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WINTER 2021

WATCHING OVER SHORELINE INTERESTS

VOLUME 23 ISSUE 10

The Way It Was Shopping at Christmas in the Early 1900s

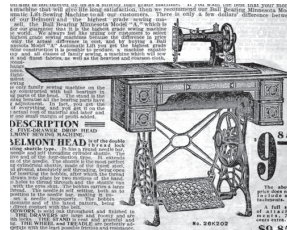
By Al Eicher

Have you ever thought what it would have been like to have lived in the early 1900s raising a family? How about living in a small town in the Thumb area! What was it like to go Christmas shopping in those days? I have been collecting old newspaper ads and catalogs for several years showing household items, clothing, and new devices for the consumer.

In the early 1900s, there were four ways of getting clothing and household products, other than food items. You could go to a store in town and purchase or order it from a catalog such as Sears, Roebuck & Co.; you could barter for it, or make it yourself. To put a value on items and things people were buying, let's go shopping and look at ads and catalogs of that period.

If you were looking for a sewing machine, not a little table model, the "Belmont" five-drawer sewing

machine with drop head in an oak cabinet cost \$9.85. The "Minnesota" model "B" with six drawers sold for \$13.85. When it came to buying wallpaper, a double roll of 16 yards cost 3 cents per roll. Barn paint was 39 cents a gallon, and if you wanted the "best" barn paint, try 50 cents a gallon. You could paint a large barn for \$8.50 using the best paint. If you needed a big 10-foot wooden ladder, self-supporting, it was \$1.80.



overhead canopy, add \$3. In the Sears Catalog of 1908, I found a four-passenger sloop with coach lights and leather seats for \$77.45. The sloop had "Automobile type seats" and a two-year guarantee on parts and workmanship.



See SEARS on page 14

Pheasant for Christmas

By Ryan Walker

During the first part of October, I was able to have a great conversation with a group of teenagers who are passionate about the outdoors. Our topics ranged from fishing to wild game cooking and everything in between. At one point, I diverged into some reminiscing about how hunting used to be in the Thumb area. They were fascinated to hear more about the popularity of pheasant hunting. Many of them claimed to have only seen a wild pheasant



Zack Burnette, 16, of Cass City, with a daily bag limit of wild Michigan rooster pheasants.

on a few, rare occasions. I shared memories of Tuscola County pheasant openers from the past. I recounted the large groups of hunters and dogs that would hit the fields in search of ringneck roosters. They thought it was "cool" that most public schools in the Thumb took school off on October 20 "back in the day." Several of the young

See HUNTING on page 7

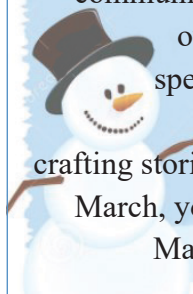
As 2021 nears its end, we at *The Lakeshore Guardian* wish you the happiest of holidays and extend a heartfelt thank you to all of our wonderful advertisers for sticking with us each and every year.

We are truly grateful to the communities we serve. As always,

our writers will be spending the next few months

crafting stories so that when we return in March, you'll be well-entertained!

Many blessings to all!



Celebrate Deckerville's Dickens of a Christmas!



Deckerville's Dickens of a Christmas is back! Join Deckerville in celebrating Christmas this year; stop by Keinath Tire in Deckerville on Friday, December 10, from 3:30 to 7 p.m. to see Santa's reindeer, along with additional fun for the whole family! See page 10 for a complete event listing. Photo courtesy of Keinath Tire and Pulse Media.

Christmas on the Farm

By Janis Stein

A century ago, growing up on a farm meant big families with plenty of work for everyone, and that work never stopped – and couldn't – during the holidays. Cold, wintry weather sometimes added complications to those chores, too. The horses in the stable still needed to be fed; the hogs, slopped; the eggs, collected; and the cows, milked – by hand – at least before the miracle of electricity made its way to the countryside in the late 1930s after the passage of the Rural Electrification Act in 1936. Even with the act's passage as part of President Roosevelt's New Deal, it took time to implement and more time still



A December 1933 interior picture of Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic Church in Ruth shows a nativity scene on the right,

along with trees, wreaths, and bells, as it looked in celebration of the first Christmas in the newly built church. Courtesy of Annabell Seidl.



The Wipping/ Holdwick farmstead, as it looked sometime before 1937.

My grandma Cecelia (Wipping) Holdwick, the daughter of Bernard and Christina (Eming) Wipping was raised in this farmhouse and continued to live

there after she married Ben Holdwick. The door on the north side of the house led into Grandma's kitchen.

for farm folks to invest in those new-fangled milking machines. Imagine how those cows kicked the first time they were introduced to that bit of technology!

In my grandmother Cecelia (Wipping) Holdwick's day, a country Christmas was simplistic, much like Jesus' start as a babe in the manger. Christmas Mass was celebrated with family and neighbors, a community of like-minded parishioners celebrating the birth of Christ with the hope of seeking salvation one day through the grace of God. The church, though outfitted with only

a modest nativity scene and decorations compared to Christmases of today, certainly made an impression. But then the greatest beauty and joy are most often found in the simple things in life.

For many farm families back in Grandma's day, there was simply no money to spend on presents, and for those who did have a few coins left at the end of the year, Christmas gifts were ones of necessity: knitted mittens and hats, a pair of boots, a jackknife. One year, one of Grandma's older daughters already in the workforce splurged on dolls for her three youngest sisters. What a wonderful surprise! One of those dolls, still fondly remembered, was a patriotic doll, decked out in red, white, and blue, with the most beautiful lace! And still, for those who had to go without, the specialness of the day was not lost. As it should, the day centered on the birth of Christ – and family.

Much like the church was the lifeblood of the community, Grandma's kitchen was the heart of the home. Her children barging into the two-story farmhouse after completing their chores in the barn were greeted with the wonderful smells and the anticipation of Christmas dinner. By all accounts, Grandma had a knack for adding the perfect amount of wood, stacked in just the right fashion, to build exactly the right amount of heat in her Home Comfort Range cookstove. Whipping up both the savory

See **FARM** on page 6

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VOLUME 23 ~ ISSUE 10

“If you want happiness for an hour, take a nap. If you want happiness for a day, go fishing. If you want happiness for a year, inherit a fortune. If you want happiness for a lifetime, help someone else.”

—Chinese Proverb

Inside This Issue

COLUMNS & EDITORIALS

- 1 – Ryan Walker
- 2 – Janis Stein
- 5 – Who Am I?
- 9 – Legally Speaking
- 17 – A Great Lakes Sailor
- 21 – Allison Stein

HEALTH & HEALTHY EATING

- 8 – In the Kitchen with Chef Dennis
- 19 – The Doctor's Corner

HISTORY

- 1 – The Way It Was
- 3 – Sunken History & Maritime Treasures
- 4 – Schools of Yesteryear
- 15 – Thumb Rails
- 22 – Guardians of Freedom

HUMOR

- 21 – Smile Awhile

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Sunken History & Maritime Treasures

Ghost Ship of the White Hurricane

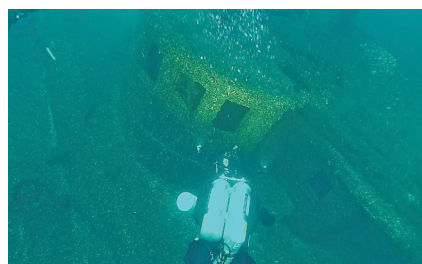
Part 2

By David Trotter, with Jared Daniel

Join in the conclusion as divers explore the *Hydrus*' bow and stern, and with the knowledge gained from exploration, projections are made of the likely events that led to the devastating loss of this ship and crew.

Exploration – Bow

The survey boat was converted to dive operations, dive gases were mixed, and excitement was building as the team anticipated the first exploration dives. It was a 35-mile run to the site where the digital depth sounder “spiked” the shipwreck and a marker buoy was dropped. Our intent was to “grapple in” near the bow of the ship so the mooring line could be set at a high point where it would not chafe on the wreck. Thick garden hose was used to keep the line from parting where it attached to the sunken vessel.



Over 100 years later, the diver approaches the pilothouse for the first time.

Marty Lutz and Greg Grieser began the descent down the grapple line. The end of mooring line was secured to Marty's Dive Propulsion Vehicle (DPV). Topside, the mooring line was fed out as Marty made the run to the bow where he secured it to the mast. Greg's task was to clear the grapple for retrieval. With tasks accomplished, both were the first divers to touch the *Hydrus* and begin exploration.

Subsequent dives by the explorers added dimension to the *Hydrus* wreck site. The DPV's were a great asset for navigating the 436-foot *Hydrus*, particularly while shooting video. Go Pro cameras, with the 197-foot housing depth rating, have been pushed to 290 feet by some team members. Visibility was excellent at 30 to 80 feet, depending on the day. Divers swam to the pilothouse and peered inside to see steering wheels in place and intact. Divers could picture the *Hydrus* helmsmen at the wheel, fighting for their lives. The closed doors were barriers to divers entering the pilothouse.

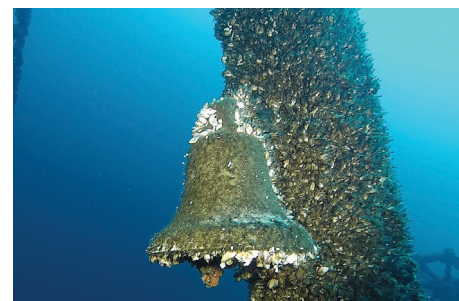
Behind the pilothouse, divers moved along the spar deck past the first cargo hatches to where a giant break in the hull appeared. The entire bow section was



The pilothouse, with windows broken out during the sinking.



