

ThumbPrint News

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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Since the very first issue of *ThumbPrint News* came out in October of 2009, we have been inviting our local historical societies to submit articles of interest for our readers to enjoy. Many different people in many different cities and towns who are associated with a historical society have either submitted articles since then or have been wonderful resources for our monthly article, "Spotlight on a Small Town." And, since our beginnings, these are some of the articles that our readers have told us they have most enjoyed.

This month our readers will find an abundance of articles and information that was submitted by several different historical societies and our staff was thrilled to receive them. I personally would like to thank the many members of our area's historical societies who often work long hours, willingly and usually as volunteers, to preserve our Thumb area's rich history for future generations to enjoy. These volunteers are some of the most enthusiastic, interesting individuals around and many are a wealth of information on little known facts about the communities in which our readers now live.

What is the purpose of a historical society? It is to promote research and learning about the history of an area and to preserve and protect property, both real and personal, that has historical significance. Many historical societies establish a museum to display documents, relics and objects for both community members and visitors

to the community to enjoy. Many aid in genealogical research as well. Many have monthly programs that interested participants can attend. If a patriotic or historical anniversary is on the horizon, historical societies are often either the organizers of the events or are active participants.

Why is it so important to preserve our history? According to the American Historical Association, there are many reasons, some of which are:

- History helps us to understand more about people and societies.
- History helps us to understand change and how the society we live in came to be.
- History contributes to moral understanding.
- History helps to provide identity.
- Studying history is essential for good citizenship.

More than that, however, being able to see objects, buildings, and documents

from our past up close and personal through the preservation and restoration projects of our historical societies is fun, educational and entertaining. We feel more linked to our ancestors, to the people who settled in the areas in which we now live. We start to understand how human beings from the past are connected to us today and how they lived, worked and played had a direct influence on how we live, work and play today.

Many historical societies open their buildings to the public during the summer months. Make this a summer to travel our Thumb area and visit some of the great museums these societies have established. And, don't forget to be generous with your donations. It is only through these donations and the tireless efforts of the societies' volunteers that these treasures from our past can be preserved.

DIANE KODET
Editor, *ThumbPrint News*

Correction to the May 2010 Edition Spotlight on a Small Town: Goodells

I just received a copy of the above article from my cousin Gary Mudge who lives in Florida. We have the same name, but mine has two r's in Garry. We are both from Goodells and graduated from Yale High School in 1963. Your article states "Franklin Mudge, a descendant" . . . should

read: Ray Mudge, my grandfather and after him my father, Franklin were director. Between Keopfgen and my grandfather was Cowles. Hope you do not mind me correcting the facts in your article.

GARRY MUDGE
ThumbPrint News Reader

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The Journey To Peleliu and Back

The Story of Roy Hahn (Part 4)

By **Fredrick G. Marengo**

ThumbPrint News Guest Writer

Editor's note: This story was presented in four parts. Parts one, two and three appeared in the March, April and May editions of ThumbPrint News. This is the conclusion of the story.

Roy received medical care and was made comfortable in a hospital bed aboard the hospital ship, *U.S.S. Solace*, for the nine day journey from Peleliu to the Naval Hospital on the island of New Caledonia, located approximately 700 miles east of Australia. The *U.S.S. Solace* had been saving the lives of our troops in combat since the attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941 through the invasion of Okinawa in March, 1945.

The *Solace* arrived at Noumea, New Caledonia on October 4, unloaded her wounded and returned to Peleliu for the next group of wounded Marines on October 16. Before victory was achieved, 1,794 soldiers were killed in action. There were over 8,000 wounded. It was a heavy price to pay for an island of coral and jungle approximately two miles wide and six miles long.

It is estimated that over 10,000 Japanese soldiers were killed. The sun was setting on the flag of "the rising sun."



Naval nurses aboard the *U.S.S. Solace*.

"The Purple Heart is a United States military decoration awarded in the name of the President of the United States to those who have been wounded or killed in any action against an enemy of the United States or as a result of an act of any such enemy or opposing armed forces."

Roy received the Purple Heart while aboard the hospital ship enroute to New Caledonia. "It was a brief presentation at my bedside. The small contingent of officers went from bed to bed pinning the 'Purple Heart' on the wounded," Roy said.

Roy had both legs operated on when he arrived in New Caledonia. The left ankle was pinned, clamped back together and casted. The compound fractures of the right leg were set and also placed in a cast. Numerous sharp pieces of coral shrapnel were removed from his body. There was a small piece of coral that was embedded in Roy's right eye that couldn't be removed. It didn't appear to be causing any immediate problem.

Within a few days Roy was back aboard another hospital ship headed to southern California. "I thought about my fellow Marines who were still there. I knew there were more Pelelius to come."

The dreams of home were now in front of him. The nightmares of Peleliu were left behind in the waves of the Pacific, but they would never be totally washed away.

"Our ship docked in Long Beach, California. I remember saying, 'Thank God, I'm home. Thank God, I'm alive. We were taken to a temporary medical holding facility. There was no place for us. All of the naval medical facilities were filled. After several days, a naval hospital in Bainbridge, Maryland was able to take one hundred and fifty of us. We were placed aboard a train and headed for Bainbridge.

We called the train 'The First Marine Hospital Train.'"

The train made numerous stops on the long trek from California to the U.S. Naval Training Center in Bainbridge, Maryland. At each stop, groups of women brought "goodies" aboard to give to the wounded Marines. It was their way of saying thank you, while awaiting the return of their loved ones. Sadly, many of their loved ones would never return.

The training center was open to recruit training on October 11, 1942. Before the war ended, 244,277 recruits had graduated and were aboard ships around the world. The hospital had a 1,000 bed capacity and a large staff of doctors and nurses.

The 150 Marines were placed in a ward about the size of a basketball court. Roy's bed was the closest one to the door. The first naval nurse that came through the doorway was Pharmacist Mate Alice Stevens, a very pretty young woman who immediately caught Roy's eye. This was the second "angel" Roy had encountered. This beautiful angel would be with him for the rest of his life.

"Chances are I would never have met her if I hadn't been the first bed in the ward," Roy said.

Alice was born in Derby, Connecticut on June 15, 1924, the only child to Fred and Mae Stevens. The Great Depression in 1929 was catastrophic to most American families. Fred Stevens struggled to find work to support his family. Mae worked in a dress shop in Ansonia, Connecticut. Alice was sent to live with an uncle in Philadelphia for several years until her father found work and was able to provide for his family.

After a few years, her father got a job working for a trucking company and eventually was able to start his own trucking business. Alice was back by his

See *THE JOURNEY*, Page 32

To the Isle of Peleliu

In the fall of forty-four,
Our country battled in a war.
A young boy went - the proud, the few
To the isle of Peleliu.

On his right, his buddies killed.
On his left, more blood was spilled.
A young boy went - the proud, the few
To the isle of Peleliu.

His mind he steadied not to cry
Then metal shrapnel sliced his eye.
A young boy went - the proud, the few
To the isle of Peleliu.

Whithing in pain, his eye red-hot,
A smiling medic, then he was shot.
A young boy went - the proud, the few
To the isle of Peleliu.

Under his back, only the earth.
In front, to his sides, souls of great worth.
A young boy went - the proud, the few
To the isle of Peleliu.

The boy was wounded, left eye blind,
Back to the states to paint and remind...
Just yesterday killed, the proud, the few -
May all souls rest on Peleliu.

Hilary McRee Flanery

Editor's Note: Hilary McRee Flanery's father fought and was wounded on Peleliu. He was an artist by the name of John McRee Smith, and after serving in the Marine Corp, he began signing his artwork "Winocki." When Hilary was about 10 years old, she asked him why all of his artwork was signed that way. He told her that he promised his Marine buddies that he would sign his paintings "Winocki" (A popular movie of the time starred John Garfield who played a WWII pilot named Winocki. John's comrades thought he looked like John Garfield, thus the nickname Winocki.) so if they ever saw his paintings in a museum they would know that the work was his as John Smith was such a common name. All of these soldiers were killed at Peleliu, so in honor of them, John's paintings were signed "Winocki."

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St. Patrick Chapel in Clifford Celebrates 125 Years on June 5, 2011

By Ralph McKinch

ThumbPrint News Staff Writer

On June 5, 2011, St. Patrick Chapel will celebrate 125 years as a Catholic Community with a special mass at 7:15 a.m. The church is located at 9851 Main St. in Clifford, Michigan. Clifford is a very small village in the county of Lapeer.

The parish itself actually began in 1876 before there was even a church building. The pastor of St. Agatha Church in Gageton, Father Clement Krebs, began saying Mass inside family homes in Corrigan, Oberle, Shay, Sullivan, Haley, Michler, Kelly, Diegel, Day and other towns.

The parish later became Mission of St. Elizabeth in Reese, Sacred Heart in Brown



City, and finally SS. Peter and Paul in North Branch. St. Patrick originally served the communities of Marlette, North Branch, Mayville, Kingston, Silverwood, and Wilmot. In 1884 the Archdiocese of Detroit acquired the property where the church was to be built. Father Krebs presided over the first wedding in the partially completed church in 1886.

Among the many pastors who served the parish throughout the years was Father Charles Coughlin. Fr. Coughlin was pastor of St. Patrick from 1924-1925, and later went on to gain notoriety as the "Radio Priest" in Royal Oak.

The folks that formed St. Patrick's community were dedicated parishioners then,

and still are today. Members began planning years in advance for this 125th celebration by installing new carpet, professionally cleaning and restoring the 1896 Stations of the Cross and pews back to their original beauty, along with a new kitchen built by the men's club.

So, mark your calendars for the 125th Celebration Mass with Bishop Vigneron and special guest, because St. Patrick's Chapel of Clifford is excited to have everyone join in on their special occasion. For more information, call (810) 688-3797. 🍀



Editor's note: Much of the information about this special event was taken verbatim from the website www.northbranchcatholicchurch.org.

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The Origin of the Names of Some of Algonac and Clay Township's Roads

By Joe Nugent

Guest Writer From the Algonac/Clay Historical Society

Did you ever wonder how some of the roads in our area of St. Clair County got their names? Many were named after early settlers, but others came by their names in some very interesting ways.

State highway M-29, as it runs through Clay Township before heading into Fair Haven is known as Dyke Road, because of the dyke upon which the road is built. However, while winding through Algonac, this road is called or has been called Water Street, St. Clair River Drive, Pte. Tremble Road and Detroit Highway. It seems that the longer the road, the more local names it receives!

- Angling Road, running from Morrow Road near Marine City to Macomb Road on an angle, was such appropriately named.
- Shortcut Road got its name because it was a railroad tract from Palms Road to Marine City that provided a local "short cut" for saving both time and coal.
- How Cherry Street got its name is quite amusing. Cherry is the last east and west running street at the north end of Algonac. This street at one time was just a path made by the Fernandez family cow (who was, by the way, named Cherry) as it followed the fence on the edge of the Fernandez property.

Let's now look at some of the early settlers who contributed their names to the area's roads:

- Ainsworth Road runs from M-29 north to Taft Road, the current location of Algonac High School. This road was once the drive to the Ainsworth farm and farmhouse. The farm at one time operated on 160 acres purchased from the Basney family of Pointe aux Trembles. Taft Road, by the way, was named after John Taft, who was born in Lincolnshire, England in

1835. He purchased eighty acres in Clay Township in 1870. John's father, William, also owned 80 acres.

- Roberts Road was the northern boundary of the farm of Samuel and Mary Ann Roberts who in 1842 settled on the St. Clair River at what is now known as Roberts Landing. At one time there was a ferry going to Canada also at this point, as well as a store, a bar and a pizza shop.
- In 1862, Joseph and Teresa Genaw purchased a farm in Cottreville Township. The drive to the farm on the southern property line is now known as Genaw Road.
- Holland Road was named after Robert Holland who was born in England in 1859. In 1876 he came to Marine City as a ship builder, where he purchased large amounts of property in the surrounding area to be able to mill the white oak needed to build his ships.
- Smith Street was named after John K. Smith who is considered to be the father and founder of Algonac. John served in the war of 1812. He taught school on Harsens Island in 1816 and plotted the original Village of Algonac. His wife, Catherine (MacDonald) Smith, left an entire block of land for the recreation of the children of Algonac. This block was bounded by Michigan, Clay, Washington and Smith Streets.
- Stewart Road in Clay Township on Harsens Island was named after Harvey Stewart, who was born in Albany, New York in 1780. He ventured west in 1810 and in 1812 arrived in Detroit and served as a guide for the American troops. He returned to Detroit and married Mary Graveraet, grand daughter of Jacob Harsen. In April of 1815 he and his family moved to Harsens Island. He set up a distillery on the Island, the

first in Michigan. He served as the first Supervisor of Clay Township from 1828 to 1833 and again in 1842. He died in 1857 and is buried in Oaklawn Cemetery in Algonac, so named for all of the oak trees that graced the area at the time. Reminders of these giant oaks can still be seen in the cemetery today.

- Swartout Road was named after John Swartout, who arrived in Algonac on September 28, 1836. John was born in Ulster, New York on June 28, 1787. With the aid of his sons, he cleared a forest and started a farm, for the third time in his life. At this time Algonac (then called Manchester) contained only one frame house and a few cabins.
- Captain George Phelps was born in Clay Township on Nov. 13, 1844. At the beginning of the Civil War he went to Indianapolis, Indiana and enlisted in the 22nd Regiment, Indiana Volunteer Infantry. He was with Sherman on his march to the sea, marching 25 miles or more on many days. As a result of exposure and lack of provisions, while in Savannah, Georgia, George became ill and was hospitalized for four months. When he recovered he was sent to South Carolina. George was later ordered to Washington and was mustered out in June, 1865 and returned to Clay Township. At 21 years of age George married Orena Ainsworth. George sailed, becoming a captain, until 1898 when he settled down to become a full time farmer. The road running north and south at the western end of his farm starting at Holland Road and ending at Taft Road was and is still called Phelps Road after Captain George Phelps.

Traveling the roads of the southern tip of St. Clair County can be quite an insight in to the early history of Algonac and Clay Township. 🌱

St. Joseph Mercy Port Huron Announced 2010 Volunteer of the Year



Barbara Heinen

Honoring the dedication and commitment of its corps of more than 140 active volunteers, St. Joseph Mercy Port Huron (SJMPH), located at 2601 Electric Avenue, celebrated the members of

the Mercy Auxiliary Volunteer Organization (MAVO) during its Annual Volunteer Recognition Dinner held in early April 2011. SJMPH also announced that Barbara Heinen of St. Clair was named the 2010 St. Joseph Mercy Volunteer of the Year.

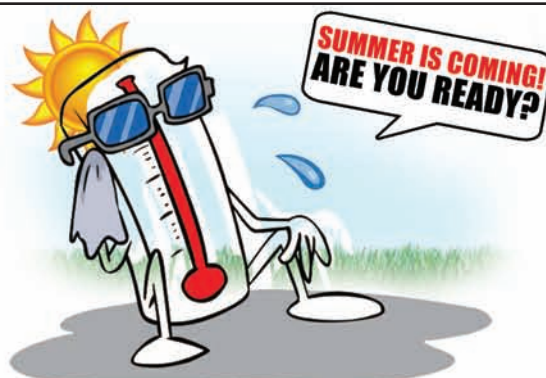
Heinen has been a volunteer at SJMPH for 13 years. During that time, she has served as a Spiritual Care/Pastoral Care Visitor and a Patient Ambassador. Heinen has also shared her leadership skills serving on the MAVO Board of Directors as Third, Second and First Vice President, and most recently Board President.

The Volunteer of the Year Award was presented to one of the MAVO members who had been named a Volunteer of the Month during the previous 12 months. Heinen was grateful to be highlighted among so many distinguished nominees and is equally proud of her work with St. Joseph Mercy. "I've liked every aspect of my volunteer work," Heinen comments. "Volunteering here really makes you feel as if you're making a difference in the lives of others."

"As a not-for-profit hospital, St. Joseph Mercy is grateful to be supported by such an important and devoted group of outstanding volunteers," comments Peter Karadjoff, St. Joseph Mercy Port Huron President and CEO. "Not only does the dedication of these individuals provide financial support to the hospital's success but, more importantly, MAVO provides uncompromising commitment and service to our patients and staff. I think every one of our MAVO members deserves this distinguished award."

