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CEGDAR SWAMPS



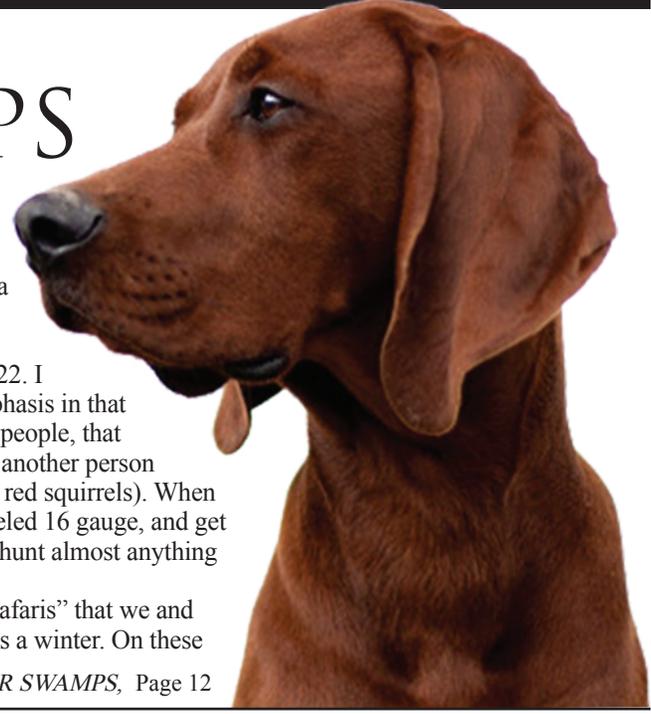
By Robert L. Christensen
ThumbPrint News Guest Writer

I grew up on a farm in central Michigan in the 1930s and 1940s at a time when most farmers hunted more to augment the family food supply, than as a sporting activity.

Most boys learned to hunt early and a common gift to a 10 year old was a .22 rifle. I was not given a rifle, but was allowed to use Dad's single shot .22. I was instructed in the basics of gun handling and marksmanship. Special emphasis in that instruction was given to understanding that guns could kill things, including people, that a gun was never loaded in the house or car, that it was never, ever pointed at another person whether loaded or not, and that what you killed, you ate (except for rats and red squirrels). When I got to age twelve I was allowed to buy a shotgun, which was a double barreled 16 gauge, and get a rabbit hound that I named Fritz. (Actually Fritz was a Redbone and would hunt almost anything with great gusto!)

In our family the real exception to our meat hunting orientation was the "safaris" that we and the Ostrandersons, our neighbors down the road, embarked on two or three times a winter. On these

See *CEGDAR SWAMPS*, Page 12



American History Across the Border

By William Easton
ThumbPrint News Guest Writer

The past year there have been celebrations commemorating the Bicentennial of the War of 1812 and the 150th anniversary of the U.S. Civil War. Our northern neighbor, Canada, played a significant if not well remembered part in both wars. The last battles ever fought between the neighbors took place in 1814. Since then the almost 4000 miles of Canadian border along the "Lower 48" states has remained unprotected - albeit with some increased security since "9/11". As for our civil war, museums in Dresden and Chatham-Kent, with plaques in Chatham, denote events leading up to the attack on Fort Sumter in 1861. Those are: Uncle Tom's Cabin, Buxton National Historic Site and John Brown's convention to establish a separate state for free blacks in the U.S.

Harriet Beecher Stowe wrote the melodrama which she titled *Uncle Tom's Cabin* in 1855. Supposedly she had read, or at least heard about, the autobiography of Josiah Henson, a runaway slave who had settled in the Dresden area. So it is said that she patterned after him her fictional character, Uncle Tom,

See *AMERICAN HISTORY*, Page 4



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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Happy New Year! As the old year fades and the new year approaches, I, like many millions of people across the land, think about what I want my New Year's resolutions to be. But, also like millions of people, I think about what might be the magic formula for keeping those resolutions all year, especially when the statistics say that 80 percent of the people who make resolutions fall off the wagon by Valentine's Day!

From the website proactivechange.com, it is claimed that about 40 to 45% of American adults make one or more resolutions each year. As time goes on, these resolutions are only minimally maintained:

- Past the first week: 75%
- Past two weeks: 71%
- Past one month: 64%
- Past six months: 46%

The good news, however, is that although people who make New Year's resolutions do break them, people who make resolutions are 10 times more likely to attain their goals than people who don't.

The tradition of New Year's resolutions began in 153 B.C. when Janus, a mythical king of early Rome, was placed at the head of the calendar. Janus had two faces and could look back on past events and also forward to the future. Janus, according to www.goalsguy.com, "became the ancient symbol for resolutions and many Romans looked for forgiveness from their enemies and also exchanged gifts before the beginning of the year."

According to <http://Pittsburgh.about.com/od/holidays/tp/resolutions.htm>, there is a common thread that runs through most Americans' resolutions. The top ten include:

1. Spend more time with family and friends
2. Become physically more fit
3. Lose weight
4. Quit smoking
5. Enjoy life more
6. Quit drinking
7. Get out of debt

8. Learn something new

9. Help others

10. Get organized

If I think about the resolutions I plan on making for 2013, about four of these are on my list, though I will keep our readers guessing which four those are!

Now, although there isn't really a magic formula for keeping those resolutions, experts agree that three tips can help in that pursuit:

- Set measurable goals, ones that are concrete and not ambiguous.
- Establish a timeline with specific deadlines.

• Don't do it alone. Make yourself accountable to someone, such as a family member, a colleague, a friend, or your boss.

Well, here's to my New Year's resolutions and to yours. I hope we both can keep them and can make the year 2013 the happiest, most rewarding year ever. And, in case you have friends in other countries, to whom you would like to wish, "Happy New Year", please take a look at the following column on ways to pronounce "Happy New Year" around the world! Happy New Year to all of ThumbPrint News' faithful readers from our entire staff!

If you would like to wish your foreign friends "Happy New Year", here is how it is pronounced in the language of their birth:

Arabic: Kul 'aam u antum salimoun

Brazilian: Boas Festas e Feliz Ano Novo

(means "Good Parties and Happy New Year")

Chinese: Chu Shen Tan

Czechoslovakia: Scastny Novy Rok

Dutch: Gullukkgig Niuw Jaar

Finnish: Onnellista Uutta Vuotta

French: Bonne Annee

German: Prosit Neujahr

Greek: Eftecheezmaenos o Kaenooryos hronos

Hebrew: L'Shannah Tovah Tikatevu

Hindi: Niya Saa Moobaarak

Irish (Gaelic): Bliain nua fe mhaise dhuit

Italian: Buon Capodanno

Khmer: Sua Sdeitfnam tmei

Laotian: Sabai dee pee mai

Polish: Szczesliwego Nowego Roku

Portuguese: Feliz Ano Novo

Russian: S Novim Godom

Serbo-Croatian: Secna nova godina

Spanish: Feliz Ano Neuvo or Prospero Ano Nuevo

Turkish: Yeni Yiliniz Kutlu Olsun

Vietnamese: Cung-Chuc Tan-Xuan

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AMERICAN HISTORY

Continued from Page 1

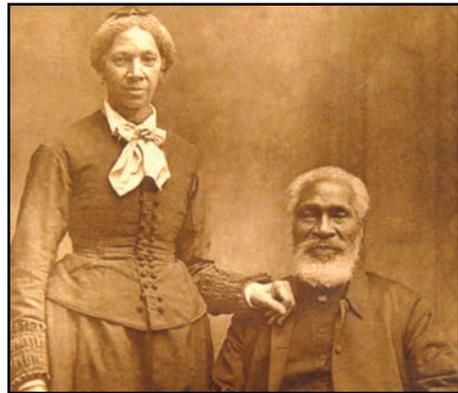
who helped the young slave girl, Eliza, cross the Ohio River from the slave state of Kentucky to the free state of Ohio. Henson, a former slave, had become a successful farmer and lay preacher. He had been a conductor for



Harriet Beecher Stowe

runaways seeking refuge in the free colony then known as Upper Canada. (The British Empire had abolished slavery in most of its colonies in 1833).

Henson had saved enough money to buy freedom for his family when his Maryland master raised the ante after taking his \$500. That prompted his escape along the Underground Railroad to Niagara Falls and eventually on the northern Lake Erie shore. Reaching a branch of the Thames River, he helped organize a community called Dawn, now a part of Dresden. As Jacqueline Tobin, explains in her book, *From Midnight to Dawn*, these were code words, with Dawn meaning the eventual safe destination. Detroit was Midnight, and its river the River Jordan, understood by Bible educated blacks. The runaways were cargo, those who hid them, conductors, and all were hoping to reach the station



Nancy and Josiah Henson

safely. Traffic on this “railroad” had increased with the passage of the Fugitive Slave Act of 1850. That made it a federal crime to harbor runaway fugitives. Bounty hunters would tail them across the border, returning them dead or alive. Alive paid a higher bonus.

Henson’s autobiography, which was dictated since he was illiterate at the time, was well received in both countries, raising the consciousness of whites who had little experience with the slave history of brutal treatment by some masters. Similar awakening resulted from the popular Stowe melodrama that was adapted to the stage. President Lincoln is reported as having said upon meeting Stowe, “So you are the little woman who wrote the book that started this great war.” In Canada Henson was active in the British-American Society, whose goal was to educate and cultivate members of his race to convince ignorant bigots that they could be as civilized as their white neighbors. Reverend Henson continued to reside with his family at Dresden while accepting speech invitations in both countries and abroad. In 1880 just two years before his death, he was granted an audience with Queen Victoria.

The Uncle Tom’s Cabin Museum in Dresden, a Canadian Historic Trust location, consists of the main building and several out buildings, as well as the Hensen family cemetery. Dresden is about a 40 minute drive from the ferries at Marine City or Algonac off Highway 40. It is well worth the reader’s time to refresh memories or learn something new about the Civil War.

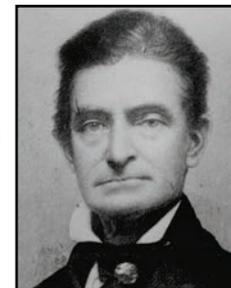
The second person from the United States who made his mark just across the border from Michigan was John Brown. The militant abolitionist, known as Ossawatomi Brown since leading bloody battles against slave owners in Kansas and Nebraska, came to the Chatham area in the spring of 1858, a little over a year before his ill fated attack on the Harpers Ferry armory. Brown, a Calvinist religious zealot, who fathered 20 children by



Early cabin from the Buxton National Historic Site and Museum

two wives, had left a successful tannery business to pursue his goal to free all slaves and give them equal rights, instead of being only counted three fifths of a white man for voting purposes as dictated by our Constitution. Brown was a self trained military “captain”, as he liked to be called. He spent many years traveling all over the country seeking financial support and enlisting recruits.

When Brown traveled to Chatham, it was still a part of British North America until the Dominion Act of 1867 formed Canada’s current nexus with its “Mother Country”, Great Britain.



John Brown

Brown had already spent time at the Rochester, New York, home of Frederick Douglas, a leading black abolitionist. Since Brown hoped to have members of the race join him, he requested the public support of the respected Douglas. He didn’t get it. Although Douglas admired Brown’s tenacity, he doubted his ability to succeed in establishing a separate black

run political state by force. Neither man agreed with the contemporaneous plan to return freed slaves to Africa, the birthplace of their ancestors.

Another leading black figure was Harriet Tubman. Like Henson, she had escaped from a Maryland slaveholder. Perhaps because of a childhood injury, she suffered from seizures and claimed visions. She became so great a conductor for her people that they called her their “Moses” leading them out of the slave wilderness to freedom. She was an articulate woman ahead of her time. She had settled with her family in the Canadian Niagara Falls’ area. Brown made a courtesy visit, hoping for her moral, public and financial support. While she heard him out, she was unable to provide assistance, pleading ill health. (She lived for over 50 more years). So Brown arrived in Chatham lacking that important assistance. There he did gain encouragement from leading black residents. The community had been a destination on the railroad, so many runaways had settled there, engaging in farming and starting businesses. Among the occupations listed in a New York newspaper report on the community were:

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New Beginnings

By David Gillis

ThumbPrint News Columnist

Well, here we are again. It's a new year and most people I know have adopted resolutions for positive change and have filled their minds with a resolve in anticipation of a better way of life. It seems the month of January brings with it a sense of new beginnings and a promise of great possibilities. It certainly is an ideal time to reflect on the previous year, to celebrate personal accomplishments, to move on from the disappointments experienced, and to step forward with a fresh start.

