



The Banner

Spring 2012

CASTLE PARKERS ADOPT-A-ROAD

Laketown Township did one smart thing this spring. They recruited Lolly Rea to coordinate a group to "Adopt-A-Road" near Castle Park. In the past, Platt Nobel and Thatcher Rea assured that bikers (including themselves!), hikers and runners could appreciate the beauty of the section of 66th St. from 32nd Ave. to 142nd Ave. by committing to clean up the roadside area twice per year. When the task got too much for them, Johnson Controls took over the assignment but was not up to the standards set by Platt and Thatcher. Lollie came just in time to revive the program in that area.

On Sunday, April 22 the new recruits set out to clean up 66th St. The weather cooperated with bright skies and pleasant temperatures. The group assembled at the red building formerly known as The Duddery at noon and split up into three teams to take on the task of trash pick-up. A couple of participants had foot afflictions so they were assigned the duty of driving the golf carts provided by the Shepards, the Bob Steketees and Lolly Rea.

The members of Golf Cart 1, Julie Bronsink, Kathie McLeod Helder, Eve Shetterly and Jen Trudell, tackled 32nd to 146th. The ladies enjoyed the comradery so much that they finished last, blaming their delay on the excessive number of booze bottles along their stretch of road that leads north to Macatawa.

Sam Helmrick, Helen Heneveld, Dave Trudell and Bill Rea made up the strong Golf Cart 2 with the enthusiasm of Sam and Bill who drove in from GR. While cleaning up from the intersection at 146th Street to 145th Street, they had the most unusual find of the outing, a car bumper. A passing

motorist even stopped and helped by jumping across a creek to pick up a milk carton for their group.

Golf Cart 3 had the longest stretch of road but they were helped along by their mascot, Lollie's dog Cappy, who got to ride along for the adventure. Driven by Lane Knoll, he was supported by Carla and Ralph Doktor (who are all local neighbors from outside the park), Jon Helder and Lollie Rea. Armed with rubber gloves, they rid the area near Gilligan's Lake of the unmentionables left by the spectators of the submarine races.



Many hands made lighter work as the teams finished the chore in two and one half hours and collected a total of 12 full trash bags. Booze bottles (Smirnoff Vodka was the drink of choice) was the most excessive find followed by cigarette butts and McDonald's cups. Everyone agreed that that should be a lesson to anyone traveling on 146th Ave., always slow down and be careful when crossing the intersection at 66th. Many tales were shared

of seeing cars disregard the stop sign on 66th and blow right through the intersection.

Many bicyclists enjoying the Spring day shouted encouraging words of praise for the volunteers. Lollie Rea would like to add her MANY THANKS to all who took time out of their Sunday to participate in such a worthy cause. Volunteers will be called upon to help out again in the Fall. The more helpers, the easier the task.

As you walk, jog, rollerblade along 66th Avenue, or any other road in the beautiful countryside,

PLEASE DON'T LITTER.

Playclass Readies for Another Great Year

Get ready for an exciting summer full of flour hunts, nature hikes, dune climbing, crafting, friendship, fun and so much more at Playclass!! We will begin the season on Monday, July 2nd at 9:30 am. Field Day is Saturday, July 7. The children will be happy to see their counselor, Mary Laughna, return to lead another season and we are pleased to welcome Courtney "Coco" Gregg as our 2nd counselor. Both girls are excited to see all the kids from last year, and meet all the children who will be coming to Playclass for the first time this year! All children aged 4-12 may attend Playclass. We look forward to having all Castle Park children participate in the wonderful tradition of Playclass.

Communities Recognize Stellar Work by Castle Parkers

Several Castle Parkers have been recognized by their peers or communities for their wonderful contributions to the lives around them. They have made an impact on someone, somewhere, somehow and were rewarded for their efforts. Other Castle Parkers have also achieved incredible landmarks in their lives. The following pieces are just a glimpse of what Castle Parkers achieved in the last year.

Joy Fossel was recognized by the Michigan Bar Association for her generous Pro Bono legal work. She received the *Michigan 2011 John W. Cummiskey Award for Pro Bono Service*. The Grand Rapids Press featured Joy in a fabulous article dated August 7, 2011. To learn more about Joy's generous legal work, and about her fun-loving lifestyle go to www.m-live.com and search for Joy Fossel. (Photo courtesy of Rex Larsen)



University of Michigan Professor Emeritus, **John Meyer**, was the inaugural winner of the *IFIP 2012 Jean-Claude Laprie Award in Dependable Computing*. The award was created in 2011, in honor of Jean-Claude Laprie (1944-2010), whose pioneering contributions to the concepts and methodologies of dependability were influential in defining and unifying the field of dependable and secure computing. The award recognizes outstanding papers that have significantly influenced the theory and/or practice of Dependable Computing.¹ Prof. Meyer has served on the faculty of the U of M Engineering school since 1967.