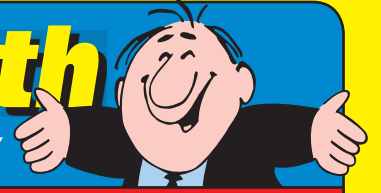
To learn more about volunteer opportunities at St. Joseph Mercy Port Huron, go to the volunteer information section of our website at mymercy.us; or call Cindy Henrion, Volunteer Coordinator at 810-985-1674. To check out the 2011 Volunteer Recognition Dinner photo gallery, search St. Joseph Mercy Port Huron on facebook. 🌱

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The Magic of Fire-starting

By Nick Galante

ThumbPrint News Guest Writer

Have you ever spent the night in the woods without fire or shelter? I have and it is not very pleasant! This little incident inspired me to learn about how our ancestors produced the life-giving warmth and light of fire without Bic lighters. I spent almost six months – everyday at lunch time trying to spin up a coal with nothing but a hand drill. Believe me, at times I almost gave in to the idea (inspired by the guys in the shop) that it couldn't be done. But when that first coal glowed to life, it was magic!

You may have to experiment with different woods to find the right combination for you. Mine is a cedar fence post spindle (the part you spin) and a cottonwood hearth (the part that you spin into). The wood should be dry and similar in density. When you spin the two together and they start to make dust, it should be of a fine powdery consistency and not coarse. If it's coarse, you may need different wood or I have found that the grain of the hearth can be the problem. Try attacking the hearth from a different side.

The spindle should be somewhat round on the end, so take your knife and whittle the end into a rough sphere. Don't worry that it's perfect as it will just get worn off



A leather string is used to assist with downward pressure.

in the process. You can cut a groove in the opposite end to run a leather thong or string with loops across to give you an assist in down pressure as per the photos.

Next take the point of your knife and make a divot in the hearth just off the edge. It should be at least approximately half the spindle diameter plus a 1/4 to 3/8 of an inch from the edge of the hearth.

Now for the fun part! Lay your string across the top of the spindle and hook your thumbs in the loops so that you don't have

to take your hands off the spindle to apply down pressure. Start to spin slowly with the spindle in the divot and your foot on the hearth until the divot grows enough to hold the spindle without it popping out. Once you have it cut a notch from the edge into about the center of the divot. This will be where the dust settles to condense into a coal.



Slowly spin the spindle in the divot until the divot is large enough to keep the spindle from popping out.

Put your spindle back into the divot and slowly but firmly spin it in your palms. You'll want to pace yourself at this point so that you save your energy for the big push at the end. It is a matter of finesse and feel at this point and you will know you are doing it right if you start to feel a slight grinding on your spindle. Dust should start to gather around the edges and you should start to see and smell smoke. Don't take the spindle out of the divot to look! You want to save the heat that you've created. Once you see the dust pile growing in the notch, increase your speed and down pressure and keep going as long as you can! It sounds easy on paper and it should feel easy when you get the hang of it just like playing sports or anything you do when you're in "the zone". There should be a lot of smoke coming from under the spindle at this point. After you're worn out, stop spinning and hold the spindle in the divot and watch to see if there is still smoke rising from the notch after 20-30 seconds. If it continues you have successfully created a coal!



A coal is successfully created!

Take the spindle out of the divot and look at the dust in the notch. Is it still smoking? If it is, remove the coal gently into your tinder pile (I skipped the part about tinder creation for the sake of space but your tinder pile should be created first and it should look like a bird's nest – dry grass and cattail fluff works great) and gently blow while feeding the tinder into it. If you did it right you will now have fire!



Gently blowing on the coal while feeding tinder to it will ensure that you will have fire!

There is nothing that's quite as fulfilling as seeing that little coal burst into flame. Don't worry if you don't get it right the first time. Just like anything worthwhile it takes some practice and a lot of patience. Good luck and email me at nicksnacks@comcast.net if you have any questions. 🌱

Editor's Note: Nick Galante from the Richmond, Michigan area, is an avid outdoorsman and sportsman. In addition to starting his own fires the old-fashioned way, he also makes his own arrows, arrowheads and bows and hunts with the equipment he has made.

St. Augustine 2011 Festival

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Fish Dinner 4:30 p.m.-7:00 p.m.

Children's Games 5:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.

Beer Tent 5:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m. (wine coolers also available)

Music from The Voo-Doo Doctors 6:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m.
(Classic Rock, Oldies, Country & Blues)

Saturday, August 27

Country Store Noon-7:00 p.m.

Sunday, August 28

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The Last Boathouse on the Beach

By Tony Taton

ThumbPrint News Guest Writer



Many years ago, retired seamen often times lived in a boathouse, where they could be near the water, hear the pounding surf, smell the fresh air, and watch the sun come up on the horizon.

There was only one in the village of Lexington, Michigan and his name was George Smith. He lived in a little fifteen-foot sailboat at the foot of the hill in front of the old icehouse by Patrick Sheridan Park, with his little terrier dog, named Skipper. The little boathouse faced the west and the stern was facing the lake where the old man could sit and see the sun rising on the lake while he breathed in the fresh evening breezes with his little dog at his feet.

Mr. Smith was a retired ship's carpenter and had worked in some of the largest ship building ports of both Europe and the United States. He walked the beach each day, weather permitting, picking up a piece of driftwood and a stone here and there.

He was a gifted wood carver and carved decoys which he sold when he needed a buck or two, and he would whittle a small whistle and give it to one of the children on the dock while they were playing.

Mr. Smith would walk over to the fish shanty to see his old friend, Mike Meyers and Mr. Wiltse, another fisherman who visited daily. They would greet each other, sit, and Mr. Smith would smoke his pipe. The other two did not smoke. The local children loved to play with his little black and white terrier.

As the years passed by, Mr. Smith's health deteriorated and he grew weaker. When the men in the fish house noticed he had not been seen for a few days, they decided to go and see if he was all right. When they arrived at the little boathouse, they found the door locked from the inside. They could not rouse the old man, but could hear Skipper barking, so they pushed the door open and found the old gent lying

in bed where he had "crossed over to the other side," as the old sailors tell it.

The arrangements were made with Mr. Hatton, the local undertaker. The little dog was taken over to the fish shanty, where he was adopted and well taken care of by the men, their families and especially the children of the village, who brought Skipper little treats now and then, played with him, and took him for walks along the beach. As a boy of 10 years old, I worked around the fish shanty and cleaned fish, and one of my jobs was to take Skipper for a walk.

As you walk down in front of the Music Shelter in the park, close your eyes, listen to the surf on the beach, picture the little boathouse, smell the smoke from the old man's pipe, and hear his little Skipper barking a friendly hello.

Just the other day, one of the ladies mentioned the old boathouse, so I thought others might like to remember it too. 🍀

Editor's Note: Tony Taton lives in Lexington, Michigan, and is the author of two books recounting his memories of growing up in the Thumb of Michigan, Memories of Yesterday, 1 and 2. Copies of his books are available by calling Tony at (810) 359-8352 and are also available at the Irish Rose, 7285 Huron Ave., Lexington, Michigan. A percentage of the sale of each book is donated to Eva's Place in Sandusky, Michigan. Eva's Place provides a safe, supportive environment for victims of domestic and sexual assault.



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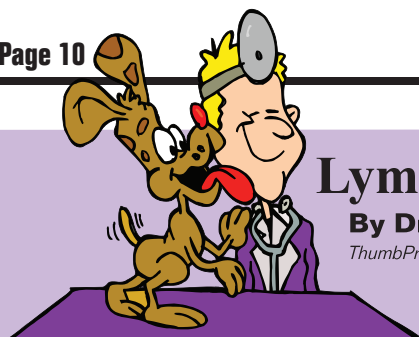
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Lyme Disease in Dogs

By Dr. DiBenedetto

ThumbPrint News Guest Writer

Lyme disease is one of the most common tick-transmitted diseases in the world. In the United States, more than 90% of the Lyme cases occur in the Northeast and Northern Midwest states. Lyme disease is caused by the bacteria, *Borrelia burgdorferi*, that is transmitted by Deer Ticks. Infection typically occurs after the *Borrelia*-carrying tick has been attached to the dog for at least 18 hours. It is a disease that can attack many systems in your pet's body. Lyme disease is a complex condition. It can present itself in many different ways. No two cases are alike and the wide variety of symptoms that can be produced may be confused with many other diseases.

Symptoms

The majority of dogs that are infected with Lyme disease show no symptoms at all. Some dogs with Lyme disease have recurrent lameness of the limbs due to inflammation of the joints. Others, meanwhile, may develop acute lameness,

which lasts for only three to four days but recurs days to weeks later. These swollen joints are usually hot and painful and occasionally the lymph nodes at the base of the legs may be slightly enlarged as well. Many of the sick dogs are depressed and run low-grade fevers. They may yelp when these joints are pressed and be quite reluctant to walk. They will walk with a stiff shuffling gait and an arched back because of the pain.

Some dogs can develop kidney problems as well. Kidney disease appears to be more prevalent in Labrador retrievers, golden retrievers, and Bernese Mountain dogs. Young dogs appear to be more susceptible to Lyme disease than adult dogs. The bacterium triggers the dog's immune system to produce certain antibodies that not only destroy the bacteria but also damage normal tissues within the body. This damage eventually leads to total kidney failure and the dog begins to exhibit such signs as vomiting, diarrhea, lack of appetite, weight loss and increased urination and thirst.

Diagnosis and Treatment

There is no definitive test for Lyme disease. The blood titer test only shows exposure to the bacteria not an active infection. However, the treatment of choice is the antibiotic Doxycycline which is inexpensive and has been used safely in pets. Dogs given antibiotics early in the disease process generally improve. But if left untreated, there is increased risk of permanent damage to the joints and the kidneys. The pain and inflammation can be treated with non-steroidal anti-inflammatories.

Prevention

Prevention can be to either eliminate exposure to ticks by avoiding tall, wet grassy areas where wildlife are present or protecting your dog against ticks by applying flea and tick control products such as Frontline topically. For pets that may have increased exposure, there is also the option of being vaccinated against Lyme disease. 🐾

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) 586-2622 for other pet related questions.

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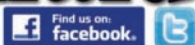
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Melanie Duquesnel

Tips to Ensure a Safe and Timely Flight

With summer just around the corner, many consumers are beginning to plan their vacation getaway. While dreaming of island sun, many travelers fail to factor in the uncertainties that come with flying, such as unpredictable weather patterns, aviation system issues and maintenance or crew problems into their travel plans. BBB, along with the U.S. Department of Transportation, are advising vacationers to plan ahead when traveling this summer to ensure safety and timeliness.

To avoid troubles in the sky, it's important for travelers to be aware of their flight options," said Patrick Bennett, Director of Community Relations of Better Business Bureau Serving Eastern Michigan. "With the burden and chaos that can come from a delayed or cancelled flight, it's important for travelers to plan ahead and know their options."

The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) advises consumers to be proactive when it comes to planning a getaway trip. According to Bureau of Transportation's 2011 Statistics, 25.5 percent of all flights were reported to be not on time.

BBB and the U.S. Department of Transportation advise travelers to do the following when booking and securing their flights this summer:

The early bird gets the flight. When booking your flight, remember that a departure early in the day is less likely to be delayed than a later flight, due in part to the "ripple" effects of delays throughout the day. Also, if an early flight does get delayed or canceled, you may have more

rerouting options. If you book the last flight of the day and it is canceled, you could get stuck overnight.

Know your rights with a canceled flight. If your flight is canceled, most airlines will rebook you on their next flight to your destination on which space is available, at no additional charge. If this involves a significant delay, find out if another carrier has seats and ask the first airline to endorse your ticket to that carrier. Unfortunately, compensation is required by law only when you are "bumped" from a flight that is oversold. Airlines almost always refuse to pay passengers for financial losses resulting from a delayed flight.

Secure your payment. Consider paying by credit card, which provides certain protections under Federal credit regulations. For example, in all recent airline bankruptcies passengers who had charged their fare and were not provided service were able to have their credit card company credit their account for the amount of the fare.

For more travel tips, visit www.bbb.org/us/consumer-tips-travel

Editor's Note: Melanie Duquesnel is the president and CEO of the Better Business Bureau Serving Eastern Michigan, which is a non-profit organization that fights fraud and promotes ethical business practices in the local marketplace through its business accreditation, consumer education and dispute resolution programs. Contact your local BBB by calling (248) 223-9400 or by visiting www.bbb.org.

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I'm in the Air Force Now!

By David Gillis

ThumbPrint News Columnist

It was early in June 1961 and I was contemplating the rest of my life. It seemed as though I had just learned to tie my shoes and there I was facing high school graduation in just a couple of weeks. I was at a fork in the road to my journey into the future.

I had already forfeited the possibility of college, which was probably a good decision since I'm sure I would have partied myself into certain expulsion by the end of the first semester. At that time in history, there were two other options for a young man living in Southeastern Michigan. One was to seek employment with one of the "Big Three" or enter military service. I found the former far less interesting and the latter offering what I thought was greater adventure. So, off to the recruiter's office I went.

It was my intent to become a Marine, but on the day I visited the recruiter in Port Huron, he was not there. Instead, I stuck my head into the Air Force recruiter's office and the rest, as they say, is history. The Staff Sergeant in charge was one of the best salesmen I ever met and when I exited his office, I was officially one of the "Blue Water 40."

I should explain here that you can search every website available, all U.S. Air Force manuals, and any other military reference material you can find without finding the "Blue Water 40." It was, in reality, a well designed

marketing plan designed to fill a monthly recruiting objective and it was successful. Yes, I bought four years of the product being sold and became one of the special 40 airmen basic recruits of the summer of 1961. Just five days after graduating from Algonac High School, I found myself on a bus with 39 others from St. Clair County traveling to Fort Wayne in Detroit to begin the induction process.

For those who have never experienced the military induction process, especially at Fort Wayne in the early 1960s, I can only express that I had thoughts of having made a terrible mistake that would require several years to rectify. Those who have had the experience know what my thoughts were. I can only state that if most young people entering military service could picture themselves standing in long lines in open rooms for more than eight hours wearing nothing more than their underwear and carrying a small bag containing personal items, well, we wouldn't have too many new military service recruits. As it was, I survived the ordeal, raised my right hand promising to defend the United States and its Constitution, and left for Lackland Air Force Base in Texas.

San Antonio, Texas was not then the fascinating city tourists find it today. It was somewhat a lazy, quiet community where only portions of the historic Alamo stood and served as the location of the Air Forces only basic training

facility. Lackland, at that time, appeared to be something out of a World War II movie. The buildings were of that era, but they served their purpose well. But, there I was at my destination and determined to make the best of it.

The members of the "Blue Water 40," including the three other Algonac graduates, were able to remain together for just eight weeks. We lived in a two-story barracks with open bays on each floor. Our bunk beds were all neatly made with the hospital-cornered blankets that we had quickly learned how to make correctly. The few personal belongings we were able to keep were neatly stored in a small foot locker and each post supporting the structure had a coffee can, stripped of its label, filled with sand and used as a cigarette butt-can. Our "bedroom suite" was adjacent to a large open latrine (bathroom) that permitted no privacy, but that was part of the plan and we didn't have time to worry about it anyway.

Days in the hot Texas sun in the summer weren't even a consideration when I decided to enter military service immediately after graduation. The temperature dropping to the mid-80s at night offered no relief. I began asking myself, "What was I thinking?"

Our days were filled with marching in formation to the mess hall for three quick 15-minute meals; running to and from classrooms where only giant fans circulated the hot air; running to the physical training field so we could run



some more before running back to the barracks. Oh, what was I thinking?

I obviously survived the ordeal as most recruits do, and I believe, became a much better person for the experience. I still think about parading around Fort Wayne in my underwear, of running everywhere I had to go, and of it being so warm I constantly perspired, even while in the shower. But, I also remember my pride as I graduated from basic training and sewing that first stripe on my sleeve. I recall the real satisfaction I later felt receiving my honorable discharge and am so very thankful for the self-discipline gained in the four years with the Air Force.

Military service has changed since I experienced it 50 years ago. I would, however, recommend that option to any young man or woman who is looking for positive direction in life and wanting some assurance of finding it. Maybe they can find a "Blue Water 40" of which to proudly become a part. 🍀

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Ask the Audiologist

By Lisa Bont

ThumbPrint News Guest Writer

Wow, I'm really dizzy

so what should I do?

The condition of being dizzy is defined as a sensation of unsteadiness accompanied by a feeling of movement within the head. It can also be defined as a disorienting sensation such as faintness, light-headedness, or unsteadiness. Our balance system is dependent upon a careful marriage of our ears, eyes, brain and skeletal systems. When one or more of these systems is impaired it will have an effect on our balance.