I am no exception to this annual quest for improvement. As I looked back over the last year I recall all the captured opportunities I had to share my faith with others and to learn from their respected principles and values. The last year presented numerous personal challenges, including another chapter in my unwritten book about retirement not working for everyone. Who was it, anyway, who invented the concept of devoting so many years to achievement and, when reaching the point of personal satisfaction, to suddenly stop? But, that's another story for another time.

I find that many younger people a few generations behind me are just beginning this annual search for positive change. Some have experienced disappointments in their personal lives and others are just having a difficult time getting started on life's journey. I certainly don't have all the answers; in fact I don't have most of them. However, years of experiencing missed opportunities and facing barriers, mostly self-created, have given me some insights that, regardless of my age, I am still able to remember. I thought this might be a good place and time to share a few of them.

First, let's set aside the words "I can't" and replace it with these words: "In the future I will." Doesn't it make sense that when you feel you can no longer find a reason to continue with something, it's time to do something else? Why dwell on the negative when it's so much easier to concentrate on the positive?

So, let's begin by saying, "In the future I will let go of those things I have no control of." Most aspects of our lives are only there because we continue to think about them. Positive things will happen in your life as you emotionally distance yourself from those that are negative. If it hurts, let go and allow space for what feels good. Don't let what you can't control interfere with all that which you can.

Let's try it again. Life is simple and, "In the future I will fully accept reality." That means understanding that everything happens for you, not to you. You may not want to believe it, but there is an almost spiritual reality to all things happening at the right moment; not too soon nor too late. Know that for anything lost, there is something else gained. And, conversely, for anything gained, something is lost. This requires that you maintain vigilance in your observations on life. You have the choice to regret or rejoice.

How are you doing? Want to try another one? Change is like breathing; it's not a part of the process, it is the process. So, "In the future I will allow myself the opportunity to change my mind." Change is probably the only thing we can actually count on and positive change requires changing your outlook. Personal growth without change is impossible. Often all you need to do is look at things with a different perspective.

How's your risk factor? Say, "In the future I will take chances." Is that scary? It's supposed to be because it makes you think first and requires the change referred to above. But, let's realize that regret can be even more frightening. Realize that many fears are larger in your mind than in reality. Don't let them be the barrier to what you really want to accomplish. Move forward so you won't regret the changes you didn't take.

Don't stop now. Continue with, "In the future I will appreciate what I have learned." Someone once said that "Nothing is more beautiful or powerful than a smile that has struggled through tears." That suggests that you not regret time given to anything, even when it has caused some pain. Clearly, when all has been said and done, it is not what you have been through that defines who you are; it is how you made your way through it that determines the person you become.

As you move forward into this new year, understand that all that happened yesterday is only lessons for tomorrow. In the confusing world we live in today these lessons can be important. Remember that although you're not all you want to be, you can give thanks for the lessons you've learned along the way. And, you will become a much better person than you used to be.

I sincerely hope that the five thoughts I've shared regarding the adoption of resolutions for your new year are useful. They have been and continue to be for me. 🌱

Fair Trade Your Supermarket "Campaign"

Submitted by Roddy Scheer and Doug Moss

For E - The Environmental Magazine (www.emagazine.com)

A project of the non-profit Green America, the "Fair Trade Your Supermarket" campaign aims to empower consumers to advocate for more "Fair Trade" products on store shelves at their local supermarkets. Fair trade is a system of exchange that honors producers, communities and the environment by ensuring that farmers and artisans throughout the developing world are paid fair prices for their work and have direct involvement in the marketplace. The goal of the wider Fair Trade movement, according to Green America, is to build real and lasting relationships between producers in developing countries and businesses and consumers around the world.

And that's where your neighborhood grocer comes in. "While the Fair Trade movement is gaining steam nationwide, most of our supermarkets still carry few—if any—Fair Trade products on their shelves," reports Green America. "Together, we can put Fair Trade products within reach for millions of Americans."

And just how does Green America expect us to do this? "First, take stock of Fair Trade products in your supermarket – look for coffee, tea, chocolate, rice, sugar, honey, wine, fresh fruit and olive oil." Scan the relevant aisles for third-party certifier Fair Trade USA's distinctive black-and-white "Fair Trade Certified" label, which is only attached to imported goods where the producers receive fair prices for their products and where strict socio-economic and environmental criteria are met during production. Alternatively, look for the logos of other third-party certifiers such as "Fair for Life" or "Fair Trade Federation" on product labels if you think fair trade versions may be available in a given product line.



"Then, you can encourage the store to stock more Fair Trade products by talking to the store manager as a loyal customer," adds Green America. They suggest using comment cards, which can be key to getting a store with no Fair Trade items to start carrying them. "Every time you go grocery shopping, drop a comment card in the box asking your manager to stock Fair Trade items." Of course, talking to a store manager in person may be even more effective, especially if you are armed with a pile of your receipts from the store from the previous month or two to show how much spending power you alone would be able to allocate toward Fair Trade versions of the items you are buying there.

Another creative way to spread the Fair Trade gospel would be by volunteering to hand out free samples of Fair Trade products that the store already sells in order to raise awareness and build consumer demand. "Stores sell more of a product when a sampling table is set out, and if you, your friends and family are working the table, the labor is free for the store, too."

But why stop with your local market? If there is a chain supermarket outlet in your area, take it to the top by writing an e-mail, letter or postcard to corporate headquarters informing them of your desire to buy Fair Trade items in all of their stores. Check out the Fair Trade Your Supermarket website (link below) for more tips on how to make your next shopping trip fairer to the planet and its people. 🌱

Editor's Note: For more information, visit www.fairtradeyoursupermarket.org, www.emagazine.com, www.greenamerica.org and www.fairtradeusa.com.

My Inconclusive Travel Plans for 2013

Author Unknown (This has been a popular email to forward recently, so, rather than emailing it, we are forwarding it to our readers through the paper!)

I have been in many places, but I've never been in Cahoots. Apparently, you can't go alone. You have to be in Cahoots with someone.

I've also never been in Cognito. I hear no one recognizes you there.

I have, however, been in Sane. They don't have an airport; you have to be driven there. I have made several trips there, thanks to my friends, family and work.

I would like to go to Conclusions, but you have to jump, and I'm not too much on physical activity anymore.

I have also been in Doubt. That is a sad place to go, and I try not to visit there too often.

I've been in Flexible, but only when it was very important to stand firm.

Sometimes I'm in Capable, and I go there more often as I'm getting older.

One of my favorite places to be is in Suspense! It really gets the adrenalin flowing and pumps up the old heart! At my age I need all the stimuli I can get!

I may have been in Continent, but I don't remember what country I was in.

It's an age thing.



THROUGH Laura's LENS

By Laura Smith
ThumbPrint News Columnist

Editing Software for Photos

There are several editing programs for photographs. For the photographer who occasionally takes photos, the programs that come installed on a computer or the CDs with editing software that accompany digital cameras are sufficient. However, if one wishes to do serious editing, there are reasonably priced programs, other than the Photoshop Creative Suite series.

The program I have used since 2005 is the **Corel Paint Shop Pro series**, which costs about \$129.00. This program has the One Step Photo Fix feature which is perfect for editing ambient and flash photography. It has the option to deepen colors, highlight, lighten, darken and sharpen photos. It takes less than a minute per photo on a fast computer. It also has one click features that turn color photos into black and white, or sepia or add different photo borders, plus many other photo effects. It also has a scratch remover and cloning tool which are easy to use. The cloning tool makes it possible to remove people, clone open eyes in, slim a person by removing fat and remove other items from photos. The scratch remover can remove the cracks out of old photos and take wrinkles off of faces. It has a lightening and darkening tool that can brighten teeth and a sun tanning tool to darken washed out skin and even wood. For a demonstration download visit <http://www.corel.com/corel/allProducts.jsp>.

Mystic Tint, Tone and Color

is a program which allows the user to correct color issues, alter portrait shots, and enhance skin, hair, lips and eyes. This program has a color tinting feature to colorize black and white photos and restore color to old faded color photos, especially photos taken with those old 126 Kodak drop-in film cartridge cameras. Here is a link to try a demo: <http://www.autofx.com/products/mttc/detail.html>. The dancing couple photo had the blue coloring added and the cloning was done in Paint Shop pro.



Virtual Painter 5, made by Jasc, paints photos in different styles, such as oil painting, color pencil, drawing, pastels, plus other styles. This program runs about \$60.00 and is fun to use. It can turn average or bad photos into works of art. I did try to find the website and there are a lot of free download sites, but I suggest being cautious when downloading. As one computer repair guy told me, "If it's free, you end up paying me".



This photo, entitled "Lighted Canyon", was done with Virtual Painter and Paint Shop Pro.

The program that I used to make my DVD photo slide shows is **Pinnacle Studios**. It costs about \$129.00 and it paid for itself 1000% times over. I used it to turn people's weddings into 25 minute photo side shows and charged \$105.00 and people loved the result. Even if a photographer doesn't make money producing DVDs, it creates professional quality DVDs out of those family photos. Here is the web site for info: <http://www.pinnaclesys.com/PublicSite/us/Products/Consumer+Products/Home+Video/Studio+Family/Pinnacle+Studio+16+Ultimate.html>.

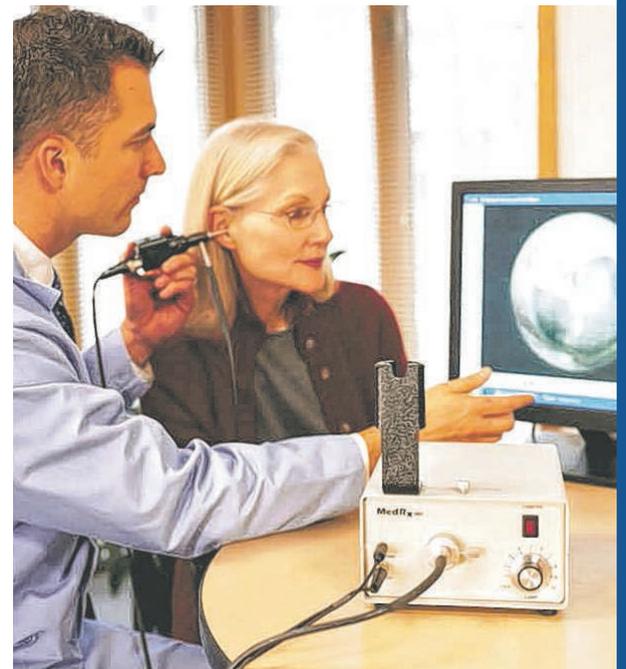
Laura Smith lives in New Baltimore, Michigan, and is a professional photographer who started her business back in 1990. Laura will be offering tips to photographers of all skill levels – from beginners to professionals. Laura's website is www.photographyplusbylaura.com.