A diver swims past the mast to the top of pilothouse.



The bell attached to the mast.

twisted to the portside. Turning around, the divers looked up to see the mast with the bell still attached 102 years after the sinking. Moving past the mast and the pilothouse, to the bow, the divers descended down the bow stem. The hull was bent and twisted due to the impact with the floor of Lake Huron. Another very interesting discovery was made; the starboard anchor was in place while the portside anchor was missing. This adds another dimension to the final struggle in the *Hydrus*' effort to survive.

Exploration – Stern

The following weekend, the dive team needed to set another mooring line. Divers descended down the bow line with DPV's and ran the 400-foot length of the ship to set a second mooring at the fantail of the *Hydrus*. Along the way to the stern, the divers reported seeing extensive damage to the coal bunker located in front of the stern cabins.

The stern cabin roof was swept clean, except for the broken mast lying on the portside. The air intake ventilators had disappeared, and the smokestack was gone. It was later found off the starboard side of the ship, flattened. The cabin roof was concave, as if smashed by a giant fist. There was a large rectangular opening on the cabin roof, where the engine room skylights were once located. It was now possible for divers to descend into the opening, past the cabins

See **GHOST SHIP** on page 16

Schools of Yesteryear

By Janis Stein

Port Austin No. 2, Fractional - New River School

Part 5

Join in the conclusion as district members face the challenge of heating the school in the late 1930s amid the threat of school consolidations...

In approximately 1883–1884, a new school was built on the west side of the New River creek though the deed was not recorded for the parcel until 1888, and as indicated on the 1890 and 1904 plat maps, it was located on present-day Hunter Road, one-eighth of a mile east of Kinch Road on the south side of M-25, or one-eighth of a mile east of the southwest corner of the southwest quarter of East Section 32 of Port Austin Township, Huron County.

Additional teachers at New River during the latter half of the 1920s included Miss Ellen Foster, 1925–1926; Mrs. Norma Cook, 1926–1927 and 1927–1928; and Mr. Clarence Allen, 1928–1929. All of these teachers earned \$100 per month for their services.

The 1930s ushered in the Great Depression along with a line-up of new teachers every year. Mrs. John (Alma) Hunter taught 20 students enrolled at New River during the 1930–1931 school year and earned \$50 a month for her efforts. The school board included director

Carl W. Tinsey, moderator George Steward, and treasurer Walter Iseler. Miss Verna Willett also taught for a portion of the 1930–1931 term for the same wage.

Mr. Norman Carson came to New River to teach his 20 students during the 1931–1932 year, and his wage jumped to \$77 per month, despite the depressed economy. The school board remained the same, with the exception of John Kilpatrick, who replaced Walter Iseler as treasurer. Miss Muriel Kilpatrick became the new teacher in the fall of 1932, and she returned again the following year earning \$77 per month for the entirety of her stay.

Wages dropped significantly during the 1934–1935 school year when Miss Lottie Kilpatrick came to teach at the New River district; she earned only \$47.50 per month, the lowest monthly wage since 1916. The school board consisted of director Walter Iseler, moderator James McGeachy, and treasurer William P. Wade; these three men continued in their positions through the spring of 1938.

Mary I. Day earned \$50 per month beginning in the fall of 1935, and Miss Eula Arnot, who married a Kirkpatrick sometime during the following school year, earned \$60 per month. Miss Mazell Bendall returned to New River to finish out the 1935–1936 school year, and she earned \$65 per month.

Many changes occurred during the mid-1930s, as described in the 1938 history documented under the care of Clara Moran, who taught at New River during the

1937–1938 school year.

“The school census list kept decreasing from enrollments of fifty, sometimes more and other times less, until in the fall of 1936 only 12 pupils were attending.

“The building had begun to need painting and repair, and heating became impossible on severe winter days. School was often dismissed because the children couldn’t keep warm enough to study. Consequently, during the Christmas vacation week of 1936, the 40x26 foot building was partitioned into sections making the front part 22x26 feet, which is now used for the classroom.

“In the summer of 1937, this section was remodeled, painted and decorated, settling the problem of heating. The lighting system isn’t modern but satisfactory, as the 4 windows it contains are high

and large. Two in the east wall and two in the west wall.

“Today it has been an attendance of 10 pupils. Part of these have been out during the season due to scarlet fever. Four of these pupils are eighth grade students with hopes of graduating and there is only one child in the district who will be of school age to start.

“The interior is completely cream color. It has a good wooden floor which is kept well oiled. The furnace (Hero 41) is old and a little out of shape but heats well. The building is well equipped with maps, globe, soap, paper towels, large American flag, bookcase and book shelves, clock, dictionary, janitor supplies and other miscellaneous articles.

“The most needed equipment which would improve



The last New River School building, with its roof lowered, stands on Hunter Road one-fourth mile west of its original location and is shown here as it looked in 2005. Photo credit: Ethel Rupprecht.

See **SCHOOLS** on page 5

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SCHOOLS from page 4

the school would be more blackboards and the repairing of some cracks in the walls and window that cause many squeaks and rattles on windy days.

“A great problem faces the people – that of consolidating with some other district or increasing the tax burden. Some joining with Huron City; some to send the pupils to Grindstone City, which could easily accommodate several small schools; while others would allow the families to attend wherever it was most convenient.

“As yet, nothing has been done for or against these proposed ideas. But probably meetings will be held and votes taken before next fall.”

The 1938 history written by Clara Moran and her students was an assignment given by Huron County’s school superintendent in an effort to document the histories of all of the one-room schools. As part of the history, writers were tasked with naming prominent former students and listing any noteworthy incidents during the school years.

“Some pupils and teachers, who to our best knowledge, have become prominent are: Mr. William Sparling, Huron County School Commissioner for about 25 years; Mrs. Anne Thompson, Postmistress of Grindstone City; Mr. John McCann, Grindstone City rural mail clerk; Mr. Lenard Meddaugh, doctor in California; Mr. Will Everingham, President of Kinde State Bank; Mr. George Everingham, once cashier of Hubbard State Bank, Bad Axe, and now insurance agent in Canada; Mrs. Frank Kinch, Port Austin, wife of Michigan Master farmer.

“Some exciting incidents about which we were unable to get details were: the incident when George Foster broke a hip while sliding down the river bank. He was carried home on a board. Another was the football practice, during which Andrew McDonald broke a leg. It was set by Dr. Shagnon, present physician in Port Austin.”

Mrs. John (Alma) Hunter returned in 1938 to teach for a portion of the term. Mazella Bendall assumed the teaching position for the 1938–1939 school year, and the school board consisted of director Walter Iseler, moderator George Foster, and treasurer William Wade. Miss Bendall returned for the 1939–1940 school year as Mazella Armstrong, and the school board remained the same, with the addition of trustees Jake Navock and Gust Rothe.

According to the Huron County School Directory,

New River School closed in the spring of 1940, but the district leaders perhaps had high hopes of the school reopening: the school board remained intact for another 15 years! The Directory listed New River School as closed every year following, with a final entry listed in the 1956–1957 publication. School board members holding varying positions from 1940 through 1957 included Gilbert Davis, Mary E. Stapleton, Warner E. Ramsey, Walter Iseler, George Foster, William P. Wade, Benjamin Golden, James Kilpatrick, and Russell Foster.

Despite the school closing, an annual census was taken to document how many children living within the district were between the ages of five and 20. In 1942, there were 12 children who met that criteria, and in 1943, there were nine. During the 1950s, the average number of children living within the New River district boundaries equaled 10.

The village of New River, once a company town, eventually ceased to exist, and for many years the area was turned into farmland. According to *Celebrating 150 Years, Huron County, Michigan (1859-2009)*, the New River area was subdivided in the 1920s and became known as the Tip-of-the-Thumb subdivision. All that remains at New River are the buried foundation of the old salt block and those left behind in the New River Cemetery.

I would like to thank the individuals who shared photos and information in an effort to document and preserve the history of New River School. Special thanks go to the staff at the Huron County Register of Deeds and the Huron Intermediate School District for accommodating my research and to Ethel Rupprecht and the late Arthur Woelke for sharing their collection with me. Be sure to look for my column in the March issue as I explore the history of Colfax No. 5, also known as Wakefield School.

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Who Am I?

Researching Your Family History

Genealogy Fun Facts

By Grace Grogan



Even those who are not genealogy buffs appreciate how interesting it is to learn about their own family history. Whether looking at old family photos or hearing about how their great-great-grandparents sailed to this country to start a new life, everyone enjoys hearing about the past.

The question is, when did genealogy start? What is the difference between genealogy and family history? Who has the longest family tree in the world? Keep reading for answers to these questions along with other interesting genealogy fun facts.

1. The term genealogy refers to the study of a person’s ancestry. This means the search for ancestors and descendants of a direct backwards pedigree line. Its original main purpose was to prove family relationships in wealthy families for the purpose of inheritance rights.
2. Family history is genealogy with a boost. It takes the names, birth dates, places of birth, etc., of our ancestors and incorporates that information with a broader band of family stories. This includes how people lived, where they worked, and the events that shaped their lives. Family history also usually includes those who are not in the direct

See **GENEALOGY** on page 20

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FARM from page 2

and sweet, Grandma was a magician in the kitchen – and she knew how to scrimp and stretch and save.

