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ThumbPrint News

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

On November 11, let's honor all that served our country. **NOVEMBER 2013**



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Thumb Area Veteran Touches History

By Barbara Jenshak
ThumbPrint News Guest Writer

On June 2, 1962, current Harbor Beach resident Donald Osmulski was celebrating his birthday in an unusual way. He was taking the train from Detroit, Michigan, to Fort Knox, Kentucky, where he would be starting basic training in the United States Army. Don had grown up in a family of ten children in Detroit. He had enlisted for two years rather than wait to be drafted. His new life had begun.



Donald Osmulski 1962

Don describes himself at that time as "sort of drifting from one thing to another". He didn't have any

direction. He didn't care about anyone or anything. His bad attitude was about to change when he met Platoon Sgt. Joseph Smith. Sgt. Smith told him he needed to change his attitude or he would "take him behind the barracks and beat the hell out of him". This got Don's attention. He credits this man and the army for turning his life around.

After completing Basic Training he was transferred from Fort Knox to Fort Leslie J. McNair in Washington, D.C., where his job was to be a member of the motor pool. He learned to drive all of the equipment in the motor pool and got licensed to handle them in one week. This included not only cars but also 29 passenger buses, ambulances and trucks. He worked with this equipment on various jobs for one and a half years. A great deal of the time his work involved driving around Baltimore, Maryland and Washington, D.C., transporting generals and admirals and other dignitaries to appointments and functions. His job was to drive the post commander for about six months.

Like most of us who lived through November 22, 1963, Don

See *TOUCHES HISTORY*, Page 12

Sanilac County ties to 1837 Canadian Rebellion

By Gerald W. Nyquist
ThumbPrint News Guest Writer

Sanilac County, Michigan's history includes settlers with close family ties to the ill-fated Canadian Rebellion of 1837, organized by member-of-parliament William Lion McKenzie. During the 1830s there was unrest among the citizenry of what is now Ontario, Canada for many of the reasons that our colonies fought for independence from England. During December 1837 armed rebels marched to Toronto (the location of parliament at the time) to demand governmental reforms. Some lives were lost before the rebellion was quashed by local militia and British troops. While McKenzie fled safely to New York, some of the rebels were apprehended and found guilty of treason. Sentences ranged from



Thomas and Catherine (Cook) Matthews (the only known photo of Thomas)

pardon to execution.

McKenzie had recruited Peter Matthews, a prosperous and respected farmer, and Samuel Lount, a blacksmith, to lead groups of rebels. Both were apprehended, jailed under deplorable

See *SANILAC COUNTY*, Page 18

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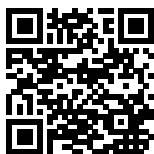
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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Every holiday comes with traditions – some of which are almost universal and some of which are unique to individual families. Thanksgiving is no different. The top five most common traditions for this holiday are:

1. Giving Thanks

Thanksgiving is about giving thanks for the people and blessings of the past year. Saying prayers before the holiday feast and/or volunteering to help provide meals at a homeless shelter are just a couple of the ways people demonstrate their feelings of thanksgiving.

2. Having a Big Feast with Turkey and all of the Trimmings

Turkeys are an American tradition dating back centuries and according to the National Turkey Federation, 95 percent of Americans eat turkey at Thanksgiving, either roasted the traditional way, or prepared with regional twists.



The last time the Detroit Lions won at home on Thanksgiving Day was in 2003 versus the Green Bay Packers. The final score was 22-14.

3. Watching Football

Throughout much of the United States, football on Thanksgiving Day is as big a part of the celebration as turkey and pumpkin pie. As the famed comedian Erma Bombeck said, "Thanksgiving dinners take eighteen hours to prepare. They are consumed in twelve minutes. Half-times take twelve minutes. This is not coincidence." The first intercollegiate football championship held on Thanksgiving Day occurred in 1876.

4. Watching a Thanksgiving Day Parade

Most people associate the annual Macy's Day Parade with Thanksgiving Day and believe this department store to be the first to make this a holiday tradition. However, it was actually Gimbel's Department Store in Philadelphia who started the tradition in 1920. Macy's held their first parade in New York City on Thanksgiving Day, 1924.

5. Making a Wish

Many families have a "friendly fight" over the wishbone left over from consuming the turkey. The tradition of tugging at a fowl's bone and making a wish dates back to the Etruscans of 322 B.C. The Romans brought the tradition with them when they conquered England and the English colonists introduced it to America when they arrived.

Although all five of these common traditions have played a big part in the many Thanksgiving Days I have celebrated in my life, my most favorite and memorable tradition has always been, as I suspect it is with many people, getting together with family near and far.

From my very first Thanksgiving in 1953 and through every Thanksgiving since, I have celebrated with family. Sure, the definition of "family" has changed during different years, sometimes numbering as many as 24 people and sometimes including only myself and my husband. However, for each of those special days, I am thankful that I was able to share it with those I love.

Our Thanksgivings have not always been "traditional". I remember celebrating one Thanksgiving aboard ship with my husband and two sons as we enjoyed a two week tropical cruise. Another I remember spending with my immediate family, with the addition of my mother and father, in Jamaica climbing Dunn's River Falls. That one still stands out vividly in my memory as I have a picture of all of us sitting under a waterfall laughing in the cold water. My mother had the beginning stages of

dementia and Parkinson's disease at that time and it was difficult getting her up to the top of the falls, but she made it, and we all had priceless memories because of it.

Another Thanksgiving that remains in my mind is when we flew to Aruba with all of us once again. On Thanksgiving Day most restaurants were booked ahead of time for Thanksgiving dinner – if they were even open. Having failed to make reservations, we were out of luck finding a place to dine. My father, who was old-school and wanted a "traditional" turkey dinner, was not happy. We finally ended up eating turkey subs at Subway, but I am still sure this was not what he had in mind!

The important thing was, though, for all of the Thanksgiving Days that I remember, I had my family around me and had the opportunity to share good times, good food and many laughs. Today my parents are no longer here but my family continues to grow with grandchildren and someday, I hope, with great grandchildren. I am truly blessed.

Happy Thanksgiving to all of *ThumbPrint News'* readers. I hope you get to enjoy all of your favorite traditions with those that you love and care most about.

DIANE KODET
Editor, *ThumbPrint News*



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Woodcock Hunting *with* Curly



By Robert L. Christensen

ThumbPrint News Guest Writer

George (Curly) Frick had many interests. These included woodworking, antique restorations and collecting, agricultural economics, and mentoring students, as well as hunting and fishing. He had been a PT boat captain in World War II and became a much beloved mentor of generations of college students. I was one of that latter group who became a lifelong friend for more than 50 years.

When I came to the University of New Hampshire as a junior faculty member in 1963, it was not long before Curly learned that I was a hunter. My hunting experience had been as a Midwestern farm boy. There I had hunted pheasants, rabbits and squirrels. I had carried my old double barrel 16-gauge from Michigan to Delaware, to North Carolina, and now to New Hampshire in hopes of again taking up the sport.

The next hunting season came and Curly invited me to go hunting. I eagerly accepted and said innocently, "What will we be hunting?" His answer was, "Woodcock". I said, "What's a woodcock?"

Curly described a small game bird found in alder swamps that are great sport to hunt. He told me it lives in wet dense alder thickets and upland cutover areas growing back to brush. So we arranged to hunt the following Saturday. On Saturday I met Jimmy, a hyper Brittany spaniel with a mind of his own. Off we went to the first cover, an area of alders growing along

a small meandering brook. (George had several favorite covers owned by farmer friends in the area.)

Into the cover we went of alders woven tightly together. They were about eight feet tall and were still partially leaved, forming a difficult barrier to forward progress as well as visibility. Soon Jimmy went on point and we moved up. Something exploded straight up in the air. It flew like a feathered helicopter. I hardly reacted. With pheasants and rabbits you have plenty of time to shoulder your gun and get a bead on the target. Within two seconds this critter was up, up and away! It seemed like only an instant when Curly Parker's gun fired and the bird fell. In five seconds, Jimmy had grabbed it for the coup de grace. Then he had to be persuaded to bring it to Curly and release it from his jaws.

Curly showed me the bird. It was slightly smaller than a quail, with coloration similar to a grouse, and had a three-inch very pointed bill which was perfect for digging its favorite food – worms. Now I knew what a woodcock looked like.

Thus we proceeded. In fairly quick succession three more woodcock went up and Curly downed two while the other evaded his shot. My gun never got to my shoulder! I observed that these little helicopters would go up almost vertically and then could take off in nearly any direction. This alerted me to the fact that a quick reaction was essential if I was to get off a shot. I also noted that Curly held

his gun at the ready (halfway to shoulder position) while I had my gun at the relaxed, muzzle down position. I resolved to follow his example.

On we went and now I was ready! A bird went up, I fired, and the bird went down.

I noticed that Jimmy seemed uninterested and wondered why. Curly came over to me with a big grin. "Congratulations," he said. "You nailed that one; too bad it was a robin! You didn't shoot a woodcock; you shot Cock Robin!"

Curly loved this story and never failed to remind me every time we got together.

Author's post script: I never became overly enthusiastic about shooting woodcock. I was raised with the philosophy that one



hunted to provide food for the family and you ate what you shot. However, I could not develop a liking for the taste of woodcock. As my wife said, "They taste like what I imagine earthworms would taste." To me they tasted more like liver, which is not a favorite of mine either. Curly never gave up trying to convince me that they were edible and provided several alternative culinary tips for their preparation, to no avail. I did, however, always enjoy the experience and fellowship of the hunt.