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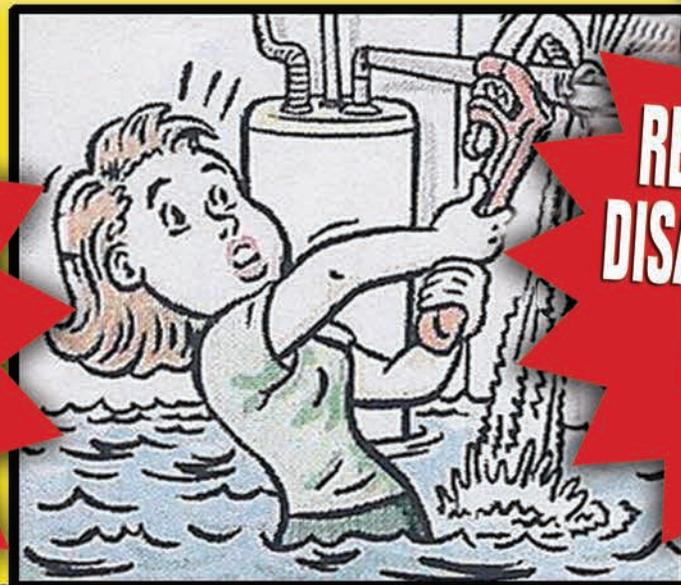
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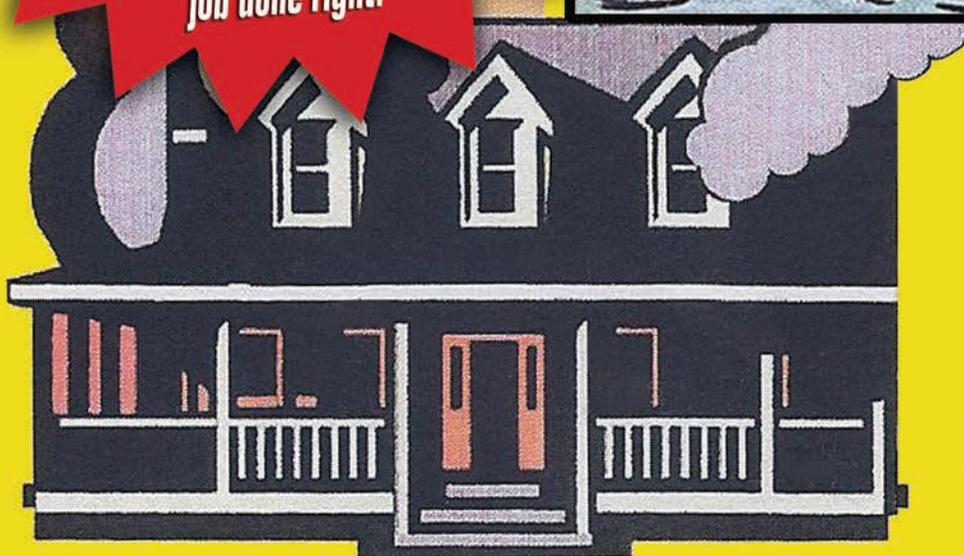
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LANDSCAPING THE THUMB

NEW YEAR. NEW LOOK

By Paul Bujak

ThumbPrint News Staff Writer

2013 is here, so let's start planning your garden with a new look right now! This is the time of year seed companies send out their new catalogs offering hundreds of new varieties of plants, vegetable seeds, herb seeds and flower seeds. Here are my top flower picks to give your garden the color you are looking for this season:

Spilanthes oleracea "Lemon Drops"

The Lemon Drop, also known as the toothache plant, is a bright yellow plant with flower heads shaped like a gum drop. The budding flower contains a natural analgesic, which helps numb the gums, which ultimately helps with toothaches. This full color, heat tolerant plant is perfect for containers and planting beds.



Eustoma grandiflorum "Arena Red" rose

Brand new for this year, this type of red rose distinctly resembles the antique tea rose. The buds are light green with a bright pink edging. As the Arena rose starts to bloom, the light green turns into light pink and the pink edging darkens. This rose produces in the summer and early fall months and has a long vase life.



Myosotis sylvatica "Victoria Azure Blue" forget-me-not

This new addition to the forget-me-not family is an early bloomer with fantastic bright blue flowers with deep yellow centers. It works great as a shady area ground cover and also serves as a perfect cut flower for small bouquets. The flowers are about half an inch in diameter and grow up to seven inches tall.



Celosia argentea plumosa "Century Mix"

This Celosia mix offers assorted bright and vivid colors all season long in a variety of sizes. It produces feathery flowers, which resemble a rooster's comb. The mix is suitable for planting in containers, using as an edging, or even as cut or dried flowers. Seeds should be planted in a warm soil with some fertilizer. The flowers thrive during the summer heat.



Rudbeckia hirta "Tiger Eye Gold"



This variety of Rudbeckia is a stunning long blooming perennial with bright golden daisy-like flowers.

This plant will work in any garden and will provide fantastic color when placed into small bouquets. From early summer to early fall, Tiger Eye Gold Rudbeckias will produce more blooms than you can possibly imagine. Make sure you pick up some of these seeds this year to show off your garden all season long.

Scabiosa caucasica "Fama Deep Blue"

This wonderful plant produces elegant deep blue flowers with wiry long stems. These flowers are perfect cut flowers that last over a week and look great in a deep vase. This Scabiosa will continue to impress your neighbors while producing fantastic low maintenance blooms all the way into the fall months.

Typically, six weeks before the last frost is the best time to start your seeds. By planning ahead you can get a jump-start this gardening season. To make your garden and lawn the talk of the neighborhood all season long, ABC Home and Commercial Services provides lawn and ornamental disease control services. Set up your 2013 program today by calling (810) 794-5678. 🌱



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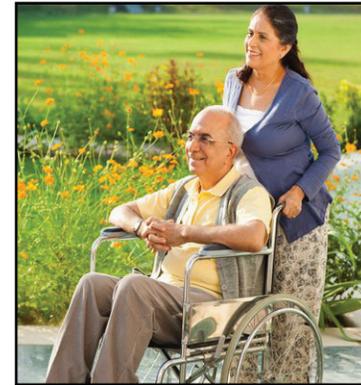
The Angel Advisor

Here Come the Boomers

By Stephen Novak

ThumbPrint News Guest Writer

In 20 years, nearly 79 million aging Americans will be placed on Medicare. That's nearly 7,000 – 10,000 baby boomers every day that hit retirement and shift from being totally self-sufficient to, at least in some part, becoming dependent on our government for their daily support. That's a whopping 26% of our population (*The Week*, January 3, 2011). Of course the world will continue, and possibly in even better condition than we left it. Yet, one question looms large in many people's minds, "Will our healthcare system be able to handle this onslaught of demand?"



We are all aware that the healthcare industry is under a major public microscope as the Affordable Care Act begins its implementation phase. The nursing industry has been in a crisis for more qualified personnel for decades. Wherein lays the answer? Sadly, much of the solution is economically driven.

The shortage of nurses creates a supply/demand curve that requires wages to increase in order to attract more people into the nursing profession. Couple the increase in demand for more nurses due to an increased population requiring care (boomers coming of age) with the requirements of the Affordable Care Act for more practitioners, there are huge demands on recruiting companies to fill these positions.

An increase in pure percentage of nurses in the working population (which is not yet forthcoming), is not the solution either. This will ultimately require more and more administrative paperwork. Thus, even if the recruitment firms can increase the percentages of nurses going into practice and we can bring wages up high enough to attract the sufficient numbers of nurses to meet the increasing demand, many of those nurses will be sitting behind a desk, not with patients that would need their skills.

Yes, this all looks rather bad for us baby boomers who

will soon be seeking long-term care in one form or another. But here are some possible solutions . . .

First, educate the boomer population on how to properly set themselves up for a longer life. For example, purchase proper long-term care insurance to help defray the increasing costs of insurance (nursing care). The sooner you buy such insurance, the cheaper it is.

Second, make sure the boomers are financially sound. In other words, put some money away for retirement. This may be easier than you think. Considering the increase in years you may be working, this might give you more time to stock the rainy day money into a retirement account.

Third, believe it or not, recruitment firms are actually increasing their activity in the nurse recruitment field. This will help with filling the renewed demand for this profession. The trick will be how best to fill the lowest level positions (CNAs and CMAs) as more of these newly recruited young nurses move into administrative positions. Stay tuned for that answer.

The bottom line is it costs more to provide more. The money needs to come from somewhere and ultimately that's you and me. It's always the consumer who pays the final bill. Do what you can to keep your own bill down, such as exercising and eating properly, purchasing long-term care insurance, and having preventative care medicine performed before you need these nurses to care for you.

Keep your priorities straight and you will slide into old age as seamlessly as possible, and with all the proper care to make our aging bodies grow old gracefully. We're moving forward. Be part of the solution, not part of the problem. 🌱

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Puppy Nipping and Mouthing

By Katerina Rekowski

ThumbPrint News Guest Writer



Puppy nipping can be a very frustrating problem for puppy owners to deal with and can become a serious problem if dealt with incorrectly. At first try to determine if a puppy is engaging in *friendly* nipping and mouthing or *serious* nipping and mouthing. Typically, friendly nipping and mouthing occurs during excitable greetings or during playtime with a puppy who is less than five months of age. Puppies are not unlike human babies in their need to explore their environment by touching and tasting everything. However, since puppies do not have hands, they reach out with their mouths.

Puppy nipping is also a form of social play between puppies and dogs. Puppies and dogs frequently interact with one another by placing their mouths and paws on each other. When a puppy grows up with other dogs, he gets very clear signals about what are acceptable and unacceptable ways to use his mouth and consequently learns how to inhibit his bite in order to remain socially acceptable. However, since human skin is more fragile than a dog's fur-covered skin, puppies and dogs must learn that they cannot interact with us the same way as they interact with other dogs. Puppies and dogs must be taught alternative ways to greet, socialize and play with their human companions. Most young, untrained puppies engage in this type of friendly nipping and mouthing behavior.

- **Pet the puppy when he is calm.** Give the majority of attention to the puppy when the puppy is calm or preoccupied chewing a toy.

- **Practice basic obedience exercises.** Practicing basic obedience exercises like Sit-Stay and Down-Stay around distractions will teach the puppy to focus on you and develop some impulse control.

- **Reward alternate**

behavior. Make it a point to pet the puppy whenever he is tired. A tired puppy is much less likely to nip.

- **Use toys to redirect the puppy.** Be ready always by having at least two toys and/or treats on-hand before beginning interaction with the puppy. Remember, if you do not bring toys or treats with you when interacting with a young puppy, the puppy may assume that hands, arms, pants and shoes are the toys. By using toys and treats, dog parents will be able to redirect the puppy's attention onto a new toy the instant the puppy gets bored and begins nipping and mouthing his owners.

- **Provide Sufficient Exercise.** Exercise, exercise, exercise. The importance of exercise cannot be overstated. Make sure young, active puppies get plenty of exercise like running, playing and walking daily. Ideally the owner should try to exercise her puppy before she attempts to pet him or engage in other forms of interaction, which are likely to prompt nipping. Exercise is probably one of the most effective problem-solving tools a trainer can recommend to an owner. A puppy that is bored or gets insufficient exercise will generally be labeled overactive and rambunctious by his owner. A tired puppy is a good puppy. Providing the puppy with more mental and physical stimulation helps with managing and resolving unwanted behaviors. 🐾

Editor's note: The author, Katerina Rekowski, resides in New Baltimore, Michigan, and is a certified Michigan dog trainer. Her website is www.midogtrainer.net.



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The Interurban Railroad and Mother's 89-Year Round-Trip to New Baltimore

By Gerald W. Nyquist

ThumbPrint News Guest Writer

The Interurban Railroad in southeastern Michigan was a system of electric trains fanning out from Detroit, providing passenger service among various cities, including New Baltimore, Michigan, which hugs the shore of Lake St. Clair's Anchor Bay, northeast of Detroit in Macomb County. As automobiles gained an increasingly strong foothold during the early part of the last century, Interurban ridership dwindled; by about 1926, cars had proliferated and the Interurban was doomed. Portions of the train tracks remained into the 1950s. I remember them well.

New Baltimore had a powerhouse located at Green Street and County Line Road (where a Detroit Edison substation is now located) that generated electricity to run the trains, a facility that brought my grandparents, Adolph and Frances Reiter, to town. They had relocated to New Baltimore from nearby New Haven, where Grandpa was employed as a bartender. One day he told a customer that he'd had enough of bartending, dealing with drunks and other unsavory patrons. The man was an Interurban employee and arranged a job for Grandpa at the power house. My grandparents lived at 35955 Main Street in a handsome two-story brick house that is still alive and well.

My mother, Lucille (Reiter) Nyquist, was born there in 1916. She remembered pulling a wagon with the help of her sister, Geraldine, to pick up milk from a nearby location; Geraldine fell down, skinned her nose, and exclaimed, "Damn the milk!" Mother, Geraldine and another sister, Eileen, attended the old school that once stood where the city offices are now located. Mom said that her only memory of that schooling was her teacher using her as an example of how to brush teeth: up-and-down, not back-and-forth. They



Lucille (Reiter) Nyquist in the center, playing dress-up with her sisters, Eileen (left) and Geraldine (right)

were members of New Baltimore's St. John Lutheran church, founded in 1863 by seven German families. Services were conducted in German-only until 1916 and finally in English-only since 1934 to the present, still in the same well-maintained 1870 clapboard edifice.