Depending on the year, to feed her brood of eight children, plus the spouses of her older daughters, Grandma roasted one goose or two ducks for Christmas dinner. Bowls piled high with mashed potatoes, gravy, and a variety of garden vegetables – all grown and tended by Grandma's hands and then preserved for winter consumption – filled the table. Loaves of bread, freshly churned butter, and homemade preserves filled anyone who still had an empty hole. After coming in from the cold, tucking in to a hot, scrumptious meal in a kitchen warmed from the fruits of my grandma's labor added to the comfort of Christmas.

And while Grandma could create

quite a meat-and-potatoes spread – the type of meal often relished by farm families – her desserts always took center stage. Grandma made the best pies: rhubarb, peach raisin, chocolate, butterscotch, banana cream, pumpkin, apple, and the list went on. Flaky crusts made with lard and baked to perfection cradled Grandma's creamy confections. No one went hungry on Grandma's watch. Banana cake, chocolate cake, a lovely chiffon – all were included in Grandma's arsenal – for Sunday dinners or special occasions. Doughnuts, too, warmed many a belly on a cold day, and while she didn't make Johnny Cakes often, they were well-remembered as favorites: a cornmeal flatbread fried in lard and topped with sweet, delicious frosting.

In her handwritten scrawl, Grandma filled the pages of her cookbook with the recipes that fed her family – and likely some of the much-loved recipes that her mother once made for her. For those who had the good fortune to eat at Grandma's table, at Christmastime or otherwise, nostalgic memories remain of a woman hard at work at

the stove in her farmhouse kitchen, showing her family her love in one of the best ways she knew how – by preparing food with family recipes that stood the test of time. Merry Christmas to all!

Following are a few of Grandma's recipes from her handwritten cookbook:

Caramel Pie (With White Sugar)

1 cup sugar
2 cups milk
1 egg
Salt
1 tspn butter
2 tspn cornstarch
vanilla

Put sugar in frying pan and let it caramelize. As soon as it is all brown add ½ cup water. Stir until dissolved. Put milk on stove top. After hot pour the caramel sugar into it. Mix other ingredients in and thicken.

Banana Cake

1 ½ cup white sugar
½ cup shortening
2 eggs
1 cup bananas (3)
4 tspn sour milk
2 cups flour
1 tspn soda
1 tspn b. powder
½ tspn salt

Johnny Cake

1 cup buttermilk
½ cup cream
1 cup sweet milk
1 egg
1 cup cornmeal
1 tspn soda
Pinch salt

Icing

2 cups sugar
12 tspn water
Beat the white of 1 egg for 7 min.
Cold piece 1 lemon.

Christmas Cookies

1 cup butter
2 cups light brown sugar
4 tspns sour cream
3 eggs
1 tspn vanilla
1 cup chopped dates
1 cup chopped figs
1 cup chopped nuts
2 tspn cinnamon
1 tspn cloves
1 tspn nutmeg
2/3 tspn salt
4 cups flour
1 tspn soda

Cream the butter and sugar. Add rest of ingredients mixing lightly. Chill dough. Cut off bits and bake in greased tin. Moderate oven.

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HUNTING from page 1

hunters didn't realize that we still enjoy a pheasant season in Michigan. I used this opportunity to not only spell out the regular pheasant season, but to also inform them about the late pheasant season that takes place in our neck of the woods.

The entire Thumb, in addition to several other counties located in Zone 3, fall into the state of Michigan's December Pheasant Management Unit. Huron, Tuscola, Sanilac, St. Clair, Genesee, and Lapeer Counties are all included in the unit. Hunters can begin hunting the December Pheasant Management Unit on December 1 and enjoy wing shooting opportunities until January 1. It's important to note that the regulations that applied from October 20 to November 14 also apply to the late pheasant season. Upland game bird enthusiasts who don their game vests and load up their four-legged hunting buddies would do well to refresh their knowledge base regarding those regulations.

For one, hunters can only target roosters, or male pheasants, during both the regular and late pheasant seasons. Hens are strictly off-limits to hunters as they are the foundation for future generations of pheasants. A daily bag limit of wild Michigan roosters is still two birds per day, with four in possession. Most modern Michigan pheasant hunters would be overjoyed with a daily bag limit. A quick reminder that a daily bag limit means the maximum number of game birds of a single species or combination of species permitted to be taken by one person in any one day

during the open season. Possession limit refers to the maximum number of game birds of a single species or combination of species in possession when lawfully taken in Michigan.

One change for the 2021 pheasant season is the free pheasant endorsement that was required in 2019 and 2020 is no longer required for hunters chasing pheasants. Hunters are still required to have base license when pheasant hunting. In addition, a \$25 license is required for all hunters 18 years of age and older to hunt pheasants on any public land in the Lower Peninsula or on lands enrolled in the Hunting Access Program. You don't need the \$25 license if you are hunting private land, are 17 years of age or younger, or are only hunting pheasant at a game bird hunting preserve.

As a veteran of both regular and late-season pheasant hunting, I can attest to the magical experience it is to bag a wild Michigan pheasant in the Thumb area. Not only does it harken back to a bygone era in Michigan's hunting history, but it also allows hunters of all experience levels to create new memories. In addition, nothing beats a roasted pheasant around the holidays to ramp up the festivities. For more information regarding Michigan's late pheasant season, be sure to visit the Michigan Pheasant Hunting Guide at www.michigan.gov.

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In the Kitchen

with Chef Dennis

Frittata

Our weekend breakfast-brunch routine is two fried eggs, over-easy, with two or three two-inch homemade, gluten-free pancakes for my wife. My breakfast changes on my mood. But on Sundays the standard is an omelet. This Sunday was different: time for a change.

I really wanted a quiche. Yes, real men do eat quiche. I just didn't want to make a pie crust, so I decided to do the next best thing: make a frittata. But what exactly is a frittata, you ask?

Simply put, a frittata is a crustless quiche. It's also a lot of other things. It's creamy, custardy, and full of veggies and stuff. Frittatas are the ultimate clean-out-the-fridge dish. Frittatas are versatile; make them for breakfast, brunch, lunch, or dinner.

There are also a couple of ways to cook the frittata: the stove top method, the baking method, and



the combination method. I start on the stove and then finish it in the oven.

I could go on, but it's time to start cooking.

Prep: 5-10 min. Cook: 30-35 min. Rest: 5 min.
Total: 50 min. Servings: 3-4

Equipment:

- 1 - 12-inch cast iron skillet (or any other large skillet that's oven-safe)
- 1 - Whisk
- 1 - Mixing bowl
- 1 - Large spatula (optional)

Ingredients:

- 6 - large eggs
- ¼ c - unsweetened almond milk (You can substitute a milk of your choice.)
- 2 - cloves minced garlic (your choice: more, less, or none)
- ¼ c - small diced white or yellow onion
- 2 - chopped scallions (green onion) using the whole scallion
- ½ - small diced roasted red pepper (substitute raw red pepper)
- 6 - halved cherry tomatoes (substitute 1 small tomato med. diced)
- ¼ c - sliced pitted black olives (substitute green olives or add an additional ¼ c)
 - 1 c - chopped broccoli florets
 - ¼ c - sliced mushrooms of your choice
 - ½ tsp - smoked paprika (substitute regular paprika)
 - 1 ½ tsp - kosher salt (separated into 1 tsp and ½ tsp.)
 - 2 tsp - cracked black pepper
 - 1 tsp - dried oregano
 - 1 Tbs - dried tarragon
 - 2 Tbs - olive oil (separated)

Tips from Chef Dennis:

- Vegetables should be tender, seasoned and cooked before adding the eggs. Raw vegetables release too much water and won't be fully cooked by the time the eggs are done. Pre-cook your vegetables by sautéing, roasting, or steaming them to bring out their best qualities.
- Using leftover veggies just need to be warmed, so time will change from the recipe.
- Roasted red peppers can be bought in most grocery stores or specialty stores. They're usually packed in oil in a jar. I roast my own; it's cheaper, and they're fresher and tastier. Please feel free to contact me if you'd like more info on roasting your own.

- 1 Tbs - butter
- 1 c - shredded cheddar cheese (substitute cheese of choice)

Instructions:

Preheat the oven to 425°F.

Whisk the eggs, almond milk, and pepper until well combined. Set aside.

Place skillet on the stove over medium heat. Let it heat a few minutes before adding the oil. You can test if the pan is hot enough by taking a pinch of water and "shaking" it into the pan. If the water "dances" and starts to evaporate immediately, it's hot enough. Add the butter and 1 Tbs of olive oil to the pan. Add the diced onion, broccoli, and ½ tsp salt. Cook, stirring occasionally until broccoli is tender but still bright green. Now add all the herbs, garlic, 1 tsp salt, and all of the vegetables, except the scallions. Cook, stirring for about 2 minutes. Add the scallions; stir for another minute. Whisk the eggs once more, and pour the mixture over the vegetables. Stir with



See **KITCHEN** on page 9



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Legally Speaking

Durable Power of Attorney - Springing



By Amanda Roggenbuck,
Attorney at Law

The first type of durable power of attorney to consider is commonly known as a springing power of attorney. This durable power of attorney requires some determination that you lack ability or competence to manage your business and financial affairs. It also requires that you have some type of determination that those faculties have been restored before you can assume control over your business and financial matters again.

While it seems that this document may provide an extra level of protection, you should consider if the people you choose will be supportive of you having your control returned. In the next issue, I will explain the other common type of durable power of attorney.