Roberta Rubin's The Book Stall was named *Publishers Weekly Bookseller of the Year for 2012*. Roberta has owned the Bookstall in Winnetka for 30 years. She is renowned for selling large quantities of books even before they are popular on a national level. Random House district sales manager Laura Baratto told *Publishers Weekly* that the store's success makes it a must for most authors' tours.



Martha Laughna was the recipient of the *Joao Rodrigues Distinguished Service Award* presented by the Massachusetts Secondary Schools Athletic Directors Assoc. The award is presented annually to individuals who have voluntarily devoted their time and effort to interscholastic athletics in the schools and communities of Massachusetts. In addition to coaching many youth teams, Martha volunteered hundreds of hours annually for over seven years to the athletic department of the local high school. At one time she acted as interim athletic director for over a month; much to her husband's chagrin, she did so without pay.

A Trip to Kenya
Ruth Allison will be traveling to Meru, Kenya during July to photograph the building of homes for AIDS orphans by the Methodist church. Can't wait to see those pictures!



Ken and Gretchen Roose will celebrate their **70th wedding anniversary** on June 12. They first met when Gretchen was a student at UCLA and Ken had just graduated from USC. Their relationship blossomed while they both attended a retreat at St. Anselmo Seminary in June 1940. Their wedding took place in Washington DC, where Ken was working at the time. Gretchen and her mother took the train from So. Cal. to DC for the wedding. Note the wedding day photo in the top right corner of this picture!

¹ www.dependability.org

Twins...Twins!

Have you ever stopped to think about how many sets of twins call Castle Park home during the summer? We all welcomed the Stacy twins born to Alex Chism Stacy and her husband Jeremy on April 9, 2012. It gave us a reason to ponder the many duplicates Castle Park has hosted.

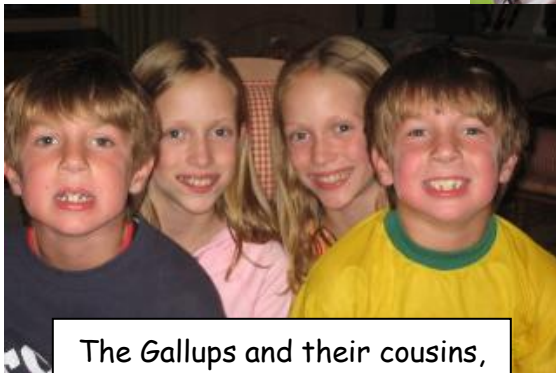


Winn & Wren Stacy

The Muzzys--Amy Malin & Krispin VanZeebroeck



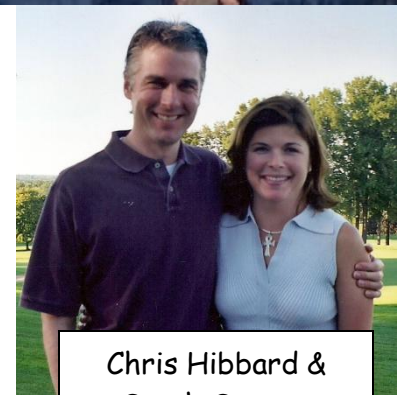
Belle & Sarah Gallup



The Gallups and their cousins,
William & Gordon Allen



McFarland--Margo Zaneski
& Carey Lennox



Chris Hibbard &
Sarah Swaney

Other Notable Twins of CP

- Mike & Steve Burton (2nd CP generation as opposed to the 4th generation)
- Bob & Harry Visscher David & Daniel Tatlock
- Ann & Carol Hedblom Jolie & Sera Schissler
- William & Henry Shepley

Williams—Toni Twins Gail
Young & Gwen Hibbard
(with Jerry Ford in DC.)

The twin gene is so strong in Castle Park that sometimes twins can come from different generations!



Thatcher, 1981 or Bill, 2011?



