

Don't forget the Artist Reception this Thursday, February 19: **Artist Reception for Julie Wells**. This will be at Art Reach in Downtown Mt Pleasant from 5-6:30. Come check out a members work.

Clare City Parks and Recreation is hosting an **Irish Pet Photo Contest**. Submit your Irish-themed pet photo no later than 3 pm on Thursday, March 12. First place: a mini photo session for you and your pet by Clare Guys and Dolls Photography, 2nd place: a \$50 Jay's gift card and 3rd Place, a \$25 gift card from Family and Farm and Home. You can complete your entry online or you may mail or drop your entry to Clare City Hall. Forms are available online at the City of Clare or at the Clare Area Chamber of Commerce websites. All proceeds will be donated to the Spay-Neuter Animal Project.

March 10: **Author Teresa Irish will be speaking on her book**, "A Thousand Letters Home, the Journey of the Letters." This book is an inspirational, life-affirming journey based on the 1,000 letters her father wrote home from World War II. It will be held at noon at the Harrison District Library and 6:00 at the Pere Marquette Library. For more information contact the Library at 386-7576 or 539-6711.

March 11: **Big Brothers Big Sisters Art Auction**. This will be held at the Doherty starting at 7:00. There will be a live auction during Business After Hours which begins at 5:00. This is the start of the Clare Irish Festival.

March 12: **Irish Recipe contest**. CCAC is helping to sponsor this event. It will be held at Clare High School. Our own Jane Sartor Key will be one of the judges.

Attention Artist: Art Walk Central will hold their artist registration from April 1-30.

Benchley's Amish Furniture has their quilt block up. Check out the block at www.clarecountyartscouncil.info. For more information contact vickgunden@gmail.com

Quilt Festival. A subcommittee of CCAC is planning on doing a Quilt Festival May 15-16 in downtown Clare. This will coincide with Yoder's Amish Auction. It is tentatively scheduled to be held at the "Venue." The Committee is looking at people to display their quilts. Details are not firm, but there is talk of having a raffle and coloring contest for youth. For more information contact vickgunden@gmail.com

Hoop Loop. Houghton Lake Chamber of Commerce, Clare County Quilt Trail and West Branch have developed a Hoop Loop. This would be a self-guided tour of the Quilt Blocks in the three areas.

Art traction: City of Clare is looking at doing a competition for the mural on the dry cleaner's building. More information as it becomes available.

Leading Ladies is a play Mid Michigan Community College will be performing. A matinee is scheduled for April 14, 16, 22 and 24. The evening performances are April 24 & 25. Contact ykeast@midmich.edu for more details.

City of Clare Parks and Recreation will begin their **Summer Concert Series** on June 4. A complete listing will be made available shortly.

MSU Extension is holding a Michigan Shoreline Educator Training: The participants will learn how to conduct homeowner workshops on the benefits of natural shoreline landscaping, bioengineering and erosion control on inland lakes. The training will take place at MMCC on April 24 from 8:30-4. Cost is \$65 for people who register by March 1st. For more information contact Marybeth Denton and [989-539-7805](tel:989-539-7805).

If you have any questions, you can contact me at cjsantini72@gmail.com.