The Reiter family moved from town when Grandpa lost his job because the Interurban shut down, but Grandma and Grandpa are buried in New Baltimore's Oakwood Cemetery, adjacent to two of their children that died in infancy. My parents, Lucille and Paul Nyquist, are also interred there; she passed away in 2005. Thus, over a period of 89 years, Mother made a round-trip to New Baltimore. 🐾

Editor's note: Dr. Gerald Nyquist, a retired biomechanical engineer, resides in Macomb County and is a past president of the Sanilac County Historical Society.



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CEDAR SWAMPS

Continued from Page 1

expeditions we hunted the “Ghosts of the Cedar Swamps”. About a hundred miles north of our farm, the topography and flora of Michigan changed. These lands were poor for farming, being a mixture of swampy bogs, sandy hills, and relatively infertile soils. The cedar swamps, as the term implies, were boggy areas heavily forested with cedars. They were basically impassable until after freeze-up because a misstep could result in plunging into cold water and mud up to one’s crotch (which still might happen after freeze-up). In the summer you would avoid these places because of the clouds of mosquitoes.

As far as I know, the wildlife in the cedar swamps of which we were aware were deer, grouse, porcupines, varying



Cedar swamp in summer

hares, and small birds such as chickadees. Deer would move in to the swamps in the late winter because the thick cedar stands provided protection from the bitter winds and because the deeper snow cover allowed them to reach and browse twigs higher up the trees. Porcupines fed on the tender shoots of the cedars as well and were common. They constituted a threat to the dogs who would foolishly attack and get a muzzelful of quills. Our prey were the “ghosts”. These were the varying hares that we called jackrabbits. The varying hare changes color from summer to winter. In the summer the hare is a normal brownish gray rabbit color but in winter his coat turns to white. The variation is a survival adaptation that corresponds to the seasonal color of the surroundings. These critters were also known as snowshoe rabbits because of their oversized feet that help them to stay on top of the snow instead of sinking in as our dogs and selves would do as we walked in the swamp. Because they can blend in so well with the snow cover, you often could not see one

frozen next to a tree unless they twitched an ear or blinked an eye. Because of that ability - and the hare knew he had it - it was very hard to hunt them without a dog. The dog, of course, could follow a track by smell and could “jump” the hare from his frozen pose.

Finally, the snowshoe hare is about three times the size of a cottontail with very long legs that enable him to leap prodigious distances. Since most rabbits and hares being pursued tend to circle back to the starting point of a chase, the wise hunter should stay at that location and wait for the dog to chase the prey back to that point. With cottontails that circle might be perhaps 100 yards at its furthest point, but a snowshoe hare might go a quarter mile or more before returning to the start. Because of the baying and general commotion of the dogs on the chase, it would not be unusual that as many as three snowshoes could be running at the same time, so one was never sure the one that appeared was the original one the dog was following. Multiple hares on the run could also confuse the dog as their paths crossed. It was great fun!

In October Dad and Raymond would begin to talk about going north to hunt snowshoes. In December this talk would get serious and a date shortly after the first of the year would be set, contingent on the weather, etc. In terms of people, we were two men and two-half grown boys (later three when my brother got old enough). In addition, there were usually two dogs, guns and ammunition, a heavy load of sandwiches and coffee, and the warmest clothes we owned. Cars of the time had about the same amount of room in them as a modest compact car today. Heaters in the cars were somewhat erratic, so with the heavy clothes we had on, plus the dogs, it was crowded and the air became “ripe”.

The day’s hunt would actually begin at about 3:30 a.m. when we got up to do the morning chores. The cows would be milked and livestock fed about three hours earlier than usual. We would load the car at about 5:00 a.m. and leave on the three hour drive to the cedar swamps about 100 miles north. The precise location was a mystery to me as I was a non-driver at that time. The debate about which of the many possible swamps continued throughout



A snowshoe rabbit's fur is brown in the summer.



Winter in a Michigan cedar swamp

the trip. The decision finally reached was based on the experience of prior years and occasionally on the vague information of friends who had claimed to have had a successful hunt.

We would arrive slightly before daybreak, which gave us some time to eat an early sandwich and have a cup of coffee from the thermos. However, this delay in the business of the hunt drove the dogs crazy (as well as the boys). Finally we would disembark, stretch, relieve ourselves, and get out the guns and ammo. Then would come the debate on which direction to go into the swamp.

Dad would take a bearing with the compass, another mystery to me, so we could find our way back to the car. For anyone who wonders, this is necessary because once in the swamp, things look the same in every direction. Every cedar looked like every other, every pothole and hummock has a relative that looks just like it, and the tree canopy on cloudy days can obscure the sun. In addition, once in the swamp it was necessary to keep in contact with each other by yips and whistles as we followed the dogs who were joyfully

baying after the hares.

Our hunts ranged from near total busts to highly successful. I remember a few hunts when it seemed there were several snowshoes running at once (They probably were!).

One of the more endearing characteristics of snowshoe hares to dogs and hunters is that they tend not to “hole up”. Instead they seem to rely on their relative invisibility and their prodigious leaping ability to protect them from predators and hunters. Rabbit dogs are trailers, and they track animals by scent from footprint to footprint. When the animal takes short jumps, the dog has a much easier time staying on the trail of the prey. But when the prey can leap 10 feet at a bound and seems to be able to change direction in mid leap so its landing point could be nearly 90 degrees from its earlier trajectory, the dog must search to regain the trail. My dog, the Redbone, with his long legs had a much easier job of trailing than a short legged Beagle. Once a chase was started, the best thing to do was stay in place and be alert as the dogs brought the hare around in the circle described earlier.




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Alertness was imperative because the hares running on snow were soundless and they blended into the snow cover. They were like ghosts silently racing along through the cedars and only movement betrayed their presence.

At about 3:00 p.m. the men would mutually agree it was time to start for home. We would seldom have more than six hares among us, but we almost always had a fun day. The first job was to retrieve the dogs who didn't always want to call it a day. However, we never had to leave a dog behind. Some hunters would have to leave and then return the next day, where they would usually find the dog curled up on the hunting coat left on the ground where the car had been parked.

Now instead of a load of excited humans and dogs, we had a load of weary travelers. The dogs would curl up on the floor around our feet and go to sleep, with occasional twitches and yips. The people would review the hunt and begin to plan another hunt in the not too distant future. The swamp we hunted would be in consideration if we had a good hunt and dismissed if the opposite.

We left home before daylight and we arrived back home well after dark. The cows were glad we were back because their udders were full and their mangers empty. We milked and fed them and the other animals before having our supper. We went to bed reviewing the day, and went to sleep thinking of the ones we got, and the ones that got away.

Did I mention that these expeditions were sport? They had to be because none of us really enjoyed eating the meat of these big white hares. Yet, because we always believed that we must eat what we shot, we did. My memory is that they had the flavor of cedar shavings soaked in swamp water and were as tough and sinewy as an old boot! 🍄

Editor's notes: Robert L. Christensen grew up on a farm in Montcalm County, Michigan. He earned a B.S. degree in agricultural education from Michigan



A snowshoe rabbit's fur turns white in winter.

State University and a Ph.D. in economics from North Carolina State University. In 1995, Robert retired from the University of Massachusetts as an emeritus professor of resource economics. Robert now resides in Bradenton, Florida.

Interestingly, Robert first contacted me by email from his home in Bradenton while I was at my second home in Sarasota, Florida, not even 10 miles from where Robert lives! How he discovered ThumbPrint News is equally interesting. Robert wrote:

"I recently saw ThumbPrint News for the first time in the Mt. Vernon condo community library here in Bradenton, Florida. It was placed there by one of your subscribers who lives in Michigan and traveled to Bradenton. I also came from Michigan, growing up on a farm north of Grand Rapids."

Just one more example that ThumbPrint News is traveling the world!

Robert L. Christensen has also authored a number of essays describing farm life in central Michigan some 70 years ago. Several of his essays were published in Farm & Ranch Living. He also authored a children's book titled Gaylord Goose, which we are reviewing following this article.



The Book Nook Gaylord Goose

By Louise Allen

ThumbPrint News Staff Writer

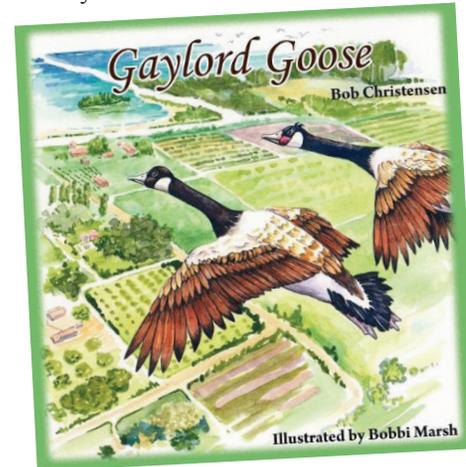
Gaylord Goose, authored by Bob Christensen and illustrated by Bobbi Marsh, is a fun story of a young goose who doesn't want to fly south for the winter and the adventures he has as winter comes to his home pond in Maine, as well as the hazards involved in migrating South. It raises issues of assertion of independence and the ties of family and friends.

A major theme is the description of the migratory cycle of the Canada goose. Included is a project page which children

can use to track the states through which these birds migrate twice yearly. This book has been judged by professional educators as appropriate for read-alouds for grades K – 3 and self-reading for grades 4 and 5.

Gaylord Goose is 28 pages long and was published by The Peppertree Press. The book is available on-line at Amazon and Barnes and Noble for \$13.95. The ISBN-10 number is 1614930147.

Alternately, a signed copy is available from the author for \$12.00. His address is: Bob Christensen, 4514 Lexington Circle, Bradenton, FL 34210. 🍄



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TRASH TO TREASURE

By Cindy Fockler

ThumbPrint News Guest Writer

This month's column is brought to you by my husband, who has become quite the "out of the box" thinker! While walking through an area big box store we walked through the furniture section to just look around. Turns out they were having a floor model clearance to make room for their new items. They happened to have a farm style table which I loved. However, we had just purchased a beautiful oak set, which I loved more! The one corner was dented, the opposite

corner was cracked. Just my kind of charm! The Original price was \$149.00, clearance price was \$56.00. However I couldn't think of anywhere I could use it.

That's when the husband said, "How about if we....." BRILLIANT! So we talked to an employee and told them we would pay \$50.00 for it since it was damaged. He talked to the supervisor, came back with tools to take it apart and we were happily on our way.

This is how that charming farm table went from its clearance price of \$50.00 to my brand new priceless craft desk!

We took off the most damaged corner by cutting

a total of 10 inches off the width of the table top. This was done really simply by removing the end aprons, two legs and one side apron. We also cut a couple of inches off the side aprons to adjust for the new width. We screwed the aprons all back on, put the legs back on and I suddenly had the perfect length desk for all my crafting orders!

My husband once again said, "You know if we....." Again my reply was, "BRILLIANT!" So that 10-inch



piece that we cut off became an attached shelf onto the top back of the desk top. We had a dowel rod lying on the rack from a previous project, so we cut six of those at six inches, painted them black, drilled through the bottom of the table and screwed the dowel rods onto the table top, two at each end, and two in the middle (merely to ward off warping). That is all it took. We had it done in about an hour and a half. I love it!



It was such an easy project and is one that I use daily! Everyone that sees it loves it. Now remember, when you are out and about at the thrift stores, resale shops, yard sales, swap meets or wherever, if you see a dining table that is your style and need a desk, it is the perfect piece to refurbish! HAPPY JUNKIN'.

Editor's Note: Cindy Fockler of Croswell, Michigan, has been crafting and repurposing items since she was a child. Her favorite mediums include polymer clay, paint, paper and fabric. Many of her creations are pictured on www.facebook.com/CindysCreativeCrafting or www.cindyscraftstore.blogspot.com.



