

Alcona County Review

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2 Sections

Serving Alcona County for 137 Years

Harrisville, Michigan 48740

Brightening holidays for children, families and people in need

By Mary Weber
Staff Writer

The giving season is underway and many organizations in and around Alcona County are hoping residents give generously to help charities make the holidays brighter for those less fortunate.

Whether feeding the hungry, providing clothing for those in need, sheltering lost and abandoned animals, or just offering fruit or a bag of candy -- many local groups are relying on the goodness of others this holiday season.

Food pantries in Alcona County are busy every month helping those in need; however the need will be greater now they have one less pantry handing out food. The Solid Rock Church of God Food Pantry closed last week after operating for 15 years. This leaves the Alcona County Food Pantry, Lott Baptist Church Food Pantry, Spruce Lutheran Emergency Food Pantry and St. Vincent de Paul to help feed hungry individuals in Alcona County.

Lorraine Crannie, a member of Solid Rock and food pantry volunteer, explained

the decision to discontinue the food pantry was difficult but necessary due to lack of young volunteers to take over the operation. "We're in our 80s and we're tired. The Food Bank of Eastern Michigan had too many restrictions for us to follow. We used to be able to call them and tell them what we needed. Now everything has to be done by computer. We're too tired to learn and do all the things they wanted. We will be focusing on other things we can do for our church and community instead," she said.

St. Vincent de Paul is also struggling to meet a need this holiday season -- the need for candy to give to children. According to Sandra Rayes, Mikado St. Vincent de Paul co-manager, the charity normally gets large amounts of candy from the food bank to give out during the year for holiday events, including supplying a bag filled with candy for each child of the family in the 750 Christmas boxes it puts together every year for less fortunate families.

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Harrisville's Tree Lighting officially ushers in the holiday season. Individuals gather on the corner of M-72 and US-23 to sing Christmas carols during the event on Sunday. Entertainment was provided by Michelle Marcouiller on flute, George Redlawsk on trumpet and Laura Frawley, singing and playing guitar. Mike Maturen performed magic until it was time to light the tree. Photo by Mary Weber.

Remember baby pantry and humane society during holidays

By Mary Weber
Staff writer

Lots of organizations are in need of a helping hand during the gift giving season, but some work all year to bring joy and are often overlooked during the Christmas rush.

The Alcona Humane Society and the Alcona Baby Pantry are just two non-profits which might not get the attention they need during the Christmas rush.

"The Alcona Humane Society is currently sheltering 39 animals and costs continue to rise for the animals' care - keeping them warm, dry and well fed doesn't come cheap," said Stephanie Pepper, director of operations for the animal shelter.

She explained the shelter has a high adoption rate. This year 76 cats and 69 dogs were adopted from the shelter and 29 lost dogs were returned to their owners.

The shelter is in constant need of clumping cat litter, baking soda, bleach, laundry and liquid dish soap, dishwasher soap, unscented dryer sheets, trash bags, brooms, dust pans, brushes, crates for the animals to travel to and from the veterinarian's office, washable dog and cat toys, creamy peanut butter, small ceramic bowls and plates for kittens,

stamps and copy paper.

It also needs food for dogs, cats and kittens but are trying to stick with Nutro Max (chicken) brand which seems to work best. Pepper said Lincoln Hardware on Barlow Road carries the brand and will not charge tax if the food is for the shelter.

The newest fundraising source for Alcona Humane Society, the Precious Paws Resale Shoppe, is helping to meet the shelter's operational costs by selling donated, gently used and new household goods, gifts, jewelry, vintage items and art with 100 percent of the proceeds going directly back to care for the animals.

Connie Sysak, Alcona Humane Society board president, said there are two stores located in the Harbortown Marketplace in Harrisville. The new second store is offering small furnishings such as mirrors, end tables, lamps, small dressers and chests along with many seasonal items. "We don't have room for couches, beds or large items at the store, but we welcome the smaller items," she said.

The Alcona County Baby Pantry (ACBP) is open once a month and serves Alcona families with children from newborn to five years of age with basic needs. ACBP treat-

urer Brenda Forsythe said the pantry was created in 2002 because other organizations often fell short in providing all that was necessary to take care of the infants, babies and young children of families facing hardships.

The nonprofit organization helps between 30 and 50 new parents each year with necessary items such as diapers, wipes, formula, baby food, clothing, car seats and cribs.

Forsythe explained many items are gently used but some items such as cribs and car seats must be new because of safety regulations.

Kim Laird, an Alcona Baby Pantry client, said she didn't know how they would have made it through when her two daughters were quite young. "My husband was unemployed. The baby pantry helped with formula, diapers, and clothing. It was a big help especially because babies grow so fast. They even help expectant moms prepare for their newborns. I volunteer for the baby pantry now and I'm a trustee on the board, trying to give back just a little of what they've given to me."

Forsythe said the community is very giving and there are a few people who remember them at Christmas,

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How to help

Anyone interested in donating to local food pantries can do so by contacting the these organizations:

• **Alcona County Food Pantry (ACFP):** Located at Harrisville United Methodist Church every second Saturday from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Needs: Volunteers, cash donations, locally grown food items, paper products including toilet paper. They accept food with usable dates, but encourage cash donations because of the ability to get items at reduced prices through the food bank. Checks may be made payable to ACFP, P.O. Box 342, Harrisville, Mich. 48740. Contact Shelly Dunn (989) 724-6451 or Barb Potter (989) 724-6268 to volunteer.

Requirement to receive food from ACFP: Proof of residency in Alcona County and proof of income.

• **Lott Baptist Food Pantry:** Located on M-65 in

Glennie, the pantry is open once a month or if a special truck comes in.

Needs: Cash donations, paper products including toilet paper, hygiene products/soap. They accept nonperishable food with usable dates, but encourage cash donations because of the ability to get items at reduced prices through the food bank.

The pantry operates independently from the church and no church funds are used to operate the pantry. Checks may be made payable to Lott Baptist Food Pantry, 4257 M-65 State Road, Glennie, Mich. 48737.

Requirement: Must have proof of residency and reside in Barton City, Curran, Curtisville, Glennie, Greenbush, Long Lake, McKinley, Mikado or South Branch. For more information about food bank days,

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Letter to the Editor

To the Editor,

I am writing because we found my daughter's beloved cat dying in our barn. We rushed him to the vet to find out he was shot through the mouth. It looks like a .22. This was done inside the Village of Lincoln and close to her grandpa's house. The cat does not leave the yard. He is very loving and friendly.

I think the whole village needs to know there is someone shooting cats. This is disgusting and everyone needs to be made aware. I hope the individual is caught. My daughter is three and her cat, Boots, is her best friend.

He is fighting for his life because some sick individual decided it would be fun to shoot him. I hope this doesn't happen to anyone else's family pet. People need to keep an eye out.

Our family will be offering a \$500 reward to anyone that assists in the arrest and conviction of the person(s) responsible for the shooting of Boots on the night of Monday, Nov. 17 or the morning hours of Tuesday, Nov. 18. If you have any information, please call (989) 916-6689 or (989) 335-4030.

Nikki Durfee
Ossineke



Calendar of Events



(Editor's Note: Entries for Calendar are always welcome. They will be published in chronological order as space allows. Entries should be turned in at least two weeks prior to the date of the event. Events sponsored by businesses or individuals to make a profit or governmental units for meeting notification are not eligible for this free public service. Sorry, bingo, garage sales, raffle ticket sales, or political campaigning information is not eligible.)

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 26

Needle crafters are making hats, scarves and more at the Lincoln Senior Center, 207 Church Street, from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Bring necessary supplies. Items made will be donated to local organizations for distribution.

Alcona woodcarvers will meet from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. in the upstairs hall at the Lincoln Senior Center, 207 Church Street. All levels of woodcarvers including beginners are welcome.

Sing-a-long to the oldies with Roseanne at 4 p.m. at the Greenbush Center, 5039 Campbell Road.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 27

A Thanksgiving dinner will be served at from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Mikado American Legion, 2205 Alger Street. The public is welcome. Donations accepted.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 29

Food pantry open from 1 to 3 p.m. at Spruce Lutheran Church, 1246 East Spruce

Road, Spruce. Clients must be present to receive food and identification is required. For more information, call (989) 471-5013.

My Brother's Hope will be open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at 76 North Barlow Road (across from the high school). For more information, call Susan Armstrong at (989) 724-6365.

A holiday bazaar and luncheon will be held at the social hall of the First Presbyterian Church located at the corner of Long Rapids Road and US-23 North in Alpena from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The bazaar will feature many handmade items and a used book sale. The luncheon will be available from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Ticket cost is \$8 for adults and \$5 for children under 12. Luncheon tickets may be purchased in advance by calling the church at (989) 354-3381, Ruth Dupuis at (989) 356-8721 or Sue Skibbe at (989) 356-9491.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 1

Senior commodities will be distributed from 9 to 10 a.m. at the Lincoln Senior Center, 207 Church Street. First timers bring proof of Alcona County residency and proof of monthly income.

Exercise indoors, walk upstairs from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Lincoln Senior Center, 207 Church Street.

Computers, Wi-Fi and Wii available for seniors from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Lincoln Senior Center, 207 Church Street.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2

Exercise indoors, walk

upstairs from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Lincoln Senior Center, 207 Church Street.

Computers, Wi-Fi and Wii available for seniors from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Lincoln Senior Center, 207 Church Street.

Sing-a-long to the oldies with Roseanne at 4 p.m. at the Lincoln Senior Center, 207 Church Street.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 3

Food pantry open from 1 to 3 p.m. at Spruce Lutheran Church, 1246 East Spruce Road, Spruce. Clients must be present to receive food and identification is required. For more information, call (989) 471-5013.

The Alcona County Baby Pantry will be open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at St. Raphael's Catholic Church, 2531 East F-30, Mikado. Free items for newborns through age five to residents of Alcona County. Diapers, formula, clothes, bedding and more available. For more information, call (989) 305-5450.

Needle crafters are making hats, scarves and more at the Lincoln Senior Center, 207 Church Street, from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Bring necessary supplies. Items made will be donated to local organizations for distribution.

Alcona woodcarvers will meet from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. in the upstairs hall at the Lincoln Senior Center, 207 Church Street. All levels of

Continued on page 9A

Do you have news we can use?
Call the Review 724-6384

Writing Letters to the Editor

The Alcona County Review welcomes Letters to the Editor so readers can express their opinion or draw attention to issues.

Letters to the editor must be signed with a first and last name and include an address, also a phone number where the author can be reached for confirmation or questions during regular business hours. Unsigned letters will not be published.

Letters must address the editor -- not government, the community, organizations or the authors of previously published letters.

Letters should be no longer than 300 words. Inappropriate content will be deleted and letters will run on a space available basis.

This forum is not intended as a thank you section for groups and organizations. Thank yous are considered personal messages and therefore advertising.

Drop off letters to the Alcona County Review office at 111 Lake Street, Harrisville; mail to P.O. Box 548, Harrisville, Mich. 48740; or e-mail using plain text format to editor@alconareview.com.

Alcona County Review

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR are always welcome. All letters **MUST** be signed. Freedom of speech includes the responsibility for what is said. Authors **MUST** include an address and telephone number for verification, not publication. Word limit is 300. Deadline is Monday at noon. All rights reserved to edit letters for style, length and libelous content. Letters express the opinion of the author, not the opinion of the newspaper or its employees.

ADVERTISING RATES are available by calling the Review office, (989) 724-6384. Display advertising deadline is Friday at 5 p.m. Classified deadline is Monday at 5 p.m.

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Photos for publication are always welcome. Photos can be mailed to P.O. Box 548, Harrisville, Mich. 48740, dropped off at 111 Lake Street, Harrisville or e-mailed to editor@alconareview.com **ONLY** as a JPEG attachment. The Review can take photos from your memory card, memory stick or CD rom. and it can scan *original* photographs.

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Harrisville Climatological Observations for 2014

Date	Weekly Report		Snow Fall	Miles Per Hour		
	Temperature (F°)			Av. Wind Speed	High Speed	Dominant Direction
	High	Low				
Nov. 16	31	22	0.00	3.3	17	SW
Nov. 17	32	16	0.00	4.4	22	SW
Nov. 18	26	15	0.02	6.1	32	SW
Nov. 19	25	12	0.01	6.1	27	SW
Nov. 20	28	16	0.00	4.8	24	W
Nov. 21	29	8	0.00	4.7	25	SW
Nov. 22	39	26	0.01	6.8	26	SW

Precipitation Summary (Inches) 2014-2015

	Water Content	Snow Fall	Normal Water Content
Weekly Total	0.04	0.9	0.49
November to Date	0.88	0.9	1.54
Year to Date	26.27	0.9	26.03

Climatological Observations taken by Stanley L. Darmofal at the Harrisville National Weather Service Coop Station located 1.8 miles NNE of Harrisville Post Office. Observations for each day are from midnight through 11:59 p.m. T=Trace (less than 0.005" Water Content.)



Local Notes



Athletes Receive Honors

The North Star League, Big Dipper Division, has recognized the following Alcona varsity football players with 2014 Football All-Conference Awards: **Offense** – Brock Franklin, first team running back; Boone Bouchard, first team running back, honorable mention; Alex Stephenson, first team quarterback, honorable mention. **Offensive line** – Aaron Carrasco, first team; Trevor Joslin, second team; Trevor Schrader, second team. **Ends/receivers** – Isaac Dubuque, first team. **Defensive line** – Trevor Schrader, first team; Devon Mills, honorable mention. **Linebacker** – Brock Franklin, second team. **Secondary** – Hunter Sullivan, first team; Brandon Ritchie, second team, honorable mention. **Special teams** – Jack Hutchinson, first team. Josh Belusar, second team.

Senior Menu

The following meals will be served at various times during the week at senior centers in Glennie, Greenbush and Lincoln. Anyone planning to attend a meal is asked to reserve a place by calling (989) 736-8879 by 10 a.m. Monday through Friday.

- Monday, Dec. 1—Chicken and stuffing casserole, corn, coleslaw and fruit crisp.
- Tuesday, Dec. 2—Pork roast, mashed potatoes and gravy, baby carrots and applesauce.
- Wednesday, Dec. 3—Baked fish, potato Lyonnaise, stewed tomatoes, tossed salad and fruit.
- Thursday, Dec. 4—Beef tips and gravy over noodles, winter blend vegetables and fruit.
- Friday, Dec. 5—Stuffed green pepper, red potato, peas and fruit.

(Friday meals served in Lincoln only.)

