



AUGUST IS HAPPINESS HAPPENS MONTH

see pg 16

We are an Independently Owned and Operated Michigan Newspaper.

ThumbPrint News

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



AUGUST 2024

"Don't ever be ashamed of loving the strange things that make your weird little heart happy." – Elizabeth Gilbert, journalist and author

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Native American Word of Wisdom

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Pestering Problems



THE 181ST ARTILLERY BATTALION

One Man's WWII Story

By Robert C. Jones (Bob Jones), ThumbPrint News Columnist

When my dad died 35 years ago, I was given a copy of his battalions' day-to-day journal – from January 1, 1945 to December 31, 1945. I put it away without opening it, and there it sat until a little while ago on my 80th birthday.

I wept as I poured over each days' events. The fortitude and staying power of my dad and the 181st Battalion Artillery was but one example of hundreds of military units – on land, on the seas and in the air. Here is one son's account of his dad's heroism in battle.

This is the story of an artillery outfit that fulfilled its purpose on the field of battle through the efforts of those who lived to tell of it, and those who gave their lives in achieving that purpose.

"The cradle will rock and down will come baby, cradle and all," the mother sang.

"What does that mean – 'and down will come baby'?" the grandmother lamented.

"It's just a nursery rhyme – nothing else," the mother glared back.

"Let the child be. Let him cry in his crib. Better for the lungs. You're singing is annoying," the grandmother said, pushing her agenda.

Now the grandfather chimed in: "This is a colicky one; your little boy. Your first, and no dad to make a little man of him."

"Please, Reese, he's only nine months old. He plays patty cake. He does 'So Big'; he waves 'bye-bye'. He's had his first haircut. He's beginning to smile."

"That's only gas – not smiling. He needs his dad, okay, to

make a young man outta him," his grandpa relented a bit.

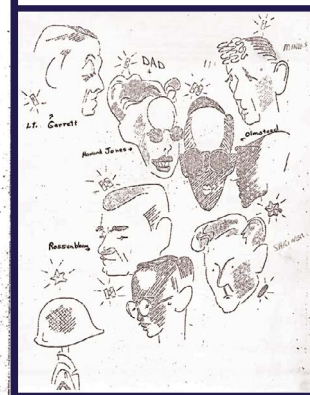
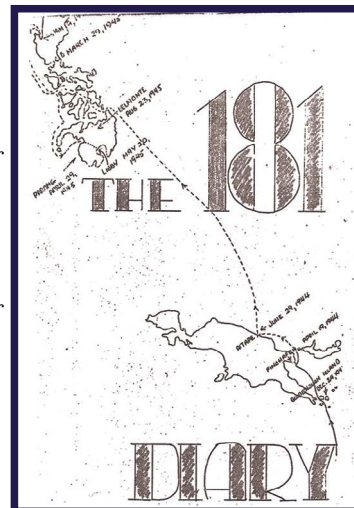
"Well, our son is overseas. Heaven knows where he is headed. Wish this war would end soon. I don't have any more

scraps to give to the drive.

Our ration card is getting low. Just being cooped up in here while waiting for word from the front is drivin' me crazy," the grandmother once again had her say.

"What do you think I'm thinking about? I'm the wife here. I've birthed a child while my husband was overseas. We're here without my husband or a father for our son. My stress may be taking its toll

Images from First Lieutenant Howard J. Jones' WWII diary



on our little one. Yet, I'm thinking he's missed every developmental milestone – late to sit up, late to be creeping, and plenty of late-night bouts of crying."

These three family members now took time to reflect; just looking at each other's expressions passively. No one spoke. This horrible war was raging on around the world. No person seemed safe. Families, such as this one, were disrupted from their otherwise normal day-to-day routines.

Everyone sacrificed. Those who sacrificed the most were headed to battle or were in battle engaging the enemy – day to day. The outcome is still in doubt. There would be no peace for those preparing to fight the ultimate fight. Could these soldiers, who would encounter the enemy in these last days of confrontation, stand up to the challenge?

Where would the will to fight come from? Would these

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Newspaper Staff:

Bethany Wolf
Editorial, Graphic Design & In-house Sales
Laura Irwin
Editorial, Staff Writer, Graphic Design & In-house Sales
E.J. Tipper
Staff Writer & In-house Sales

Advertising Sales Team:

Scott Zimmer - (586) 524-2562
thumbprintsales@comcast.net
Teri Barkhouse (Schutz)
(586) 453-4508 - teritpsales@gmail.com

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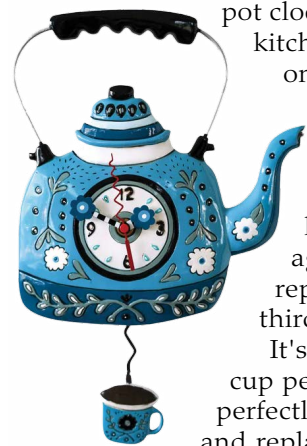
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When the Pendulum Stops Swinging

By **Rita MacDonald**, *ThumbPrint News* Columnist



While vacationing years ago in Sutton's Bay, Michigan, I visited a cute little store and was introduced to Allen Design clocks. I decided I had to purchase a sewing machine clock for my mom's craft room. Fast forward a few years, and I spotted more of their fun wall clocks in an airport store – where everyone knows the price is always doubled or tripled, right? I had been preparing to move into my current little condo and knew the teal blue coffee pot clock would look just right hanging on the wall near my kitchen table, so when I returned home, I purchased it online – and yes, it was much cheaper! ;)



A coffee cup pendulum swung back and forth below my clock for the past three years, but recently it quit swinging. I thought that the battery had died, so I replaced it, but only a day later, it quit running again. I replaced the battery again, but another day later, it quit again. So, I replaced it a third and a fourth TIME. And it quit the third and fourth TIME, too.

It's official – my cute little clock has died, and its coffee cup pendulum no longer swings back and forth but hangs perfectly still beneath it. Most people would take it down and replace it because what good is a clock that doesn't tell TIME? But I'm not most people (just ask my family).

The truth is...I didn't really look up at that clock to see what TIME it was anyway; I usually glanced at my phone for that. I've seen it as a unique piece of art that still, even with its no-longer-swinging-coffee-cup-pendulum, is as adorable as the day I spotted it in that airport shop. And it looks just perfect on my wall, right where it is. So, I'm keeping it – broken or not.

Last night after work I was sitting on the couch and glanced up at my coffee cup clock and its pendulum, just hanging there perfectly still. The time? 8:55. This morning I'm looking at it again. It's still 8:55. However, this time when I looked at it, I thought about a gentleman I met yesterday who told me, "Don't get old. It's not worth it." I didn't respond, but immediately I thought that he was essentially telling me I'd be better off dead than getting old. Like my clock, I'd be better off if my pendulum quit swinging, and if my TIME here just came to an abrupt STOP. What a miserable state of mind to live in.

It's true – at some point, everyone's pendulum stops working, and it doesn't matter how many times the batteries get changed. At some point in TIME, all of our pendulums are going to stop. It's also true that none of us know when that's going to happen.

As an oncology RN, caring for patients who are often struggling through the biggest fight of their life, I'm reminded that not everyone gets the same gift of TIME as everyone else – to get old, watch their hair turn white, see their children graduate high school, or get married, or ever meet and snuggle their grandchildren. Having been with many patients during their last months, weeks, days and even moments, I can say with all confidence that

none of us know when the pendulum will stop.

I'm also reminded of the day I was with my dad when the oncologist from the VA in Detroit told him that his cancer was going to take his life. My dad looked at him and asked, "What should I do?" I can still see it clearly. That physician rolled in his chair up to face my dad, put his hands on his knees, looked him straight in the face and said, "Mr. MacDonald, this is what you do – every single day for the rest of your life, when you wake up in the morning, you THANK GOD for another day." And I believe my dad took those words to heart and he did that very thing right up until the day he passed.

We get inundated with sales pitches on anti-aging creams, therapies, Botox injections and all sorts of other ways to defy the odds and look as if we've never aged past our 20s. We're so busy trying to look as if we've cornered the market on staying our young selves, that we don't ever stop to think about how we steward our TIME in the last years of our lives (as if we even know when those "last years" are). I think our TIME would be more wisely spent listening to the words of my dad's physician.

As I often do, I remind myself of my friend Jerry Carnill's last days, when he wanted to pour as much wisdom as he could into a young group of people. I'm reminded of the day I visited him in the hospital and he had chocolate cake, hot chocolate and chocolate pudding on his tray, and when I reminded him that he was diabetic, he responded with, "Who cares? I'm going HOME!" Jerry was in hospice during those last days, and I watched him withdraw in a sweet way where he would often sit and just stare out the window with a smile on his face. When I asked him once what he was thinking about, he turned his head towards me and said, "I just keep thinking – I'm getting ready to go to heaven. And I get to learn all about God for the rest of eternity, and I can't WAIT!" No fear. No regrets. Jerry, like so many other believers whose deaths I've been privileged to witness, had not focused on anti-aging efforts, or even the balance in his checking account. He spent his TIME making relationships right, and he made sure everyone he loved knew it. Oh, and I never once heard him complain.

Tomorrow isn't promised, and being given the opportunity to get old is a gift...a gift of TIME. I'm still learning how to steward my TIME well these days. My hair is white, I've got quite a few wrinkles, and my knees make all sorts of music when I go up and down the stairs. But I'm still here with grandkids who need to know more about Jesus and the wisdom that only age and TIME give; my pendulum is still swinging, and for the TIME being, Sir, I am certainly NOT better off dead.

Pondering how we spend our TIME is good. Pondering our life coming to an end, and our pendulum no longer swinging is WISE because ALL of our pendulums will one day...STOP. And if I ever start sounding as if I believe I'd be better off dead, would someone please remind me, as my dad's doctor did – that every day I wake up, I should thank GOD for another day and a little more TIME!

Oh, goodness! Look at the TIME! It's already 8:55.

Gotta run! 🏃

"So teach us to number our days that we may get a heart of wisdom." – Psalm 90:12 ESV



Helping vs. Enabling Loved Ones with Hearing Loss

If you have a loved one that suffers from hearing loss, you have probably experienced the daily struggles and difficulty communicating with them and them communicating with others. Many people with hearing loss don't realize just how much they're missing out on, because we tend to try to overcompensate for them and become their ears. However, it takes only a short time for them to realize that they need our help and often they become reliant on our help. But is our help doing them justice or enabling their hearing loss?

Yes, we should absolutely support them and ensure they are safe, but more importantly we should assist them in seeking the proper treatment to address their condition. Treating the condition will allow them to be much more independent, have a feeling of self-dignity and become less reliant on us. In addition, there are many negative effects of untreated hearing loss. When we experience hearing loss, the brain is not being properly stimulated, which has been directly linked to other health conditions, such as cognitive decline, Alzheimer's, dementia, increased risk of falling and social isolation and depression.

DO:

- *Communicate how their loss is affecting your relationship*
- *Let them know that waiting won't make the hearing loss go away or get any better*
- *Explain the negative effects of untreated hearing loss such as: Alzheimer's and dementia*
- *Encourage them to get a complete hearing health examination*
- *Accompany them to their appointment and be their biggest supporter*

DON'T:

- *Repeat yourself time and time again*
- *Raise your voice or yell so they can hear you*
- *"Translate" conversations for them*
- *Act as their messenger over the phone*

The best way that we can truly help our loved ones is to assist them in seeking the proper treatment for their condition. One of the best forms of treatment for hearing loss is hearing aids. With the advancements in technology, approximately 90% of hearing loss can be treated with hearing aids. There are many different types of hearing aids to fit one's need, lifestyle and budget. Many models are even Bluetooth-compatible with most phones, tablets and watches that allow the user to take phone calls, play music and listen to GPS directions directly into their hearing aids. Help your loved ones take



the first step and get them scheduled for a hearing health evaluation today! 🇺🇸

Editorial note: Beltone Skoric Hearing Aid Center has been serving the hearing-

impaired community in Michigan for over 30 years. They have made it their mission to educate about the negative effects of untreated hearing loss. For more information, please visit their website www.beltoneskorichearing.com or call to schedule a free hearing exam at one of their 38 locations: (810) 356-0559.



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**THUMBPRINT NEWS
 PET PHOTO
 CHALLENGE**

Meet German shepherd
 siblings Radar & Sonar
 from Emmett, MI

RADAR **SONAR**

Here are Radar and Sonar enjoying reading the *ThumbPrint News* as they lounge on their beds on a Sunday morning. Radar, who is 10 years old, has been reading it much longer than Sonar, a 2-year-old, who has to focus harder as he is a beginning reader.

Thank you, Leslie C., for sharing Radar & Sonar with us!

CHECK OUT ENTIRE MENAGERIE ON OUR [FB](#)

My New Word: **SHADOWLOSS**

By Patricia Cosner Kubic, *ThumbPrint News* Columnist



We've all heard the phrase "words matter". Although it is overused during election years, it is a true statement. But what if you are facing a situation and can't find the precise words to describe it? When you can't articulate something, the chances of feeling understood are close to nil. And when that happens, it doesn't take long to feel isolated.

I have recently come across the new-to-me word: "Shadowloss", that has shown some much-needed light on my soul. But first, some background. On January 5, 2020, at 6:20 a.m., my world changed forever. I bolted awake due to a ringing in my left ear. It was so piercing that I thought someone had jammed something sharp in my ear. I could barely hear my husband trying to console me. Within 30 minutes, I was sobbing. That morning was the onset of my tinnitus.

