

Nature preserves

FROM PAGE 36

Elisabeth Parr Nature Preserve

(Five acres) Located just a few miles north of Frankfort. To get there from Traverse City, take U.S. 31 south to Beulah/Benzonia. Just after the town of Beulah, turn right on M-115. Take M-115 to Frankfort but turn north on M-22. Off of M-22, turn left on Ness Rd. Follow Ness Rd. to the end and park at the dirt turnaround. The preserve starts at the last driveway. This preserve contains a towering bluff overlooking the water and 400 feet of shoreline. The inland property contains a northern hardwood forest. There is a short trail from the turnaround to the bluff.

Pearl Lake (251 acres) From Traverse City, take M-72 west to Coleman Rd. (County Rd. 669) and turn left (south). Follow 669 four miles and turn right at the

intersection of 669 and 610. Immediately after the intersection, turn right again on Almira Rd. (610). Go approximately two miles and turn right on Rayle Rd., a small dirt road. Follow Rayle Rd. a little less than one-half mile to an iron gate. Park here and follow the old two-track down to the lake. There is a rustic boat launch located further down Rayle Rd. on state property.

Pamela L. Polaczyk Preserve

(Five acres) See directions to Bauer Preserve above.

Pyatt Lake Nature Preserve

(140 acres) Located just 20 minutes from Traverse City. From Traverse City, follow Peninsula Dr. north approximately 10 miles. Just past Bowers Harbor Marina, turn left on Neahtawanta Rd. Follow Neahtawanta Rd. one-half mile to Pyatt Rd. Turn right on Pyatt Rd. The parking area is one-quarter mile down Pyatt Rd. A bus turnaround is located just

past the parking lot. Visitors can follow a loop trail, with numbered interpretive stops, around a portion of the 140-acre preserve and to viewing platforms, one overlooking Pyatt Lake and one overlooking a Sedge marsh.

Railroad Point Natural Area

(61 acres) From Traverse City, take U.S. 31 south to Beulah/Benzonia. Just after the town of Beulah, turn right on M-115. Take M-115 to Mollineaux Rd. and turn right. Railroad Point Natural Area is one-half mile down Mollineaux Rd. Look for a small dirt parking area on the right. The trail at Railroad Point Natural Area consists of an old two track, which leads to the bluff.

George and Ada Reffitt Nature Preserve

(83 acres) Adjacent to the TART trail, not far from the Traverse City State Park. In Traverse City, turn south on Three Mile Rd. Then turn right on Parsons Rd. (at the light) and park immediately on the left

(next to the TART trail). The Reffitt Nature Preserve trail starts immediately south of the railroad tracks on the left (east) side of Three Mile Rd. For handicap access: From U.S. 31 N.

(Munson Ave.) in Traverse City, turn south on Four Mile Rd. The first road on the right is Pine Dr. Follow Pine Dr. approximately

PLEASE SEE PAGE 53



Congratulations Tom Barlow, winner of last month's Summer Guide giveaway, a free hot air balloon ride for two.

Tom will be joining **Grand Traverse Balloon Rides** for a relaxing, three-hour trip above the Grand Traverse area.

See page 49 for this month's *Romantic Summer Giveaway*.

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