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Hatha Yoga

By Rennae Hardy

ThumbPrint News Guest Writer

Yoga is a philosophy that originated in India approximately 5,000 years ago. The word itself comes from the Sanskrit word "Yuj" meaning to yoke or bind. The father of traditional yoga (the eight-limbed path) is believed to be the Indian Sage Patanjali. Patanjali is accredited with assembling the practice of yoga into the Yoga Sutra. The Sutra is a collection

of scripture providing the framework for spiritual growth as well as mastery over the physical and mental bodies. A male who practices yoga is a "yogi" and a female practitioner is a "yogini."

Hatha Yoga refers to physical exercises designed to bring alignment to one's skin, muscles and bones. These exercises are known as "asanas" or postures and are performed to open the numerous channels



of the body, particularly the spine, to allow for free flowing energy.

Hatha is translated as "ha" meaning "sun" and "tha" meaning "moon."

This refers to the balance of masculine characteristics (active, hot, sun) and feminine characteristics (receptive, cool, moon) residing within every individual.

Hatha yoga is a powerful instrument for self-transformation and equally provides a harmonizing passage toward uniting opposites and creating balance.

The physical practice of yoga uniquely connects the mind, body and breath. The movement of the body and the fluctuations of the mind synchronize to the rhythm of one's breath. Hatha yoga focuses on the breath to help quiet the mind,

shift one's direction inward and allow the experience of being more present.

Health, fitness, and overall well-being are the benefits of regular exercise. Movement is essential to life. However, punishing oneself at the gym is not. Improve upon the stretch, discover newfound agility and personal enlightenment and pursue the new you. Practice Hatha yoga. 🌱

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Dear 18-Year-Old Me...

By Lori A.E. Schafer

ThumbPrint News Guest Writer

"Please slow down."

How many of us wish we were able to write ourselves a letter from the future? I do.

I've been watching my 18-year-old daughter attend her first year at a community college taking on a full load of credit hours along with working three jobs, one full-time at a day-care teaching three-year-olds, another part-time job providing lunch and dinner service at an upscale assisted living community, and a third babysitting once a week. Although she is VERY independent and I raised her that way, I find myself wanting to help her every step of the way. However, she doesn't let me.

"Mom, I can do it on my own," she says with a proud voice, which suddenly brings me back to the memory of when she was three and trying to desperately get that loop to go over the other bunny ear and through the bunny hole to finally master the art of shoe-tying.

But somewhere, at some age, we suddenly stop taking the time to slow down.

All within one week she becomes so overwhelmed that the following occur...

Day 1: She forgets her lunch AND wallet at home. Having not left enough gas to make the trip back home to pick them up and return to class on her longest day of work and school combined, 8:00 a.m. to 11:30 p.m., results in no lunch, no dinner.

Day 3: She had just borrowed a twenty-dollar bill from her sister and had stuck it under her leg while driving. As she is rushing to get gas, she jumps out of her car on a windy day, forgetting about the money under her leg, and it blows away in the wind.

Day 5: She locks her keys and her purse (which harbors her spare key) in her car between rushing from her last class to work. Once again in a hurry to head out the door, she had not taken the time to hang it on the key holder. All of this cause her to finally sit down in the parking lot and just sob, pray, and sob some more.

Teens these days pile so much on their plate that they don't realize that if they DON'T slow down, all that time they "think" they're saving really ends up being "lost time" that they can't get back. They

are now run down and exhausted from study packets, projects due, and papers to be written, books to be read! Get to the library! Get to class! Get to work! Get some rest! REST?? What's that?

Oh Dear 18-Year-Old-Me...

We rush and rush and RUSH to become grown up all the while spending our adult lives around dinner tables and camp fires reminiscing of childhood memories and stressing our wishes of going back to those years - those precious years of playing stickball after school, coming in when the street lights came on, finally being old enough to hang out at the drive-in theater. We remember those years when Sunday church service was followed with Sunday dinner filled with family and a table full of food consisting of Grandma Doris' German potato salad, Grandma Ginneys' famous pepper steak and Aunt Mary's seven layer salad that Dad could never get enough of. Oh, and you can't forget Mom's stuffing! Oh, she makes the BEST stuffing!

Life saddens me now at times...

Now, I look at my daughter's era of growing up and see so much unfamiliarity to my own. It seems to me that their "childhood" goes from riding a two-wheeler to driving a four-wheel car over night! The endless sports games and scrimmages, the travel hockey, soccer and softball, dance rehearsals to recitals etc.,

etc. What happened to being in enrolled in one sport? ONE. What was so wrong with that? Even birthday parties have taken a 360-degree turn. Now if it's at your home it's "not fun enough". It needs to be in a warehouse full of sports equipment and courses, a building with floor to wall trampolines or bounce-houses, and the never-ending laser tag games or video stand-offs! These are fun, but then we sit back and wonder why almost every other child is diagnosed with ADHD! Umm, HELLO??? Look at the electronics these kids are becoming obsessed with! Video games, iPhones, iPads, iPods, iHomes..."I can't keep up!! Where have the family traditions gone? Board games, back yard baseball and football, capture the flag, sidewalk chalk and bouncy balls. I don't want to play words with friends from a screen! I want the nail-biting Scrabble game of "who will get stuck with the ever-awful-what-do-I-spell with this X tile?" Good ol' fashioned let's HAVE FUN! Who do you want to be, Woody or Buzz? But I guess that's another story.

I am afraid that our future generations won't know what "slow down" means. The "NOW" generation was here and has rapidly moved at light speed to the "NEXT" generation. What will be beyond that I ask you?

What Happened on This Day in History?

November

By Diane L. Kodet

ThumbPrint News Editor

1. On this day in 1890, the first U.S. National Hockey League franchise, the Boston Bruins, was founded.



2. On this day in 1983, President Reagan signed a bill establishing Martin Luther King Day.

3. On this day in 1926, Ty Cobb resigned as Detroit Tigers' manager.

4. On this day in 1880, the first cash register was patented by James and John Ritty of Dayton, Ohio.

5. On this day in 1974, Walter E. Washington became the first elected mayor of Washington, D.C.



6. On this day in 1879, Canada celebrated the first Thanksgiving Day.

7. On this day in 1928, Herbert Hoover was elected president.

8. On this day in 1990, 100,000 additional U.S. troops were sent to the Persian Gulf.

9. On this day in 1927, the Giant Panda was discovered in China.



10. On this day in 1908, the first Gideon Bible was put in a hotel room.

11. On this day in 1972, the Dow Jones Index moved above 1,000 for the first time.

12. On this day in 1933, the first Sunday football game was held in Philadelphia (previously illegal).

13. On this day in 1789, Benjamin Franklin wrote, "Nothing . . . certain but death and taxes".

14. On this day in 1968, "National Turn in Your Draft Card Day" featured draft card burning.

15. On this day in 1954, the first regularly scheduled commercial flights over the North Pole began.

16. On this day in 1955, Johnny Cash made his first chart appearance with "Cry, Cry, Cry".

17. On this day in 1913, the Panama Canal opened.

18. On this day in 1960, the Copyright Office issued its 10 millionth registration.



19. On this day in 1620, Mayflower reached Cape Cod and explored the coast.



20. On this day in 1789, New Jersey became the first state to ratify the Bill of Rights.

21. On this day in 1945, General Motors workers went on strike.

22. On this day in 1934, "Santa Claus Is Comin' to Town" was first heard on Eddie Cantor's show.

23. On this day in 1897, the pencil sharpener was patented by J. L. Love.

24. On this day in 1759, the destructive eruption of Vesuvius occurred.

25. On this day in 1988, a widespread earthquake hit the Northeast U.S. and Canada; no damage was reported.



26. On this day in 1789, the first U.S. national Thanksgiving took place.

27. On this day in 1948, Honda first opened in America.

28. On this day in 1871, Ku Klux Klan trials began in Federal District Court in South Carolina.

29. On this day in 1890, the first Army - Navy football game took place; the score was Navy 24, Army 0 at West Point.

30. On this day in 1967, Julie Nixon and David Eisenhower announced their engagement.

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Harsens Island St. Clair Flats Historical Society to Commemorate the 150th Anniversary of Lincoln's Gettysburg Address

Submitted by Bernard Licata

The Harsens Island St. Clair Flats Historical Society is pleased to sponsor a commemoration of the 150th Anniversary of the Gettysburg Address with a one-of-a-kind program: "Songs that Tell a Story" from the Civil War period, presented by Thomas Gordon. Thomas is a retired teacher, Civil War Historian, story teller and collector of original music of the Civil War period. Tom's program will be presented on Tuesday, November 19, 2013 at the Lions Hall located at 230 La Croix, Harsens Island.

"Songs that Tell a Story" from the Civil War period, includes thousands of original (period) pieces of Civil War sheet music. They will be on display from 10:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m. Tuesday, November 19. Presentation of the Gettysburg Address will launch each of the programs that Thomas will conduct throughout the day.

The schedule is as follows:

- 10:00 to 11:00 a.m. Open to public and school groups.
- 12:00 to 1:00 a.m. Open to public and school groups.
- 2:00 to 3:00 a.m. Open to public and school groups.
- 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. Closed for dinner break.
- 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. Program for those who work and cannot attend an earlier session.

Thomas has frequently conducted his program for audiences at the Henry Ford Museum / Greenfield Village. His passion for storytelling of events of the Civil War will bring the conflict to life through his stories and his vast collection of music. Students and adults alike will leave Thomas' program with a different perspective of history; they will find the learning experience gratifying and fun. His passion is evident. Thomas will also bring one over-the-shoulder bass horn that was actually carried in the Civil War, and will tell the story behind the horn.

Photography of original 150 year old documents in this exhibit is encouraged. Touching is strongly discouraged.