The next three months felt like torture. The loud ringing never stopped. At least once a week, I couldn't sleep, followed by feeling like I had the flu for a few days. I buried my head in pillows, begging for relief. I tried lullaby apps, pillow speakers hooked up to the Calm App, and various sleeping aids on the counter at Rite Aid. Nothing helped. After getting a heartless consultation from an ENT, I sought a second opinion. This ENT actually took the time to give me some concrete information, including that it is typical for the volume to get lower within 4-6 months. I just had to hang in there for a few more months. Ok, no problem.

Five months after that awful January morning, I noticed that the ringing wasn't constant – I got a break now and then. A few weeks later, the loud ringing consumed only half of my day. And, by mid-summer, as long as I was doing something, I didn't notice the ringing all that much. But the moment my head hit the

pillow and the minute I woke up, there was always noise. Always. I realized that I would never have a quiet moment and my heart sank.

I started to notice that when my friends casually talked about reading in a quiet spot, my heart would sink again. I hadn't been able to read for months because the loud ringing prevented me from getting lost in a book. I got so upset knowing that I'd never have a quiet moment – another round of depression. I realized that I had to grieve the loss of silence. I tried to talk about it but couldn't get anyone to fully understand my unique grief. So, after a while, I just kept it to myself. I tried books, web searches, and, of course, retail therapy to help me snap out of it. But I knew I just had to lean into that sadness until I had sparks of acceptance. Hey, this is my life...my challenge is tinnitus; others have difficulties known by other names.

Then, a few months ago, I discovered that new-to-me word: "Shadowloss". The theory of Shadowloss was carefully developed by Cole Imperi, a thanatologist (someone who studies death, dying, loss and grief), a chaplain and an educator. Ms. Imperi says Shadowloss occurs when you have a loss in your life...not the loss of a life. Some examples include infertility, divorce, death of a dream, bankruptcy, permanent hair loss due to perpetual chemotherapy, as well as other similar situations. Ms. Imperi reports that our brains don't know the difference between a loss in life and the loss of a life. The grief experienced by a Shadowloss feels the same as the grief from someone's death.

Where was this word in 2020? If I had known about Shadowloss, I could have easily explained my feelings, and my friends would have instantly covered me with empathy. What a difference that compassion would have made back then. These days, when I crave a quiet moment and instantly remember it will never happen, I think about how Shadowloss perfectly and kindly frames my grief emotions. Suddenly, I have relief and things feel level, normal...and I can, as we all want to do, get on with the day – all that from one word. 🌱

You can reach Patricia at pckubic@gmail.com.

NOTES FROM OUR READERS

To Joe Neussendorfer,

I read with interest your recent article in *ThumbPrint News* "Discovering Michigan's Potawatomi Heritage". What a rich heritage Michigan has been gifted with! It's a wonderful piece of writing that instantly captured my attention.

I've long been interested in Native American concerns and Indigenous culture and was especially touched by your *Author's note* about the effort to express sensitivity and genuine understanding. I agree that non-Native writers can write authentically of the events, past and present, that have affected Indigenous peoples throughout North America. Through research, listening and reading, we can foster a deeper understanding in our communities.

I've been afraid of being accused of cultural appropriation in my writing, the feat of being urged to "stay in your lane". If we could only write of our own experiences

and memories, there would be no novels, only memoirs. After years of research and multiple edits, my novel *Let Evening Come* was published on April 2nd by Unsolicited Press. It was satisfying to have my efforts buoyed by your description of your own non-Native American writing journey and belief that it fosters deeper appreciation in your readers.

Good luck in all future endeavors and, again, congratulations on a spectacular headlining article in this quality, independently owned newspaper.

To the TPN Staff,

We have long been fans of *ThumbPrint News*. My late father, Bob Linck, was an old newspaperman. Thank you for including Joe's deeply researched article. We need more writers like him!

Thank you! Yvonne O., Brown City, MI

Yvonne, we here at *ThumbPrint News*, sincerely thank you for your words of praise and your enjoyment of our paper. All the best to you, TPN Staff

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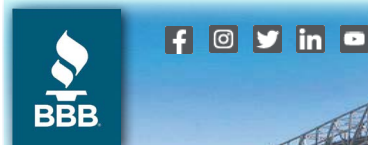
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INTRODUCING BBB'S SCAM SURVIVAL TOOLKIT

In response to the escalating threat of scams that impact individuals and businesses alike, the Better Business Bureau® Institute for Marketplace TrustSM has launched a pivotal new resource: the Scam Survival Toolkit. This comprehensive online tool is designed to aid those who have fallen victim to scams by providing tailored guidance and resources to navigate the aftermath effectively.

"Scams can have devastating consequences, both financially and emotionally," remarks Nakia Mills, Marketing Director at BBB® Serving Eastern Michigan and the Upper Peninsula. "Our goal with the Scam Survival Toolkit is to empower victims with the tools they need to recover and protect themselves from future scams."

This initiative builds upon the success of BBB's Scam Tracker, which received recognition as the Best Scam Fighting Tool of 2023 from the Global Anti-Scam Alliance (GASA) and ScamAdviser.com. Supported by corporate partners Amazon and Capital One through the BBB Corporate Trust Council, the Scam Tracker platform has become a cornerstone in tracking and reporting scams, with over 65,000 scam reports published in 2023 alone. This robust platform not only serves as a repository of scam incidents but also educates users on spotting and avoiding scams proactively.

The Scam Survival Toolkit enhances this initiative by providing practical steps for immediate response, guidance on proper reporting procedures, and strategies to mitigate future risks. It caters to both individuals and businesses, acknowledging that scams can impact everyone irrespective of age, income or location.

"Our toolkit is a testament to BBB's commitment to consumer protection and education," adds Mills. "It is designed to equip users with actionable insights, ensuring they can safeguard their financial and emotional well-being."

Beyond immediate response measures, the toolkit emphasizes long-term recovery by connecting users with relevant support services, including mental health counseling, financial planning advice and legal resources. This integrated approach addresses the multifaceted impacts of scams, which extend beyond financial loss to include emotional distress, damaged reputations and strained relationships.

In addition to its online activity, through its educational foundation, BBB Serving Eastern Michigan and the Upper Peninsula also conducts free in-person and online community presentations in collaboration with local organizations. These sessions aim to educate businesses and consumers on safeguarding their information, safely navigating the marketplace and preventing scams.

As scams continue to evolve in sophistication and scale, the Scam Survival Toolkit remains a vital resource for individuals looking to reclaim their security and peace of mind. It not only equips users with the knowledge to identify and respond to scams effectively but also fosters a proactive stance against fraudulent activities.

"At BBB, we believe that combating scams requires collective action and ongoing vigilance," Mills said. "Together, we can build a marketplace where consumers and businesses thrive with confidence and trust."

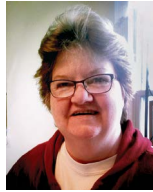
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Editorial note: Better Business Bureau® serving Eastern Michigan & the Upper Peninsula is a non-profit organization that fights fraud and promotes ethical business practices in the local marketplace through its business accreditation, consumer education and dispute resolution programs. Contact your local BBB by calling (248) 223-9400 or by visiting bbb.org.

Porch Sitting

By Theresa Nielsen, *ThumbPrint News* Columnist



If you're a regular TPN reader, you'll know from my article last month that "I Love My Porch!" I grew up sitting and playing on the porch at our family home. You know, I had my first kiss on that porch, ugh! Not at all what I thought a kiss should be. Now that I'm an adult, I'm still out there sitting and playing (and occasionally sharing much better kisses with my husband). I love getting to look out into my beautiful blooming flower garden from the front porch window. The Milkweed is pretty in its own way with the delicate tiny flowers and such a sweet scent. The bees feasting on them, along with the cornflower, must think so too. Did I mention the butterflies? They're also all over the garden. My inside birds are

chirping happily too. Perhaps thinking I may have a snack to give them.

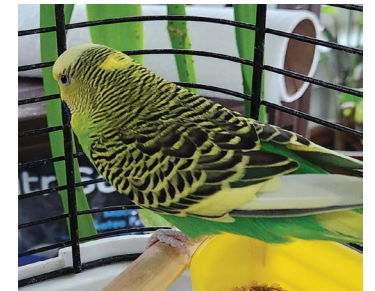
"A snack is coming," I tell them. But first, while looking out the window, I notice that it needs to be cleaned. There is a winter's worth of dirt on the windows and the sills are a bit dusty from the bird dander. While I wash one window after another, I see the sun come shining through, and the flowers look even brighter. I love it. It's a lot of work to maintain my porch, but I usually try to keep up with it since I never know when a visitor might show up. I never want to think, "Oh no the porch is a mess!"

Of my birds, my Cooper is the one who loves to make a mess of his cage the most. He's also the one who likes to toss a carrot out and then whistle at me that his snack is missing. One recent Saturday morning I got a call from a friend. She had an abandoned parakeet in need of a home. Would I consider taking him in? Why not, I already have birds, and it's not like I'm adopting an elephant who would need a lot more room. Sure. I'll take him. (Hopefully he doesn't pick up Cooper's behaviors.)

Henry is a lovely green parakeet; he chirps and whistles like the others. He seems to enjoy the porch too. Now that the windows are clean, I can see clearly. I'm happy too. I refill my coffee cup and take my current sewing project to the porch.

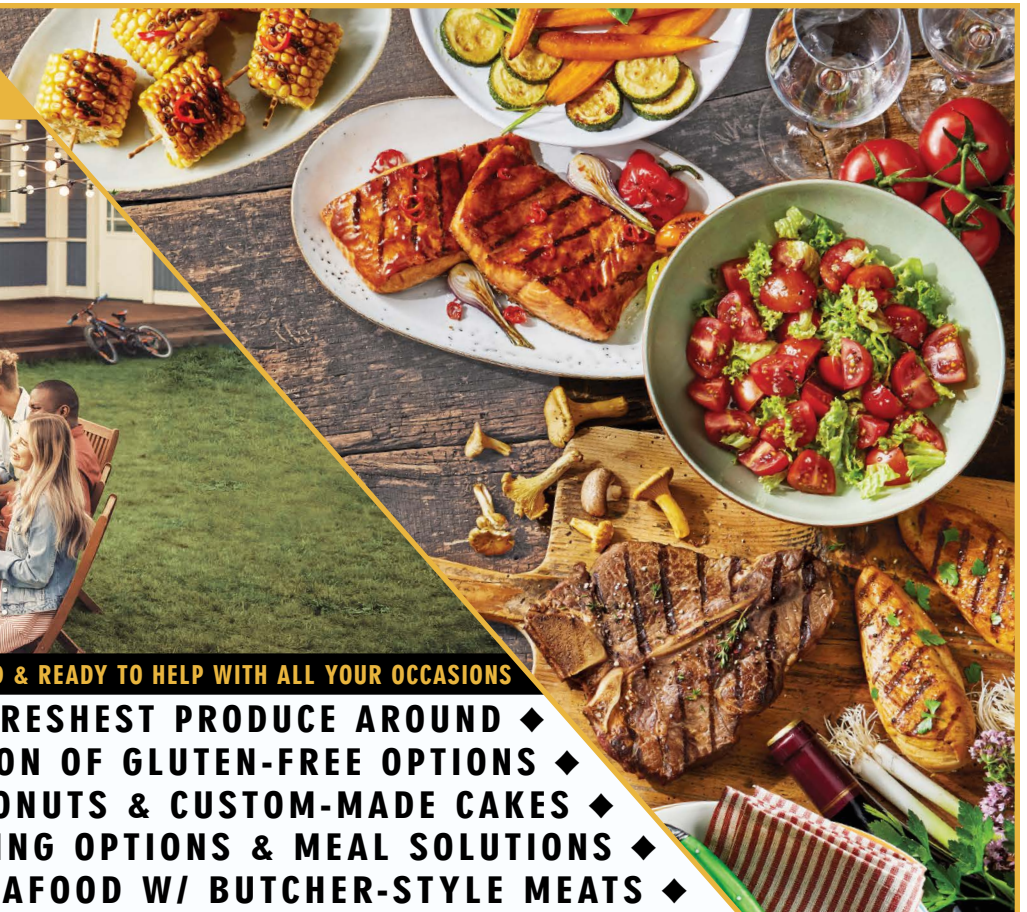
Unfortunately, I can't spend all my days at home on my own porch. Except, as a caregiver, I take care of an elderly gentleman with an enclosed patio/sun porch. We both enjoy sitting there, watching and listening to the birds, following the squirrel up the tree and waiting patiently to see if the woodchuck who lives under the ramp will make an appearance. I prepare our lunch and continue to porch sit, while a light rain falls. And that's perfectly fine, it's dry where we are. I chuckle as a few birds splash in the puddles.

When I'm not sitting on my porch or his, I find myself looking at all the different porches I pass as I go from place to place. There are so many types and styles, but I've noticed that not a lot of people use their porches. Maybe these articles will inspire one of you readers to go use a porch if you have one! I sure love mine, and so does Henry. He's a keeper. 🌿



Editorial note: To read more of Theresa's writing, you can find her books about growing up sewing in a small town on Amazon and Barnes & Nobel's website. To reach Theresa, you can email her at catbirdinn@sbcglobal.net.