Festival of Lights Celebration

Lincoln's annual Festival of Lights will be held on Friday, Dec. 5 beginning at 5:30 p.m. at the Lincoln Fire Hall and the Lincoln Depot. There will be a bonfire at the depot, free hayrides and hot dogs, coffee and hot chocolate. The Shine Dance Studio will present "Adult Tap." Music will be provided by Donna Roussin. Santa Claus arrives at 6:30 p.m. Cash prizes will be awarded for residential displays and a traveling plaque will be awarded for the best commercial display. Lighting displays will be judged on the evenings of December 2-4. Participants should have their lights on by 6 p.m. on those evenings. Areas to be viewed for displays are Miller Road north, west to McConnell Road, south to Dewar Road, east to Coville Road.

Handbell Concert

The Sunrise Ringers, a local handbell group with members from Alpena to Oscoda will perform a winter concert on Sunday, Dec. 7 at 3 p.m. at St. Anne Catholic Church in Harrisville. A free will offering will be received. For more information, call Margaret Fox at (989) 736-3025.

Christmas Chorus Concert

Huron Shores Chorus will present the group's annual Christmas program, "A Silver Christmas" as it celebrates the group's 25th year of bringing fine choral music to northeast Michigan. Performances will be held Friday, Dec. 5 at 7 p.m. at Oscoda United Methodist Church and Sunday, Dec. 7 at 3 p.m. at Tawas Area Presbyterian Church. The 42 member chorus will perform a mix of seasonal favorites and special selections.

Dr. William A. Cargo, founder of Huron Shores Chorus, will be the special guest director for "O Magnum Mysterium." The men's feature will be "Soon and Very Soon" by Andrea Crouch, and the women's feature will be "Breath of Heaven," including a solo by Patricia King. Melanie Bowie and Patty Chonich will perform a piano duet to Leroy Anderson's "Sleigh Ride."

The program will close with the traditional singing of G.F. Handel's "Hallelujah Chorus" and an invitation to the audience to join the chorus in song. There is no admission for the program, but free will offerings are welcome, and refreshments will be served following the December 7 performance. Huron Shores Chorus is under the direction of Tracee-Behnke Lentz. Chorus accompanist is Melanie Bowie.

Forest Management Lecture

The Alcona Conservation District will present a lecture discussing the basics of forest management in the lake states. In northern Michigan the forest products industry is a large part of the economy and forests are a large part of the landscape. Despite active forest management having a rich history in Michigan, very few people understand how forests can be managed to produce timber and maintain a healthy ecosystem at the same time. Discover how foresters manage the woods in a fashion that improves timber quality, maintains and enhances wildlife habitat, and protects the water and soil we all depend on.

This presentation will take place Saturday, Dec. 13 at 10 a.m. at the Robert Parks Library in Oscoda. This event is free and open to the public. Participants are encouraged to bring questions about how forests and trees are managed for multiple uses. For

more information, call district forester Andrew Beebe at (989) 335-1056 or visit alconaconservation.org.

Business Donation

Dr. Ben Dietrich, owner of Harrisville Eye Care, presented the Harrisville Lions Club with a check in support of World Sight Day at the November Lions Club meeting. Dr. Dietrich donated a percentage of each Friday exam in the month of October and also conducted a 50/50 raffle with all the proceeds going to the Lions Club. World Sight Day (October 9) is held each year with a focus on taking care of eyes and the prevention of blindness. Ryan Ladley from Tawas Bay Insurance was the winner of the 50/50 raffle. He donated his winnings to the Lions Club. "I would like to thank all of my fellow Lions Club members for all the work they do in support of our community's eye health throughout the year," Dietrich said.

top ten

"Dutch" phrases

1. Double Dutch
2. Dutch uncle
3. Dutch treat
4. Dutch courage
5. Dutch auction
6. Dutch comfort
7. Dutch bargain
8. Dutch defense
9. Dutch gold
10. Dutch sauce (Hollandaise)

Source: The Phrase Finder

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"Unfortunately we just found out they won't be giving candy to us anymore, which leaves us scrambling at the last minute. We don't want to disappoint the kids this Christmas," Rayes said.

St. Vincent is asking residents to bring bags of candy to the Mikado St. Vincent store for distribution by December 12. All candy should be individually wrapped and still in sealed bags. No open bags of candy will be accepted. Rayes said they are planning to accept the candy year-round so they are better prepared for Easter and other events.

Of course, many charities remain steadfast in their annual traditions with no glitch in site. The Mikado Goodfellows is planning its annual Christmas party for December 7. Gifts of new toys will be given to Alcona County children newborn through age 12 along with punch, cookies and a visit from Santa.

The Mikado Goodfellows perform a number of good deeds throughout the year by helping people who reside in Mikado who are in the hospital or are in treatment with a little additional cash assistance for travel expenses or lodging for family.

The group also gives to three area churches, My Brother's Hope, St. Vincent de Paul, The Salvation Army Cancer Society, and the American Red Cross. It funds four scholarships each year to Alcona and Oscoda high

school graduates, and prepares funeral dinners at the township hall or the American Legion in Mikado at no cost to the family.

Sharon Leeseberg, a Mikado Goodfellows trustee, said every year the group gives about 200 toys during the Christmas party. All of the toys are kept in about the same price range. She said cash/check donations are always appreciated to help purchase toys or fund the other causes.

Checks may be made payable to Mikado Goodfellows; (attention: Kay Lovelace) 2515 Armstrong Road, Mikado, Mich., 48745. Anyone interested in volunteering, the group meets every third Thursday at 7 p.m. at the Mikado Civic Center, 2291 S. F-41. For more information, call Sharon Leeseberg (989) 736-8961.

The Harrisville Goodfellows will be out and about this year continuing its tradition of ensuring every child from ages one to 10 in Harrisville, Harrisville Township and the southern half of Haynes Township receives a visit from Santa Claus with a bag of candy and also acknowledging all seniors in the same area with fruit packages.

The group puts up, takes down and cares for the nativity scene at the corner of M-72 and US-23 in Harrisville. It also helps families, if pos-

sible, with unexpected crisis or disasters throughout the year.

Anyone wanting to help the Harrisville Goodfellows can do so by showing up at the Harrisville Fire Hall every Wednesday at 7 p.m. from October through Christmas Eve.

Checks may be made payable to the Harrisville Goodfellows; P.O. Box 1, Harrisville, Mich., 48740. Look for the group's buck cards in local businesses as a way to donate, or call (989) 724-5258, (989) 724-9910 or (989) 724-5420 to give a name of a child or senior living in the area the organization covers.

The Barton City Eagles Ladies Auxiliary will have a Christmas party on December 21 for children ages newborn to 12 years old with no stipulations on where the child is from. Each child will receive a gift and a visit from Santa.

In addition to the children's party, the group is looking for names and addresses of soldiers in Afghanistan or Iraq to send a box of items such as ramen noodles, shampoo, soap and toilet paper. Names and addresses of soldiers can be e-mailed to bcaux@hughes.net. Donations of items can be taken to the Barton City Eagles, 671 N. Sanborn Road, Barton City during normal business hours.

ALCONA FFA CHAPTER ANNUAL FRUIT SALE

Date: November 4 - December 1

Individuals interested in placing an order are encouraged to contact Michael Suitor, Alcona High School FFA Advisor, at (989) 736-8534 ext 417 or by e-mail at suitor@alconaschools.net and an FFA member will follow up to take your order. We look forward to working with you to complete your order in a timely and professional manner!



Delivery Date: December 17, 2014 - Pick up after school or Delivery via FFA Member

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Remember Continued from page 1A

"There is even a ladies church group which helps annually by having a Christmas party where the members bring items for the baby pantry. More help is always needed though, especially volunteers in the winter and cash donations to help buy the larger items like the car seats and cribs."

The ACBP is open on the first Wednesday of the month from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. All new moms and dads are encouraged to stop by on December 3 as that pantry day will include a visit from Santa.

The baby pantry is located in St. Raphael Catholic Church, 2531 E. F-30 in Mikado. Items and donations can be dropped off on the Tuesday evening before the first Wednesday of the month or between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.

on the first Wednesday of the month. Donations are also accepted on behalf of the baby pantry at St. Vincent de Paul in Mikado, please note the item or donation is for the baby pantry. Checks can be mailed to ACBP, P.O. Box 36, Mikado, Mich., 48745.

For a complete list of items needed for the Alcona Humane Society, visit its website at Alconahumanesociety.org, or call the shelter at (989) 736-7387. The shelter hours of operation are Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. It is closed Sunday, Monday and Wednesday, but donations and adoptions are welcome anytime by calling the shelter to arrange an appointment.

Writer Needed for Varsity Boys Basketball

The Alcona County Review is looking for a someone to attend Alcona High School varsity boys basketball games this winter in order to write stories each week. Please call Cheryl Peterson at (989) 724-6384 for more information including payment, sporting schedules and other details. Must have own transportation and be able to meet Monday morning deadline.

This is a good opportunity to be part of a weekly publication, meet members of the community and fine tune writing skills. Pay is minimal, however, helping bring recognition to student athletes is priceless.

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call (989) 735-3771.

• **Spruce Lutheran Emergency Food Pantry** located at 1246 E. Spruce Road. The pantry is open on the first and third Wednesday of the month and on the last Saturday of the month from 1 to 3 p.m.

Needs: Cash donations, peanut butter, paper products including toilet paper, personal hygiene products, household cleaners, diapers (adult and baby), dog food, and food donations from local farmers. They also need volunteers to pick up food in Harrisville and transport to Spruce. Call Dea Dusterhoft (989) 727-2459 to volunteer.

Checks may be made payable to Spruce Lutheran Church Food Pantry and mailed to P.O. Box 68, Spruce, Mich. 48762. For more information, call Karen Poellet at (989) 727-2602.

Requirement: Need identification, but can live anywhere and should truly be in need of food items, no proof of need required.

• **St. Vincent de Paul Emergency Pantry** located at 227F-41 in Mikado. Needs: Volunteers, cash donations, sealed candy in store purchased bags, and donations of almost any household item, clothing, books, toys, furniture and more. Provides emergency food and funding for utility bills and housing on a limited basis for Alcona County residents in dire need.

Item donations are accepted Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Checks may be made payable to St. Vincent de Paul, P.O. box 13, Mikado, Mich. 48745.

Requirements: Must show proof of residency. Call for further requirements or to volunteer (989) 736-6271.

• **Food Banks of Eastern Michigan Backpack Program:** Sponsors can support their school of choice by a monetary donation by calling Kathleen Payton at (810) 239-4441. The program supplies elementary school children in need of food with a backpack of food and snacks to get them through the weekend.

• **Alcona Elementary School Weekend Milk Program.** Milk is provided through donation and grant money to about 60 elemen-

tary school children in need of food. The milk is given to the children at school on Friday and is packed in insulated bags with cool pouches to keep it fresh until the child returns home.

Needs: Cash donations made payable to Alcona Elementary School Milk Fund, 181 N. Barlow Road, P.O. Box 249, Lincoln, Mich. 48742.

• **My Brother's Hope Free Store:** Located at Blue House on Barlow Road across from the high school and is open 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the second Saturday of the month, the following Tuesday after the second Saturday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the last Saturday of the month.

Needs: Cash donations, volunteers, mentors, remodeling and building repair help and items such as clothing, household items, paper products, personal care items, and some baby care items. Item donations can be made at the blue house the Wednesday before the second Saturday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., at the Harrisville branch of the Alcona County Library during regular library hours and at

the Cozy Cabin Hair Salon in Lincoln during regular business hours. Check donations to My Brother's Hope, P.O. Box 205, Harrisville, Mich. 48740.

Requirement: Must show proof of residency in Alcona County.

• **The Potluck Café:** The Potluck Café is provided by different area churches and service organizations, which serves free hot meals to the people in need. It is located at the United Methodist Church in Harrisville from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. on the second Saturday of the month and at St. Raphael Catholic Church in Mikado from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the last Friday of the month except in December.

Needs: Paper products and cash donations. Check may be made payable to My Brother's Hope Pot Luck Café and mailed to P.O. Box 205, Harrisville, Mich. 48740.

Requirement: Show proof of residency in Alcona County. The Potluck Café at St. Raphael Catholic Church provides free hair cuts. Hair must be clean. For more information, call (989) 724-6365 or visit mybrothershope.com.

Organizations Organization Notes

Alcona FFA

The Alcona FFA Chapter had its fun-filled November monthly meeting in the high school. First, however, was the business. Members were informed of the upcoming workshop where they will have a chance to work on their leadership contests, or their Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE). They were also encouraged to sell even more fruit, which has customers craving for more. The fruit sale will end on December 3 which is when all orders are due. Remember, orders will not be placed until all the money has been brought in.

As for the activities of this meeting -- members looked through the FFA room and the agriscience room for various items, of which they had to identify through complex riddles. All of them quickly found the items and brought them back to the officer team.

Afterward, members enjoyed tacos which had been prepared for them.

We hope to see everyone in December when we all meet again for another jam-packed evening.



Gifts for Bird Lovers

Give a little sunshine to the bird lover in your life. Consider these bird-themed items: jigsaw puzzles, coloring books, sun catchers, wall calendars, pocket planners, journals, sketch books, note cards, coffee or tea mugs, salt/pepper shakers, serving trays, tote bags, field guides, binoculars, and on and on. Be creative. Enjoy the season.

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Pass the pie

By Katrina Wouters
Columnist

*Good times gone, but you feed it
Hate's grown strong, you feel you need it
Just one thing, do you know you
What you think, that the world owes you?
What's gonna set you free?
Look inside and you'll see
When you've got so much to say
It's called gratitude, and that's right*

~Beastie Boys
"Gratitude"

Let's say I suddenly lost my faculties and committed a heinous crime. I'm not very good at lying or living on the run, so in this scenario I would assume that I would end up in police custody.

There is something strange I'd like to admit: I know exactly what I would request for my last meal on death row -- Thanksgiving dinner. I love turkey, mashed potatoes and stuffing. Sweet potatoes with brown sugar and mini marshmallows. Green beans with mushroom sauce and French fried onions on top. And the pie! Pumpkin, chocolate cream, Dutch apple, peanut butter... Do you think that prisoners get second helpings?

On a more serious note, it is easy for me to be thankful for the delectable turkey, the scent of sage wafting from the stuffing and an accidental on-purpose finger slip into the pan leading to a taste test of my husband's homemade cranberry sauce.

