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# ThumbPrint News

An imprint of places and people at work and play in the Thumb of Michigan

**AUGUST 2010** 



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# **Back to School**

# By Ralph McKinch

ThumbPrint News Staff Writer

Summer is swiftly coming to an end. In only a few short weeks, children all over the Thumb of Michigan will be heading back to school. For many of those who live in rural areas, it is a long walk down a paved or graveled driveway from their homes to the road, where the school bus picks them up bright and early each morning. It is important to be out to the road on time, or the bus will pass on by. This means leaving the house a few minutes early and waiting by the road.

When it is pouring down rain or, later in the year, freezing cold and snowing, it can be an unpleasant start to the school day. This is where many rural families have come up with a way to keep the children protected from inclement weather. They have built their own bus shelters.

Some of these shelters are simple creations, made of whatever left over wood could be scrounged from other building projects. However, some of the builders have gotten quite elaborate with their designs.

Jeff Rust from China, Michigan, built his first school bus shelter for his kids when they were small. Julia, Jeff's wife, says that the children eventually outgrew that first shelter,



Rural homemade shelters protect school children from inclement weather.

which she now uses as a storage shed in her garden. Jeff then built a second shelter, making it larger to accommodate the growing clan.

See SCHOOL BUS STOPS, Page 28

# **Spotlight on a Small Town: Anchorville**

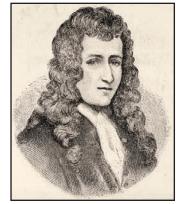
By Diane L. Kodet

ThumbPrint News Editor

Anchorville is an unincorporated community on M-29 on the northern shore of Lake St. Clair in St. Clair County. Residents and visitors alike are attracted to the community for its ideal location for boating, fishing and water sports in the summer months and ice fishing and snowmobiling on the frozen lake in the winter months.

Anchorville in the past was the home to several bands of Chippewa Indians

who fished and hunted the fertile waters and lands of the area. Duck, geese, deer and fish of every kind abounded. The woods were full of nuts and berries and wild fruits. King Louis XIV of France, in August of 1679, sent René-Robert Cavelier, Sieur de La Salle on a voyage from the southern part of Canada through the Great Lakes region, on down the Mississippi River and to the Gulf of Mexico, with the purpose of establishing fur-trade routes along the way. As part of his route, La Salle



La Salle explored Lake St. Clair in 1679.

See ANCHORVILLE, Page 22



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August, usually one of the hottest months of the summer season for the Thumb of Michigan, is here. To me, August exemplifies what summer really is. June, the official month when the first day of summer occurs, is often still cool and rainy. It certainly was this year. There aren't enough warm days that month to be considered summer, in my opinion. July gets a little better. Fourth of July celebrations, with the associated country fairs and fireworks, are traditional summertime activities. However, it still seems that the weather is variable - chilly some days and then hotter than a stove and more humid than a shower stall the next. The air conditioning goes on and we retreat to the inside of our homes.

Then August finally comes. Admittedly many days are quite hot, but usually the humidity is lower. It just feels better. It feels like summer should feel.

August also seems to be a slower month. People enjoy outdoor activities, many times focused on the myriad bodies of water we are so fortunate to have in Michigan. Dinner time often comes later in the day, after the outside air has cooled down a couple of degrees. Cookouts and barbeques outside make preparing

meals a family activity rather than a chore designated to one person. Food just somehow tastes so much better when prepared outside. We even forgive the occasional overcooked hotdog or undercooked burger.

Thinking back on some of my favorite summertime activities as a child growing up, most of them took place during the month of August. My family was into camping big time – not in recreational vehicles such as those that are so popular at state parks and camping sites today – but in old-fashioned tents. Our family would head north to places such as the Sleeping Bear Dunes or Higgins Lake on a weekend and set up camp. As kids, my sister and I would want to head to the lake as soon as we could. In Michigan, August was the month when the water actually

warmed up enough to be enjoyable.

When night time came, there was always a campfire with the inevitable round of toasted marshmallows. S'mores, with their gooey center of melted chocolate and creamy marshmallow, were the ultimate gourmet dessert. I still think of those memories when I drive past Algonac State Park in the evening along M-29 and see families sitting outside by the campfires. The sweet hickory smell coming from the smoke of the wood fires is still so enticing to me.

Another summer time memory is one few children still experience today – the thrill of piling into the family car, with pillows and blankets and heading out at dusk to the local drive-in movie, usually arriving early to get a good spot. As kids, we had an hour or so to enjoy the swing sets and

See FROM THE EDITOR, Page 8

Correction to the July 2010 Edition

In the July 2010 edition of ThumbPrint News in the article "Great Lakes Dock and Decks Owners Build Their Business Around What They Love Doing" our editorial staff inadvertently misspelled Susan G. Komen's name for which we

sincerely apologize. The Komen Race for the Cure raises significant funds and awareness for the fight against breast cancer, celebrates breast cancer survivorship, and honors those who have lost their battle with the disease.





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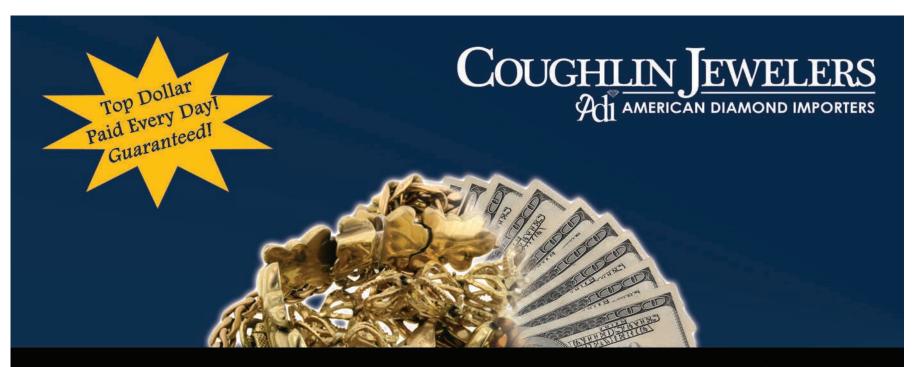


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# **Only Two Drive-In Theaters Remain In the Thumb Area**

### By Louise Allen

ThumbPrint News Staff Writer

In the early 1930s, Richard M. Hollingshead Jr. was working as a sales manager at Whiz Auto Products in New Jersey, which was owned by his father. He had the spirit of an inventor and one of his earliest experiments started when he tried to come up with a solution for his mother, a very large woman, who couldn't enjoy watching movies in a regular movie theater because her size made the seating very uncomfortable for her.

The story goes that Richard, using his car, a 1928 Kodak movie projector and two sheets nailed between two trees for a screen, created an outdoor movie experience that could be enjoyed by his mother. He placed a radio behind the screen for sound. He even turned on a yard sprinkler to simulate rainfall.

Richard, over the course of the next few months, experimented further so that others could also sit in their cars to enjoy his home movies, even adding a ramp for each vehicle so that the viewers could raise the front of their cars to see the screen without being blocked by other vehicles.

In August of 1932, Richard applied for a patent for his outdoor movie ideas. The timing was perfect. America was in love with the automobile. Giving consumers one more thing they could do with their vehicles was bound to be a stroke of genius. Along with his cousin and two other investors, he formed a company called Park-It Theatres, Inc. Richard advertised the benefits of his new concept to be such things as being able to smoke without bothering others or violating fire laws, being able to talk during the movie, being able to eat in your vehicle, and being able to bring along young children and babies, all dressed in their pajamas and ready to fall asleep, thus saving the cost of a babysitter. (As an interesting side note, babysitters in some areas even picketed drive-ins, claiming that drive-in theaters were taking away their business!)



The Hi-Way Drive-In is one of two remaining drive-in theaters in the Thumb area.

On June 6, 1933 the first drive-in movie theater opened in Camden, New Jersey. RCA Victor provided three six foot by six foot speakers to go with the 40 foot by 50 foot screen. The very first movie shown was the comedy *Wives Beware*, starring Adolphe Menjou. The cost per vehicle was 25 cents.

Although the sound quality was poor, the idea of drive-in theaters was an overnight success. Over 600 cars attended opening night, with three different screenings.

The popularity of the drive-in theater peaked during the 1950s, with more than 4,000 drive-ins in North America. The classic movies such as *I Was a Teenage Werewolf* and *The Creature from the Black Lagoon* were geared toward the teen drive-in attendees.

The oldest drive-in the United States that is still in business is Shankweiler's Drive-In in Orefield, Pennsylvania, which opened on April 15, 1934, as Shankweiler's Auto Park. In Canada, among the oldest drive-ins still in business is the Port Hope Drive-In, which was built in 1952.

On June 6, 2008, a flag was flown over the United States Capitol to commemorate the 75th birthday of the drive-in theater – a unique slice of Americana.

A few drive-in theaters are being bought and restored by persons interested in preserving a part of our entertainment history. Today, television, VCR and DVD rentals and sales, commercial-free cable and satellite TV movies and computer movie downloads have almost driven drive-in theaters to

extinction. Most of the early driveins have now been demolished, or sit on acreage long abandoned and overgrown with weeds.

In Michigan, there are only eight remaining operating drivein theaters. Two are located in the counties covered by *ThumbPrint* News. One is the US-23 Drive-In at 5200 Fenton Rd. (Old US-23), in Flint. The other is the Hi-Way Drive-In located five miles east of Sandusky and nine miles west of Port Sanilac on M-46 in Carsonville which opened in 1948. John Guzdial of Applegate, Michigan, has been watching movies at the Hi-Way Drive-In since he was a youngster. He says that the most memorable movie he ever saw there was Jaws. Asked what he liked best about drive-ins, John replied, "I always looked forward to going to the concession stand during the intermission." John, now 48 years old, visited the Hi-Way Drive-In as recently as last summer.

For those readers who have nostalgic memories of watching movies at drive-in theaters as a child or as a teenager or for those who have never been to a drivein theater, wouldn't it be a great August family adventure to plan a trip to one of the two remaining theaters in the Thumb area before they, too, become an extinct part of Michigan history? Visit either of their websites to find out more information, including what movies are currently playing. The Hi-Way Drive-In's website is www. thehiwaydrivein.com and the US-23 Drive-In's website is www. us23driveintheater.com.





Yellow jackets are often mistaken for paper wasps. They are aggressive and destructive. Yellow jackets can be identified by their yellow and black stripes, black antennas, and legs that are tucked up when flying (like a bullet) Yellow jackets can build nests on your home or in a tree. The nest is enclosed (no "honey comb" visible) and can be the size of a basketball or larger.

If they build a nest IN your home, they have the ability to chew through quarter inch drywall causing extensive damage. They do this to enlarge their nest. Never plug or seal a yellow jacket nest from the outside of the home. This will only trap them inside your home and drive them further into your walls, causing them to come into the living space in search of an exit, as well as food and water for their young.

1. Never plug an active yellow jacket entrance on your home.

2. Never use an over the counter liquid vellow jacket product in the nest entrance. This added moisture can amplify the stench of rotting yellow jackets and their larvae.

3. Never touch a soft or water spot in your ceiling where yellow jackets are eating through. If necessary, VERY CAREFULLY place duct tape over the area. Do not apply a lot a pressure, as you could puncture a hole through the drywall.

# **CLUSTER FLIES & MULTI-COLOREI** ASIAN LADY REET

Cluster and face flies are found in homes, churches, hospitals, apartment complexes, commercial and public buildings and other structures. These large, sluggish flies appear on warm, sunny days during late autumn, winter and early spring. They occur in large numbers, especially at windows and in rooms not frequently used. In times of cooler weather, they can commonly be found warming themselves on the sides of buildings (retreating into the cracks and crevices as the weather continues to cool).

These flies make irritating, buzzing noises, spin around and move sluggishly. They can also leave a greasy spot on upholstery, carpets, wood, and other surfaces.

The multi-colored Asian lady beetle has become a nuisance pest to homeowners in North America in recent years because of the propensity of adults to enter houses in search of over wintering shelter. Their tendency to over winter in homes and other buildings, usually clustered in large numbers, can make them a nuisance to many persons. If agitated or squashed, the beetles may exhibit a defensive reaction known as "reflex bleeding," in which a yellow fluid with an unpleasant odor is released from leg joints. This reaction generally prevents predators, such a birds, from eating lady beetles. But in the home, the fluid may stain walls and fabrics. The desiccating bodies of these insects have also been known to cause breathing problems in persons with asthma or related conditions.

The best time to control these insects is before you have a problem with them. An exterior treatment of the home (especially the cracks and crevices) is an excellent pre-emptive step to help prevent an infestation.

European paper wasps are commonly mistaken for yellow jackets. These wasps however have orange antennae while yellow jackets have black antennae. Another difference is that paper wasps generally have a small skinny body while yellow jackets have a bigger more bulky body. Also, paper wasps fly with their legs hanging down while yellow jackets fly with their legs up and look similar to a bullet. The paper nests of paper wasps are built with individual chambers all visible and in a "honeycomb" pattern. The nests generally will look like an upside down umbrella. Yellow jackets, however, will build their nest on the exterior of the home or on a tree branch and will be shaped like a basketball. The paper wasp will also fill cavities such as those in shutters or deck railings. These wasps are very aggressive.

> The common paper wasp is not as common now that the European paper wasp has become the dominant species. This is because the European paper wasp is known to steal the paper and larva from the nests of this species of wasp. This wasp is brown in color and has black antennae but makes a similar nest to the European paper wasp.

Tell us you saw this ad in the ThumbPrint News and receive \$20 off your yellow jacket treatment. This offer cannot be combined with any other offer and is for the treatment of yellow jackets only. One discount per household.

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Melanie Duquesnel

# BBB Warns Car Shoppers about Online Dealer Scam Victims lose thousands to scammers posing as dealers online

# By Melanie Duquesnel

President and CEO of the Better Business Bureau Serving Eastern Michigan

The Better Business Bureau is warning car shoppers to beware of websites offering too-good-to-be-true deals on repossessed cars. BBB has heard from people across the country who thought they were buying from a reputable dealer online but were actually sending money to scammers posing as legitimate, already-established community dealerships.