The information in this article is not intended to serve as legal advice nor does it replace consulting a lawyer about your legal situation and questions. Amanda Roggenbuck, Attorney at Law, PLLC is currently accepting select cases in estate planning, family law, business planning, and probate fields.

KITCHEN from page 8

a spatula briefly to combine, and distribute the mixture evenly across the pan. Sprinkle the cheese on top of the frittata now.

Once the outside edge of the frittata turns lighter in color (about 1 to 2 minutes), carefully transfer the frittata to the oven. Bake for 7 to 15 minutes (keep an eye on it), until the eggs are puffed and appear cooked, and the center of the frittata jiggles just a bit when you give it a gentle shimmy. Remove the frittata from the oven, and place it on a cooling rack to cool. Slice with a sharp knife, serve, and enjoy!

This is Chef Dennis saying "Savor the Food You Eat."



I look forward to your questions and comments.

You can visit me online at my website, <https://YouCanCuisine.com>, Facebook page, and YouTube channel. You can also contact me at The Lakeshore Guardian: <https://lakeshoreguardian.com/contact-us/>.



Chef Dennis Sturtz Sr.

Chef Dennis Sturtz has worked in many venues in the restaurant business from owner to chef. With a degree from Macomb Community College's Culinary Department, Chef Dennis has, in turn, taught at numerous colleges and institutions, thereby sharing his passion for cuisine.

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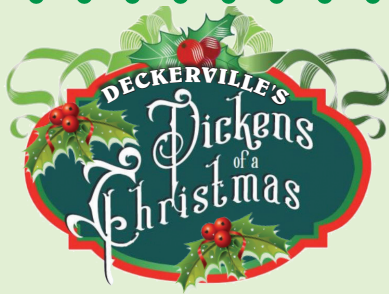
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Celebrate Deckerville's Dickens of a Christmas!

All events take place on Friday, December 10, 2021, from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. unless otherwise noted.

- Santa and his reindeer will be at Keinath Tire, 3680 Range Line Road, Deckerville. Santa's elves will be doing face painting, and children can enjoy coloring books, crayons, and holiday goodies courtesy of Deckerville Community Hospital. Additional goodies will be provided by DLOW.
- Reindeer Games: Stop by businesses with Christmas signage by their doors for Christmas crafts and activities on Main Street! All participating children will receive a Santa Buck that can be redeemed at the Community Center for a free Secret Santa gift.
- Children will also receive ornaments that will

be used to decorate the tree on the southeast corner at the stoplight.

- Stop by the Community Center to receive cookies from Mrs. Claus' head baker.
- **FREE** family photos with a country Christmas sleigh, sponsored by Harbor Drug II! The old-fashioned snow cutter will be displayed next to the Christmas tree at the corner. Families can stop by from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. to get pictures taken!
- **NEW for 2021: FREE popcorn and a movie at the Community Center.**
- **NEW for 2021: Mail your letters to Santa! Santa's Mailbox will be located downtown.**
- Angel Walk: Luminary bags will be displayed along Main Street from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. (weather permitting). Get your luminary bags in advance at Bloomin' Crazy Flowers & More or Eastern Michigan Bank (\$5 each), and decorate them as a way to remember a loved one this holiday season. (Return bags to Bloomin' Crazy by Thursday, December 8.)
- The downtown Christmas tree lighting by Dickens of a Christmas Master of Ceremony: Frontline Workers
For more information, please call Cheryl Hieber at 810-376-7015. Like Deckerville DCDC on Facebook for updates and events. Merry Christmas!
Be sure to support the advertisers that made this promotion possible! Let them know you saw their ads in The Lakeshore Guardian!

THE GOODTIMERS

The Thumb Region is filled with groups whose members work together for the good of their communities – it's one of the reasons why this area is a wonderful place to live – and Deckerville's Goodtimers are among the best. Working quietly in the background, the Goodtimers is a men's-only, local, nonprofit organization that started in 2008 with about 10 men who lived in the areas of Deckerville, Snover, Argyle, and Sandusky who had a desire to give back to the community.

Largely based in Deckerville, the Goodtimers currently has 27 members, and Mike Keinath, one of the group's charter members, is not surprised at the high member retention rate and knows from personal experience the profound impact their group has made on individuals and the community as a whole. That impact turns into a motivating factor for group members who experience firsthand the feeling gained by helping others, a feeling, in turn, that inspires them all the more to work together to make a difference.

See **GOODTIMERS** on page 12



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 - February 5 - "The Lion King" 2 p.m. performance at The Detroit Opera House
 - February 15-18 - Louisville Kentucky, The National Farm Machinery Show
 - March 2022 - Biltmore Estate in Ashville North Carolina (*dates and details coming soon)
 - April 26-29 - Oldham Kentucky - Oldmam's Bourbon, Horses, Trains, & Underground Railroad Tour
 - May 16-19 - Missouri Star Quilt trip
 - June 8 - Meadow Brook Theatre for "A Closer Walk with Patsy Cline"
 - Mid June - South Dakota (*dates and details coming soon)
- Watch our website for trips to be posted.

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- Visit Santa and his Reindeer at Keinath Tire.
- Reindeer Games: Stop by businesses with Christmas signage by their doors for Christmas crafts and activities on Main Street!
- Get FREE family photos with a country Christmas sleigh, sponsored by Harbor Drug III!
- Stop by the Community Center to receive cookies from Mrs. Claus' head baker.
- Children to receive ornaments to decorate the tree on the southwest corner at the spotlight.
- **NEW: FREE popcorn and a movie at the Community Center.**
- **NEW: Mail your letters to Santa! Santa's mailbox will be located downtown.**
- Angel Walk: Honor loved ones this holiday season by decorating a bag.
- Downtown Christmas tree lighting at 6:45 p.m. by Dickens of a Christmas Master of Ceremony: Frontline Workers.

Find more information about these events in this issue of *The Lakeshore Guardian*.
You may also call Cheryl Hieber at 810-376-7015.
Like Deckerville DCDC on Facebook for updates and events. Merry Christmas!

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GOODTIMERS from page 10

Keinath recalled the group's initial goal and passion of raising money and donating it to individuals and families who experienced unforeseen and unexpected tragedies that ranged from fires to personal injuries to providing financial support to those afflicted with serious illness and disease. It's a humbling experience for all involved when a substantial gift is given and received. The heart can experience no greater joy than when one reaches out a helping hand to lift another up.



Goodtimers president Scotty Wadsworth reflected on the generous contributions from individuals and businesses within their communities that make the Goodtimers' goal of giving back a reality. Last year, up to approximately \$60,000 was raised by the Goodtimers, and while the group continues to donate to individuals experiencing catastrophes, additional funding supports bigger investments within the community through park improvements, such as the new volleyball pits installed at Wilson Park in Deckerville this year. In addition, donations were made this year to various Little League teams throughout the Thumb. The Goodtimers often adopt a family or two around the

holidays as well. These are just a few examples of how the Goodtimers give back – and the people who contribute to the Goodtimers' fundraisers make it all possible.

The Goodtimers will be hosting their next fundraiser on December 4. Their Soup & Suds event is held in Snover, and guests enjoy a variety of homemade soups – and of course, suds! Along with a soup supper and drinks, attendees will try their luck at various raffles, including a 50-50 drawing. Tickets are available in advance or at the door, and it's a casual, fun night for all!

Save the date for February 5, 2022, for their annual fundraiser at Woodland Hills in Sandusky. Guests enjoy dinner and a reverse raffle with excellent prizes that range from Yeti coolers and TVs to several cash prizes – and one lucky winner will enjoy the big cash prize at the end of the night. The Goodtimers also sponsor a golf scramble every June at Woodland Hills. Become a hole sponsor, or gather friends together to enjoy a fun-filled day.

As 2021 transitions into the new year, group members continue to plan and prepare to help their community by offering their time and talent. And it's very likely all the men belonging to Goodtimers would echo Wadsworth's response when asked why it is they do what they do: "We are a group of guys with very different backgrounds, but we all have the same goal: Help where we can the best that we can."

To learn more about the Goodtimers, their fundraisers, or to find out how you can directly donate to support their good works, please follow them on Facebook, contact them through Facebook messenger, or visit www.goodtimers.org.

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SEARS from page 1

If you had children old enough to learn to ride a 24- or 26-inch balloon tire bicycle, you could buy a 1908, boy or girl, bike for \$13.60. The "Red Head Elgin" bike was painted red and did not have fenders, but it had the peerless automatic coaster brake.

At Christmastime in the 1940s, my grandmother would get out her old stereoscope viewer to let us see color pictures of Niagara Falls, a railroad yard, or a "sunken garden" scene. I was fascinated with the three-dimension feature. In the early 1900s, you could buy this viewer for 60 cents and a package of 50 pictures for 35 cents. If the family was interested in music coming from a talking machine, you had to have the "Columbia Graphophone" or the "Edison Home Phonograph." These spring-operated talking machines used the round cylinder records and sold for \$14.95 to \$16.95. The cylinders made by the Columbia Record Company sold for 18 cents each or \$2.15 a dozen. A new piano from the Sears catalog called the "Beckwith Home Favorite" cost \$87, and the "Special Concert Grand Piano" sold for \$195.

You could order spectacles and eyeglasses through the catalog. At this time, they were offering "rimless spectacles" for \$2.14. If you wanted bifocals, add 50 cents. A man's pocket watch made in America was as low as \$1.68 to \$15. A lady's watch was slightly smaller and ranged in price from \$6 to \$15. Ladies' stylish patent shoes ranged in price from \$1.27 to \$1.58. Ladies' summer-style straw hats with braid and dainty



lace were as low as \$1.69 to \$2.15. A lady's house dress or tea gown could be purchased for as little as \$1.10 or as high as \$3.50. Men's single-breasted suits ranged from \$6.98 to \$9.87. A fountain pen was \$1.

