NCF breakfast honors senior

BY GINA GOODMAN Record-Eagle staff writer

Mary Jean Brick has lived in Traverse City her entire life. She also loves the Cherry Festival, which was why she was a natural choice for last year's Distinguished Senior award.

"I'm a Cherry Festival freak!" said Brick "I've lived here all my life, and I have memories going back to the 1920's."

This year she will be on hand at the Very Cherry Distinguished Senior Breakfast to hand her crown to the next senior "Festival freak" chosen for the award. The breakfast takes place Monday, July 5 and is the first of many senior events the festival offers.

"It's a great way to kick off, by recognizing an individual" said Patti De Agostino, the senior activities director. "Along with everyone else who gives service to the community."

There are many popular senior events that involve people of all ages.

"We expect record attendance this year," DeAgosstino said. "There has been a lot of outreach to

intergenerational events."

Cherry Pins and Pizza is
one of the events open to

seniors, friends and families.

"I really like to see the generations together," DeAgostino said. "It's a good way to interact with people of all different ages."

Another popular event is the Very Cherry Swing Dance and Lessons. The dance is open to anyone who loves to dance and would like to learn how to Swing.

Paul Paradis is the dance instructor for the event, and said last years dance went extremely well.

"It was great, a fantastic night," Paradif said. "It had a really great atmosphere."

Ages ranged from 16 to about 75 year old, Paradis said.

"Even if you're not a good dancer, and most people aren't, it makes for a great night out," he said. "You can enjoy live music and it's fun just to watch people dance!"

Other event favorites include the Cherry Beary Picnic With Grandparents and the Gold Tee Gold Clinic. A complete list of the senior events sponsored by Grand Traverse Pavilions can be found at www.cherryfestival.org



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