"Because scammers essentially steal the identity and good name of real auto dealers, car shoppers will think that they're buying a car from a reputable business," said Melanie A. Duquesnel, President and CEO of the Better Business Bureau Serving Eastern Michigan and the Upper Peninsula. "The truth is, they're being sold a bill of goods by a coordinated, agile and, in all likelihood, overseas outfit of scammers."

Most recently, one Memphis auto dealer, America Auto Sales (www.memphisautoworld.com),

received more than 1,000 calls from consumers across the country who had shopped for a new car on www. americautosales.com thinking that it was the website of the Memphis dealership. The phony website used the name, address and contact information of the real dealer.

The fraudulent website claimed to sell repossessed cars at prices well below market. Buyers were instructed to wire a deposit – as much as \$5,000 – to an individual rather than the company, which, according to the phony website, "helps us avoid taxes legally." The balance was to be paid upon delivery at the consumer's address within five days.

After paying the deposit, victims called the real dealership to arrange delivery of their car. Some customers even showed up at the lot to pick up the cars they had "bought" on the bogus site.

Similar websites have posed as many different dealers in Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Michigan, New Mexico and Texas. The websites are often taken down after a few days only to crop up shortly thereafter under a different URL address and under the auspices of another legitimate dealer.

BBB recommends that car shoppers look for the following red flags when shopping for a car online:

- The prices are too good to be true.
- The dealer only communicates through chat or e-mail – never by phone.
- The dealer only accepts payment by money wire transfer.

If you have been the victim of a fraudulent auto dealer online, notify your BBB at www.bbb.org and the Internet Crime Center at www.ic3. gov to file a complaint.

For more information or to schedule an interview with a BBB spokesperson, contact Patrick Bennett at (248) 799-0326.

# About the Better Business Bureau:

As the leader in advancing marketplace trust, Better Business Bureau is an unbiased non-profit organization that sets and upholds high standards for fair and honest business behavior. Every year, more than 65 million consumers rely on BBB Reliability Reports® and BBB Wise Giving Reports® to help them find trustworthy businesses and charities across North America. Visit www.bbb.org/us for more information.







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# **Every Day is a Different Adventure for Nick Mayer**

# Owner of Bellacino's Pizzas & Grinders in Chesterfield

By Shari Nowicki

ThumbPrint News Staff Writer

When people come into Bellacino's Pizzas & Grinders located in Chesterfield, Michigan, they are heartily greeted by the owner, Nick Mayer, and immediately start sharing their day with him. Nick is one of the friendliest people you would want to meet with a smile and easy manner that keeps you laughing while you are in his establishment. When you complete your purchase you will find yourself smiling as you leave.

Nick started his voyage to owning Bellacino's by graduating from the University of Michigan with an engineering degree and starting to work for one of the auto companies. Many years later he felt he wanted to do more with his life and decided to follow his own motto: "Every day is a different adventure."

Nick and his wife, Robin, started out when they bought a franchise from Bellacino's and went to Florida for a week at the franchise training center. They came back to

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Michigan and opened their business on November 13, 2006, and haven't looked back since.

Robin also runs her own business in Chesterfield called Absolutely Fabulous Salon. Nick and Robin met in an interesting way six years ago. Their daughters were best friends in the neighborhood and introduced them. Now they have a blended family with four children – three girls and one boy.

In April of 2008, Bellacino's received a liquor license and now has a full bar. Their establishment also has handmade and hand-mixed ice cream by Bella Creamery. It is a "one stop shop" for all of the delectable foods in which you may wish to indulge.

You will also find a lot of interesting items on Bellacino's walls. There are a multitude of pictures of young children that have participated in Nick's field trips. He invites three and four year olds from various pre-schools as well as autistic children from the area to his business. They get to make their

own pizzas in the back in an area set up just for them. They then partake of pop and ice cream. Nick has kids and teachers who return year after year and he has the letters and pictures with signed posters saying "Hi 5 to Mr. Nick for a wonderful afternoon" to show how much they enjoyed the experience. Nick also offers fundraisers at Bellacino's. He has had all the local schools' sport program participants with kids from 16 to 19 years old. Nick received the Business Owner of the Year Award in 2008 for being involved with the community in such a positive manner.

On New Year's Day of each year, you will find the "A" chapter members of the Gold Wing Road Riders Association on Nick's doorstep (weather permitting) for their annual beginning of the New Year celebration (even though Nick may be recovering from HIS New Year's Eve celebration!). Just call Nick's establishment "The Chesterfield Cheers," as Robin likes to refer to it. It's been said that the

customers look for Nick's car to see if he is there and then swing on into Bellacino's. As the year moves on, Bellacino's has the televisions set to all the Detroit sports being played. Nick was an avid baseball player at East Detroit High School and likes to support all of the Detroit teams. You will find \$1.00 drafts during all the games with lots of laughs included.

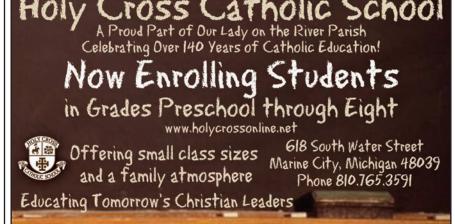
One more unusual thing you will find on Bellacino's walls – hunting pictures – not just ANY pictures! Nick holds the record for shooting the biggest black bear in Michigan (650 lbs.). He also has pictures of himself with deer he bagged, but also pictures brought in by other hunters with their prize deer. Robin says their home is like a "wildlife preserve" as the black bear, and many other prize animals shot by Nick, visited the taxidermist and are now on display in the basement.

Stop by Bellacino's and partake of some, or all, of the tasty items available every day and share a laugh or two with Nick and his staff.





(810) 387-4344



## **Letter From the Editor**

**Continued from Page 2** 

playground equipment. There was something magical when we were swinging as high as we could go and the movie began on a screen that towered so high into the sky.

August was also the beginning of the harvest. Huge farm machines worked day and night to get the grains in before the rains came. Farmers were selling tomatoes, cucumbers, melons and more from roadside stands. The colors, the flavors, the textures all were the beginning of my life-long passion for gardening. My mother canned many of the vegetables and fruits so we could enjoy the fresh picked taste all winter long. I can still see the colorful rows of jars lining the pantry shelves and can still hear the hissing of the pressure canner as it released the steam inside.

This month in *ThumbPrint News*, we revisit some of those summertime memories. There is an article about marshmallows, recipes for s'mores – and even the answer to the debatable question, "Do marshmallows grow on a plant?"

We also look at the Hi-Way Drive-In located in Carsonville, which is the longest running outdoor movie screen in Michigan. Thumb area families can still enjoy a classic summertime experience that may become extinct for future generations.

The important part agriculture plays in our area is highlighted in the article on Thumb area granaries.

David Gillis, who has been a *ThumbPrint News* columnist since the first edition last October, reminisces on his favorite summertime memories in his column titled "Good Old Summertime."

So, as you slow down during the month of August, find a nice shady spot under an old oak or maple tree (or on a porch swing, if you are lucky enough to have one), pour yourself a tall, cool glass of lemonade or iced tea, pull out this August edition of *ThumbPrint News* and think back about all of your most pleasant summertime memories. And, if you are a parent or a grandparent, also think about what kind of memories you can help create for the next generation. Most of all, have a happy, healthy and relaxing August!

DIANE KODET Editor, ThumbPrint News **FOXFIRE FARM AND ABC HOME & COMMERCIAL SERVICES INVITES** YOU TO JOIN US FOR OUR CUSTOMER APPRECIATION DAY 8061 MARSH ROAD, ALGONAC 9:00 A.M. - 7:00 P.M. SATURDAY, AUGUST 14, 2010 ALL CUSTOMERS OF FOXFIRE FARM **AND ABC HOME & COMMERCIAL SERVICES** ARE INVITED TO PARTY WITH US! WE THINK YOU'RE SPECIAL AND YOU DESERVE A DAY JUST FOR YOU! THE FUN STARTS AT 9:00 A.M. AND CONTINUES ★ ENTERTAINMENT ★ FAMILY FUN ALL DAY UNTIL 7:00 P.M.



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# **Harvest Time Has Already Started in the Thumb**

By Ralph McKinch

ThumbPrint News Staff Writer

Harvest time brings visions of fall, with brilliantly colored leaves fluttering to the ground, cornstalks tied up in bundles, pumpkins waiting to be picked in the fields and cooler weather. But for those who work in the Thumb area granaries and hay businesses, harvest time is well underway during the month of August.

James Keegan is the third generation of his family to be involved in the hay business, along with one of his brothers. Keegan Hay Company

LLC, located in Emmett, ships out from 600 to 800 semitruck loads of hay across the country each year. The hay is produced on 220 of their own acres, plus on farms located

all over St.

Jim Keegan of Keegan Hay in Emmett

Clair and Sanilac Counties. Almost all of the hav is used for horses and is trucked to feed stores, stables and race tracks in the southern states and in the Carolinas.

The hay season usually starts around the beginning of June for the new crop, but this year, because of the cool rainy start of summer, the season was delayed until the beginning of July. Keegan Hay Company also ships and exports straw, much of which is destined to be used in road construction areas when the land bordering it needs to be reseeded.

James has a third brother who took the straw business in an entirely different direction - literally. He headed to Mexico and started a



Keegan Hay is a third generation family run business, as this vintage photo shows





Thumb area farmers work quickly to get the harvest in.

miniature straw bale and straw wreath business for the craft industry. It was quite successful, and he has remained in Mexico for 12 years, where he now has a wife and children.

Dan Lauwers, part owner of the Eastern Michigan Grain Elevator in Emmett, also is in the peak of his harvest season. In July, they were accepting winter wheat. Most of the wheat grown in the Thumb area, according to Dan, is the type that is used to mill into flour that will be used for baking. Companies such as Kellogg and Sara Lee are major purchasers. Wheat that is grown in the western states tends to be of the type mostly used in making pasta.

Wheat harvesting is done in a relatively short period of time when the crop is ready and the weather is cooperating. It usually occurs in a whirlwind three to seven day ordeal.

Dry beans are another commodity handled by Eastern Michigan Grain. Dan says that there are over 15 different varieties grown in Michigan and most granaries that handle beans will have 15 different silos, one for each variety.

Eastern Michigan Grain provides many services for the local farmers, including fertilizer blending. They



Dan Lauer of Eastern Michigan Grain by a computerized fertilizer blending machine.

have one of only three computerized blending stations in the state. After samples of the soil are taken, the machine will design a custom blended fertilizer for the specific soil and crop of the farmer. It can blend over two tons a minute. One of their bigger customers is the Department of Natural Resources who purchase a custom blend for use on Harsens Island. Other services offered are custom chemical application, agricultural chemicals, seed for corn, soybeans and wheat, soil sampling, custom seed treatment and applicator rental.

Eastern Michigan Grain Company is now owned by Star of the West Milling Company, which operates five flour mills in four U.S. states and seven country elevators. The mills and elevators store and process wheat, corn and soybeans. The flour mills can produce approximately 40,000 pounds per day.

Most of Dan's family is involved in the agricultural business in one way or another. Dan says, "Farming is everybody's bread and butter." One of his pet peeves is when drivers of automobiles get irritated when a farmer is driving a piece of farm machinery down a country road. "Generations ago, everyone farmed and everyone understood what was involved. Today, the lack of patience comes from being several generations removed from those rural roots."

Next time you have to slow down for a hard-working farmer who is moving a farm vehicle from one field to the next, how about giving a good old "Thumbs Up" to someone who we depend on every day to put food on our table. Remember the old saying, "Never criticize a farmer while your mouth is full of food."



# I Need a Bale of Hay - or is it Straw?

By Louise Allen

ThumbPrint News Staff Writer

For many people who move from a metropolitan area to the country, there seems to be some confusion on the differences between hav and straw. Both are very important agricultural crops in the Thumb of Michigan, but they are not the same product.

Hay is grass, legumes or other herbaceous plants that have been cut, dried and stored for use as animal fodder. Farm animals such as sheep, goats, horses and cattle feed on it as well as pet animals such as rabbits and guinea pigs.

Usually hay is fed at the times of year when there is not enough pasture on which an animal can graze or during the winter months. Animals that are kept in a stable or barn and have no access to pasture land are also fed hav.

Some plants that may be used for hay, depending on the region, may include grasses, such as ryegrass, fescue, orchard grass and timothy and legumes, such as alfalfa and clover.

Hay is usually harvested at the point when the seed heads are not quite ripe and the leaf is at its maximum.

The cut hay is then piled in long rows and allowed to partially dry so that much of the moisture is removed. The hay is then turned over by a machine called a rake. It is then harvested by machinery and processed into storage as bales. This period of harvesting may be condensed into a few days of intense activity, as hay is very sensitive to weather conditions. Wet hay may develop rot and mold, which has the potential to form toxins in the bales which could cause the animals to become sick. Mold also reduces the nutritional value in the hay.

There is a real art in drying the hay to the right moisture content. If it is not dry enough when baled, it can start to generate heat as it begins to decompose and the bale can start on fire, possibly burning the entire barn to the ground.

Hay is a crop that is grown to be cut several times during a season. In most years, farmers in Michigan get at least three cuttings of hay from each hay field. The fields do not have to be reseeded every year but will usually contain plants that return for several years. Proper fertilization will increase the yields in future years.

Straw is an agricultural by-product of growing a grain crop such as oats and wheat. Straw can also be made from rye, barley and spelt. The nutritional value of straw is low compared to hay, so it is primarily used for animal bedding rather than as food. Some farmers who raise cattle will mix in some straw in feed as roughage for the animals.

Straw is cut and formed into bales after the grain is harvested. Farmers usually get only one cutting a year from a grain field that will be used also for straw.