Recreation

2012 MO' FUN GOLF HOPES TO INCLUDE MORE LADIES

This summer we will play on **Wednesday, August 8** to accommodate more golfers. **PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS** and make plans to attend and have your friends join you. In addition to the 9 holes at the Ravines we will again gather for a post round luncheon. We hope that more golfers will join us this year and for those that don't intend to put on their spikes and wield their clubs please join us for lunch! Contact Martha Moyer for info.

When you arrive at Castle Park this summer you will notice a new tennis viewing area that is being constructed to replace the area near the south courts. The area, originally built in honor of Will Pennington, will have a raise concrete platform, improved drainage, new benches and a railing for safety. This project includes new landscaping and is funded by the tennis & beautification committees, with the exception of the upgraded drainage which will be funded by the CP Association.

The Pool Committee appreciates the response to the pool survey. As we move ahead, please feel free to contact Bill Steketee, Cindy Fuller or Katie Ford with your feedback. We will have a lot more information down the road and will share all our plans at the informational meeting over the Memorial Day weekend.

Derrick Mancini and Betsy Gardner have set up a craft micro-distillery. After Derrick took a short course on distilling at Michigan State University two years ago, they searched for a start-up location near Castle Park. Unfortunately for CP, the ideal location to start their business, Quincy Street Distillery, is in Riverside, Illinois. **Look for their Facebook page for latest news.**

Swim Lesson Signups

Deirdre Vriesman will be offering private swim lessons at the Castle Park Pool again this summer. Lessons will be \$20 for a private half hour swim lesson, or \$15 per student for a semi-private half hour lesson (2 students at a time). Lessons will be offered on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday most weeks. Please call or text to 616-403-5032 or email advriesman@charter.net in order to schedule your lessons. Lessons are open to all ages.

Attention Hockey Fans!

Back on August 1st, some 26 or so hearty Castle Parkers hung up their bathing suits, beach towels and tennis raquets, grabbed their hockey sticks, and headed out to The Edge ice arena in Holland to participate in the first annual CP Family Hockey Night. Players came in all shapes and sizes, ages and abilities (and vintages of equipment!) and a fun time was had by all. Some players hit the ice covered head-to-toe in full gear, some with just the requisite helmet, skates, gloves...and shorts! Brrr!! Highlights included Ernie Kelly lacing 'em up after ?? years, several little guys trying out skating for the first time, and young Elise Kunkel skating circles around several of the more experienced men on the ice! Everyone left with flushed cheeks and big smiles. Check the Social Calendar for this year's date (which will include a pizza party afterward!) and don't forget to pack your hockey gear along with your swimsuits and sunscreen this summer.

BRIDGE AT THE CASTLE

Bridge at the Castle on Wednesday at 1 PM has a loyal following, with generally three tables playing for 2 to 3 hours each week. Play begins the Wednesday after July 4th (July 11th) and ends the Wednesday before Labor Day (August 29th) providing eight days of play throughout the summer.

Wednesday bridge is open to ANYONE. Those who would like to refresh a long neglected passion, regular players, and the newly initiated are all welcome. This past year brought several "renters" who were friends of "regulars" to the tables. Please let your "renters" know they are invited to come to Wednesday bridge. They should contact Nancy Thier at 335-5487 by the Monday before they want to play, so that she can arrange for full tables.

Another bridge activity that was started last year is Bridge Review/Lessons at the Castle on Fridays at 1 PM for 2 - 3 hours, for 9 sessions.

Instructor Audrey Grant uses a computer animated, delightfully visual, pleasantly narrated, and user friendly program. Each lesson is interspersed with Practice Deals and Quizzes, and concludes with a summary section. Topics planned are delineated on the next page. Depending on the card playing background of those attending in July and August, we could skip, or review quickly, parts of this plan, which would move subsequent weeks up, and allow additional time on other topics, or include additional information that is in the program.

Anyone who particularly likes, or has studied, and/or has special ideas about any of these topics, please come and share your knowledge. Nancy has organized this thus far, however, she would be delighted to have a more experienced player take this over, or help at all or any times. Please join BRIDGE AT THE CASTLE!

Winter CP Happenings

Castle Parkers seem to gravitate toward one another at all times of the year. It is always nice to see a familiar face in an unfamiliar place!

It was another active social season at Castle Park South (Vero Beach, FL). This gathering was arranged to welcome the Fords to the sunny southern weather.