One of the things that I try to incorporate every day of the year is gratitude. Although I am not incarcerated or living in a situation nearly that dire, it is not always easy

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The Princess Diaries By Katrina Wouters

for a moody Irish-American writer such as myself to give thanks. However, I have found that there is nothing as detrimental to a pity party as the realization that our personal life is full of riches. Glennon Doyle Melton of Momastery.com refers to this phenomenon as putting on your "perspectacles." That is, looking at your life with the perspective of gratitude. For most people it can be hard to shift from feeling upset about what we don't have to giving thanks.

Melton gives the example of her messy kitchen. Initially she felt bad for showing pictures of it on her blog and getting a lot of comments that it needed updating -- that it wasn't modern and sleek. She began to contemplate whether she should change her favorite room in the house. She felt very uncool and foolish. However, after putting on her "perspectacles" she was able to see the blessings of her messy and ordinary kitchen: Running water available 24 hours a day, a fridge full of more than enough food to feed her family and which also displays notes from her children's school where her three children are able to get an education that many would only dream of having access to on a daily basis.

After reading her blog post and her eye-opening book, "Carry On Warrior," I wrote a large reminder note on the chalkboard in my kitchen, "Put on your perspectacles!" Whenever I catch myself freaking out over a pile of dirty dishes, swearing at the cat food crunching beneath my feet and despairing about the tomato sauce stuck to the side of my coffee pot I make sure to look at the chalkboard and shift my perspective. It usually works.

My point is this: It can be difficult to remember our blessings. This is especially so when we are too busy to look around and really see what we have.

Being grateful requires humility and modesty -- a tall order for our consumer driven culture. We may struggle to appreciate the knowledge at our fingertips instead of cursing at our Google search results. Or maybe you can't stop fuming at the DVR for glitching out during your favorite TV show recording, making playback impossible.

I may feel that one more late night of sleep-deprived toddler teething will make me certifiably crazy (and quite possibly lead to those last meal fantasies), but when Phee snuggles into my shoulder and quiets down I am suddenly so grateful for my daughter's company. I think back to the time in my life

when I wanted a child so desperately and I am able to smile while I struggle.

There are several benefits to shifting to a more grateful perspective including stressing less, improving our relationships and improving our health. Here are some easy ways to practice gratitude each day:

- Make a point to look around and notice the things that you are grateful for. You can take a picture if you would like to make a visual gratitude journal. This simple shift can really alter your mood and it is fun to look back and see the little things you were grateful for in the past.

- Switch a complaint to a positive. If you are in a negative situation (like you are tired of the blustery weather) switch it around to something that makes you happy (for instance, your collection of cozy blankets and fuzzy socks).

- Find a way to share your gratitude with others. It can be a simple comment such as, "I love how quiet it is at 4 a.m., don't you?"

- Respond to others with actual interest and attention. Giving someone the compliment of your presence and attention can really improve their day. Genuine compliments are a specific gift.


- Becoming involved in a local or global cause can really help you to see what needs others have. This can be a gift of perspective for you while helping someone in need.

Finally, when you are about to complain, criticize or gossip think about how much energy you are spending on a negative emotion. This is the first part of practicing gratitude.

Take a closer look at how you feel as opposed to how you want to feel. Then, make a change. It can be really easy. Just slip on those "perspectacles," turn on some silly hip-hop music and dance your way out of that funk. You will be thankful you did.

(Editor's Note: Katrina Kniep Wouters was born and raised in Harrisville and started editing her mother's column — Puttin' on the Fritz — at age eight. She taught middle school English and journalism for six years in Parkland, Fla. and has since returned to her home town to settle down. Since returning home she has a Masters of Arts in child psychology and is pursuing a degree as a Board Certified Behavior Analyst. She enjoys spending time with her husband A.J., her stepson, Kaiden, and her daughter Phoenix. She is passionate about knitting, rescue animals and cheese. She writes a blog that can be found at: nomorehighheels.wordpress.com.)

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Organization Notes

VFW Post No. 6754
Ladies Auxiliary

The November meeting was held with 13 members present. The minutes were read by secretary Emma Liske. Treasurer Sandy Light gave the treasurer's report. A thank you note was read from the family of Lucille Murray. Sharon Jack reminded members to participate in Veterans Day programs; to visit a veteran on Thanksgiving Day and that the Buddy Poppy theme will be "angels" at the midwinter conference.

Members were asked to continue saving labels and the number of labels collected and sent in should be reported. The treasurer reported 16 members sent in their 2015 dues and a second notice will be sent shortly. Mary Ann Seymour read the audit report for the third quarter. Frances Ziesman requested that the auxiliary purchase seven pocket Bibles to be sent to servicemen. She and Donna Bushey will prepare the Christmas fruit baskets.

The auxiliary and post members were invited to attend the Veterans Day assembly at Sanborn School on November 11 at 2 p.m. President Vichunas advised that Don Bushey rode with her to the District 11 meeting held at the Kawkawlin, Mich. VFW post on Sunday, Nov. 2 and gave an update of the auxiliary meeting. She advised that there will not be a District 11 auxiliary meeting in February and that posts will hold their District 11 meeting in Weidman.

Regrettably, Marie Rhines and Erma Wyers cannot fulfill the duties of the trustee positions. Therefore, the auxiliary elected Carolyn Collman to the trustee no. 1 position and Sharon Jack to the trustee no. 2 position. Mary Ann Seymour will continue as trustee no. 3.

It should be noted the Auxiliary made all the required 2014-2015 donations as well as the cancer donation at the October meeting. Post Quartermaster Chuck Gauthier advised President Vichunas that the post will provide 24 Christmas trees for National Home — 2014 will be the 65th year for this tradition.

The last meeting for the year will be held on Dec. 2 at 7 p.m.

Brrrrrr.....

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Bird feeding faux pas? Five easy, no-fret fixes

(BPT) - Fabulous food, pretty presentation and attention to detail can earn a reputation as an amazing host among human guests. But when serving feathered friends, some hosts are committing a feeding faux pas that may prove unforgivable.

Birds may be small, but they pack long memories into those little craniums, and they won't soon forget being served the wrong food, a bad feeder choice or allowing uninvited squirrels in on the action.

Certain feeding missteps, however, are fairly easy to fix.

• Faux pas No. 1 - Serving junk food. You wouldn't in-

vite your friends over for a dinner party and serve them a bucket of takeout fried chicken, would you? Well, that's essentially what you're doing if you serve birds human food like bread, donuts or cookies, or stock feeders with seed mixes that are made up mostly of millet, other fillers or low-quality seeds.

The fix: Fill feeders with quality options like suet cakes, dried mealworms or premium seed blends. Suet and dried mealworms (less messy than live mealworms) provide much-needed energy and fat, while quality seed blends incorporate only the seeds birds really like to eat,

without the chemicals and mineral oil coating of cheaper brands.

• Faux pas No. 2 - Failing to keep guests safe. Birds can be quite focused when they see feed they want. On the way to the feeder, birds can collide with windows, especially if the glass reflects the sky and trees or is very clean and clear. Window collisions can be devastating, and even fatal, for birds.

The fix: Place feeders at least 30 feet from windows to avoid disorienting reflections. If you don't have that kind of room, place feeders just one to three feet from windows in order to prevent birds from

building up enough momentum for a potentially fatal collision.

• Faux pas No. 3 - Tolerating uninvited guests. Birds aren't the only ones who love bird feed; squirrels are big fans of seeds and suet as well, and they're experts at stealing seed from bird feeders. Left unchallenged, squirrels can drain feeders quickly, leaving nothing for the birds. They can also cause damage to feeders and frighten away more timid bird species.

The fix: You wouldn't attack a pesky neighbor who showed up uninvited at your backyard barbecue, and you don't want to harm squirrels

either - just dissuade them from bothering bird feeders. One option is to stock feeders with a "hot" product which, for example, feature sunflower meats infused with habanero chilies. Birds can't taste the heat, but squirrels sure hate it.

Or, try distracting squirrels and other wildlife from bird feeders by serving them something they like even better.

• Faux pas No. 4 - Overlooking the importance of ambiance. You hang streamers and balloons for a birthday party, and light graceful tapers for an intimate dinner party. Birds care about ambiance, too. Shrubbery and trees provide birds places to hide from predators. A yard that lacks cover is not an appealing dining destination for birds.

The fix: Choose a calm, sunny location for feeders - spots east or south of your house will probably provide the most protection from cold northern winds. Plant shrubs and trees, put up a fence or plant a hedge row to provide cover. Be sure their location is accessible and convenient for the human refilling the feeders.

• Faux pas No. 5 - Paper plates. Would you invest time and money in preparing a gourmet meal only to serve it on paper plates? Of course not. Yet that's comparable to how birds feel about a single feeder, a dirty feeder or one that doesn't feature their preferred style of perch.

The fix: Offer multiple styles of feeders to appeal to the broadest range of backyard birds. Tube feeders are a great, classic type of feeder that works for many different birds. An open-bowl design feeder makes it easy to serve suet, nuts and mealworms. Hummingbird feeders allow for serving the nectar that hummingbirds love.

Area Church Directory


St. Andrew's Episcopal Church


 Corner of US-23 & Medor Rd.,
 Harrisville • 724-5160
www.standrewschurhharrisville.org
9:30 A.M. SUNDAY SERVICE

Haynes Community Church
 4505 Shaw Road, Harrisville, Michigan 48740
 Sunday Morning Service 11 a.m.
 989-724-6665 • 989-724-6578
 Pastor Claire Duncan • haynescommunitychurch.org

Family Heritage Baptist Church
 4260 M-72 Harrisville (2.5 miles west of the light)
 Pastor Ernest Ruemenapp (989) 724-6728 • www.church72.org
 Sunday worship services 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.
 Sunday school 10 a.m. Wednesday 6 p.m. Patch the Pirate Club, children's ministry. Wednesday 6 p.m. midweek service (preaching and prayer service).

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 Hubbard Lake Rd.,
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 Pastor Christina Bright Office 736-7816


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 Bible Study/Prayer, Wed. 7 p.m.
Pastor Dr. Arie VanBrenk • 202 Main Street • 736-8796


Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church (WELS)


Church Street at Traverse Bay Road
 Lincoln, Mich. 48742 ~ 736-1227
 Pastor Jacob Schwartz - Service, Sunday 9 a.m.

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 2902 E. F-30, Mikado, MI 48745 • (989) 736-8345
 Pastor Tim Steiner, Pastor Emeritus Larry Richmond
 Sunday School: 10 a.m. • Sunday Worship Services: 11 a.m. & 6:30 p.m.
 Monday: 6:30 p.m. *Teen Program (Grades 7-12)
 Wednesday: 6:30 p.m. Adult Prayer & Bible Study & *Youth Programs (Grades K-6th)
 *Fall-Spring programs • Website: www.cbcmikado.com

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 ST. GABRIEL, Black River Saturday 6:30 p.m.
 ST. CATHERINE (Ossineke) Sunday 9 a.m.
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 Pastor: Fr. Robert Bissot • (989) 724-6713

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 Pastor Char McGuire • 736-3486

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1246 E. Spruce Road, Spruce • 471-5013
 (3 miles west of F-41 & US-23) • Handicap Assessible

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 Sunday evening service 6 p.m. Pastor Elmer Ash.
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Calendar of Events



Continued from page 2A

woodcarvers including beginners are welcome.

Sing-a-long to the oldies with Roseanne at 4 p.m. at the Greenbush Center, 5039 Campbell Road.

Northeast Michigan UAW Retired Workers Alpena Council will hold its membership meeting at 11 a.m. at the VFW Hall, 2900 Connon, Alpena, at the corner of Brooke and Connon, near Diamonds Pointe. Lunch will be served. Bring a can of food for the needy. For more information, call (989) 356-4959 or (989) 727-4080.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 4

TOPS MI 1502 Mikado meets at St. Raphael Catholic Church, 2531 F-30, Mikado. Weigh-in starts at 9:10 a.m. and meeting begins at 9:30 a.m. All are welcome. Handicap accessible. First meeting is free. For more information, call (989) 736-8022, (989) 335-1107 or (989) 739-4483.

Veterans join your fellow comrades for coffee from 9 to 11 a.m. at Westminster Presbyterian Church, 201 Second Street, Harrisville. All veterans are welcome.

Computers, Wi-Fi and Wii available for seniors from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Lincoln Senior Center, 207 Church Street.

Alcona retirees meet for a potluck lunch at noon at the Lincoln Senior Center, 207 Church Street. Bring a dish to pass. Everyone is welcome.

A blood pressure clinic will be held at 3:30 p.m. at the Lincoln Senior Center, 207 Church Street.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5

Fish fry from 5 to 7 p.m. at the American Legion Post 254, 2205 Alger Street, Mikado. Adults \$8, children six to 12 \$4, five and under eat for free. Public is welcome.

Exercise indoors, walk upstairs from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Lincoln Senior Center, 207 Church Street.

Computers, Wi-Fi and Wii available for seniors from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Lincoln Senior Center, 207 Church Street.

Enjoy popcorn and a movie at 2 p.m. at the Lincoln Senior Center, 207 Church Street. For details, call (989) 736-8879.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6

Take a cookie walk at the Westminster Presbyterian Church, 201 North Second Street in Harrisville at 9 a.m. Lots of goodies including cookies, candy and more. Why bake when you can take a cookie walk and get your holiday treats.

A Christmas bazaar will be held at New Life Lutheran Church located at 25 East Kirche In The Woods, Spruce from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. There will be holiday baked goods, pantry items, hand crafted items, homemade note cards, fresh floral arrangements and much more. A luncheon will be served from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. For more information, call (989) 736-7816.

An open house will be held from 1 to 3 p.m. for artist of the month Lynn Frietag at the Dragonfly Art Gallery, 116

East Main Street, Harrisville. The public is invited to attend.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7

A festive holiday concert Welcome Yule will be held at 4:30 p.m. in the Alpena High School Auditorium. The celebration begins with Santa Claus greeting the children at 4 p.m. Admission is \$10 for adults, children and students admitted free. This event is sponsored by Thunder Bay Arts Council. For more information visit www.alpenatbarts.org or call (989) 356-6678.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 8

All ladies are invited to play pinochle at 1 p.m. at the Greenbush Township Hall, 5039 Campbell Road. First-timers welcome.

Exercise indoors, walk upstairs from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Lincoln Senior Center, 207 Church Street.

Computers, Wi-Fi and Wii available for seniors from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Lincoln Senior Center, 207 Church Street.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9

The Alcona County Alzheimer's Support Group will meet at 2 p.m. in the commons at Jamieson Nursing Home, 790 South US-23, Harrisville.