Straw has many other uses besides as bedding for animals. It is used as a fuel, for thatching and basket-making and for a cover for freshly planted areas of grass. Straw filled mattresses are still used in many parts of the world. Several styles of hats are made from woven straw. Straw can be used for packaging products for shipping or pulped to make paper.

In many parts of the world, straw has been or is still being used to bind clay and concrete as a building material. Straw, when baled, has excellent insulating properties and there has been an increased interest in recent years in the technology for building straw bale houses.



Is this a havride or a strawride?

Additional uses of straw are as a material in making certain types of rope, bee skeps, decorations and sandals.

Ecologically, straw is a valuable product that is used in ponds to reduce algae by changing the nutrient ratios in the water, as plant protection, such as in strawberry cultivation and as a mulch.

Now that you have a pretty good idea of some of the differences between straw and hay, if you are lucky enough to go on a hayride this fall, you can ask the farmer who is pulling the wagon with either a tractor or a horse, if it is called a "hayride" why are you most likely sitting on bales of straw?



# August 6, 7 & 8

The Croswell Swinging Bridge is Michigan's only pedestrian suspension bridge. It was built in 1905 at an original cost of \$300. It spans 139 feet.

# ACTIVITIES ALL DAY FRIDAY AND SATURDAY

- Pioneer Village
- Antique Tractor Display (down by E & A Credit Union)
- Book Sale at Library (10 a.m.-5 p.m.)
- Sidewalk sales & craft booths (downtown)
- People Mover & Tractor Barrel Train Rides
- Decorated Duck Display
- Various Events "Under the Big Tent"
- Zucchini Contest & Racing throughout weekend
- Flat Pat the Traveling Duck Display.

# FRIDAY ACTIVITIES

Princess Tea Party (9:30 a.m. in the tent) Wii Beatles Rock Band Competition

(10-2 p.m. in the library)

Children's Activities (Noon-3:00 p.m. downtown) free popcorn, cotton candy, balloons, etc.

Ronald McDonald Magic Show (3:00 p.m.) Sponsored by Croswell McDonalds

Cardboard Boat Display (5:00 p.m. in the alley by Ben Franklin store)

Cruise Night (7:00 p.m.) (Pre-cruise activities are downtown at 6:30 p.m.) Line up at Harrington Road entrance to fairgrounds. \$5 entry fee

Live Music: SWEET REVENGE

(downtown 7:00 p.m.-?)

Mechanic Pit Crew Challenge (downtown 8:00 p.m.) Sponsored by Franzel Auto-Truck-Equip

Lighted Boat Parade/Light up the River Banks

# **SATURDAY ACTIVITIES**

Kid's Fishing Contest (7-9:30 am) Sponsored by Sanilac County Sports Fishing & Hunting Association. Bring your own poles!

**Kid's Scavenger Hunt** (9:30 am in the park)

Thumb Area Canoe Race (10:00 am)

Burn Out (11:00 am-1:00 pm on Louise Street) Sponsored by Croswell Police Department Classic Car Show & DJ (9:00 am-2:00 pm downtown) \$10 entry fee/prizes, goodie bags, trophies, etc.

Corn Roast (11:30 am-? in the park)

Cardboard Boat Races (1 pm. under age 14 and 3 pm 14 & over no entry fee) Cros-Lex High School Band Exhibition (4:30 pm at high school football field)

BMX Stunts & Tricks Show (5:15 pm downtown)

Pre-Parade Activities & DJ (5:30 pm downtown)

Parade (6:00 pm - starts at fairgrounds) Post Parade Activities & DJ (after parade)

Skateboard Fun (7-9 pm) Sponsored by Eagles

**5K Fun Run** (7:30 pm at high school)

Live Entertainment: RENEGADE (in the park 8:30 to midnight) Fireworks at dusk! The best so far!

# **SUNDAY ACTIVITIES**

Sugar Launch & Catapult (1:00 pm at end of Maple St.) Sponsored by MI Sugar East vs West Business Softball Game (2:00 pm at Cros-Lex High School)

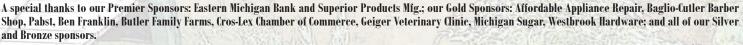
Kid's Parade (2:00 pm)

"Sweet Sunday" events (under the big tent) Sugar duckies and other "sweet" fun. Rubber Duck Race/Raffle (3:30 pm) Mother-In-Law Toss (following rubber duck raffle)

Black River Car Races (4:00 pm) Similar to soap box derby

Community Potluck/Picnic (5:00 pm) Church Fun & Music (7:00 pm)

Music in the Park: The Johnny K Band (8:15 pm)



For more information visit www.croswellswingingbridgefestival.com



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# **Good Old Summertime**

By David Gillis

ThumbPrint News Columnist



David Gillis in the summer of 1957

I'm confident I'm not the only person who has read a book and, after time, had only a foggy idea of what I read. It isn't until I skim a few pages of the book that I begin to recall its content, stimulating my memory.

Much of life can be like that until we're presented with a reminder, something that stimulates the memory. I guess that's what old photographs are for.

Recently, while looking through an old box of photographs and other memorabilia, I came across a glossy image of a young man. He resembled me, but was shaped differently and had a full head of hair. A date stamp on the border indicated "JUL-57." I, of course, realized that it was me. It brought back memories of my years as a teenager, especially the good old summertime.

As I concentrated on the black and white photograph, my mind searched back well over 50 years. I recalled the summer before entering my freshman year in high school. That was 1957, the year

Buddy Holly and the Crickets were singing "That'll be the Day."

That summer I added Holly's recording to my growing 45 RPM record collection. My musical education and motivation to add to my record collection was provided by an almost daily diet of Dick Clark's *American Bandstand*, which I found on our black and white television each afternoon.

Those cultural enhancements in my life allowed me to rock the summer away. I was cool, or was it "kool?" I really can't remember.

It was in 1957 that the marquee on Joe Nichol's theater in downtown Algonac advertised *Hellcats of the Navy* starring Ronald Reagan. That same summer is when I began, much to my mother's dismay, combing my hair differently. With a lot of Brylcreem and far too much time in front of the mirror, I worked on my special effort to resemble James Dean or was it Elvis? Regardless, I was cool – very cool.

To place everything in perspective, in 1957 Dwight Eisenhower began his second term as president. Politics were different then and it seemed that everyone liked "Ike" maybe because he reminded them of their grandfather.

That same year the Soviet Union beat us into space with its Sputnik satellite, Ozzie and Harriet supposedly represented the American family, the average weekly wage was \$82, and gas was less than a quarter per gallon. Let's not even attempt to compare that to today.

The popular place for vacations in that year was Walt Disney's mega-entertainment park which had opened two years earlier in California. It would be another quarter of a century before I was able to visit Disneyland. The Chevy Bel Aire was the "hot" car and I could envision myself in the driver's seat. My dream came true, only nine years later.

Looking back, while I thought I was cool, the weather certainly was not. I remember the month of August as being the epitome of those lazy, hazy days of summer. It was a time when the temperature and humidity seemed to both soar and become inert in the mid-nineties. Unlike today, there wasn't much difference outside or inside the house. Air conditioning only meant that the fan was running or that you were spending too much time in front of the refrigerator with the door open.

In the summer of 1957 I was looking forward to the end of August and my entry into Algonac High School. There I could experience sock hops and, of course, the girls that were a part of it.

As I focused on the photograph held in my hand I wanted to relive those innocent days with their long, hot summers. I wanted to experience again original rock 'n' roll, the only music worth listening to. I remembered the small town boy trying so hard to become a greaser and thinking I had it "made in the shade." I wondered what happened to all those old 45 RPM records, whether I could still find a cherry phosphate, and thinking of all the friendships that have disappeared over time.

Growing up in the Blue Water area kind of stamps you for life and I sincerely believe makes you much richer for it. It seems as though those spending their childhood living in Michigan's geographical "thumb" didn't then and may not now fully know the advantages. It gave me, however, a great slice of American life I will not forget as long as I have a Kodak Brownie-produced photograph to refresh my memory.

# Find a Penny, Pick it Up, All Day Long You'll Have Good Luck!

By Diane L. Kodet

ThumbPrint News Editor

Have you ever really stopped to think about the lowly penny – worth only 1/100 of a dollar bill? Many of us don't think of it as having much value. If we drop one accidently outside, we may or may not bother to pick it up. The worth of a penny today can be equated to the numerous small containers next to cash registers labeled, "Need a penny, take a penny." Often if our change is only a few cents, we will tell the clerk to "Keep the change."

If a penny is seen lying on the ground, we may or may not take the time to pick it up. If we do, it is probably not going to be because we think of it as being a valuable coin but rather because we may be thinking of the superstition, "Find a penny, pick it up. All day long, you'll have good luck."

The first United States pennies were minted around 1787 and were pressed out of copper. Benjamin Franklin is credited with the first design.



The first U.S. pennies were minted around 1787.

Pennies from 1793 until 1796 were called the large cap coins, due to the large cap hovering above the head embossed on the coin. From around 1859 until about 1864 the fabled 100% copper Indian cent penny was produced. After the Civil War, that ratio changed to only 95% copper and the other 5% zinc. It was not until 1909 that the first Lincoln cent appeared.



Front and back of 1793 penny

Was a penny as seemingly worthless in its early days as it appears to be now? Not at all. During the 19th century, a loaf of bread could be bought for one penny. In the 1930s, penny loafers, a classic shoe with no

laces or buckles with a split design in the strap for inserting small objects, such as a penny, became all the rage. Even as recently as the 1940s, a penny could buy many varieties of candy, bubble gum, a small bag of popcorn and other treats. Many carnival rides and games charged only one cent.

However, as seemingly insignificant as the penny may seem to us today, if one evaluates how often the word "penny" is used in many songs and sayings compared to the word "nickel," "dime" or "quarter," it has a far greater value than coins of a greater denomination.

In 1936, "Pennies from Heaven" became a popular American song written by Johnny Burke and Arthur Johnston when it was introduced in the film of the same name, by Bing Crosby and Madge Evans. In 1978 "Pennies from Heaven" became a TV series on BBC. In 1981, a musical by the same name was released starring Steve Martin and Bernadette Peters.

Then, there is the saying "a penny for your thoughts." Usually someone says this to another person who is deeply engrossed in the thinking process because they value that person's ideas. If a penny were really worth so little as we might believe, the quote would be insulting!

Or how about "a penny saved is a penny earned?" Generations upon generations have saved spare pennies in old canning jars, crocks or piggy banks, with the belief that even though a penny itself has a tiny value, when enough are collected something of worth can be had.

There used to be penny stores, then five and dime stores. Now we find it great to be able to go into a store where everything is a dollar. What will be next, a ten dollar store?

A penny's value can also be increased by how it is used, rather than how it is spent. Here are some great things to do with pennies:

- Slip a penny under a wobbly vase or table leg to steady it.
- A penny makes a great impromptu screwdriver for a wide slotted screw.
  - A penny added to the water in



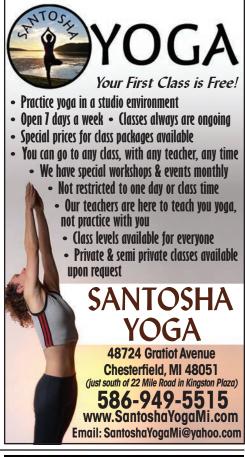
Penny loafers first became fashionable in the 1930s.

a vase of tulips will help prevent the flowers from drooping.

- Use a penny to scratch off lottery tickets.
- For good luck, place a penny over every doorway when moving into a new house.
- Play penny poker.
- Check your car's tires by placing a penny head down between the tire tread grooves. If you can see Lincoln's whole head or any of the "In God We Trust" letters above his head, the tire needs replacing.
- A few downtown Las Vegas slot machines still take pennies and there is a billboard on I-94 saying that more penny slot machines are coming to Detroit area casinos as well. With a little luck, a penny might grow into something more.
- Find a 1793 penny and you will have something worth about \$274,000! (Only four have ever been found but you might be the next lucky person!)
- Place spare pennies (and higher denomination coins) into change jars near cash registers designated for charities, where pennies will be combined to make a difference in someone's life.

One of the classic things to do with a penny is to toss it into a wishing well. The wishes that are made can be personal or practical, but, invariably, if the wish does come true, that penny will be worth far more than 1/100th of a dollar.

So the next time that you spot a penny laying on the ground, pick it up, give it a little more thought than you may have in the past and give yourself a little help in getting lucky by deciding how you can increase the value of the lowly, but mighty, penny.







# Port Sanilac Hosts 2nd Annual Antique Boat Show

**By Rita Dahmen** 

Boat Show and DDA Marketing

Remember the days of mahogany decks and rumbling tailpipes cruising the rivers and lakes? They are returning to Port Sanilac!

Port Sanilac is hosting its 2nd Annual Antique Boat Show, Friday and Saturday, August 20 and 21. This two-day event is a showcase for wooden-hulled and classic boats from Michigan and Ontario.

This year's show is again sponsored with the cooperation of the Michigan Chapter of the Antique and Classic Boat Society, part of the national Antique Classic Boat Society (ACBS). Funding was made possible through a donation from the Port Sanilac Harbor Commission and a grant from the Port Sanilac Downtown Development Authority.

The Antique Boat Show, an inwater and on-land display of boats are complimented this year with more antiques on wheels.

New attractions this year are displays of vintage travel trailers courtesy of the Tin Can Tourists. The Tin Can Tourists is an all-make and model vintage trailer and motor coach club with thousands of members all over the world, camping out at various events such as the Port Sanilac Antique Boat Show.

The trailers draw nostalgia of the open road at a time when roads were just being developed. Their interiors are paneled in deep tones of mahogany or blonde tones of birch. They are the first versions of the recreational vehicles that double as the home-away-from-home.

Beginning on Friday afternoon, August 20, there will be an open water poker run for the boaters. Boaters will take a run to three different points to receive a playing card that will fill out a hand of five cards. The boater with the best hand will win a prize.