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MARKET MATTERS



Market results for the first half of 2024 are in the books. In our MIREalsource areas for new residential and condo listings, overall, median and average sales prices were up from the same period last year. The number of closed sales was down.

The median (midpoint) sales prices in our area in the first half of 2024, compared to the same period in 2023, increased 9.6% to \$252,000 from \$230,000 on single-family homes and 12.8% to \$265,000 from \$234,900 on condominiums.

The months' supply of inventory in June was 1.7% for residential properties and 1.3% for condos. These continue to be very low historical numbers. As a general rule, 5 to 6 months of inventory is considered to be a balanced market. 5 months' inventory or less is considered a seller's market and over 6 months is a buyer's market.

Local Markets

In a sampling of our local markets, the following year-over-year prices and price changes were →

Average Sales Price thru June 2024 YTD				
Area	Residential		Condo	
Chesterfield	\$372,001	+2.4%	\$237,511	+4.4%
Grosse Ptes.	\$567,399	+22.3%	\$357,030	-3.2%
Harrison Twp	\$393,587	+15.2%	\$240,913	+3.1%
Macomb Twp	\$463,623	+4.7%	\$300,029	+5.0%
Marine City	\$224,553	+22.1%	\$213,358	+22.6%
Rochester Hills	\$501,620	+7.5%	\$317,602	+10.1%
St. Clair County	\$264,359	+3.0%	\$238,147	+7.9%
Shelby Twp	\$477,264	+5.0%	\$288,938	+9.3%
Sterling Hghts	\$341,203	+8.1%	\$223,882	+0.7%

Mortgage Rates

As of July 11, 2024, new residential mortgage interest rates in Michigan were pretty much unchanged at 7.02% for a 30-year fixed rate mortgage and 6.6% for a 15-year fixed rate mortgage. Although inflation was modestly improved in the most recent period, we still do not expect to see any significant change up or down in residential mortgage rates over the next couple of months.

Looking to Buy?

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- Make your Wish List – include “must-haves” and “nice-to-haves”
- Choose your Location – Start with three neighborhoods/areas and consider proximity to things important to you – family, friends, schools, commute times, etc.
- Work with a Real Estate Agent – From local market expertise to negotiation, a good real estate agent can guide you through every step of the home buying process.

*Datatource: MIREalSource - includes the counties of Genesee, Lapeer, Lenawee, Livingston, Jackson, Macomb, Monroe, Oakland, Saginaw, Sanilac, Shiawassee, St. Clair, Washtenaw and Wayne.

Editorial note: Don and Barbara Alcorn are Realtors® serving St. Clair, Macomb, Oakland Counties, as well as the Grosse Pointes. Part of an international network of Realtors®, they are affiliated with Coldwell Banker Realty in Michigan, one of the nation's largest and most successful real estate brokerages. You can reach them at (810) 278-6655, donald.alcorn@cbrealty.com or barbara.alcorn@cbrealty.com.

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181ST soldiers – men and women; fathers, mothers, husbands, wives, sisters, brothers, cousins, neighbors; have the wherewithal and stamina to defeat the perceived enemy now fast approaching?

One family torn apart by this world war would soon find out if their brave son, father, husband, would stand up to the challenge before them with others – his new family – the 181st Field Artillery Battalion.

First Lieutenant Howard John Jones, Forward Observer, had spent Christmas 1944 with his battalion mates in Aitape, New Guinea, firing rounds on Japanese positions – 5,556 rounds expended. Success; Japanese soldiers killed. He and his mates would be moving on a third transport carrier – destination Luzon. The enemy was being driven back to Luzon in this island-hopping movement. The army would begin moving their 155mm Howitzer cannons in Lingayen Gulf ahead of the 181st Battalion in preparation for a final drive towards Luzon.

Lt. Jones suddenly lurched forward – the ship rocked a bit, a buzzing noise sounded followed by: “All hands on deck.” Fear gripped his guts. He was trapped inside a supply room. Nowhere to hide. The buzzing ceased. A radio call report summoned him to a briefing area in the hull of the ship. Seven enemy dive bombers were shot down. Flak wounded four men of the battalion. He returned to the equipment room to look over the radio equipment he would use when the ship reached the gulf.

He opened the boxes. This equipment was new to him. An SCR 300 Motorola VHF FM Radio – with a frequency of 8mhz – 40mhz – 48mhz. This, he was told, was the first “Walkie-Talkie” with a range of five to ten miles. He surmised the Howitzers would be no more than a mile or two behind him as he would calculate the distance and angle of the guns when the time came.

During January and February, the intensity of the Japanese attacks increased. Lt. Jones was summoned to the commander’s office. Captain Curtis: “Lt. Jones, some of our Philippine civilians have reported a location of buried enemy guns. I want you to take your two sidekicks out to the dump site – take a look – and report back by 07:15 hours.” Lt. Jones: “Yes sir.” He rounded up his “compadres”. He was headed into the line of fire. Before gathering his bag of equipment, he wretched, dropping to his knees.

His command to his subordinates. “Stay with me – flank with me. We have an hour window to find whatever is out there. And shut your mouths – run on silent.” The party stumbled over dense foliage. The day’s sun was scorching their bodies. They would be burned in minutes. The location was found. Two 77mm and two 47mm guns were located. The trees rustled. The three of them were on high alert. There was movement ahead of them. A man was seen running along a cart path in the opposite direction of the group. They reported their findings. The reconnaissance was successful.

Sleep-deprived, Lt. Jones arose to a blaring sound on the intercom. “All Forward Observers report to A Station.” The message repeated several times. Several commanders came to him at once. Captain Curtis spoke: “The 43rd Division Artillery is making inroads to Pozorrubio, Luzon. They’ve neutralized several Japanese guns. We’re pushing for the big fight gentlemen. They’ve taken several Japanese prisoners. Commendations to the 43rd Division Artillery. FO Lt. Jones, sorry to say we lost two Observers yesterday. Position yourself to go on patrol; one mile from Pozorrubio; report back enemy activity.”

Back in his room he gathered his duffel bag, notified his sidekicks, and noticed the day on his calendar: January 25th. He headed out of the compound for the three-mile trek through the jungle terrain to a pre-ordained spot one mile outside the town of Pozorrubio.

His walkie-talkie was busy that afternoon as he reported enemy troop movements gathering in their clusters – battle-ready to move forward on the 43rd Division

Artillery Battalion and the 181st Field Artillery Battalion which had to move the big guns in place – an awkward advance at best.

Suddenly sniper fire erupted. They were surrounded. The air stank of expended gunfire. Nowhere to hide. Stay low. The smell is putrid. More rustling from the foliage. Lt. Jones surmised the Japanese too had their Forward Observer. Suddenly, out of a clearing – three enemy soldiers.

He had a sidearm. Too late. A bullet flew – pierced his buttocks. His sidekicks responded with gunfire of their own. Then suddenly all was calm. “Report man down” – the message went back to headquarters.

“Get him back ASAP; abort, repeat, abort,” the message from H.Q. loud and clear.

The surgeon – glad he only had to patch up not bury these boys – “You’re a lucky man, Lieutenant, just a grazing of your gluteus maximus, a few stitches – rest a week or two and you’ll be good to go. You Forward Observers don’t seem to last long. Lost most of your buddies from Fort Sill, I suppose. You’re the last man standing here with the 181st.”

Lt. Jones went on bed rest the remainder of the month and into the first week of February. He learned that his battalion had moved twice to new positions always under heavy fire from the enemy. This last move near Malasin under the cover of darkness. A fellow Forward Observer, Lt. Rowe and his pilot, collided with a liaison plane and crashed behind enemy lines – occupants believed killed but listed as missing. Lt. Jones was sickened by this news as Lt. Rowe had been a good friend and a smoking buddy. He too had graduated from Fort Sill. Lt. Jones reached the low point in his deployment. His mind raced. His morale was depleted. He screamed inside but no cries for his superior officers to hear.

His wound had healed. He was told the following morning, February 21st, to move forward two miles and hook up with Battery C and observe enemy movements and the strength of their supply chain. His team moved cautiously; finding a trail or two on a three-mile journey to a clearing. He radioed to Battery C his whereabouts.

What he saw made his flesh crawl. He had heard of the Japanese fortified caves on these islands. Now he witnessed it firsthand.

He contacted the Battery C commander. There was a rush of men. Battery C fired on three large tunnels running along a ridge. The tunnels caved in. Bodies were blown out of the caves. An ammunition dump was destroyed. The movement towards Luzon was now slow and tedious. His best friend, Lt. Rowe’s status, changed from missing in action to killed in action. There was an arrival of more men trained as Forward Observers. He introduced himself and now, as a veteran Observer, would train these “newbies”.

On the 20th of March, Lt. Jones learned of the great push to Luzon; the battalion learning of the coming V5 operation. His battalion would hook up with the Sixth Army. They had taken up staging areas at Angio. He was administered typhoid shots, given new updated radio equipment and moved with the rest to Mindoro, Philippine Islands on April 6th, unloading approximately three miles from shore.

On April 20th the battalion arrived at Parang, Mindanao. The battalion stayed there until May 15th when they were told to go to Davao Area and begin engaging the enemy.

May 16th: Lt. Jones and his newly trained Forward Observers proceeded along a national highway – beyond walkie-talkie range – to find the enemies’ positions, their flanking movements and any casual fire. Report back on road conditions.

The battalion upon hearing this road to be passable, with some trepidation, moved on. They supplied Hill 550 on their map. The battalion



now was tested over and over. Lt. Jones and his buddies (no longer newbies) made many night trips to remote areas where the backup artillery followed with heavy fire. Japanese armament warehouses were blown up. Dense black smoke indicated possible oil storage warehouses. Two enemy pillboxes were destroyed.

A commendation for these successful battles came down from the commanding general to the commanding officer 181 ST APO 159

1. *"I wish to commend those officers and men of your battalion who assisted in the work in the Quartermaster Dump during the period 11 May to 16 May 1945. This was a critical period in the establishment of Quartermaster installations at this station."*
2. *Details from your organization needed to be instructed they went to work with a will and in such an efficient manner as to enable my office to meet all deadlines in Forwarding shipments to support combat troops.*

*Chester H. Chamber,
Colonel Quartermaster*

On the morning of June 2nd, 1945, Lt. Jones reported for duty. Capitan Hern reported the day's assignment: "Lt. Jones you are assigned as FO with E Co, 34th infantry. Go with those boys. Report to Battery C; you have a four-hundred-yard swath to cover. Take your 'newbies' out and treat 'em well. If possible, trek ahead. We need clearance to advance fourteen trucks ahead to Ft. Picket." As a result of his observation, two hits on a bridge were successful. Battery C fired interdiction for Corps Arty with good results.

Now, Lt. Jones was performing his duties for Battery C. From June 2nd to June 7th the heaviest fighting to date occurred. The enemy was closing in. Lt. Jones directed cover for fourteen trucks that were dispatched to Ft. Picket for ammunition.

He noticed a dug-in tank (pillbox) along the trail. Battery A fired and hit the target. Fires burst in the area. The sky lit up. Japanese artillery began shelling the area. Their troop movements gained strength.

The 181st Battalion within hours, in the dead of night, moved to a new position near Mintal. The 155mm Howitzers were moving in place getting ready to puncture enemy lines. The enemy did not slow down.

Lt. Jones surveyed the terrain. Get the map out. So now my superiors want a position on a supply dump. Radio contact was made. Battery C moved in.

The noise was deafening. He plugged his ears. Ever so close. Night closed in. The sky was lit up. The dump destroyed. Return fire was intense. Trees were blasted. Fire broke out. Where are my sidekicks? Their radio reception went dead. Damn new technology. What good is a wider band if the reception is just static?

Now alone, between the enemy and his mission moving the Howitzers into position left Lt. Jones with an empty feeling. He was frozen – unable to move. He surmised the enemy was dispersing, attempting to outflank Battery C; which was undermanned as it was.

He knew Battery B had choked off the main supply road of the enemy. Whether it was enough to stop their forces this night would reveal the efforts of his communication as a Forward Observer.

The stench from expended shells filled the air. Smoke drifted his way. He gagged on the fumes. Fires burst less than a football field away. This damn static on his phone threw him into a frenzy. Think man, think! The Howitzers are moving forward at an angle into the enemy fire. Figure out the angle. Catch the enemy before they disperse. One last smoke. (Lt. Jones had become hooked on cigarettes. Three packs a day. Most of the battalion – with time on their hands began the habit. Card games would center around cigarettes as rewards for winning at poker or 'burn in' which a whole pack may be at stake for the winner.) Calm the nerves. Legs shaking like jelly. One fire from an enemy sniper – life gone.