Suggested donation is: adults \$10.00, children/school-groups free. Please make your reservations for this event by contacting Nancy Licata at: (810) 748-1825 or via e-mail at: nlicata@comcast.net.

The Society is a Michigan Non-profit Corporation and qualified by the IRS as a 501 (c) (3). Its principal office/museum is located at the historic fire hall in Sans Souci, Harsens Island, Michigan.

THE GETTYSBURG ADDRESS

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AT THE DEDICATION SERVICES ON THE BATTLE FIELD

Fourscore and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent a new nation, conceived in liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal. *** Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure. ** We are met on a great battle-field of that war. * We have come to dedicate a portion of that field as a final resting place for those who here gave their lives that that nation might live. * * It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this. * * But in a larger sense we cannot dedicate, we cannot consecrate, we cannot hallow this ground. * The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note, nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here. * * It is for us, the living, rather to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us, that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion; * that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain: that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom, and that the government of the people, by the people, and for the people, shall not perish from the earth

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor:

We are submitting the attached photo for the *ThumbPrint News* November issue:

An All-Class Reunion photo for Swartout School., located on Swartout Rd. and McKinley Rd., Cottrellville, Michigan (taken by L. A. Moats Studios, 603 West Minister, Marine City, Michigan.)

We have been trying to get ID's of the grads who attended, the year of the reunion photo and any photos of Swartout School for a while now. This photo is displayed in the lobby of Cottrellville Township Hall. It was donated to the Cottrellville Historical Society by Maylen Robert Wagner's daughter, Edith (Warner) Hoyer, last year.

There were 7 schools in Cottrellville over the years:

- 1.) Swartout School (Swartout Rd. and McKinley Rd.)
- 2.) Britz School (Broadbridge Rd. and Marsh Rd.)

3.) Starville School (Starville Rd. and Shea Rd.)

4.) Cherry Beach School (River Rd.)

5.) Hart School (old Marsh Rd. and Arnold Rd.)

6.) Dust School (Starville Rd. and Arnold Rd.)

7.) Roberts School (at Roberts Landing on River Rd.)

We are looking for any old photos and information regarding these schools. We would like the alumni of this Swartout School All-Class Reunion photo identified.

Contact: Cottrellville Township
(810) 765 4730
7008 Marsh Rd.
Cottrellville, Michigan 48039

Cottrellville Historical Society

*Thank you,
Pat Runyon, Secretary*



Last Row (left -right) # 2 - Mildred Richardson # 3 - Henry Lake? Last Row (right-left) #2 - Franklin Folkerts, #3 - Julia Folkerts, # 10 - Justin Simons #11 - Marion Warner Simons, # 12 - Maylen Robert Wagner

Dear Editor:

I was recently given a copy of the *ThumbPrint News* by a regular reader who knew I had grown up in the Thumb. Upon reference to the September 2013 article titled "Decker and Deckerville - Two Thumb Area Communities" I quickly noticed a small mistake made by the author. Having grown up in the neighboring small town of Forester and attending that "twelve grade school" in Deckerville through my youth, I quickly noticed the twice referenced "Decker Road" to be an oversight. It should be correctly labeled as "Deckerville Rd". Also noting that it added little to the storyline besides possibly confusing readers trying to spatially reference the route taken by the writer, I let it go as a passing thought. However, upon mention of this to the reader who had given me the article, I was strongly advised to

write in, as they suggested it would be a welcomed update. In any event, and for what it is worth, I wanted to point out this mislabeling of the referenced country road.

Thanks for the great read.

Bill

Dear Editor:

From Harbor Beach to Imlay City, 229 churches in the Thumb participate in a mission for needy children around the world. Church members fill shoeboxes with small gifts for children and send them through Operation Christmas Child to children in schools and orphanages in more than 100 countries. The gifts are intended to demonstrate God's love in a tangible way to suffering children.

Churches and youth groups in the Thumb will collect more than 9,000 gift-filled shoeboxes this November. Leann Austin of Essexville has been packing shoebox gifts for more than six years. Now she is including her daughter, Grace, in the excitement of choosing and packing gifts. Though Grace is not yet two years old, Leann hopes to instill in her the Christian values of compassion and generosity.

For more information on how to participate in Operation Christmas Child, visit samaritanspurse.org. National Collection Week for gift-filled shoeboxes is Nov. 18-25 and the boxes can be delivered to one of seven relay centers throughout the Thumb. Open Door Missionary Church, Sandusky; Caro Nazarene Church; Bay Shore Camp and Family Ministries, Sebawaing; Lighthouse Assembly of God, Harbor Beach; Trinity Missionary Church, Yale; Cass City Missionary Church; West Goodland United Methodist Church, Imlay City; and North

Lakeport Wesleyan Church.

Shoebbox gifts are also collected year-round at the Samaritan's Purse headquarters in Boone, N.C. Participants can also build a box through an online tool offering a personalized and convenient way to send a gift to a child in one of the hardest-to-reach countries. Operation Christmas Child is a project of Samaritan's Purse, an international Christian relief and evangelism organization headed by Franklin Graham.

Reverend Cindy Parsons



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COTTAGE LIVING

By Pamela Grey-Pugliese

ThumbPrint News Guest Writer

If you ask people what the month of November means to them, most will tell you that November usually brings thoughts and reflections of things we are most thankful for. While our list can be quite lengthy, I have to admit, that for me, my cottage in the Thumb area ranks right up there with family, health and love. It's been a little over a year since I have had the pleasure of owning a little place near lake Huron, so that certainly does not make me an expert on the area. I've been asked many times why I chose to purchase a place in Michigan's Thumb area instead of places like Higgins Lake or Traverse City. Well, my answers come easy to me. My first attraction to the area was when I heard the Thumb being labeled "The Road Less Traveled".

Other things factored into my decision, such as, if you reside in Metro Detroit as your year-round home, it only takes two hours to get up to the area. In my opinion, the Thumb is Michigan's best kept secret for vacation homes, cabins and recreation. The traffic is usually light on the drive north. I have yet to sit in bumper to bumper traffic behind campers, boats and giant RV's on those long holiday weekends. Residents and visitors enjoy over 150 miles of beautiful shoreline, acres of state game and wildlife areas and tons of public recreation land.

Once you drive through Port Huron, it's almost impossible to get lost on M-25 North, which leads you through Lexington, Port Sanilac, Harbor Beach, Port Hope, then eventually to Caseville and Port Austin. That drive north keeps you close to the specialty shops, grocery stores, restaurants and roadside stands. Depending on which way you head up, the beautiful farms and views of Lake Huron make the drive that much more peaceful. You won't find the cheesy tourists traps with cheap

souvenirs along that drive, either. Finding artwork and books signed by local authors in the shops on maritime history of the lighthouses and the tragic shipwrecks and survivals is simply amazing!

I often hear people comment that Lake Huron is always cold. Well, would you really want a lake that is always warm? Well, okay, maybe some of us do! That is just a small price to pay for the beauty of the area! Catching a view of the lake freighters has not lost their appeal for me. It is still a cool sight to see them from afar and marvel at the speed with which they move along on the lake.

The golf courses are beautiful as well, not forgetting to mention the fishing spots. One of my favorite things about Michigan's Thumb area is the stars in the sky if it is a clear night, something I long for at my home in the city, not to mention the sound of the lake waves as opposed to the dull roar of expressway traffic or sirens at night.

When you mention to someone that you visited the "Thumb Area", no further location or directions are needed! Simply hold your right hand up and point to the area on your thumb! I make it a habit to use the local area businesses and their services have always been top notch! Whether the people are Detroit area transplants or families of generations that have always lived in the Thumb, I have always enjoyed meeting local people in the area. I can honestly say I am grateful for the opportunity to be a proud cottage owner in Michigan. I have traveled and spent time in the Thumb during all four seasons, and I still get excited when I am heading north with family and friends. Whether it's seeing deer tracks in the freshly fallen snow or watching the hummingbirds flit around the feeders, I still see the beauty of the best place in Michigan! I never want to take that for granted. Happy Thanksgiving! 🍂



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HOUSE FOR LIFE

By Paul Welch

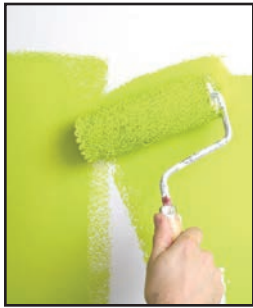
ThumbPrint News Guest Writer

Thanksgiving will be here before you know it. I can almost smell the turkey, gravy, mashed potatoes, green bean casserole and pumpkin pie. Food, family and football (Go Lions!) make up many Thanksgiving traditions. This also means that many of you will have guests coming over. Perhaps it is your turn to have the family over and you need to paint a room or two before they come over. Here are a few tips to help you give your room a successful makeover.

Light Matters - It might seem easier to pick a color and go, but that is often a big mistake. Colors look different in different types of lighting. In the store you see a color under fluorescent lighting. Your home is usually either daylight or soft white light. Other colors in the room such as furniture, carpets and curtains also affect how a color looks. Take color cards home and, if possible, get a sample of a color to test on the wall. Look at it during the day and at night. This will ensure that you will be happy with your new color.

All Color is Not Equal

- Deeper and brighter colors are popular, especially as an accent wall. These colors will effect the coverage you get from



paint. Deeper and darker colors, except for black, do not cover as well as lighter ones. The worst are reds, yellows, oranges and yellow-greens. If you are using these colors, think about using a tinted primer first to save on the number of coats needed.

Double Check - Ladies, do not send your husband to pick a color and have it mixed in the store. Men, do not have a color mixed without asking your wife. This is a recipe for an unhappy wife and a frustrated husband. I have seen this play out many times and it ends the same; the husband has to buy another gallon or have the first one altered. Checking to make sure will save you time, hassle and money.

