



Main Street Calumet

Main Street Calumet Is Moving!

Joan LaRoche

June 30th of 2006 was the closing date for the purchase by Main Street Calumet of a building located at 200 Fifth Street. This is currently the site of The River Valley State Bank. While River Valley will still operate a branch at this location, their main branch will be a new building located on Highway 41 on the outskirts of Calumet.

Right now improvements are being made outside the building with a new sidewalk on the south side of the building that faces Portland Street. Roof repair is nearing completion on the exterior of the building. The interior of the building is undergoing significant improvements, the most noticeable of which is an elevator that will provide access to the second floor. Contractor J. Clark of Hancock is creating the enclosed elevator area. The elevator car will be installed later this year.

Staff of the Keweenaw National Historical Park (NHP) will be the first tenants of the second floor of this building. The entire second floor is being updated with a new electrical system and the rooms are being completely refurbished with everything including new carpeting. Officials of the Keweenaw NHP expect to occupy the second floor by October 1, 2006. They are moving from their park headquarters on Red Jacket Road in order to completely restore the interior of their building. Once the Park Service completes renovations of their headquarters and move out of this 200 Fifth St. location, the second floor will be available for professional office space.

Main Street Calumet offices will be located on the first floor of the building. We expect to move into our new office location by the end of September.

Many of us recognize the 200 Fifth Street address as the former Merchants and Miners Bank. However, over the past twenty five years the bank has changed its name three times. We remember the name change to First of America, then National City Bank and now River Valley State Bank. The Merchants and Miners Bank has a significant history and association with Calumet. The following paragraph below was found in a book titled *History of the Upper Peninsula of Michigan*, Counties, Cities, Towns, Villages, The Western Historical Company, Chicago, A. T. Andreas, Proprietor, 1883:

“Calumet hamlet also has a banking institution-the Merchants’ and Miners’ Bank, established under the State law of Michigan in July, 1873, with a capital of \$50,000. It does a general banking business; is not a bank of issue. It now has a surplus of profits of \$14,000. Its stockholders are mainly of the mining company. The officers are: President, Charles Briggs; Vice President, Dr. R. H. Osborn; Cashier, H. S. Colton. It occupies a snug wooden building constructed for its use, nearly opposite the general office of the mining company.”

The village that we know as Calumet today was known as “Red Jacket” in 1873. It did not officially become Calumet until 1929. Calumet in 1873 was located near the mining operations of the Calumet and Hecla copper mines. Later the Merchant and Miner Bank occupied the brick building on 200 Fifth Street as early as 1905 when there were two banks in Red Jacket, the Calumet State Bank, now Range Bank, and Merchants and Miners.

Upcoming Events

Fall, 2006

Calumet Theatre

www.calumettheatre.com

Club Indigo

Wizard of Oz: September 9,
10, 14, 15 and 16

Missoula Children's
Theatre: October 13, 14

The Machine: October 20

An Evening with George
Winston: November 9

Keweenaw National Historical Park Fourth Thursday in History

the National Park at 906-
337-3168

September: "Stabilizing
Quincy's Company Houses"

October: "Mining the Isle
Royale Lode"

Vertin Gallery

the gallery at 906-337-5970
or 906-337-2200

Campalot, a Meredith Krell-
Steve Toorman two person
show: September 15
through October 29

A Retrospective, a Jan
Manniko show: November 3
through 19

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Promotion Committee Report

Jeff Jacobs

“If it wasn’t for Main Street, Calumet wouldn’t have any rain!” This statement made by our executive director, Tom Tikkanen, is both humorous and not much of an exaggeration. PastyFest 2006 and Heritage Days experienced a morning deluge that prompted our rain contingency plans. Both events though were huge successes nonetheless. People turned out in abundance to enjoy the festivities--a little rain (or a lot of rain, actually) was not going to stop them.