Lt. Jones' mindset suddenly became calm. Little boy – Bobby, my son rockin' in the cradle. Wife – beautiful lady waiting. Where am I, she wonders? Out here in no man's land, carrying out orders. Mom and Dad and Sis

See 181ST Page 20



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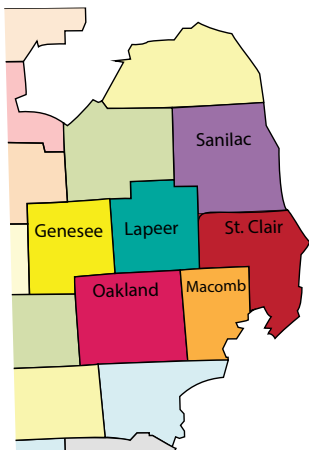
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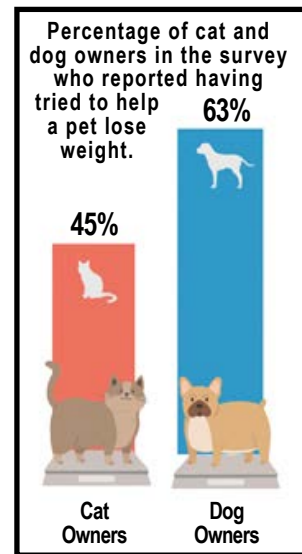
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The Pet OBESITY Epidemic



By Dr. Elizabeth Gray, *ThumbPrint News* Columnist

Just as humans struggle with excess weight, so do our pets. Our four-legged friends are suffering from obesity at a staggering rate. The 2022 U.S. Pet Obesity Prevalence Survey found a staggering 61% of cats and 59% of dogs are overweight or have obesity, indicating a widespread problem with pet health. Another survey in 2023, revealed a lack of awareness about this issue – only 28% of cat owners and 17% of dog owners viewed their pets as overweight.

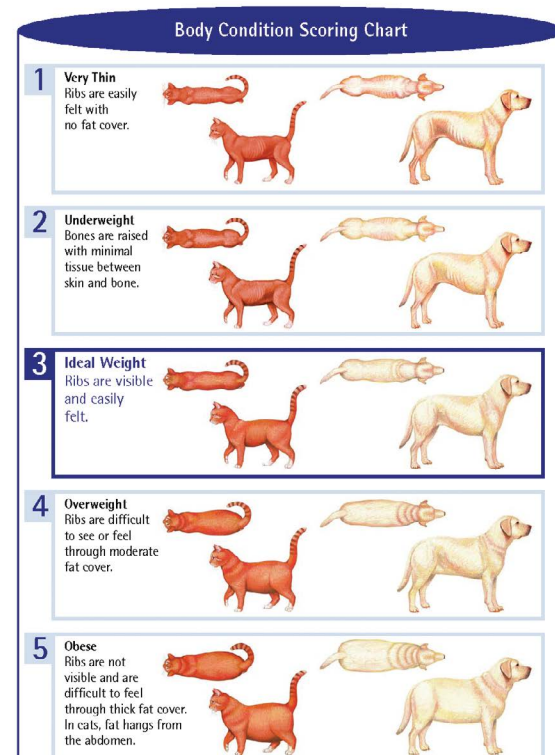
While a few extra pounds won't make our family pet any less adorable, obesity can create lots of health issues. Obesity has been linked to diseases such as diabetes, orthopedic issues, cardiovascular disease and digestive issues, such as pancreatitis. These diseases can become a lifelong struggle for our pets, not to mention lead to large veterinary bills. Diabetic cats and dogs can require twice daily insulin injections, blood glucose monitoring and

very frequent veterinary appointments. Orthopedic issues, as well as cardiovascular disease, can result in life-long medications. Pancreatitis is a condition that if severe, requires hospitalization, IV fluids and medications for sometimes several days.

A 2002 Nestle Purina lifetime study showed that dogs can live on average 15% longer if they maintain a healthy weight. For the Labrador Retrievers in the study that equated to about 2 extra years of life. Who wouldn't want extra time with their furry friend? So, what can you do to help your pet get to and maintain a healthy weight?

The first step is creating an accurate and honest account of what and how much you are feeding your pet. What does your dog or cat eat every day? Be sure to include dry or canned food, as well as treats and any people food. How much are you actually feeding your pet? If you do not already measure your pet's food, it is time to start. Estimated portion sizes can lead to an inaccurate calorie count. Use an actual measuring cup to allot portions. It may also help to start with a one-week food journal. Sometimes this can help owners clearly see what Fluffy is eating.

The second step is making an accurate assessment of your pet's body condition. Body condition scoring is a tool that can be used to evaluate the nutritional status of your pet. Body condition scoring for dogs and cats uses a range from 1 to 5. Healthy dogs and cats should have a body condition score of 3. Dogs or cats with a body condition score of 1 or 2 are considered too thin, while body condition scores of 4 or 5 indicate an excessive amount of body fat. You can use this Body Condition Scoring Chart as a guideline and your veterinarian can help you as well.



All pets have suggested weight ranges, not breed or show standards, that can be found online. These ranges are a starting point, like human weight ranges based on height and/or Body Mass Index. Your pet should have his or her body condition assessed by a veterinarian. Some pets may weigh less than or more than the common ranges and still have a healthy body composition.

Author's note: Learn more at petobesityprevention.org.

Editorial note: Dr. Gray can be found at Cobblestone Veterinary Hospital at 8504 Lapeer Road in Kenosha. They are still providing house calls with In The Pink Mobile Pet Care. To reach out to Dr. Gray, please call (810) 985-3011 or visit her website at inthepinkpetcare.com.

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3. Ask for help! If you are struggling to get your pet to lose weight, contact your veterinarian. There are some medical conditions such as hypothyroidism that can complicate weight loss. There are also prescription pet foods that can help jump start weight loss. Your veterinarian can assess your pet's current routine, set goals and help you reach those goals.


Consequences of Excess Fat in Dogs & Cats




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Diminished Quality of Life




Skin Disorders



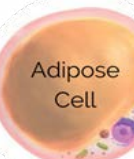
Chronic Inflammation




Orthopedic Disease




Kidney Dysfunction




Adipose Cell



Cancer



Respiratory Disorders



Metabolic and Endocrine Disorders

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Have You Earned Another Tomorrow?

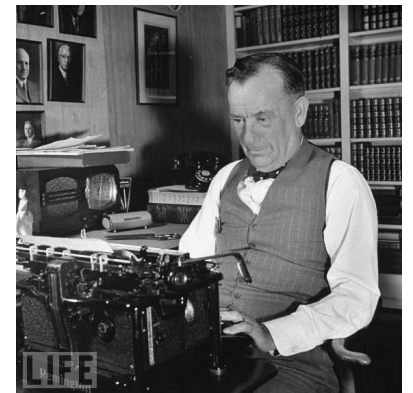
By **David Gillis**, *ThumbPrint News* Columnist

For each of us, life's journey is often on a path with many turns, bumps, barricades and various obstacles. Yet, that journey often provides real opportunities to realize accomplishment and satisfaction for the efforts put forth. It also, more importantly, gifts us with relationships that are meaningful and lasting that guide us through the tough times.

As I am now well entrenched in the status of an octogenarian, I am able to recognize that journey's path. Recently, I pushed aside much of what was on my life's journey and decided to relax and meditate on what life has and may yet provide for me. In doing so, I recalled an inspirational poem I read first as a young adult and have re-read several times since. Let me explain:

I have shared in this column in the past the work of Edgar A. Guest, a name some of our senior readers may recognize. He was a British-born American poet who became known as the "People's Poet". Some may recall that he was an outstanding reporter and writer for the *Detroit Free Press*. Mr. Guest passed away in 1959.

As a young adult, I became familiar with Guest's poetry, often offering inspiration for life's little battles and challenging thoughts for working through those obstacles and building relationships. As I am now entering another phase of my life, I am reminded by one of his poems that I still consider meaningful, regardless of what stage of life I may be in, or possibly because of what stage I am in. It is titled, "Have You Earned Your Tomorrow?" There are several versions of this poem in existence written by other authors under different titles. But let's give credit where credit is due. I share with you Mr. Guest's famous poem written early in his career.



Is anybody happier because you passed his way?

Does anyone remember that you spoke to him today?

This day is almost over, and its toiling time is through.

Is there anyone to utter now a kindly word of you?

Did you give a cheerful greeting to the friend who came along?

Or a churlish sort of "Howdy" and then vanish in the throng?

Were you selfish pure and simple as you rushed along the way,

Or is someone mighty grateful for a deed you did today?

Can you say tonight, in parting with the day that's slipping fast,

That you helped a single brother of the many that you passed?

Is a single heart rejoicing over what you did or said;

Does a man whose hopes were fading now with courage look ahead?

Did you waste the day, or lose it, was it well or sorely spent?

Did you leave a trail of kindness or a scar of discontent?

As you close your eyes in slumber do you think that God would say,

You have earned one more tomorrow by the work you did today?

Certainly, in my life, this poem presents several probing questions regarding how I did and am spending my days. Have I done anything to help improve another's day? Have I offered a pleasant greeting to others in my path? Have I attempted to bring hope and encouragement to those who may not have it? This guiding poetry ends by reminding me that it really is God's decision as to whether or not I will have another tomorrow. And should that happen, what will I be doing to earn yet another tomorrow? I invite you to think about your tomorrow. 🌱

Native American Words of Wisdom

Brought to you by Foxfire Fixin's Restaurant



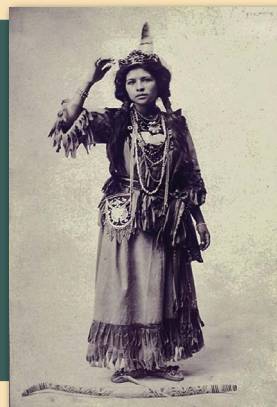
*Matilda Joslyn Gage,
Collections of the
Library of Congress*

"Never was justice more perfect; never was civilization higher."
- Matilda Joslyn Gage, suffrage leader, about the Haudenosaunee, or Iroquois Confederacy.

Indigenous women of many nations had a political voice, the president of the National Woman Suffrage Association, Matilda Joslyn Gage, wrote in an 1875 *New York Evening Post* article. Gage remarked, "among some tribes woman enjoys almost the whole legislative authority and in others a prominent share." Nor was the political authority of Haudenosaunee women limited to the choosing of their clan representative. They "exercised controlling power in peace and war, forbidding at will its young braves to enter battle, and often determining its terms of peace," Gage explained.

WE, THE WOMEN OF THE IROQUOIS:

Own the land, the lodge, the children;
Ours is the right of adoption, of life or death;
Our is the right to raise up and depose chiefs;
Ours is the right of representation at all councils;
Ours is the right to make and abrogate treaties;
Ours the supervision over domestic and foreign policies;
Ours the trusteeship of the tribal property;
Our lives are valued again as high as a man's.



*Haudenosaunee woman of
the Iroquois Confederacy*



THIS MONTH WE TRAVEL TO THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS FOR UBE MOCHIKO WAFFLES

By **Bethany Wolf & Laura Irwin**
ThumbPrint News Staff



Ube is a gorgeous purple yam that is native to Southeast Asia and is a staple of Filipino culture. It has a mild, sweet flavor and a coconut-like aroma. Ube (OO-bay) translates to tuber. Mochiko (MOE-chee-ko) is a Japanese, glutinous, sweet, short-grain rice flour. It is gluten-free and adds structure to cakes and cookies that tend to be crumbly.

Ube and mochiko can be used in many recipes.

UNIQUE FACTS ABOUT THE PHILIPPINES:

- There are over 175 languages spoken in the Philippines with Tagalog as the national language and it is the 5th largest English-speaking nation in the world.
- Education is highly valued with a 95% adult literacy rate.
- Most Filipino people cook over an open fire, so it always smells like smoke.
- Of the 80 million people that call the Philippines home, 85% of them are Roman Catholic.



- It is home to one of the rarest and most powerful birds in the world, the Philippine Eagle, aka the monkey-eating eagle. A mature bird's wing span is around 6.5 feet. Their population is estimated at fewer than 500 and is considered critically endangered.
- It is the only country in the world where the flag is flown upside down to indicate a state of war.

- The Philippine professional basketball league is Asia's first and is the second oldest in the world.
- Camiguin, one of the over 7,500 islands in the Philippine archipelago, has more volcanoes per square mile than any other island on earth – 7 in less than 100 sq. miles. Mount Hibok-Hibok, also known as Catarman Volcano, is the largest active volcano on Camiguin Island in the Philippines. Last active in 1953.
- They have the longest Christmas season in the world with a countdown beginning on September 1st. Some people put up Christmas decorations as early as August.



- It is home to the world's longest, navigable underground river. It is recognized as one of the Seven Wonders of Nature. It stretches 24km (14.9 miles) under the St. Paul's Mountain Range on the island of Palawan in the Puerto Princesa Subterranean River National Park. The river empties into the W. Philippine Sea with about 2.7 miles being navigable by boat.

INGREDIENTS

WAFFLES

- ¾ c milk
- 1 egg
- ½ tsp ube extract
- ¼ tsp vanilla extract
- 1 ¼ c mochiko flour
- ¼ c sugar
- 1 ½ tsp baking powder
- ¼ tsp salt



GLAZE

- ½ c powdered sugar
- 1 Tbsp milk
- ½ tsp ube extract
- ¼ tsp vanilla extract

DIRECTIONS

FOR THE WAFFLES

1. Preheat waffle iron.
2. In a medium mixing bowl add milk, egg, ube and vanilla extracts. Whisk until well combined. Set aside.
3. In another medium mixing bowl add mochiko flour, sugar, baking powder and salt. Whisk until well combined.
4. Add wet ingredients to dry. Whisk until just combined.
5. Spray nonstick cooking spray on the waffle iron. Add half a cup of the batter to the waffle iron (less for smaller waffles). Cook for 3-5 minutes or until golden brown.