Most farms and many homes in town had a windmill to pump water. You could buy the complete "Kenwood" kit of a four-post tower 30 feet tall, a six-foot windmill with pipe, and pump for \$42.25.

Solid oak "box seat" dining room chairs with genuine leather seats sold for \$1.95 each. You might also need a new solid oak, pillar-style dining room table. A six-foot diameter table was \$11.85. The wife might need her first Rogers Brothers Silver dinner set; try a price of \$9.28 for a 26-piece set of high-grade silver plate spoons, knives, and forks. A 100-piece dinner set of Rose Garland Bavarian China could be yours for \$12.45. These dishes had genuine coin gold trim with patterns of pink flowers and green foliage.

If you were looking for a wicker rocking chair, the "Imperial" model was \$2.75. The "Splendid Rocker" was \$4.39. I have seen some of these old rockers at auctions selling for \$200. I noticed in the 1908 Sears catalog a high-grade, three-piece bedroom set for as low as \$14.95. Another company's ad featured the bed, dresser, and the washstand, all matching pieces for \$24.95. This furniture was made in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Now we get to the expensive items. If you were a farmer and you wanted the best manure spreader, you had to have the "Bonanza Wagon!" The ad offers a 30-day free trial. I kept looking for some promotional jargon like, "the



faster you drive, the further it flies!" The only punchline I found was "so simple a boy can run it."

In the 1908 Sears catalog, two-cycle and four-cycle gasoline engines were being built for installation in a boat. This was just what the commercial fishermen at Bay Port would have used. The complete package of propeller and shaft with universal joint and 5-horsepower engine was \$96.50; the 10-horse unit was \$213.75.

I came across schoolhouse and church bells. At this time, there were about 80 one-room, schoolhouses here in Huron County. A 165-pound, 20-inch cast iron bell cost \$6.12. A 48-inch school bell weighing 2,280 pounds sold for \$97. You needed a big bell tower to hold these giant bells. From the 1908 Sears catalog, you could order all the building materials for a six-room, two-story house with covered porch on two sides for \$725. These "do-it-yourself" packages were available in a variety of house plans. For example, you could get a 3,000-square-foot, two-story house for a very good price of \$4,000. The old ads in the newspapers and the big catalog companies were really wonderful sources of information about some of man's newest creations in farming, photography, electric power plants, firearms, sports equipment, boating, floor coverings, and home furnishings, plus the latest styles in women's hats. I hope you enjoyed Christmas shopping at the turn of the century!...That's The Way It Was.

All photos courtesy of 1909 Sears catalog.

Al and Dave Eicher provide television production services to corporations, ad agencies, and nonprofit organizations. They also create Michigan town histories and offer lecture services on a variety of Michigan History Events. You may contact them at 248-333-2010; email: info@program-source.com; website: www.program-source.com.

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Thumb Rails

The Pere Marquette Historical Society Archives Has a New Home! Part 3 - The Real Work Begins

By T.J. Gaffney

Once again this month, we continue to discuss the recent announcement of a significant collection of archival materials, partially related to the Pere Marquette/Chesapeake & Ohio/Chessie System Operations in the Thumb of Michigan, finding a permanent home at the Plymouth Historical Museum. This collection, owned by the Pere Marquette Historical Society, is arguably the most important extant archive of materials related to the history of the Pere Marquette Railway Company, which operated from 1900–1947, which was arguably the largest and most significant operator of railroad lines in the Thumb region.



Postcard image by the photographer Hancock of a wreck near Allenton, Michigan.

Welcome back readers! When we left off with last month's column, the Pere Marquette Historical Society archives had just been transferred to a new location at the Plymouth Historical Museum (PHM) on September 9, 2021. Now referred to as the "Big Move," this entailed moving the several boxes and files of materials from temporary, climate-controlled storage by a dedicated group of volunteers that included your author, Tim Parker, Bob Milhaupt, Tom Grambau, Bill Ayars, Scott Shields, and John Young, as well as Pam Yockey, the curator of the PHM. There, the incoming collection remained under quarantine for a two-week period, for although the collection had been kept in a primarily climate-controlled environment prior to its arrival, PHM's policy is to treat all incoming collections in this fashion to protect existing collections from any possible contamination.

Once this process ended, it was time for the real work to begin. Slowly but surely, boxes of archival materials began to come out of quarantine to be evaluated. It quickly became clear to all involved that the addition of the collection to the PHM would require an upgrade and reorganization of the museum's

archive and research rooms. Working with museum director Elizabeth Kelley Kerstens and curator/archivist Pamela Yockey, a plan began to develop for these upgrades, which included assessing the load limits of the collections and archival areas. After thoroughly assessing these limits and any possible structural upgrades that would be needed with an architect, it was decided that new shelving could and would be added to these areas, as well as shifting existing storage to accommodate the incoming PMHS collection. Included in these upgrades will be the eventual purchase of new, lighter-weight furniture, computers, and archival acid-free storage supplies. While some of these upgrades have already begun, all involved realize this effort is a marathon and not



An onion skin map of the railroad and its customer in Plymouth, Michigan.

See RAILS on page 18

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27	28	29	30	31		

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GHOST SHIP from page 3

that were in disarray, into the engine room. It was chaotic in the engine room, likely evidence of waves crashing through the opening in the roof and the final onrush of water as the vessel sank. The engine room telegraph was located, and part of the name HYDRUS could be seen under the zebra mussel growth. Divers exited the engine room and swam over the fantail to the rudder and propeller. Both were intact, indicating that it was unlikely the ship grounded prior to sinking.

Divers ascended to the fantail and began the ascent up the mooring line to the decompression stops. Discovering and exploring the *Hydrus* was a very intense experience. It was a once-in-a-lifetime adventure where “The Great Lakes Storm of 1913” came to life through the *Hydrus*.

The Final Hours of the *Hydrus*

With the knowledge gained by discovering and exploring the upright *Hydrus* and with the accounts of surviving shipmasters, we can project the likely events that caused the loss of the ship and the crew. The *Hydrus* locked down with a full load of iron ore. This is a key component to the unfolding events. While the *Hydrus* cargo holds were large, the cargo of iron ore only filled the lower one-third or one-half of the holds because of the weight. This meant the ship had a very low center of gravity.

Four ships locked down into Lake Huron that day. Only the *J. H. Sheadle* survived; and it is through the *Sheadle's* experience that we know the true fury of the storm. The *Hydrus* continued her southbound course with seas raging, “mountain high,” smashing into the fantail, and likely breaking over the entire stern of the ship. Seas could have crushed the stern cabin windows and ripped the ventilator air intakes from their moorings on the roof. Solid water poured into the ship. It is also possible the engine room skylight, at this time, was smashed. All this allowed a significant amount of water to enter the ship. The crew was fighting for their lives, desperate to survive. It would be a life-and-death effort to keep the boiler pressure up and the engine from flooding out. With the boiler room

partially flooded, fearful men, knee-deep in black water, were stoking the boilers with wet coal.

Captain Lowe made a fateful decision to turn the *Hydrus* 180 degrees to head into the storm. Caught in the trough, and unable to complete the turn, he likely directed the portside anchor be released to help the *Hydrus* “come around.” It may have worked; however, the strain was so great the chain snapped. The *Hydrus* was moving very slowly back up the lake when the worst of the storm hit, between 6 and 10 p.m. on November 9. The *Hydrus* could not hold course and fell off into the trough. The peak of the storm made it impossible to escape. The iron ore ballast acted like a breakwall, not allowing the ship to move with the giant waves. Pounded by 30- to 35-foot seas, the ship would be smashed, again and again, by the seas washing across her deck and cabins. Finally, the engine room flooded out, and the *Hydrus* lost power. Captain Lowe would have given the order to abandon ship. Wallowing in the trough and, against all odds, five of the crew, four men and one woman, made it into the lifeboat and launched it.

The *Hydrus* was discovered lying in an East – West direction, confirming that the most likely scenario was that the ship was trapped in the trough until overwhelmed and sunk by the angry seas. As the *Hydrus* lost buoyancy and sped to the bottom, the iron ore loaded deep in her belly kept her upright until she collided with the floor of Lake Huron. The lifeboat and its five occupants survived the sinking, but the terrible storm took its toll as all died of exposure before reaching shore.

Epilogue

Captain William Leonard was a well-known Great Lakes captain and poet of the time period. He penned a poem on November 14, 1913, about the “White Hurricane.”



The discovery team: (L to R) Fred Nichols, Jared Daniel, Bob Martelli, Gregg Greiser, Jason Shaw. Photo credit: David Trotter.

THE DIRGE OF THE LAKE LANDS

(Two stanzas from this poem)

*Sing us a dirge of the low lands, and
tune the harp to the blast.
While the Angel of Death is fluttering
in the sky that is overcast.
And the gloom of her face will haunt
us in her robes of ghostly white.
When the fleecy folds are blending in
the gathering scowl of night.*

*Down in the midst of the wreckage,
down in the awful deep.
With here and there a wailing cry as
they go to their lasting sleep.*

*Along on the white sea beaches we silently count
our dead.*

*And reckon among our sailor lads the best that
the race has bred.*

For those of us fortunate enough to ply the Great Lakes, especially Lake Huron, the lakes are an alluring mistress with infinite beauty. When the fall of the year arrives and we tempt her with another offshore shipwreck dive, we know the gales of November also come in October. She is reminding us that she is always the *Master*.