Sing-a-long to the oldies with Roseanne at 4 p.m. at the Lincoln Senior Center, 207 Church Street.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10

Sing-a-long to the oldies with Roseanne at 4 p.m. at the Greenbush Center, 5039 Campbell Road.

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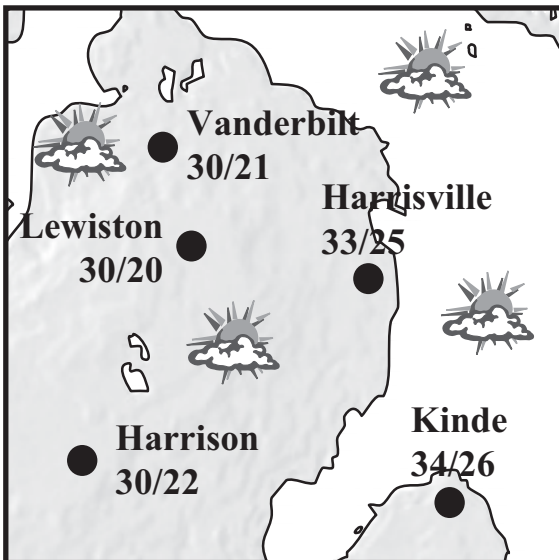
Alcona Review Weather Report

Nov. 26, 2014

Seven Day Forecast

- WEDNESDAY**
Partly Cloudy
High: 33 Low: 25
- THURSDAY**
Snow Possible
High: 30 Low: 17
- FRIDAY**
Mostly Cloudy
High: 27 Low: 22
- SATURDAY**
Cloudy
High: 37 Low: 24
- SUNDAY**
Partly Cloudy
High: 31 Low: 21
- MONDAY**
Partly Cloudy
High: 27 Low: 15
- TUESDAY**
Partly Cloudy
High: 30 Low: 18

Today's Regional Map



In-Depth Local Forecast

Today we will see partly cloudy skies with a high temperature of 33°, humidity of 74%. Southwest wind 5 mph. The record high temperature for today is 62° set in 1960. Expect cloudy skies tonight with a 50% chance of snow, overnight low of 25°. The record low for tonight is -2° set in 1949.

***Last Week's Almanac**

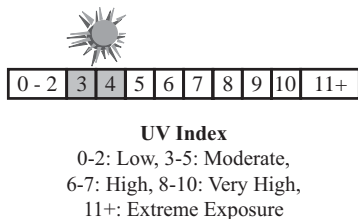
Date	Hi	Lo	Normals	Precip
Monday	30	16	41/27	0.00"
Tuesday	26	15	41/26	0.04"
Wednesday	24	11	41/26	0.01"
Thursday	24	18	40/26	0.00"
Friday	27	21	40/25	0.00"
Saturday	40	26	39/25	0.00"
Sunday	50	35	39/25	0.30"

*Data as reported from Alpena, MI

Local Sun/Moon Chart This Week

Day	Sunrise	Sunset	Moonrise	Moonset
Wednesday	7:45 a.m.	4:56 p.m.	11:12 a.m.	9:31 p.m.
Thursday	7:46 a.m.	4:55 p.m.	11:54 a.m.	10:42 p.m.
Friday	7:47 a.m.	4:55 p.m.	12:31 p.m.	11:52 p.m.
Saturday	7:48 a.m.	4:54 p.m.	1:05 p.m.	Next Day
Sunday	7:49 a.m.	4:54 p.m.	1:37 p.m.	1:03 a.m.
Monday	7:50 a.m.	4:54 p.m.	2:10 p.m.	2:13 a.m.
Tuesday	7:51 a.m.	4:53 p.m.	2:43 p.m.	3:23 a.m.

Local UV Index



National Weather Summary This Week

The Northeast will see scattered rain and snow today and Thursday, mostly clear to partly cloudy skies Friday, with the highest temperature of 45° in Snow Hill, Md. The Southeast will see scattered rain today, mostly clear skies Thursday and Friday, with the highest temperature of 78° in Homestead, Fla. The Northwest will see partly cloudy to cloudy skies with isolated rain and snow today and Thursday, scattered rain and snow Friday, with the highest temperature of 59° in Medford, Ore. The Southwest will see mostly clear skies today through Friday, with the highest temperature of 91° in Chino, Calif.

Tonight's Planets

	Rise	Set
Mercury	7:11 a.m.	4:35 p.m.
Venus	8:27 a.m.	5:22 p.m.
Mars	11:28 a.m.	8:20 p.m.
Jupiter	10:46 p.m.	12:54 p.m.
Saturn	7:02 a.m.	4:41 p.m.
Uranus	2:38 p.m.	3:22 a.m.

Weather History

Nov. 26, 1896 - Snow and high winds hit the northern Plains and the Upper Mississippi Valley, with a Thanksgiving Day blizzard in North Dakota. The storm was followed by severe cold in the Upper Midwest. The temperature at Pokegama Dam, Mich. hit 45 degrees below zero.

Weather Trivia

What is the path of destruction caused by a hailstorm called?

Answer: A hail streak.

www.WhatsOurWeather.com

StarWatch By Gary Becker - First Light

I have been working with some of the telescopes that Moravian College owns, and one of them, a Stellarvue, 102mm, ED refractor has been my favorite. Good refractors, telescopes that bring light to a focus using lenses, are in smaller sizes, the quintessential instruments for producing as perfect an image as the laws of physics will permit. It brought back some fond memories of the first telescope given to me by my parents on my 10th birthday. It was a retractable, spyglass, similar to the ones you see in old Hollywood pirate movies. I was ecstatic, but I soon found that trying to hold a 30 power telescope motionless while obtaining a good focus was nearly impossible, so my dad rigged up a device that could tightly clamp my collapsible scope while also being attached to a tripod. Suddenly, I could produce a relatively good focus because the image I was observing was steadied. One night when I went outside to discover the heavens for myself, I focused on a relatively bright, yellowish star low in the south and was completely amazed. It had rings, and they were beautifully colored, with one side appearing deep purple and blue while the other side was noticeably orange and red. Never did I imagine such loveliness included as a bonus along with Saturn's rings. Nearby another bright planet lurked, Jupiter, and it too possessed unexpected colors in addition to three of its four Galilean satellites being plainly visible. It was a monumental evening of exploration and discovery. It wasn't until years later that I understood how imperfect my original telescope had been. Its single lens, while focusing the light it collected, also acted like a prism, dispersing the image into its component colors, creating the "beautiful" fringes that bracketed every bright celestial object seen that summer. I can honestly say Moravian's Stellarvue has none of that, but I also admit to keeping that first refractor which opened up the colorful universe to my untrained eyes. www.astronomy.org

Alcona County Review Classifieds

Ads may be brought in to our office at
111 Lake St., Harrisville

Cost per ad is \$4.50 for the first 10 words and 15¢ for each word thereafter. Boxed ads are \$5 per column inch.

Ads and payment must be received by 5 p.m. Monday.

All Classified Ads **MUST**
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HELP WANTED

Position open for a certified nurse assistant (CNA), part time, Mikado area. Mikado Home Health Care (989) 736-3202.

Now hiring CNAs all shifts. Part time and full time. Jamieson Nursing Home (989) 724-6889.

Wellspring Lutheran Services needs **you** to join their team of dedicated and compassionate caregiving staff. Call our **Alpena** office today (989) 340-1313. Serving Harrisville, Oscoda and surrounding areas. www.wellspring-lutheran.com/careers.

Fabrication welder – Accepting applications for one full time position. Experience required. Will be tested. Electrical, hydraulics and mechanical ability useful. Excellent benefits after 60 day eligibility. Submit resume by November 28, 2014 to DSC Dredge LLC – Greenbush Division, 4957 Main Street, Greenbush, Michigan 48738 or e-mail to rmkoenig@dscdredge.com.

Make a difference in someone's life! Alcona County Commission On Aging is accepting applications for the following positions. **In-home service provider:** Part time, no experience necessary will train. Duties consist of home-making, personal care and respite. **Versatile kitchen and driver substitutes:** On call for Glennie, Greenbush and primarily Lincoln Senior Centers. Duties include kitchen help, meal delivery and some light cooking. Cooking experience preferred but not required. Applicants must possess reliable and insured transportation. Pick up application or send resume to: ACCOA, 207 Church Street, P.O. Box 218, Lincoln, Michigan 48742.

Residential training worker. Part time casual staff needed to work with consumers who have a developmental disability in group homes located in Harrisville and Lincoln. Shift work and week-ends or variable hours required. Experience with handicapped desirable, training provided including gentle training. Background checks are conducted. Must possess a satisfactory driving record, high school graduate or GED preferred. Entry rate is \$9.51 and \$9.81 per hour. Training is provided. Complete application at Northeast Michigan Community Mental Health, 400 Johnson, Alpena, Michigan 49707 or online at nemcmh.org or contact personnel at (989) 356-2161 for application. Equal opportunity employer.

Road maintenance truck driver positions. The Alcona County Road Commission, an equal opportunity employer and drug free work place, is accepting applications for anticipated future regular and/or temporary vacancies for road maintenance truck driver positions. Applicant must have a high school diploma or equivalent, Class A commercial driver's license (CDL), and a background in road maintenance and/or other related experience. Starting wage is \$15.39 hourly with benefits. Applications are available at the road commission office at 301 North Lake Street, Lincoln, Michigan, (989) 736-8168, roads@alconacr.com. Interested applicants should submit applications by Wednesday, December 3, 2014 in person, electronically or by mail to P.O. Box 40, Lincoln, Michigan 48742.



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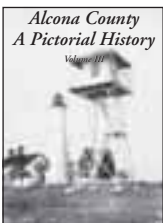


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Hand painted holiday windows, \$35 and up, order now, (989) 724-3000.

U-cut Christmas trees. Also, wreaths, garland, grave blankets, kissing balls and centerpieces. Huron View Tree Farm (989) 724-5510.

Grave Markers & Monuments
Call Rich Gillies
in Lincoln
736-8195

BINGO

Bingo-Every Saturday at the Barton City Eagles from 5:30 to 11 p.m.

Mikado Goodfellows Bingo every Monday 6:30 p.m. at Mikado Civic Center. Winner take all game and cookie jar. All proceeds to charity.

Bingo - Every Wednesday in Mikado Civic Center. Early bird at 6 p.m., air conditioned. Mikado Area Development.

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Two bedroom apartment, Candlelight, Harrisville, \$575 includes utilities. Call (989) 370-8361.

Three bedroom house, 1.75 bath, two story with basement, two car garage, \$700 plus \$700 security deposit, credit references needed. (586) 917-1937.

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LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Mortgage Foreclosure Sale

This firm is a debt collector attempting to collect a debt. Any information we obtain will be used for that purpose. Please contact our office at the number below if you are in active military duty. Attention purchasers: This sale may be rescinded by the foreclosing mortgagee. In the event, your damages, if any, shall be limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest. Default having been made in the terms and conditions of a mortgage made by Michael R. Papp as mortgagor, to Northland Area Federal Credit Union as mortgagee, which mortgage is dated June 19, 2008, and recorded in the office of the register of deeds for Alcona County, Michigan, on June 23, 2008, in Liber 453 at page 843, and upon which mortgage is claimed to be due on the date of this notice the sum of \$30,181.95, and no suit or proceedings at law or equity having been instituted to recover the debt secured by said mortgage, or any part thereof.

Now therefore, by virtue of a power of sale contained in said mortgage, and pursuant to the statute of the state of Michigan in such case made and pro-

vided, notice is hereby given that on Wednesday, December 17, 2014, at 10 a.m., on the front steps of the Alcona County courthouse, 106 5th Street in the City of Harrisville, County of Alcona, that being the place for holding circuit court for the county of Alcona where the premises are situated, said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale at public auction, to the highest bidder, for the purpose of satisfying the amount due and unpaid upon said mortgage, with the interest thereon at 5.75 percent per annum, together with legal costs, charges and expenses of sale, including applicable attorney fees, and also any taxes and insurance which may be paid by the mortgagee on or before the date of said sale which may be necessary to protect its interest in the premises. The land and premises in said mortgage, being situated in the township of Curtis, county of Alcona, state of Michigan, and described as follows: The west 250 feet of the northwest 1/4 of the northwest 1/4 of Section 8, Township 25 North, Range 6 East, except commencing at the northwest corner, thence south 33 feet to the point of beginning; thence south 462 feet; thence east 250 feet; thence north 462 feet; thence west 250 feet to the point of beginning, except commencing at the

southwest corner; thence north 396 feet; thence east 250 feet; thence south 396 feet; thence west 250 feet to the point of beginning.

Please be advised that you and any other person liable on the mortgage is liable to the purchaser at the sale, or the mortgagee, payee, or other holder of the obligation secured by the mortgage if the mortgagee, payee, or other holder takes or has taken title to the property at sale either directly or indirectly, for any physical injury to the property beyond wear and tear resulting from the normal use of the property if the physical injury is caused by or at the direction of you or other person liable on the mortgage.

The redemption period shall be six months from the date of such sale, unless the premises are determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA 600.3241(a), in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

Dated: October 27, 2014
Paul E. Wenzloff (P27662),
Attorney for Mortgagee
903 N. Jackson Street
Bay City, Mich. 48708
(989) 893-9511
11-5, 11-12, 11-19, 11-26

Notice of Mortgage Foreclosure Sale

This firm is a debt collector attempting to collect a debt. Any information that we obtain will be used for that purpose. Please contact our office at the number below if you are in active military duty. Attention purchasers: This sale may be rescinded by the foreclosing mortgagee. In that event, your damages, if any, shall be limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest.

Default having been made in the terms and conditions of a certain Mortgage made between Shannon L. Collins, a single woman, whose address is 5190 N. Huron Road, Black River, Mich. 48721, as mortgagor, and Mercantile Bank of Michigan, assignee of Firstbank-West Branch Mortgage Company, a Michigan banking corporation, whose address is 310 Leonard Street NW, Grand Rapids, Mich. 49504, as mortgagee, dated August 20, 2003, and recorded in the office of the register of deeds for Alcona County, Michigan on August 27, 2003, in Liber 388 at page 1,085. Upon which mortgage is claimed to be due at the date of this notice the sum of seventy-two thousand one hundred ninety and 45/100 (\$72,190.45) dollars, and no suit or proceedings at law or equity having been instituted to recover the debt secured by said mortgage, or any part thereof.