Dizziness is a pretty common complaint that many Audiologists and Ear, Nose & Throat (ENT) physicians are asked to help treat and diagnosis. I interviewed my River District Lakeshore ENT physician and he suggested that all individuals reporting dizziness should be seen first by their primary care physician or an emergency room physician. It is imperative that you do not wait to seek medical intervention if an episode is accompanied by slurred speech or physical weakness. The physician will



then work the patient up for some common causes of dizziness, such as blood pressure, heart issues, diabetes or hypoglycemia, anemia, colds, flu, stress and even side effects of medication. A thorough health history is a must and so it's always a good idea to write down when the episode occurs, what you were doing at that moment, how long it lasted and if your hearing changed. This information will help the physician to diagnose and refer to specialists for additional medical work up, if needed.

Once you're referred to the ENT, he will have the Audiologist provide a complete diagnostic hearing evaluation. The hearing evaluation is testing for the nerve that not only sends balance signals to the brain but also hearing signals. Another test that the ENT will request the Audiologist to perform is a test called video nystagmography (VNG) or an electronystagmography (ENG) test. These tests involve the recording of eye movements that are correlated to the vestibular or inner ear balance system when the head is put in different positions, when the eyes are watching measured points and also when the ears are irrigated with either warm or cold water or air. One other (although less prescribed) test is called a Rotational Chair Test that also positions the head and body in various

ways while recording eye movements. These tests help the ENT to determine if your dizziness is from your ears or brain. An MRI or magnetic resonance image may also be prescribed in an attempt to rule out any type of mass or lesion, such as a stroke or tumor involving the ears or brain.

Common causes of inner ear related dizziness are infection or inflammation of the inner ear's semicircular canals. These canals help us to sense up, down, forward, backward or side to side motion. When they are inflamed they may produce dizziness, hearing loss and nausea. This type of problem can be very debilitating and last for days. However, the physician can try to treat these symptoms so that they resolve sooner.

Another cause might be Benign Positional Vertigo (BPV or BPPV). This is quite common and the dizziness it produces is often from turning the head either by rolling over in bed, looking up or bending over. Small crystals that lie in the inner ear canals shift out of position and result in this type of dizziness. This dizziness often comes on frequently during the day when moving the head, is not accompanied by hearing loss and often goes away on its own, with self directed therapy or with a simple positioning movement often administered in the ENT's office.

A far less common cause of ear related

dizziness could be Meniere's disease. This disease is brought on by too much fluid in the inner ear's semicircular canals. The excess fluid can cause severe dizziness or vertigo, reduced or fluctuating hearing loss, tinnitus or ringing in the ears and also pressure or fullness in the ear. This is a lifelong disease that can be treated, but episodes often reoccur. The good news is that this disease can often be managed through diet, medications or even surgery.

Once you have a diagnosis you will be given details on how to manage and treat your dizziness. If your dizziness is ear related then treating your condition may involve vestibular rehabilitation therapy. This therapy involves a trained therapist who will work closely with you to help retrain your balance system and to help you maintain safety from falls.

If your dizziness has not been shown to be related to a function of your ears, then a cardiologist or neurologist may become involved. I must note that rarely is dizziness a sign of a serious health problem but it is a symptom that you will not be able to ignore and should be treated immediately. Estimates reveal essentially one in three adults will suffer some form of dizziness over their lifetime. Rely on the expertise of your physician, ENT or Audiologist to help you. We are uniquely trained and educated to help you to achieve better ear and hearing health! 🌱

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Editor's note: It is with sadness that I am announcing the passing of Kathryn Seestedt, of Marine City, Michigan, who had been contributing her monthly book reviews of books of local interest in "Notes from a Book Lover." Kathryn passed away on May 10, 2011 at the age of 88. Heartfelt condolences from the entire staff of ThumbPrint News go out to her family. Kathryn was born in East Lansing, Michigan, on August 16, 1922, to the late Austin and Eugenie (Armstrong) Pino. She married Emery Monroe Seestedt in 1947. Kathryn leaves behind two daughters and a son, and many other relatives. Kathryn's many interests, from reading to genealogy, to being a member of book clubs and historical societies helped her to convey her love of this area's rich history to her readers. Kathryn had already submitted several reviews to ThumbPrint News prior to her passing and her final review will appear in the July issue of this newspaper.

By Kathryn Seestedt

ThumbPrint News Guest Writer

There is no book more appropriate for discussion in *ThumbPrint News* than *Tales from a Lighthouse Café* by William C. S. Pellowe. It is a slender little book of 95 pages; and the Lighthouse Café (fictional name) is located in Huron City, at the tip of Michigan's Thumb. Reverend Pellowe, who had become a Methodist District Superintendent, and his wife, spent their summers in a small cottage in Huron City. There they became acquainted with many local residents.

The founder of Huron City was Langdon Hubbard. In 1882 he built a seven-gable Victorian home, used by his many descendants. In 1883, a young college student from Yale University began annual visits to Huron City. He had met Annabel Hubbard, daughter of Langdon, at a Connecticut college and later married her.

This young man was William Lyon Phelps, who became a distinguished professor at Yale University and gained fame as a world-renowned literary critic.

Dr. Phelps and William Pellowe, our author, became fast friends. Also drawn to this scenic region of the Thumb was Edgar A. Guest, the Detroit poet whose name will be familiar to many of our readers. We can picture these three men of distinction sharing the view from the lawn of the Lighthouse Café. The waters of Lake Huron offered a sparkling backdrop for the passing freighters which could be seen on the horizon.

Tales from a Lighthouse Café was published in 1960 by Raisin River Publishers in Adrian, Michigan. It contains several black and white photos connected with the Thumb area. The first, on page 18, is a *Times-Herald* photo credited to Ralph W. Polowick. How is that for hometown

flavor? Several lighthouse photos include the Port Huron Lighthouse, the Port Sanilac Lighthouse and the Huron City Lighthouse. I have an old *Times-Herald* clipping which mentions an event – probably around 1910 – at which poet Edgar A. Guest and Professor Phelps spoke before the Port Huron Rotary Club at the Harrington Inn.

Near the end of the book, I found my favorite story, a tale of a beachcomber along Lake Huron, who searched for pieces of colored glass. He had learned the craft of joining bits of colored glass

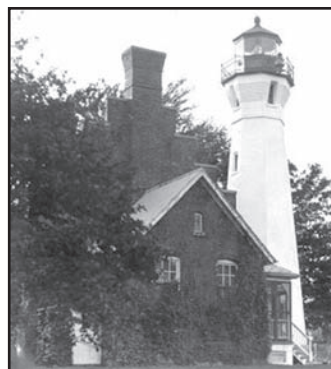
with strips of lead, and had designed a window featuring a sailing vessel with red sails silhouetted against the blue Lake Huron waters. In this artist's lakeside cottage, this beautiful window faced the western sunset. Author Pellowe ends this tale with these words:

"We talk of discards and junk and useless things. But in reality everything has a purpose. Also,

experience in life, no matter how miserable it may be, has the potential of being turned into some good account."

Other titles by Dr. Pellowe include *Laughter Under the Steeple*, a paperback dated 1955, and *The Skylines of Paradise*, a novel with a Michigan setting. This novel, though not written in a style which 21st century readers will rave about, could have been written for our lives today. It speaks of our need to tolerate all faiths, and for having a unified group of national and international leaders who will never cease looking for the "skyline of paradise." 🌱

Editor's Note: A search of Amazon.com and several used book sites on the internet did suggest that used copies of Tales of a Lighthouse Café can still be purchased. Check with your local library or used book store for assistance in locating this book.



Port Sanilac lighthouse

Kick Off Your Shoes for a Rejuvenating Foot Bath

By Rennae Hardy

ThumbPrint News Guest Writer



Our bodies are made up of millions of smaller components called cells which are responsible for all the different biological processes that occur. Water is the medium through which all tasks of the body are carried out.

Depletion of either water or energy within the body's cells can result in poor health. An ionic foot bath utilizes a bioenergetic process to reestablish and balance the negative ions within the body to stimulate rejuvenation on a cellular level. A negative ionic charge is emitted into the bath which allows for the transfer of negative ions into the body. The transference of energy through water during an ionic foot bath replenishes the cell's energy levels for improved performance promoting better health.

An individual experiencing an ionic foot bath will notice color changes in the water. This phenomenon is thought by many to be the result of impurities being removed from the body. Referred to as an ionic cleanse, the color and texture is believed to indicate which organs or body systems are releasing impurities. Particles (fat and mucus residues) found in the water reflect waste material that has left the body.

Changes in water color can range from yellow-green, orange, brown, black, to dark green. Visible white foam or white cheese-like particles floating on the water's surface may also be experienced

as well as black and/or red flecks resting at the bottom of the foot basin. Manufacturers of certain units will not substantiate water color changes as an indication to any detoxifying effects although many users accept and support the correlation. As a reference guide, the following color chart is provided.

- Black – Liver and Gallbladder
- Blue – Kidney
- Brown – Liver, Tobacco, Cellular Debris
- Green – Gallbladder
- Orange – Joints
- Yellow – Bladder, Urinary Tract, (Male and Female)
- Red Flecks – Cellular Debris, Blood Clot Material
- Black Flecks – Heavy Metals
- Foam – Mucus
- Cheesy – Candida, Fungal Infection
- Oil Floating – Fat

It takes about 30 minutes for an ionic. You may experience sensations such as slight fatigue and/or subtle tingling in parts of your body. These sensations vary among individuals and generally clear shortly following the completion of a session. An ionic foot bath is a valuable tool which provides a convenient and efficient method to assist in creating and maintaining good health. So, take your shoes off, relax and discover the energizing difference for yourself. 🌱

Editor's Note: Rennae Hardy is the owner of Radiant Beings, 25962 Knollwood S. in Chesterfield. Rennae is a certified energy practitioner and offers many choices for alternative healing. You can contact Rennae at (586) 949-0112 or (586) 489-8611.

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THE CAROUSEL: Tashmoo Park

Continued from Page 1



The carousel at Tashmoo Park was built by the Herschell Spillman Company.

leave and form a new company in 1900 with his Spillman in-laws called Herschell Spillman. This factory started by carving and creating carousels in the old style and also created some large park machines, generally elaborate menagerie carousels.

The Herschell Spillman factory created 18 separate menagerie animals, most of which were on each of the larger carousels. Herschell Spillman menageries can be found all across the country, including Greenfield Village in Dearborn.

In a July 11, 1993 interview with Bill Harm, here is what he had to say about the merry-go-round:

“The merry-go-round is the one which I operated. It originally sat up by the dance hall, but was moved to the back of the park. My dad was park superintendant. We had about 30-40 employees that worked in various places around the park. We used to board the crew right there. We gave them all a room and their laundry was provided by the park and of course three meals a day. Most of the fellas that worked there were mostly college students and folks from the island. A lot of the fellas were yard men and would clean up after the boat left and make the place tidy again. We had a fella who was a Teamster and would meet the boat with a wagon and a team of horses. He would pick up the supplies and take them back to the commissary.

I couldn't run the merry-go-round until after 12:00 when the boat docked. I had other duties in the morning. I had to keep the merry-go-round clean. If there weren't enough people to ride the merry-go-round, then I would get the job of cutting grass along with some of the other fellas.

In the event of rain, the merry-go-round



The carousel at Tashmoo Park circa 1914

building was quite large and could hold a lot of people. The old merry-go-round sat on the corner of the park. After the merry-go-round was gone they kept the building as a shelter. It was a big round building, oh, about 70-75 feet across. In the winter time we would use it for storage for the tables and benches. There were shutters that had to be put up on the outside in the winter. It was a job I hated. They were very heavy and it took two men to put them up.

The powerhouse was a corrugated metal building and we had a boiler in there that provided steam for the park. In those days the water was pumped from the river to the boiler. There was also one of Edison's first dynamos in there. I understand that it is now down at Greenfield Village. The main power for the merry-go-round was steam and was run by what we called a double action engine. There was the main engine that would drive the merry-go-round and a smaller one that would drive the organ.

Eventually, they were replaced by electric motors and steam went out. That was better because steam is hard to run. You almost had to be a steam engineer to run them. They were also dirty as they need to be oiled a lot and oil would get all over everything. I spent a lot of time keeping everything clean!



The merry-go-round at Greenfield Village is pretty close to the one we had. It was a three abreast with various types of hand carved animals. The two inner rows were on a crank and would go up and down and the group of animals on the outside were stationary. Of course, they all had a brass pole in the center.

They had horses, a giraffe, frogs, lions, tigers and a dragon. When I was a little kid, that dragon sure used to scare me! There was also a pig, deer, ostrich and a zebra. Then we had a tub. You get in the tub and you could make it spin around. We eventually took the bearings out of the tub to stop the tub from going around. With people moving in two directions they were getting sick. We didn't like cleaning up behind them all the time. We had what you call a rocker and that would hold four to six people with seats on both ends. You could make it rock as you were going around in a circle. There was a chariot that would seat about four people with a seat at both ends but it didn't move. The organ would play music as it went around. I liked to run the ride about five minutes from the time they got on until we stopped it. Too many kids were getting sick if the ride was longer.



The Detroit River excursion steamer SS Tashmoo, stopped at Tashmoo Park on the St. Clair Flats on a routine trip between Detroit and Port Huron circa 1900-1901.

That prevented a lot of mop jobs!

It was a beautiful ride. It had a lot of mirrors and a lot of the animals had jewels and there were pictures painted around the crown. The crown was the center part of the merry-go-round that turned with it. On the end of the sweeps (spokes) were painted carvings. It was quite beautiful.

The original animals we had were all hand carved wood. The horses were quite detailed and even had the veins in the face carved in. One of the horses we had was for a knight and was decked out in armor with a lot of jewels and a headdress.

They had dismantled the merry-go-round but left the building. I don't know what happened to it. I understand it ended up in some park on the east coast. At one time I could have bought the lot it sat on, the merry-go-round and the building for \$700. But that would have been like three million dollars today. I just didn't have it.”

According to the same newspaper article that we opened with, in 1970, the carousel was broken into pieces and sold separately for prices ranging from \$15,000 to \$26,000 at New York auction house, Christie's. Collectors paid \$268,565 total for 47 hand-carved animals.

Here is where there is a conflict of dates. The article states that the merry-go-round was at Tashmoo Park from 1915 to 1946. Yet a photo of a lady in front of the merry-go-round says 1914. Minnie Harm's diary mentions that in August of 1944, Bill (her

husband) tore down the old merry-go-round building. I have to think that this was the one at the front of the park and not the one in the back where the merry-go-round was moved to. According to *The Billboard*, October 12, 1946, “Spot had only one ride this year, a Merry-Go-Round, but more may be added next season.”

Then it was reported in the May 30, 1947 issue of *The Billboard*, “Project to move the Merry-Go-Round, a 64-passenger unit to Belle Isle Park, operated by the city, has been presented to the city council by the park owners, and is now pending official action.” However, by August, that plan was dropped and the ride was retained as one of Tashmoo Park's major attractions. In January of 1948, an ad appeared in *The Billboard* to sell the entire operation – 20 acres, all the buildings, caretaker's home, contents, one excursion steamer and the Merry-Go-Round for a cool \$125,000. Minnie Harm's diary mentions in March that “Mr. Fleming has sold the merry-go-round and it is being carted away to some lake park by Syracuse, New York.”

I have been unable to trace the park it may have gone to. One thing for sure is that the merry-go-round does not exist anymore except as cherished menagerie animals most likely in private collections. If you ever make it to Greenfield Village and ride the carousel, try to imagine what it was like almost 100 years ago on an island in the St. Clair River. 🌿

AMUSEMENT PARK & EXCURSION STEAMER

Park is located 30 miles from Detroit and contains about 20 acres, completely fenced, fine shaded picnic groves, 2 ball diamonds, athletic track, steamer dock, dance hall, pavilion, cafeteria, Merry-Go-Round building, 7-room caretaker's home, new 9-room owner's residence, large cottage, 3 concession stands, toilets, workshops and various other buildings. Personal property includes 50-ft. Merry-Go-Round, picnic tables and benches for 3000 people, cafeteria tables and chairs, coffee urns, steam tables, cash registers, refrigerators, all tools and equipment and many other items. The excursion steamer carries 2600 passengers and is in excellent condition. Vessel has large dance deck, dining room, bars, lunch and drink stands, private parlors and steamer chair deck. The business can be purchased for a small fraction of replacement cost. \$125,000.00 cash will handle, balance terms.