FOR THE GLAZE

1. Add powdered sugar, milk, ube and vanilla extracts to a bowl. Whisk until well combined.
2. Drizzle over the ube mochiko waffles.
3. Add toppings of your choice and ENJOY!



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THUMBPRINT NEWS PET PHOTO CHALLENGE



Poppy remembers reading **WHAT A GOOD DOG** in an old copy of ThumbPrint News... She has to check out every issue now to make sure she doesn't miss out on anymore articles like it! Maybe there will be one that asks **WHO'S A GOOD DOG?** She's thinking it has to be her since she can't tell you how many times her mom asks while giving her belly rubs!

Thank you, London E., for sharing Poppy with us!



CHECK OUT ENTIRE MENAGERIE ON OUR

Author's note: We joined forces on this one with Laura researching the Philippines and I made (and shared) the waffles. I recently attended a color party where we were asked to pick a color and bring food that matched. I picked purple and went about trying to find options that were naturally purple and kept finding the Filipino yam: ube – which I'd heard of but hadn't tried before. Laura and I were looking to pick the next Traveling Tastebud around the same time, and paired with this month's cover article, we knew we had found a winner! I had some glutinous rice flour from a previous recipe that I had hoped would work as a substitute... however, it led to very thin and sticky waffles. They tasted amazing though, so I decided to try again with the correct mochiko flour, and I found it made a huge difference! The taste was very similar, but the texture was so much better.



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AUGUST IS HAPPINESS HAPPENS MONTH

Happiness happens one small moment at a time and we need to recognize when they happen.

The Secret Society of Happy People was founded in 1998 by Pamela Gail Johnson, who says "I started SOHP to provide a missing voice for those who are happy and want to express it without having other people rain on their parade. ... I believe my mission on earth and purpose in life is to make the world a happier place."

SOHP started celebrating happiness with *Admit You're Happy Day* on August 8, 1999, but their members wanted to let the happy feeling linger a little longer, so in 2000, they expanded the celebration to the entire month of August. Eventually the month was renamed Happiness Happens Month.


Happiness Happens Month encourages people to take stock of their lives and try to do and think about things that make them happy and to share this joy with others.

Want to get in on the happiness? Happiness starts at home, so do something nice for yourself. Next, small actions can be a big boost to ours and others happiness so when you see an opportunity to help another or brighten someone's day, do it without hesitation and without the expectation of thanks or compensation. An added benefit to helping others is it can help you live longer.

The Secret Society of Happy People run a 31 Days, 31 Types of Happiness, 31 Ways to Feel Good Challenge, where every day in August will be a different happy challenge for you to try. For more information visit sohp.com.



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Vocabulary Voyage


Compiled By Laura Irwin, ThumbPrint News Staff

"Words can open doorways that hands cannot."
~ Rev. J. Martin – Jesuit priest, writer, editor

ersatz er·satz | er, sāts, 'er, zats/
As an adjective: artificial and inferior substitute or imitation. As a noun: an artificial substance or article used to replace something natural or genuine; a substitute. First known use: 1870–75; German Ersatz a substitute (derivative of ersetzen to replace). *Ex: There were many ersatz products generated out of necessity during the deprivations of war.*

peripatetic peri·pa·tet·ic | per-ə-pə-'te-tik
As an adjective: 1a : relating to, or given to walking, 1b : moving or traveling from place to place: ITINERANT. As a noun: PEDESTRIAN, ITINERANT
First known use: 15th century (sense 2) from Middle French & Latin; Middle French *peripatetique*, from Latin *peripateticus*, from Greek *peripatētikos*, from *peripatein* to walk up and down, discourse while pacing (as did Aristotle), from peri- + patein to tread. *Ex: Many people exhibit peripatetic tendencies while talking on the phone.*

semaphore sem·a·phore | 'se-mə-'fōr
As a noun: system of sending messages by holding the arms or two flags or poles in certain positions according to an alphabetic code. As a verb: to convey (information) by or as if by semaphore. First known use: 1715 as a noun and 1838 as a verb. Borrowed from French *sémaphore*, from Greek *sēma* "sign, signal" + -phoros -PHORE
Ex: The place you're most likely to have seen a semaphore is a railroad crossing: the moving arm is a semaphore.



A good vocabulary is a powerful tool, making communication simpler. Readers can contribute to our learning journey by submitting underused, misused or uncommon words they've discovered to thumbprintnews@comcast.net. Your name will be credited as the contributor.

August

what happened on this day in history?

<p>4 On this day in 1693, Dom Pérignon is said to have invented Champagne.</p> 	<p>5 On this day in 1930, American astronaut and the first person to walk on the Moon, Neil Armstrong is born in Wapakoneta, Ohio.</p>	<p>6 On this day in 1945, an atomic bomb is dropped on the Japanese city of Hiroshima by the U.S. B-29 Superfortress <i>Enola Gay</i>, destroying about three-quarters of the city.</p>	<p>7 On this day in 1936, American animator, best known for <i>The Flintstones</i> and Hanna-Barbera Cartoons, Inc., William Hanna weds Violet Blanch Wogatzke.</p>	<p>1 On this day in 1774, English chemist Joseph Priestley discovers oxygen by isolating it in its gaseous state.</p>	<p>2 On this day in 1858, the Government of India Act passes, transferring power in India from the East India Company to the British Crown.</p>	<p>3 On this day in 1949, the Basketball Association of America (BAA) and the National Basketball League (NBL) merge to form the National Basketball Association (NBA).</p> 
<p>11 On this day in 1866, a hotel dining room in Newport, New Jersey, is converted into a skating area and opened as the first skating rink open to the public in the U.S.</p>	<p>12 On this day in 1851, American inventor Isaac Singer patents the sewing machine.</p> 	<p>13 On this day in 2008, Michael Phelps wins three gold medals, all in world record time, in one day at the Beijing Olympics.</p>	<p>14 On this day in 2010, the first Summer Youth Olympic Games open in Singapore.</p> 	<p>8 On this day in 1988, after four years, the renovated Central Park Zoo in NYC reopens.</p> 	<p>9 On this day in 1898, Rudolf Diesel of Germany obtains patent #608,845 for his internal combustion engine – later known as the diesel engine.</p>	<p>10 On this day in 1993, Ruth Bader Ginsburg is sworn in as a U.S. Supreme Court Justice.</p>
<p>18 On this day in 1920, State Rep. Harry T. Burn casts the deciding vote in TN's, and thus the U.S.'s, ratification of the 19th Amendment allowing women the right to vote, after reading a letter from his mother.</p>	<p>19 On this day in 1993, Mattel announces a \$1-billion merger with Fisher-Price.</p> 	<p>20 On this day in 1929, a hydrogen-filled German dirigible, <i>Graf Zeppelin</i>, is the first airship to fly around the Earth.</p>	<p>21 On this day in 1878, the American Bar Association is established by 75 lawyers from 20 states and the District of Columbia in Saratoga Springs, New York.</p>	<p>15 On this day in 1939, <i>The Wizard of Oz</i>, the American musical fantasy film adaptation of L. Frank Baum's book, premieres at Grauman's Chinese Theatre in Hollywood.</p>	<p>16 On this day in 1865, The Dominican Republic regains its independence after four years of fighting against the Spanish Annexation – celebrated as Restoration Day.</p> 	<p>17 On this day in 2017, astronomers witness a rare collision of two dense neutron stars for the first time ever by the U.S.-based Laser Interferometer Gravitational-Wave Observatory (LIGO).</p>
<p>25 On this day in 2012, American astronaut and the first person to walk on the Moon, Neil Armstrong dies at age 82 in Cincinnati, Ohio.</p>	<p>26 On this day in 1907, Harry Houdini escapes from chains underwater in 57 seconds, at Aquatic Park in San Francisco, California.</p>	<p>27 On this day in 1970, Jimi Hendrix creates his last studio recording at Electric Lady Studios in NYC, an instrumental called <i>Slow Blues</i>.</p>	<p>28 On this day in 1845, <i>Scientific American</i> magazine publishes its first issue.</p> 	<p>22 On this day in 1485, the last English monarch to die in battle is King Richard III. He is killed in the Battle of Bosworth Field by Henry Tudor's forces during the last battle in the Wars of the Roses.</p>	<p>23 On this day in 2017, the world's driest place, the Atacama desert in Chile, blooms after unexpected rainfall.</p> 	<p>24 On this day in 1572, St. Bartholomew's Day Massacre of Protestants by Roman Catholics begins in Paris and later spreads to the French provinces.</p>
				<p>29 On this day in 1958, Cliff Richard and the Drifters release the single "Move It", Richard's debut single. It is credited as the first British Rock 'n' Roll song.</p>	<p>30 On this day in 1995, Cable News Network joins the internet by launching CNN.com.</p> 	<p>31 On this day in 1987, the 18-minute short film/music video for Michael Jackson's "Bad", directed by Martin Scorsese, premieres during the CBS TV special "Michael Jackson: The Magic Returns".</p>

Editorial note: This calendar's purpose is to provide entertainment for our readers and to mention lesser-known historical events. We are aware that there also may be well-known events that have happened on these days, and not listing them does not indicate that we are unaware of their importance.

PLANTAR FASCIITIS RELIEF

Submitted by **Christopher J. Zimmer, D.C.** Owner of Zimmer Chiropractic

Plantar fasciitis is a widespread condition that causes heel pain, limiting mobility, and significantly impacts daily life. Shockwave therapy is an effective treatment option for those suffering from plantar fasciitis.

Also known as Extracorporeal Shockwave Therapy (EWST), it delivers non-invasive shockwaves to injured areas to promote healing. The treatment involves painless, short, frequent bursts of high-intensity mechanical energy into soft tissue. This mechanical stimulus initiates a cascade of reactions, including biochemical responses and the release of biomolecules, leading to angiogenesis (development of new blood vessels), inflammation reduction and tissue regeneration.

The therapeutic effects include pain relief, anti-inflammatory action, antibacterial effects and the induction of endogenous growth factors (growing or produced by growth from deep tissue) by harnessing natural biological responses that accelerate tissue regeneration, offering a non-invasive solution for not only plantar fasciitis but also a variety of musculoskeletal conditions.

Shockwave therapy delivers precise and wide-ranging shockwaves to target the affected foot area, ensuring thorough healing and pain relief from plantar fasciitis. It also induces smooth muscle relaxation within the foot musculature, reducing tension and spasms that contribute to pain and stiffness. It promotes the body's natural analgesic

mechanisms by modulating intracellular calcium levels and promoting the release of nitric oxide, EWST facilitates vasodilation and muscle relaxation, restoring flexibility and range of motion to the foot.

This type of therapy initiates neovascularization, the formation of new blood vessels, in the plantar fascia tissues. This increased blood flow promotes the delivery of oxygen and nutrients to the injured area, accelerating tissue healing and repair. Improved vascularity also helps alleviate ischemia (inadequate blood flow) and hypoxia (oxygen deficiency), which contribute to tissue damage and pain in plantar fasciitis.

Shock wave therapy has several advantages, notably, it is painless, it significantly reduces pain, presents minimal negative pressure, and gives a better outcome with fewer treatments due to the large therapeutic zone which allows deeper penetration to provide thorough and efficient treatment.

If plantar fasciitis limits your mobility, affecting your quality of life, shockwave therapy will provide effective relief. 🦶

Editorial note: Dr. Christopher Zimmer, owner of Zimmer Chiropractic, has been freeing people from pain since 1984. Dr. Zimmer and his staff are committed to promoting the health and well-being of all patients. For more information, please visit zimmerchiro.com or call the Port Huron location at (810) 987-7500.



TREE OF PEACE CEREMONY



By John Kennedy, ThumbPrint News Guest Writer

I am of the Iroquois Nation (Haudenosanee – Ho-den-o-sh-o-nee). My father was Oneida (Onayoteaka). My mother was Onandago (Onutakehaka).

What I would like to do is present a bundle of five arrows representing the original five Iroquois nations to the President of the United States. I would like this gesture to pay homage to my ancestors, as well as serve as a reminder for the people of the United States of how and why this land became the great nation that it is. Benjamin Franklin observed the Iroquois form of government and presented the symbol of the five arrows to the Founding Fathers to steer them towards a democratic model and ideal. You can see evidence of this influence on the seal of the presidential flag, where an eagle holds thirteen arrows, representing the thirteen colonies. I would like to explain the story of the five arrows, the story's significance today, and how these ideals can be applied.

The Story of the Five Arrows

Native American leader Hiawatha had a friend known as the Peacemaker. This friend had a dream to bring peace to the Iroquois. He had wanted them to quit beating up on each other, organize, and have a common goal.

But when the Peacemaker met up with Hiawatha, his three daughters had recently been killed by a rival chief. The Peacemaker had to perform a condolence ceremony to heal his grief before Hiawatha could help him unify the tribes. He cleansed Hiawatha's ears so he could hear the truth. He cleansed his eyes so Hiawatha could see the truth. He cleansed his throat so Hiawatha could speak the truth.