Now, therefore, by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgage, and pursuant to the statute of the state of Michigan in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that on December 17, 2014, at 10 a.m., said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale at public auction to the highest bidder, in the courthouse lobby in the City of Harrisville, county of Alcona, Michigan (that being the building where the circuit court for the county of Alcona is held) of the premises described in said mortgage, or so much thereof as may be necessary to pay the amount due of said mortgage, with interest thereon at 6.35 percent per annum, and all legal costs, expenses and charges, including the attorney fees allowed by law, and also any sums which may be paid by the undersigned to protect its interest in the premises. Which said premises are described as follows: Land situated in the township of Alcona, county of Alcona and state of Michigan, to-wit: All that part of the southeast 1/4 of the northeast 1/4, Section 21, Township 28 North, Range 9 East, described as follows: Commencing at the east 1/4 corner of said Section 21 as the point of beginning; thence north 00°05'57" west 254.09 feet along the east section line and the centerline of Lafave Road; thence north 88°34'47" west 935.18 feet parallel to the east-west 1/4 line to the northeasterly 75 foot right-of-way line of US-23; thence south 29°29'42" east 296.06 feet along

said right-of-way line to the east-west 1/4 line; thence south 88°34'47" east 789.81 feet along said east-west 1/4 line to the point of beginning, including the 2003 Dutch Manufactured Home, Serial No. DHIN38722F, which is a permanent fixture of said property.

The redemption period shall be six (6) months from the date of such sale, unless mortgagor provides notice that the property is agricultural in accordance with MCL 600.3240(17), in which case the redemption period shall be one (1) year, or unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be thirty (30) days from the date of such sale.

If the property described in this notice is sold at the foreclosure sale referred to above, the mortgagor will be held responsible to the purchaser who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period in accordance with MCLA 600.3278 or as otherwise provided by law.

Mercantile Bank of Michigan
Mortgagee
Dated: November 12, 2014
Timothy L. Curtiss, Esq.
Braun Kendrick Finkbeiner P.L.C.
304 East Broadway, Suite 206
Mt. Pleasant, Mich. 48858
(989) 775-7404
11-12, 11-19, 11-26, 12-3, 12-10

sixty-two dollars and thirty-one cents (\$83,862.31) including interest 3.99 percent per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public vendue, circuit court of Alcona County at 10 a.m. on December 17, 2014. Said premises are situated in township of Curtis, Alcona County, Michigan, and are described as: Property located in Section 16, Town 25 North, Range 6 East, described as: the east half (E one half) of the northeast quarter (NE one quarter) of the southwest quarter (SW one quarter) and the southeast quarter (SE one quarter) of the northeast quarter (NE one quarter), excepting Lot 1 of Block 2 of Supervisors, excepting that part lying south of Glennie Road. And property located in Section 16, Town 25 North, Range 6 East, described as commencing at the northwest corner of the northeast quarter (NE one quarter) of the southwest quarter (SW one quarter); thence south 87 degrees east along the east west one quarter line 379.86 feet to the point of beginning; thence south 87 degrees east 304.61 feet; thence south 1 degree west 90.95 feet; thence north 71

Foreclosure Notice

This firm is a debt collector attempting to collect a debt. Any information obtained will be used for this purpose. If you are in the military, please contact our office at the number listed below. Attention purchasers: This sale may be rescinded by the foreclosing mortgagee for any reason. In that event, your damages, if any, shall be limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest, and the purchaser shall have no further recourse against the mortgagor, the mortgagee, or the mortgagee's attorney.

Mortgage sale - Default has been made in the conditions of a certain mortgage made by: Dawn M. Ross and Russell J. Ross, wife and husband to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Quicken Loans Inc., its successors and assigns, mortgagee, dated December 30, 2011 and recorded January 13, 2012 in Liber 484 page 1,099, Alcona County records, Michigan. Said mortgage was assigned to: Quicken Loans Inc., by assignment dated November 5, 2013 and recorded November 13, 2013 in Liber 503, page 391, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of eighty-three thousand eight hundred

degrees west, along the north right of way of Glennie Road, 319.17 feet to the point of beginning, excepting Supervisors of the village of Glennie. Commonly known as 4804 Bamfield Road, aka 4804 W. F-30, Glennie, Mich. 48737. The redemption period shall be six months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241 or MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale, or upon the expiration of the notice required by MCL 600.3241a(c), whichever is later; or unless MCL 600.3240(17) applies. If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, under MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.

Dated: November 19, 2014
Quicken Loans Inc., Assignee of Mortgagee Attorneys:
Potestivo & Associates, P.C.
811 South Blvd. Suite 100
Rochester Hills, MI 48307
(248) 844-5123
File No: 14-13095
11-19, 11-26, 12-3, 12-10

GREENBUSH TOWNSHIP MINUTES

Greenbush Township Supervisor Ed Roddy called the meeting to order on Tuesday, Nov. 11 at 7:05 p.m. at the Greenbush Township Hall. Two guests were present and joined in the "Pledge of Allegiance." Roll call was taken. Present: Supervisor Roddy, clerk D. Dailey, treasurer P. Dailey, trustee Sally Olin and trustee Gary Abraham.

Agenda: Supervisor Roddy -- add election update to new business. Motion D. Dailey/Olin: To approve the agenda as amended. All ayes, motion carried. Motion Abraham/Olin: To approve the minutes as amended. All ayes, motion carried. No public comments.

Financial report: Treasurer P. Dailey -- \$40,904.88 general fund; \$127,829.66 road fund; \$84,849.66 fire fund; \$27,225.86 Prince Drive; \$481.25 GRAC. Motion D. Dailey/Abraham: To approve the financial report and place on file for audit. All ayes, motion carried. Presentation of bills: Clerk D. Dailey -- Payroll check numbers 15743-15757, \$4,402.11; bills check numbers 15740-15773, \$4,982.77. Motion Abraham/Olin: To approve the bills as presented. All ayes, motion carried.

Miscellaneous reports: Constable Parent, Red Rooster closed and license still in escrow. Lakewood Shores closed for the season. Cedar Lake Grocery and Lakeside Superette are compliant. Carolyn Brummund, county commissioner -- no report. Fire Chief Franks: Zero fires; seven first responder; putting new batteries in the fire trucks and maintenance being taken care of. Zoning administrator Major: Nine permits; one complaint; business use permit was submitted and discussed the planning commission decision. Motion D. Dailey/Abraham: To approve the permit for

home business from Valerie Keller. All ayes, motion carried. Hall rental: Roddy - no new inquiries.

Assessor Schwicker: Has received the new info on tax assessing, some discussion and explanation; she is asking for permission to submit a letter in response to the state of Michigan for the letter of default from them. GRAC: Olin -- parks are closed up for the winter; commended the job that was done this year. Planning commission: Milwrick -- hoping to finish in December and be able to present to the board in January 2015. Discussion on bidding out the printing of the finalized project; 12 copies should be made; try to collect all of the old to get them out of circulation. Road commission: Campbell -- salt is in, when it snows, please slow down.

Correspondence: Supervisor Roddy -- SBS portals information received. Pending business: Update on IRS situation; December 11 is when clerk D. Dailey is going to their office. Park grant - the information that was requested has been sent.

New business: Election report -- thank you to the election workers; all went well. MTA Chapter meeting; pension plans discussed. Public comment: Resident asked about the park in pending business; maybe fire department should get a new coffee pot for the board and anyone else that would like to use it at the township hall; resident questioned cost and bidding for planning commission; could it be done in-house? Some discussion.

Motion D. Dailey/P. Dailey: To adjourn at 7:50 p.m. All ayes, motion carried.

David W. Dailey

Greenbush Township Clerk

Note: Published prior to board approval. Next regular scheduled meeting, Tuesday, Dec. 9 at the Greenbush Township Hall.

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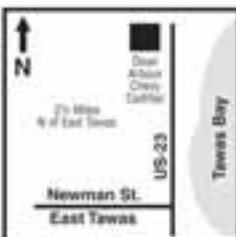
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Northern Michigan Deer PLAN projects aim to improve habitat, health of the herd

When hunting license fees went up in 2014 (for the first time in 17 years), hunters were told that a good portion of the increased revenue would be used to improve wildlife habitat across the state. The question on many hunters' minds this fall as they purchase their deer license has been: How is that money being spent?

A prime example is the Michigan Department of Natural Resources' (DNR) new Deer Private Land Assistance Network, a grant program funded by hunting license sales that is designed to improve deer habitat on private land in the northern Lower Peninsula.

Commonly known as the Deer PLAN, the grant program, which is administered by the DNR's Wildlife Division, aims to produce tangible deer habitat improvement benefits and reduce negative impacts to agricultural operations, while fostering positive relationships between the DNR, sportsmen's organizations, private landowners, and other partners.

Deer PLAN grants were awarded for the first time in 2014 to 12 recipients, and another 10 projects were approved for completion in 2015. The grants can be used for projects within six counties in the northern Lower Peninsula -- Presque Isle, Montmorency, Alpena, Crawford, Oscoda and Alcona -- for work ranging from selective timber cuts and planting of mast (fruit and nut) producing trees, to the creation

of wildlife breakout areas and food plots.

To participate in the program, landowners who receive grants are required to pay a minimum of 25 percent of the project costs.

"Some projects have been small perennial food plot plantings; others were as large as putting in several hundred oaks and crabapple trees on a couple of hundred acres," said Brian Piccolo, the DNR wildlife biologist that oversees the Deer PLAN program.

Grants are awarded on a competitive basis and potential projects are scored on a number of criteria, including whether public access to the land is available. While public access is not required it is highly desired, and projects with provisions that allow a minimum of foot access to the public for hunting and fishing will have an advantage in the project scoring process.

Proximity to active agricultural lands -- in order to assist in reducing negative impacts deer can have on agricultural operations, including crop damage and the spread of bovine tuberculosis -- is also a priority in the scoring process.

"The Deer PLAN dovetails nicely with the state's bovine tuberculosis management plan," Piccolo said. "The main management objective in these six counties is to eradicate bovine TB. With improved habitat that attracts deer to more desirable areas, the herd should be healthier, hunters are more likely to



Matthew Perrou and Aubrey Roper, grandchildren of Deer PLAN grant recipient John Roper, spread fertilizer on the future site of new food plots that are surrounded by public land in Presque Isle County. The food plots will help attract deer for hunters on both public and private land. *Photos courtesy of Michigan DNR.*

see and harvest deer, and improved habitat should spread the herd out more across the landscape and away from agricultural operations.

"These outcomes will not only help to decrease the possibility of disease transmission from deer to deer, but it will also help to pull deer away from areas of high concentration, such as pasture and row crop fields. In doing so, participants will help to deter crop damage from local farms and will assist in the eventual eradication of the disease in the wild deer herd," he said.

The Deer PLAN is funded by hunting license sales, including the state's new base license required of all hunters to support habitat and conservation work, and the Deer Range Improvement Project funds collected from the sale of deer licenses.

John Roper, who owns a 40-acre parcel near Ocqueoc in Presque Isle County, applied for and received a grant that he said has already worked wonders. "I had some open ground, about three acres surrounded by woods, and I always tried to get some things going for the deer, but I never could come up with a

sustainable plan because of the costs," he said. "But when I heard about this grant program, I applied for it, and now I've got a pretty good crop going.

"We put in clover and alfalfa and then put in oats as a cover crop. That's something that's going to last for three or four years and it's amazing to see how many deer come in and forage on it. Obviously, there was a need for something like that because I've got about half the forest feeding in there now. In my area, there's mostly

Continued on page 4B



The JV Alcona Packers were undefeated during regular season with a 6-0 record, during the regular season, according to defense coach Fred Potts. The 25-member team of fifth and sixth-graders suffered its only loss of the season during the district championship game on October 25 against the Johanasburg Lewiston Oilers 20-6. Two weeks before, the team defeated the Oilers 14-8. "I'm very proud of how hard they worked," Potts said. "They only gave up 40 points total in the season." (Front row, from left) Dylan Leeseburg, Shamus League,

Gavin Walker, Michael Basner, Dustin Bolbitz, David Williams, Zack Stephenson, Jacob Sytek, (second row) head coach Chuck Stern, Noah Mercier, Devin Matthews, Brody Ingals, Hunter Winters, Ty Aron, Nick Rasmussen, Joe Rizzato, Kegan Gilmore, Jakob Tanner, offense coach Dylan Spigelmyre, (back row) defense coach Fred Potts, Caleb Kamischke, Dover Shepard, T.J. McKay, Mason Storms, Dakota Stevenson, Lily Bilby, Eathan Long, Lucas Witham, offense coach Wayne Winters. *Photo courtesy of Shelly Lee Hoffmeyer.*

Where to find northern pike in Michigan

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Most places in the state are seeing pretty cold temperatures, but despite that fishing for northern pike will continue to pick up. Pike are extremely popular during the ice fishing season but are readily available throughout much of the year.

There are many notable northern pike fisheries located throughout Michigan, including on Muskegon, Portage and Manistee lakes and also Michigamme and Houghton lakes. But this species can be found in many lakes and virtually all larger rivers in the state.

It is important to note there are many regulations for northern pike regarding minimum size and possession limit. Be sure to read up on this species in the 2014 Michigan Fishing Guide.

**Northeast Lower Peninsula
 November 20**

• **Thunder Bay River:** Had very little to report. Some are still trying for the occasional steelhead below the Ninth Street Dam. A few perch were reported in the marina. Skim ice is starting to form in the river and marina however there is no safe ice.

• **Oscoda:** When the weather allows, pier anglers continue to catch the occasional steelhead, whitefish or

Northeast Michigan Fishing Report



walleye. Remember, the piers can become very slippery this time of year.

• **AuSable River:** Is still producing some steelhead and the occasional walleye. Whitefish were also caught by those willing to brave the elements.

• **Higgins Lake:** Had no anglers. Boats are put away for the winter.

• **Houghton Lake:** The North Bay had skim ice along the shoreline. No anglers have been out.

• **Tawas:** A few walleye were caught in and around Tawas. Look for whitefish near the Tawas State Docks in East Tawas.



Hank Dawson, 8, of Oscoda shot a five-point buck on the morning of Saturday, Nov. 15 while hunting with his papa, Jeff Samotis, on private property in Grayling, Mich.