Prep or Fail - This may seem dramatic, but it is accurate. Make sure you clean the walls and prime any walls that need it. You might say that you have painted without these steps before and been just fine, but

doing so is a gamble. Sometimes it may work and other times it will fail. Proper prep guarantees a successful paint job. Clean the walls with TSP (Trisodium Phosphate), which will help the paint adhere to the wall. Prime any walls that have been patched or that need a stain blocking primer. Paint and primer-in-one may work for walls that have been patched, but deep bright colors and stains from mildew or water require separate primer to block those stains

Don't Go Cheap - Paint and paint supplies can be expensive and I understand wanting to save money. I am very frugal (not cheap) and I like to save money when possible. Spending more on paint and supplies, however, will give you better results almost every time. Cheap products are that way for a reason. Cheap applicators shed and leave marks. Cheap paint doesn't cover as well and is harder to keep clean. Cheap drop cloths are thinner and are more likely to tear. Look for sales or rebates on the better products to save money instead of buying lesser quality. This is also true with tape.

Tape Tape Tape - Painter's tape can mean the difference between a nice looking job and partially painted ceilings, walls or trim. Unless you paint for a living or are an expert with a brush, buy a good quality painter's tape. Cheap imitations will let you down. Make sure to press the edges of the tape when applying and remove it as soon as you are done for nice clean edges. Leaving it on will let the paint cure and adhere to the tape, leaving a jagged edge.

Now you have a room that your guests will see and be impressed. You can even tell them about how you did it yourself. The only thing you will have to worry about now is the food and cleaning up when your guests leave. If you have any questions, send them to thumbprintnews@comcast.net. I will answer all questions and pick some to feature in a future column. Have a happy and safe Thanksgiving. 🍂


Editor's note: Paul Welch has 15 years of experience working in retail hardware and has been trained and has learned much about home improvement, maintenance and repair. He has run plumbing, tool, hardware, electrical and paint departments. He currently is employed by LumberJack and runs their paint department.



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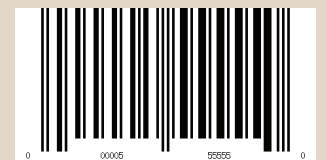
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TOUCHES HISTORY

Continued from Page 1



Don at Bull Run(Manassas) 1963

remembers exactly what he was doing when he heard the news that President John F. Kennedy had been shot in Dallas, Texas. Don was driving an officer downtown to Washington, D.C. At 2:00 p.m. they were both ordered to return to their post where they were to wait for their Alert Assignment. Don's assignment was to man an ambulance that was sent to the White House when President Kennedy's body was returned. They joined other ambulances from Fort Belvoir and Fort Meade to provide service for the Honor Guard standing guard at the fallen president's coffin. The Honor Guard had to stand so stiff and straight at attention that they sometimes fainted and had to be taken to the hospital. While Don was in the White House they were permitted to walk through the public area as long as they stayed close. They were permitted to enter the room where the casket holding the late

president lay as long as they did not get closer than 50 feet. There were members of the family at the closed casket and their mourning was not to be interrupted. It was an evening he will always remember.

After Friday evening he returned to post until the day of the funeral (Monday). The funeral procession included the Kennedy family and many names from the history books. Prince Philip, Charles DeGaulle, and many other world leaders passed within ten to fifteen feet of his unobstructed view. Don's placement was two to three blocks from the White House manning his ambulance on a corner so he would have access to the street in case it was needed to transport someone in case of an emergency.

Don remained in the motor pool until May 31, 1964. He received many citations



John F. Kennedy is laid to rest in Arlington Cemetery



Some of Don's medals and awards

for his exemplary service during this time. After that date he decided to leave the service as he had married Dawn Griffin and they had decided to return to Detroit to start a family.

Most of us never meet or observe any historical figures. Don was able to participate in days that will forever live in history books because of the opportunities he received in the United States Army.

Editor's note: November 22, 2013 will mark 50 years since the assassination of John Fitzgerald Kennedy. The inscription on the granite wall below President Kennedy's grave at Arlington National Cemetery reads:



Don Osmulski today

LET THE WORD GO FORTH
FROM THIS TIME AND PLACE
TO FRIEND AND FOE ALIKE
THAT THE TORCH HAS BEEN PASSED
TO A NEW GENERATION OF AMERICANS
LET EVERY NATION KNOW
WHETHER IT WISHES US WELL OR ILL
THAT WE SHALL PAY ANY PRICE - BEAR ANY BURDEN
MEET ANY HARDSHIP - SUPPORT ANY FRIEND
OPPOSE ANY FOE TO ASSURE THE SURVIVAL
AND THE SUCCESS OF LIBERTY
NOW THE TRUMPET SUMMONS US AGAIN
NOT AS A CALL TO BEAR ARMS - THOUGH EMBATTLED WE ARE
BUT A CALL TO BEAR THE BURDEN OF A LONG TWILIGHT STRUGGLE
A STRUGGLE AGAINST THE COMMON ENEMIES OF MAN
TYRANNY - POVERTY - DISEASE - AND WAR ITSELF
IN THE LONG HISTORY OF THE WORLD
ONLY A FEW GENERATIONS HAVE BEEN GRANTED
THE ROLE OF DEFENDING FREEDOM
IN ITS HOUR OF MAXIMUM DANGER
I DO NOT SHRINK FROM THIS RESPONSIBILITY
I WELCOME IT
THE ENERGY - THE FAITH - THE DEVOTION
WHICH WE BRING TO THIS ENDEAVOR
WILL LIGHT OUR COUNTRY
AND ALL WHO SERVE IT
AND THE GLOW FROM THAT FIRE
CAN TRULY LIGHT THE WORLD
AND SO MY FELLOW AMERICANS
ASK NOT WHAT YOUR COUNTRY CAN DO FOR YOU
ASK WHAT YOU CAN DO FOR YOUR COUNTRY
MY FELLOW CITIZENS OF THE WORLD - ASK NOT
WHAT AMERICA CAN DO FOR YOU - BUT WHAT TOGETHER
WE CAN DO FOR THE FREEDOM OF MAN
WITH A GOOD CONSCIENCE OUR ONLY SURE REWARD
WITH HISTORY THE FINAL JUDGE OF OUR DEEDS
LET US GO FORTH TO LEAD THE LAND WE LOVE - ASKING HIS BLESSING
AND HIS HELP - BUT KNOWING THAT HERE ON EARTH
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Hello, Thumb Birds! If you are already a member of our group, you should have already received by email or snail mail, an invitation to our 2nd Thumb Bird Event, which will be taking place on August 9, 2014, in Algonac, Michigan. If you are a Thumb Bird and did not receive the invitation, please contact Diane at

thumbprintnews@comcast.net or call (810) 794-2300 as soon as possible.

If you have not yet joined our Thumb Bird group and would like to do so, the only requirements are that you live or have lived in the Thumb of Michigan and that you now spend part or all of the year in Florida. Email us your name and addresses in both Michigan and Florida, your phone number, and an email address where we can contact you. The purpose of this group is to share ideas, places to visit, restaurants, etc. that have to do with our Florida experiences

and to occasionally get together in both Florida and Michigan to talk about all things Michigan and Florida. Email your information to thumbprintnews@comcast.net . We will welcome you to the group and send you an invitation to our 2nd Thumb Bird get-together in Michigan, as well as our 3rd get-together next year in Florida.

Editor's Note: I received this request from Marie and since I am not familiar with central Florida, I am hoping someone out there can help her out. If you have suggestions, email them to thumbprintnews@comcast.net and I will forward them on to Marie. Here is what she wrote:

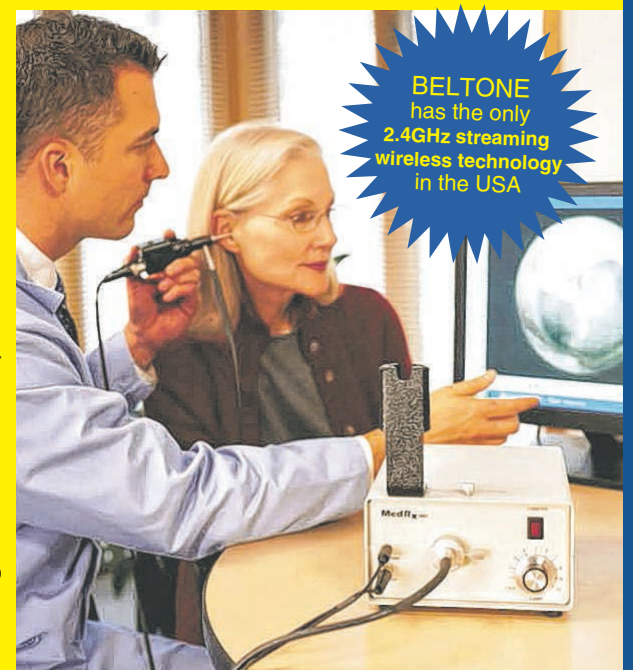
"I need your input. I am short selling my home of 7 years in Michigan and need to work and live (rent only) in central Florida (no tornadoes!) - "55 community", cheap rent (I am only 55 - no social security). Are there jobs there? Thanks for the help. I don't know anyone." Can anyone offer suggestions to Marie?