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Is Pet Health Insurance Right for You and Your Pet?

By Dr. DiBenedetto *ThumbPrint News* Columnist

This is the time of year when there will be lots of puppies, kittens and newly adopted pets going to new homes for the holidays. One of the questions we get asked during new pet visits is, "Do you think pet health insurance is good to have?" While I do think that pet insurance can be very helpful when it comes to caring for your pet, it is definitely not an easy decision to make. The pet insurance industry has expanded significantly over the past ten years. There are many more companies now, with multiple different plans being offered by each one.

Experts say you should shop around, ask questions, read the fine print on any policy, and consider how to meet your pet's needs at the lowest cost to you. According to Consumersearch.com, you should consider



the following tips when looking for pet insurance:

- **Your first decision should be whether you want a plan that covers only medical emergencies or a more comprehensive plan that will include wellness care.**

- **Choose the highest deductible you can afford to pay out of pocket at one time. The higher the deductible, the lower the premium will be. But, beware. Some deductibles are annual, others are per-incident.**

- **The best age to start insuring your pet is one to three years. Some companies will not start a policy on an older pet, but once coverage is in place, the policy will be effective for the life of your pet. However, some companies do increase yearly premiums as your pet gets older.**

- **Always check for any exclusion, such as hereditary or congenital conditions, and what each company defines as a pre-**

existing condition.

- **Look for a policy that reimburses you the actual cost you paid out. Some companies only cover the amount they consider usual and customary. With all insurance companies you must pay the veterinary bill and then submit a claim to get reimbursed.**

- **Most companies will have a waiting period before the policy goes into effect or before certain illnesses can be covered.**

- **Read existing customer reviews to get a good idea of the company's reputation on paying claims and their customer service. Good resources are sites like Consumersearch.com and PetInsuranceReviews.com along with the individual company websites. This is sometimes the best way to tell if the company is trustworthy or not.**

- **Always compare quotes from several companies.**

Many of my clients who have done the research and picked a plan that works best for them have been very happy with their decisions. They certainly like the peace of mind it gives them in knowing that if something happens, they will be able to do

what is needed for their canine and / or feline family members. 🐾

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

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THE GRAPE VINE

Wine Appreciation -- It Just Takes Practice!

By David White
ThumbPrint News Guest Writer

"Aromas of cassis and boysenberry are accented by soft black tea and anise notes, while the palate is defined by caramel, vanilla, Baker's chocolate and intriguing layers of toasted bread and pie spices."

That's an actual tasting note on a Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon.

If such descriptions make your eyes roll, you're not alone. Tasting notes can be quite bewildering -- and the vocabulary of formal wine analysis can make the process intimidating.

After all, what the heck is a boysenberry?

Fortunately, the science behind such narratives is easy to understand. And by identifying the aromas in your glass -- and then describing them -- you'll increase your appreciation of wine.

Smelling begins when chemical compounds are released by whatever it is

we're smelling, stimulating nerve cells in the nose, mouth and throat. Those cells send messages to the brain, where specific smells are recognized.

Grapes, like all fruits, produce aromatic compounds. The process of fermentation causes all sorts of chemical reactions, and those create even more aromas. Very often, that fermented grape juice will interact with grape stems, dead yeast, and oak during the winemaking process, resulting in an even more complex bouquet. As wine ages, aromatic changes continue to take place.

It's no wonder why some tasting notes read like grocery lists!

Detecting a wine's many aromas is just part of formal tasting; the next step is describing it. Here, things get tricky -- because all of us have our own olfactory memories. And we develop most of those memories as children.

What smells like blueberry pie to one taster could easily smell like ripe blackberries to another. And neither person is wrong. We all have our own, unique stock of aromas in our memories.

Making matters even more confusing, people have varying sensitivities to different aromas. A taster that's very

sensitive to mercaptans -- a wine flaw that manifests itself with aromas of onions and cabbage -- may find some wines undrinkable that others find delicious.

Evaluating wines seriously -- complete with your nose in the glass and thoughtful tasting -- opens up the entire world of wine appreciation. And it's not that difficult.

Next time you enjoy wine at home, pay attention to what you're smelling.

Wines from the New World -- countries like the United States, Australia, and Argentina -- tend to offer riper fruit aromas thanks to warmer growing conditions. Old World wines, on the other hand, are generally more restrained.

California Chardonnays, for example, are typically marked by notes of pineapple and melon.

Chardonnays from France -- especially the region of Chablis -- present aromas of green apples, lemon and lime.

Syrah offers a similar contrast. In Australia, the grape is normally used to produce deliciously hedonistic fruit bombs -- emitting gobs of ripe blackberries and licorice. French Syrah is typically marked by blueberries, meat and black pepper.

Winemaking decisions also influence how a wine smells.

While fruit notes come from the grapes, a winemaker can impart "secondary" aromas like vanilla, chocolate and coffee by using oak. That butter smell one so often encounters in California Chardonnay is the result of "malolactic fermentation," a process that's used to make wine softer and more accessible. This process is standard for most red wines.

Finally, a wine can offer "tertiary" aromas after bottle aging. These notes are often savory -- think mushrooms and hazelnuts.

Understanding all the nuances of wine may seem daunting, but all one needs is a sense of smell and taste, along with a strong streak of curiosity. Otherwise, wine appreciation just takes practice. So start drinking! 🍷

Editor's Note: David White, a wine writer, is the founder and editor of Terroirist.com. His columns are housed at Wines.com, the fastest growing wine portal on the Internet.



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Be the New You

By **Rennae Hardy**
ThumbPrint News Guest Writer

Welcoming the new year generally brings with it the sincere desire to create a new self. We strive

to improve upon our inner qualities as well as perfect our outer body image. Predominantly, the most sought after goal is achieving an ideal body weight. Obtaining this prize comes without short-cuts or magic bullets. Movement is essential. Likewise, physical activity should be accompanied by a healthy diet. Alternatively, there are aids that can assist the weight loss process. Depending on individualized expectations, these adjuncts can provide personal benefits.

Massage can open the lymphatic system, stimulate circulation, assist digestive issues and provide a good

source of movement to the body when exertion needs to be restricted. Sweating in a FIR sauna offers a natural process to release toxins, reduce inflammation and increase circulation, promoting greater ease of movement for those who suffer from limiting conditions. Aromatherapy has been implemented to suppress appetite. The Smell and Taste Treatment and Research Institute of Chicago found inhaling an aroma throughout the day



inhibited the desire to eat. Utilizing our sense of smell consciously can give us control over cravings when our will power fails. The key was to vary the essential oils to prevent desensitization, as well as the likely reduction of effectiveness gained from inhalation. As a point of interest, the oils most commonly recommended include: peppermint, grapefruit, bergamot, tangerine, orange, ylang ylang and patchouli.

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clinical studies in both the United Kingdom and the United States have demonstrated its effectiveness.

Begin the new year embracing your vision. Explore your options. Discover the myriad of alternatives available to you. Take advantage of their benefits. BE the New You! 🌟

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



January is National Soup Month

Approximately ten billion bowls of soup are consumed by Americans every year. Soup was actually considered to be the first “fast food” when, in 600 B.C., the Greeks sold lentil, bean and pea soups on the street. Soup is one of America’s comfort foods. With January being one of the coldest months of the year, it is the perfect month for National Soup Month. Why not enjoy a

hot bowl of your favorite soup today and celebrate!



Celebrating the Sandwich



Bryan Voltaggio, chef
Photo courtesy of Under A Bushel Photography

The Pilgrim

FAMILY FEATURES

Sandwiches are a delicious, easy and affordable way to enjoy a healthy meal any time of day. From satisfying meat-and-cheese combos, to sandwiches piled high with savory vegetables, to the many “PB and” combinations, the possibilities for outstanding sandwiches are limitless. But all the deliciousness starts with one key, wholesome ingredient — bread.

The complex carbohydrates in bread provide lasting energy that busy adults and youngsters need on a daily basis. A big key to maximizing your energy and health is taking a look at how you fill your plate in a balanced way. The Dietary Guidelines for Americans and the USDA MyPlate program recommend eating six one-ounce servings of grain foods each day, half of which should come from whole grain sources.

To help you and your family get your “daily fix of six,” The Grain Foods Foundation has partnered with celebrity chef and sandwich aficionado Bryan Voltaggio to create these sensational sandwiches. To find more great sandwich recipes, visit www.gowiththegrain.org or GoWithTheGrain on Facebook and Twitter.

Makes 6 sandwiches

12 slices seven-grain bread
24 ounces turkey, sliced

Orange Cranberry Compote, as needed (see recipe)

Sage Cream Cheese, as needed (see recipe)
4 tablespoons butter, at room temperature
Seasoning salt, to taste (see recipe)



Lay out two slices of seven grain bread on a cutting board.

Spread Orange Cranberry Compote evenly across one slice of bread. Set aside.

Spread Sage Cream Cheese evenly across second slice of bread, then top with about four ounces of turkey.

Place slice of bread with the Orange Cranberry Compote on top of turkey.

Brush top and bottom of sandwich with room temperature butter.

If you own an electric sandwich maker or Panini press, place the sandwich inside for 2 1/2 to 3 1/2 minutes. If you do not have a sandwich press, simply place the sandwich in a sauté pan on top of your stove, set at medium heat, and cook the sandwich for 3 1/2 to 4 1/2 minutes on each side.

Remove sandwich and while still hot, season liberally with seasoning salt. Cut in half and serve while hot.

Orange Cranberry Compote
Yield 1 cup

1/2 pound cranberries
1 orange, quartered
1/4 cup sugar
1/2 teaspoon salt
Pepper, to taste

In medium sauce pot, cook cranberries, orange and sugar for approximately 20 minutes at a low simmer, then stir in a pinch of salt.

Remove pieces of orange, and pour into blender or food processor. Puree until smooth, then lightly season with pepper.

Sage Cream Cheese

Yield 2 cups

2 cups cream cheese, at room temperature
15 sage leaves, finely chopped
1 garlic clove
1/2 teaspoon salt

In bowl, combine cream cheese and sage using a rubber spatula, mixing well. Grate (or very finely chop) garlic, adding to bowl. Season to taste with salt.

Seasoning Salt

Yield 1 cup

1/4 cup sea salt
3 juniper berries, toasted and ground
1 orange, zested

Lightly toast juniper berries in a pan, then place in a spice grinder and blend. Combine juniper, salt and orange zest in a mortar and pestle, and combine all evenly.

The Pastrami Reuben

Makes 6 sandwiches

12 slices rye bread
24 ounces sliced beef pastrami

12 slices Muenster cheese, thin

1 1/2 cups sauerkraut, prepared and drained
1/2 cup Thousand Island dressing
2 ounces butter, at room temperature



Lay out two slices of rye bread on a cutting board.

Top first piece of bread with one slice of Muenster cheese, then about 2 ounces of sauerkraut, 4 ounces (or roughly three to four thin slices) of pastrami, and a second slice of Muenster cheese. Set aside.

Spread second piece of bread with Thousand Island dressing, then place on top of the other half of the sandwich.

Brush top and bottom of sandwich with butter.

If you own an electric sandwich maker or Panini press, place sandwich inside for 2 1/2 to 3 1/2 minutes. If you don't have a sandwich press, simply place sandwich in a sauté pan on top of your stove, set at medium heat. Cook for 3 1/2 to 4 1/2 minutes on each side.

Remove sandwich and while still hot; cut in half and serve.

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Memoirs from The Restless Retiree

WIFE GOING TO A NEW HAIR SALON

By Gabriel Jones, *ThumbPrint News* Columnist

Senior men, here is another event that we all have gone through.

Your wife decides to try a “new” hair salon to fix her hair.

You ask her why? You start to say that you like her hair the way it is.

But she interrupts you saying that she is tired of having her hair fixed the same way every time. She wants to try something different.

(OH-OH! THIS MEAN’S TROUBLE!!!) You have gone through this before. You remember the last time she tried this. Her hair was cut too short for your taste. But you had to say it looked nice. (You didn’t want to disappoint her. She kept it short for a long while too, thinking that you liked it that way.)

But what will you say this time...If you say you like it, she will keep it for a while. If you say that it’s not the best thing for her, (hoping that she will try it the old way again), it could hurt your home life.