The Peacemaker had a speech impediment, but Hiawatha was a good speaker. They went around to the five different tribes and sold the idea of unification to each one, and they eventually accepted it and set up their form of government. What he presented to them was five arrows banded together to show that one arrow by itself is strong but is easily broken. The whole bunch bound together is much stronger and almost impossible to break. And it is proven to be that way. As long as we stick together, as a nation, we are stronger than we would be separately. The Peacemaker came in and once he sold them on it, he went away. Hiawatha's job after that was to set up this form of government and spread it around so that they would live by it. The Iroquois Nations and surrounding Nations adopted it. Before Hiawatha and the Peacemaker united the tribes, every tribe was separate. Everybody just warred against each other. Then when they united the tribes, the fighting between tribes slowed down. It never really went away, but it slowed down and they banded together. Hiawatha and the Peacemaker initiated the **Tree of Peace Ceremony** and had all the bands bury their weapons of war under this tree and they couldn't go to war unless they all agreed on it. It was and is a symbol of how peace can grow if it is nurtured.

The way their government was set up, each tribe had so many delegates. They could send to different meetings of the whole, as they acted like a nation and they all had to agree on what was good for the nation, not just one tribe. This was kind of like a turning point in some ways because they were all united so they could all prosper.

When Ben Franklin came here, he studied how the Natives lived and saw how their government worked. Franklin presented these ideas and the symbol of the five arrows to the Continental Congress and they adopted it. It has worked pretty well.

Why it matters now?

There has been so much conversation recently about the meaning behind certain monuments, who's remembered? What's remembered? Why it is remembered? And so, the symbol of the arrows prevails after all these years on the Presidential Seal. And I am sure a lot of people don't even think twice about it or even know what it stands for.

Benjamin Franklin presented it to Congress because he saw this model of democracy work. The colonies wanted to get rid of the king so the common people could have their say in their government, freedom of speech, religion, and everything that goes along with that, including the freedom to walk down the street peacefully without getting attacked.



Why is it important to remember our past?

Because history repeats itself. My fear is, if we forget the symbol of the five arrows, that the way of life they lived back then will come back and get worse. We will have no respect for each other, ourselves, nothing in life.

This bundle of arrows represents coming together for a common interest. It is so odd that it's not more widely known. But when one culture beats up the other one, they try and destroy everything they represent all over the world and it is happening here. It happened when the Europeans first came here. They took our children out of our homes and they wanted to, I call it, "whitenize them," forget your culture, the way we lived. They took the freedom away from the Natives who lived here. And that was their hunting grounds, their food, their supply, their water. They put them on a spot of land that was at that time, useless.

In school, we learn that American democracy, ideas of unity, citizenship and nationhood were born of European ideals from the French Enlightenment, not the Native American tribes and their way of life. But in France and England at the time, there were no democracies, it was all kingdoms. So, the Iroquois Nation was a model for our present form of government. Especially if you think about the Iroquois Nation as a model for the 13 colonies, almost like unruly children wanting to do their own thing then realizing that they too need to unite to prosper. Those in power have tried to hide or destroy this history, but we have a need and a desire to tell these stories and reignite the power of the bunch of arrows as a symbol of unification.

How can these ideals be applied today?

We have all these branches of government that are not even trying to get along for the common good. We need to. They need to bend and twist for the good of not just one part of government. It has got to be good for the whole country, not just different little parts.

What is the importance of a symbol like this? Why do symbols like this matter?

I think it was to benefit everyone, not just one person. I think that what our country has come down to, is every individual wants their own way, like a five-year-old, and they're not even going to think about compromise or what is good for everybody. It's just, "I want what I want when I want it."

But what's the importance of having this representation? What does that do for us to have that image with the arrow? Unity. And to this day, I think it still works. But as much as we can disagree, our nation and the way the world is going right now, everybody fighting and disagreeing too much and not getting together for common ground. You know we can disagree in the long run and come out with a solution that the whole country can live by and agree to half agree. We don't have to agree on everything, but we can live with a decision that is for the greater good of all.

The story of the five arrows is a symbol, a persistent reminder of what strength and prosperity can come from unity in our nation. That is why this story must be unburied from the past, resurrected and acknowledged for our greater good, and the symbol utilized for reunification in our current times of political dissonance.

John Kennedy, along with his family and friends, raised the money to erect the monument north of the Blue Water Bridge, south of the Court of Flags, honoring the Native Americans and their way of life, who once lived in this area. John can be reached at johnwk@gmail.com.

TREE OF PEACE

The tree had four symbolic roots, the Great White Roots of Peace, spreading north, east, south, and west. If any other nation ever wished to join the League, it would have to follow the White Roots of Peace to the source and take shelter beneath the tree. Atop the tree, he placed an eagle to scream out a warning at the approach of danger. He symbolically planted the tree in the land of the Onondagas, the place of the Grre, the confederate lords, or peace chiefs, would sit beneath it and be caretakers of the Great Peace.

**THUMBPRINT NEWS
PET PHOTO
CHALLENGE**

Meet the sleepy Ash Princess from Clinton Twp., MI

Our puppy, Ash Princess, likes to snuggle in her bed on a cold winter day and read the *ThumbPrint News* paper! She also tends to drift off to sleep dreaming about camping in the summer months in Harbor Beach, MI. We love camping in the Thumb!

– Submitted November 2023 –

Thank you, Chelsie S. & kids, for sharing Ash Princess with us! We hope she is enjoying this summer weather!



CHECK OUT ENTIRE MENAGERIE ON OUR [G](#)

**COTTAGE
Living**




By **Pamela Lynn Hayes**, *ThumbPrint News* Columnist

What a fast summer we have had so far! Hard to believe it is already August. I love August because of the fresh summer fruit and vegetables it produces; in fact, August 3rd is National Watermelon Day! Not only that, but the summer sky sure promises us some natural beauty this month.

This year, on the 12th and 13th, we can observe the Perseids Meteor Shower! This is one of the best meteor showers to observe, producing up to 60 meteors per hour at its best rate. Star Gazers can view its peak on the night of the 12th. And then on the 19th, we will have the year's only Blue Moon. The Moon, unfortunately, does not actually turn blue but could appear indigo from atmospheric conditions. We'll just have to wait and see!

My little cottage has had a few facelifts this summer, even though I vowed that I would not be doing much this season except enjoying the beach and working on my suntan. Window replacements and a bit of deck touch-ups were in order. Once it is all done it will look great, and I'm sure to be happy that I invested the time and money. I always say that there is not much more to do, but there always is. Especially if the cottage sits quietly during the cold winter months, something usually needs a bit of attention once the warm weather hits.

I love that the hot weather month is upon us, or as some say the "Dog Days of Summer". This is the hot and humid period of summer between early July and early September. I say bring it on! If I start to complain about how hot it is, I remember back to January and February with the gray, cold, drab weather of winter. Nonetheless, my little cottage is a haven of tranquility during the hot days of August.

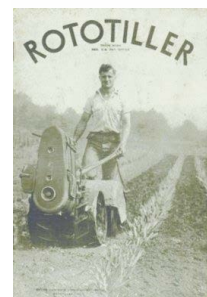
This summer at the cottage I have noticed a lot more bats than normal in the early evenings. Maybe because we really didn't have a super cold winter and the insects are now abundant. We still have a while before we have to think about the cooler temps that will be here in a couple of months – but I don't want to even think about that time yet. So, for now, I will just focus on enjoying the hot weather while it is still here while I watch the bats fly around. Cherish these summer days and nights wherever you may spend these summer months. I am so grateful that I get to spend most of the summer at the cottage with my new work schedule, so enjoy this time I will!

I hope you enjoy the month of August too, *ThumbPrint News* Readers! 🍷

Pamela can be reached at pammypoo123@icloud.com.

THUMBPRINT NEWS CONTEST

Each month, *ThumbPrint News* prints a photo of an object, person or a place for our readers to identify. If you think you know the answer, go to our website www.thumbprintnews.com and enter your answer. Of all persons submitting the correct answer by the 12th of the month, one person will be randomly selected to be entered into a drawing for a wonderful surprise gift at the end of the year! Of those monthly winners, just one will be notified via email that they are the grand prize winner!



For our July 2024 contest, we asked our readers to identify what is pictured to the left. Of all the entries, only Georgia Hampel of Macomb, Michigan, correctly identified as a primitive rotary tiller blade.

The first powered rotary hoe was invented in 1912 by Arthur Clifford Howard in New South Wales, Australia. He used a tractor engine to power rotating discs to cut weeds and prepare the soil for planting. His earliest design threw the soil sideways until he improved the blade design into an L shape. He and an apprentice established a company to manufacture the machine for sale. It wasn't until after WWI that they were able to continue patenting a design. By 1930, they were finding it difficult to keep up with the worldwide demand for his machines.

Today cultivators like the rotary tiller have taken a back seat to the less labor intensive, easier to use chemically produced and often hazardous herbicides.

For our August 2024 contest, we are wondering if our readers can tell us what we have pictured to the right. If you think you know, visit our website, www.thumbprintnews.com, to answer.



NACHO AVERAGE PICNIC!!!

FOX FIRE FIXIN'S



Brisket Nachos

Smoked brisket, cheese sauce and lettuce, topped with crispy onion frazzles, drizzled with sweet BBQ sauce over fresh fried tortilla chips with sour cream and salsa on the side

Pulled Pork Nachos

Our signature pulled pork, cheese sauce and lettuce, drizzled with sweet BBQ sauce, over fresh fried tortilla chips with sour cream and salsa on the side

Nachos Supreme

Seasoned ground beef, cheese sauce, tomatoes and lettuce, over fresh, fried tortilla chips with sour cream and salsa on the side

Add guacamole +.99

Family Pack 59.99 - (Feeds 4 - A \$90 value!)

Includes: 1 Full Slab of Ribs, 1 lb. Pulled Pork w/4 Brioche Buns, 4 Cups - Soup of the Day, 4 Pieces of Cornbread, 8 oz. of BBQ Sauce, Fries or Baked Potatoes for 4

All Menu Items Are Available for Take Out including beer, wine, moonshine and homemade desserts. Catering also available.

WWW.FOXFIXINS.COM

7200 RIVER RD., MARINE CITY, MI

810-765-Y'ALL OPEN WED - SUN

181ST at home – sacrificing, helping, hoping this war will be over soon. I'm here to clean up – garbage duty. We're pushing 'em back. Suddenly, a mortar exploded. Lt. Jones was thrown to the ground. Shoulder seared. Flaming. Bullets spattering the ground. Harassing fire for the next few hours.

His radio several yards from where he lay wondering how much time he had before the Howitzers would be fully in place and ready to fire – his mind awakened. He heard banshee cries coming from trees, what, a hundred yards away. Again, a splattering of shell fire came his way.

Maps, maps, maps. Remember the coordinates. He knew all the Batteries were firing registration from their new positions. This would slow the enemy down somewhat. Calculate the enemy's speed. Coming closer. Get to your phone. You know the angles. "Get the Howitzers to cross angle; veer out; you know the coordinates. Hit 'em at xyz angle. Move at rapid speed."

"Call to H.Q. Mobilize the 155's. Bring 'em in at 30° Northeast. Enemy coming straight up the gut – some units dispersing – hit 'em now."

"Read you loud and clear, Lieutenant. Over and out."

He collapsed into a pile of mud. What the hell did I just do? And where are my sidekicks? May the Lord have mercy on all of us.

Whether he was conscious or unconscious, the Howitzers rolled into position. Their guns roared. Trees were blasted. The earth was scorched. The horrible cries of bloodied death were heard throughout the night. But still the enemy advanced. A shot here. A shot there. Cpl. Hal G. Godsey and Gen. 4 James E. Patterson were seriously wounded. Both were friends of Lt. Jones. Due to the messaging from Lt. Jones earlier in the day, Battery B was able to clog up the enemies' march on the main road and turnoff area.

Lt. Jones awake now in the early morning hours of June 6th found the area to be calm – enemy fire halted. The enemy corpses were scattered; body parts missing; the stench was overwhelming.

Lt. Jones composed himself. He staggered to a nearby pond; shoulder burning – maybe a shrapnel wound. His food rations were lost the previous day. He sipped water from the pond though he knew it might be tainted. He would work his way back to headquarters after a brief respite; the sun shining – a clear blue sky. Sunday morning.

A loud command was heard from behind him. He turned into direct sunlight, blinding him temporarily.

Standing in a jeep was a large imposing figure. He saluted. "Good job, Lt. Jones – a job well done." It was General MacArthur. The jeep squealed its tires and sped off. There would be more fighting. The 181st Battalion would see more action. Lt. Jones was relieved of his Forward Observing duties on June 7th. The 181st Battalion was released from combat duties on June 26, 1945.

**Headquarters X Corps | Office of Commanding General APO 310
(Report 14 July 1945)**



First Lieutenant Howard J. Jones, 181st Field Artillery; United States Army. For gallantry in action against the enemy during the period 2 June 1945 to 7 June 1945 in the vicinity of ULA, MINDANAO Philippine Islands. Lt. Jones, serving as Forward Observer with a front-line infantry company, on two occasions at night, when extremely active and effective enemy mortar fire was falling within the company perimeter, exposed himself to the fire to adjust artillery on the mortar positions, effectively silencing the enemy fire. On numerous occasions by his superior knowledge of field artillery methods, this officer adjusted 155mm Howitzer fire within fifty yards of his own position, on mortars

and small arms which were firing with infantry needs and desires contributed greatly to the successful operation of our troops in his particular sector.

That colicky, bow-legged, developmentally delayed nine-month-old baby in the crib was me – Bobby. Dad was overseas fighting to save our freedoms. He's a member of the Greatest Generation. I, the follow-up generation; the so-called Silent Generation (1932-1945). Statistics show there is only one percent (worldwide) of us still living. Dad's generation is all but gone. I know what

resolve that generation possessed to not only win the war but to preserve the peace; to build lives of great magnitude where fair play and self-respect became the order for that generation to adhere to.