PastyFest 2006 was a two day event this year. “Food, Family, and Fun” is the oft-associated tagline, and there was much of each. Family and friends got together, talked, ate, played, listened to music, and reminisced. There were pasties galore to enjoy, as well as food for those less pasty-inclined. Our Pasty Bake-Off was phenomenal, especially with the addition of the “non-traditional” category. We also got added involvement from other organizations in the community, such as the CLK Hockey Team hosting the breakfast to benefit their trip. We hope to expand on this in the future, with our community coming together to help our community. Next year, we are hoping to make PastyFest2007 a three-day event and make it the destination for visitors in the UP and beyond.

Heritage Days was associated with the First Annual Keweenaw Memorial Medical Center Great Deer Chase Bike Race this year. Both events complemented each other nicely, and we are already planning for this cooperation to continue next year. We also hope to have the Gunand Sports Show and the Tamburitzans on the same weekend to add to the festivities.

We currently are working on our newest event, the Autumn Fest, and expanding our Holiday Event. All of this requires the dedication of a multitude of volunteers. We are fortunate to have many of these individuals in Main Street and on the Promotions Committee. We still do need help, especially as we want to expand and do more for our community. If you have the desire to help and have fun at the same time, even if it is just for one event or for one aspect of the events, please contact Tom at 337-MAIN. We look forward to seeing you on the Promotions Committee and at our events!

Design Committee Reports Progress on New Signage

Lorri Oikarinen

Residents and visitors will notice two new motorist guidance signs as they approach the entrance of Red Jacket Road from US 41. The new signs were designed by the National Park Service with input from Keweenaw National Historical Park staff and the park advisory commission, National Park Service sign program staff and the Michigan Department of Transportation. The signs were approved and installed by the Michigan Department of Transportation. The attractive new brown signs direct visitors to the Calumet Downtown and Historic Districts and are part of a larger park effort to improve wayfinding.

The MSC Design Committee wishes to extend our congratulations to the winners of the 2006 Preservation Awards. The awards are presented jointly by the Village of Calumet Historic District Commission and the Calumet Village Planning Commission. The awards recognize historically sympathetic building rehabilitations, new construction, adaptive reuse of historic buildings, stewardship of historic properties, as well as individual achievement in community preservation. Wooden plaques made by Design Committee member Stuart Baird were presented during the Heritage Celebration on August 19 at the Calumet Colosseum.

2006 Preservation Awards

Stewardship of an Historic Property:

Gerald & Claudette Vairo

Rehabilitation of an Historic Property:

Ray & Jean Rilei-205-207 Fifth Street-Calumet

Rick & Lorri Oikarinen-301 Fifth Street-Calumet

Ed & Yvonne Yarbrough-101 Tamarack Street-Laurium

St. Paul’s Church-301 Eighth Street-Calumet

New Construction Sensitive to Historic Design:

Douglas & Lucy Nakkula-204-206 Sixth Street-Calumet

Adaptive Reuse of an Historic Building:

Keweenaw Heritage Center at St. Anne’s-Calumet

Outstanding Achievement in Community Preservation:

Clarence Monette

Organization Committee Report

Joan LaRoche

As I review Main Street Calumet summer activities I find that Organization Committee members have taken a more active roll in Calumet's Pasty Fest and Heritage Days. Our niche is that of "information center" for each of these celebrations. I have to thank Pam Grill for sewing a blue table cover that covers an eight foot table. We first used this for Heritage Days. I'm sure that it will serve us for many years to come. Our summer season ended with celebration at our third annual volunteer picnic. About thirty volunteers attended the picnic that was held August 22 at Calumet Waterworks Park. It was a perfect evening in the Keweenaw.

Now that we are entering the Fall Season, our committee will be focusing on Main Street membership. I would like to remind our readers that your membership renewal continues to support the Main Street Calumet organization in its economic revitalization efforts through historic preservation. The 2007 membership premium at the \$50.00 level is a mug with the picture of our newly restored Union Building in Calumet. The membership premium for renewal at the \$100.00 level is a Christmas ornament that is a replica of the Historic Union Building. We have appreciated your support and hope you continue to help us with your tax exempt membership contribution.

