13, 2007. For more information regarding the contest and workshop, contact Design Committee Chair Lorri Oikarinen at 337-4520.



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## Economic Revitalization Through Historic Preservation

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### **News From the Main Street Calumet Economic Restructuring Committee**

The Economic Restructuring Committee was involved in some restructuring of its own over the past several months. Former committee Chair Kevin Store will remain as a committee member, but has resigned his position as Chairman. Newly appointed committee member Bob DuPont has been selected as the new Chair. We will miss Kevin's leadership and guidance, but are pleased that he will remain as a member of the ERC.

The ERC welcomed a new tenant in the Merchants and Miners Building in May. REMAX/Douglass Real

Estate is now leasing space on the main floor of the building. They are a welcome addition to the financial services also represented on the main floor. Tenants now include John Sturos, Financial Planner and Jackie Aalto, CPA as well as River Valley State Bank.

The ERC is now contemplating some structural changes to the Merchants and Miners Building that would create one or two more "tenant-ready" rental spaces. We welcome ideas and prospects for the remaining spaces in the building.