Following the poker run, there will be a reception in Harbor Park with appetizers provided to the public by local restaurateurs. This "Taste of Port Sanilac" sponsored by Hagerty Insurance will be included in the boaters' registration fee, but is



More of these kinds of wooden power boats will be visiting Port Sanilac Harbor on August 20 and 21.

available to others for a fee.

On Saturday, August 15, a light breakfast prepared by Mary's Diner and served at the Harbor Park starts the day. The boats will be on display throughout the harbor until judging, then the awards ceremony sponsored by the Blue Water Sports Bar will award plaques and gas prizes for the best boats, taking place in the Harbor Park at 4:30 p.m.

Boat rides on the Miss Port Sanilac, a steel-hulled fishing boat built in 1954 will be available throughout the day for just \$10 with all the proceeds to support the 2011 boat show.

Antique tractors provided by the Black River Antique Tractor Club of Croswell will compliment the nautical display in the Harbor with at least 25 tractors in a land display, many of them 2-cylinder and gas-powered.

Hand-crafted model boats

will be on display at the Harbor Master's office made available by the members of the Great Lakes Maritime Society. Some will be motoring within the harbor just north of the main dock.

The Sanilac Historical Society has the museum grounds open from noon to 4 p.m, also.

Saturday night brings Music at the Harbor, featuring Floyd King and the Bushwhackers.

Additional funding to put on this showcase event was also received from Hagerty Insurance, the worldwide leader in collector boat insurance.

For more information on Port Sanilac's 2nd Annual Antique Boat Show contact Bill Thomas at Archie Thomas Real Estate, (810) 622-9931 or (810) 404-2051. Information and registration forms are also available on www.portsanilac.net.





# "The Incredible Hulk" Falls for the "Do Stuff Girl"

# By Ralph Allen McKinch

ThumbPrint News Staff Reporter

Chiropractic care is the fastest growing health care profession today. Some of the reasons suggested for this phenomenon in articles and brochures related to the industry include: a high degree of satisfaction from patients with their level of treatment, new state-of-theart technology that has increased the comfort level of treatments, and the fact that it is a natural way to treat pain, without having to rely on addictive drugs or medication.

Patrick Joseph Dixon, Doctor of Chiropractic, certainly agrees with these reasons – and more. He has owned Dixon Family Chiropractic in Richmond, Michigan, along with his wife, Lindsey, for the past three years. Patrick says, "I love what I do. Seeing someone get better after our treatments is just the best thing in the world. My goal in life is to help as many people as I can."

Growing up in Lansing, Patrick was barely out of high school when he decided that he wanted to go into the health care profession. He thought of being a medical doctor and had the opportunity to job shadow a physician. He observed too many things, including the exorbitant amount of time the doctor spent on duty, which caused stress for the doctor.

Patrick mentioned his concerns to a chiropractor whom he'd been seeing for several years and he suggested that Patrick try job shadowing him. He witnessed a whole new world of health care. The relaxing, friendly, peopleoriented style he now saw made him decide that he wanted to go into chiropractic care as a profession.

After that Patrick attended a chiropractic college in Georgia (Life University) for two years before transferring to Palmer West College of Chiropractic in San Jose, California, from which he graduated.

The move to California was going to be fortuitous in more than one way. While attending a wedding of a friend, he met Lindsey Thayer. She was from Minnesota, but was also attending the wedding. The first time Lindsey met Patrick, she was a bit irritated with him. She had been helping the bride get ready for the wedding and had planned on spending that particular day by the pool. Being informed that Patrick was arriving soon caused the plans to be put on hold. Patrick ended up being late and by the time he did arrive, all Lindsey could say was, "It is about time you got here!"

Later in the day, both Patrick and Lindsey were outside talking to separate groups of friends but in close proximity to each other. Patrick was talking about a new boat he had just gotten that day and how he wanted to take it out fishing. Lindsey heard that and shouted out, "I love to fish!" When Patrick heard that, he said, "I am going to marry you!" Lindsey's reply was, "Okay!"

Over the next four months, both Lindsey and Patrick moved back to their own locations but, as Lindsey says, "We sent thousands and thousands of text messages." Within eight months, Lindsey and Patrick were together. Lindsey and Patrick have now been married for two months. Lindsey works side by side with Patrick in the business. She calls herself the "Do Stuff Girl."



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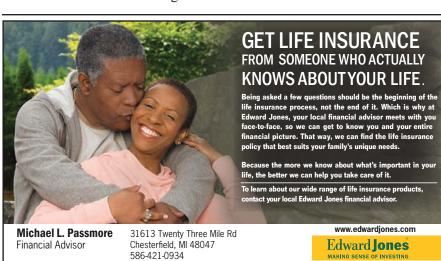
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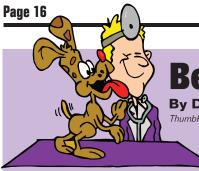
Only recently will Lindsey admit that she actually saw a picture of Patrick before she went to the wedding in California. Her friend had emailed her a picture of the groom-to-be and standing beside him was Patrick. He was dressed up as the Incredible Hulk and, as Lindsey says, "There was green latex paint peeling off of him in big chunks. I thought, this guy looks like fun – I am going to have to meet him!"

Today, Patrick and Lindsey are working together in a business that they really enjoy. According to

Patrick this is a business that will continue to grow. "By 2012 it is predicted that there will be a need for over 60,000 more chiropractic care providers just to service those across the nation who will be 65 or older. My goal down the road is to increase the size of the building and to make this a multi-disciplinary practice where patients can come and have access to both chiropractic and medical doctors in one facility." It is apparent that both Patrick and Lindsey are committed to this goal – and plan on having fun along the way as they accomplish it together.







# **Benefits to Spaying and Neutering Your Pets**

By Dr. DiBenedetto
ThumbPrint News Guest Writer

Spaying and neutering refers to the surgical sterilization of an animal to ensure that your pet cannot reproduce. Females are typically spayed and males are neutered when they are 4-6 months old. It is best to have this surgery done before your pet reaches sexual maturity. There are many benefits to both spaying and neutering, including:

- Prevents pregnancy and the complications arising from pregnancy and delivery
- Eliminates heat cycles so you do not have to worry about an accidental pregnancy
- Reduces or eliminates the risk of mammary gland tumors, ovarian and/or uterine cancer, especially if done before the first heat cycle
- Eliminates testicular tumors and reduces prostate gland

problems in males

- Eliminates the possibility of a pyometra, which is a severe infection within the uterus that can occur after a heat cycle. This can become a surgical emergency.
- In cats, spaying and neutering can reduce urine marking behavior (territorial spraying of urine)

# **Top 3 Reasons to Spay and Neuter**

It helps to reduce companion animal overpopulation. The surplus is in the millions in the United States. Cats are 45 times as prolific, and dogs 15 times as prolific, as humans. They do not need our help to expand their numbers; they need our help to reduce their numbers until there are good homes for them all.

Sterilization of your cat or dog will increase his/her chance of a longer and healthier life. Altering your canine friend will increase his life an average of 1 to 3 years, felines, 3 to 5 years.

Sterilizing your cat/dog makes him/her a better pet, reducing his/her urge to roam and decreasing the risk of contracting diseases or getting hurt as they roam. Surveys indicate that as many as 85% of dogs hit by cars are unaltered. Intact male cats living outside have been shown to live on average less than two years.

Your community will also benefit. Unwanted animals are becoming a very real concern in many places. Stray animals can easily become a public nuisance, soiling parks and streets, ruining shrubbery, and sometimes even killing livestock or other pets.

Spay and neuter myths such as "Females should be allowed to have one litter" or "Spaying or neutering my pet will make it fat" are not true. Proper exercise and nutrition will keep your pet healthy, active and happy. Healthy animals

are put down every day because there are simply not enough homes for them – and more and more are coming in all the time. It is heartbreaking to know that a loving, happy and healthy animal has to be euthanized.

We must all work together to stop uncontrolled and irresponsible breeding of our pets. We can help to stop the suffering of these innocent creatures by reducing the number of unwanted pets being brought into this world. Do your part by having your pet spayed or neutered. You will be saving more than just one life!

Editor's note: Dr. DiBenedetto is a veterinarian at Maple Veterinary Hospital located at 2981 Iowa in Troy, Michigan. The hospital website is: www. MapleVeterinaryHospital.com. Dr. DiBenedetto can be reached at (248) 585-2622 for other pet related questions.







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# Your Dehumidifier Versus Humidex™

Consumers have primarily utilized dehumidifiers as a means of lowering indoor moisture levels. The fact remains that dehumidifiers are extremely costly to run in electrical usage; require daily maintenance; do not address the issue of ventilation and air exchange; recycle the same stale air again and again; and scariest of all, they can overheat and cause a fire. In fact according to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, at least 1.5 million dehumidifiers were recalled in 2002 for this reason alone.

ABC Heating & Cooling has the solution and recommends Humidex over any dehumidifier. Why? Because it beats standard dehumidifiers on every level. Humidex is an alternative unit that is not only 90% less expensive to run, but has the added benefit of a continuous air exchange for improved air quality, and the reduction of risks associated with moisture and mold and radon. Call ABC Heating & Cooling professionals for a comparison cost today! Here's why:

• Humidex uses only 38 watts,

saving hundreds of dollars each year. Dehumidifier wattage translates to several hundreds of dollars each year. The average monthly cost is only \$5 per month in electricity versus an average of \$40 to \$70 for a dehumidifier. Some high capacity dehumidifiers can cost as much as \$100 or more a month.

- Humidex provides moisture control for the entire basement, crawl space and the upper levels as well. Dehumidifiers provide moisture control within a specified area, resulting in a need for additional units to achieve moisture reduction throughout. Dehumidifiers do not provide the circulation needed to dry out the structure. Dehumidifiers do not create airflow's over maximum surfaces, therefore leaving areas with stagnant moist air.
- Humidex saves \$500 a year over just one dehumidifier -- with our 10-year warranty that's a savings of over \$5,000. There are different units to fit everyone's needs.

Call ABC Heating & Cooling at (810) 794-5678 today and save.





# Memoirs from The Restless Retiree

# Wife Discovery: A Motorized Shopping Cart!

By Gabriel Jones, ThumbPrint News Columnist

My wife, who has trouble with her knees lately, was thinking of using one of the motorized shopping carts that they have in various stores.

She thought of using one of them before, but was a little afraid of using it in a crowded store.

Well, we finally walked into one of the grocery stores and looked for one of those carts.

"Here's one," I said.

"Now, how do you get on?" she

asked.

"Very carefully," said the attendant nearby.

She climbed on and sat staring ahead. "What do I do now?" she asked.

"Push the start button in front of you with your finger to start the motor," said the attendant.

"Now, push the right hand lever to go forward and the left hand lever to back up. When you back up, you will also hear a back-up beeper that will alert everyone that you are backing up."

She did everything that the

attendant said and then she smiled and said that SHE WAS READY!

She pushed the right hand lever and away she went down the first aisle. She moved very quickly, but then had to stop when shoppers got in her way.

"Where's the horn on this thing?" she said. "They don't know that I'm coming. The people won't get out of the way!"

"BEEP, BEEP," she started to say to the shoppers who didn't move fast enough.

Then, here and there, the shoppers moved to get out of the way.

She then quickly filled the basket on her cart and asked me to move her things onto my cart so that she could drive away again.

I quickly unloaded her cart onto mine and away she went down another aisle to get more things.

"Why didn't I discover this motorized cart sooner?" she asked as she drove away.

Later, as we checked out at the cashier, I hesitated to look at the huge total amount. It was then that I had to say "Next time, no motor."

Another lesson learned by The Restless Retiree.

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# **Boat4Vets Needs Volunteers**

Let's Give Back, They Gave So Much To Us

Boat4Vets is again organizing an outing scheduled for August 7, 2010 (rain day August 21). Boat owners from the Lake St. Clair area are needed to volunteer to take military service men and women out for fun on the water and a meal. This is our way to let you thank the Veterans for all that they've done for us. Let's not do it with just words, but show it with our hearts and actions. It doesn't matter what size boat you have, what matters is that you care enough to make a difference in a Veterans life. The plan is to take them for a nice boat ride and if they would like to go to the Moot for a swim, then back to Tashmoo Marina for something to eat. There are many veterans, and retired veterans, living around the lake who would love and appreciate a day of relaxation and fellowship, and we can only do it with your help.

This is all about giving back to those who have given so much for us. If you like the freedoms you have, then it's time to "Thank a Veteran." Remember, "Freedom is not Free."

We are also looking for businesses and individuals willing to be a sponsor or to help fund this outing. To volunteer your boat, sign up as a vet, volunteer your help or make a donation, please e-mail mshawl@boat4vets.com or call (810) 742-0173 Tuesday-Thursday or (810) 241-8025 Friday-Monday.

The event will be held at Tashmoo Marina South, 7650 South Channel Drive on Harsens Island.

Please visit our website at www. boat4vets.com for more information on our outing.



Veterans aboard one of the volunteer boats in 2009.



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# **Homebound? Your Library Delivers!**

Do you or a loved one find it difficult to get to the library to select books? The St. Clair County Library System is pleased to introduce its new Home Connections program. Home Connections, located in the lower level of the St. Clair County Library, provides services to those who are unable to get to their library due to a long term illness, physical challenge and surgery or illness recuperation of six weeks or longer. This service is funded through the library millage supported by the taxpayers of St. Clair County.

This service is free to all qualified St. Clair County residents. Home Connections patrons are issued overdue fine-exempt library cards with longer loan periods. Reading material in print and audio (movies and music CDs are not available) are mailed right to their homes in postage free mailbags. Once a patron returns their mailbag to the library, another one is sent back out the same day! Jean Renew, the first patron to sign up is delighted with the service. She says, "The staff was so helpful in getting me set up and they sent me a great selection of books."

To find out more or to sign up for this service, please contact the Home Connections department Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. at (810) 982-3600 or toll free at (800) 272-8570.