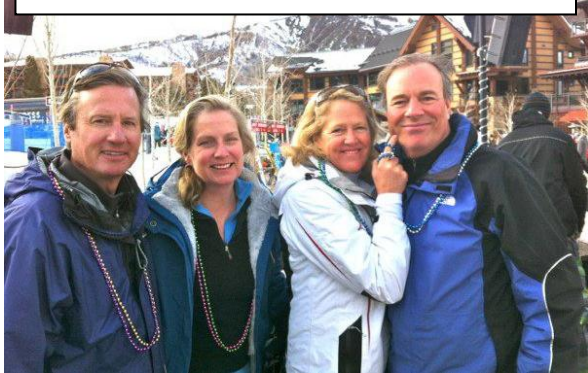
Two Marthas, Laughna & Gregg, recently enjoyed a beautiful windy morning walk in the shadow of the Golden Gate Bridge.



Martha Bellis Gregg met up with Rob Wendin at his "gorgeous office in London".



The Kernahans and Judsons celebrate Mardi Gras in Snowmass.



Meggie Kernahan, Eliza Bellis and Haley Ireland had fun together in Florence, Italy during their "study abroad" semesters.



Bridge Instruction Topics

July		August	
6th	The fundamentals, hand valuation, practice deal, and quiz	3rd	More of declarer's plan, major suit opening bids, practice deal, and quiz
13th	Opening the bidding, counting sure tricks, practice deal, and quiz	10th	Responding to major suit, practice deal, and quiz
20th	Declarer's plan, the auction, practice deal, and quiz	17th	Minor suit opening bids, responding to minor suit, practice deal, and quiz
27th	1 NT opening bid, responding to 1 NT, practice deal, and quiz	24th	Opening leads, second and third hand play, practice deal, and quiz,
		31st	Attitude signals, developing defensive tricks, practice deal, and quiz



Rentals Available

Jerry Steketee (South Hill)—Spacious 4 Bedroom/2 Bath, sleeps 10. Lots of Parking & Golf Cart/Amazing Views from several patios/\$2800 week plus deposit and cleaning fee...Summer Availability Call Cassandra at (616) 510-9687 or email cassquint@hotmail.com

Nobel (Bryant)—Available for the month of June and August 18-30. Sleeps 11. Contact Susan Rea at 616-452-2649.

Burton— Available July 7- July 21. Original, rustic comfort close to North Beach landing with Lake views. Sleeps 6 adults and at least 4 children. Two full baths on main floor, one with deep soaking tub and other with shower and tub. Contact Melissa Burton for details 978 887 5082 or burt_57@verizon.net

Moyer—Sun July 15-Sat July 21 with the possibility of a second week. We have 3 BR and a loft to easily sleep 8, 2 Baths, laundry, deck and screened in porch. We remodeled throughout in 2010. NO SMOKING and NO PETS.

Nicholson—South Hill, fully refurbished, sleeps 8 on two levels, 3 baths. Available to July 28, and from August 20. Please contact Jim Nicholson at nicholsonjamese@gmail.com, 952-942-9639 or 612-987-2417.

The Pennington/Allison/Song—Available mostly during the off-season with some summer availability. 3 bedrooms with more bunk space being added. 2 additional pull out couches. 2 baths. Large dining area. \$100.00/night off season, \$300.00/night June, July, and August. Contact Ruth & Bob Allison, rrallison@comcast.net or 630-369-3792

Laughna/Redding—Available August 19 through Labor Day. Overlooking North Beach. Five bedrooms, sleeps 9, two full baths, private large bed/bath facilities downstairs. Call Martha Laughna, 781-326-3684 or email rlaughna@verizon.net.

Rea—Flexible availability. Sleeps 10. Contact Lollie Rea, 616-335-5350.

In Sympathy

*Our thoughts and prayers are with the Watling Family on the passing of Jim Watling
February 13, 2012*

The family will be hosting an OPEN HOUSE CELEBRATION of Jim's life on Sunday, June 17th from 3-6 at The Castle. This celebration is for ADULTS ONLY. The family will be hosting several out of town guests. If you would be willing to rent out your cottage for the weekend, please contact Kelly Stroburg at stroburg@comcast.net. Please RSVP for the open house through Jim's Caring Bridge web page at:

<http://www.caringbridge.org/visit/jimwatling1>

The family is looking forward to greeting many friends in June.

The Fun Never Stops!

Abigail Kate Trudell 12/9/11

Nathan & Jennifer Trudell

Gillian Goheen "Gigi" Jannotta 4/12/12

Sepp & Lish Jannotta

Angelo Clarence Brown 7/17/2011

Matthew Brown & Stephanie Santos

Benjamin Burns VI

BJ & Laura Burns



Winn & Wren Stacy

Alex & Jeremy Stacy

4/9/2012

Nuptials

James Burns, son of Ben & Beverly, married Elizabeth Allison Randolph in Seattle, uniting many family and friends in February.