Main Street Calumet is now associated with a web site called www.michiganbackroads.com. The web site creator, Ron Rademacher, will include Calumet in his web site with the designation of "terrific small town." The concept of Michigan back roads is the selection of two towns in each county of Michigan that become a terrific small town. This site is a marketing tool designed to attract tourists who are looking to spend some time in a town that has an interest in its own history as evidenced by historic buildings and also an active arts community.

In addition there must be interesting things to do in and around the town. The site also lists the "treasures" found in each terrific small town. While we have obvious treasures such as the Calumet Theatre, and the Vertin Art Gallery, I would like to ask readers to submit what they consider "treasures" in Calumet. E-mail any ideas that you have to laroche6563@sbcglobal.net. Soon committee members will be meeting with Mr. Rademacher to discuss what the content will be for Calumet in www.michiganbackroads.com.

The Cornish Pasty Becomes A Calumet Institution

The Cultural Context of the Pasty by Luke Miller and Marc Westergren

When the Cornish came to the copper mines of the Upper Peninsula, they brought with them a lot of mining knowledge which the other ethnic groups did not have. The other ethnic groups looked up to the Cornish and wanted to emulate their mining successes. Many Cornish practices were then copied

by the other ethnic groups, including the pasty as the standard lunch for miners. The pasty became popular with these other ethnic groups because it was small, portable, was very filling, and could stay warm for 8-10 hours. Pasty rivalry occurred between the Finns, Swedes, Irish, Poles, Germans, Scots, Italians and French with each group contributing something in the way of seasoning and other ingredients. All groups agree that pasties must contain two things, potatoes and onions. Heating was done by putting the pasty on a shovel and holding it over a head-lamp candle. Miners never ate a pasty with a fork, they ate it end to end, and held it upright to keep the juices in. Since entire Cornish families worked in mines and each member of the family wanted different ingredients in the pasty, the Cornish wife would stamp the bottom corner of each pasty with an initial. According to the Cornish Recipes Ancient and Modern, "The true Cornish way to eat a pasty is to hold it in the hand, and begin to bite it from the opposite end to the initial, so that, should any of it be uneaten, it may be consumed later by its rightful owner. And woe betide anyone who take's another person's corner!" There was a superstition among the Cornish miner's that the initial corner should not be eaten, instead it was dropped on the ground for the mining gremlins to eat. These "gremlins" caused mischief in mines, causing accidents and mine collapses, feeding them supposedly kept them out of trouble. There is some truth to this rumor, because the early Cornish tin mines had large amounts of arsenic, by not eating the corner which the miners held, they kept themselves from consuming large amounts of arsenic. <http://www.hu.mtu.edu/vup/pasty/pastymain.html>

Cornish Pasty

6-8 medium potatoes	2 or 3 lean pork chops
2 large carrots	4 cups flour
1 medium onion	Dash salt
¼ small turnip	¾ cup Crisco
1 lb. Round steak	¾ cup cold water

Dice vegetables, steaks and chops. Mix together. Salt and pepper to taste. With a fork, mix flour, salt and Crisco. Add water gradually until the dough forms a ball. Divide into 6 – 8 pieces. Roll each piece on a floured bread board. Fill half the crust with the vegetable-meat mixture. Fold the other half of the crust over the mixture to form a half-circle. Pierce holes in the top to release steam. Flute the edges of the dough. Repeat with other pieces of dough. Bake on a lightly greased cookie sheet at 350° for 1 hour.

The Winners of the PastyFest Pasty Baking Contest

Pasty Bake-Off Winners

Commercial Category winner, Connie's Kitchen

Individual Category winner, Barbara Effinger

Nontraditional winner, Sheldon's Bakery



Pasty Parade winners

Private Division, 1st Place, Keweenaw Kernewek; 2nd Place, Red Hat Society/Thimble Berry Tarts; 3rd Place, CLK Hockey Association

Commercial Division, 1st Place, Calumet Players; 2nd Place, Curves for Women; 3rd Place, Shute's

Poetry Contest winner: Jeremy Zellner from California