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# **Anchorville:** Small Town Spotlight Continued from Page 1

explored Lake St. Clair. Friar Louis Hennepin, a Franciscan from Belgium, accompanied La Salle on this voyage and on many others and recorded their impressions of this new territory.

Friar Hennepin wrote that the area now known as Anchorville was a "panorama of plenty" with "an abundance of timber for building homes for those who will be fortunate enough to inhabit this noble country." He went ashore at the northern most point of the bay and erected a roughly hewn cross in the wilderness. The seeds for bringing Christianity to this area were planted.

When LaSalle and Friar Hennepin returned to France and spread the word about this fertile area, settlers soon began to arrive. The French called the area Au Lac, which means, "At the Lake". They found the few Chippewa Indian tribes that were established in the area and soon joined them in hunting and fishing for survival. Missionaries from Canada and French priests from Detroit occasionally visited to tend to the settlers' spiritual needs.

One of the most well know settlers to the area was Etienne Rose, who was born in Montreal, Canada, in 1786 and settled in the Anchorville area in the early 1830s. He later deeded a portion of his land to build the first log cabin church in the area and also a cemetery. Descendants of Etienne Rose still live in the area.

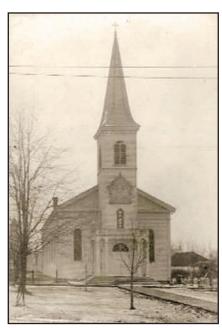
In November of 1807, the Treaty of Detroit was signed with the Native Americans relinquishing upwards of five million acres of land in the Michigan Territory.

Reservations were established for the area tribes. Two were located in St. Clair County. One threemile wide tract was located on the northwest shore of Lake St. Clair at Swan Creek, the area now being a part of Anchorville.

In 1836, a second treaty which ceded the Swan Creek and Black River reservations required that the band members relocate to new locations. Some established themselves as part of the Sarnia, Canada, reservation and others relocated to a reservation in Kansas.

By 1850, immigrants were arriving almost weekly from France, Belgium, Holland, Germany and Switzerland.

In 1853 Father Charles A. Chambrille was sent to the area to establish a permanent Catholic parish, which was called "Swan Creek, L Riviere aux Cygnes." This was the beginning of the Immaculate Conception Parish (also



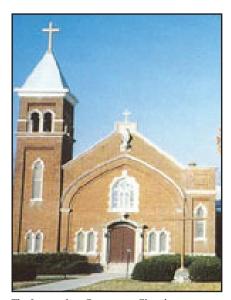
The former Immaculate Conception Church was destroyed by fire in 1917.

referred to at different periods in history as St. Mary's).

On December 4, 1885, a post office was established in the community and it was then renamed Anchorville.

By the early 1900s Anchorville had become a favorite resort destination for city dwellers from the Detroit area who were attracted to the water and all it had to offer. The Detroit Urban Railroad (called the Interurban) brought many visitors every week. A large power house was located in New Baltimore and freight trains of up to forty cars ran every night to businesses in New Baltimore, Algonac and Marine City.

The Interurban was also widely used by the farmers in the area, who used it to transport crops, hay and other goods to markets in Detroit. The charge was one cent per mile. For twenty years, the Interurban operated very successfully. It was the introduction of the Model T automobile that caused the number of passengers using the system



The Immaculate Conception Church in Anchorville as it looks today.

to dwindle rapidly. By 1925, the Interurban had gone bankrupt.

Today, Anchorville is still a mecca for boating, fishing and water sports enthusiasts. The Immaculate Conception Church continues to be a gathering spot of the community, after 157 years. Each summer hundreds of people from Anchorville and the surrounding area attend the multi-day Perch Festival. The current church which was built after a horrific fire in 1917 caused the church at that time to burn to the ground is an imposing sight viewed by boaters in the waters of Anchor Bay.

Editor's Note: Many thanks to Daisy Colone, a member of Immaculate Conception Church in Anchorville, for providing us with a copy of Immaculate Conception Parish, Anchorville, Michigan 150 Year Anniversary and History Book (1853-2003) written by Carol Gawel and Paul Torney from which some information for this article was gathered. Daisy is also the coordinator of the Mary Garden at Immaculate Conception Church and shares this bit of information about the garden with our readers:

"Parishioners who love to garden and who wanted to honor Mary initially planned Mary's Garden in 2005. The garden offers perennials and annuals in a soft palette of colors in front of the Grotto, which was built by the local farmers at the church site in 1953. Come and walk the memorial brick walkway and enjoy the fragrance of the roses, peonies, phlox and iris. Come watch for the birds and butterflies that are attracted to the flowers and to their nectar. The garden offers a great place to meditate. The church and grotto are located at 7051 Church Road in Anchorville. For more information call (586) 725-3051."





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Voted Best Cajun Restaurant in the Metro Detroit area in 2007 and again in 2008, Howe's Bayou at 22848 Woodward Avenue in downtown Ferndale offers a wide range of delectable New Orleans style dishes. Whether dining inside or street side on one of the sidewalk tables in spring or summer, the huge selection of authentic choices expertly prepared in true Cajun style will not disappoint the discerning palate.

The appetizer menu offers choices such as sautéed alligator sausage served with peppers, onions and white wine, andouille encrusted



Sidewalk diners Mädel (left) from Warren and Tania from Clarkston, outside of Howe's Bayou, give a "thumbs up" to their selections.

pan fried oysters served with Cajun remoulade, or popcorn crawdads, mildly Cajun spiced and fried. A bowl of classic lobster and crawfish stock soup with crawfish tails, sherry and cream could be a meal in itself.

The reasonably priced dinner entrees include such intriguing combinations as rib-eye voodoo, with New Orleans Voodoo sauce, Atchafalaya chicken breast rubbed with citrus and cardamom, served over rice and corn maque choux, or Mississippi farm raised catfish, mustard fried in cornmeal or blackened, served with dirty rice.

If there is any room left for dessert, the warm peach cobbler made with sweet Georgia peaches and topped with whipped cream is a bowl of heaven on earth.

Howe's Bayou has a modest but carefully selected list of libations to accompany the meal or to partake of at the 20-seat bar, including wines, small batch and single barrel Bourbon whiskies, draft beers from the Great Lakes, across the country and around the world and traditional New Orleans cocktails, such as sazeracs, mint juleps and hurricanes.

Howe's Bayou's menu can



Howe's Bayou offers an authentic Cajun style menu.

be viewed on-line at www. howesbayouferndale.net, where one can also place an order to pick up. Private and business catering is also offered. The restaurant's phone number is (248) 691-7145.

The great selection, the authentic Cajun creations and the large portions served by a friendly wait staff make it a worthwhile drive to Ferndale from anywhere in the Thumb area to experience the true flavors of New Orleans at Howe's Bayou.

Editor's note: If you are a restaurant owner in any of the counties that the ThumbPrint News covers and would like us to review your restaurant for possible inclusion in a future edition, please call Diane at (810) 794-2300 or send an email to thumbprintnews@comcast.net.

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# Sanilac County 4-H

# Schedule of Events

### SUNDAY, August 22, 2010 - Free Grandstand

2:00 p.m. - Auction in Expo Center, at beginning of auction Cloverbud court introduction

6:00 p.m. - Crowning of 4-H King, Queen and Court

6:00 p.m. - Announcement of the Sanilac County Bean Queen

7:00 p.m. - "Gospel Sing"

# MONDAY, August 23, 2010 - \$12 Admission - Free Grandstand

1:00 p.m. - Carnival Begins

3:00 p.m. - Session #1 Tractor Pull - 6,000 Farm and 6,000 Street Legal Pickup

7:00 p.m. - Session #2 Power Show: Tractor Pull and Pickup Pull

#### \*Shining Star during Intermission

6200 Modified Tractor, 8000 Diesel Pro Stock, 93 Super Farm, 8000 SLP Diesel, and 6200 Super Stock Pickups

# TUESDAY, August 24, 2010 - \$12 Admission - Free Grandstand

1:00 p.m. - Carnival Begins

Before 3:00 p.m. - Senior Citizens Day (62 and older \$5.00)

4:30 p.m. - Talent Contest - Held in Championship Barn

6:00 p.m. - Sanilac County Homemaker Presentation

7:00 p.m. - Bear Bottom Moto-Cross \*Shining Star during Intermission

#### WEDNESDAY, August 25, 2010 - \$12 Admission - Free Grandstand 1:00 p.m. - Carnival Begins

Before 3:00 p.m. - Senior Citizens Day (62 and older \$5.00)

7:00 p.m. - Bump-n-Run (small cars on a motor-cross track)

\*Shining Star during Intermission

#### THURSDAY, August 26, 2010 - \$12 Admission - Free Grandstand

11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. - Kids Fun Day for ages 0-6 years old (\$5.00 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.)

1:00 p.m. - Carnival Begins

1:00- 3:00 p.m. - Dog Demonstrations (in front of the grandstands) 2:00 p.m. - Pedal Tractor Pull - \$1.00 per entry, Registration 1:00 p.m.

Ages 4-12 Entry \$1 7:00 p.m. - Figure 8 Derby \*Shining Star during Intermission

# FRIDAY, August 27, 2010 - \$12 Admission - Free Grandstand

8:00 a.m. - Opening of Small Animal Silent Auction in the Poultry Barn

11:00 a.m. - 4-H and FFA Small Animal & Livestock Sale in Livestock Arena

11:00 a.m. - Draft Horse Show in the Horse Arena

1:00 p.m. - Carnival Begins

6:00 p.m. - Close of Small Animal Silent Auction in the Poultry Barn

7:00 p.m. - Flying Star Rodeo \*Shining Star during Intermission

# SATURDAY, August 28, 2010- \$12 Admission- Free Grandstand

9:00 a.m. - Open Class Horse Show in Horse Arena

10:00 a.m. - Small Animal and Large Animal Sweepstakes

1:00 p.m. - Carnival Begins

7:00 p.m. - Demolition Derby \*Shining Star during Intermission - Winner and runner-up announced!

## **PLUS**

- Monday-Saturday: 1:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.: Community Tent Daily Activities
- Monday- Saturday: Fantzia Circus Shows throughout the day

Gate Admission: Monday through Saturday - PAY ONE PRICE for Gate Admission, Parking, Grandstand Admission and ALL Carnival rides for that day - \$12.00 per person Monday through Saturday, 2 years & over. SENIOR CITIZEN DAYS to run Tuesday and Wednesday BEFORE 3 o'clock for \$5.00 per person. Everybody will be allowed to leave and come back later that day by getting their hand stamped by the Gate Admission Attendant. Admission will be charged starting at 11:00 a.m. Monday and 8:00 a.m. Tuesday through Saturday. Rides start Everyday at 1:00 p.m.

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# Eastern Michigan Bank







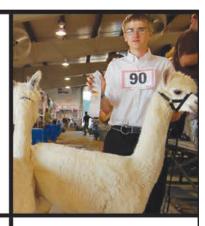
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# JOIN



# Fair - August 23-28

# 4-H Judging Schedule

## SATURDAY, AUGUST 21, 2010

10:00 a.m. – Tractor Operator's Contest in the parking lot east of the grandstand bleachers 12:00 p.m. – Registration for 4-H Dog Show-In Green Livestock Arena

1:00 p.m. - 4-H Dog Show in Green Livestock Arena. Dog Agility will follow the completion of the 4-H Dog Show

1:00- 4:00 p.m. - Non-perishable static (non-moving) exhibits to be entered and judged at the Round Roof Building or Exhibit Building #1, Exhibit Building #6 and under the grandstands. AND Senior Citizen & Open nonperishable static (non-moving) exhibits must be entered by 2:00 p.m.

5:00 p.m. - Judging of Barrels

## SUNDAY, AUGUST 22, 2010

8:00 a.m. – Cat Show, Registration 9:00 a.m. – Cat Show – Location Pavilion across from Livestock Arena 12:00 p.m. – Livestock Barns Open

2:00 p.m. – Presentation of 4-H Cloverbud Prince & Princess before the Fairboard Auction

4:00- 6:00 p.m. - Beef/Prospect Beef may be brought in

6:00 p.m. - Horse Leaders meeting at the announcer's stand

6:00 p.m. - Crowning of 4-H King, Queen and Court at the Grandstand

#### MONDAY, AUGUST 23, 2010

For time that livestock need to be entered, check the appropriate section in fair book 8:00 a.m. - Judging of Horses & Ponies at the Horse Arena

9:00 a.m.-noon – 4-H, FFA, and Open Class perishable static (non-moving) exhibits in food preservation, vegetables, horticulture and crops must be entered no later than 12 noon Round Roof Bldg.

1:30 p.m. – Dairy Foods Demonstrations at the Community Tent

4:00 p.m. – Livestock Exhibitors meeting for 4-H members, leaders & parents in the Livestock Arena

5:00 p.m. - Livestock & Horse Record Books due at the 4-H Office.