TASHMOO PARK, INC.
4251 West Lafayette Detroit 9, Mich. Tashmoo 5-1349

This ad appeared in the January 17, 1948 edition of *The Billboard*.

The SS Tashmoo



The SS *Tashmoo* was built by the Detroit Shipbuilding Company in Wyandott, Michigan in 1899 for Detroit's White Star Line. The *Tashmoo* was nicknamed the "White Flyer" and, because of the number of windows on the ship, the "Glass Hack."

The *Tashmoo*'s regular route was from Detroit to Port Huron. It made several stops along the way, including at its namesake, Tashmoo Park.



Passengers relax aboard the *Tashmoo*.

On December 8, 1927, the *Tashmoo* snapped its moorings during a gale and starting drifting up the Detroit River. It collided with a ferry and was found further upstream, stopped by the Belle Isle Bridge. Two tugboats pulled the *Tashmoo* away from bridge, but the cables broke again and the ship once again headed for the bridge. The ship was 10 yards (9.1 m) away from the bridge before the tugboats were able to get the *Tashmoo* secured again. The ship was eventually repaired.



After snapping her moorings during a gale, the *Tashmoo* drifted upstream until she was stopped by the Belle Isle Bridge.

On June 18, 1936, the *Tashmoo* struck a submerged rock as it was leaving Sugar Island. The ship was able to dock in Amherstburg, Ontario and be evacuated before it sank in 18 feet of water. It was eventually scrapped. 🌿

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After docking in Amherstburg and being evacuated, the *Tashmoo* sank in 18 feet of water.

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July 29th VS Angels (Fri 5 pm)

Aug 19th VS Indians (Fri 5 pm)

June 12th vs Mariners (Sun@11am)

July 31st-vs Angels (Sun@11am)

June 15th vs Cleveland (Wed@5pm)

August 17th vs Twins (Wed@5pm)

June 26th vs D-Backs (Sun@11am)

August 21st vs Indians (Sun@11am)

July 3rd vs Giants (Sun@11am)

September 4th vs White Sox (Sun@11am)

July 17th vs White Sox (Sun@11am)

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

By Bernard Licata

Harsens Island/St. Clair Flats Historical Society

The Harsens Island /St. Clair Flats Historical Society, a.k.a., The Society, is a relatively new organization that was conceived by a small group of Island residents. Their first meeting was in December 2009. This group's passion for the island, its history and a strong desire to preserve and share the past that is Harsens Island and the St. Clair Flats with all who visit here, drove them to move forward on the vision of a museum on Harsens Island. To achieve this goal, they organized The Society as a Michigan non-profit and requested recognition from the IRS as a tax exempt 501 (c) (3) that was achieved in 2010. At this printing more than 125 members have joined The Society and our membership continues to grow daily.

At the membership's behest, the board of directors has secured a one year lease for the historic fire hall in downtown Sans Souci. The building has fallen into disrepair and is in need of a great deal of attention.

With volunteer labor, some paint and a great deal of hard work, the building has been temporarily repaired and will house The Society Museum. The response of the community has been overwhelming. Everyone wants to see the fire hall put to use for the community.

Speaking of community, we are excited about using this facility not only as a museum, but as a community center that will also bring cultural activities to our island.

To make the fire hall the permanent home of The Society Museum, we must raise \$140,000. Even before initiating this solicitation for funds, The Society has had the good fortune to have a generous pledge of the 'final \$25,000' to 'put us over the top' to achieve our goal. At this juncture, other donations and pledges have been received in the amount of nearly \$3,000.

The Society is off to a good start and is now prepared to accept donations and/or pledges from you, our friends, relatives, and neighbors . . . in short, our community.

Our mission is to collect, protect, preserve and share with the public the unique histori-



With volunteer labor, some paint and a great deal of hard work, the historic fire hall has been temporarily repaired and will house The Society Museum.

cal artifacts and information that represents the diverse cultural composition of the people that occupied the area of the St. Clair River Delta that is Harsens Island and the St. Clair Flats. Our energies will be directed to acquisition, restoration and preservation with special emphasis directed to the education of all who wish to share the rich cultural history of the people who lived here.

Historic Flavor of the Island:

It's 11:45 AM and the steamer *Tashmoo* has just blown her whistle advising those in range of the sound that she has docked at Tashmoo Park on Harsens Island. She disembarks passengers and supplies and embarks other passengers heading back to Detroit. This was a daily event on Harsens Island just 100 years ago. It's hard to believe that our quiet island was once a busy vacation and entertainment center. Folks came here to enjoy a casino, a dance hall, a roller rink or, if so inclined, a bawdy house down the road. The trip to the island on the *Tashmoo* was always a pleasure. Her dining room menu offered great variety for all tastes. You could procure anything from a steak dinner to caviar, lobster tail or oysters on the half shell in transit from Detroit. The *SS Tashmoo*, Tashmoo Park, and the Island's many hotels were only a part of the rich history of the Island and the Flats. Our Native American sisters and brothers also made Harsens Island their home. 🌱



Editor's Note: In this section we encourage readers to write in or to email their automotive questions for our resident automobile expert to answer. Keith Kodet is a self-proclaimed car nut, who has worked for many years as a mechanic. Keith also is an avid collector of vintage and specialty automobiles and has owned over 200 different cars to date. Please email your questions to thumbprintnews@comcast.net and put "Ask the Greasy Thumb" in the subject line or mail your questions to: ThumbPrint News, 8061 Marsh Rd., Algonac, MI 48001.

This month we have two great automotive science questions that are answered with some experiments you can do at home.

Q. Is it better to change your oil when the engine is hot, or when it is cold?

Laura from Cottrellville

Experiment

Think of the oil in your engine like honey. You can do an experiment at home to see exactly how oil performs at different temperatures. Take a plastic squeeze bottle of honey and put it in the refrigerator. After it has cooled, pull it out and turn it over and over. Open it and try to let some pour out. You will see that it is thick and sticks to the sides sluggishly. Now, take that same bottle and put it in the microwave for 15 seconds or so to heat it up. You will see that the honey becomes very fluid, and will pour almost like water the warmer you get it. This is how the oil in your engine works. The hotter it becomes, the less sticky it becomes and the easier it moves.

A. In answer to your question, it is best to drain the oil from the engine while it is still hot. You will be able to get more of the old oil out of the engine, where if you are draining it while the engine is cold, more will be sticking to the internal parts and staying inside. The absolute best way to change oil is to warm the engine up, shut it off, and let it drain for 10-15

minutes, even more. This allows the oil to work its way down to the oil pan and out the drain plug. When changing oil at home, it is best to keep

the car as level as possible, and always properly dispose of the old oil at a facility that accepts it.

Q. Why are the outside mirrors on the passenger's side of a car made to not accurately reflect the distance of the vehicle seen in the mirror? The mirrors on the driver's side reflect the true distance.

Betty from Fort Gratiot,

Experiment

Try this simple experiment at home. Stand as far away from a mirror as you can. Note what you can see in the mirror. Slowly walk up to the mirror and see what else you can see. The closer you get to the mirror the wider your field of vision will be, and the more you will see.

A. When sitting in the driver's seat, you are very close to the driver's side mirror, so you can see most of what is behind the driver's side of the car. However, the passenger mirror sits further away from the driver, so the driver is looking at a smaller surface area. If the passenger mirror were made out of flat glass the field of vision that the driver could see would be very small, and would create many blind spots. To correct this issue you would either need to have a very large mirror like on a truck, or curve the glass so it picks up more to see. Before the auto manufacturers figured this out, many antique cars didn't even have a

passenger mirror! However, a side effect of curving the mirror makes everything appear smaller and further away, thus the warning we've all become accustomed to "objects in mirror are closer than they appear". 🌱



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Rhubarb Recipes

Collected by Louise Allen

ThumbPrint News Staff Writer



Rhubarb is a perennial plant that has greenish pink to dark red stalks with large leaves. It is actually a vegetable but is usually prepared and used in recipes as a fruit would be. Most often it is cooked and sweetened with sugar, though it can be eaten raw with

a little sugar sprinkled over it to tame its tartness. The leaves, however, should not be eaten, as they contain oxalic acid, which is toxic.

Another name for rhubarb is the "pie plant" as one of the most popular recipes using rhubarb is in a pie. Rhubarb is wonderful paired with other fruits, such as strawberries, and can be used to make jellies, jams, cakes, muffins, and other deserts. A homemade rhubarb sauce is delicious served as an accompaniment to meat or fish.

When purchasing rhubarb from the supermarket or from a farm stand look for firm, crisp looking and blemish free product. If the stalks or leaves are limp, they may either be old or may not have been stored properly. Fresh rhubarb is usually only available until about mid to late June.

If fresh picked, rhubarb can be placed unwashed into air tight bags and kept in the refrigerator for up to a week. It can be frozen for future use by cutting the stalks into 1-inch pieces and packed into air tight bags.



To prepare rhubarb for use, cut off any leaves or roots. If the stalks are wider than one inch, slice lengthwise in half or thirds. Trim off any blemished areas. If slightly too mature, pull off any of the tough "strings". Cut into the appropriate size pieces for which the recipe you are going to use is calling.

Numerous recipes for rhubarb pie can be found in cookbooks and on the internet, so I have gathered for our readers a few different types of recipes in which rhubarb is one of the main ingredients. 🍓

Rhubarb Streusel Cake



Ingredients

- 1 1/4 cups white sugar
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 2 eggs, beaten
- 1 cup sour cream
- 3 cups diced rhubarb
- 1 cup white sugar
- 1/4 cup butter, softened
- 1/4 cup all-purpose flour
- ground cinnamon, for dusting

Directions

- Preheat the oven to 350°. Grease and flour a 9x13 inch baking dish.
- In a large bowl, stir together 1 1/4 cups sugar, baking soda, salt and 2 cups flour. Stir in the eggs and sour cream until smooth, then fold in the rhubarb. Pour into the prepared dish and spread evenly. In a smaller bowl, stir together the remaining 1 cup sugar and butter until smooth. Stir in 1/4 cup flour until the mixture is crumbly. Sprinkle the mixture on top of the cake then dust lightly with cinnamon.
- Bake in the preheated oven until a toothpick inserted in the center comes out clean, about 45 minutes.

Cherry Rhubarb Crunch



Ingredients

- 1 cup rolled oats
- 1 cup packed brown sugar
- 1 cup all-purpose flour
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 cup butter or margarine
- 4 cups diced rhubarb
- 1 cup sugar
- 2 tablespoons cornstarch
- 1 cup water
- 1 teaspoon almond extract
- 1 (21 ounce) can cherry pie filling
- 1/2 cup finely chopped walnuts

Directions

- In a large mixing bowl, combine oats, brown sugar, flour and salt; stir well. Cut in butter until crumbly. Pat 2 cups of mixture into a greased 13-in. x 9-in. x 2-in. baking pan; cover with rhubarb.
- In a saucepan, combine sugar and cornstarch. Stir in water; cook until mixture is thickened and clear. Stir in extract and cherry filling; spoon over rhubarb.
- Combine nuts with reserved crumb mixture; sprinkle over cherries. Bake at 350° for about 40-45 minutes.

Rhubarb Gelatin Salad



Ingredients

- 3 cups chopped fresh rhubarb
- 1/2 cup white sugar, or to taste
- 2 tablespoons water
- 1 (3 ounce) package raspberry flavored gelatin mix
- 1 cup cold water
- 1 cup chopped apple
- 1/2 cup chopped walnuts

Directions

- In a saucepan over medium heat, combine the rhubarb, sugar, and 2 tablespoons water. Bring to a boil, and cook for about 15 minutes, or until rhubarb is mushy. Mix well to form a sauce. Taste, and adjust sugar if needed. Reserve 1 cup. Save any extra for other uses.
- In a medium bowl, stir together the raspberry flavored gelatin and 1 cup of the boiling hot rhubarb mixture until completely dissolved. Stir in 1 cup cold water, then mix in the apples and walnuts. Pour into a serving bowl, and refrigerate for 2 to 4 hours, or until set. Garnish with whipped topping or creamy salad dressing before serving if you like.

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Garden Party Cancelled

We regret to inform you that due to renovations, we are cancelling our very popular Garden Party this year. Our gardens are undergoing extensive renovations and will be ready in time for a colorful spring of 2012. Next years' Garden Party will be spectacular! You won't want to miss it. If you are planning an event in 2012, don't hesitate to contact us about reserving the gardens.

OCTOBER 21, 22 & 23

Fall Festival & Annual Night Filled with Pumpking Light

Noon-9:30 p.m.

More than 400 decorated and painted pumpkins will be lit inside a warm greenhouse for the viewing pleasure of everyone in the family! Cost is \$5 for adults and \$2 for children ages 2-12. Children under two are free. All pumpkins and Halloween decorations will be clearance priced for last minute shoppers! We are also combining our Fall Fest with the Pumpkin Lighting. There will be additional activities for the kids to enjoy, such as a bouncy house, the kiddiepillar ride, games, a straw maze and more! Fall Fest activities are each priced separately. Food and refreshments will also be available for purchase.

DECEMBER 16-23

8th Annual History of the Christmas Tree Walk

6:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m. Nightly

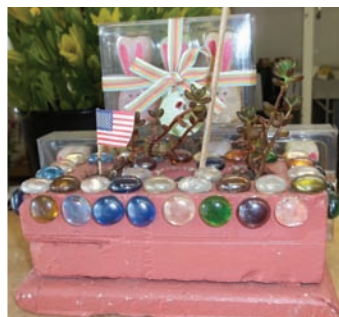
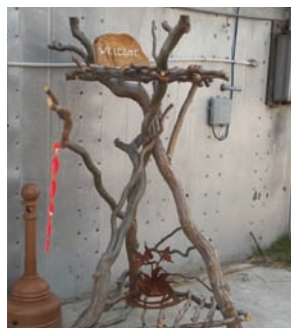
More than 50 Christmas trees, decorated with ornaments from the 1850s until the present, will be displayed inside a 9,500 sq. foot log home! Discounts given for advance ticket purchase! Discount tickets go on sale July 1, 2011 at Foxfire Farm Country Store and Floral Shop. Tickets purchased in advance are \$10 per adult and \$5 per child and are good for any night the Walk is open. Tickets are non-refundable but are transferable. Tickets can also be purchased by calling (810) 794-5108. Starting December 1, the price of tickets increases to \$12 per adult and \$6 per child. Santa Claus will be at the home on December 16, 17 and 23.

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10 a.m.-4 p.m.



Dont forget to shop in our greenhouse! Annuals, perennials, crafts for the garden. See ad on page 2.

KIDS KORN ER

By Louise Allen
ThumbPrint News Staff Writer

Fireflies



If you have ever gone outside just after dusk near an area with long grasses and a body of water, such as a pond, lake or stream, you may have seen little spots of flashing lights darting from one blade to another. These are fireflies.

Fireflies communicate with other fireflies by using their flashing lights. Fireflies can light up because of two special chemicals found in their tails, luciferase and luciferin. A special



process within their bodies causes these chemicals to be converted to energy, which is what makes the fireflies glow.

If you want to really have some fun and observe fireflies up close, find or purchase a small net, such as one that is used to catch butterflies. Once you have captured some fireflies, you can put them into a glass jar that has a few blades of moist grass and a few tiny holes punched in the lid of the

jar. If you find enough fireflies, you might even be able to take them inside of a dark tent or other dark place, such as a closet in your house, and use them as a light to read a book!

Unfortunately, fireflies are much less abundant than they were 25 years ago. Scientists believe that may be due to more houses and businesses being built upon land that formerly was the type of land that fireflies like. Light pollution and increased use of pesticides may also have contributed to the dwindling numbers of fireflies. Because we want to be able to observe fireflies in their natural habitats for a long time into the future, please do not keep the fireflies in the jar for more than a couple of hours. They could die. After you have had a chance to observe them close up, release them back into the area in which they were found. 🌱



More Bad News About the Bed Bug

ABC Home and Commercial Services wants customers to know that bed bugs really are a growing threat, and they are showing up in lots of places. But the fear of bed bugs can cause as many problems as the creatures themselves! Knowledge is the key. The pests have been discovered in theaters, clothing stores, office buildings, housing projects and posh apartments. Michigan was named as one of the epicenters for the outbreaks.