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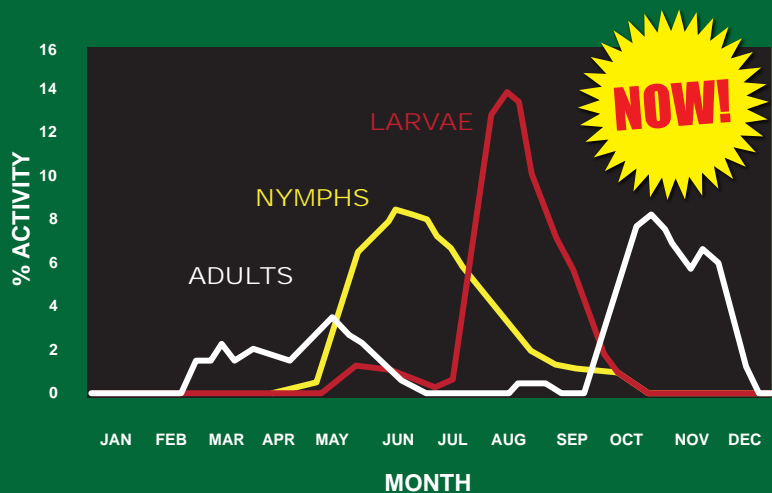
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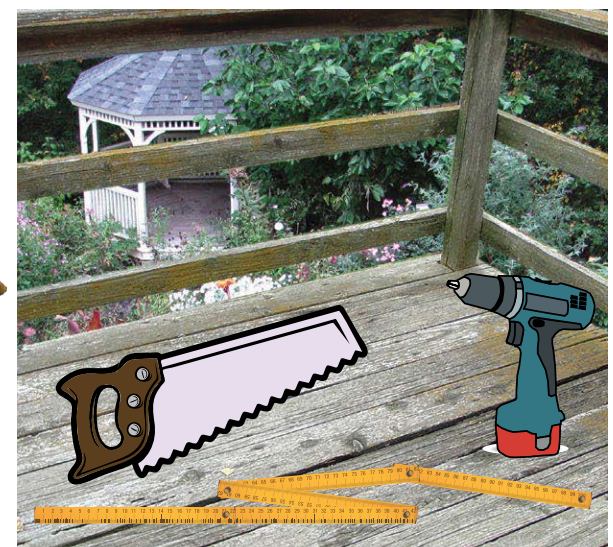


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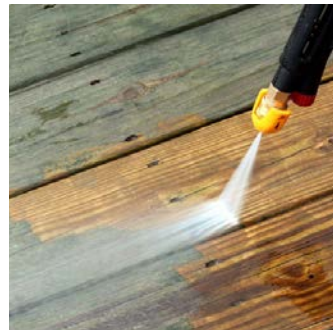
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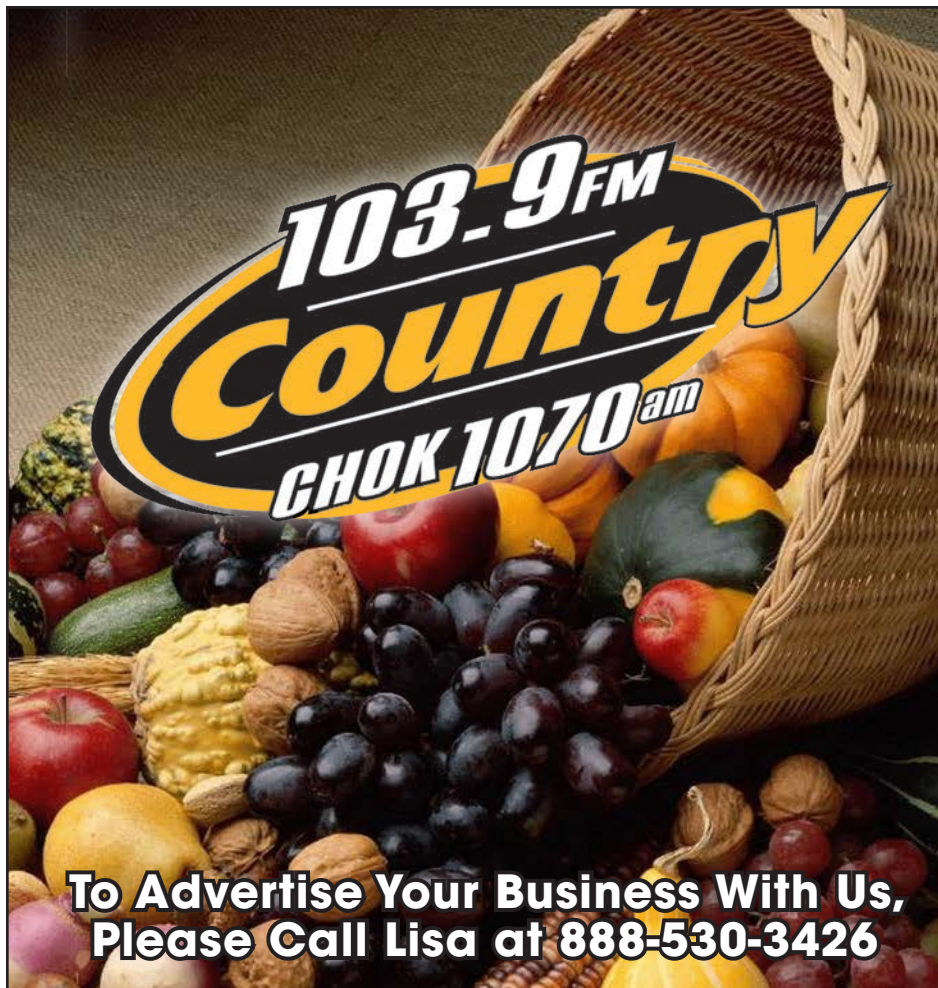
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ThumbPrint News Contest

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. Be sure to include your name, phone number and full address. Of all persons submitting correct answers by the 15th of the month, one person will be randomly selected to be entered into a drawing for a gift basket valued at over \$100 at the end of this year! On December 31, 2013, one winner will be drawn and the lucky person will be notified.

In the October 2013 edition, we asked our readers to identify what this object was:



No one correctly identified that the object was a timber scribe. During the heyday of timber framing, builders would use this tool to number beam ends for layout purposes. If you are ever in an old house with exposed beams, look for gouged out Roman numerals at the beam ends and you'll see the work of a timber

scribe.

For our November contest we are asking the question, "What is it?" Identify what the object is that is pictured below and for what it is used. Email your answer to thumbprintnews@comcast.net. Again, be sure to include your name, address and phone number in case you are correct and are entered in the random drawing at the end of the year for a gift basket valued at over \$100. Good luck!



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Not Just Thanksgiving

By David Gillis

ThumbPrint News Columnist

When asked what is special about the month of November, most people will respond by stating that's when Thanksgiving Day is celebrated. Certainly, they are correct and even with all the unsettling turmoil existing in today's world, there is so much to be thankful for. However, rarely does anyone reply that Veterans Day occurs in November. Now, if there's anything we should be thankful for as Americans, our veterans are somewhere at the top of the list.

I recall attending a gathering on Memorial Day a few years ago when one of the speakers was trying very hard to recognize the day for all it was about, or all he thought it was about. He reminded those in attendance how we should remember those who defend our liberties and then asked the veterans to stand. Much of his presentation focused on the bravery of our men and women in the military with only limited reference to those who paid the ultimate price on our behalf. Memorial Day is for them.

Veterans Day is recognized on November 11. For those old enough to remember, this national legal holiday was formerly known as Armistice Day and was established to honor the end of the Great War or, as we now know it, World War I. That horrific global conflict that had its conclusion November 11, 1918 was heralded as the war to end all wars. If only that had been the truth, but we know it was not.

Most of us accept that Congress often moves slowly, which is evident in this case. It took our elected representatives twenty years before they acted to establish November 11 as a day dedicated to the cause of world peace and to honor those who served in the military during the war that ended two decades before. The legislative act named this special day Armistice Day. Sixteen years later, following World War II, Congress renamed the holiday Veterans Day to honor Americans who served in all wars.

Many of us do not expect our various governmental units to squabble over something as insignificant as the date for a national holiday, but we all know that happens. Indecision within Congress and among several states centered on which date this special recognition should occur. For several years the holiday was observed on October

25 until 1978 when, finally, Veterans Day received its permanent place on our calendars on the 11th day of November. In 2001 a U.S. Senate resolution was adopted designating the week of November 11-17 as National Veterans Awareness Week.

In the examination of my own genealogy I have discovered many who I am able to recognize on Veterans Day as well as Memorial Day. There are members of my extended family who have fought for our freedom in recent conflicts, in the undeclared war on the Korean peninsula, and in Europe and Asia during World War II. My paternal grandfather, whose name I carry, built bridges for our troops while under gun fire in France during World War I. Two great, great-grandfathers fought as Union soldiers in the Battle of the Wilderness during the Civil War, neither ever knowing each other. Two generations before, two other direct descendants saw duty in the War of 1812, and just a few decades prior another "grandfather" served under Lafayette during the American Revolutionary War. As a member of the American Legion, Vietnam Veterans of American and the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, I find special pride in just having that knowledge.

As we enter this new month, let's all try to remember that November 11 is Veterans Day and that the week that follows is Veterans Awareness Week. Shouldn't we all know the history of Veterans Day and take the time to pay tribute to our military veterans properly?

Let's take the time to tell our children about the importance of this recognition and encourage our teachers to discuss the contributions and sacrifices of veterans. Let's ask our pastors to recognize the veterans in the congregation instead of doing it on Memorial Day. And, as we move towards the end of the month, let each of us on Thanksgiving Day just say "thank you" for the many freedoms we have and honor those members of the military who have honorably served to protect them. 🇺🇸



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SANILAC COUNTY

Continued from Page 1

conditions, found guilty of treason, and sentenced to death on the gallows. The sentence was carried out on April 12, 1838 in spite of a massive petition for clemency. These were the only executions, and were to serve as an example of one's fate upon threatening the government. Their remains were buried in disgrace in an unmarked, common grave in a potter's field. Amazingly, within only two years a young Queen Victoria granted the reforms the rebels had demanded. Furthermore, in 1846 Peter was posthumously granted a full pardon by the Canadian Parliament, with the approval of the queen.