I know what it was like to "toe the line", "do what you're told", "have respect for your elders" and "when you start a job, finish it to the best of your ability." Dad hammered home: "Son, whatever your job or career is, do it for thirty years." People retired earlier then and didn't live long into their retirement years. Oh, I know my dad had those nightmares. We call it post-traumatic stress today, but back then Dad felt at times he hit rock bottom emotionally. He never got away from the war.

From his induction at Fort Sill to his final deployment, June 26, 1945, he was, I'm sure, afraid. Afraid to foul up and not do his duty to the best of his ability. All the training in the world doesn't prepare a soldier for what is to come.

Dad saw it all. As a Forward Observer, the lifespan could be short. His time between June 2 and June 7, 1945, must have been more hell on Earth than any man should ever be exposed to. That General MacArthur had acknowledged his achievements was a testimony to his ability to "get the job done". But then, that was the Greatest Generation, and for good reason.

I must say Dad, to me, you were a taskmaster. I followed your everyday advice by becoming a special education teacher for almost fifty years. I have a wonderful life, a great daughter (also a teacher), a great son-in-law, and three beautiful grandchildren. I've been married almost fifty-five years to a wonderful lady who understands how I was brought up. And I will never forget my mom who nurtured me from birth and also taught me self-respect and to treat others with kindness. Dad, I love you more now than ever before and am glad to somewhat understand what it was like during those war years.

That we should be thankful – beyond thankful – that these soldiers (men and women) gave their all so that we may enjoy today's freedoms again is an understatement. I love you, Dad. God bless us all. And God bless the U.S.A.

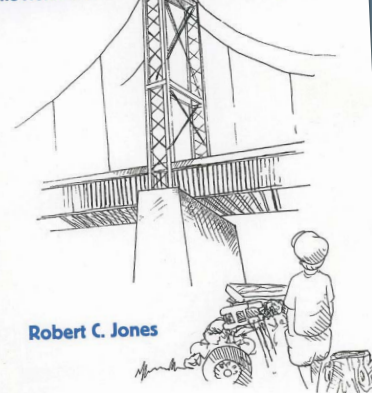
Respectfully submitted by Robert Charles Jones, son to Howard John Jones, Member 181st Battalion Artillery – World War II. 🇺🇸

Editorial note: Robert C. Jones, of Washington, Michigan, has recently released his second children's book, see the ad below.



**Bobby's adventures in the North Woods continue!
Local author, Robert C. Jones, recounts some
of his childhood escapades at Torch Lake, MI.**

*A Young Soul Maturing during Another Summer
in the North Woods on the Big Lake*



Bobby, age nine, spends part of the summer at his aunt and uncle's resort in the North Woods. He encounters many people, old and new, as he sets out on many adventures.

Problems arise as new people enter the story disrupting his visit. Bobby is faced with issues of trust, bullying, and social /emotional conflicts. He learns that adults have and keep secrets, and sometimes resolutions for problems can come from unexpected sources.

At the end of this visit, he matures to a state that people regard him as "more grown up" and begin to call him Bob.

Reading age: 12-100, 132 pages

Robert C. Jones, aka Bobby, is a retired special education teacher. He lives with his wife of 50+ years, in Washington Twp., MI. They are the proud grandparents of three boys: Brandon, Joshua, and Justin.

Available for purchase at Squirrel Away Bookshop in Armada and directly from the author via email at robertsparty1@gmail.com for \$20. It is also available on Amazon.com and BarnesandNoble.com for \$27.

Other books by Robert C. Jones: The Tale of the Red Fox in the North Woods

PESTERING PROBLEMS

BALD FACED BRUTES



Informational Tips and Advice on Common Household Pests
from Nicole Szymczak, President of ABC Bees

Summer may be coming to an unofficial end soon, but everyone who can be is still outdoors enjoying gardening, parties, barbeques, picnics and bonfires; however, we aren't alone! The stinging insects are still out in full force taking advantage of every opportunity to fortify their queens before winter. As the days cool off, you will see increased activity from stinging insects like yellow jackets, European and American paper wasps and bald faced hornets.

One of the most dangerous stinging insects is the bald faced hornet. They are mostly black with a white face and grow much bigger than most other stinging insects – about ½" to ¾" in size. They build aerial nests and are extremely territorial and protective of them. The inside of these nests resemble the honeycomb style nest built by a wasp, but the outside is completely enclosed with grayish, brown paper. The nests are round or oval and if left untreated, will grow to be very big, housing anywhere from 400 to 700 of these oversized stinging brutes. Nests will commonly be built in trees and shrubs or under overhangs on homes and garages.

These nests are their homes, which they will aggressively defend without hesitation if they feel threatened by people and animals. Just getting too close can trigger an attack and since they are sensitive to vibrations, lawn mowers and weed trimmers may also initiate an assault. And unfortunately for us, they don't lose their stingers after one sting, meaning they will continue to sting you over and over again until you are no longer a threat.

The swelling, burning, itching and pain from just one sting from this hornet can last several hours, but multiple stings will be excruciating and can increase a person's chance of having an allergic reaction. Stings from these hornets have been known to create "gunshot size" holes in the skin and can cause blistering, in addition to the swelling and pain. Bald faced hornet stings need to be taken seriously, as they can become fatal for some.

Similar to other stinging insects, bald faced hornets feed on nectar and pollen, but because of their large size, they are also carnivorous, targeting smaller insects, such as honey bees, flies and yellow jackets. The queen begins building her nest in early spring, but waits until midsummer to expand her colony when food is more plentiful. This is why these nests are not usually noticed until late summer – once they've grown really large. It will seem like the nest came out of nowhere, but it has actually been there all summer.

Once again, due to the protective, aggressive nature of bald faced hornets, we **DO NOT EVER** recommend self treating! If you find a nest on your home or property, call a professional! Do not go near or bother the nest in any way. The slightest movement or vibration around the nest may trigger an attack by multiple hornets. ABC Bees has trained and certified professionals who can safely and successfully treat these nests. Our technicians will be fully suited up to protect themselves from getting stung. Nests should be treated as soon as they are found to prevent them from continuing to grow and expand. The bigger the nest, the more aggressive insects you will have in and around your home and yard. Call ABC Bees, a division of ABC Home & Commercial Services, today at (810) 794-5678 for fast, reliable service! 🇺🇸



Protect your pets, guests and family from these stinging pests!



AT THIS TIME OF YEAR, BALD FACED HORNETS AND YELLOW JACKETS ARE ACTIVELY AND AGGRESSIVELY PROTECTING THEIR GROWING NESTS!

If you see them hovering around, don't wait until the stinging starts, CALL TODAY!

ABC BEES

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40+ Years Experience



If you have an event in September that you would like listed in the September issue of *ThumbPrint News*, email it to ThumbPrintNews@comcast.net by August 12, 2024. There is no charge for the listing. Before traveling beyond your hometown to attend any of these events, please call ahead for any changes in dates or times or for any cancellations.

GENESEE

NONE THIS MONTH

LAPEER

HADLEY

1 Evening Program on the Edmund Fitzgerald Hadley Old Town Hall, 3551 S. Hadley Rd., 6:30PM – 8PM, program begins at 7PM. Join us in welcoming Ric Mixter, an expert on Great Lakes shipwrecks and author of *Tattletale Sounds – The Edmund Fitzgerald Investigations*. Enjoy a free Vernor's ice cream float, compliments of The Parlour in Hadley. Free but donations are appreciated. All welcome, including children, and registration not required, but requested. For more info visit HadleyHistorical.Eventbrite.com or find Hadley Township Historical Society on Facebook.

10 Farmers and Flea Markets Hadley Mill Museum, 3633 S. Hadley Rd., 9AM – 3PM. In addition to local vendors of crafts, baked goods and odds & ends, you can explore three floors of Hadley Township history. Don't miss the 1910 Cartcar automobile on loan from the Stahls Automotive Foundation. Hadley-themed merchandise will be for sale at the Mill Shop. Hot dogs and beverages available for donation or bring your picnic to eat in beautiful Hartwig Park. Free but donations are appreciated. For more info visit HadleyHistorical.Eventbrite.com or find Hadley Township Historical Society on Facebook.

IMLAY CITY

17 Eagles #4082 Dinner & Band Eagles Hall, 170 S. Almont Ave., 5PM – 10PM. Join us for a steak dinner until 7PM or sold out for \$18, followed by live music with Dave Lagness. We'll have a 50/50 raffle, as well as our ongoing raffles! Ask about Backpack Extravaganza in August! For more info call (810) 724-1954.

24 Fundraiser Dinner Eagles #4082 Hall, 170 S. Almont Ave., 4PM – 7PM or sold out. Join us for a dinner in support of Lillian Murphy-Parker, a 16-year-old with Stage 3 RMS (a soft tissue cancer). We'll have pulled pork, coleslaw, baked beans, chips and

dessert for a donation of \$15/adult, \$8/child 12-4, free for 3 & under. We'll also have a 50/50 raffle every hour, as well as our ongoing raffles! Ask about Backpack Extravaganza in August! For more info call (810) 724-1954.

LAPEER

4, 11, 18 & 25 Sunday Flea Market

The Lapeer Center Building, 425 County Center St., 8AM – 2PM. We'll have 50 booths inside and outside selling a huge variety of items to the public. This long-running community event is sponsored by The Lapeer Center Building, a 501(c)3 non-profit organization for over 70 years. We do still have space available if you'd like to participate! For more info email lapeercenter@charter.net or call (810) 664-2109.

MACOMB

CHESTERFIELD

8 & 9 Blankets with Care at the Summer Food Truck Roundup & Summer Concert Brandenburg Park, 50050 Jefferson Ave., 3PM – 8PM. We'll be selling ice cold pop, water and Texas Roadhouse peanuts (buy a bag for \$5, get a Free App coupon!) to raise funds for their mission of bringing joy to the elderly, veterans, homeless and those in need in Macomb, St. Clair and Oakland Counties. For more info visit blanketswithcare.com.

11 Crocker House Museum Tea

Talk Crocker House Museum, 15 Union St., luncheon at 1PM, program at 2PM. Join us for the program "Pewabic: Detroit's Pottery" with Alethea Davenport. \$35/members or \$40/non-members. Tickets include tea, lunch and presentation. Tours and gift shop will be available. For more info/tickets visit crockerhousemuseum.org or call (586) 465-2488.

MEMPHIS

1-4 Memphis Festival Days

Events throughout Memphis, including city-wide garage sales, Friends of the Library book sale, water games at Memphis Free Methodist, vendor and craft show at the Lion's Club Youth Center, Annual Chicken Dinner and Breakfast Buffet at the American Legion Post 566, and more! For full schedule search "Memphis Festival Days" on Facebook.

2, 9, 16, 23 & 30 Friday Night

Euchre Memphis American Legion Post 566, 34330 Bordman Rd., doors open at 6:30PM, start time is 7PM. \$10. For more info call (810) 392-3237.

6, 13, 20 & 27 Tuesday Night Line

Dancing Memphis American Legion Post 566, 34330 Bordman Rd., 5:30PM – 9PM, dancing starts at 6PM. Join us as we begin dancing! Beginners to experienced dancers welcome! Ages 15-100 welcome, those 15-18 must be with an adult. \$10/dancer, free for on-lookers. We'll have plenty of refreshments for an extra fee. For more info call (810) 392-3237.

7, 14, 21 & 28 Wednesday Night

Bingo Memphis American Legion Post 566, 34330 Bordman Rd., 5:30PM – 9:15PM, games start at 6:30PM. Concession stand available, light dinner served at 7:30PM for \$5. For more info call (810) 392-3237.

RICHMOND

All Month Long Woman's Life Chapter 855 Bottles and Cans Drive

Helping those in need in our community. Make a difference today by donating. For larger donations, we have a pick-up service. For pick-up or area drop off locations in Richmond and Memphis, call (810) 543-1128.

8-11 Flea Market & St. Augustine Parish Festival

68035 Main St., THURS, AUG 8, is the Flea Market only 8AM – 6PM, times on FRI, SAT & SUN vary with events happening throughout the day! For more info and complete schedule visit staugustinecatholicparish.org, call (586) 727-5215 or find on Facebook at "St. Augustine Parish Festival".

ROSEVILLE

6 Karaoke Party! Roseville Library, 29777 Gratiot Ave., 6PM. Warm up your vocal chords and get ready to belt out your favorite songs for our first all-ages karaoke event! You can sing solo or form a group – the stage is yours! No registration required. For more info and a full list of library events, visit rosevillelibrary.org wordpress/programs-events or call (586) 445-5407.

6 Michigan Mammals with Huron-Clinton Metroparks

Roseville Library, 29777 Gratiot Ave., 2PM. Identify the animals with a variety of hands-on activities. We will also explore mammal diversity and adaptations, especially as they relate to diet and survival. Event for adults, no registration required. For more info and a full list of library events, visit rosevillelibrary.org/wordpress/programs-events or call (586) 445-5407.

8 Forensics Program Roseville Library, 29777 Gratiot Ave., 6PM. Join us in welcoming Forensic Scientist Stephanie Grabowski of the Michigan State Police as she

shares about forensic disciplines and how they can contribute to police agencies investigating crimes. Event for adults, no registration required. For more info and a full list of library events, visit rosevillelibrary.org/wordpress/programs-events or call (586) 445-5407.