Now, there is even more cause for concern. Some bedbugs have been discovered by scientists to be carrying the drug-resistant MRSA bacteria, which can become deadly if it gets into the bloodstream. Scientists are in the early stages of trying to determine how the bugs became infected with the bacteria.

ABC Home & Commercial Services has experienced certified technicians who can determine if you have an infestation of bedbugs in your home or business and can provide the necessary treatment if you do. Call (810) 794-5678 for more information. 🌱



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Ira Township	10127 MC Highway	Ira Township	(586) 716-1371

CHESTERFIELD TOWNSHIP

Continued from Page 1

township offices are now located, at Sugarbush Road on the Aux Vasse River. In 1830, the Native Americans were moved farther west, out of Michigan.

After Antoine Cadillac landed in Detroit in 1701, the French began to settle in the Michigan area, trapping and buying, selling, and trading fur pelts and farming "strip farms," also known as "ribbon farms." These lots were long and narrow, with one part of the narrow section by the water, allowing maximum use of the water for crops by many farms.

One of the earliest recorded settlements was that of Pierre Yax in 1796 at the mouth of Crapeau Creek. The first purchase of government land was by Fabian Robertjean, on August 20, 1820, in Section 11 of Chesterfield near what would become New Baltimore's Washington Street. Another early settler in Chesterfield was Charles Seer, who, along with his grandson, settled near the Native American reservation that was on the Aux Vasse River in 1819.

The French had a settlement at the peninsula where the Salt River connects with Lake St. Clair. This was known as La Saline, and later as the Salt River Settlement. The French would use the salt of Salt River for trade, evaporating or boiling away the water to get to the salt. This was a technique learned from the Native Americans. The French lived with and learned from the Native Americans, adopting many of their customs. This is chiefly why, when the French and Indian War occurred in the New World from about 1753 to 1863, the Native Americans sided with the French.

When the Treaty of Paris ended the French and Indian War, it awarded England most of the French land claims in the New World. But even though the English controlled the land, little change actually occurred. The English maintained the salt and fur industries and most of the French settlers stayed to protect their interests.

Fort Gratiot Turnpike was laid out, going through



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what would soon be Chesterfield Township. The English stayed in the area until about 1815, when the Treaty of Ghent ended the War of 1812 and gave the American colonies control of the area.

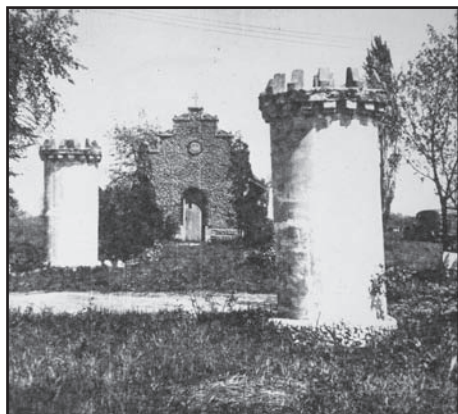
Michigan had become a territory in 1805 and larger groups of immigrants began to make their homes in the area. In 1818, William Wampler surveyed the Chesterfield Township area. New farmers had their land recorded, and the first land claims were re-recorded. Side roads off from the Gratiot Turnpike were created. Chesterfield was on the move!

In 1842, Public Act 57 was passed by the Michigan Legislature. This bill established the township of Chesterfield. The elders of the township were assigned the job of naming the new township and chose to name it for Lord Chesterfield, who was famous for his quotations such as "An injury is much sooner forgotten than an insult."

The first township budget was the princely sum of \$75. Chesterfield's population in 1850 was 1,002 but quickly doubled to 2,157. Grist mills were built, also known as corn or flour mills. These ground grain into flour. New sawmills made log cabins obsolete, allowing cut planks instead of logs to be used for houses, churches, schools, and businesses being built in the area. Planks were added to three area roads. These were Gratiot Turnpike, Washington Street from downtown Ashley (later New Baltimore) to Romeo, and 23 Mile Road (then called Telegraph Road for the telegraph wires along it). Plank roads usually had toll booths, charging 10 cents for a one-horse carriage and 10 cents for every 20 hogs or sheep.

In 1845, Alfred Ashley came from Mt. Clemens and erected a dock and built a sawmill in an eastern area of Chesterfield. In 1851 he platted the village that was called Ashley (in his honor) and was its first postmaster. On March 5, 1855 it was renamed New Baltimore because of other Ashleys in the area. It was incorporated as a village in 1867. In 1931, it was incorporated as a city, the only one to come from the Chesterfield Township area.

Other settlements did arise in Chesterfield Township. Besides Ashley, the most notable



The early Kolping Chapel

was Milton, which was at Bates Street and 24 Mile Road, right off Gratiot Avenue. It was a station on the Grand Trunk Railroad and its first post office was established in 1837 by Robert Milton, whom the village was named for. The Village of Milton had Congregational, Methodist, and Baptist churches, a school, a physician, a blacksmith, a dry goods and grocery store, a couple of taverns, and over a dozen houses. Over 200 people lived in Milton at one time. When the railroad stopped going through, Milton went into decline. The Congregational Church building was sold to Chesterfield Township in 1928. In 1930 it was remodeled and used for township business and civic events.

Around 1830, there was a small community at 22 Mile Road and Gratiot Avenue known by the same name as the township, Chesterfield. It had a post office until 1907, and also a railroad station, blacksmith shop, school, cider mill, a grocer/general store, and a cattle dealership.

A settlement at Fairchild and 23 Mile Road was called Fairchild and was also known as "Slippery Corner" because of an old clay bottom road that caused buggies to slide into the ditch. In 1906, it had an interurban station and its own post office.

East Union was a settlement located in Section 18 of Chesterfield Township, between 23 and 24 Mile Roads. It had a post office from 1856 until 1864.

The Interurban Railroad helped unite the area as it became widespread around the early 1900s until the 1930s. Electricity for the trains was produced in a New Baltimore power plant on Highview Street near Lake St. Clair. Train stops included Jefferson Avenue at Bay Court, 22 Mile Road and Gratiot, Stewart (now Sass) Road, and Orr's Crossing, at 23 Mile Road and Gratiot Avenue. Fourteen local trains made seven round trips and 30 limited trips, making 15 round trips from Detroit to Port Huron daily, thereby providing hourly service.

Farming remained the principal occupation of the residents of Chesterfield Township for many years. Chesterfield Creamery, where many local farmers sold their milk, was world renowned. The Donner Farm, located where 23 Mile Road, Gratiot Avenue, and Donner Road are today, was well-known for its modern architecture. Many of the streets in Chesterfield are named for the original farms that were located on them, including Cotton Road and Fuller Road. The Fuller farm was a centennial farm, staying in the same family for over 100 years.

In 1919, Michigan passed a law outlawing alcohol a year before the United States passed the Volstead Act, creating a country-wide prohibition in 1920. This gave Michiganders a full year head start before the rest of the nation on learning the best ways to smuggle liquor into the country from Canada. The Michigan-



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Washington Street in New Baltimore circa 1956

Canadian border was one of the main places where liquor was smuggled in and the Chesterfield area saw its share. Many residents would see a caravan of cars crossing the ice in the wintertime, loaded high with alcohol. In the warmer months, speedboats were used. Popular unloading spots were located along the Aux Vasse River, often Kolping Park.

In 1926, the Kolping Society, a German religious group, established a chapter in Detroit and in 1932, constructed a chapel in Kolping Park, located on six acres near the Aux Vasse River on Sugarbush Road. The chapel was constructed of coral,

marble, granite, stones, and shells from Kolping societies, missions, and churches around the world. It is listed on the state and national registers of historical places.

In the 1950s, Bernard and Oceola Trinity started a library/museum on Sugarbush Road near the Kolping Chapel. In the museum were many of the Native American artifacts that Mr. Trinity uncovered. The interior of the museum included an old time general store. When the library closed in the early 1990s, the books went to the new Chesterfield Township Public Library, which opened in 1992.

See *Chesterfield Township*, Page 24

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CHESTERFIELD TOWNSHIP

Continued from Page 23

In 1954, Chesterfield Township developed its own fire department, largely through the efforts of later U.S. Representative George Furton. Before establishing the fire department, Chesterfield fires would be handled by volunteers and whatever other fire departments could respond from other areas.

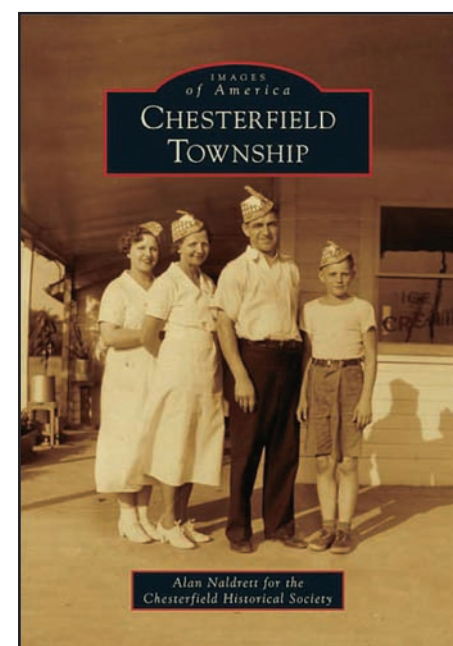
May 8, 1964 is a date that anyone who lived in Chesterfield Township at that time will never forget. At 4:47 p.m. a Class 4 tornado ripped through the township, killing 13 people and seriously injuring 75 more. Even though it lasted only 30 seconds, it destroyed 46 homes and severely damaged 108 others!

In the 1990s, Chesterfield Township experienced phenomenal growth and at one time was the largest growing area in Michigan. Chesterfield continues to be a remarkable community, with the friendly people long considered one of Chesterfield's best assets.

Notable people from Chesterfield include folk-singer Claudia Schmidt and TV show animator Butch Hartman ("Fairly Odd Parents").

Editor's Note: Alan Naldret is a member of the Chesterfield History Society and the author of an Arcadia book called, Images of America, Chesterfield Township that will be out on July 4, 2011. This book can be pre-ordered on-line or from your local bookstore using ISBN: 0738578037.

ThumbPrint News normally runs a section entitled "Spotlight on a Small Town" each month. This month, we are featuring Alan's article on Chesterfield Township instead. Some of the photos for this article were provided by Bob Mack. We always invite authors, interested historians and members of Thumb area historical societies to submit articles of interest on the history of cities, small towns and townships in the areas that we cover for consideration for publication in future issues of the newspaper. We also welcome historical photos and postcards.



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My 16-year-old brother, Ryan, was out late with friends one night. Suddenly he realized it was Father's Day and he had neglected to buy a card for our dad. After much searching, Ryan located an open store, but was disappointed to find only two cards left on a picked-over rack. Selecting one, he brought it home and, somewhat sheepishly, presented it to our father. Upon opening it, Dad read this message: "You've been like a father to me." He looked at Ryan, puzzled. "Well, Dad," Ryan tried to explain, "it was either that or the card that said, 'Now that I'm a father too!'"

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Thumb Area Activities & Events for June 2011

If you have an event in July that you would like listed in the July issue of *ThumbPrint News*, please email it to ThumbPrintNews@comcast.net by June 12, 2011. 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

Flint – June 9

Ask the Lawyer Free Community Seminar, Flint Public Library, 1026 E. Kearsley St., 6:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m. Brought to you by the attorneys of the GCBA in collaboration with the Flint Public Library and Legal Services of Eastern Michigan. Tonight's topic will be "Pet Law 101: What Every Good Pet Owner Must Know!" There is limited space! RSVP by calling (810) 232-6000 or register online at www.gcbalaw.org.

Mt. Morris – June 17 & 18

Midwest BBQ & Blues Throwdown, E.A. Cummings Center, G-6130 E. Mount Morris Rd. This is the only BBQ Event in Genesee County to be sanctioned and recognized by the Kansas City Barbeque Society. Gate admission is free, parking is \$5 per vehicle. There will be featured performances by regional blues recording artists. BBQ Teams from throughout the Midwest and Canada compete for the best ribs, chicken, pulled pork and beef brisket. Certified Judges from throughout the United States and Canada travel to judge the Throwdown each year. There will also be a petting zoo and bounce house for kids! Vendors will be displaying a variety of services and products ranging from windows to cotton candy and, of course, BBQ. Fun for the whole family! For more information call (810) 687-0953.

Huron County

Bad Axe – June 10-13

Hatchet Festival, downtown area. Three day festival includes a wide range of activities for the whole family to enjoy, including city wide garage sales,

food concessions, a 5K Run/Walk, entertainment, beverage tent, petting zoo, pony rides, a car show, fireworks and much, much more. For a complete list of events and times visit www.badaxehatchetfestival.com.

Sebewaing – June 15-19

Michigan Sugar Festival, Main Park in Sebewaing. Lots of events including a carnival midway, a Grand Parade and volleyball tourney on Saturday, pancake breakfast on Sunday, Michigan Sugar Festival Queen, and lots of music and food. Contact (989) 412-6098 for information.

Lapeer County

Lapeer – June 4 & 5

6th Annual Art and History Festival, Chatfield School, 231 Lake Dr., Prairies & Ponds Natural Area, 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. on Saturday and 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. on Sunday. Festival is presented by The Sunrise Kiwanis Club of Lapeer. For more information call (810) 762-8974.

Marlette – June 25 & 26

10th Annual Freelin Frenzy, 8395 Cargill Road, southwest of Marlette, west of M-53, between Clifford and Barnes, gates open at 7:00 a.m. both days. Motocross racing beginning at 10:00 a.m. both days, live band Saturday night, kids' games, moonwalk, giant slide, fun for the whole family. Adults \$10 per day, ages 5-12 \$5 per day. Contact Ann Konarski at (989) 761-1301 or visit www.FreelinMX.com.

Macomb County

Mount Clemens – June 3-5

Mount Clemens Art Fair, Macomb Place, downtown area. Activities include fine-art make-and-take experiences for kids of all ages, a Puppetmobile, local artist's booths, entertainers, fireworks, and more. Go to www.theartcenter.org for a complete list of events and times. Admission is free.

New Baltimore – June 5 & 12

Flower and Herb Markets, New Baltimore Farmers Market, on Washington St. on the open lot between the Recreation Center and the Police Department, 8:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

This is the perfect opportunity to purchase locally grown herbs, vegetable plants, flats, hanging baskets and more. There will also be artisans, activities, entertainment and food. Visit www.ridethewavenb.com.

Chesterfield – June 11 & 12

Ste. Claire Voyageurs Overnight Encampment, Historic Village on Sugarbush, next to the township offices, 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Event will be hosted by the Chesterfield Township Historical Society. Food and drinks will be available for purchase on site. A donation of \$1 per adult and \$2 for a family is requested. For more information, visit their website at <http://chesterfieldhistoricalsociety.org/>.

Romeo – June 12

Flea N Tique Sale, sponsored by the Romeo Historical Society at two locations: 132 Church St. and 290 N. Main St., 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Antiques, collectibles, unique items, garden art, tools, sporting goods and toys will be for sale. Call (586) 752-4111 for more information.

Richmond – June 17 & 18

Elijah: God's Man on Fire, Richmond Community of Christ Church, 33961 Armada Ridge Road, 7:00 p.m. Public is welcome to attend our theatrical production of the retelling of the story of Elijah and how through God's love and power he was able to help change a nation. The event is free, pizza and popcorn provided at no cost.

Oakland County

Rochester – June 3

Starry Nights, Dinosaur Hill Nature Preserve, 333 North Hill Circle, 7:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m. Got cabin fever? Tired of the same old thing on TV? Come out for some old-fashioned family fun in front of a campfire. Snacks are provided. Learn which phenomenon you should keep an eye out for in the summer sky this year. We will find out about meteor showers, cool constellations and so much more. For program fees and more information call (248) 656-0999.

Waterford – June 25 & 26

Log Cabin Days Festival, Fish Hatchery

Park, 4490 Hatchery Rd. Sponsored by the Waterford Township Historical and Preservation Society, buildings that will be open include a house, log cabin, play house, Grand Trunk Caboose, depot, hardware store, Jacober's General Store, carriage house, outhouse, print shop and water tower. The Hatchery House, built in 1919 and restored to that era, serves as a museum and headquarters. Upstairs there are two display rooms, a research library, and a room for accessioning. Contact (248) 683-2697 for more information.

St. Clair County

Marysville – June 2

Get Started Organizing & Recycling, Marysville Library, 1175 Delaware, 6:00 p.m. Learn the basics of organizing and recycling at home with Karen DeClark and Terry Gibb. This presentation will focus on the steps needed to complete your organizing projects with tips on how to reduce and reuse everyday items and where to recycle. For adults. Register by calling (810) 364-9493.