As time marched on the rebellion proved to be a significant factor in the initiation of a successful, henceforth nonviolent move toward Canadian independence. It was granted just thirty years later in 1867. During the interim, Matthews and Lount became known as patriots and martyrs. Their remains were disinterred and reburied in Toronto's prestigious Necropolis Cemetery in 1859, again in a common grave because individual identifications were not possible. An impressive monument marking the site was dedicated in 1893, and an adjacent bronze plaque was placed during a 1992 rededication ceremony attended by Michiganders as well as Canadians.

Many rebels and family members, disenchanted with life in Canada, quickly fled to or later immigrated to Michigan. Interestingly, Samuel Edison, father of famous inventor Thomas Alva Edison, sided with the rebels. He fled to Ohio, but in 1854 when Thomas Alva was seven years of age the family moved to Port

Huron. Family of the executed rebels Peter Matthews and Samuel Lount were among those that relocated to Michigan. One of Peter's sons, Thomas, was 16 years of age when his father was hanged; it's no surprise that he matured with little love for his native land. In the spring of 1848 Thomas, his wife Margaret Spencer, and their first child, Samantha, arrived in Worth Township, Sanilac County in Michigan's Thumb, where in 1852 they established a farm that remained in the family until 1946. A Michigan Historical Marker identifies the site. Margaret died young, and in 1862 Thomas married Catherine Cook, whose family also came from Canada. Family of Samuel Lount farmed nearby. Also nearby, as well as directly across the road from Matthews, were Wixon (also spelled Wixson) farms. The Wixons were neighbors and close friends of the Matthews back in Ontario; several were involved in the rebellion. Randal Wixon was captured, sent to England in chains and then on to Australia's penal colony. He eventually found his way to Sanilac County. Others that relocated to Sanilac County following the rebellion include the Sly, Scott, Wright and Wideman families.

The Matthews established a track record for fighting on the losing side. Peter's father, Thomas Elmes Matthews, immigrated to New York from England and sided with the British during the American Revolution. Loyalists not wishing to swear allegiance to the fledgling new government were allowed to relocate to Canada. Thomas Elmes was among them. He married and farmed near Toronto. Two of his sons (brothers of Peter) perished in the War of 1812, fighting as British loyalists.

Peter also served, but survived, only to be executed in 1838 for his part in the ill-fated rebellion. Peter's son, Thomas, however, lived a quiet life farming in Sanilac County and died in his home at age 71. He is buried in the nearby city of Croswell's cemetery.

This bit of history came to light as a result of the author's 1971 purchase of the run-down Thomas and Margaret Matthews' farmstead. Their great-great-grandson, Richard D. Matthews, Jr., found his way to the farm during the 1980s while researching his family history, and shared this well-documented

account of his ancestors' saga. The author restored the farmstead over a period of 26 years and obtained listings on the Michigan State Register of Historic Sites and the National Register of Historic Places. The farmstead is of historic value not only because of Thomas' heritage, but also because the house, with four-inch thick solid wooden plank walls, is among the oldest survivors built by Canadian immigrant pioneers of the area, having been spared by Thumb forest fires during 1864, 1871 and 1881, as well as an 1896 tornado that literally leveled the nearby village of Amadore. 🌱

Editor's note: Dr. Nyquist is a retired



The 1852 Matthews Farmstead in Sanilac County

biomechanical engineer and past president of the Sanilac County Historical Society, now residing in Macomb County. This article "Sanilac County Ties to 1837 Canadian Rebellion" was first published in Great Lakes Pilot during 2011. Dr. Nyquist owned the farm for 26 years until 1997. The house and grounds that he lovingly restored are, as he stated in an email to ThumbPrint News, "now unoccupied, 'bank owned' (presumably due to a foreclosure) and sadly (I discovered just recently) gone to rack and ruin. I'm hoping that someone will rescue this part of our heritage that I worked so hard to preserve."



The 1852 Matthews Farmstead in Sanilac County



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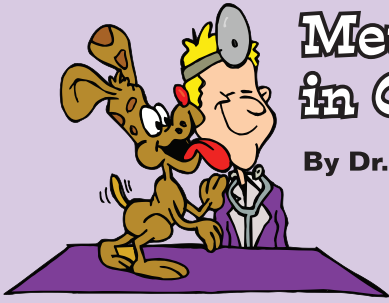
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Methicillin Resistant Staph Bacteria in Companion Animals

By Dr. DiBenedetto *ThumbPrint News* Columnist

Staphylococcus (staph) bacteria are all around us. It normally lives on the skin and mucous membranes of both people and animals alike. It usually is not a concern to the individual or pet if the skin is functioning normally. When infection is present on the skin, most staph bacteria are susceptible to commonly prescribed antibiotics. However, there are a small percentage of the bacteria that become methicillin resistant. Methicillin-resistant refers

to the staph bacteria that have developed a resistance to the commonly prescribed penicillin and penicillin-like antibiotics, making these infections more difficult to treat.

The biggest difference between us and our pets is the species of staph bacteria that we commonly see. Staphylococcus aureus is the most common species to affect humans, while Staphylococcus pseudintermedius is the most common species found on our pets. The methicillin resistant forms are referred to as MRSA in humans and MRSPi in our pets. Staph pseudintermedius is frequently seen in pets with recurrent skin infections, chronic ear infections, and infected wounds most commonly due to underlying causes such as allergies or endocrine diseases. Staph pseudintermedius only rarely causes infections in people, usually in someone with a compromised immune system and pets can sometimes be asymptomatic carriers of staph aureus, meaning they can harbor the bacterium but do not get clinically sick from it. However, when we are dealing with methicillin resistant forms

of these bacteria, we want to decrease the chances of transmission to you or your family as well as to other pets. To do this the most important factor is frequent hand-washing after touching your pet and always before meals. If you or a family member has a suppressed immune system, you should either avoid direct contact with your pet or thoroughly wash your hands after any contact.

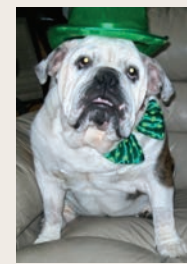
A resistant infection doesn't look any different from a susceptible infection; the only way to know is to culture the skin. Once it is confirmed that your pet is infected with methicillin-resistant staph, the most common treatments are topical, such as antiseptic shampoos and sprays. Methicillin resistance doesn't mean that the bacteria are more harmful; they are just harder to get rid of. Treatment should continue for a minimum of 21 days or seven days beyond resolution of

all clinical signs. Caution should be used with oral antibiotics, as continued use with an antibiotic that the bacteria are resistant to could prolong the time it takes to clear the infection. Remember, the risk of transmission to humans is very low. However, if you or any family member develops a non-healing skin wound, you should seek medical attention. 🐾

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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Abraham Lincoln loves *ThumbPrint News*!

ThumbPrint News has been traveling the world! Not only has it been seen in many areas of the Thumb of Michigan (over 1000 businesses in eight Thumb counties are now drop locations for the newspaper), but readers have also taken *ThumbPrint News* with them to many different states and countries (listed on the right on the bulletin board). *ThumbPrint News* was even seen on television on the *Tonight Show with Jay Leno* and at Walt Disney World in Florida with several of the Disney characters! The newspaper has even traveled to all of the seven continents.

This month's photo shows Doris Diorio sharing *ThumbPrint News* with President Lincoln!

Doris' brother wrote about the experience when he sent us the photo, you can read his note on the corkboard.

If you are a reader of *ThumbPrint News* and have taken our newspaper with you on a vacation or to an unusual place – or if you have been able to get a famous person or character to be photographed with our paper, you may submit an email and photo to us at thumbprintnews@comcast.net (jpeg format preferred). Please tell us a little about the photo and include your name, address and phone number. Please be patient as you wait for your photo to appear in *ThumbPrint News*. When it does appear, we will send you a complimentary edition. There are many places where *ThumbPrint News* has not yet been – and lots of famous people to track down. Who will be the next person to help us in our quest? 🐾



Hi Thumby,
I know the paper has traveled to Pennsylvania, but did not meet the famous person my sister, Doris Diorio and I did. When we went to the visitors center at the Gettysburg National Battlefield Park and she saw President Lincoln sitting all alone she thought she would share *ThumbPrint News* with him. He was there to give an address to the people. She lives in West Virginia (we were both born in Harbor Beach) and also reads it there. We have been to Gettysburg four times in the last five years and each time it is awe inspiring. It has the most monuments of any park in the U.S. with over 1,200. The battlefield covers over 10 square miles and includes the town where there was fighting in the streets. A little known fact is that only one civilian was killed in the three day battle. Twenty year old Jennie Wade was shot by a Confederate sniper while baking bread that she had been giving to the hungry soldiers. Also this is where Custer made his name as leading part of the charge of the Michigan cavalry troop of about 400 from Michigan that attacked a Confederate cavalry force of 4,000 led by Stuart and kept them from getting behind the Union lines, thus causing Pickett's charge to fail. Keep up the good reporting and interesting articles on the Thumb area.

Thank you,
Kenneth Barker

Where Has Your *ThumbPrint News* Been?

GETTYSBURG NATIONAL MILITARY PARK
BATTLE OF GETTYSBURG
JULY, 1863

ThumbPrint News has traveled to:
Alaska, Arizona, California, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Illinois, Massachusetts, Michigan, Missouri, Nevada, North Carolina, New Mexico, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Utah and Washington **AND TO THE COUNTRIES** OF Afghanistan, Argentina, Australia, Bahrain, Barbados, Belize, Bonaire, Canada, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominica, Fiji, Iraq, Italy, Jamaica, Kiribati, Mexico, Morocco, Nigeria, St. Lucia, Spain and Wales.