— Weekly SUDOKU —

Answer

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

— Super Crossword —

Answers

L	O	U	N	G	E	I	R	E	N	E	C	A	R	A	A	D	Z	E	
I	G	L	O	O	S	N	E	T	P	R	I	C	E	S	T	W	I	T	
D	H	A	W	L	S	U	N	D	E	H	A	R	O	C	K	S	A	G	A
S	F	N	D	F	N	S	F	C	R	O	P	P	E	R					
I	S	S	O	A	R	T	S	A	N	D	D	R	A	F	T	S			
A	T	N	O	B	L	O	A	T	S	E	R	E	S	H					
D	R	O	W	N	V	I	C	T	O	R	I	A							
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I	S	H																	
C	H	E	S	S															
F	A	S	T																
A	D	A	N	O															
T	E	A	D	D	A	D	D	I	E	S									
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PUBLIC HEARING

The Alcona County Board of Commissioners will hold a public hearing on the proposed county budget for fiscal year 2015 on Wednesday, December 3, 2014 at 10 a.m., in the commissioners' meeting room on the lower level of the Alcona County Building, Harrisville. The property tax millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget will be a subject of this hearing. A copy of the proposed budget is available for public inspection at the Alcona County Clerk's Office.

Alcona County Board of Commissioners
 106 5th Street
 Harrisville, MI 48740
 (989) 724-9410

Alcona County Sheriff's Report

For the Week of November 17-23, 2014

63 complaints were handled resulting in the following: 2 Arrests; 1 Warrant; 1 Operating While Intoxicated.

Complaint Statistics

Car/Deer Accidents	14	Property Damage Accident	9
Message/Well Being Check	2	Miscellaneous	4
Agency Assist	1	Dog/Animal	5
Traffic	2	Alarm	3
Drugs	1	911 Hang Up	4
Harassment/Threats/Stalking	3	Patrol Check	2
Operate While Intoxicated	1	Warrant Arrest	1
Breaking and Entering	2	Personal Injury Accident	3
Felonious Assault	1	Larceny	2
Medical	1	Fire	1
Suspicious Events	1	Open Door	1

Complaints taken by City, Township or Village

Alcona	8	Caledonia	4	Curtis	4
Greenbush	2	Gustin	7	Harrisville	6
Hawes	6	Haynes	9	Mikado	5
Millen	2	Mitchell	4		
Harrisville City	3	Village of Lincoln	4		

Organizations

Organization Notes

Organizations

River Aux Sables Chapter DAR

The River Aux Sables Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution met at the home of Judy Schmidt in Oscoda on November 8. In keeping with this year being the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War, Schmidt told us the story of her brother, Dannie George Drinkard, who was killed in action just after he had married his sweetheart on his last leave.

He was taking on deadlier assignments in order to achieve needed points so he could return home earlier, as he was planning to adopt her twin daughters as his own when he got home. He was able to get word to command that they were taking fire and unable to break free without assistance. He saved his men, but was killed in the action. He was awarded the Purple Heart posthumously and several medals of distinction for his service to his country.

Schmidt has five ancestors from Virginia and the Carolinas who served or assisted in supporting the Army in the Revolutionary War. Each ancestor acceptance gives her the right to wear an engraved ancestor pin on her dress ribbons. Schmidt and her family come from a long list of men who served their country with distinction and that list is growing.

In November, the River Aux Sables Chapter awarded Barbara Penney of Tawas City and Diane Blevins of Hale with a certificate and a pin to honor their commitment to community service. These ladies alone have donated over 3,000 hours of service in their counties and are instrumental in the lives of their respective churches. They exemplify what DAR is all about.

River Aux Sables Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution is a service organization honoring the past but keeping an eye on the present and future needs of our communities. Members donate time, talents and sup-

port to the education of children, providing needed supplies for women and children from abusive situations in local communities and donate articles to our veterans, including an annual quilt, made by chapter ladies, which goes

to Landstall Hospital Chaplain's Closet for wounded warriors.

Women who would like to find out more about joining DAR can access the website www.riverauxsables.michdar.net.

Thanksgiving Eve

By Jim Gagnier

Thanksgiving Eve and all about
The night is dark and still
And from foreboding woods around
There comes a sudden chill

And high up in the silent sky
The stars dance heel and toe
And all the pine are dusted white
With newly fallen snow

And in the stillness of the night
I hear a distant bell
It's then I feel deep in my heart
That all my world is well

For I know on the morrow
That our little house once more
Will be so crammed with cozy joy
As in the days of yore

No worries 'bout a gift list
That we rushed to complete
The only thing we have to do
Is talk and laugh and eat

So that's why on this night of nights
I thank the Lord above
For this day when our only task
Is to give each other love

CUSTODIAN FOR CURTIS TOWNSHIP HALL WANTED

Curtis Township is accepting applications for a custodian for the Curtis Township Hall. A copy of the job description may be obtained at the township hall. All applications must be submitted by December 10, 2014. Mail applications to Curtis Township Hall, P.O. Box 90, Glennie, MI 48737. Please mark "Custodian Application" on envelope. You may also drop off applications at Curtis Township Hall, 4932 F-30, Glennie, MI 48747.

Teresa J. Perkins, Township Clerk

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PLAN Continued from page 1B

jack pine and low swamp area, but there's really not much of a food source there for the deer. So these crops are just a great supplement for them."

Roper's property is surrounded by state land on four sides, so public-land hunters will benefit from the deer coming and going from the planted field along with hunters on Roper's land. And that's all part of the PLAN.

"Deer are traveling constantly, that's no secret, whether it's to or from winter range or summer range or from bedding to feeding areas," Piccolo said. "A lot of times they're crossing public land to get to these project areas. When we score the projects, if the land adjoins public land on four, three or even two sides, it scores higher and is more likely to get funded."

Although there have been some eyebrows raised about using public funds for projects on private land, Piccolo points out that 76 percent of land in Michigan is privately owned, so good habitat management on these properties greatly impacts the overall quality of the state's deer herd.

"Public land is not getting the short end of the deal," Piccolo said. "The far majority of money generated by hunting license sales is earmarked for the management of state land. But we'll never reach the full potential for managing wildlife habitat in this state by only working on public land."

Piccolo said one of the Deer PLAN grant recipients is improving habitat by replacing lost hard-mast trees by planting oak trees and crabapples. "He had removed most of the ash that was dying from emerald ash borers, and a lot of his beech trees were cut, due to the presence of beech bark disease. That's where the planting of oaks for this property becomes so valuable because their acorn production will replace the loss of mast-producing beech trees that are so important to deer," Piccolo said.



John Roper and grandson Matthew Perrou plant seed on Roper's property in early September. Converting the formerly unproductive small openings into food plots will help attract deer to an area that is surrounded by public hunting land, one goal of the DNR's new Deer PLAN grant program.

David Dillon, who received a Deer PLAN grant in 2013, planted a combination of apple trees and clover food plots to draw deer out of the adjacent lowland areas on his property to improve hunting opportunities and harvest rates. "These lowland areas are holding a lot of deer but they are difficult to hunt because it's such thick cover" said Dillon.

Improving hunter harvest rates within the six-county area accomplishes the Deer PLAN's goal of reducing herd density in the TB zone. Increased opportunity for a successful hunt can also lead to improved recruitment and retention of hunters.

The apple trees and food plots Dillon planted are in close proximity to deer hunting blinds that he makes available to youth hunters and veterans with disabilities looking for a place to hunt. (Deer PLAN project proposals that allow special access for hunting by youth or veterans with disabilities receive additional points in the competitive scoring process.)

"Hunter recruitment and retention are important to

me" said Dillon. "These areas created with Deer PLAN funds have increased deer harvest on my property and they are providing great spots for kids and disabled vets to hunt over."

Piccolo said most grant recipients are "ecstatic" about the PLAN. John Roper certainly is. "I wanted to get my grandchildren involved in it, get them thinking about creating habitat for deer and getting their hands dirty," he said. "I think it's a great plan. And it was a good experience working with the DNR on it - we sat down and worked out what to plant and how to do it, what kind of fertilizer to use, and what kind of weed control to do. This gave us an opportunity to do it right and you can tell it's paying off," he said.

To learn more about the DNR's wildlife habitat improvement grant programs, including the northern Lower Peninsula Deer PLAN, and how to apply, visit www.michigan.gov/dnr-grants.

(Editor's Note: This feature story was provided by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources as an aspect of "Showcasing the DNR" program, which promotes the importance of conservation in Michigan.)

The Besser Male Chorus
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Friday, November 28
Saturday, November 29
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Check out the Alcona Review Website
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Tips for smart holiday shoppers

This holiday season will be a boon for retailers, according to a recent study by management firm Accenture. The study found that one-quarter of U.S. consumers plan to spend more on holiday shopping this year. And according to Accenture's annual holiday shopping survey, spending on holiday gifts is expected to hit an average of \$718 per shopper.

The Better Business Bureau Serving Eastern Michigan offerings tips to help consumers shop smart in step with 2014 holiday trends.

The survey found consumer enthusiasm for Black Friday shopping has reached its highest level in eight years. Two-thirds of the respondents said they are likely to shop on Black Friday. Plans to shop on Thanksgiving Day and evening rose to 45 percent.

Experts agree that Black Friday hype is often exactly that -- deals can still be had throughout the shopping season. Frenzied sales can create impulse buys. Make a list and stick to it.

Slow down and pay attention to what you spend and where. Watch your bank and credit card statements in the weeks after Black Friday to ensure there has been no fraudulent activity.

Even though they intend to spend more, holiday shoppers remain keenly focused on discounts and sales. Nearly all respondents said that discounts will be important to their purchasing decisions, and more than one in four said that it would take a discount of 50 percent or more to persuade them to make a purchase.

Price isn't everything. Make sure you do your due diligence and compare the product's quality and the company's reliability.

Check the business out at bbb.org and talk to friends before shopping.

Retailers could also see a shift in sales in the post-holiday season this year, as more than half (57 percent) of consumers plan to purchase gift cards (the top item on consumers' shopping lists) this year.

Avoid buying gift cards on the secondary market. Look for discounted multcard packs or incentives through the merchant or your credit card company.

Get a receipt of activation when buying in-store and hang onto it for your (and your recipient's) protection.

Ask about online fees - Sellers can skirt consumer protection laws by selling a card online, and charge shipping and handling fees that eat away at a card's value.

When asked how likely they would be to share more of their personal information, such as contact details and preferences, in order for retailers to be able to provide them with personalized and customized offers during the holidays, one-third of consumers said that they would be likely to do so.

Guard personal and financial information. Less is more. Be careful who you

share with and watch personal passwords.

Watch online "free" subscriptions that may turn into monthly charges after an introductory period.

Watch for "phishing" e-mails from "phony" retailers or shippers that try to trick you into exposing passwords or financial information.

With the popularity of Cyber Monday, more than half of consumers surveyed (63 percent) indicated that they will use a laptop or home computer to make purchases or assist in their holiday shopping this season (up 16 percentage points from last year), and 24 percent plan to use a smartphone.

In addition, 13 percent of respondents said they intend to use social networking sites to assist them in their holiday shopping.

Never make purchases while on public Wi-Fi.

Only use secure, encrypted, "https," sites when buying online.

Don't use the same password for shopping or for creation of "user accounts" that is used for your bank account.

Check out the reliability of a website/company prior to making a purchase on an unknown site.

When shopping online, always enter the URL of a website directly into a browser, and not by clicking on a link from an e-mail.

Shipping shortfalls during last year's Christmas holiday season have raised concerns among consumers this year. In fact, nearly half of survey respondents (49 percent) are concerned about receiving deliveries from online purchases on time, and of those,

nearly one out of five are "very" concerned.

Place online orders early. For items and letters you wish to arrive by December 24, the U.S. Postal Service offers the following deadlines:

*December 15 — Anything to be sent Standard Post

*December 20 — Anything sent by First Class Mail or First Class Priority Mail

*December 23 — Anything sent Priority Mail Express

Track online purchases clearly and request a refund if your package is not delivered in 30 days. The Federal Trade Commission has updated a longstanding rule governing mail and phone-based retailers to explicitly include e-commerce vendors, meaning that online retailers now must abide by a 30-day shipping requirement or refund customers' payments if they can't.

For more consumer tips, visit bbb.org. Better Business Bureau Serving Detroit & Eastern Michigan is a non-profit organization with the purpose of promoting trust in the marketplace by assisting in the protection of consumers and businesses from fraud and unethical business practices. In addition to its recognized dispute resolution services, the BBB maintains business reviews on the customer service history of more than 85,000 local businesses and provides consumer education materials on numerous topics. BBB provides its services free to the public and its service territory stretches across Eastern Michigan from Ann Arbor through Metropolitan Detroit, Lansing, Flint, upward to Alpena, and covers the entire Upper Peninsula.

The vendors and volunteers of the ARA Farm Market thank all of our customers for making 2014 another successful market year!
See you in the spring!



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Princess fits her name as she is always wanting to be the center of attention. She loves her stuffed animals and often greets you with one in her mouth. She is spayed and a sweet girl.



We're not sure, but we believe this little girl is around 8 weeks old and cute as can be. I mean, look at those puppy eyes! All she wants for Christmas is to be in a nice home.

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These pets, and others, are available for adoption!!
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Prepping for winter
Clean and dry your breakable items, like terra-cotta pots or rain gauges, and bring them into a shed or garage before the first hard freeze settles in. Inventory all your tools, seeds, and other gardening items as you prepare them for winter storage - when someone asks you for holiday gift ideas, you can tell them what you need for gardening next year.
- Brenda Weaver
Source: www.bhg.com, www.steinger.com, www.wikihow.com

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SMALL BUSINESS

NOVEMBER

A day dedicated to supporting small
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Why think I

Significantly more money re-circulates in Alcona, Iosco and Alpena counties when purchases are made at locally owned, rather than nationally owned, businesses. More money is kept in the community because locally owned businesses often purchase from other local businesses, service providers and farms. Purchasing local helps grow other businesses as well as the local tax base.

Non-profits receive greater support: Non-profit organizations receive an average three times greater support from smaller locally owned business owners than they do from large businesses.

Our one-of-a-kind businesses are an integral part of our distinctive character. The unique character of our community is what brought us here and will keep us here. Our tourism businesses also benefit. *'When people go on vacation they generally seek out destinations that offer them the sense of being someplace, not just anyplace.'* ~ Richard Moe, president, National Historic Preservation Trust

Most new jobs are provided by local businesses. Small local businesses are the largest employer nationally and in our community and provide the most new jobs to resi-

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R 29, 2014



businesses and their communities.
 st day of the year for small business.

ocal first?

- Customer service is better: Local businesses often hire people with more specific product expertise for better customer service.
- Local business owners invest in community: Local businesses are owned by people who live in this community, are less likely to leave and are more invested in the community's future.
- Competition and diversity leads to more choices: A marketplace of small businesses is the best way to ensure innovation and low prices over the long-term. A multitude of small businesses, each selecting products

- based not on a national sales plan but on their own interests and the needs of their local customers, guarantees a much broader range of product choices.
- Encourages local investment: A growing body of economic research shows that in an increasingly homogenized world, entrepreneurs and skilled workers are more likely to invest and settle in communities that preserve their one-of-a-kind businesses and distinctive character.