Gabriel walks her to the door and says, “Remember, I love you, no matter how your hair turns out.”

Gabriel’s wife leaves. Gabriel tries to put her mission out of his mind, but he can’t. What will he say when she comes home? How will he react? It could be alright, but he knows that it will be a different look. That’s what she was aiming for.

Time passes...she has been gone for quite a while...

More time passes...uh, oh, it’s getting to be late.

Gabriel thinks, “What will she look like when she comes home? Again, how will I react?”

All at once, Gabriel hears the door opening. She’s home!

Gabriel looks at his wife as she enters...

He can’t talk...he just looks...

His wife asks, “Well, how do you like it?”

Gabriel looks at his wife and again he hesitates...

His wife is standing there with her new hairdo...and also wearing a beautiful new dress, which together give her a “stunning new look.”

Gabriel still doesn’t speak, admiring his wife’s “new look.”

“You don’t like it. I go to all of this trouble to look nice for you and you don’t like it.”

“LOVE, YOU’RE BEAUTIFUL!”

“I LIKE IT!!! I LIKE IT!!! I LOVE IT!!!”

Gabriel steps forward to hug his wife...

She pulls back...

“Don’t hug me...don’t mess me up.

You’re taking me out for dinner tonight and I want to look nice.”

“Dear, you are gorgeous!!! I just want to tell you how much I like what you did.”

“Well, ok, a quick hug, but then let’s go out for dinner while I look like this.”

Gabriel is thinking, “She really got it right this time.”

Another lesson learned by the Restless Retiree. 🐾



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I	P	U	Q	R	J	U	N	E	Y	N	G	X	T	I
B	K	T	X	E	A	T	O	L	O	N	R	S	B	R
Y	O	O	C	V	N	J	I	I	I	B	E	S	S	E
R	R	D	V	H	U	M	T	R	L	O	B	S	D	P
A	E	R	O	E	A	A	P	W	L	O	D	Z	G	S
D	B	B	E	F	R	R	P	A	T	L	T	N	T	S
N	M	F	M	B	Y	C	I	O	U	E	C	E	D	X
E	E	C	E	E	M	H	C	T	R	I	O	I	B	K
L	C	L	R	B	V	E	I	U	Y	G	E	R	Q	U
A	E	O	J	U	R	O	T	A	M	T	O	F	X	V
C	D	C	I	I	N	U	N	P	U	O	R	R	M	V
X	X	K	G	K	F	W	A	S	E	G	N	A	H	C
I	E	S	E	S	I	M	O	R	P	S	U	T	P	A
Z	F	Y	S	A	A	J	U	L	Y	X	F	S	H	U
W	R	U	Q	Y	U	X	T	M	M	H	G	C	T	S

Complete this word find as quickly as possible. Words can be found horizontally, vertically, and diagonally. Have a wonderful, happy, prosperous New Year as well!

Words to find:

ANTICIPATION
APRIL
AUGUST
CALENDAR
CELEBRATION
CHANGES
CHARITY
CLOCK
DEBT
DECEMBER
DIET
FAMILY
FEBRUARY
FRIENDS

FUN
FUTURE
JANUARY
JULY
JUNE
MARCH
MAY
MONTHS
NOVEMBER
OCTOBER
PARTY
PROMISES
RESOLUTION
RING
SEPTEMBER



MARITIME TRIVIA

Courtesy of The Marine Art of J. Clary

The first sailor to correctly answer December’s question was Ron Simons. Be the first to answer January’s question and you can win a J. Clary collector print like Ron!



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201 N. Riverside, Suite C-4
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www.jclary.com

December’s Question: Where and when was the lowest U.S. barometric pressure recorded? **Answer:** The U.S. record is 26.35 inches, produced by the 1935 Labor Day hurricane which crossed the U.S. coastline at Matecumbe Key, Florida, at 10:00 p.m. on September 2, 1935.

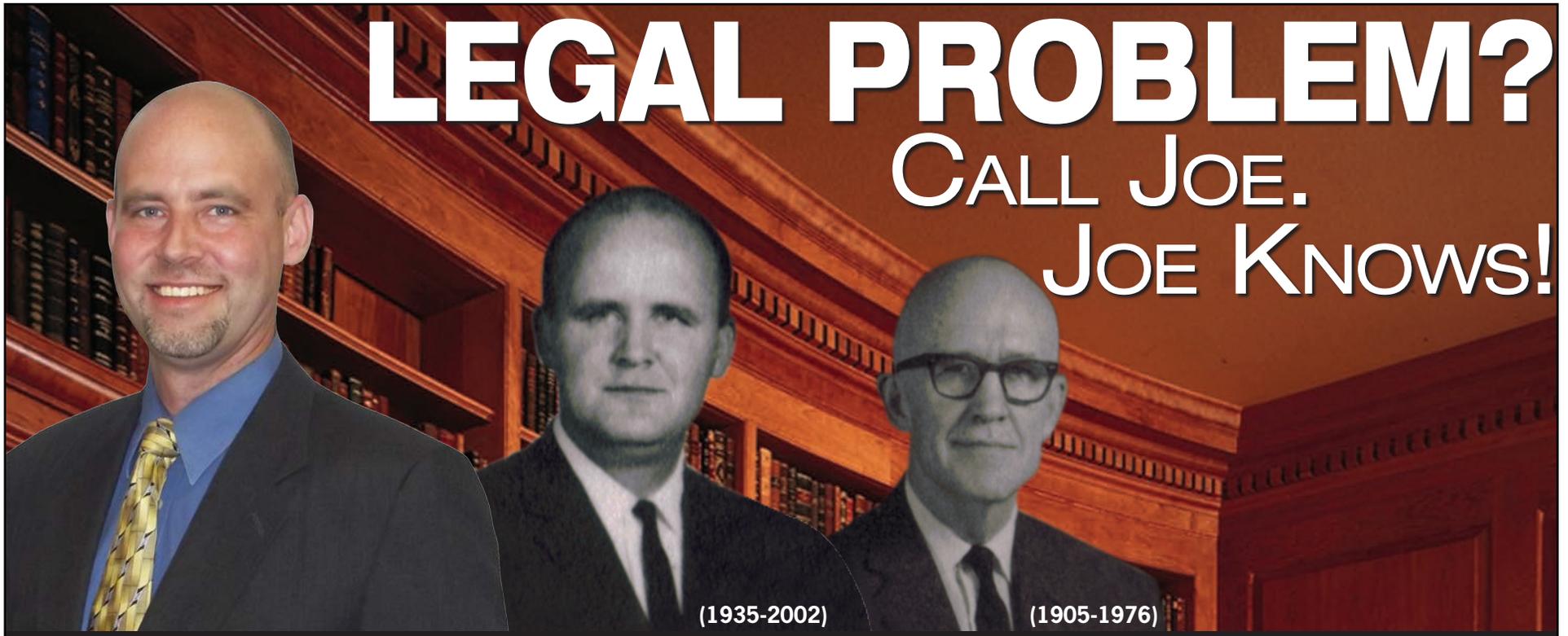
Maritime Trivia Question #2

Where did the word “Berserk” come from?

Email Your Guess to marineart@jclary.com

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See my article on page 24 of this issue!



Uncle Tom's Cabin historical site located in Desden, Ontario

AMERICAN HISTORY

Continued from Page 1

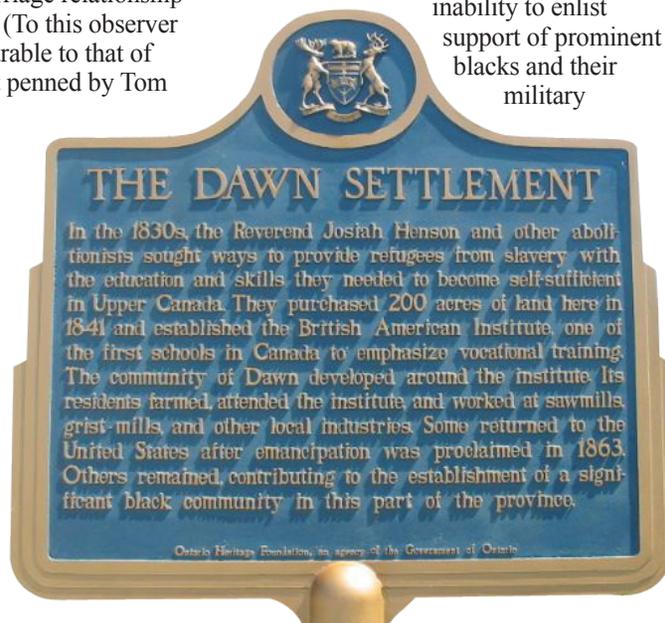
cabinetmakers, watchmakers, shoemakers, blacksmith and a cigar maker. There was a black owned hotel and a city block with shops and apartments above. Nearby was the exclusively black enclave called "The Elgin Community", begun by Reverend William King for his own freed slaves and others from south of the border.

Fearing that Canadian authorities would notify slave hunters from the U.S., Brown's local supporters made it known that they were starting a black Masonic Lodge, a very reputable organization in those days. Their meeting locations changed daily, with two churches and a school being where the completed document was hammered out. Patterned after both the Mayflower Compact and the U.S. Constitution, it contained some 48 articles, ranging from the usual offices and duties to some on the marriage relationship and keeping the Sabbath. (To this observer its idealism seems comparable to that of the Port Huron Statement penned by Tom Hayden and the SDS group about 100 years later.) The Constitution's progress was reported on by the black published newspaper, *The Provincial Freeman*, which catered to abolitionists in both countries. Its editor was Mary Ann Shadd, the first female of her race (she was a Mulatto) to edit a North American newspaper.

One of the few Michigan attendees was William Charles

Monroe Rector of St. Matthews Protestant Episcopal Mission in Detroit. He chaired some of the sessions. Although the Second Baptist Church in the Greek Town section of Detroit has been recognized for its role as a station on the Underground Railroad, I could find no representation from the first African American congregation at the convention. In fact, except for a Port Huron Congregational minister, my research discloses no other Thumb area individuals active in the Underground Railroad.

Self appointed Captain, John Brown, left Chatham with high hopes of establishing his separate state by force within a short time. However, he returned to the U.S. with modest additional funds. Only one free black, Oswald Perry Anderson, employed as a printer for *The Provincial Freeman*, accompanied him to Harpers Ferry over a year later. One of Brown's many disappointments must have been his inability to enlist support of prominent blacks and their military



manpower. Few blacks were among the 21 men who attempted the October 1859 attack. Although most, including some of Brown's sons, were either killed or convicted and executed, Anderson survived and later joined the Union forces.

What most of us remember from our school days is the John Brown's body song and Julia Ward Howe's "Battle Hymn of the Republic", which became a marching anthem of the victorious Union Army. We could learn a lot more by traveling the short distance to neighboring Canada. 🌱

Ontario Monuments and Museums

The Province has published a brochure with pictures and descriptions of the "Black Contributions to Early Ontario". It contains information about the Chatham plaques, denoting John Brown's Convention, the Elgin Settlement in nearby North Buxton, an early community founded by an Irish Presbyterian minister for blacks, and Uncle Tom's Cabin in Desden.

Dates, times and fees for these are:

Buxton National Historical Site and Museum: 21975 AD Shadd Road (County Road 21) North Buxton, Ontario. Hours vary with the seasons, but until April, it is only open

weekdays from 1:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. Admission is \$6.00 Canadian (with \$1.00 off for seniors). The museum is about 50 miles from Algonac or Marine City. For more information call (519) 352-4799 or visit www.buxtonmuseum.com.

Chatham-Kent Museum: 75 William St. North, Chatham, Ontario. The museum is open in the summer months. It has an extensive history of their ship building industry, but less on John Brown's convention. There is a plaque in front of the remodeled First Baptist Church, 135 King St. East, which was one of the meeting sites. For more information, call (519) 360-1998.

Uncle Tom's Cabin Historic Site:

29251 Uncle Tom's Road, Desden, Ontario. Admission is \$6.25 Canadian (\$5.25 for seniors). The



site is open only from May through October. After crossing the ferry at Marine City or Algonac, it is about a 40 minute drive. For more information call (519) 683-2978 or visit <http://www.heritagetrust.on.ca/Uncle-Tom-s-Cabin-Historic-Site/Contact-us.aspx>.