MJ Rea, daughter of Bill & Pam, will marry Steve Twigg on the Dance Dune on September 15, 2012.

Happy 100th Birthday!

1912 was a busy year for building in Castle Park! The following cottages will be celebrating their 100th birthday this year.



Fulenwider



Conant



Allen



Bodeen



Perkins

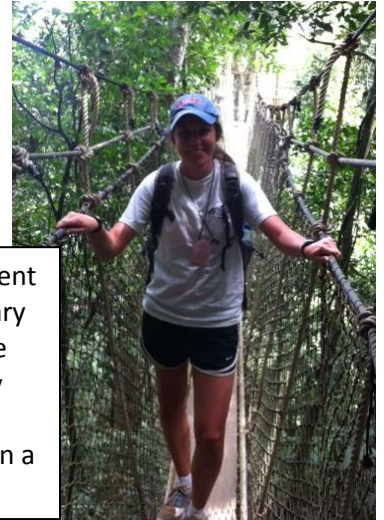


2nd Fiddle

What Do Our Young Adults Do When They Are Not at CP?



St. Lawrence University Freshman Margo Lund contributed ice time in almost every game during her first season with the Saints. SLU won the ECAC Championships and made it to the quarterfinals of the NCAA Div. 1 tournament before falling to the Boston College Eagles. Way to go Margo!



Katherine Wade spent the month of January in Ghana where she attended university classes, toured villages and went on a mini-safari.

Andrew Laughna recently returned from a successful deployment to Afghanistan. He serves in the Army's 1-505th Parachute Infantry Regiment of the 82nd Airborne Division out of Ft. Bragg, NC.



Chris Wade was so generous to his sister Callie when he gave her a trip to climb Mt. Kilimanjaro for her college graduation present. What a nice guy...maybe.



Austin Swaney played a key role in the University of Michigan's inaugural season of NCAA Men's Varsity Lacrosse. Many of his fans turned out to support him as the Wolverines took on the Harvard Crimson at historic Harvard Stadium. Austin delivered some stingy defense for the Wolverines who did not shy away from gaining valuable experience against the country's powerhouses.

Dan Dickerson Speaks at Luncheon

Dan Dickerson was the featured speaker at a West Michigan Sports Commission lunch in November. Several Castle Parkers attended the luncheon to support the Commission and to learn more about Dan's career in sports broadcasting. Dan is currently the play by play radio announcer for the Detroit Tigers.

The mission of the West Michigan Sports Commission is to promote Michigan's West Coast as the premier venue for hosting a diverse level of youth and amateur sporting events, enhancing the economy and quality of life in the region.



Manager's Corner by Bonnie Lawson

We would like to begin a new tradition of featuring different members of our staff that help to make Castle Park the delightful place that you enjoy each summer. We will be focusing on those employees that work directly for us since the committees will continue to provide details on those other wonderful young people who care for the various Castle Park activities.

So many of you express your appreciation to Mark and me regarding our hard work. When we hear those words they really do make a difference in so many ways. We know that each of these hard working employees will be encouraged by a word or two from you when you meet up with them as they carry out their daily duties. Some you see are familiar faces as they return to us each year, that is invaluable. Others are only with us for a season or two as they move on to their adult lives, but they too make all the difference. We accomplish so much with very few, and that is a testimony to the diligence that each employee brings to their job. This year we will start by featuring a couple of our valued workers who are returning to help with our buildings and grounds maintenance, HOORAY!



Nick Martin is a junior at Michigan State University, and is studying geology.

When he graduates, he would like to get a job as a geological consultant, work for a natural resource exploration company, or possibly attend graduate school to become a professor. In East Lansing, he helps out with the local high school football team where he is an assistant

coach, and also works in a geology lab part time. He is 20 years old, enjoys watching and playing sports, and loves the outdoors. Nick also said that he "is excited to return for his second year here at Castle Park." Really, I didn't coerce these statements out of them!

Sherrie Schermer is one of our "long timers". She has been caring for the cleaning of our buildings for over 10 years. You will rarely see her since she does some of her work before the season begins and during the season her daily routine is usually carried out early in the morning. Sherrie is one busy lady. She works part time at Paul's Pharmacy and part-time baking pies for Crane's in the City (if you get to downtown Holland, check these yummys out). She has several cleaning jobs in the summer including working for Castle Park. Oh and did I mention she is a hairdresser who works out of her home salon? All that and caring for her family which includes her husband John and 3 children Joel, Justin and Marissa.