5:00 p.m. – All Cleanliness Policies Due at the 4-H Office 5:00 p.m. – Judging of Barn Decorating

5:00 p.m. - Judging of Llamas & Alpacas, Dairy Barn

6:30 p.m. - Small Animal Exhibitors Meeting-Mandatory-in Community Tent

7:00 p.m. – Communication Skills Contest in the Championship Barn 7:00 p.m. – Livestock Judging in the Livestock Arena following the Livestock Exhibitors

Meeting

# TUESDAY, AUGUST 24, 2010

8:00 a.m. - Judging of Swine Market Breed Classes in the Livestock Arena

9:00 a.m. - Judging of Pocket Pets in the Dairy Barn

**TUESDAY Continued** 9:00 a.m. - PEP Members will ride

9:00 a.m. - Judging of Horses and Ponies in the Horse Arena following PEP Riding

10:00 a.m. - Judging of Dairy Veal Calves in Dairy Barn

2:00 p.m. - Judging of Prospect Beef (Feeder Calves) Livestock Arena

4:00 p.m. – Judging of Sheep in the Dairy Barn 5:00 p.m. – Small Animal Records Books Due at 4-H Office

#### WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 25, 2010

8:00 a.m. - Judging of Horse and Ponies in the Horse Arena

8:00 a.m. - Judging of Swine Showmanship Classes in the Livestock Arena

9:00 a.m. – Judging of Cavies in the Dairy Barn 9:00 a.m. – Judging of Rabbits in the Dairy Barn immediately following the Cavies

12:00 p.m. - Dairy Cows that are milking must be entered 2:00 p.m. - Judging of Beef Cattle in the Livestock Arena

2:00 p.m. - Judging of All Goats in Dairy Barn

# THURSDAY, AUGUST 26, 2010

8:00 a.m. - Judging of Horses and Ponies in the Horse Arena (Awards Night will be Friday night)

9:00 a.m. - Judging of all Dairy entries in the Dairy Arena

10:00 a.m. - Judging of Poultry in the Poultry Barn

 $1:\!00\text{-}3:\!00$  p.m. – Dog Demonstrations (in front of the grandstands)  $2:\!00$  p.m.- Dairy Judging in Dairy Arena

FRIDAY, AUGUST 27, 2010 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. Small Animal Silent Auction in the Poultry Barn

10:00 a.m. – Bicycle Rodeo, on blacktop west of the grandstands 11:00 a.m. – 4-H & FFA Sale in the Livestock Arena. SALE ORDER: Small Animal Sale Order: goats, poultry, rabbits AND dairy ceremonial milk buckets, beets. Large Animal

Sale Order: swine, prospect beef, sheep, dairy veal calves and beef. 6:00 p.m. – Awards ceremony for 4-H Horse participants at Horse Arena

7:00 p.m. - Goat Fun Class/Obstacle Course - Dairy Barn for Dairy Goats - Open to all.

# SATURDAY, AUGUST 28, 2010

8:30 a.m. - Entries accepted for the Open Class Horse Show at the Horse Arena \$12 gate admission will be charged.

9:00 a.m. - Open Class Horse Show in the Horse Arena

10:00 a.m. - Judging of Small Animal Sweepstakes Showmanship in the Dairy Barn

10:00 a.m. – Judging of Large Animal Sweepstakes Showmanship in the Livestock Arena 6:00 p.m. – Trophies will be released to the Supt of each project area. – 8:00 p.m. to 4-H'ers.



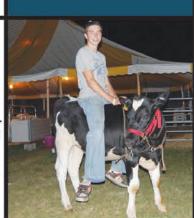
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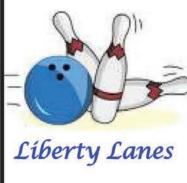


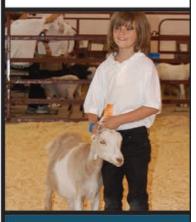












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# **Barge Right In!**

# Cruises on Luxury "Hotel Barges" Along Europe's Picturesque Inland Waterways and Canals Grow in Popularity

Most visitors to Europe have seen the Eiffel Tower and Piccadilly Circus, but how many have visited the famous vineyards of Burgundy or taken a leisurely cruise up the Thames River – all while enjoying luxury accommodations on a "floating luxury hotel," gourmet dining, and a wide selection of fine wines?

During the warm summer months and into the brisk days of fall, more and more Americans are forgoing the hectic "seven cities in seven days" bus tours of Europe's busy cities to take a leisurely cruise through the European countryside. Instead of battling traffic and long lines at popular urban attractions, they are soaking in the history and culture of the land while watching the idyllic scenery go by from the broad deck of a luxury hotel barge. One of Europe's largest providers of these unique vacations is European

Waterways, which offers 20 vessels, diverse itineraries and theme cruises throughout Europe and even Italy.

"Sophisticated travelers are tired of the fast-paced, whirlwind tours," said Derek Banks, CEO of European Waterways. "They recognize that hotel barge cruising offers one of the most relaxing and satisfying ways to experience the serene beauty and history of Europe.

## Luxury, Elegance, Culture

Passengers onboard vessels with such exotic names as *La Nouvelle Etoile*, *L'Art de Vivre*, and *La Dolce Vita* enjoy air-conditioned cabins, gourmet meals, vintage wines, an open bar and excursions to cultural and historical attractions – all while being pampered by a bilingual, English-speaking crew that includes a captain, a gourmet chef, hostess, and a tour guide. European Waterways' entire fleet of elegantly

appointed barges features a lineup of 20 vessels cruising through nine countries, including France, Italy, Scotland, Ireland, England, Germany, Belgium, Holland and Luxembourg.

# Something Old, Something New – All Enchanting

One of European Waterways' newest vessels, the *Enchanté*, is the only eight-passenger, "double-decker" hotel barge on Southern France's Canal du Midi. a UNESCO-rated, 300-year-old waterway. Cruise highlights include a tour of Carcassonne, the world's most complete, fortified medieval city; a visit to the ancient Roman city of Narbonne and its colorful indoor market; and private tastings of Corbières wine at Chateau Ollieux Romanis. The unique, luxury hotel also cruises throughout Provence as well as Camargue,



located in the South of France.

"With so many opportunities to enjoy Europe's diverse and delightful countryside, historic towns and cultural attractions, cruises are ideal for the individual travelers as well as groups, who can charter an entire vessel and enjoy even greater value," said Bank.

You can find more information about European Waterways online at www.gobarging.com. The company offers a wealth of information about luxury barge cruising, with complete rates for 2010 and 2011. It also frequently posts special discount offers that could save you thousands of dollars off the standard rates for cabins.







# **School Bus Stops**

Continued from Page 1

"The second one has all of the comforts of home," states Julia. "It has electricity which runs a heater inside and a porch light on the outside. Jeff put a timer on them so they would automatically go on before the kids got to the shelter." Now, that is a much more pleasant start to the school day!

Driving around the Thumb area, our *ThumbPrint News* photographer snapped some great shots of these homemade rural school bus shelters. Enjoy – and best wishes to all of the Thumb area students for a super start to a new school year!



An automatic timer turns on the porch light and heater in this shelter built by Jeff Rust of China.



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# ThumbPrint News **Classified Ads**

# Misc. For Sale

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**ONAWAY TOURS. Day Trip to** Firekeepers August 31. \$25 in incentives. \$29pp. Day Trip to **Soaring Eagle and Saganing** September 14. \$45 in incentives. \$29pp. Little River Casino getaway, October 20-21. One night. \$78 in incentives. \$95pp. Sioux St. Marie, Kewadin Casino 3-day Getaway. \$135pp; \$110 casino money, dining dollars, 2-full breakfast buffets, more. (810) 300-7709.

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# PUBLIC HEALTH ALERT!

Tick-borne diseases are on the rise in the United States – Lyme Disease in particular. If you live in Michigan, you likely know someone who has had Lyme Disease or another tick-borne disease . . you may have had one yourself.

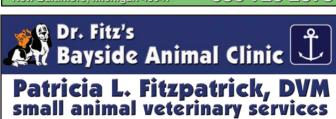
Health officials believe that in more than 70% of reported cases, the disease was contracted from deer ticks found on residential properties. Chipmunks. squirrels, mice and rats are more likely to harbor ticks and keep them close to your home increasing your chance of infection.

Our Tick System, designed by Bayer Environmental Science, has been shown to reduce the occurance of ticks in your yard by nearly 80% in the first year alone! This is all done without harming wildlife.

For tick management, call ABC Home & Commercial Services at (810) 794-5678.













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# ThumbPrint News Classified Ads

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BELLE RIVER APARTMENTS IN MARINE CITY on the Belle River, modern studio, one and two bedroom apartments. \$335 to \$475. Call 810-765-8146.

# **Help Wanted**

**EXPERIENCED FLORIST** for high-volume floral shop. Need to be able to make funeral arrangements, corsages, every day arrangements and holiday pieces. Room to grow into a management position. Foxfire Farm Floral Shop, 8061 Marsh Rd., Clay Twp. (810) 794-5108.

EXPERIENCED SALESPERSON wanted for selling ads and classifieds for *ThumbPrint News*. Position requires both days on the road and days in the office. Need reliable transportation as person that is hired will be using own vehicle when on the road. 8061½ Marsh Rd., Clay Township. (810) 794-2300.

WANTED: NEWSPAPER BOYS OR GIRLS, twelve years and older with parent's consent for the cities of Richmond, Capac and St. Clair doing walking routes for monthly publications. For more information call (810) 794-2300.



# A Plant to Know – Marshmallow

#### By Louise Allen

ThumbPrint News Staff Writer

Did you know that marshmallows grow on a plant? Well, actually the sugary confections we know today as "marshmallows" do not. They are typically a concoction of sugar or corn syrup, water, gelatin that has been softened in hot water, dextrose, flavorings and sometimes coloring. They are then whipped to a spongy, gooey consistency. However, the original recipe for marshmallows did call for the use of the marshmallow plant, or *Althaea officinalis*.

The marshmallow plant is a very hardy bush-like perennial plant that will survive with little care in all parts of the Thumb area. It will do well in almost any soil type or location, although the ideal place would be one with rich soil in a sunny spot. The stems die down to the ground in fall, but during the growing season reach a height of

three to four feet. The leaves are roundish and about two to three inches long and are soft and velvety to the touch. The flowers are small and pale whitish-pink in color and are very insignificant.

The entire plant, particularly the root, is filled with a mild mucilage and has been used historically for its medicinal qualities. Concoctions made from the boiled roots were used as soothing remedies for sore throats.

The use of the marshmallow plant in making candy goes back to ancient Egypt, where the sap was extracted from the plant and mixed with nuts and honey. By the early 1880s, confectioners in France began whipping up the marshmallow sap and sweetening it, thus creating a confection very similar to our modern day marshmallows. Making marshmallows was basically a small cottage industry and, because the

roots of the plant were gathered by the workers of the shops, it was very labor-intensive. In spite of this, it was one of the most popular candies of the time.

By the late 1880s, French manufacturers substituted the use of egg whites or gelatin, combined with corn starch, to obtain the gelatinous quality and using the real marshmallow plant went by the wayside.

Marshmallow plants have also been used in the past as a food and are mentioned by early classic writers. Among the Romans, a dish of marshmallow was considered a delicacy. It is also a palatable subsistence food in countries where food may be scarce.

Marshmallow roots also contain many oils and nutrients that are good for oral health. The fibers in the roots have been used in the past to make a natural toothbrush.

Although the plant itself is not



Marshmallow plant (Althea officinalis)

particularly decorative, it is a fun plant to grow in an herb garden or out of the way spot, if only for the surprised look you will get on most people's faces when you ask them if they knew that marshmallows grew on a plant. Marshmallow, or *Althea officinalis*, is one interesting plant worth knowing.



# **Marshmallow Recipes**

# **Collected by Louise Allen**

ThumbPrint News Staff Writer

#### **Marshmallow Crunch Brownie Bars**

Brownie Ingredients:

4 ounces unsweetened chocolate

<sup>2</sup>/<sub>3</sub> cup (1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> sticks) unsalted butter, divided

1½ cup semisweet chocolate chips

1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>3</sub> cups all-purpose flour

1 teaspoon baking powder

½ teaspoon salt

4 large eggs, room temperature

2 cups sugar

2 teaspoons vanilla extract

# Topping Ingredients:

1 package (10½ ounces) mini marshmallows 1½ cups semisweet chocolate chips

1 cup smooth peanut butter

1 tablespoon unsalted butter

1½ cups Rice Krispies

### Directions:

Preheat oven to 350F. Grease a 9×13-inch baking pan. In a medium saucepan, melt the chocolate, butter, and <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> cup of the semisweet chocolate chips on medium heat. Stir occasionally while melting. Set aside and cool for 5 minutes. In a medium bowl, sift

the flour, baking powder, and salt. Set aside. In a large bowl, place the eggs and whisk thoroughly. Add in the sugar and vanilla. Stir the melted ingredients into the egg mixture,

mixing well. Stir in the dry sifted ingredients and mix well. Fold in the remaining ½ cup semisweet chocolate chips.

Pour the batter into the prepared pan, and even with a spatula. Bake for 25 to 30 minutes, or until a cake tester inserted into the corner of the pan comes out with moist crumbs.

Remove brownies from the oven, and immediately sprinkle the marshmallows over them. Return the pan to the oven for 3 more minutes.

While the brownies are baking, place the chocolate chips, peanut butter, and butter in a medium saucepan. Cook over low heat, stirring constantly until melted. Remove from heat, add the cereal, and mix well. Allow this to cool for 3 minutes or so.

Spread the mixture evenly over the marshmallow layer. Refrigerate until chilled before cutting. Makes 12 3×3-inch bars.

#### S'Mores

The history of the s'more is a mystery, as is the identity of the first person who roasted a marshmallow. In 1927, the *Girl Scout Handbook* was the first documentation of the recipe combining marshmallows with chocolate and graham crackers.

The term s'more allegedly stands for "give me some more." No matter the origin, s'mores are synonymous with camping and summertime fun.

The original recipe calls for roasting a marshmallow until all gooey inside and then layering it between two graham crackers in which a piece of chocolate has been placed (such as a piece of a Hershey chocolate bar). Instead of the chocolate, try these other interesting replacements for a great variation on an old favorite (still using the toasted marshmallow and the graham crackers):

- Black Forest (use a chocolate covered cherry instead)
- Crème de Menthe (use a chocolate mint square instead)
- Black Raspberry (use a dark chocolate raspberry square instead)
- Bananas Foster (use a slice of banana and chocolate caramel sauce instead)
- Chocolate Peanut Butter (use the chocolate square, but add a teaspoon of peanut butter too or just replace both with a miniature peanut butter cup)
- Party Time (use chocolate chips and candy sprinkles)



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# Thumb Area Activities & Events for August 2010

If you have an event in September that you would like listed in the September issue of ThumbPrint News, please email it to ThumbPrintNews@comcast.net by August 12, 2010. There is no charge for the listing.