David Trotter has been involved in Great Lakes shipwrecks – searching, diving, exploring, and documenting new discoveries – for 40+ years. David's discoveries have been featured on the Discovery Channel, PBS, and NBC, and in The New York Times, Detroit Free Press, Lakeland Boating, Wreck Diving magazine, and Immersed magazine. The Great Lakes are “our treasure” to be enjoyed by all who love our inland seas. The programs are designed for people of all ages to enjoy, and each program is tailored to the audience, from children to grandparents. David can be contacted at dltrtrotter@msn.com or 734-455-7585.

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A Great Lakes Sailor

David Connell

Part 7

By Janis Stein

Join in the conclusion to learn which of VTB's tug/barge units were the first and second to pass through the Soo Locks in 2021.

Today's technology also helps preserve the family unit. The technology when David started sailing in 2005 can't compare to today's means. Gone are the days when there was a rush to the payphone by the sailors as soon as the ship docked. The sailors from a generation ago made it work, too, and being away from family is still hard, but David Facetimes with his family almost every day and that helps tremendously in terms of staying in touch and staying involved by keeping the lines of communication open throughout the season.

The Soo Locks, rather than the weather, dictates the sailing season though the weather plays a role as well. For the most part, the *Joseph H. Thompson's* stone loads are finished by Christmas and sometimes even a little sooner. At that time, the weather has already generated freezing temperatures on land, and many of the stone cargos require the use of water for the shoreside facility to load the boat. Once the facility runs into freezing issues, it's no longer viable for them to run anymore. All the same, those companies push it right until the end. While

David figures it takes eight hours for the average shipment to load, there's also been times when the *Thompson* waited all day trying to get a load.

Once the stone shipments end for the year, all the boats vie for ore, despite encountering numerous delays. Currently, all of the ore originates from Lake Superior ports, and when the Soo Locks close on January 15 every year for maintenance, that effectively shuts down the pipeline of cargo until the locks open back up on March 25, when the shipping industry and maritime enthusiasts alike watch the race to see which ship gets through the locks first. In 2021, the *Laura L. VanEnkevort* and barge *Joseph H. Thompson* was the first boat to transit, with the *Joyce L. VanEnkevort* and *Great Lakes Trader*, the second. While the *Thompson* is small enough to use the MacArthur Lock, VTB's other tug/barge units cannot fit in that lock, and it's estimated up to 75 percent of cargo vessels operating on the Great Lakes have to use the Poe Lock because of their sizes. When it's finished, the new lock under

construction will likely change the look of shipping at the Soo to some degree though that completion date is years into the future.

Shipping companies jockey for locations to lay up their ships at the end of the season based on what work needs to be completed. Those ships that are first to get loaded in the spring often head to Duluth while others travel to Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin, home to the largest shipyard with the most workers. Every five years, ships must come out of the water for inspection underneath the waterline. Boats are floated into graving docks, where blocks are placed in a grid to the shape of the hull. Erie, Pennsylvania; Toledo, Ohio; Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin; and Superior, Wisconsin, are the four places where this can be achieved for larger bulk freighters. The water is then drained from the graving dock to

allow the vessels to come out of the water, so the inspection can be completed, which may take up to a week.

For the past two years, VTB has laid its vessels up in Toledo since most of its operations are now based in the Cleveland area. The tug and its paired barge typically stay in the same place in lay-up,

See **SAILOR** on page 21



A thumbs-up from David Connell, posing by the pilothouse of the *Laura L. VanEnkevort*.
Courtesy of David Connell.

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RAILS from page 15

a sprint, and so the fundraising and purchase of these items will be an ongoing process as time and money allow.

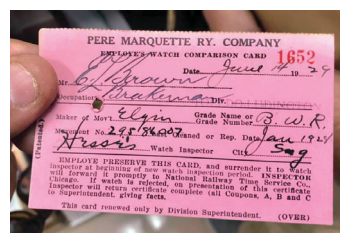
Our first large meeting to begin the intake process, or what is now known as “The Big Sort,” happened September 25 and 26, 2021. One of the bigger issues to tackle was determining what would be in the “working” library and what would be in the more restricted collections. One group of items everyone agreed needed to be in the “working” library was a complete set of the Pere Marquette Historical Society’s newsletter, *Tracks*. Dating to the group’s founding in 1995, these newsletters contained many important articles related to the railway authored by members both past and present and are often sought after by researchers for the information they contain. Over the years, the PMHS accumulated many copies of these, frankly more than we actually needed. After discussion with Pam Yockey, we decided that three full sets would be kept: one as a “working” set available for copying and research by all; one as a backup copy to the working set; and a third set that would be kept in storage for perpetuity. One of the other large issues was the realization that much of the photography collection was contained in folders or binders with acidic content. If left in these folders or on these pages over time, the acids that leech from these items could and most likely would eventually decompose and destroy the very materials they were supposed to protect. As such, Bob Milhaupt, the PMHS curator and archivist, set a plan forth with Ms. Yockey to begin the careful removal and digitization of the images most in danger of damage.



Left to right: Boxes of archival materials yet to be sorted await!

Pam Yockey and Tom Grambau empty a map case to create room for flat files.

Pam Yockey and T.J. Gaffney discuss the processing of archival materials.



Left to right: PMHS treasurer Tim Parker and curator Pam Yockey sort through the PMHS Newsletters.

A Pere Marquette Railway Watch Inspectors Card from 1924 is one of many items in the archives.

Over the next few weeks, various dedicated volunteers worked with Pam Yockey and college interns from Wayne State and Eastern Michigan Universities to begin the process of cataloguing and reorganizing the collection. As this article is being written, we are roughly about one-third of the way through this process. Barring any major setbacks, the goal of the Plymouth Historical Society and the Pere Marquette Historical Society is to have the PMHS archives partially open for research by January of 2022. Is this an ambitious goal? Yes, but given the early success of the process and the growing interest in those willing to help with the organizing as well as the overwhelming interest in researchers wishing to delve into the archive, we feel that this is a very obtainable outcome.

The Plymouth Historical Museum is located at 155 S. Main Street in Plymouth. Hours are 1–4 p.m. on Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. The PHM archive is currently available by appointment only on Saturday and Sunday. The PMHS archive will take time to process, so please call 734-455-8940 x3 before making the trip. For more information, visit <http://plymouthhistory.org/our-history/collections-research/>. You can learn more about the Pere Marquette Historical Society and the collection itself at <https://www.pmhistsoc.org/>.

This concludes the Thumb Rails articles for 2021. We wish to thank our readers for their continued interest. Check back with us in the March 2022 Lakeshore Guardian, where we will continue to discuss a variety of new and ongoing topics related to the rail history of our region!

Gaffney is owner of Streamline Historic Services, and the author of Port Huron, 1880-1960. Images of Rail: Rails Around the Thumb, published by Arcadia Publishing, is also receiving accolades. Learn about the important contributions railroads made to the Thumb area; copies of Rails Around the Thumb are available through the author at 2747 Military Street, Port Huron, Michigan, 48060. Books are also available through Arcadia Publishing at www.arcadiapublishing.com.

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The Doctor's Corner

Behind the Scenes



By Dr. Timothy Grondin

Hi Folks:

This month's article will show you just a little bit of information that hasn't made it to the traditional news outlets.

- 19-year-old football player Jalen Leavey dies at campus after the game
- 23-year-old baseball player Daniel Brito suffers stroke during game
- 19-year-old football player Tirrell Williams dies following on-field collapse
- 21-year-old football player Okafor Kelechi dies during training camp
- 29-year-old football player Lee Moses dies during training session
- 15-year-old footballer Stephen Sylvester collapses and dies during conditioning practice
- 18-year-old football player Emmanuel Antwi dies after collapsing on the field
- 13-year-old football player Cajetan Chinoyelum Nsofor dies during practice
- 15-year-old soccer player Moira Claire Arney dies

- during practice
- 17-year-old football player Nickolas Lawrinas dies suddenly and unexpectedly, cause given by media, unclear
- 17-year-old football player Miquel Lugo collapses and dies during practice
- 16-year-old football player Ivan Hicks dies of cardiovascular disease during scrimmage
- 16-year-old football player Drake Geiger collapses and dies during game
- 15-year-old football player Joshua Ivory collapses and dies during game
- 13-year-old soccer player from the Janus Nova club collapses on the field with cardiac arrest
- 40-year-old half marathon runner collapses during the race and dies a little later
- 25-year-old Canadian university football player Francis Perron dies shortly after a match
- 17-year-old athlete from Colverde collapses while training with cardiac arrest, Mexico
- 16-year-old student Hector Manuel Mendoza dies of a heart attack while training

There are so many accounts of this happening to young, healthy athletes in their prime that it would fill many pages. You have to wonder if they all had anything in common.

Yours in health,
Dr. Grondin

If you have any questions or suggestions for future topics, feel free to email Dr. Grondin at docgrondin@gmail.com, or call his office at 810-984-3344.

Dr. Timothy Grondin started his career as a medic (corpsman) in the Navy where he examined, diagnosed, and treated people for minor illnesses under the direction of an M.D. When Grondin left the military, he became a nurse and worked on the medical/surgical ward at Pontiac Osteopathic Hospital for a number of years. Though he began taking pre-med courses at Oakland University, Grondin changed his mind, choosing to become a chiropractor instead. Grondin graduated from Palmer College of Chiropractic in 1988 and has been in practice in Port Huron since 1989.