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Thumb Area Activities & Events for January 2013

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

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

Genesee

Flint – January 26

Sinbad, The Whiting, 1241 E. Kearsley St., 8:00 p.m. Sinbad is ranked by Comedy Central as one of the top comedians of all time. If you missed this hilarious sold-out show last time he was in town or simply just have to see him again, then get your seats now! Appropriate for the whole family. Tickets from \$19. For more information or to buy tickets call (810) 237-7333.

Huron

Lake Township - January 12

Candlelight Ski Evening, Sleeper State Park, 6573 State Park Rd., 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. The beginning of the cross-country ski run will be at Headquarters trailhead at 6573 State Park Rd., five miles east of Caseville. Luminaries will be lit by 6:00 p.m. on one and a half miles of groomed trails. Skiers may also enjoy a warming station with restrooms at Headquarters and a roaring bon-fire outside. The Depot Restaurant will serve chili, chicken noodle soup, hot dogs and more for a modest cost. For more information call (989) 856-4411.

Capeer

Almont - January 12

Almont Lions Euchre Night, Almont Lions Hall, 222 Water St., doors open at 6:00 p.m., play starts at 7:00 p.m. There will be two sets of five games each with a break in between. Refreshments and lunch will be served during the break. Generous prizes are awarded to the top three points holders. \$15 donation at the door. Bring a first time player and both play for \$10 each. For further information call Don at (810) 798-9609.

North Branch - January 13

Eighth Annual Chili Cook Off, St. Peter and Paul Church, 6645 Washington. Entrance fee is \$10 and should be mailed to 8th Annual Benefit Chili Cook Off, 7840 Jackson Rd., Kingston, MI 48741. First prize \$100, 2nd \$75, 3rd \$50, People's Choice Award, gift certificate. Chili will be judged by a panel of judges and by those who come to take part in the meal. Event benefits House of Hope, North Branch Emergency Aid, and Heaven Sent Ministries of Marlette. For more information call (989) 683-2218.

Macomb

Chesterfield – January 3

A Little Bit of History, Chesterfield Public Library, 50560 Patricia Street, 6:30 p.m. Presenter will be Alan Naldrett, talking about the progress on the New Baltimore history book he is working on with Bob Mack and Richard Gonyeau. He will be illustrating the presentation with rare and interesting photos of early New Baltimore. For more information call (586) 598-4900.

New Haven – January 19

Euchre Night, New Haven Lions Hall, 57882 Lutes, doors open at 6:30 p.m., play starts at 7:00 p.m. \$12 per person plus quarters for euchres. Prizes for the top 3 places. For more information call (810) 543-0951.

Richmond – January 22

Richmond Recreation Department Trip to Motor City Casino, departing at 10:00 a.m., returning at 5:00 p.m. \$23 per person, with a \$25 coin coupon. Trip includes transportation via deluxe highway motor coach, restroom equipped with reclining seats. Registrations will be taken at the Community Center, 36164 Festival Drive and must be made by January 4. Checks may be made payable to Bianco Tours. For further information call (586) 727-3064.

Richmond – January 22

Winterfest Weekend, downtown area. Sponsored by the New Baltimore Lions, the weekend starts off with the 20th Anniversary Fishing Tournament. Other events include a raffle, with a chance to win up to \$50,000, a Crazy Hats children's party, a Chili Cook-off and the grand finale – the Polar Bear Plunge on Anchor Bay. For more details and event registrations, visit www.newbaltimorelions.com.

Oakland

Lake Township - January 12

The Michigan Winter Dog Classic, Suburban Collection Showplace, 46100 Grand River Avenue, 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. \$10 per adult, \$8 for children (ages 7 – 12) and seniors (62 and older). Kids 6 and under are free. \$35 for a family plan (includes 2 adults and 3 children). Parking \$5 per vehicle. The event will feature over 7000 dogs from more than 160 recognized breeds. Plenty of interactive demonstrations and exhibitions, including: duck herding, police K-9 demonstration, canine good citizen testing, health clinic and testing, eye clinic, reproductive clinic and much more. For specific event times and more information visit www.themichiganwinterdogclassic.com.

St. Clair

St. Clair – January 2

Hollywood Casino, Toledo, Ohio, Motor Coach Trip, Departure from Riverview Plaza, south parking lot, 1:00 p.m. Bus arrives ½ hour before scheduled

departure. Return at 10:30 p.m. \$27 per person, includes \$15 in slot play. Register at St. Clair Registration Department, 547 Carney Drive, Monday – Friday, 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. For more information call (810) 329-7121. For a complete program listing of the recreation department, visit www.cityofstclair.com

Ira – January 9

“All You Ever Wanted to Know About Science Fair”, Algonac High School Lecture Hall, 5200 Taft Rd., (810) 794-4911, 6:30 p.m. For more information call or visit www.sccresa.org/bwmc/.

East China – January 11

Marine City Music Festival Classical Music Series, East China Performing Arts Center, 1585 Meisner Rd. Program will feature The Detroit Symphony Orchestra and pianist, Sara Davis Buechner. \$35 for adults, \$30 for children/students with ID. Tickets are available at The Riviera, The Sweet Tooth, Vera Grace and Marine City Gunsmith. For more information contact the Marine City Chamber office at (810) 765-4501 or email chamberoffice@marinecitychamber.net.

Port Huron – January 12

Under the Night Sky, Port Huron Museum, 1115 Sixth St., at dusk. The night sky is filled with stars and constellations that were very important to the conductors and voyagers along the Underground Railroad. Since most traveling was done under the cover of night, stars and celestial objects were used as guides to direct slaves north. Explore the night sky while imagining how to navigate by recognizing these astronomical guides. Create your own star map to guide you too. For more information visit www.phmuseum.org.

Marine City – January 17-18

Indoor Rummage/Book Sale, Washington Life Center, 403 N. Mary, 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. on the 17th and 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. on the 18th. Now accepting donations except please no clothing, shoes, large furniture items, textbooks or Reader's Digest Condensed Books. Individuals interested in selling their own items may rent tables for \$10 for one day or \$15 for both days. Call (810) 765-3523 for more information.

Algonac – January 22

Blue Water Middle College Informational Presentation, Algonac High School Lecture Hall, 5200 Taft Rd., (810) 794-4911, 6:30 p.m. For more information call or visit www.sccresa.org/bwmc/.

Algonac – January 22

Euchre Night, New Haven Lions Hall, 57882 Lutes, doors open at 6:30 p.m., play starts at 7:00 p.m. \$12 per person plus quarters for euchres. Prizes for the top 3 places. For more information call (810) 543-0951.

Lakeport – January 25-27

Winter Rummage Sale, St. Edward on

the Lake Catholic School, 6995 Lakeshore Rd. Looking for vendors to rent tables. Bring your crafts, collectibles, small business or used items. Tables are limited. First come, first serve! For more information call Laura at (810) 841-2807.

Port Huron – January 26

Plantation Games, Port Huron Museum, 1115 Sixth St. During the 1800s, games and crafts were a way for slaves to relax and distract themselves from the rest of their dreary lives. While they lacked money and free time, they did the best they could with supplies on hand, whether using worn-out clothing for quilts, or scrap wood for stilts and carved toys. Join us as we learn about these games and crafts, and make and take home your own Jacob's Ladder. \$3 fee for material kit. May attend and observe without purchasing kit. For more information visit www.phmuseum.org.

Algonac – January 28

Parental Review of “Bubbylonia”, Algonac High School, 1300 St. Clair Blvd., 6:00 p.m. “*The Bubbylonian Encounter*” is a live performance by professional actors, designed to teach students about good touch and bad touch. Performances will be held at Algonquin Middle School, Millside Elementary School, Algonac Elementary School and Fair Haven Elementary School. This is the opportunity for parents to review the material and watch the play via DVD ahead of time. For more information call (810) 794-4991.

Sauilac

Sandusky – January 12 and 26

Thumb Dance Club, Sandusky Maple Valley School, 138 Maple Valley St., 7:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m. Everyone welcome – bring finger foods (for 9:00 p.m.) and friends. \$5 for members, \$6 for non-members. \$10 membership per year. On January 12 the entertainment will be Melody Magic and on January 26, Lighthouse Three. For more information call (810) 657-9349 or (810) 404-4250.

Tuscola

Caro – January 18-20

Caro 150 Winter Fest & Snowmobile Races, downtown area and Tuscola County Fairgrounds, 188 Park Dr. The event kicks off Friday night with a downtown open house featuring a magician, roaming musicians, ice carving demonstrations, horse-drawn wagon rides, Snowmobiles on Main St. (these will be the actual race machines), community-wide shopping, restaurant specials and more. On Saturday and Sunday the event moves to the fairgrounds, with a warming tent complete with entertainment, a variety of wintertime contests, door prizes, fireworks, food and other goodies. The grandstand features snowmobiles racing around the track. \$10 for a 1-day ticket or \$15 for a weekend pass. For more information on events and times, visit www.carowinterfest.com.



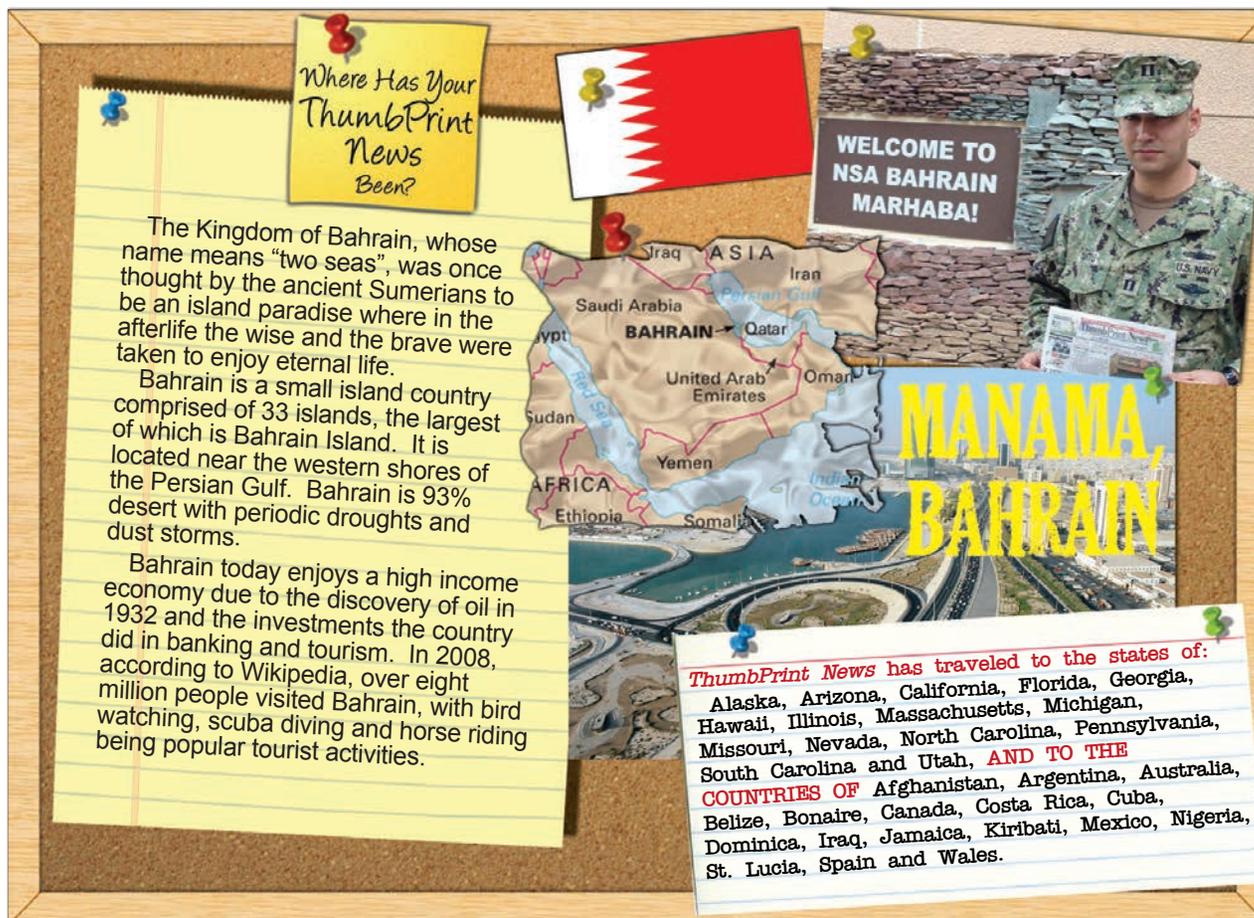
ThumbPrint News Travels to Bahrain!