Be **Heart** Smart During the Hunt



Hunters are encouraged to follow some health safety tips

By **Stacy Sawyer**

ThumbPrint News Guest Writer

Deer hunting season has arrived and with that thousands of hunters are headed to the woods to get the biggest buck they can find. But before the big day, the American Heart Association encourages hunters to be heart smart. If last year's hunting season was the last time you've exercised, you may be putting yourself at risk of a heart attack.

An American Heart Association study compared the heart's workload of an individual deer hunting to that of the same individual exercising on a treadmill and discovered that deer hunting places the heart under more strain. Therefore, hunters need to be heart smart.

Preparing early not only helps with physical fitness come deer season, but also with overall general health. Studies show that being physically fit lowers heart disease risk even in people who have other risk factors like high blood pressure and cholesterol. The American Heart Association has several online tools that can help with your conditioning. First visit www.mylifecheck.org to find out your heart score before you head to the woods.

"Hunting puts strain on your body, so you need to be prepared and know what your body can handle," stated Dr. Scott Martin, cardiologist at Covenant HealthCare in Saginaw. "Hunters can easily carry 50 pounds worth of gear, put that on top of a big buck and you can end

up carrying a few hundred pounds out of the woods. If your body isn't ready for that, you're putting it under serious strain."

Lane Walker, an elementary principal and author of Hometown-Hunters books, is an American Heart Association volunteer and an avid outdoorsman. "Every year I take the time to make sure my bow and gun is ready, but I never thought about my being ready for the hunt."

Most hunters don't think about their heart health before heading to the woods. After all, according to the American Heart Association the majority of adults believe they are in better health than they actually are. In fact, less than 1 percent of American adults have an ideal health profile.

This was true for Walker also. After taking the My Life Check quiz he found his score was lower than he wanted so he started making changes. More walks in the woods with his three little girls and a little less sugar. "Although hunting is my passion, making sure I come back home is the most important thing obviously. A few more walks and a few less calories are some easy changes that can make a big difference".

Both heart attack and stroke are medical emergencies and 911 needs to be accessed immediately. Remember part of your hunter safety includes being heart smart. For more information on cardiovascular disease visit www.heart.org.

Other differences you can make to be sure your heart is ready for the hunt include:

- Visit your doctor before opening day to get a clean bill of health
- Cut out that heavy breakfast before heading out into the woods
- Avoid hunting alone
- Bring a cell phone to reach emergency services if needed
- Tell friends or family your location and scheduled return
- Also, make sensible plans for moving any game taken. Get help from friends and family members to haul in your trophy buck.

Warning signs of a heart attack are:

- an uncomfortable pressure, fullness, squeezing, pain in the center of the chest that lasts more than a few minutes, or goes away and comes back again.
- pain that spreads to the shoulders, neck and arms and is often accompanied by lightheadedness, sweating, nausea and shortness of breath

Stroke signs include:

- a sudden numbness or weakness of the face, arm or leg
- sudden dizziness and loss of coordination
- slurred speech
- severe headache

18-YEAR-OLD-ME

Continued from Page 5

How will we teach our grandchildren to enjoy life? To seize not just the day, but the very moment they are living in! To capture the essence of the homemade apple pie, from the white dust of flour only visible in air if the sunlight shines just right through the kitchen window, to feeling the heaviness of the rolling-pin set down in the soft, flour-dusted dough to master its job of creating the perfectly rolled out crust, to hearing the sound of the knife gliding through the crisp, juicy, sweet apple as it slices each piece to its precise thickness for that tender bite once baked, to seeing the glistening of the course sugar sprinkled so cautiously on the top of the crust which was just slowly brushed with shortening for that mouth-watering glaze once baked, to, finally, inhaling the aroma of the apples through your nose while it bakes, filling your entire being with a sense of comfort

you can almost taste. How we will teach them a sense of home, a sense of "slowing down"?

Ahhh...some things, just don't give you the option to rush.

I don't know what to do to slow down the world, but what I do know how to do is to continue to play Play-Doh with my teenage daughters, to play board games until the wee hours of the night, to have endless talks about boys and make-up, and how to dress as a young lady. And then, to wake up knowing there is a beautiful apple pie calling our names for breakfast! YES, I SAID BREAKFAST! Go all out! Go big or go home, as I say! ENJOY YOUR LIFE! After all, it is YOUR life! SLOW DOWN and ENJOY IT!

Dear 18-Year-Old Me,

"Please slow down".

Love,

Me

Dear God,
I'm writing
about some
concerns I
have as a
turkey. It seems that in your
infinite wisdom,



you decided to make us fat,
flightless, and evidently
delicious.
Did we say something to make
you mad?

Sincerely Yours,
Mr. Turkey

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The log home has three levels which are accessible by log stairs. Persons who have difficulty walking or climbing stairs will only be able to access the lowest level of the home. There is no smoking allowed on the shuttle or in the home. Visitors to the Walk will be asked to cover their shoes with plastic shoe protectors that will be provided at the door to the home. Alternately, shoes or boots can be removed upon entering the home, if desired. Children are welcome, but must remain with their parents at all times and cannot be allowed to handle objects in the home or on the trees. Pets are not allowed. Cameras are welcome. Thank you for your consideration and your patronage. **FOR MORE INFO VISIT THECHRISTMASWALK.COM**

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Dec. 13, 14, 15, 19, 20, 21, 22 & 23
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Tickets purchased in advance can be used any time between these hours nightly and on any one night the Walk is open. Tickets are non-refundable, though they may be given to another person to use if original purchaser of tickets is unable to attend. NOTE: The History of the Christmas Tree Walk will NOT be open on Christmas Eve or after Christmas.

FOR MORE INFO CALL (810) 794-2300



THUMB AREA

Activites & Events Calendar

November 2013

If you have an event in December that you would like listed in the December issue of *ThumbPrint News*, email it to ThumbPrintNews@comcast.net by November 12, 2013. There is no charge for the listing. Limited space is available for publishing events in this section. If it becomes necessary to eliminate some of the events that were submitted to us, we apologize. Events that were submitted earliest and non-profit events will be given the first priority.

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

Flint - November 9

Michigan Food, Beer and Wine Fest, Perani Arena, 3501 Lapeer Rd., 3:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. This event will feature more than 100 various beers and wines, premiere area food vendors, seminars and demonstrations, plus live music in a park like setting complete with real grass, lawn games and a free photo booth. Tickets are \$15 in advance at Townsquare Media, 3338 E. Bristol Rd. or \$20 at the door and include a commemorative glass as well as five beer and wine sample tickets. Additional sample tickets will be sold for \$1. A portion of the proceeds will go to support United Way of Genesee County. (810) 715-4100 for more information.

Huron

Bad Axe - November 23

Pat Kellermann Memorial Turkey Trot, downtown area, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. For more information call (989) 453-7400 or visit www.pigeonchamber.com.

Lapeer

Lapeer - November 3, 10, 17 and 24

Flea Market, Lapeer Center Building, 425 County Center St., 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Up to 75 booths inside and outside sell a huge variety of items. No admission charge. For information or to rent space contact Logan at (810) 347-7915

Almont - November 9

Almont Lions Euchre Night, Lions Hall, 222 Water St., doors open at 6:00 p.m., play starts at 7:00 p.m. There will be two sets of five games each with a break in between. Lunch will be served during the break. Generous prizes are awarded to the top three points holders at the end. \$15 donation at the door; if a player brings a first time player, both play for \$10 each. (810) 796-3782 for more information.

Macomb

Mt. Clemens - November 2 and 3

Model Railroad Show and Sale, Gibraltar Trade Center, 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. Hundreds of dealer tables, numerous operating train layouts, and trains in all gauges. For more information contact Mike at mikecgrant@hotmail.com.

Richmond - November 5

Womans Life Chapter 855 Meeting, Lois Wagner Memorial Library, 35200 Division, 6:30 p.m. Bring a friend and join us; everyone is welcome. (810) 392-5136 for more information.

Chesterfield - November 7

Little Bit of History Presentation, Conference Room of Chesterfield Public Library, 50560 Patricia St., 6:30 p.m. Kathy Vosburg will talk about the life of Secret Service Agent Roy Kellerman, a native of New Baltimore, who was in the car when JFK was assassinated on November 22, 1963.

Richmond - November 16

Richmond Historical & Genealogical Foundation Dessert Tea and Talk with Sheri DeCew, Richmond Community Center, 36164 Festival Drive, 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. \$10 tickets must be purchased in advance. Sheri was an elementary school librarian in Troy for 30 years and became a button collecting enthusiast. She will share her buttons and knowledge and enthusiasm for collecting. (586) 556-5864 for more information.

Oakland

Royal Oak - November 23, 24, 29 and 30

Wild Lights, Detroit Zoo, 8450 W. 10 Mile Rd., 5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. A spectacular holiday light display of more than a million LED lights illuminating trees, buildings and animal sculptures throughout the front of the zoo. Includes live entertainment, with bell choirs, bands and carolers, seasonal refreshments, arts and crafts, ice carving and a holiday train display. \$8 per person in advance and \$10 at the gate for ages 2 and up (under 2 free); parking is \$5 per car. Tickets available at www.detroitzoo.org.

St. Clair

Algonac - November 30

Deadline for Advance Discount Tickets for the 10th Annual History of the Christmas Tree Walk.