DISCLAIMER: The information provided here is intended for educational purposes only. It is not meant to either directly or indirectly diagnose, give medical advice, or prescribe treatment. Please consult with your physician or other licensed healthcare professional for medical diagnosis and treatment.

Happy Holidays!

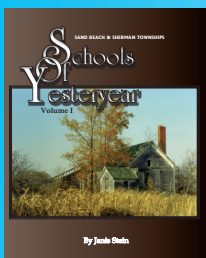
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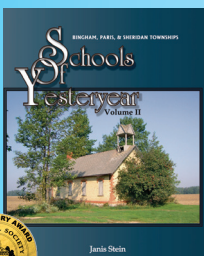
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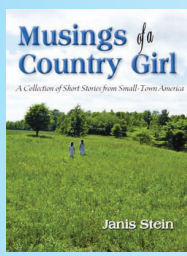
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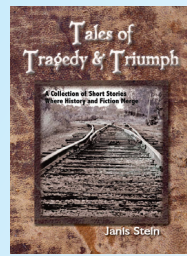
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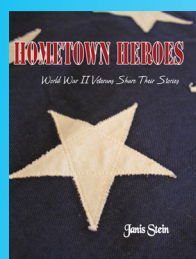
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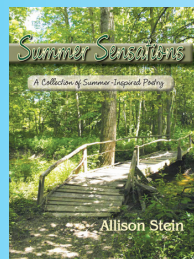
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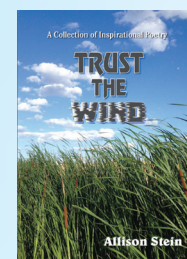
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GENEALOGY from page 5

- bloodline, such as adopted children, aunts, uncles, and cousins.
- The largest genealogy database in the world is FamilySearch.org. The collection is a free resource including family tree, family history, and genealogy records. The online record search is the largest volunteer extraction program in existence. Use their database to search U.S. and state censuses, Ellis Island arrival lists, U.S. state deaths, the U.S. Social Security Death Index, Pedigree Resource File, International Genealogical Index, family history sites, and more.
 - Chinese philosopher Confucius has the longest family tree in the world. Confucius (551–479 BC) was descended from King Tang (1675–1646 BC). The family tree contains more than 86 generations, has about 3 million descendants, and covers a period of more than 2,500 years.
 - In genealogy, GG means great grandfather. The term 4G's means your great-great-great-grandfather. If you and another person share a 3rd great grandfather, your 4G relationship means the two of you are 4th cousins.
 - Surnames were not used until the eleventh century in Europe. Surnames were created using information from four general groups: a) geographical places or features (Hill, Goodland), b) occupation (Weaver, Baker, Smith—short for blacksmith), c) nicknames or appearance (Little, Brown), d) based on the father's name (McAndrew—son of Andrew, Perkins—kin of Peter)
 - Symbols on headstones have hidden meanings that may provide you with valuable information. A rosebud may indicate the person was under 12 years old at death, a rosebud and broken stem means a young person's life was cut short, a partial bloom means the person was in their teens, and a full bloom means they passed away in the prime of their life, usually their twenties. Intertwined or joined rosebuds often mean a mother and child who both died during childbirth or close to the same time.
 - People are not automatically related because they have the same surname. You must seek out heritage clues, such as the family point of origin, and trace each person back to find one common ancestor to prove the family relationship.
 - Genealogy is included in the Bible. The descendants of Adam and Eve are given in the book of Genesis. Chapters 4, 5, and 11 have enumerated genealogy, which gives the lineal male descendants of Abraham.
 - A study conducted in 2013 by Peter Ralph and Graham Coop found that everyone in Europe is descended from Charlemagne, who was the royal leader of Europe from 768 to 814.
 - Because Kings often had both a wife and several mistresses, it is not unusual for people in the United States to be able to trace their ancestry back to European royalty due to the muddled waters of ancestral lines created by illegitimate children.
 - Conducting family history research is the second most popular hobby in the United States according

to 2017 articles in *TIME* and *USA Today*.

- Katz is the oldest surname in the world. Every Katz is a priest and is descended in an unbroken line beginning with Aaron, the brother of Moses. The oldest recorded English name is Hatt, which referred to a hat maker in Norfolk, England.
- The most famous genealogist is Johni Cerny, chief genealogist for the show *Finding Your Roots*. Johni Cerny helped about 200 famous people trace their roots by the time of her death on February 22, 2020, at age 76. Her love of family research began at age 19 when she started a quest to learn the identity of her adopted maternal grandmother's biological parents. She also suspected her own father was not her biological parent. With the help of DNA, she learned who her true biological father was in 2018.
- It is possible for siblings with the same parents to have their DNA show different levels of certain ethnicities. This is because genetic inheritance randomly dishes out gene percentages. This means you may show 20 percent of a specific genetic heritage, such as Scandinavian, while your sibling shows 40 percent of that same ethnicity.

I hope you have enjoyed learning a few fun trivia facts about family research. Maybe these tidbits of information have inspired you to push forward in your search or answered some questions you have. Learning about our family history is fun, inspiring work. Enjoy the search!

Grace Grogan is a freelance writer and a member of Detroit Working Writers.

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SAILOR from page 17

with the tug sitting in the notch, unconnected and free-floating. Upon arrival at the lay-up location, the ballast water is pumped out, which causes the boats to sit high on the water. For the first time in 2020, rather than stay for lay-up, David decided to take time off for Christmas while his daughters are still

young.

In 2021, David returned to the *Joseph Thompson* with the *Laura L. VanEnkevort* serving us the push tug. The *Thompson* is considered the working boat of the fleet and with its shorter runs can average about 100 cargos a year versus VTB's other units that go on longer runs, thus yielding fewer cargos. This is David's sixth year with VTB,

and while he has aspirations of one day becoming a captain, for now he is satisfied with where he's at and happy to work for such a great company.

I would like to thank Great Lakes sailor David Connell for sharing his sailing experiences as well as his photos and offering an in-depth look at life aboard a tug/barge unit.

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A day in the life of a Great Lakes Sailor. Photos courtesy of David Connell.



Mountains

By Allison Stein

If
you
cannot
move mountains,
move a hill. If you
cannot move a hill, move a stone.

Allison Stein is the author of three poetry books. She blogs about her journey as a writer and writing consultant at www.allisonsteinconsulting.com.

smile awhile

Story Time

Three women die together in an accident and go to heaven. When they get there, St. Peter says, "We only have one rule here in heaven. Don't step on the ducks!"

So, they enter heaven, and sure enough, there are ducks all over the place. It is almost impossible not to step on a duck, and although they try their best to avoid them, the first woman accidentally steps on one. Well, along comes St. Peter with the ugliest man she ever saw. St. Peter chains them together and says, "Your punishment

for stepping on a duck is to spend eternity chained to this ugly man!"

The next day, the second woman steps accidentally on a duck and along comes St. Peter, who doesn't miss a thing. With him is another extremely ugly man. He chains them together with the same admonishment as the first woman.

The third woman observes all this and, not wanting to be chained for all eternity to an ugly man, is very careful where she steps. She manages to go months without stepping on any ducks. And then one day, St. Peter comes up to her with the most handsome man she has ever laid eyes on – very tall, long eyelashes, muscular.

St. Peter chains them together without saying a word.

The happy woman says, "I wonder what I did to deserve being chained to you for all of eternity?"

The guy says, "I don't know about you, but I stepped on a duck!"

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Guardians of Freedom

Saluting Those Who Served

Gerald "Jake" Cleary in the U.S. Army Part 4

By Janis Stein

Join in the conclusion as Jake recalls a little excursion that almost led him into enemy territory before he prepared for his trip home.

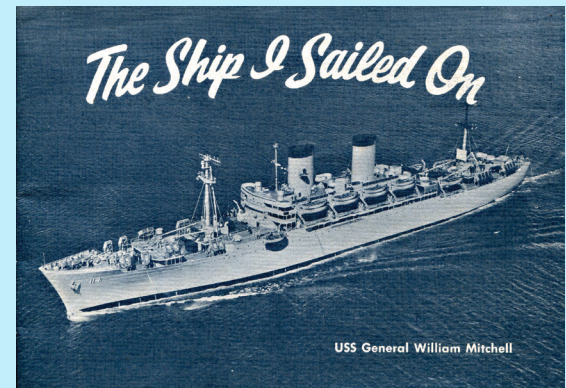
During his time in Korea, Jake made it to Japan twice on R&R. He had had the choice of going to Japan or Hong Kong. He had chosen Japan the first time and decided that the next time around he would visit Hong Kong. As it turned out, Jake had waited too long. There had been a little scrimmage in Hong Kong, and one of the requirements was that a soldier had to go with a buddy. Another requirement was that a trip to Hong Kong had to take place at least 90



Cleary, enjoying a little R&R at the Rainbow Room, Tokyo, Japan, January 12, 1957.