ThumbPrint News has been traveling the world! Not only has it been seen in many areas of the Thumb of Michigan (over 980 businesses in eight Thumb counties are now drop locations for the newspaper), but readers have also taken ThumbPrint News to many different states and countries (listed on right). ThumbPrint News was even seen on television on the Tonight Show with Jay Leno and at Walt Disney World in Florida with several of the Disney characters!

When we began inviting our readers to submit photos of where they have taken ThumbPrint News, we never expected such an overwhelming response! The newspaper has even traveled to all of the seven continents.

This month ThumbPrint News traveled to Bahrain with Navy LT Miguel A. Cantu. His picture was submitted by Matthew and Marisol Zammit of Cottrellville Township, Michigan, who mailed a copy of ThumbPrint News to him. Cantu is a naval supply officer on a 12-month deployment in the Middle East.

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



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ThumbPrint News Contest

Each month, *ThumbPrint News* prints a photo of an object or a place for our readers to identify. If you think you know the answer, email us at thumbprintnews@comcast.net and put "Contest" in the subject line. Be sure to include your name, phone number and full address. Of all persons submitting correct answers by the 15th of the month, one person will be randomly selected to be entered into a drawing for a gift basket valued at over \$100 at the end of this year! On December 31, 2013, one winner will be drawn and the lucky person will be notified. Our grand prize winner for 2012, who will be receiving a fabulous gift basket, was drawn on December 12, 2012, and was John Houlihan, our November, 2012, winner, of Chesterfield, Michigan.

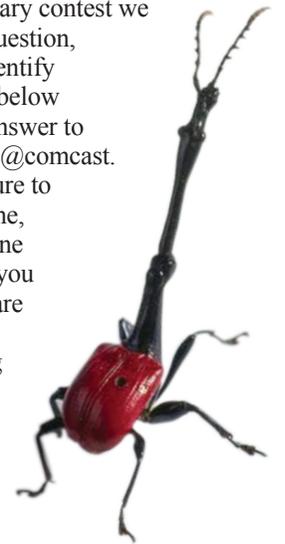
In December's edition, we asked our readers to identify the object pictured below:



Randomly selected from those submitting correct answers was Ron Simons of Macomb, Michigan, who correctly identified the object as an antique wallpaper trimmer. Ron will be entered into our year end drawing for a gift basket valued at over \$100.

The antique wallpaper trimmer shown on the left was manufactured by A. Allen & Co. with a patent date of April 19, 1892. It's called the "Allen's Double Keystone Trimmer".

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



JOE KNOWS

JOE WANTS TO KNOW:
WHAT DO YOU WANT TO KNOW?

By Joseph McKoan
ThumbPrint News Columnist



In the past articles I have been writing about different aspects of the law. Now you have the opportunity to assist in determining what I write about in the future.

Are you contemplating filing for divorce and have questions about property division or child support? Do you have a Debtor/Creditor concern? Are you contemplating filing bankruptcy, but are unsure of whether you qualify for Chapter 7? Are you charged with a crime and want to know what your rights are? Are you planning on buying or selling a home and need advice? Are you ready to inquire about estate planning and want to know how to achieve your goals?

These are but a few examples of possible issues or concerns one may have. Email me with yours.

If you email me your question, I will review it and your issue may be answered in the next edition of *Thumbprint News*. If your question desires immediate attention,

email me and in the subject area state "immediate attention desired", and I will respond to you individually and confidentially.

Thank you to those of you who have shown an interest in my articles and those whom have sent the complimentary emails to my attention.

I look forward to hearing from you and to continue to provide you, the public, with answers to your legal concerns.

Remember: Preparation and education is the key to anyone's success.

Identify your problems, then give yourself knowledge and preparation to achieve your solutions. 🍀

Attorney Joseph McKoan can be contacted by telephone at (810) 794-9379, or email Joe at JMcKoan@mckoanlaw.com.

The information within this article is for general information purposes only. It is not legal advice and should not be relied upon as legal advice.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

Woman's Life Chapter 855 from Memphis, Michigan, has donated a king-size quilt with shams to the Hunter Hospitality House, 1010 Lincoln Avenue, Port Huron, Michigan. Chapter members spent many hours sewing the small pieces together.

The mission of Hunter Hospitality House is to provide a welcoming, relaxing home away from home, steps away from the hospital, for those in need of restoration while their loved ones are patients. The vision of Hunter Hospitality House is promoting bonding between mothers and infants while the babies are in the special-care nursery, and easing the suffering of the families of other seriously ill patients.



Marlene Gillis, Judi Naz and Maggie Dehring hold up the quilt that Woman's Life Chapter 855 donated to the Hunter Hospitality House.

Dear Editor,

I just received my December copy and thanks. As I was walking into our Tuesday morning coffee hour at Mt. Vernon (Bradenton, Florida), I was met by my neighbor, Bob Christensen, and he thanked me for putting an older copy of the *ThumbPrint News* in our library. He said he really enjoyed reading it from cover to cover and that the newspaper was going to print one of his articles. He thinks it will be in the January issue. I asked what it was about and he said hunting snowshoe

rabbits. What a small world and I just wanted you to know several others have thanked me for putting the copy there. We have 435 homes in our development (on Sarasota Bay) and MANY of them are from all parts of Michigan. Keep up the great work and we'll keep getting more and more people interested in our Thumb area.

Love,
Evie Stieler

Editor's note: We asked our readers who are on our email list and facebook page what their number one resolutions were for 2013. Here a few of the responses we received:

Dear Editor,

I resolve to update my website in 2013! (www.MyChromeShop.com).

Beth Moss
Richmond

Dear Editor,

My resolution is to make each day in 2013 the best day I possibly can.

Kyree D.
Port Huron

Dear Editor,

I make resolutions every January and usually fail at keeping them. This year I made a list of 10 things that I want to improve on during 2013 and I put the list on my refrigerator to see each day. So, my number one resolution is to keep my 2013 resolutions!

Brandi Spoker
Mt. Clemens

Dear Editor,

Eliminate negative thinking and have positive thoughts! That's my resolution for 2013.

Dan Evola,
Sterling Heights

What Happened On This Day in History?

By Diane L. Kodet

ThumbPrint News Editor

January

Happy New Year 2013



1 On this day in 1853, the first practical fire engine (horse-drawn) in the U.S. entered service.

2 On this day in 1960, Senator John F. Kennedy announced his candidacy for president.

3 On this day in 1922, the first living person was identified on a U.S. coin (Thomas E. Kirby) on the Alabama Centennial half-dollar.

4 On this day in 1896, following the Mormon abandonment of polygamy, Utah was admitted as the 45th state.



5 On this day in 1956, Elvis Presley recorded "Heartbreak Hotel".

6 On this day in 1987, astronomers at the University of California saw the first sight of the birth of a galaxy.

7 On this day in 1953, President Truman announced the development of the hydrogen bomb.

8 On this day in 1889, the first computer was patented.

9 On this day in 1973, Luna 21 was launched to the Moon.

10 On this day in 1920, the League of Nations was established.

11 On this day in 1922, insulin was first used to treat diabetes (Leonard Thompson, 14, of Canada).

12 On this day in 1915, the House of Representatives rejected a proposal to give women the right to vote.

13 On this day in 1930, the "Mickey Mouse" comic strip first appeared.



14 On this day in 1914, Henry Ford introduced the assembly line, for Model-T Fords.



15 On this day in 1863, the first U.S. newspaper was printed on wood-pulp paper (*Boston Morning Journal*).

16 On this day in 1942, William Knudsen became the first civilian appointed a general in the U.S. Army.

17 On this day in 1928, the first fully automatic photographic film developing machine was patented.

18 On this day in 1733, the first polar bear was exhibited in America (Boston).



19 On this day in 1903, a new bicycle race, "Tour de France", was announced.

20 On this day in 1887, the U.S. Senate approved the naval base lease of Pearl Harbor.

21 On this day in 1903, the *Wizard of Oz* premiered in New York City.



22 On this day in 1939, the uranium atom was first split at Columbia University.

23 On this day in 1849, a patent was granted for an envelope-making machine.

24 On this day in 1923, Aztec Ruins National Monument in New Mexico was established.

25 On this day in 1961, the first live, nationally televised presidential news conference took place (President Kennedy).

26 On this day in 1905, the world's largest diamond, the 3,106-carat Cullinan, was found.

27 On this day in 1880, Thomas Edison patented the electric incandescent lamp.

28 On this day in 1915, U.S. President Wilson refused to prohibit immigration of illiterates.

29 On this day in 1920, Walt Disney started his first job as an artist at \$40 a week with the KC Slide Company.

30 On this day in 1911, the first rescue of an air passenger by a ship took place, near Havana, Cuba.

31 On this day in 1975, Barry Manilow's "Mandy" went gold.

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It's Not Gone!

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

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

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

Proper maintenance and care to your

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

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

NEVER

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



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Melanie Duquesnel

Job Offers Promised Employment... But Delivers a Scam

It's the new year and with it come new resolutions, including finally looking for that new dream job. But job seekers need to be on the lookout for con artists posing as employers or recruiters offering enticing employment or career opportunities in order to commit identity or financial fraud. Those who fall for these scams spend time and money, but not the earnings they had hoped to obtain.

There are multiple types of job scams for which job seekers should be aware:

Work-at-Home Scam: Scammers advertise easy opportunities to work from home (online work, data entry, envelope stuffing, product assembly, medical processing and billing, etc.) for large sums of money. After paying for supplies, kits or materials, items never show. Some job

opportunities don't pay as promised. In these situations, the alleged employer often can't be reached or refuses a refund.

Mystery/Secret Shopper Scam: Schemers promote lucrative mystery shopping or secret shopping jobs (where consumers are asked to test or evaluate products and services). Schemes trick job seekers into forwarding money to a third party. The money turns out to be fake or stolen from another person or business. The job seeker has to pay all the money back to the rightful owner, including the money they thought they were sending to a third party—who turned out to be the scam artist.

Identity Theft: Fraudulent employers use job applications to collect personal details—such as Social Security

numbers, bank account numbers, or credit card information—and bilk personal information from job hunters as part of an identity theft ploy.

Red Flags that offers are not legit include:

Job Ads:

- Exaggerate high salaries and promise big part-time earning potential, and seldom offer regular salaried employment.
- Understate the amount of time and effort needed to perform tasks.
- Minimize the requirements, experience or qualifications to participate; often tout phrases like "No experience is necessary."
- Make a high pressure sales pitch and promote the job as a limited time offer.

E-mails and Invitations:

- The e-mail or mail contains an offer for a job the consumer did not apply for. The solicitation comes from an unknown sender; usually e-mails come from a free account, like yahoo or hotmail.
- Company contact information is not enclosed in job ads.
- Employer communications are rife with grammatical and spelling errors.
- The employer requires personal information, Social Security or bank account numbers right away via e-mail or an online application—without

allowing time to research the company or the position.

Paychecks and Payments:

- Bank account or credit card information is needed to participate; or an upfront monetary investment is required.
- The job asks the consumer to wire money through Western Union or MoneyGram or to receive and forward suspicious goods.
- The consumer is asked to forward a portion of a check received back to the sender or to another company to pay for taxes, shipping, fees, etc., or to reimburse the company for salary overpayment.
- Commission or pay is deducted from a check sent to the consumer, which is often counterfeit. For example: They send a check for \$5,000, and then tell the consumer to reserve \$100 as a commission and use the remaining \$4,900 according to instruction.

For more BBB tips please visit our website at www.bbb.org.

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



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