Over 100 decorated trees on display on selected nights in December inside a 9,500 square foot log home. Go to thechristmaswalk.com for photos, information and ticket purchase information or call (810) 794-2300.

Lakeport - November 2

Lego Block Party, Burtchville Library, 7097 Second St., 1:00 p.m. Ages 4 – 12 are invited to bring your natural engineering ability and creativity and choose from hundreds of Legos to build a creation to be put on display in the library for all to admire. Registration requested by calling (810) 385-8550.

Port Huron - November 2

28th Annual Craft Show, 2186 Water St. Sponsored by the Blue Water Women's League. (810) 987-7091 for more information.

Port Huron - November 4 and 18

Fancy Nancy Club, Port Huron Library, 210 McMorran Blvd., 4:30 p.m. You are invited to join our club as we meet for games, crafts and stories. For ages 5 – 10. Registration requested by calling (810) 987-7323 ext. 132 or 130.

St. Clair - November 4, 18 and 25

Teen Movie Night, St. Clair Library, 310 S. Second, 4:30 p.m. Come and join us for movie night! Every week we will be

showing a recently released movie. Please call (810) 329-3951 for a list of titles. PG-13 rating on account required.

Yale - November 4

Senior Craft, Yale Library, 2 Jones St., 10:30 a.m. Come and join us for a craft and fun. (810) 387-2940 for more information.

Kimball - November 5 and 19

Kid Kreations, Kimball Township Library, 1955 N. Allen Rd., 3:30 p.m. Come in and make various craft projects. A different project will be made each week for the kids to take home. Ages 3 – 12. Registration required by calling (810) 982-9171.

Capac - November 7 and 21

Kid Kreations, Capac Library, 111 N. Main, 4:30 p.m. Elementary-age children can come to the library for a craft and some good stories. Registration recommended by calling (810) 395-7000.

Marine City - November 7

Foster Grandparent with Laura Nestle, Washington Life Center, 403 N. Mary, 10:30 a.m. Bridging the gap across generations, this volunteer program makes a powerful impact on the lives of children and seniors in our community. Find out how volunteers finish 20 hours a week to be "Grandma" or "Grandpa" in the schools, Head Start programs or other community service agencies under the supervision of staff. (810) 765-3523 for more information.

Memphis - November 8 and 22

Canasta, Memphis Library, 34830 Potter St., 10:00 a.m. Learn how to play this and other card games. Coffee and donuts provided. (810) 392-2980 for more information.

Casco - November 9

Holiday Bazaar and Bake Sale, Perch Point Conservation Club, 7930 Meisner, 9:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. Sponsored by St. Peter Lutheran Church of Fair Haven. Crafts, silent auction, cookie bar, bake sale, lunch. (810) 794-7802 of more information and table rentals.

Marine City - November 11

Veterans Day Remembrance, Washington Life Center, 403 N. Mary, 10:30 a.m. Join us as we view a collection of taped interviews with local veterans and a special documentary on reposing the remains of the former Pearl Harbor servicemen and women near their shipmates. (810) 765-3523 for more information.

Fair Haven - November 15

Euchre Party, St. Peter Lutheran Church, 6745 Palms Rd., registration at 6:30 p.m., games start at 7:00 p.m. \$5 donation includes free goodies, coffee and tea. Cash prizes! Hot dogs and pop \$1 donation. (810) 765-8161 for more information.

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Port Huron - November 16
Project Restore Hope of the Blue Water Area Vendor Show, S2700 Pine Grove Ave., Suite #40, 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. For more information go to www.restorehopebwa.org or call Rene (810) 858-1850.

Fair Haven - November 18
Astronomy Night, Ira Township Library, 7013 Meldrum Rd., 7:00 p.m. Join us and observe Venus and the moon through binoculars and a telescope. Use our equipment or bring your own. All ages. (586) 725-9081 for more information.

Harsens Island - November 19
150th Anniversary of the Gettysburg Address, Lions Hall, 230 La Croix, 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m., 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. and 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. for the public and school groups. 7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. for those who work and could not attend an earlier session. "Songs that Tell a Story" from the Civil War period, includes thousands of original (Period) pieces of Civil War sheet music. Presentation of the Gettysburg Address will launch each of the programs that Thomas Gordon will conduct throughout the day. Suggested donation \$10 for adults, children/school-groups are no-charge. (810) 748-1825 for information or to make reservations.

Marysville - November 20
A Williamsburg Holiday, Marysville Library, 1175 Delaware, 6:00 p.m. Adults join us for this holiday travelogue presented by Mike Artman. Registration required by calling (810) 364-9493.

Port Huron - November 20
St. Clair County Family History Group, Port Huron Museum, 1115 6th St., 7:30 p.m. Ashley Armstrong, former Henry Ford Historical Presenter, will speak on "Revealing Your Past Thru the Fashion within Your Family Photos". Helpful hints to determine the time period of your family photos based on clothing and hairstyles will be offered and attendees will be encouraged to share a couple of their

photos. Anyone interested in local history or researching their family tree may visit our programs as a guest or become a new member of the group. (810) 989-0399 for more information.

Algonac - November 21
Ladies' Crafts, Algonac-Clay Library, 2011 St. Clair River Dr., 6:00 p.m. Diane Tercha will present fun craft ideas. Registration required by calling (810) 794-4471. Class size is limited.

Marine City - November 21
Kid Kreations, Marine City Library, 300 S. Parker, 6:30 p.m. Kids 5 – 12 join us as we read a story and make a related craft. (810) 765-5233 for more information.

Sanilac

Lexington - November 9
Blue Water Fold Society Traditional Acoustic Open Mic Coffeehouse, Trinity Episcopal Church, 5646 Main St., 7:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m. Sign-up begins at 6:30 p.m. Free admission but donations are appreciated. Refreshments provided. 50/50 raffle for the benefit of Thumbfest. Come early to get a good seat. Bring a non-perishable item for Project Blessing. Contact dawnmalek@comcast.net for more information.

Sandusky - November 9 and 23
Thumb Dance Club, Maple Valley School, 138 Maple Valley St., 7:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m. Everyone welcome. Bring finger foods (for 9:00 p.m.) and friends. \$5 for member, \$6 for guests. On November

9 we will be entertained by The Natural Tones and on November 23 by Lighthouse Three. (810) 657-9349 or (810) 404-4250 for more information.

Port Sanilac - November 11
Port Sanilac VFW Post 8872 Annual Veterans Day Services, Bark Shanty Community Center, 135 Church St., 11:00 a.m. Remember all of those who served in defense of America.

Tuscola

Millington - November 1, 2, 8, 9, 15 and 16
4th Annual ThanksGIVING Back Give-Away, Millington-Arbela Historical Museum, 8534 State St., 12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. Free admission. When you visit the Museum on any of these days you can

enter our drawing for one of 10 free \$50 food gift certificates redeemable at Rosati's Marketplace in Millington. The winning entries will be drawn at 2:00 p.m. on November 16 at the Museum (need not be present to win). (989) 871-5508 for more information

Cass City - November 21 (deadline for ticket purchase)
Trip to Rochester, Michigan on Dec. 5, 2013, sponsored by The Friends of Rawson Memorial Library, 6495 Pine St. \$50 cost includes: travel, tour of historic Rochester, viewing a gingerbread house, wine tasting, shopping and dinner (on your own) and viewing of the Big, Bright Light Show. Contact Gail Smith at (989) 872-3121 for more information or to purchase tickets by November 21, 2013.



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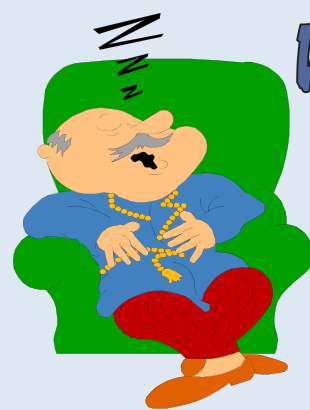
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Memoirs from The Restless Retiree

FEELING OLDER? - A SOLUTION!

By Gabriel Jones

ThumbPrint News Columnist

It seems to hit you all at once. You don't notice it until something dramatic happens, but suddenly you feel that you're getting older.

Now, wait a minute! Don't give up or anything like that! When you notice it, just accept it and make the most of it.

How's that?

How do you notice it?

HERE'S HOW!

First, you're getting senior discounts in restaurants.

(That's all right!)

People start giving you their place in line.

(That's nice!)

People start opening doors for you.

(That's cool also!)

Waitresses start calling you sweetie or honey.

(A real plus!)

You find yourself applying for a handicap sticker because you have bad knees.

(That's great! Don't have to walk far!)

At night, you are either putting your teeth in a water glass, taking off your hearing aid or taking off your hair-piece, or possibly, all three.

(OH WELL-THAT'S LIFE!)

BUT HERE IS THE CLINCHER. YOU ARE GETTING OLDER!!!

It comes to you that you are seeing doctors more often than members of your own family.

Yes, and you find yourself almost looking forward to seeing them.

How can this be? But it happens.

When this happens to you...

You've got to make some changes.

Wife in background, "Gabriel, Let's go out and visit my sister."

"NO WAY!! WE JUST SAW HER LAST MONTH!!!" 🐭

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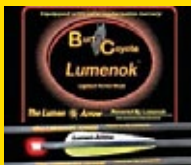
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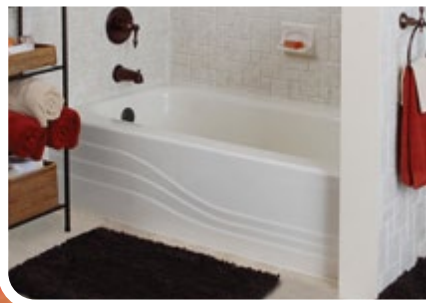


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