The USS *General William Mitchell*

- Built in 1943 by the Federal Shipbuilding and Drydock Company in Kearny, New Jersey
- Measured 623 feet long, with a beam of 76 feet; gross tons, 17,833; cruising speed, 19 knots
- Named in honor of Brigadier General William (Billy) Mitchell, an advocate of military air power
- Assigned to the Naval Transportation Service on February 29, 1944
- Began operations in the Atlantic through August 1944 carrying troops to and from the East Coast and European bases
- Operated in the Pacific until two weeks after V-E Day
- Assisted in redeployment of forces from Europe to Asia
- Returned veterans from Pacific bases after Japan surrendered
- Became affiliated with Military Sea Transportation Service in March 1950
- Carried thousands of United Nations' troops between the West Coast and Japan and Korea
- Assisted in the evacuation from the Hamhung beachhead
- Traveled more than 165,000 miles of ocean carrying a total of 80,585 passengers during her first 20 months of active duty



days before a soldier went home. With only about 50 days left in Korea, Jake's time was too short, so he made a second trip to Japan.

About the end of February in 1957, Jake and a buddy named Bob decided to check out the 38th parallel, a location that had seen a number of battles. As the pair drove north of Soule, they saw the 7th Division infantry, and the ROK Army was there too, walking up and down the road with full packs, ready to fight. Not having spotted any marker for the 38th parallel, they continued to drive northward. All at once, Jake realized he no longer saw any 7th Division soldiers and neither did Bob. They hadn't seen the 38th parallel yet, so they continued to drive north, and there they saw the ROK Army as far as the eye could see on both sides of the road, all in little pup tents.

They continued to drive until, finally, they hit a dead-end. They came upon a little guard shack, and two Korean officers came out. Jake and Bob saluted them as the Koreans were officers and thus needed to be recognized. Jake asked about the 38th parallel, but these Koreans could barely speak English and they did not understand. Jake spotted a little path that looked like a three-tined fork; the path, directly behind the shanty. Jake pointed to the path, and one of the officers said quite plainly, "You no come back!" Jake assured them they would not be going up there, and then Jake said, "How far are the Reds?" The South Korean officer replied, "Half mile! Half mile! You no come back!"

Jake and Bob turned around and started back

See **FREEDOM** on page 23

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FREEDOM from page 22

the way they had come. They had gone as far north as was allowed before entering North Korea; no one along the way had warned them that they were headed for the demilitarized zone (DMZ). Had they gone any farther, Jake and Bob would have surely



Jake posed for this photo during his furlough at home after completing Basic Training.

been captured and likely killed. On their return, they finally found the 38th parallel; a rock on the side of the road with some writing on it served as the landmark. It was no wonder they had missed it. Mistakenly, Jake and Bob had traveled about

16 miles north of the landmark!

The time came, and Jake received the order he'd been waiting for: He was going home! Jake boarded the *General William Mitchell* once more, the same ship he'd brought over, and they docked at Fort Lewis, Washington. From there, Jake flew to Fort Sheridan, Illinois, and he was discharged on March 21, 1957.

When Jake made it back to Sanilac County, it was a happy occasion, and it was time for Jake to decide his next step. He knew he didn't want a factory job, and when the opportunity presented itself to buy a farm, that's exactly what Jake did. And while he farmed, in 1957, he began to work for the Sanilac County Road Commission, where he was employed for the next 43 years.

The Lakeshore Guardian salutes Gerald "Jake" Cleary for his two years of service in the U.S. Army.

I would like to thank Jake Cleary for sharing his memories and photographs, offering a unique glimpse into the life of a U.S. soldier.

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Jake saved this Christmas dinner menu from 1956 when he was in Korea. The dinner menu offered a wonderful selection: shrimp cocktail with lemon wedges, roast young tom turkey, baked ham, sage dressing, giblet gravy, cranberry sauce, snowflake potatoes, buttered peas, whole grain corn, candied sweet potatoes, Waldorf salad, assorted relishes, assorted fresh fruits, hot rolls, butter, fruit cake, ice cream, mincemeat pie, assorted candy, mixed nuts, coffee, and tea.

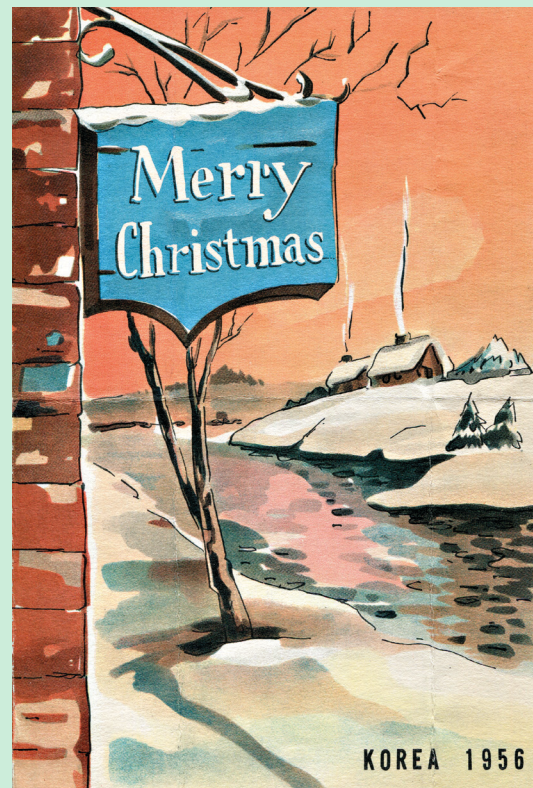
Inside, there was a note to the troops:

Seasons Greetings

For the members of the 10th AAA Group, this Christmas of 1956 underscores the importance of the mission which we are performing. It is only through our dedication to that mission and our effectiveness in its performance that the true spirit of Christmas – Peace on Earth, Good Will Toward Men – can be realized, not only by our families and fellow countrymen in the United States, but also by all the peoples of the Free World.

It is with this thought in mind, and with appreciation of the vital task which you are performing, that I extend to each of you my greetings and best wishes for the Christmas Season and for the coming year.

James S. Billups Jr
Colonel, Artillery
Commanding 10th AAA Group



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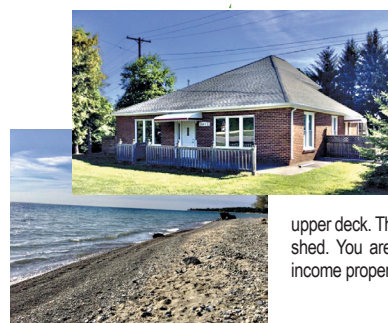
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240' of Lake Huron frontage, on a deep sandy beach, with mature trees on 3 sides of the property offering complete privacy. A total renovation was completed in 2019 from top to bottom, and nothing is over 2 years old. Granite countertops, hardwood floors, ceramic tile, cabinets and hardware, shiplap walls, solid doors, energy-efficient windows, and spray-foam insulation are only a few of the above standard items. The main level consists of a comfortable living area with 2 doorwalls that lead to a 14' x 26' deck. The main level also includes the kitchen, laundry, and master bedroom with its own en suite bathroom. The finished walk-out basement is perfect for a guest's private quarters. The basement doorwall leads to a 14' x 26' concrete, covered patio. There is also a 6' x 10' shed for added storage space.

018-21-0021 - \$749,900



This beautiful brick building has been an icon in Forester for many years. It is currently being renovated and needs to be completed. The downstairs floor plan includes 3 bedrooms, 1 bath, kitchen, and living room with an open floor plan. Upstairs area could be a 1-bedroom studio apartment with a separate outside entrance. You can get a peek at Lake Huron and the private fenced-in back yard from the upper deck. There is also a 24' x 32' pole barn and a 10' x 14' utility shed. You are just steps away from a beach access. Possible income property.

018-21-0016 - \$179,000



Handyman special in the city of Sandusky. This 2-bedroom, 1-bath home sits on a double corner lot. The home is in need of repairs, but the potential is there. The roof and some of the interior work has been started.

This could be your full-time home or possibly a rental income property. Great winter project at a good price! There is also a 10' x 12' storage shed on the property.

018-21-0025 - \$48,000



11.24 acres of buildable vacant land. The property has plenty of wildlife running through it, making it a great hunting spot. This would be a perfect place to build your dream home. Located in the Deckerville School District.

018-21-0024 - \$74,900



Historical building with 1,500 sq ft. of open floor upstairs and down. The wide open staircase makes for easy access to the basement. There is a 30' x 30' addition on the back of the building and a 30' x 50' newer garage plus 2 additional lots included. The building has a new roof on the front part and all the materials to do the back roof. Many new improvements have been made and some need to be completed. Endless commercial possibilities or make it your own private residence. Walking distance to the beach, restaurant, and park.

018-21-0009 - \$124,900



Move-in ready year-around house or your summer getaway on 1.55 acres. The main house has an open concept, which makes it great for entertaining. 2 bedrooms, 1 full bath, and open loft area. The large sunroom is perfect for your morning coffee or that afternoon nap! The 2-car unattached garage is great storage for all of your toys or a perfect man cave. Across the street is a 1-bedroom, 1-bath guest house. There is also storage shed. Close to town and the beautiful Lake Huron!

018-21-0022 - \$179,900



Prime piece of real estate in the village of Port Sanilac. This 2.2 acres is the perfect investment property. There are multiple possibilities, housing units, offices, you decide. Lot size is 300' x 320'. Multi-residential or commercial. A survey is available.

018-21-0004 - \$154,900



This 3-bedroom, 1-bath cottage in the village of Forestville is walking distance to Lake Huron. Open concept and extra sitting area in bedroom. There is new paint and flooring throughout. Enjoy the summer nights around the fire pit and the hot summer days under the back covered porch. There is a 13' x 16' storage shed and a little garden shed for all of your yard equipment and beach toys. This 3-season cottage is only a 1 1/2 hour drive from the Metro Detroit area. It is move-in ready and priced to sell!

018-21-0023 - \$114,900