Editor's note: Before traveling beyond your home town to attend any of these events, please call ahead for any changes in dates or times or for any cancellations.

# **Genesee County**

Goodrich – August 7 Kayla O'Mara Memorial Road Race, Goodrich High School, 8029 S. Gale Rd., 7:30 a.m. for the 10K Run/Walk and 9 a.m. for the 5K Run/Walk. (810) 636-4011.

Grand Blanc – August 7 & 8

Summer Art Fair, Physician's Park on Reid Rd., one block from Grand Blanc's main street in the heart of the downtown shopping area. In addition to a juried art show, there will be artists demonstrating all weekend and entertainment. (810) 695-8933.

# **Huron County**

### Caseville - August 13-22 Cheeseburger in Caseville.

Cheeseburger in Caseville began in 1999 when 5000 people came out for the event. Now, thanks to Lyn Bezemek and her vision, Caseville is the place to be in August. Organizers said they were looking for a late summer festival to bring tourists into town and wrap up the summer months with a bang. The original three day festival has blossomed into 10 full days of food, fun, games and music for all ages including a parade of fools. Go to www.casevillechamber.net/History.html for a schedule of events.

## Sebewaing – August 13-15 Antique and Yard Sale Trail. The

route stretches from M-25 and M-29 from Sebawaing to Algonac in St. Clair County. Antique shops along the route will be open. Residents living along the trail also are encouraged to have yard sales. Call (810) 324-2895 or visit www.yardsaletrail.com.

#### Port Austin - August 27-29 Pirates on the Great Lakes,

downtown area. Ahoy, Matey! Are you ready to surrender your booty? Enjoy a weekend full of pirates, food, history, and more! Call Keri Rogers at (989) 768-0615 or visit http://www. friendspromotingportaustin.com/pirates.

# **Lapeer County**

#### Lapeer – August 5

Summer Concert Series, downtown area. This is a free family concert highlighting local musical artists and featuring a variety of musical styles. This is the last concert for the season. It begins at 6:30 p.m. (810) 441-9075.

# Imlay City -August 6 & 7

30th Annual Blueberry Festival, downtown area. Fun events for the whole family, including bed and outhouse races on Saturday evening, a parade, a 5K Run/Walk and lots, lots more. (810) 724-1361.

#### Imlay City -August 10-14

Eastern Michigan Fair, Eastern Michigan Fairgrounds, Midway Street. Fun for the whole family, including a midway, grandstand entertainment, a tractor pull, autocross bump n' run, figure 8 race, demolition derby, superman motocross, and much, much more. Call (810) 724-4145 or go to www.easternmichiganfair.com.

# Lapeer -August 20 & 21

Box City at Lapeer Days, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. on Saturday and 1 p.m.-5 p.m. on Sunday. Children can experience planning and building a city in this free artistic, handson activity. Call Denise Soldenski at (810) 664-0591. Go to www.lapeerdays.com for all locations of events and times

# **Macomb County**

# New Baltimore - August 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29

Meet Me at the Market, Washington Street between the Recreation Center and the Police Station, 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Farmers market with local produce, handmade foods, artisans and live entertainment. Go to www.ridethewavenb.com.

## New Baltimore - August 7 Smoke on the Bay BBQ Rib Cook-

off, on Washington Street between Main and Front, noon-5 p.m. The New Baltimore Lions Club invites you to compete in our first annual cook-off. All registration must be completed by August 4. (586) 716-3797. Forms may also be picked up at Stahl's Bakery at 51005 Washington Street.

#### St. Clair Shores - August 11

32nd Annual Handicapped Fishing Derby, Island Harbor Marina. This event provides disabled participants, both physically and/or mentally challenged, with a day to remember. On Derby Day, the Marina is a noisy, colorful site with clowns, balloons, music and excitement. Volunteers offer their time to help participants don life vests, pack fishing poles and board boats for a fun excursion. Started 22 years ago with 12 chartered boats, the event now draws more than 60 boats. (586) 393-8800

#### New Baltimore - August 15, 22 & 29

Free Yoga in the Park, William and Mary Burke Park (waterfront park) on Front Street at Washington, 1:30 p.m. Sponsored by New Baltimore Ride the Wave and Santosha Yoga of Chesterfield. Bring a mat or large towel or blanket and water. Dress comfortably. All levels are welcome.

## Armada – August 16-22

Armada Fair, Armada Fair Grounds. A true country fair, with a midway, farm animals, baking, growing and canning contests, grandstand entertainment, a tractor pull, a demolition derby and more. Country music star, David Nail will be in concert Friday night. Call (586) 784-5488 or go to www.armadafair.org.

# Oakland County

# Oxford - August 7

Celebrate Oxford, throughout the downtown area. This family oriented event includes fun and entertainment for everyone to enjoy, including an art exhibit, a battle of the bands, the Taste of Oxford (food and fare from local restaurants), a classic car show, Kids Town inflatables, an antique appraiser and much more. Call (248) 770-8587 or go to www.celebrateoxford.com.

# Ferndale - August 12-14

Woodward Dream Cruise Weekend, East and West Nine Mile Rd. Activities include Xbox 360 Kinect Experience Tour, Rock'n Live Entertainment. vendors, a kid's play zone, the 10th Ferndale Emergency Vehicle Show, a Lights and Sirens Cruise, and much more. Call (248) 546-1573 or go to www.ferndaledreamcruise.com for a calendar of events and times.

# Milford - August 13-15

Milford Memories Summer Festival, activities throughout the town including entertainment, a diaper derby, a Central Park beer tent, a euchre tournament, a kid's fishing tournament, a U.S. Service personnel memorial service and much more. Go to www.milfordmemories.com for a calendar and times for daily events.

# St. Clair County

## Marine City -August 3

Farmer's Market, Parker and High Streets, next to the Marine City Library, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Market will be held every Tuesday from August through the end of October. Fruits, vegetables, flowers, pumpkins, soaps, bread, pasta and more ALL FROM LOCAL PRODUCERS. The event is presented by the Marine City Chamber of Commerce and the City of Marine City. (810) 765-4501.

# Port Huron - August 4

Under the Sea Princess Tea, Port Huron Library, 210 McMorran Blvd., 10:30 a.m. Join us for afternoon tea with our special guest, Little Mermaid. All ages are welcome. Registration is requested by calling (810) 987-7323, ext. 132 or 130.

# Capac - August 3, 17 & 31

Small Wonders, Capac Library, 111 N. Main, 11:30 a.m. Let us introduce vour child to the world of literature. This rich assortment of stories, poems, nursery rhymes and simple crafts can stimulate their imaginations and enlarge their world and help them to develop important skills in listening and group behavior. For ages 3-5. Registration is requested by calling (810) 395-7000.

#### China - August 6, 13, 20 & 27

**Cow Penning** at Houston's Tack & Feed. 2977 King Road. Every Friday night hosted by Kashich Western Performance. Sign up is 7:30 p.m. \$20 entry/three rounds. Penning practice for beginners: Aug 11 & 25 at 7:30 p.m. Call Caryl at (810) 300-9705 or email carylkashich@live.com.

#### Emmett – August 6 & 7

**Lions Club Book Sale, Emmett Lions** Club Hall, 10830 Mary Street, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Lots of hard cover and paperback books will be on sale. (810) 392-3069.

#### Kimball - August 9

Basic Geneology 101, Kimball Township Library, 1995 N. Allen Rd., 5:30 p.m.-7 p.m. Deborah Worden will use 46 years of experience to help you trace your family tree. She will provide you with resources to make your search easier. Call (810) 982-9171 to register.

# Algonac -August 11

**Book Party,** McRae's Big River Grille, 9715 St. Clair River Drive, 7 p.m. Bring your friends and meet new ones while reviewing a great read! Snacks will be served. For ages 21 and up. Sponsored by the Algonac-Clay Library. (810) 794-4471.

# Marine City -August 13-15

Maritime Days, downtown Marine City. Carnival, a River Run/Walk, Munchkin Mile, water ball tournament, arts and crafts show, a direct vendor show, antique cars and boats and a sand art contest. Free, with some charges for carnival rides and events. Vendors and a beverage tent will provide food and drink for purchase. (810) 420-0370.

#### Algonac – August 14

Customer Appreciation Day, Foxfire Farm Country Store, 8945 Marsh Rd, 9 a.m.-7 p.m. You are invited to our Customer Appreciation Party! As a valued customer, we think you are special! Join us for a day that is just for you. This event is absolutely FREE! There will be entertainment in the afternoon, family fun, free ice cream, prizes and storewide sales! (810) 794-5108.

#### Fair Haven - August 14

Make Waves, Ira Township Library, 7013 Meldrum Rd., 2:00 p.m. Join us for crafting fun! Registration is requested by calling (586) 725-9081.

## Port Huron – August 14

Enter Stage Right presents "Will on the Water", 10 a.m.-6 p.m. This is a oneday Shakespeare festival, including strolling players, a musical consort and other performers who will recreate the world that surrounded Shakespeare's Globe Theater. The acting company will present vignettes from several of his plays. This is a free event. (810) 841-2156.

## Harsens Island - August 15

Bluegrass Festival, Schoolhouse Grille, 2669 Columbine Rd., noon-9 p.m. Five bluegrass bands will be featured and there will also be horseshoes and a campfire jam. A barbeque, vendors, a beer tent and wine bar will be available. The cost is \$20 plus \$7 to ride the ferry to the island. A portion of the proceeds goes to benefit the Harsens Island Lions Club. Call Kate Hart at (810) 748-3204.

### Algonac – August 19

Back To School Bingo, Algonac-Clay Library, 2011 St. Clair River Drive, 11 a.m. Win school supplies! For ages 5-12. Pre-registration required by calling (810) 794-4471.

# Marine City -August 21

**Scrap Space,** Marine City Library, 300 S. Parker, 1-4 p.m. Bring your materials and scrapbook with others in a relaxed quiet setting! Ages 16 and up are welcome. (810) 765-5233.

#### Lambs - August 22

Lamb United Methodist Church Dedication Service, 1209 Cove Road, between Lamb and Masters Rd., 11 a.m. We would like to invite the community and to thank all who helped with the renovations with their generous donations. A picnic lunch will follow the service. (810) 392-2294.

#### East China – August 25

Annual Picnic of the St. Clair County Family History Group, home of Sue Rau, 480 Margaret Street, 6 p.m. Please bring a dish to pass, your own drink and dinnerware. For directions call (810) 329-9330. Our annual picnic is held in place of our general membership meeting – no business is conducted the night of the picnic. Anyone interested in local history or researching their family tree is encouraged to join us for a fun evening of socializing.

#### Algonac - August 26

Musicpalooza, Algonac's Gazebo, waterfront park, 7 p.m.-9:00 p.m. We are seeking vocalists, instrumentalists and bands with their own equipment. Here is the opportunity you have been waiting for! If you would like to have your talent showcased, please email acc\_48001@ hotmail.com or call (810) 794-2092.

#### Marine City -August 27

Line Dance Jamboree, Washington Life Center, 403 N. Mary St., 10:30 a.m.-4 p.m. The cost is \$15.00 per person, which includes the morning workshop, lunch and an afternoon of fun and prizes. (810) 765-3523.

# Algonac – August 28

4th Annual Burnwood Pig Roast Fundraiser, Fred Quandt VFW Post, 1005 Pte. Tremble, 6 p.m.-12 a.m. There are a limited number of tickets, so get them in advance by calling Kathy at (810) 531-7187 or Jim at (810) 459-8315. Besides the band and pig roast, there will be a Chinese auction and raffles. The event is presented by the V.A.L.O.R. League. All proceeds will be donated to our local veterans.

# **Sanilac County**

#### Croswell - August 6-8

**Swinging Bridge Festival,** River Bend Park and downtown. See schedule on their ad on page 11.

#### Deckerville - August 6-8

Deckerville Homecoming, Wilson Park, Sanilac Sportsmen's Club and downtown area. Activities include a book sale, villagewide garage sales, a tractor pull, fireworks, a basketball tournament, a craft show, a grand parade and a pet parade and a softball tournament. There will be food vendors and an American Legion beer tent in Wilson Park on Friday and Saturday. All profits go toward the 2011 event. (810) 376-8563 for specific event times and details or visit www.Deckeritaville.blogspot.com.

#### Port Sanilac - August 7 & 8

Civil War Days, Sanilac County Historic Village and Museum, 10 a.m.-10 p.m. on Saturday; 10 a.m.-4 p.m. on Sunday. There will be Union and Confederate military encampments with skirmishes and cannon firings; exhibits and displays; educational talks; a cemetery walk; children's games and entertainment. The cost is free. There will be food and drink available for purchase from the Sanilac County Historical Museum. For more information go to www.portsanilac.net.

#### Lexington - August 7 & 8

Fine Arts Fair, Huron Avenue, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. on Saturday; 10 a.m.-5 p.m. on Sunday. More than 150 artists from the United States and Canada will be featured. Entertainment, food and drink on both days are available. Call Marilyn Light at (810) 359-2261 for more information.

#### Port Sanilac - August 14, 21 & 28

Music at the Harbor, Port Sanilac Harbor Park, 7p.m.-10 p.m. There is no cost for this event. Entertainment varies. There will be Lions Club vendors, with proceeds to benefit Lions Club charities and projects. Call (248) 889-9189 or go to www.portsanilac.net.

# **Tuscola County**

#### Caro – August 10

Caro Bronze Colt States Racing,
Tuscola County Fairgrounds, Park I

Tuscola County Fairgrounds, Park Dr., weather permitting, 4:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m. Admission is \$2.

# Caro – August 11-13

31st Annual Thumb Area Old Engine and Tractor Show, Tuscola County Fairgrounds, Park Dr. There will be working displays of threshing and baling, a saw mill, a shingle mill, and working gas engines. Many old tractors will be on display, including a 1916 Flour City 40-70. There will be live music on Friday and Saturday, a kid's pedal-pull on Saturday and a flea market all three days. Admission is a \$4 donation for adults; children 12 and under are free. For additional information call Dale Will at (989) 673-3430.

