

National Cherry Festival Souvenir Pavilion is only place to get official mementos

BY GINA GOODMAN
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For first-timers as well as National Cherry Festival veterans, it's nice to have something to remember the week with.

From keychains to stuffed animals to T-shirts, the National Cherry Festival Souvenir Pavilion is the only place to get official Cherry Festival mementos

"We have glasswear, T-shirts and sweatshirts, and

this year we've expanded to ladies and juniors departments," said Mark Jensen, owner of JenTees in Traverse City

This year will be Jensen's seventh as souvenir vendor.

Along with the usual hats, T-shirts and magnets, the pavilion will carry this year's official National Cherry Festival Children's book, "Hidden Cherries," as well as a new cherry drink book, "Sweet and Snappy Cherry Drinks." There will

be book signings by both authors in front of the tent.

A new addition to the popular Cherry Festival teddy bears will be available as well.

"Our collectable bear this year is the Air Bear," Jensen said. "This number four out a five-year series. It will be in the colors of the Blue Angels, and it will have the Cherry Festival logo."

Air Bear's predecessors, the 2003 Cherry Beary, the

2002 Libearty and the 2001 Grand Paw were all in high demand.

"They are really cute," Jensen said.

The tent is run by volunteers from Community Share Program. It is open from 10 a.m. to 11 p.m. all week long.

"We work right through to the following Saturday," Jensen said. "We have a good time down there. It's all part of the Festival experience."

photo to come

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