Think local first, buy local when you can!

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SENIOR LIFESTYLES

Personal tech products designed specifically for seniors

Dear Savvy Senior,
Can you recommend any tablets, smartphones or computers that are specifically designed for seniors? I would like to buy a device for my technology-challenged grandmother so she can get online and keep up with her grandkids better, but it needs to be super simplified so she can use it.

Holiday Shopper

Dear Shopper,
There are actually several new tech products on the market today that are designed specifically for older boomers and seniors that are unfamiliar or uncomfortable with technology. These devices come equipped with simplified software, big, vivid features, less clutter and better customer support packages, which makes them more appealing and much easier to use than mainstream devices. Here are several top senior-friendly options to look into.

If you're thinking about a smartphone for your grandmother, check out the new

GreatCall Touch3. Made by Samsung, this Android smartphone has a four-inch touchscreen with an organized large icon menu list on the home screen that provides users simple access to often-used features like the phone, text messages, camera, pictures, e-mail and Internet, along with contacts and apps.

It also has a five-megapixel camera, a full-size onscreen keyboard, and offers a variety of health and safety features like the 5Star app that lets you immediately speak to a certified agent 24 hours, seven days a week who can identify your location and get you the help you need. Urgent Care, which provides access to registered nurses and doctors for advice and diagnoses. And MedCoach, which sends medication reminders.

Available at greatcall.com or (800) 918-8543, the Touch3 sells for \$170 with a \$20 introductory discount, plus a one-time activation fee of \$35, and no contract is required. Monthly service plans that include un-

limited 5Star and Urgent Care service start at \$25. And their data plans start at \$2.50 per month for 20MB.

If you're considering a tablet, a top senior-friendly option is AARP's new RealPad, which costs \$189 at aarp-realpad.org, walmart.com/realpad or Walmart stores. Produced in partnership with Intel, the RealPad is an Android tablet with a 7.85-inch touch-screen. It provides a clutter-free simplified home page with large text icons to frequently used functions like e-mail, social networks, weather, news, games, camera and pictures, Google, the Web, apps and more.

It also has a two-megapixel front camera and five-megapixel rear camera, and comes with 24 hours, seven days a week phone support, a bunch of tutorial videos, and a "Real QuickFix" tool that connects users to technology support agents over the Internet who can access the tablet and fix problems.

If you think your grand-



Savvy Senior

mother would like a desktop computer, the Telikin (telikin.com, (800) 717-7640), which has been around for three years now, is an excellent choice.

Ready to go right out of the box, this all-in-one touch-screen computer displays a big button menu on the screen at all times, providing simple access to most functions like the Internet, e-mail, games, video chat, photo sharing, news and weather, and more.

Available in two sizes - the 18.6-inch "Telikin Touch" that costs \$699, and the 22-inch "Telikin Elite II" for \$1,079 - these computers come with built-in speakers, a Web cam-

era, microphone, wired keyboard and mouse. They also offer a "tech buddy" feature so you can access your grand-ma's Telikin computer remotely from your computer to help when she needs it.

Running on Linux software instead of the standard Windows or Mac OS, the Telikin is also virus-resistant, comes with a 60-day trial period, a one-year warranty and free tech support. It's also worth noting that Telikin has a partnership with first-STREET - a senior product direct marketing company - that is also selling the 22-inch Telikin for \$1,079, but have rebranded it as the "WOW! Computer for Seniors."



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Trivia Test

By Fifi Rodriguez

1. **GEOGRAPHY:** What are the names of the Great Lakes that border the U.S. and Canada?
2. **ART:** What was the name of the Dutch artist who painted "The Night Watch" (1642)?
3. **SCIENCE:** Which two radioactive elements were discovered by Marie and Pierre Curie?
4. **TELEVISION:** Which of the four main characters in "Seinfeld" did not appear in the original pilot?
5. **MOVIES:** What baseball movie introduced the character of the pitcher called "Wild Thing"?
6. **HISTORY:** Brazil was originally a colony of which European nation?
7. **AD SLOGANS:** What kind of candy "melts in your mouth, not in your hands"?
8. **ANATOMY:** Where is the temporal bone located in the human body?
9. **MATH:** How many minutes are in a day?
10. **GENERAL KNOWLEDGE:** What is the symbol of the zodiac sign Sagittarius?

Answers: 1. Huron, Ontario, Michigan, Erie and Superior (HOMES); 2. Rembrandt; 3. Polonium and radium; 4. Julia Louis-Dreyfus, as Elaine; 5. "Major League"; 6. Portugal; 7. M&M's; 8. The skull; 9. 1,440; 10. The Archer (c) 2014 King Features Synd., Inc.

Moments In Time

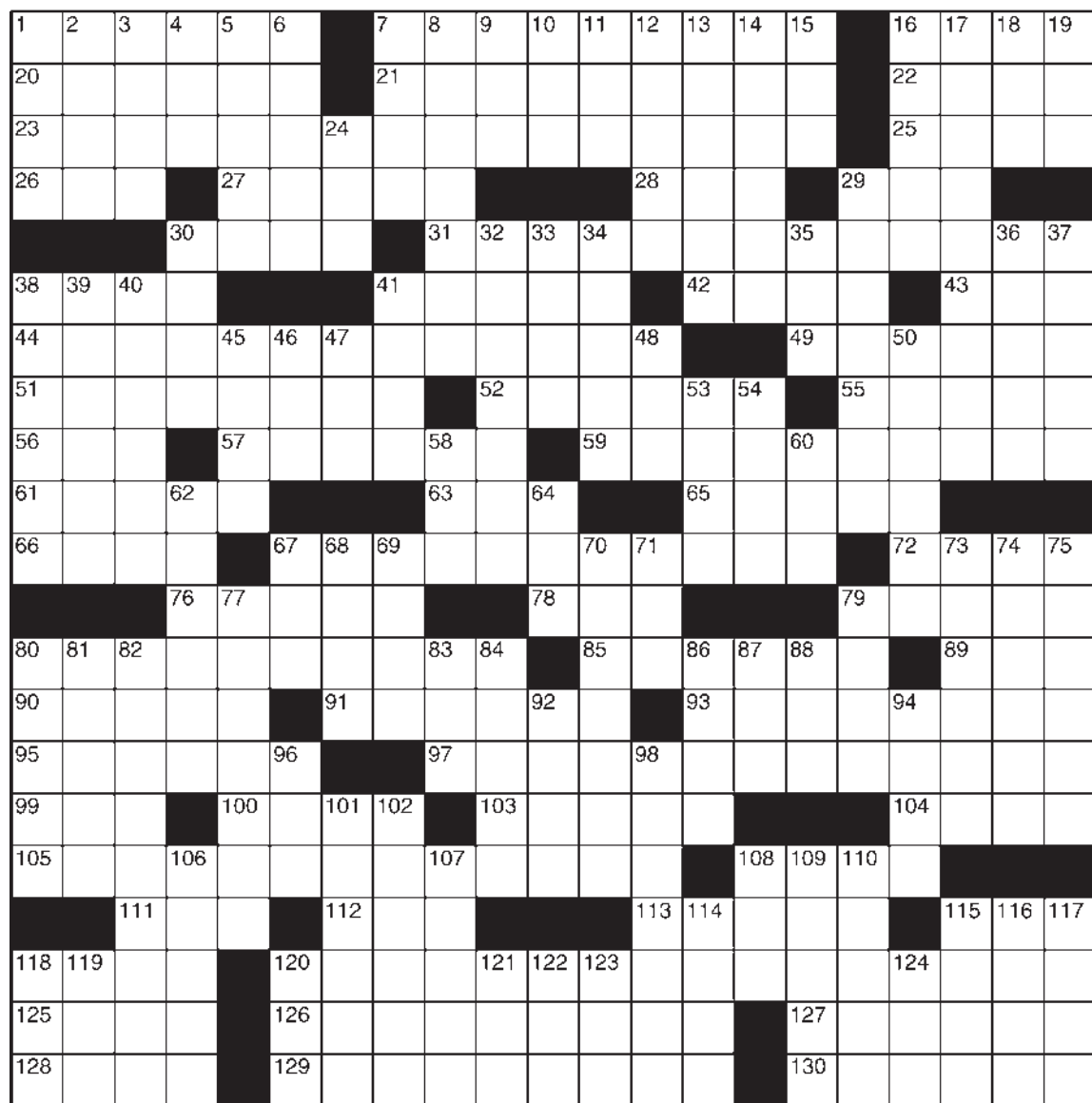
By The History Channel

- On Dec. 13, 1577, English seaman Francis Drake sets out from England with five ships and 164 men on a mission to raid Spanish holdings on the Pacific coast of the New World. Three years later, Drake's return to England marked the first circumnavigation of the earth by a British explorer.
 - On Dec. 12, 1912, two years after it was stolen from the Louvre, Leonardo da Vinci's masterpiece The Mona Lisa is recovered inside Italian waiter Vincenzo Peruggia's hotel room in Florence. Peruggia had previously worked at the Louvre and had participated in the heist with a group of accomplices dressed as janitors.
 - On Dec. 14, 1939, the League of Nations, the international peacekeeping organization formed at the end of World War I, expels the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics in response to the Soviets' invasion of Finland. Although the League was the brainchild of President Woodrow Wilson, the United States never joined.
 - On Dec. 11, 1944, the city of Toronto, Canada, is battered with its worst-ever snowfall. Twenty-one people died as nearly 20 inches of snow fell in a single day. The storm took place during World War II, and the city's ammunition factory was forced to close.
 - On Dec. 9, 1958, retired Boston candy manufacturer Robert H.W. Welch, Jr., establishes the John Birch Society, a right-wing organization dedicated to fighting what it perceives to be the extensive infiltration of communism into American society.
 - On Dec. 10, 1963, kidnapped Frank Sinatra Jr. is allowed to talk briefly to his father, after which the kidnapers demanded a ransom of \$240,000 and arranged Sinatra's drop off. Law-enforcement officials picked up the young Sinatra and brought him home in the trunk of their car.
 - On Dec. 8, 1980, former Beatle John Lennon is shot and killed by Mark David Chapman as Lennon and his wife, Yoko Ono, were returning home to their West 72nd Street Manhattan apartment building, the now-famous Dakota.
- (c) 2014 King Features Synd., Inc.

Super Crossword

CD CHANGER

- | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| <p>ACROSS</p> <p>1 Rest lazily</p> <p>7 "Fame" singer</p> <p>16 Wood-trimming tool</p> <p>20 Ice-block houses</p> <p>21 Bottom-line costs</p> <p>22 Taunt in fun</p> <p>23 Talks Texas-style while trapped by some rubble?</p> <p>25 Era-spanning story</p> <p>26 Legislator in D.C.</p> <p>27 Crowded</p> <p>28 — -Magnon man</p> <p>29 Part of rpm</p> <p>30 "As — often the case ..."</p> <p>31 Things enjoyed at a beer-selling gallery?</p> <p>38 — charge (gratis)</p> <p>41 Become swollen</p> <p>42 Dried out</p> <p>43 "Quiet down!"</p> <p>44 What major flooding may do to an Australian state?</p> | <p>49 Hammy actor</p> <p>51 Item swiped for credit</p> <p>52 Sums of cash</p> <p>55 "There is Nothin' Like —" ("South Pacific" song)</p> <p>56 Suffix with fool or ghoul</p> <p>57 A law unto —</p> <p>59 Order Barrymore to stay in?</p> <p>61 Game with pawns</p> <p>63 Baby tiger</p> <p>65 "— Gold" (Peter Fonda film)</p> <p>66 SSE part</p> <p>67 Dull color worn by violinists?</p> <p>72 Gem with a play of colors</p> <p>76 John Hersey's "A Bell for —"</p> <p>78 Prefix with physics</p> <p>79 Take potshots (at)</p> <p>80 Papas who love pekoe?</p> <p>85 Riches</p> <p>89 Elite retreat</p> <p>90 Second part of a play</p> | <p>91 Not live, as a TV show</p> <p>93 Shark to watch out for</p> <p>95 Team esteem</p> <p>97 Gorgeous resident of Rome?</p> <p>99 Brian of Roxy Music</p> <p>100 Nest eggs for srs.</p> <p>103 A levee rival</p> <p>104 Cure— (panaceas)</p> <p>105 Dog trained to load ships?</p> <p>108 "The Man" Musial</p> <p>111 Seat winners</p> <p>112 Sorority letters</p> <p>113 Hideaways</p> <p>115 Hedge shrub</p> <p>118 Conical-bore instrument</p> <p>120 Boy shopping for foppish clothes?</p> <p>125 Loathsome</p> <p>126 Very big dog</p> <p>127 Broadway's "Miss —"</p> <p>128 See 117-Down</p> <p>129 "The Divine Sarah" of stage and screen</p> | <p>130 Data-entry person</p> <p>DOWN</p> <p>1 Pan toppers</p> <p>2 Real meanie</p> <p>3 — Bator</p> <p>4 At once</p> <p>5 Top medals</p> <p>6 Twisty paths</p> <p>7 Little hotels</p> <p>8 Gave out new hands</p> <p>9 Summer, in Toulon</p> <p>10 "On the Media" aier</p> <p>11 Time of note</p> <p>12 About, in dates</p> <p>13 Squirrel food</p> <p>14 Modify, as a program</p> <p>15 Set a price of</p> <p>16 Totally lost</p> <p>17 Proxima Centauri, e.g.</p> <p>18 — and zag</p> <p>19 Sorority letter</p> <p>24 Game using a large deck</p> <p>29 Fabricated in advance</p> <p>30 Ames' home</p> <p>32 Wall-to-wall people, e.g.</p> <p>33 Poi base</p> <p>34 Jellyfish woe</p> <p>35 Rapping "Dr."</p> <p>36 Main topic</p> | <p>37 Mole's kin</p> <p>38 Counsel</p> <p>39 Singer Yearwood</p> <p>40 Quick bites</p> <p>41 F preceders</p> <p>45 CBS military drama</p> <p>46 Large tank</p> <p>47 CPA hirer</p> <p>48 Ireland's — Lingus</p> <p>50 Like a heavy favorite</p> <p>53 In- — -face</p> <p>54 Toni Morrison bestseller</p> <p>58 PC monitor type</p> <p>60 la. neighbor</p> <p>62 Arenas</p> <p>64 Plead</p> <p>67 Rage</p> <p>68 — -Aryan</p> <p>69 Bring to ruin</p> <p>70 Braid anew</p> <p>71 Fawn nurser</p> <p>73 Flower part</p> <p>74 Plea</p> <p>75 Finds out</p> <p>77 Many newspapers</p> <p>79 Mets' old ballpark</p> <p>80 Housebroke</p> <p>81 — Lodge</p> <p>82 Appalling</p> <p>83 Takeoff abbr.</p> <p>84 Kitchen wrap</p> | <p>86 — nitrite (angina treatment)</p> <p>87 Chou En- —</p> <p>88 Blast stuff</p> <p>92 Mani- —</p> <p>94 Actor Arkin</p> <p>96 Make a gaffe</p> <p>98 "The Lost Weekend" co-star Ray</p> <p>101 Hope (to)</p> <p>102 Silk spinner</p> <p>106 Genuflected</p> <p>107 Chinese, e.g.</p> <p>108 Punker Vicious</p> <p>109 Amorous rendezvous</p> <p>110 Test, as ore</p> <p>114 Work without —</p> <p>115 Berra of baseball</p> <p>116 Valentine's Day god</p> <p>117 With 128-Across, sped</p> <p>118 A bit askew</p> <p>119 Furry scarf</p> <p>120 Soviet Union spy org.</p> <p>121 Ultimate degree</p> <p>122 Toothpaste tube letters</p> <p>123 — es Salaam</p> <p>124 Helpful lead</p> |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|