Yale – June 2

Lapsit, Yale Library, 2 Jones St., 10:30 a.m. This is designed for little ones under three and their caregivers. Enjoy finger plays, songs and nursery rhymes. This is a great opportunity for your child to learn and develop better listening, educational and social skills at their own pace in a group setting. Call (810) 387-2940.

Clay Township – June 4

Phragmites Public Meetings, Clay Township Hall, 4710 Pte. Tremble Rd. From 9:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m. will be a Phragmites Program Presentation (same material that was presented on March 22) and from 10:30 a.m.-noon will be a Phragmites Control Workshop (similar to last year's workshop). Please join the members of the Clay Township Phragmites Advisory Board to hear all about this year's management program and everything you need to know about controlling this invasive plant. On this day you can apply to be in the program, take the required workshop and order your

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chemicals. Take care of everything in one morning. There is no charge to attend either of these events.

Port Huron – June 4

Model Boat Show, Vantage Point, 51 Water St., 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. The Great Lakes Nautical Society will judge boats starting at 1:00 p.m. and awards will be given out at 2:30 p.m. Entry fee for judging models is \$10 for three boats and \$5 for additional models. Call Len Treppa at (586) 756-5958.

Kimball – June 7

Container Gardening & Odds and Ends, G. Lynn Campbell Library, 1995 N. Allen Rd., 4:30 p.m. Adults, join us as Master Gardener Denie Lesinski teaches us the ins and outs of container gardening. She will also give us quick tips on gardening in general. Registration required. (810) 982-9171.

Memphis – June 9

Kenya Travelogue, Memphis Library, 34830 Potter St., 6:00 p.m. For adults. Library Director Jim Warwick presents highlights of his recent trip to Kenya. For more information, call (810) 392-2980.

Algonac – June 11

Free Fishing Derby, Algonac-Clay Library, 2011 St. Clair River Dr., 9:00 a.m.-noon. Enjoy Michigan's free fishing weekend (no fishing license required – all rules/laws apply) with your family at your library. Hosted by Waterfowl U.S.A. St. Clair Flats Chapter 1. Bring your own pole or use one of ours. Prize drawing for all anglers. Refreshments served. Registration is recommended. Event will be held rain or shine. Call (810) 794-4471 to register.

Marine City – June 11

Hook and Needle Club, Marine City Library, 300 S. Parker, 1:00 p.m. Bring your own materials for a relaxing afternoon of knitting, crocheting and stitchery. Share ideas, patterns and meet others who share your interests. Ages 12 and up. Call (810) 765-5233 for more information.

East China – June 12

Announcement of Winners of "Name the Mannequin" and "Her Biography" Contests, Red Brick Schoolhouse and Museum, 696 Meisner Rd., 2:00 p.m. The East China Historical Commission introduces its new "student" and makes the long awaited announcements. The 1872 schoolhouse is also available for field trips, meetings, special gatherings and weddings. For more information call (810) 765-8879.

Ira Township – June 13

Introductions to Computers, Ira Township Library, 7013 Meldrum Rd., 6:30 p.m. For the new or beginning computer user, learn about the computer's parts and pieces, review the mouse and keyboard and the structure of the desktop. For adults only. Registration is requested. (586) 725-9081.

St. Clair – June 14

Kid Kreations, St. Clair Library, 310 S. Second St., 6:30 p.m. Story and crafts for kids, ages 5-12.

Capac – June 16 & 30

Kid's Kreations, Capac Library, 111 N. Main, 3:00 p.m. Do fun crafts and hear age appropriate stories. Ages 5-12. For more information, call (810) 395-7000.

Port Huron – June 16

Meet Former Pro Wrestler, Ron Martinelli, Port Huron Library, 210 McMorran Blvd., 7:00 p.m. Ron Martinelli a.k.a. Ron Zuccaro wrestled professionally in the 1970s and 1980s with sometime tag team partner, Dick the Bruiser. He battled against The Iron Sheik and Andre the Giant. He served in the U.S. Military during Vietnam. Hear his amazing story – a message of hope, perseverance and faith. His book will be available for purchase. This event is for adults. Register by calling (810) 987-7323.

Anchorville – June 17

Annual Mary Garden Walk, Immaculate Conception Church grounds, Dixie Hwy. and Church St., 11:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. For more information, call (810) 794-5222.

Marine City – June 18

29th Annual Banquet, Presented by Waterfowl USA St. Clair Flats Chapter #1, Knights of Columbus Hall, 6385 King Rd. There will be lots of activities including ladies table, live auction, 50/50 raffle and many more. Doors open at 5:00 p.m. for more information contact mark at (586) 405-1713 or Josh at (810) 459-3488.

Marine City – June 18

Market Berry Festival, Marine City Farmer's Market, Parker and High Streets, 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. This will be a great preview to the outdoor season, with an emphasis on berries. Join your neighbors and enjoy the outdoors while shopping for the best of what the Blue Water Area has to offer. For information, call (810) 765-5165.

Port Huron – June 22

St. Clair County Family History Group, Port Huron Museum, 1115 Sixth St., 7:30 p.m. This month's program will be a tour of the new exhibit, "The Lives They Left Behind," featuring suitcases and belongings left behind by people who were in poor houses or mental hospitals. The tour will be free to attendees. Anyone interested in local history or researching their family tree is encouraged to become a member or attend one of our programs. (810) 989-0399 or visit <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~miscffhg/>

Lakeport – June 24

The Past in Person Summer Reading Club Kickoff, Burtchville Township Library, 7097 Second St., 3:00 p.m. Michael Deren is an accomplished musician, songwriter and storyteller. His presentation, done as an old-time engineer on the transcontinental railroad, is musical, educational and participative. Join the Summer Reading Club and pick up your reading logs. (810) 385-8550.

Emmett – June 26

Annual Chicken Barbeque, Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Catholic Church, 10828 Brandon Rd., noon-4:00 p.m. For further information, call (810) 384-1786.

Sanilac County

Port Sanilac – June 4

King of the Road Hobo Day, Sanilac County Historic Village and Museum, 228 S. Ridge St., 1:00 p.m. This is the second celebration of the moving of the Deckerville Depot to the Historic Village. What more appropriate way than to host a "Hobo" party. Our famous "King of the Road Stew" will be the featured food along with some not so common, to the Hobo, delicacies. Guests are encouraged to get in the spirit of the day by dressing in their best hobo costume, with a People's Choice Award for the best (worst) dressed man and woman. Silent auction and our own "Hobo" minstrels. \$25 (\$20 for members of the Society) and \$10 for children. (810) 622-9946.

Brown City – June 9-11

Thumb Area Soy Bean Festival, downtown area. Formerly called the Brown City Days, the event has been renamed the Thumb Area Soybean Festival. Events include a parade, garage sales, midway (carnival), car show, and fireworks at dusk on Saturday night.

Brown City – June 11

China Beach Party, Honoring Our Vietnam Veterans, Brown City Park.

All day event includes bike rally, dinner, refreshments, music and more – all within walking distance of the Soybean Festival activities. Proceeds benefit Wounded Warriors and the VFW. Sign-up for the ride is from 9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m. \$20 single rider, \$30 double.

Lexington – June 16 – 18

Trinity Episcopal Church Attic Sale, Trinity Episcopal Church, 5646 Main St., 5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. on Thursday, 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. on Friday and Saturday. From 2:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m. on Saturday, there will be a \$1.00 bag sale. There will also be a silent auction. Call (810) 966-9300.

Tuscola County

Caro – June 26

Open Horse Show, Caro Fairgrounds, enter on M-81 at Pizza Hut, 9:00 a.m. start, rain or shine. Judge will be Stacie Rulison, entries are \$4 per class, 4-H rules apply. Contact Amy Kotsch at (989) 683-3271 or Grant Gettel at (989) 325-2245.

Caro – June 28

Monthly Free Senior Movie: South Pacific, Carol Area District Library, 840 West Frank St., 1:00 p.m.-3:20 p.m. Call (989) 673-4329.



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Looking at Weeds in a Different Light

By Louise Allen

ThumbPrint News Staff Writer

What is a weed? A plant whose virtues have not yet been discovered.

~ Ralph Waldo Emerson, Fortune of the Republic, 1878

Has wet, warm and rainy weather made it hard to get the grass mowed? Rather than being tidy and neatly trimmed, has your yard become a weed patch?

Rather than fret, use this opportunity to add some variety to your table with a fresh picking of edible greens (also known as weeds). Wholesome, nutritious and vitamin rich, these plants can introduce your palate to new culinary delights. If you happen to have a neatly trimmed lawn, many of these weeds can be found growing in fields or other unattended areas along country roads. Just be sure to gather your greens from an area that hasn't been recently sprayed with herbicides or pesticides.

Below you will find some common edible weeds of Michigan, a description of the edible parts of each, how each can be used and one sample recipe for each.

Burdock (*Arctium lappa*)

The edible parts of this plant are its roots and stalks. Plants can be found and used from spring through fall in Michigan. The young stalks can be used in place of artichoke hearts and the cooked roots can be used in soups and casseroles. Fresh burdock root is slightly sweet and earthy tasting – older roots can be bitter.



Cooked Burdock Root

Ingredients:

- ½ lb. burdock root
- ¼ lb. carrot, peeled and cut into short and thin strips
- 1 tbsp. sugar
- ½ tbsp. Sake (Japanese rice wine)
- 1 tbsp. soy sauce
- 1 tsp. sesame seeds
- 2 tsps. vegetable oil

Directions:

- Lightly shave the burdock root and cut into very thin strips. Soak the strips in water for a while and drain well.
- Heat oil in a frying pan, and fry strips for a couple minutes. Add carrot strips to the pan and stir-fry them. Add sake and sugar and stir-fry until the liquid is gone. Season with soy sauce and stir-fry well.
- Turn off the heat. Sprinkle with sesame seeds and serve.

Chicory (*Cichorium intybus*)

The edible parts of this plant are its flow-

ers, leaves and roots. Plants can be found and used from spring through fall, but are best when harvested young. The leaves and flowers can be added raw to salads. The leaves can be sautéed as you would spinach. The roots can be roasted and ground to make a coffee substitute. In fact, at one time Michigan led the nation in the production of chicory products, with Capac, Port Huron and many parts of the Thumb area being involved in growing it for commercial use.



Chicory and Cheese Bake

Ingredients:

- 1 lb. chicory
- 10 oz. of lean cooked ham
- 1 tbsp. oil
- Salt and white pepper
- 2½ oz. butter
- 2 tbsp. flour
- 8 fl. oz. milk
- ¼ pint dry white wine
- 4 oz. soft cheese
- 2 egg yolks, beaten
- 2 tbsp. breadcrumbs
- 1 tbsp. chopped parsley

Directions:

- Wash and dry the chicory and cut off the stalks. Cut the chicory into strips about ½" wide and the ham into small strips.
- Heat the oil in a frying pan, add and fry the chicory and ham, season with salt and pepper and keep to one side.
- Melt 2 oz. of the butter in a saucepan, add and cook the flour until golden. Stir in the milk a little at a time and simmer for five minutes, stirring continuously. Stir in the wine. Add the cheese in small pieces and stir until melted. Remove the sauce from the heat and stir in the beaten egg yolks.
- Grease an ovenproof dish with butter and fill with the ham and chicory mixture. Cover with the cheese sauce, sprinkle with the bread crumbs and parsley and dot with the butter.
- Bake at 400° for 25 minutes.

Dandelions (*Taraxacum officinale*)

The edible parts of this plant are its flowers, leaves and roots. The leaves and blossoms are best when harvested young and both can be added raw to salads, with a similar taste to spinach. Be careful to use only the petals of the dandelion flowers – the green bases can be bitter. Dandelions greens are

excellent sautéed like spinach and are rich in vitamins. Old-timers used to make dandelion wine from the flowers of the dandelion.



Cooked Dandelion Greens

Ingredients:

- 1 lb. dandelion greens
- ½ cup chopped onion
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 1 whole small dried hot chili pepper, seeds removed, crushed
- ¼ cup cooking oil
- Salt and pepper
- Parmesan cheese

Directions:

- Discard dandelion green roots; wash greens well in salted water. Cut leaves into 2" pieces.
- Cook greens uncovered in small amount of salted water until tender, about 10 minutes.
- Sauté onion, garlic, and chili pepper in oil. Drain greens; add to onion garlic mixture.
- Taste dandelion greens and season with salt and pepper. Serve dandelion greens with grated Parmesan cheese.

Lamb's Quarters (*Chenopodium album*)

The edible parts are the leaves and stems which can be harvested from mid-spring to late fall. The leaves can be added to salads, sautéed and served as a vegetable, or used in place of spinach.



Lamb's Quarters Quiche

Ingredients:

- One 9" unbaked pie crust
- ½ tsp. salt
- 4 cups young lamb's quarters leaves, cut up
- 3 eggs
- ¾ cup milk

- ¼ cup chopped onion
- 8 oz. grated Swiss cheese
- 2 tbsp. butter
- 1 tbsp. flour

Directions:

- Partially bake pie crust at 450° for 5-7 min. or until light brown. Reduce heat to 325°.
- Cook onion and leaves until tender and limp. Stir in flour and salt. Beat together eggs and milk; add vegetables.
- Sprinkle cheese in pie shell; pour in eggs.
- Bake 40-45 min. or until knife comes out clean when it's inserted into center. Let stand 10 min. before serving.

Plantain (*Plantago major*)

The edible parts are the leaves and seeds which can be harvested from spring through fall. The young leaves can be added to salads. They are very mild. Cooking the older leaves will make them tender. The seeds can be eaten raw or roasted. The weed plantain is not related to the banana-like plantain fruit that grows in tropical locations.



Creamed Plantain Leaves with Bacon

Ingredients:

- ¼ cup butter
- ¼ cup flour
- 1 cup milk
- 3 cups washed plantain leaves
- 6 slices of bacon, fried until crisp, then chopped
- Salt and pepper to taste
- Dash of nutmeg

Directions:

- Boil a large pot of salted water and add the plantain leaves. Cook until leaves soften and are tender. Don't overcook. Drain and set aside.
- Melt the butter in the saucepan over medium heat. Stir in the flour and cook until well blended. Continue stirring and cook until the mixture is smooth and bubbling.
- Gradually add the milk, stirring continuously until thickened.
- Add the cooked leaves, stirring until heated and coated with the cream sauce. Add the cooked bacon, season gently with salt, pepper and nutmeg. 🌱

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THE JOURNEY

Continued from Page 4

side. "I started driving my father's truck at age twelve. By the time I was 14, I was driving by myself making deliveries. My father made a delivery one day to the movie star Ann Sheridan. She found out that he had a daughter and she sent \$10 home with him for me. It was like getting \$100 today.

I left high school in my senior year to take a job in the A&P Market to help out with family expenses," Alice said.

"I was at the Rialto Theater in New Haven with my boyfriend when they announced the attack on Pearl Harbor. I was shocked and angry. I wanted to do my part. I knew what I was going to do."

Alice had her mother take her to the recruiting station in Hartford, Connecticut to join the United States Marine Corps. She was disappointed when she learned that you must be 21 to join, so she joined the United States Navy. It turned out that this would be the right choice.

She went through training at Hunter College in New York for twelve weeks and then was sent to Bethesda Naval Hospital for additional training, graduating with a rank of Pharmacist Mate Third. She was sent to the Naval Training Center in Bainbridge, Maryland and assigned to hospital ward duty.

Alice vividly remembers being in a

surgical ward with a young sailor that had been operated on for appendicitis. "His appendices had ruptured. He kept crying and crying for his mother. He was hurting so bad, but his crying disrupted the patients on the ward. I asked the head nurse if I could hold him and she told me to go ahead and try it. I held him in my arms and he quieted right down. He thought I was his mother. I held him for hours." There would be a lot more tears, sadness and joy in the months ahead.

"When I arrived at work one day, I was notified of the new arrivals in my ward. When I entered the ward, the first Marine I saw was Sergeant Roy Hahn. Both of his legs were in casts. He was really nice. It wasn't long before I started taking him to the canteen in his wheelchair. He would sit in the doorway every day and wait for me. We shared our



Sargeant Roy Hahn and Pharmacist Mate Alice Stevens post in the yard at Alice's parents home in Derby, Connecticut in 1945.

first kiss in a small alcove at the end of the hallway by the canteen," Alice said with a warm smile.