# Sudoku ThumbPrint News Sudoku

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				6	3	2		8
	1	6						

Each Sudoku has a unique solution that can be reached logically without guessing. Enter digits from 1 to 9 into the blank spaces. Every row must contain one of each digit. So must every column, as must every 3x3 square. Good Luck!



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# What Happened on This Day in History?

By Diane L. Kodet
ThumbPrint News Editor

# August

- 1. On this day in 1619, the first black Americans (20) landed at Jamestown, Virginia.
- 2. On this day in 1875, the world's first roller skating rink opened in London.
- **3.** On this day in 1941, gas sales were limited in the United States.
- 4. On this day in 1956, Elvis Presley released "Hound Dog."



**5.** On this day in 1914, the first traffic light was installed (Euclid Ave. and E. 105th St. in Cleveland).

DETROIT ARMS, LIC

**6.** On this day in 1890, Cy Young pitched and won his first game.

On this day in 1909, the United States issued the first Lincoln penny.

- 8. On this day in 1960, the song "Itsy Bitsy Teenie Weenie Yellow Polkadot Bikini" hit number one on the charts.
- **9.** On this day in 1859, the elevator was patented.
- 10. On this day in 1990, the United States' Magellan spacecraft landed on Venus.
- On this day in 1968, the Beatles launched the "Apple Records" label.
- 12. On this day in 1898, Hawaii was formally annexed to the United States.

13. On this day in 1907, the first taxi cab debuted in New York City.

14. On this day in 1965, Sonny and



Cher's "I Got You Babe" hit number one on the charts.

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15. On this day in 1960, a UFO was sighted by three California patrolmen.

16. On this day in 1861, President Lincoln prohibited the Union states from trading with the Confederacy.

17. On this day in 1859, the first air mail (in a balloon) took off from Lafayette, Indiana.

**18.** On this day in 1926, a weather map was televised for the first time.

19. On this day in 1955, the United States raised the import duty on bicycles 50%.

**20.** On this day in 1938, Lou Gehrig hit a record 23rd and his last grand slam.

21. On this day in 1858, the first Lincoln-Douglas debate took place (Illinois).

22. On this day in 1901, the Cadillac Company formed.

\_\_\_\_\_\_





**23.** On this day in 1966, Lunar Orbiter 1 took the first photograph of Earth from the Moon.

**24.** On this day in 1853, the first potato chips were prepared by Chef George Crum (Saratoga Springs, NY).

25. On this day in 1919, the first scheduled passenger service by airplane took place (Paris to London).

26. On this day in 1973, the University of Texas (Arlington) became the first accredited school to offer belly dancing.

27. On this day in 1667, the earliest recorded hurricane



in the United States took place (Jamestown, VA).

**28.** On this day in 1565, the oldest city in the United States, St Augustine, Florida, was established.

29. On this day in 1916, Congress created the United States Naval reserve.



**30.** On this day in 1993, the 150,000,000 millionth visitor to the Eiffel Tower was recorded.

**31.** On this day in 1886, the first major earthquake was recorded in the eastern United States, at Charleston, South Carolina.



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#### Now is the Time for Baby Boomers to Take a Look at Their Insurance Needs

#### By Ralph McKinch

ThumbPrint News Staff Writer

There are around 76.1 million people in America who were born between 1946 and 1966 and are fondly referred to as "Baby Boomers." Baby Boomers are likely to live longer and pile up some debt towards the end of their lives.

Carolyn Klinger, a licensed insurance agent who works for InSphere Insurance Solutions out of the Southfield, Michigan office says that now is the time that they should be looking into long term health care. The reasons are that if the person is in relatively good health, the rates are very inexpensive compared to waiting ten or fifteen years from now.

Carolyn has been working for InSphere for about two years. The company is based out of Texas and has the largest distribution of insurance products in the nation. There are over 3,500 agents working for InSphere who provide life insurance, health insurance, retirement plans and long-term health care options for their clients.

Jennifer Denny, one of Carolyn's clients, has only positive things to say about her experiences with InSphere and especially with Carolyn. "I met Carolyn through advertising and on-line. I had dealt with other insurance agents in the past, but she was the only one who had stayed in contact with me. In fact, she drove over an hour to meet with me the first time. Her followup is great - you can really tell that she puts herself into her job. It is great when your insurance agent is becoming a friend," says Jennifer.
"Customer service is of utmost

importance to the success of the company," believes Carolyn. "Our level of customer service is head over heels above others in the industry. I do no phone sales but rather always meet face to face with my clients. If a policy is purchased, I meet with them on an annual basis because individual needs may change. I will always be there for them," says Carolyn. Carolyn attended Northwood

University in Midland, Michigan, where she studied merchandising and fashion. From there she relocated to Chicago, where she worked in all aspects of marketing at Bloomingdales. From there she moved back home to work in real estate. Her strengths in marketing eventually led her to open her own business as a consultant for multiple family builders. She remained there for 13 years until the housing market crashed two years ago.

Today, Carolyn is convinced that InSphere Insurance is the place for her to be. The projection for the future is that the need for the types of programs the company offers are going to continue increasing, especially with the aging population of Michigan. Carolyn says, "I believe in what I do, regardless of what it is." From the testimonial given by one of her clients, it sounds like that is exactly what people want from the agent they are dealing with in areas that will give them peace of mind in their aging years.

Editor's note: Carolyn Klinger is a licensed insurance agent at InSphere Insurance Solutions, located at 26200 Lahser Road, Suite 150, in Southfield, Michigan. She can be reached at (877) 299-3230.

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#### **ThumbPrint News** Contest

Each month, ThumbPrint News prints a photo of an object or a place for our readers to identify. If you think you know the answer, email us at



thumbprintnews@comcast.net and put "Contest" in the subject line. All correct answers received by the 15th of the month will be entered into a drawing for a \$25.00 gift certificate to Foxfire Farm Country Store at 8061 Marsh Road in Clay Township (you can apply it toward the delivery of a floral arrangement, also). The winner will be announced in the September edition as well as information about the object or place. The photo above is of last

month's object. The winner is Maria Edwards of Chesterfield who correctly identified the photo as being taken in front of Mayville

Junction at 2254 Ohmer Road (M-25) in Mayville, Michigan.

This month we are asking the question, "Where is it?" Identify where you can find the building in the photo below. Send an email to thumbprintnews@comcast.net if you think you know the answer. Be sure to include your name, address and phone number in case you are the winner of the random drawing for a gift certificate to Foxfire Farm Country Store. Good luck!





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Ink & More (formerly Rapid Refill) is founded on the idea that we could turn used, empty inkjet and laser toner cartridges into useable products for our customers, all while saving them money. This was a great idea then and an even better idea today. While our business has certainly grown to many new products, services and stores spanning across the country, our belief in recycling is still put to work every day.

Each Ink & More store collects used, empty inkjet and laser toner cartridges, saving them from reaching landfills. Many cartridges that aren't returned to companies like Ink & More for recycling end up incinerated or placed in landfills around the world — destroying a large amount of fully reuseable products and negatively impacting our environment.

Recycling is more than a slogan; as part of our mission to promote environmental responsibility Ink & More stores use recycled materials wherever possible. Our product retail slat wall is made from recycled wood products, the countertops are made from crushed sunflower seed shells, and we use recycled paper whenever possible.



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A septic tank is a holding tank that is designed to accept the waste produced by a household (800-1500 gallons average per tank depending on the tank size). The liquid is the most important part of a tank function. The liquid is energized with billions of rich anaerobic (good) bacteria that live, breed and feed on the solids that come into the tank from your home.

If a tank is pumped completely out, you are removing all the good liquid, and in less than a week, the tank will be filled again from standard household use (shower, toilet, laundry, dishes, etc.). The state of Michigan estimates that a person will use 60 gallons per person per day. If a four person household uses 240 gallons a day multiplied by seven days, that equals 1,640 gallons. A tank will, on average, fill back up in less than one week. Only a small amount of liquid goes to the field each day. The rest remains constantly in the tank and holds the good anaerobic bacteria that continually eat the solid waste.

If there is a problem with your system, it may be one of five things for 95% of most gravity-fed systems:

- 1) Blockage from the home to the inlet
- 2) Build up of solid material because anaerobic

bacteria may have been killed off from household chemicals (cleansers, bleach, etc.) that may require more frequent removal

- 3) Blockage or broken baffle from the outlet to the field
- 4) A plugged filter
- 5) The field

The field can become oversaturated due to heavy rains or poor drainage, which can cause the tank to fill back up as we are pumping it. This liquid needs to be removed for proper tank function, which will incur an additional charge. A normal working system needs only the scum and solids removed (that the anaerobic bacteria cannot consume), but the option is up to the consumer. If pumped completely, start-up bacteria should be used to help jump-start the system again. This can take a long time. A healthy system needs the billions of bacteria to consume the solids entering the tank. This keeps the tank function working properly

This keeps the tank function working properly. Call ABC Septic Services at (810) 794-5678 during business hours. After hours, call (810) 614-8034 or (810) 533-4003.

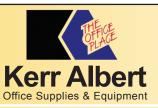
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Wednesday, August 18 7:00 p.m. Demolition Derby

Thursday, August 19 7:00 p.m. Figure 8 Race

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# **LETTER TO THE EDITOR**

July 12, 2010

Attn: Diane Kodet, Editor

Dear Diane:

I LOVE THE THUMBPRINT NEWS.

Upon my return from Florida, I picked up the *ThumbPrint News* at my local Big Boy and have been looking forward to each month's issue.

I end up taking 4 or 5 copies from the rack and going home and cutting up your newspaper to send articles to family and friends OR giving the whole newspaper to them.

This last issue, July 2010, I gave our youngest son the whole newspaper because there were several articles that I knew would peek his interest. I also cut up several other copies to send the "letter to the editor" to several of my younger grandchildren. I thought that piece was priceless and told them to file it away for future use. The article on "Lions and Tigers and Bears! Oh My!" went to granddaughter, Amy, in Florida who is completing her last year in Veterinary school at U of F and has worked with lions and tigers during her years of being an animal lover. The article on Marysville High School will go to a former work associate who graduated from Marysville many years ago and has moved on to the Lansing area. I know he will enjoy reading all about the "final reunion."

"Pet Tips for Warm Weather" will go to several children and grandchildren who have pets. Lots of good advice and reminders in that article. Local Restaurant Review and program for the upcoming Immaculate Conception Family Fun & Perch Festival will go to several family members and friends along with Thumb area activities and events for July 2010, to help them remember all the fun things going on in our area.

"It's Never Too Late to Love Archery" will go to another granddaughter in Shelby Twp. and the history articles always interest my husband as well as advertisements for companies he has been looking for to do small jobs.

All in all, it's a win publication for the whole family. I enjoy reading it from cover to cover and deciding who will get which articles and sending them off with a little personal note.

We would like to receive your paper after we leave Marine City and head for Florida in October. Are you on the WEB so that I could go in and get it there or should I make arrangements to pay you postage for the 6 months that we are gone and have you forward it to us?

Keep up the GREAT work.

Evie & Carl Stieler Marine City, MI

Editor's Note: Thank you for your kind comments. Our paper is not yet on the WEB. However, subscriptions are available for \$2.00 per copy to cover the postage costs by calling (810) 794-2300.





Talisa Hurren: 989-497-3101

dementia or Alzheimer's Disease.

Money raised from the Walk and 5k Run will be used to fund respite care for family caregivers

of residents of Sanilac County diagnosed with

## Save the date for Foxfire Farm's Pumpkin Lighting

October 22, 23, & 24 from 7:00-9:00 P.M. Third Annual Night Filled with Pumpkin Light

Plan on joining us at Foxfire Farm Country Store, 8061 Marsh Road in Clay Township. Over 400 decorated and painted pumpkins will be lit inside a warm greenhouse for the viewing pleasure of everyone in the family! Cost per adult is \$5.00, children aged 2-12 are \$2.00. Two and under are free.

All pumpkins and Halloween decorations will be clearance priced for last minute shoppers! All carved pumpkins will be available to purchase at \$5.00 each and can be bought on those nights but cannot be picked up until October 25. Call (810) 794-5108 for more information.



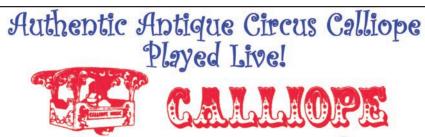


These carvings are two of the more than 400 pumpkins that were carved and lit at last year's event.









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ThumbPrint News has been traveling the world! Not only has it been seen in many areas of the Thumb (over 370 businesses in eight counties are now drop locations for the newspaper), but ThumbPrint News has been seen on television, in Bonaire, in Mexico, in Salt Lake City and in California! This month, Shari Nowicki from New Baltimore traveled to Las Vegas, Nevada to visit her family. While there, she shared a copy of ThumbPrint News with them in front of the Cancun Timeshare.

If you are a reader of *ThumbPrint News* and have taken our newspaper with you

on a vacation or to an unusual place – or have done something unique with it, you may submit an email and photo to us at thumbprintnews@comcast.net. (The photo should be in jpeg format.) Please tell us a little about the photo and include your name, address and phone number in case we have further questions.

At the end of 2010, our staff will choose the grand prize winner to receive a wonderful prize from *ThumbPrint News*. If you are a business, we will do a feature story on your business for FREE in the January 2011 edition!



Shari Nowicki from New Baltimore shares the ThumbPrint News with her family in Las Vegas.





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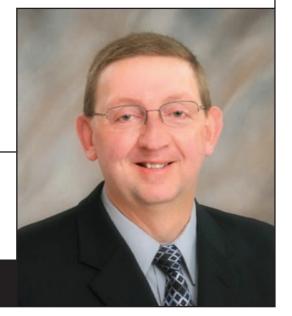
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