Strange But True

By Samantha Weaver

- It was noted Major League Baseball player and manager Yogi Berra who made the following sage observation: "You got to be careful if you don't know where you're going, because you might not get there."
- The Surinam toad method of reproduction is unique in the animal world. The female releases eggs, and the eggs are fertilized by the male, who then rolls them into holes on the mother's back. Skin soon grows over the holes, offering protection to the eggs as they develop through the tadpole stage. Once the young ones have become toadlets, they literally punch through their mother's skin to emerge on their own into the world.
- Those who study such things say that one-quarter of all trips made in the United States are less than 1 mile, but three-quarters of those trips still are made by car.
- You may be surprised to learn that rats and mice are ticklish -- they even laugh!
- Popcorn may be indelibly associated with movie theaters these days, but that wasn't always the case; in the early days of the movies, when the films were still silent, popcorn was actually banned in theaters. The first movie theaters were swanky affairs trying to compete with traditional theaters. The owners didn't want to have popcorn spilled on the fine upholstery and ground into the carpets.
- Mount Wingen, Australia, is home to the world's longest-burning fire. The coal deposits there have been aflame for 6,000 years.
- Nobody is really a fan of vacuuming, but did you ever wonder what the most annoying thing about the chore is? Electrolux's Global Vacuuming Survey found that the single most hated thing about vacuuming is the noise it makes.

Thought for the Day: "He who hesitates is a damned fool."
-- Mae West

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Top Ten Movies

1. Dumb and Dumber To (PG-13) Jim Carrey, Jeff Daniels
 2. Big Hero 6 (PG) animated
 3. Interstellar (PG-13) Matthew McConaughey, Anne Hathaway
 4. Beyond the Lights (PG-13) Gugu Mbatha-Raw, Nate Parker
 5. Gone Girl (R) Ben Affleck, Rosamund Pike
 6. St. Vincent (PG-13) Bill Murray, Melissa McCarthy
 7. Fury (R) Brad Pitt, Shia LaBeouf
 8. Nightcrawler (R) Jake Gyllenhaal, Rene Russo
 9. Ouija (PG-13) Olivia Cooke, Ana Coto
 10. Birdman (R) Michael Keaton, Zach Galifianakis
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Dollars And Sense

By David Uffington

Holidays don't slow scammers

Scams intended to separate you from your money have a tendency to follow both the season and the latest news headlines. The Federal Trade Commission and security companies have alerts out right now that cover a wide range of topics and targets.

Pets: Scammers want to tug at your heartstrings and will post online photos of a pet that needs a home. The pet might either be free or cost several thousand dollars, but there will be shipping charges to get the animal to you. The key here is if sellers want payment via Western Union or MoneyGram. The FTC suggests doing a right click on the photo and selecting copy image location or a similar choice to hunt for other websites where the animal's photo has also been used. If you want to adopt a pet, consider your local humane society instead.

Free pizza: Scammers have duplicated a major chain's logo and want you to click a graphic to get a free pizza in celebration of the company's 55th anniversary. If you get this email, delete it. Clicking the coupon puts malware on your computer.

Newspaper renewal: Scammers send out emails saying your subscription is about to expire and that you can renew right online. It's a rip-off. To be sure this doesn't

happen, don't give subscriptions your email address. You'll automatically know it's a scam if you get mail from your newspaper or magazines. Call the magazine or newspaper to verify.

Ebola charities: Scammers are all over this one, looking for donations that are supposedly to help orphans or for medical supplies. If you want to donate, do your homework to select a legitimate charity. Look online for GuideStar or Charity Navigator to investigate charities.

Computers: If making online holiday purchases, be sure what site you're on. Don't follow links to get there; type it in yourself. Don't open e-cards unless you're sure who sent them; clicking can download malware to your computer. Beware free giveaways of flash drives, especially when sent to places of work as part of gift baskets; they also can download malware. Avoid holiday theme wallpaper for the computer or apps for the phone for the same reason: malware.

Delivery attempt notice: Beware scammers who leaving a note on the door asking you to call to arrange delivery of a package. When you call, they try to get personal info before they'll deliver your package. There is no package.

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Veterans Post

By Greddy Groves

Stealing from the VA

I read a lot of reports about the fraud that goes on in connection with the Department of Veterans Affairs. I shouldn't be surprised anymore at the levels people will stoop to when it comes to fraud and stealing money and resources that belong to veterans and taxpayers. But sometimes I am.

Take the VA supervisor in Connecticut who had her house fixed up, courtesy of VA employees. This wasn't a one-time deal, either. Over the course of three years she had VA employees build a new deck, install carpet and make improvements to kitchen, bathroom and basement. They used materials, tools and vehicles that belonged to the VA. Extra items were purchased with her government-issued credit card. Sometimes the employees worked on her house while they were on the clock for the VA.

She could have gotten 10 years in prison. Did serve time? Heck no. She received a mere slap on the wrist: community service, restitution of the amount she stole and six months of at-home monitoring ... the better to enjoy the new stuff the VA built for her.

Online I've managed to find her home address, her Connecticut voter ID number, her marriage license, DOB and a resume. I only hope that future employers dig as deeply.

However, that's not the end of the story. What of those

employees who did the work on her house? Was there not one among them who thought to speak out? Was the fear of reprisal that strong?

If you're a VA employee and are unsure of how to blow the whistle on things you know are wrong, go here:

www.va.gov/oig/hotline. The number is 800-488-8244. Or call the Office of Special Counsel (www.osc.gov) at 800-572-2249, or use the POGO secure dropbox at www.vaoversight.org.

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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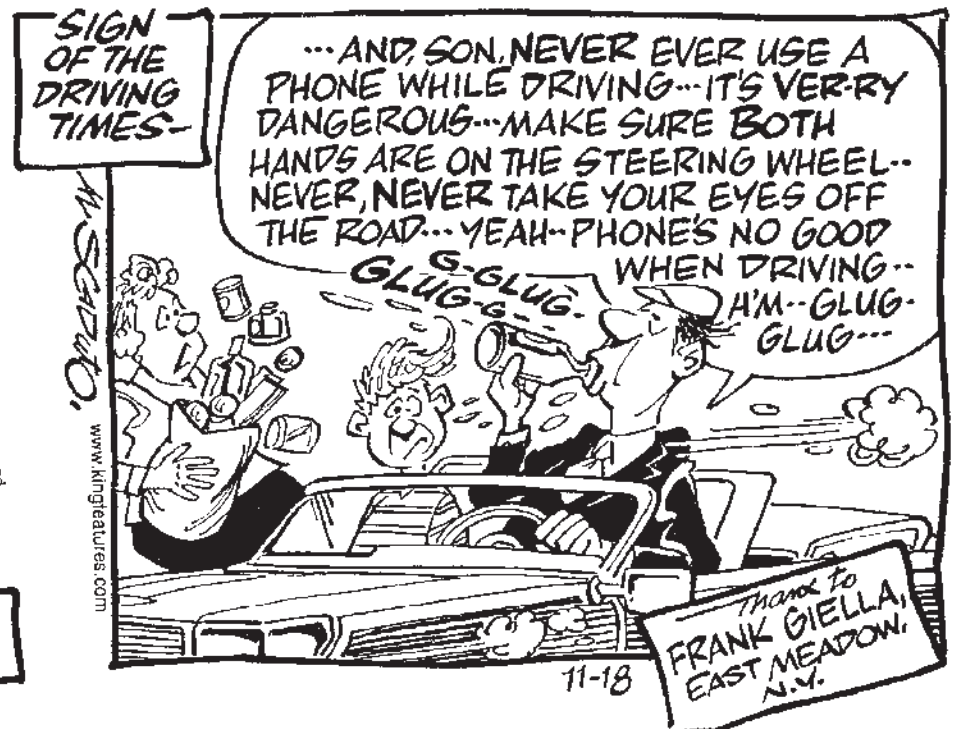
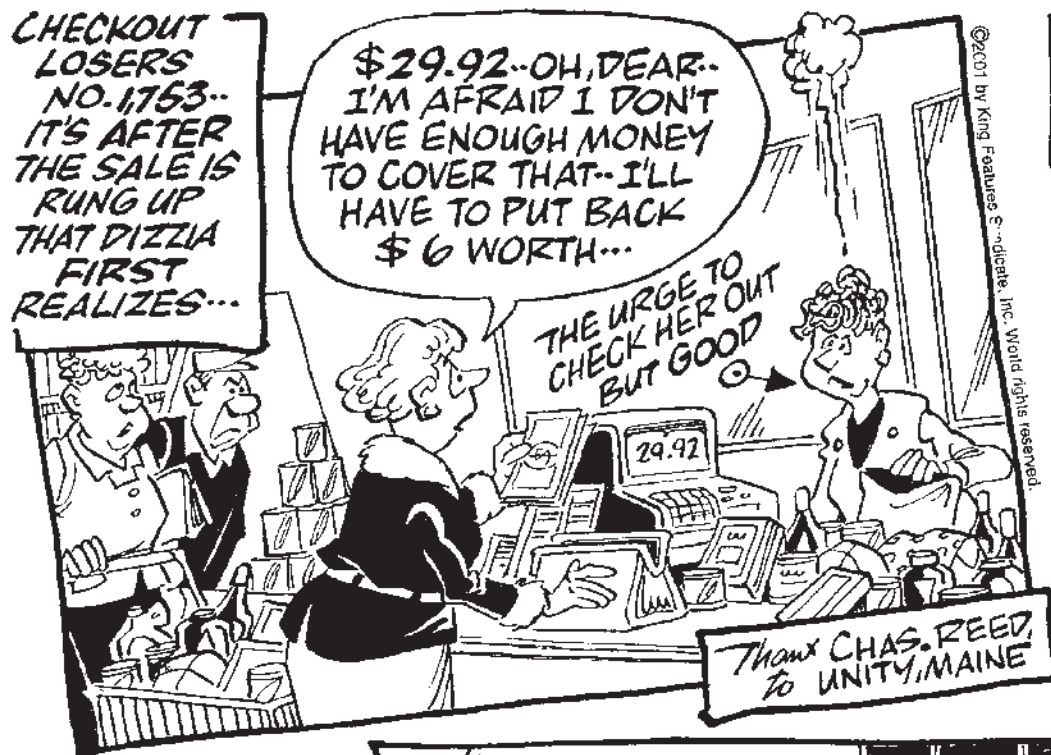
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DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★

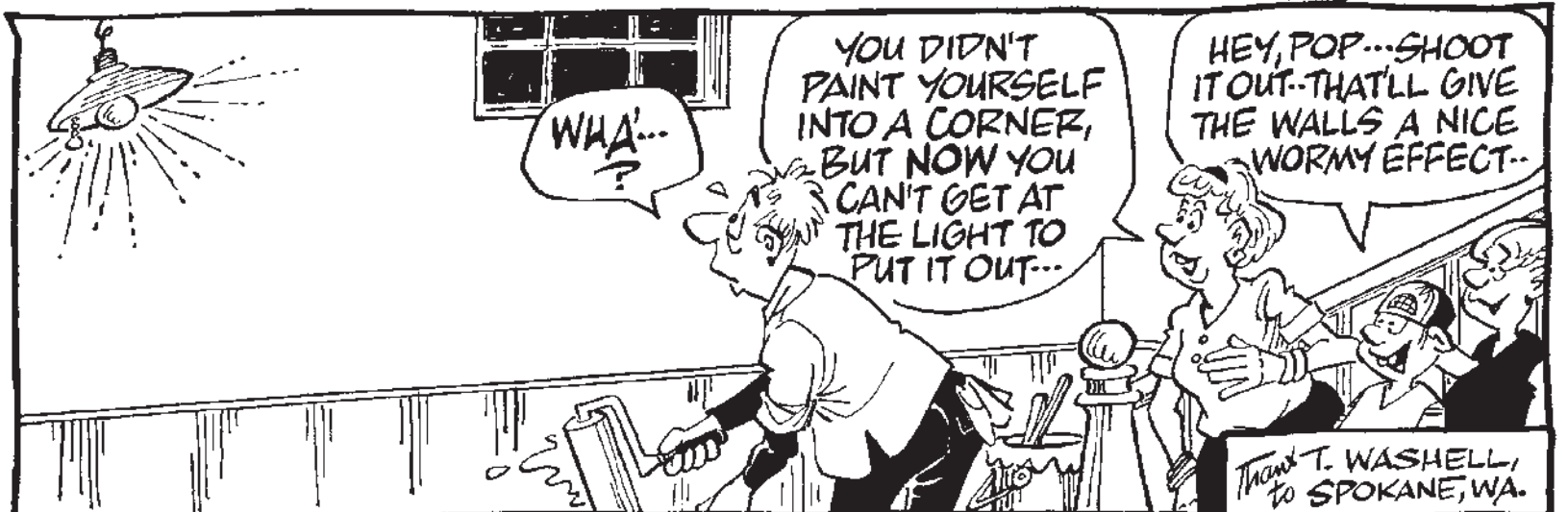
★ Moderate ★★ Challenging
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