Mark and I feel that having Sherrie assist us all these years has been a real gift and we hope you will have a chance to meet her sometime when you are out to catch the early morning Castle Park air.

Castle Park Legends

Believe it or not, Wikipedia has a listing for **melonheads** which was recently posted on the Castle Park Facebook page. If you check out the Wikipedia site you will find the following: "The melon heads of Michigan are said to reside near the Felt Mansion in Laketown Township. According to one story, they were originally children with hydrocephalus who lived at the Junction Insane Asylum near Felt Mansion. The story explains that, after enduring physical and emotional abuse, they became feral mutants and were released into the forests surrounding the asylum. The Allegan County Historical Society asserts that the asylum never existed, although it was at one point a hospital..." (Oh sure, I see a cover-up)... "Some versions of the legend say that the children once lived in the mansion itself, but later retreated to a system of underground caverns. Other versions of this legend say that the children devised a plan to escape and kill the doctor that abused them. It is said that the children had no place to hide the body, so they cut it up in small pieces which they hid around the Mansion." Now that sounds interesting! This information is all consistent with what we were taught as children so it must be true. For more go to http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Melon_heads

Wizard of Oz

Have you ever told your friends outside of Castle Park that our castle was an inspiration for the Wizard of Oz castle, and no one believed you? The Holland Sentinel recently posted an article about L. Frank Baum, author of the Wizard of Oz, and his summers of residence in Macatawa. He even referred to a town called Tamawaka in his writings, which is proof that Oz is all about our little space of Western Michigan. Go to <http://tinyurl.com/frankbaum> for the complete article and photos.

Life at Castle Park when I was Young

by Polly Perkins Johnson

Life at Castle Park when I was young,
was about walking to the lighthouse
to kiss it's faded red glory.
Listening to its frog-in-the-throat voice,
as it tooted lullaby's to Lake Michigan
freighters,
heading in to calmer shores.

Life at Castle Park when I was young,
meant spending time with Mrs. Mantle,
weathered tan and freckles,
a seagull feather placed askance.
Her uniform, a bathing suit
with loosely fitting straps,
as cockeyed as her plume.
A white plastic cigarette case, her treasure chest,
while leading us down the beach
in search of lucky stones
and other sandy loot.

Saturday nights on a dance dune
overlooking Lake Michigan's watery horizon,
stretched from Chicago to Milwaukee,
and across all the weather in between.
Being entertained by children
hokey-pokeying with arms and legs,
holding onto dear life in musical chairs,
and snowballing from partner to partner
while reaching out, hands clasped,
anticipating the Grand March.

Life at Castle Park when I was young,
meant standing in rows of Grand Marching people
tightly holding hands,
like Whos down in Whoville.
Winding into circles and out again.
under human-made bridges of arms
smacking your backside as you trudged through,
it was a breath-taking sight,
a backbreaking feat.
Nothing was more thrilling
than being locked in Castle Park's
Grand Marching embrace.



A fire-powered imagination,
made Joy Kelly the devilish leader of our
pack
while Jose Feliciano's words,
tumbled off of her lips,
"Come on Baby, light my fire,"
her guitar vibrating with fury.
Joy regaled us with haunted house stories
and melonhead monsters.
She wreaked havoc on our nerves

while we were tucked in dew-covered sleeping bags
on a sand dune called Mount Baldy.

Life in Castle Park when I was young,
could be a theatrical delight,
with pixies and waiters touching Broadway
while performing a Castle Capers show.
Staged on our stately stone amphitheatre
all ancient Greece and Michigan woods,
legs kicking and mouths singing
"She wore an itsy, bitsy teeny, weenie
yellow polka dot bikini"
still echo in the walls
and up the fern covered stairs.

Life at Castle Park when I was young
was like our faded red lighthouse,
a solitary beacon,
anchored on the map
of my I've-been-moved youth.
Magical places and story book friends
litter the pages of my Castle Park soul.
Gary Puckett and the Union Gap
mixes with bonfire sunsets and amphitheatre plays,
close-knit mid-western friends
exploring the branches of extended family trees.
Laura Nyro sirens blasted,
as the late 60's glow began to fade.
That was my life when I was young at Castle Park.