WARREN

4, 11, 14, 16 & 18 51st Thomas H. Carey "Concerts in the Square"

Warren City Square, One City Square Dr., 7PM. Join the Cultural Commission of the City of Warren for the 2024 concert series! Bring your lawn chair or blanket and enjoy amazing music. Free parking available, and an ice cream truck will be on-site for concessions. For more info call/text (586) 275-7603 or email warrenculturalcommission@gmail.com.

WASHINGTON

11 & 25 The Greater Washington Area Historical Museum Open House

58230 Van Dyke, 1PM – 4PM. The Museum is open for tours! Admission is free, but donations are welcome. Come check us out! We're always looking for new members and volunteers who are interested in local history. For more info email washingtonmuseum@gmail.com, call (586) 786-5304, visit washhistsoc.org or find us on Facebook.

OAKLAND

OXFORD

2, 9, 16, 23 & 30 Friday Fish Fry

American Legion Post 108, 130 E. Drahner Rd., 12PM – 8PM. Average cost is \$12. We have walleye, cod and shrimp, combo plates and carry out is available. Building is sanitized daily. For more info call (248) 628-9081.

ROYAL OAK

3 Muscle & More @ the Museum

Royal Oak Historical Museum, 1411 W. Webster Rd., 10AM – 3PM. Our annual car show will have all years, makes and models! Don't miss our exhibit of car designs from the 1950s and 1960s with designers available to answer questions. For more info visit royaloakhistoricalsociety.com or call (248) 439-1501.

TROY

10 & 24 Oakland County Traditional Dance Society Dances

First Methodist Church of Troy, 6363 Livernois Rd., 7PM – 10PM. Join the OCTDS for their monthly dances! Lessons for beginners start at 7PM, dances begin at 7:30PM. \$10 or pay what you can for refreshments and to support the bands. Bring snacks and get \$1 off admission. For more info email info@octds.org.

ST. CLAIR

ALGONAC

6 Woman's Life Chapter 883 Meeting Church of Christ, 1601 St. Clair River Dr., 6PM. Everyone is welcome, and we're always looking for new members. For more info contact Paula at paulaburgess@comcast.net, (810) 278-4466 or (810) 794-9641.

9, 16 & 23 Blankets with Care at the Riverside Market Smiths Field, behind Dairy Queen, 3PM - 7PM. We'll be here taking donations for our BWC Five & Dime Store Act of Caring. Make sure to visit our website for the wishlist and to learn how we bring moments of joy to the elderly, veterans, homeless and those in need in Macomb, St. Clair and Oakland Counties. For more info visit blanketswithcare.com.

10 Craft & Vendor Show and Classic Car Show Clay Township Park, 4710 Pointe Tremble Rd., 10AM - 3PM. Come out to shop before taking a look at some awesome cars! We'll also have scrumptious goodies at the ACHS Bake Sale! Proceeds benefit the Algonac-Clay Township Historical Society. Vendor and Farmer Market Booths available for \$20, or free to non-profits. For more info visit achistory.com, call (810) 794-9641 or email paulaburgess@comcast.net.

CASCO

3 & 17 Euchre Tournament St. James United Church of Christ Basement, 9008 Meisner Rd., play starts at 6:30PM. Join us for lots of fun where laughter is pretty much a guarantee! \$10/player, 25¢/Euchre. For more info call (586) 727-1623.

MARINE CITY

2-4 Marine City Maritime Days Nautical Mile Park, 509 S. Water St., tent opens on FRI, AUG 2, at 5PM with events all weekend! Amazing food, carnival games, live music, arts & craft show, two parades (one is boats) and more! Immediately following the parade on SUN, AUG 4, don't miss the Historical Society of Marine City's announcement of recipients of their 2024 "Paint the Town" improvemnet grants and the winner of the Mackinac Island Getaway raffle! And stop by the Historical Society's booth to learn about their upcoming Oct Wine Tasting Party. For more info visit maritimeday.com.

MARYSVILLE

7, 14, 21 & 28 Knights of Columbus #9526 Wednesday Bingo The Knight Club, 1195 Gratiot Blvd., 6:20PM start time. (Doors open 2 hours prior.) For more info call (810) 364-6800.

NORTH STREET

7 St. Clair Kennel Club General

Meeting Dorsey House, 6008 Beard Rd., 6PM - 8:30PM. Calling all dog lovers to come see what we're all about! For more info visit our website stclairkc.org or email stclairkennelclub@gmail.com.

PORT HURON

All Month Long Diaper Drive by the St. Clair County Health Department's Maternal and Infant Health Program (MIHP) drop off at St. Clair County Health Department, 3415 28th St., during their regular business hours: MON 10AM - 6:30PM or TUE - FRI 8AM - 4:30PM, or you can schedule a pick-up. Donation requests: new packages of baby diapers (all sizes), baby wipes, rash creams or baby hygiene items. 100% of donations will be given to eligible MIHP participants. Monetary donations can be made to St. Clair County Treasurer at paypal.com/paypalme/sccmitreasurer. For more info call (810) 987-4903.

1, 8, 15, 22 & 29 Cornhole Tournament Charles A. Hammond American Legion Auxiliary Unit #8, 1026 6th St., 7PM. Join us to play some cornhole! \$5 to play. Open to the public and all levels of experience are welcome. For more info call (810) 982-9553.

2, 9, 16, 23 & 30 Euchre Charles A. Hammond American Legion Auxiliary Unit #8, 1026 6th St., 1PM. Join us for this fun card game! \$5 to play. Open to the public. For more info call (810) 982-9553.

3 Don't Just Survive...Thrive! Fraternal Order of Eagles #3702, 2645 Howard St., 1PM - 5PM. Join us for live music by The Heathens, Penny Board and Prodigal Redemption, as well as presentations by survivors of human trafficking, law enforcement and a self defense demonstration. We'll also have food trucks, vendors and a silent auction, gift card giveaways throughout event. Event is presented by Pearl Unchained, The Eagles and Lakeshore Presbyterian. For more info text (810) 941-1881 or (214) 725-2090.

5, 12, 19 & 28 Play Bridge Council on Aging, 600 Grand River Ave., 12PM - 3:30PM. Join us to play this fun card game, duplicate-style, experienced players only. No partner needed. \$5. For more info, to register or for on-going free bridge lessons, contact Tom at tjbroyles@aol.com.

5, 12, 19 & 28 Play Bridge Palmer Park Recreation Center, 2829 Armour St., 10AM - 2PM on the first MON, 11AM - 2PM all other dates. Join us to play this fun card game, party bridge-style, no experienced needed. No partner needed. \$1 to play. For more info, to register or for on-going free bridge lessons, contact Tom at tjbroyles@aol.com.

6 Classy Cruise for a Cause *Huron Lady II*, 102 Huron Ave., boarding at 5:40PM, cruise at 6PM - 8PM. Visiting Nurse Associatoin & Blue Water Hospice is hosting this fundraising event aboard the *Huron Lady II*. Attendees will sway to the smooth sounds of DJ Josh Meyers, enjoy heavy hors d'oeuvres and take in the beautiful views of the St. Clair River. \$50/adult, \$90/couple (\$45/adult if two or more). Registration due by July 31. For more info visit vnbawh.org/cruise.

18 AYCE Breakfast Port Huron Masonic Lodge #58, 927 St., Port Huron, 9AM - 1PM. Join us for our All You Can Eat Breakfast! We'll have choice of eggs, pancakes, sausage, bacon, potatoes, amazing coffee, as well as juice and water. \$10. Discounts for veterans, service members and seniors. For more info call (810) 982-5044.

19 Port Huron Elks Lodge #343's 65th Consecutive Blood Drive Port Huron Elks Lodge #343, 3292 Beach Rd., 12PM - 6PM. We have collected over 250 gallons of blood since 2013. To make an appointment, please call (800) RED-CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or go to RedCrossBlood.org and enter sponsor code: porthuronelks343. For more info call (810) 982-8532 or email elks343@comcast.net.

22 Grandfather's Whispers Launch Party with Author Don Dodge Auditorium, 200 Grand River Ave., 4PM - 6PM. Join local author Stacy N. Elliott as she launches her debut novel *Grandfather's Whispers*, with special guest narrator Michael O'Hair. Appetizers provided courtesy of the author. Event hosted by the St. Clair County Library System. Seats are limited, so registration is required. For more info and a full list of library events, visit stclaircountylibrary.org/events and select your local library to find a workshop by you! For more info call (810) 987-7323.

ST. CLAIR

2, 6, 9, 13, 16, 20, 23, 27 & 30 Play Bridge St. Clair Community Center, 308 S. 5th St., 12PM - 3PM. Join us to play this fun card game. On TUE we play party bridge-style, no experienced needed for \$1, and on FRI we play duplicate-style, experienced players only for \$5. No partner needed. For more info, to register or for on-going free bridge lessons, contact Tom at tjbroyles@aol.com.

3 Euchre Tournament Hosted by Cornell Marysville Chapter #93 OES St. Clair Masonic Temple, 1800 St. Clair Hwy., doors open at 12:30PM, play starts at 1PM. This event is open to the public and admission is \$10. We'll also have refreshments, door prizes and a 50/50 drawing. Don't

miss out on this fun event! For more info call Diane at (586) 337-2729.

SMITHS CREEK

2 Fish Fry American Legion Post 525, 7150 Smiths Creek Rd., 4:30PM - 7PM. Join us for some delectable fish! \$11/adult and \$5/child (12 & under). For more info call (810) 367-6351.

11 Smiths Creek Masonic Lodge Monthly Breakfast Smiths Creek Masonic Lodge #498, 335 Henry St. (across the street from the Pink Elephant), 8AM - 12PM. Join us for delicious eggs, bacon, potatoes, French toast, pancakes (plain & blueberry), along with coffee, orange juice, white and chocolate milk. AYCE for only \$10/adult and \$5/child under 12. For more info email clintonsharrard@comcast.net.

SANILAC

APPLEGATE

17 Applegate Summer Festival Village Hall, 2457 Sherman, 11AM. Join us for some fun and Applegate history! We'll have a car show, tractor show & plowing, a petting zoo, carnival games, a derby/truck pull, card bingo, cornhole, kids waterball, a 50/50 raffle and more. Food will be available as well. The Applegate Lions is offering kids vision testing too. Don't miss out! For more info search Applegate Summer Festival on Facebook.

PORT SANILAC

4 & 10 Sanilac Museum 2024 - Live from the Carriage Barn Stage Sanilac County Historic Village and Museum, 228 South Ridge St. On AUG 4 at 1PM - 3PM, we'll welcome the Royal Oak Blues Band. Then on AUG 10 at 4PM - 7PM, we have Huron Out! \$10/show. For more info visit sanilaccountymuseum.org.

17 Port Sanilac Antique Boat Show and Vintage Festival Port Sanilac Municipal Harbor, 7379 Main St., 10AM - 4PM. There will be classic cars, historic tours, ship wreck tours, vintage travel trailers and activities for the children. Come and explore the beautiful Lake Huron shore line! Visit michacbs.com for registration forms. For more info email jeanneharp@bellsouth.net or call (810) 292-1360.

SANDUSKY

10 & 24 Thumb Dance Club & Euchre Maple Valley School, 138 Maple Valley St., 1:30PM - 5PM. Please join us for fun, fellowship and live music for only \$5. We would love if you bring a snack to share or a dish to pass for the potluck dinner at 3PM. This is a smoke and alcohol-free environment. All ages are welcome! For more info call (810) 310-2715.

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**Book your 'bucket list'
trip with confidence
through Travel Time
Vacations & Cruises**

Life moves pretty fast, and everyone is keenly aware of that. It's never too late to plan your trip of a lifetime, until things change, and it becomes too late.

Travel expert Jeffrey Leonardi of Travel Time Vacations & Cruises says the best thing you can do is book your bucket list trip or tour now, and do it with confidence through a professional who knows what it takes to get you there and back safely with minimal risk of hassle abroad or loss before you depart due to unforeseen circumstances.

Through Travel Time Vacations & Cruises, Leonardi is now booking all tours and cruises including but not limited to "Cuba Discovery" starting in February 2025, "A Culinary Journey through Tuscany & Florence" in April 2025, the "Iceland Explorer" in May/June 2025, and the "Burgundy & Proven France River Cruise" in October 2025 on a chartered boat. These are all including Round-trip Air from Detroit Metropolitan Airport (DTW).

Leonardi brings 28 years of travel booking experience to the table for his clients. As a former talent agent for a roster of stars from classic Hollywood in his life before travel, he's programmed to mind every detail to ensure his clients are well taken care of.

"We are booking groups next year, and we are looking for anyone who has a group that we can get a discounted rate for," Leonardi said. "If someone has a group and they can get me a minimum of 32 people, one couple would go for free."

Concierge services included cancellation for medical emergencies or pre-existing conditions through insurance at the time of deposit. Clients also get the benefit of Leonardi's expertise at planning trips and tours.

"I don't charge a fee for my services, with the exception of domestic air travel," Leonardi said. "There's never a service charge. I offer all of it at no charge."

To inquire about booking your bucket list trip or tour through Travel Time Vacations & Cruises, call (586) 323-6100 or visit www.586travel.com.

Toll-free number: 1-800-969-9034