Roy's healing seemed to be accelerated, as his heart filled with love for Alice. She took him home to meet her parents and they both wholeheartedly approved of Roy. Love was in the air and Alice's parents knew it.

Roy had to undergo a second operation on his right leg in Philadelphia. The leg had to be broken and reset in a cast. His left ankle that had been mangled from the land mine

explosion was healing properly. Alice had been transferred to the New London Connecticut Submarine Base and was only able to make one visit to see Roy while he was at the Naval Hospital in Philadelphia. The surgery was successful and after a couple of months of physical therapy Roy was in a walking cast. The healing was well under way.

A worldwide healing period was about to start with the announced unconditional surrender of Nazi Germany on May 8, 1945. Crowds erupted in celebration around the world at the end of Adolf Hitler's Third Reich. It was also the end of Adolf Hitler who committed suicide in his underground bunker in Berlin.

Roy and Alice celebrated with the rest of the world. "I remember saying to Alice, "One down and one to go." The Empire of Japan would soon be faced with surrender or annihilation.

Roy and Alice celebrated their wedding the following month on June 9, 1945 when they were married in New York at "The Little Church Around The Corner." Alice's father had driven them to New York. Roy's legs were still in casts. The horror of war had brought two souls together in love.



The Little Church Around the Corner in New York.



Gen. Umezu signs instrument of surrender on September 2, 1945 aboard the U.S.S. Missouri anchored in Tokyo Bay, Japan.

Alice was back at work at the New London Submarine Base Hospital, after her weekend honeymoon. Roy returned to Bainbridge.

The celebrations continued when the Empire of Japan surrendered unconditionally, on August 15, 1945, soon after an atomic bomb was dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The surrender ceremony took place aboard the U.S.S. Missouri in Tokyo Bay, Japan. The final victory had been achieved.

"Victory had seemed so far away on Peleliu. It was a special time to give thanks to God and remember all those who gave so much for their country," said Roy.

Roy and Alice returned to Detroit after the war. Two years later, Roy started to lose vision in his right eye. The piece of shrapnel was a jagged reminder of Peleliu. The surgeon recommended the removal of his right eye to prevent "sympathetic blindness" from his left eye. "My left eye brought me through," he said.

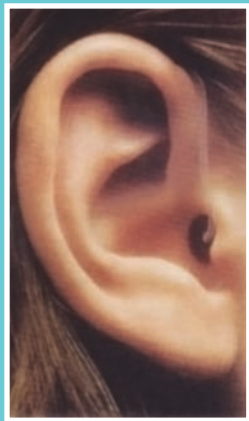
Roy has an artificial eye but his injuries did not stop him from having a successful career with the Army Tank Automotive Command where he spent thirty six years, retiring as Chief of Configuration Management in 1982.

Roy and Alice beam with joy when they talk about their three lovely children. Shari was their first daughter, then came Sandy, and finally Daniel made the family complete. They have four grandchildren and two great grandchildren, who are their pride and joy.

Alice has had two strokes and is now confined to a wheel chair. She has her loving husband by her side, who provides for her care. Their condo door and windows have decals of the American Flag, Support our Troops, and of course, the emblem of the United States Marine Corps.

Sandy Hahn sums it up best about her dad when she vividly recalls a family trip to Arlington National Cemetery in the summer of 1965.

"I remember it was twenty years after the war ended. We went to Arlington Cemetery, watched the changing of the guard at the



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tomb of the Unknown Soldier and then we walked the cemetery until my father found the soldier's grave that he knew. He asked us to stand back a bit. He walked over to the grave to say a prayer and of course to shed a few tears. It was one of my memorable moments as a child. I would have been about ten years old at the time and I have never forgotten that day.

I remember my dad saying something to the effect of why it took him so long to walk the cemetery. It was so difficult to bring back the memories of the war that he

so proudly took part in so his children and all those that followed would live in a free democracy.

My dad was always and ever will be an officer and a gentleman."

Roy and Alice have been married for 65 years and have resided in Lexington, Michigan for the past 21 years, as they continue their "journey."

God bless you, Roy and Alice. God bless all who served and those who continue to serve our country.

Semper fi. 🇺🇸



Alice and Roy Hahn currently live in Lexington, Michigan. Roy is shown here proudly wearing the Purple Heart that was presented to him and many other soldiers that were wounded on Peleliu in a brief presentation aboard the U.S.S. Solace, the hospital ship on which he was being treated. The Purple Heart is a medal awarded to members of the U.S. military for being wounded or killed in any action against an enemy of the United States or as a result of an act of any such enemy or opposing armed forces.



Memoirs from The Restless Retiree

A Gift for Father's Day

By Gabriel Jones, ThumbPrint News Columnist

These two categories are: older and younger.

The younger ones should give their Father something that they themselves have made personally for Father. Wow! It doesn't matter what it is as long as it was made for Father.

As for the older ones . . . their universal gift should be time spent with their Dad helping him on a project around his home.

Hallelujah! I did it again. I solved the problem of what should be the universal gift for Fathers on Father's Day. All Fathers of the world will thank me for this . . . I bow to you all.

In the background, Mother is heard to say, "I'll buy him socks and underwear."

Another lesson learned by The Restless Retiree! 🇺🇸

Father's Day will soon be here. And the questions is: "What do I get for Father on Father's Day?"

Everyone knows what to give Mother on Mother's Day. It's universal: flowers and/or candy. All Mothers enjoy receiving these gifts.

But Fathers . . .

There is no universal gift for Father's Day. It's a dilemma! What do I buy?

But Gabriel Jones knows the answer!

The Universal gift for Fathers on Father's Day is . . .

Wait a minute!

It comes in two categories . . .

"What do you mean two categories?" you may ask.

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THURSDAY, JUNE 30, 2011

5pm TOURNAMENT OPENS
 5pm FISHING CONTEST BEGINS
 5pm-Dusk ARTS & CRAFTS RIVERFRONT PARK
 5pm-10pm BINGO AT RIVERFRONT PARK
 5pm-10pm VEGAS RM. AT ST. CATHERINES
 6pm-11pm BEER TENT AT ST. CATHERINES - LIVE ENTERTAINMENT
 6pm ALGONAC LIONESS KIDS PARADE AT MICHIGAN & M-29
 6:30pm ANNOUNCE PRIZES FOR KIDS PARADE - MAIN STAGE
 7pm QUEEN CONTESTANTS GIVE SPEECHES - MAIN STAGE
 7pm POKER TOURNAMENT AT VEGAS ROOM - ST. CATHERINE'S
 11pm MIDWAY CLOSES

FRIDAY, JULY 1, 2011

Noon MIDWAY OPENS
 Noon-Dusk ARTS & CRAFTS RIVERFRONT PARK
 3pm-10pm BINGO AT RIVERFRONT PARK
 4pm-8pm BIKE SHOW ON THE RIVERFRONT - OLIVER CARBIDE
 5pm-10pm VEGAS ROOM AT ST. CATHERINES
 5pm-Midnight BEER TENT AT ST. CATHERINES
 6pm-7pm KIDS KARAOKE CONTEST - MAIN STAGE
 7pm-9pm ADULTS KARAOKE CONTEST 1ST ROUND - MAIN STAGE
 7pm POKER TOURNAMENT AT VEGAS ROOM - ST. CATHERINES
 8pm BIKE NIGHT AT BEER TENT - ST. CATHERINES
 8pm-Midnight ENTERTAINMENT AT BEER TENT
 10:30pm DAILY FISHING PRIZES ANNOUNCED - MAIN STAGE
 Midnight MIDWAY CLOSES

SATURDAY, JULY 2, 2011

7am REGISTRATION KIDS FISHING CONTEST
 7am BIKE TOUR BEGINS - CLAY TOWNSHIP PARK- BAYSIDE SALON
 8am-Noon KIDS FISHING CONTEST AT RIVERFRONT - MINNICH'S
 Noon MIDWAY OPENS
 Noon-Dusk ARTS & CRAFTS AT RIVERFRONT PARK
 1pm HONORING OF VETS - MAIN STAGE
 1:30pm PIE EATING CONTEST - MAIN STAGE
 3pm-10pm BINGO AT RIVERFRONT PARK
 4pm QUEEN CONTESTANTS GIVE SPEECHES - MAIN STAGE
 5pm-10pm VEGAS RM. - ST. CATHERINES
 5pm-12pm BEER TENT - ST. CATHERINES
 5pm VOTING FOR QUEEN ENDS
 6pm-7pm VOTES COUNTED
 7pm CROWNING OF THE QUEEN - MAIN STAGE- SEAWAY BANK
 7pm POKER TOURNAMENT AT VEGAS, ROOM- ST. CATHERINES

8pm HOT DOG EATING CONTEST-MAIN STAGE - JOHNNIE LEGA'S
 8pm ENTERTAINMENT AT THE BEER TENT
 10pm FIREWORKS - RIVERFRONT
 11pm DAILY FISHING PRIZES - MAIN STAGE
 Midnight MIDWAY CLOSES

CLAY TOWNSHIP PARK EVENTS

7am-9am REGISTRATION FOR BIKE TOUR
 7am BIKE TOUR BEGINS
 11am REGISTRATION FOR HORSESHOE TOURNAMENT
 Noon HORSESHOE TOURNAMENT BEGINS
 Noon-??? BEER TENT
SUNDAY JULY 3, 2011
 Noon MIDWAY OPENS
 Noon-Dusk ARTS & CRAFTS RIVERFRONT PARK
 2pm STREET PARADE - TALMER BANK & TRUST
 3pm-10pm BINGO AT RIVERFRONT PARK
 5pm-10pm VEGAS ROOM - ST. CATHERINES
 5pm -Midnight BEER TENT
 4pm -6pm ADULT KARAOKE CONTEST FINALS
 6pm -Midnight BATTLE OF THE BANDS - MAIN STAGE
 7pm POKER TOURNAMENT AT VEGAS ROOM- ST. CATHERINES
 8pm-Midnight ENTERTAINMENT AT BEER TENT
 10pm FIREWORKS (RAIN DAY)
 10:30pm DAILY FISHING PRIZES - MAIN STAGE
 11pm MIDWAY CLOSES

ALGONAC HIGH SCHOOL

7:15am -8:20am RACE DAY REGISTRATION & PACKET PICK-UP
 8:30am 10K RUN STARTS AT ALGONAC HIGH SCHOOL. FINISH AT CLAY TOWNSHIP PARK - SEAWAY BANK
 8:32am 5K RUN & WALK START AT ALGONAC HIGH SCHOOL. FINISH AT CLAY TOWNSHIP PARK - CORTIS BROS.
 CLAY TOWNSHIP PARK EVENTS
 10am KIDS MINNOW ¼ RUN - START AND FINISH AT CLAY TOWNSHIP PARK
 11am REGISTRATION FOR HORSESHOE TOURNAMENT

MONDAY JULY 4, 2011

8am KAYAK POKER PADDLE - DNR SITE - THE KAYAK STORE
 Noon MIDWAY OPENS
 Noon-6pm ARTS & CRAFTS RIVERFRONT PARK
 Noon-6pm BINGO AT RIVERFRONT PARK
 Noon-2pm WATERMELON EATING CONTEST - MAIN STAGE
 AGE GROUPS (4-7) (8-12) (13-16)
 5:45pm AT MAIN STAGE
 AWARD DAILY FISHING PRIZE
 AWARD WHOPPER GRAND PRIZE
 AWARD BOAT RAFFLE PRIZE
 6pm TOURNAMENT ENDS

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What Happened On This Day in History?

June

1. On this day in 1495, the first written record of Scotch Whiskey appeared in Exchequer Rolls of Scotland; Friar John Cor was the distiller.



2. On this day in 1835, P. T. Barnum and his circus began the first tour of the U.S.



3. On this day in 1861, the first Civil War land battle took place. The Union defeated the Confederacy at Philippi, West Virginia.

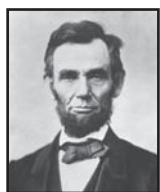
4. On this day in 1845, the Mexican-U.S. war started.

5. On this day in 1876, bananas became popular in the U.S., at the Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia.



6. On this day in 1716, the first slaves arrived in Louisiana.

7. On this day in 1864, Abe Lincoln was re-nominated for President by the Republican Party.



8. On this day in 1824, the washing machine was patented by Noah Cushing of Quebec.



9. On this day in 1891, the painter Gauguin arrived in Papeete, Tahiti.

10. On this day in 1639, the first American log cabin was built at Fort Christina (Wilmington, Delaware).

11. On this day in 1895, Charles E. Duryea patented a gas-driven automobile.



12. On this day in 1776, Virginia adopted the Declaration of Rights.

13. On this day in 1825, Walter Hunt patented the safety pin.



14. On this day in 1642, the first compulsory education law in America was passed by Massachusetts.

15. On this day in 1804, the 12th amendment was ratified which deals with the manner of choosing the President.

16. On this day in 1784, Holland forbade people to wear orange clothes.



17. On this day in 1824, the Bureau of Indian Affairs was established.

18. On this day in 1812, the War of 1812 began as the U.S. declared war against Britain.

19. On this day in 1910, Father's Day was celebrated for the first time (Spokane, Washington).

20. On this day in 1939, a test flight of the first rocket plane using liquid propellants took place.



21. On this day in 1893, the first Ferris wheel premiered (Chicago's Columbian Exposition).

22. On this day in 1772, slavery was outlawed in England.



23. On this day in 1784, the first U.S. balloon flight took place, by 13-year old, Edward Warren.

24. On this day in 1817, the first coffee was planted in Hawaii on the Kona coast.

25. On this day in 1630, the fork was introduced to American dining by Governor Winthrop.

26. On this day in 1848, the first pure food law was enacted in the U.S.

27. On this day in 1893, the great stock crash on the New York stock exchange took place.

28. On this day in 1762, the first reported counterfeiting attempt took place (Boston).



29. On this day in 1949, U.S. troops withdrew from Korea after WW II.

30. On this day in 1936, the federal government approved the 40 hour work week law.

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Great Lakes Agricultural Fair Named Green Fair Project Winner By Michigan's Soybean Farmers

Submitted by Jackie Scramlin

Officials with the Great Lakes Agricultural Fair are pleased to announce that the highly-anticipated September 2nd-5th Labor Day Weekend event at the Silverdome has just been named as a "Green Fair Project"

winner by the Michigan Soybean Promotion Committee (MSPC).

By demonstrating the benefits of soy biodiesel and soy-based products the Great Lakes Agricultural Fair (GLAF) will run the coveted Green Fair Project logo, something GLAF Fair Director Jackie Scramlin feels will benefit both the event and the Michigan Soybean industry.



"One of the primary points the Great Lakes Agricultural Fair promotes is reusable and sustainable energy – especially those created here in the Great Lakes Region – such as comes from soybeans," she said. "Partnering with the

Michigan Soybean Promotion committee through its Green Fair Project will be an ideal way for us to portray one of the region's well-known agricultural commodities in a positive light, while also benefiting the Michigan Soybean industry through education of the families attending the Silverdome this September."

In addition to the use of biodiesel to help

run the thrill rides and event shuttles at the Great Lakes Agricultural Fair, fairgoers can expect to see the "Green Fair Project" logo in general products such as soy-based all-purpose cleaners.

"The Great Lakes Agricultural Fair is one of seven fairs across the state that was selected by Michigan's soybean farmers to receive a grant to be used for promotion of a variety of soy-based products," stated Gail Frahm, Executive Director of MSPC. "These products will be highlighted throughout the run of each event in hopes of educating consumers about some of the many uses of this golden bean for a greener environment!"

Michigan's soybean farmers, through their investment in the soybean check-off, have a mission which includes imaging the soybean and its products to consumers.



For more information on the many uses of soy, visit www.michigansoybean.org.

For more information on the 2011 Great Lakes Agricultural Fair, including livestock and agricultural entries, vending and sponsorship opportunities, please refer to our website: www.greatlakesfair.com or call the Great Lakes Agricultural Fair at (248) 630-7825. 🌱

If Rent is so High, Why are Houses so Cheap to Buy?

By Scott Anderson

ThumbPrint News Guest Writer

One of the questions we answered last month was from someone who wanted to know why renting is so expensive in this market. That leads to an obvious follow-up question: why are houses selling for so little money these days?

Here's an extreme example that brings to bear all of the forces that have led to the situation we find ourselves in today. I know of a house in Marine City that has been sold twice in the past decade. In 2003 someone bought it for \$80,000. It recently sold for a little over \$15,000. So what on Earth happened?

Well, there are two parts to the question, really, and we have to look at both. First of all, why were prices so high in the mid 2000s? Then, what changed to bring them down so far?

As to the first part, the mortgage lending business changed dramatically near the end of the 20th century. In the old days, if you wanted to get a mortgage for a house, you went to a bank, and the bank arranged for the mortgage and loaned you the money, and you made your payment to the bank. There were only two people involved: you and the bank. Banks were very conservative, so they would only loan you money if they believed you could and would pay them back.

Then the business changed. Mortgage originators now arrange many of the home loans, and the bank or company that lends

the money often then sells the loan to somebody else. Frequently these loans are packaged and sold in bulk to investors. The investors got a better (higher) interest rate for the risky loans than for the safe ones, and believed housing prices would continue to go up. The mortgage originators get paid for the transaction, whether or not the homeowner makes payments.

So the mortgage business became very "loose". The investors were apparently happy to buy up packages of risky loans, and people could get a mortgage without anyone verifying their income. The result of all this was to drive up demand – just about anybody could buy a home. So as demand went up, prices went up. The author once made almost a 50% profit on a home in Oakland County that he owned for only five years.

So that's how prices went up, and went up beyond any amount you could rationally justify. Then the storm broke, and in Michigan it has not yet subsided. Prices are lower than they have been in many years, particularly the "median" price which you read about in the media. There was a combination of factors. A perfect storm that not only caused the easy-loan bubble to burst brought prices back down far below that. The reasons locally boil down to jobs and changes in lending practices.

In order to buy a house you have to have a lot of money or a job, and there are only a very limited number of people

with a big pile of money. So most home purchasers need a decent job. In Michigan famously, but other states as well, the recent recession took away many of the good jobs that people need in order to buy a house. Officially unemployment is not that bad, but the amount of money the jobs are paying is sharply down from the past, in Michigan particularly. Fewer people have good jobs, so demand is down, which reduces prices.

Second, it is no longer as easy to get a bank loan for a home as it was five or ten years ago. Banks have tightened lending practices back to near what they were in former times. So you need to have a good job and good credit, and after the recession, the number of people with both is not as high as it had been.

Third, the wave of foreclosures (again, caused by job loss primarily) has created a large supply of homes which have to be sold inexpensively because they are not in good shape. Many homeowners facing foreclosure take out their frustration on the house. Homes which have been repossessed sit vacant and attract vandals, and any weather damage goes unrepaired. Any real estate agent can tell you how quickly water,

in particular, can cause a disaster.

Remember the house in Marine City I mentioned earlier? It had been foreclosed on and repossessed by the lender, and the listing warned buyers that the house had no furnace, hot water heater or kitchen.

So that's the cause. Now, when does it end; when does the housing market rebound? Well, we're seeing positive movement in many neighborhoods. An improving job market, which we all hope is coming soon, completes the picture. The bargains we see today may not recur for a long time once that happens. 🌱

For answers to your real estate questions contact Scott Anderson, scott.anderson@kw.com or (810) 643-6316. Scott will answer all questions privately and will print the most interesting or common questions, with identifying information removed, in this column from time to time.



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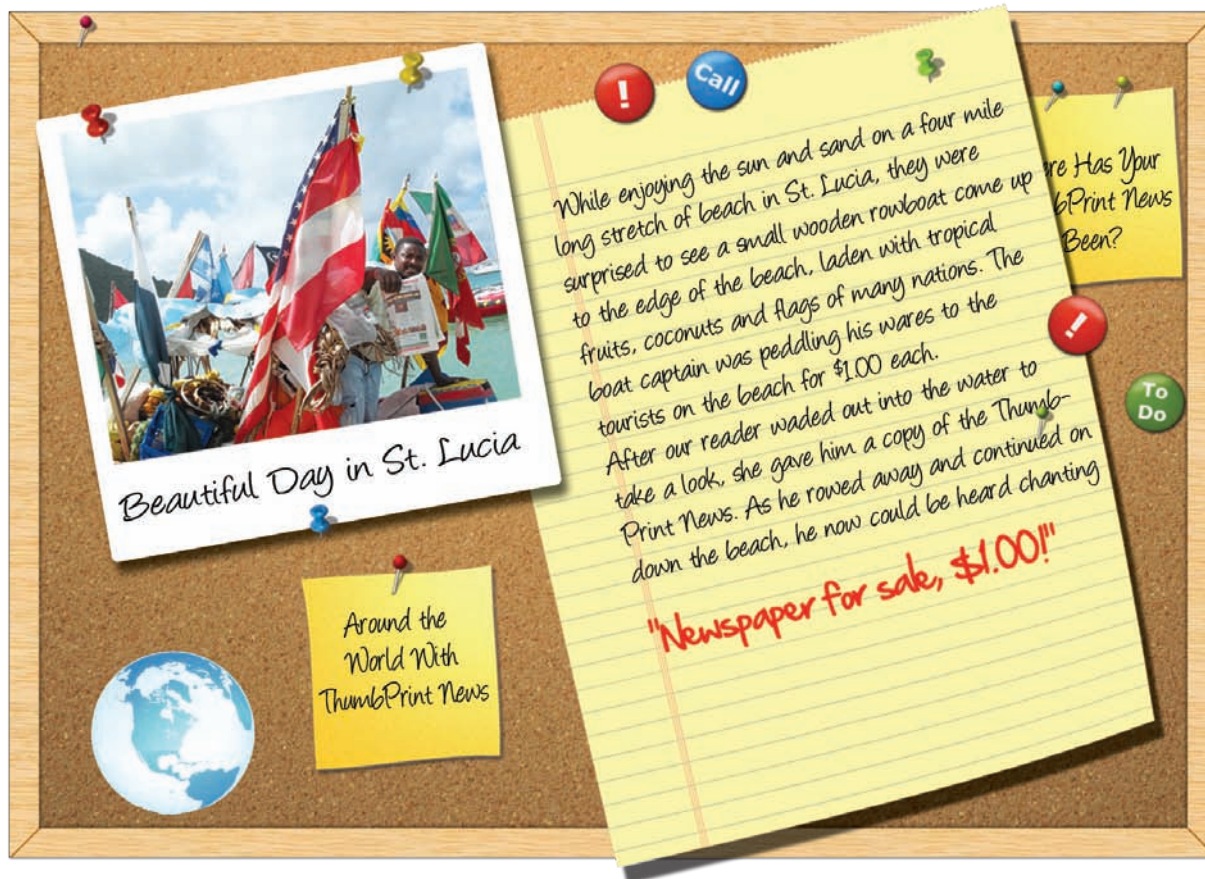
Around the World With *ThumbPrint News*!

ThumbPrint News has been traveling the world! Not only has it been seen in many areas of the Thumb of Michigan (almost 600 businesses in eight Thumb counties are now drop locations for the newspaper), but *ThumbPrint News* has also traveled to the states of Utah, Nevada, Georgia, California, Illinois, Pennsylvania, Alaska, Florida and Missouri, and to the countries of Bonaire, Mexico, Canada (Nova Scotia), Costa Rica, Iraq, Nigeria, Belize and Cuba! *ThumbPrint News* was even seen on television – on the Jay Leno Show!

When we began inviting our readers to submit photos of where they have taken *ThumbPrint News*, we never expected such an overwhelming response! This month, St. Lucia is joining the list of countries where *ThumbPrint News* has traveled.

When one of our readers traveled with Princess Cruise Lines to 12 different southern Caribbean islands in January, *ThumbPrint News* accompanied them on their trip. While enjoying the sun and sand on a four mile long stretch of beach in St. Lucia, they were surprised to see a small wooden rowboat come up to the edge of the beach, laden with tropical fruits, coconuts and flags of many nations. The boat captain was peddling his wares to the tourists on the beach for \$1.00 each. After our reader waded out into the water to take a look, she gave him a copy of the *ThumbPrint News*. As he rowed away and continued on down the beach, he now could be heard chanting loudly, "Newspaper for sale, \$1.00!" *ThumbPrint News* travels to the Caribbean island of St. Lucia.

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. Please be patient as you wait for your photo to appear in *ThumbPrint News*, as we are receiving a tremendous amount of photos each month! 🌱



Sudoku *ThumbPrint News* Sudoku

3				8			1	
2	6		7					4
		5			9			
6	3			2				
	8						7	
				6			9	5
			4			6		
7					5		4	3
	5			1				7

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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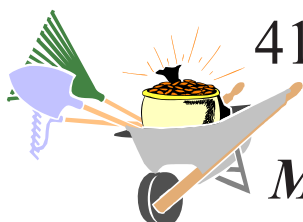
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Love is in the Air . . . and in Your Pond!

By Phil Desilets

ABC Home & Commercial Services Michigan Wildlife Expert

If there's a pond or ditch on your property, you've probably noticed the waters springing to life right about now. This is the time of year for several aquatic reptile and amphibian species to begin reproducing. That is because in nature, this is the time for ephemeral pools to form from the rapid increase in rain water accumulation. Ephemeral means that these pools won't exist throughout the summer, and will be drying up. Ditches and ponds serve a similar purpose for Michigan wildlife.

Some of the species you may find in your pond would be the American bullfrog, spring peeper, leopard frog, and gray tree frog. It is at this time of year that these species begin mating rituals, which you have probably heard at night in the form of croaking. All of these species will vocalize near water sources to attract a mate.

When frogs mate, they produce a jelly-like egg mass. As these eggs hatch, larval frogs called tadpoles or pollywogs fill the water. It is not long before these begin to metamorphose into adult frogs, losing their tails and gaining their limbs. As this occurs, the diet of these animals also changes. They stop eating algae and the occasional decaying plant matter, and begin actively hunting down insects.

Other pond dwelling species in our area may include the Eastern newt (which undergoes a brilliant red terrestrial phase known as an eft), painted turtles, snapping turtles, as well as Blanding's turtles. The newt will prey on anything living that will fit in its mouth, namely worms and insects. The turtles will feed on a little vegetation in some cases, but mostly on fish and aquatic frogs.

So next time you are out at your pond, or near a ditch, take a moment to stop and look for these species, as many have recently emerged from hibernation.



Eastern (Red-spotted) Newt

Editor's Note: Phil Desilets is a graduate of Michigan Tech with a degree in Wildlife Management and Ecology. Contact ABC Home & Commercial Services, (810) 794-2300 for any wildlife issues you may have.

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Environmental Benefits

Over 700 million cartridges were thrown away world wide in 2003 - and since more and more people use inkjet cartridges this amount will continue to grow year after year.

Empty cartridges contain residual powder, ink, a plastic casing, aluminum and other parts. These parts are all non-biodegradable and they will take more than 1000 years to decompose in landfill sites.

1.5 pints of crude oil are needed to produce one cartridge. In the last 6 months alone inkjet cartridge recycling has saved more than 50 million liters of oil, more than the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill in Alaska's Prince William Sound, in 1989.

rethink reuse recycle reink



Our full line of inkjet and laser toner cartridges provides high quality printing at low prices. Ink & More can save you up to 50% over the cost of brand name cartridges.



Print Quality That's Guaranteed

We guarantee commercial customer satisfaction with our products. If you find an inkjet or toner cartridge purchased from us is unsatisfactory, please call us to return it for an exchange within the first 30 days of use.



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 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 of this month's contest will be announced in the July edition as well as information about the object or place. In May's edition, we asked our readers to identify the location of the gazebo above. The winners of the drawing were Connie and Gerrit Beneker of Lake Orion, Michigan who correctly identified the location of the gazebo as on Edison and Davis Roads in Marysville, Michigan, next to the BTM Corporation. Connie and Gerrit Beneker will receive a \$25 gift



certificate from Foxfire Farm in Algonac. This month we are asking the question, "What is it? Identify the object pictured below and 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!



St. Clair Historical Museum is Open for the Season

Submitted by Charles Homberg
for the St. Clair Historical Museum

The 2011 season is underway at the St. Clair Historical Museum and Research Center in St. Clair, Michigan. Located in an historical former church, the museum has displays in six different rooms in the main building. On the grounds there are two additional buildings. One is a 1902 U. S. Customs House and the other is a building displaying a Civil War cannon and an antique buggy. Visitors can sample life in past times in the St. Clair area, see a model of Ft. Sinclair, visit the Salt Room, learn about local shipbuilding and enjoy many other local themes. Genealogists and others interested in area history are welcome to use the museum's research facilities.



The St. Clair Historical Museum is

located at 308 S. Fourth Street in St. Clair, Michigan. From May through October the museum is open on Saturdays and Sundays from 1:30 to 4:00 P.M. However, the museum will be closed on July 23 and 24. Year round the museum is open on Tuesday mornings from 9:30 to 12. Tours may be arranged at other times by calling the museum at (810) 329-6888. There is no admission charge.

Programs are offered by the museum from May to November. On June 12, a walking tour will start at the museum at 2:00 p.m. On July 21 Robert McGreevy will present "Ship Legends of Lake Huron." On August 19 at 7:00 p.m., Charles Homberg will present a program called "Lost St. Clair". It will recall structures that no longer exist in the city and its area. These events have a \$5.00 donation for adults, but are free for students. 🌱

It's Not Gone!

Think of all the things that go down your drain to your septic tank: grease from your kitchen sink, hair and oil from your shower and washer, body waste from your toilets. We tend to think – or not think – about what happens to all that waste. It doesn't just disappear.

Fats, oils and greases (FOG's) are put into your septic system everyday. Once they reach your septic tank, good anaerobic bacteria start to consume the waste. The FOGs not consumed by the good bacteria become solid waste. They build up at the top and bottom of your tank in the form of scum, often several inches thick. Pieces of these solids break off, and along with the liquid from your tank, go into your field. Much like plaque can clog our arteries and cause a heart attack, solids from your tank can clog your septic field and cause expensive repairs if you don't remove them.

Regular maintenance for your septic system is a must. The old saying "If it's not broke, don't fix it" is not true. Eventually your septic system or field will fail. Fields are expensive to replace.

Proper maintenance and care to your tank and filtering systems should be done on a regular basis based on your lifestyle, the number of people in the home, and usage.

Remember, we drink what we flush. Eventually, your field water enters back into the ground water. You don't want to contaminate our drinking sources. Call ABC Home & Commercial Services Septic Division at (810) 794-5678 if you have any questions about your septic system.

NEVER

- put bleach into the system. Bleach kills the good bacteria.
- put garbage from table waste in at any time.
- put cigarette butts in the toilet. They can clog the orifices in the field.



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2011: The Year of the Stink Bug!



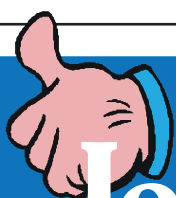
This is the year of the stink bug, known by scientists as *halyomorpha halys*. They smell so badly because when frightened, disturbed or crushed, they release a smelly defensive chemical. The U.S. Department of Agriculture now considers them to be an out-of-control pest, with stink bugs having been reported so far this year in at least 33 states, including

Michigan – and their populations are rising! Stink bugs also feed on a wide range of important food crops resulting in a serious economic loss to some area growers.

ABC Home and Commercial Services Pest Control Division can help keep those stink bug populations at bay around your home, property or commercial building. Call today!



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A Big Thumbs Up to JOSH WALERYCH

Congratulations to Josh Walerych, Port Huron High School senior, winner of the first Thumbfest Logo Contest award! Of all the amazing designs submitted, his received the most points and the most first place votes! Josh's design will be the logo for this year's Thumbfest 2011 t-shirts, as well as all the promotional material for the festival.

This year's Thumbfest – the 10th anniversary of the festival – is September 3, Saturday of Labor Day weekend, 10am - 10pm.



The Algonac Baptist Church Community Gospel Concert!

When: June 18, 2011

Time: 6 p.m.

Where: 1003 Washington Street
 Algonac, MI

Cost: Donation To Our Bus Ministry

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Patrick M. Simasko, Simasko Law Office www.simaskolaw.com

Debra Worden, St. Clair County Dept. of Veteran Affairs

Date: Thursday, June 16, 2011

Time: 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

**Where: Thomas Edison Inn (south of Blue Water Bridge)
500 Thomas Edison Pkwy., Port Huron 48060**

RSVP: 586-468-6793 (seating is limited)

Refreshments Will Be Served

Did you know that many Wartime Veterans and their surviving spouses or widows are eligible for a tax-free pension benefit from the Veterans Administration?

The Aid and Attendance Improved Pension Benefit

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Veteran Alone	\$1,632
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