

# *The Voice of Maybee*

**Village of Maybee**

**issue 144**

**[www.maybeevillage.com](http://www.maybeevillage.com)**

**P.O. Box 36 734-587-2900 fax 734-587-6534 December 2011**

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## Council Corner

Last night council members discussed and approved the budgets for the year 2012. The village is also working on how to resurface the remaining roads in the village. Members were appointed for the LMR Fire board, Maybee Library board, Zoning board of Appeals, Planning Commission, Recreation committee and the Maybee Day committee.

Damage to village property was brought up and what was the best way to correct the situation without adding extra cost to the village residents.

The past year has been a very busy year for the village council but most people agree that when you see the results it was all worth while.

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## The Library Table 734-587-3680

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### Christmas Ornament Make and Take!

**Event Type:** Arts & Crafts **Age** 10 and up

**Date:** 12/17/2011 **Start Time:** 10:00 AM **End Time:** 11:00 AM

**Drop by the Maybee Library to paint & take home a beautiful ceramic Christmas ornament. Make one for a gift or one to put on your tree!**

**Contact:** [Kelli Venier](#) **Contact Number:** 734-587-3680

Openings (16)

**Lego Building!--Maybee Branch Library**

**Event Type:** Gaming **Age Group(s):** All Ages

**Date:** 11/19/2011 **Start Time:** 11:00 AM **End Time:** 12:00

Let your imagination run wild! Come for some Lego block building. Legos will be provided!

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**Preschool Storytime--Maybee Branch Library**

**Event Type:** Storytimes & Playgroups **Age Group(s):** Children

**Date:** 1/9/2012 **Start Time:** 6:30 PM **End Time:** 7:30 PM

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**HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM THE STAFF OF THE  
MAYBEE BRANCH LIBRARY**



This "When I was a Kid growing up in Maybee" story was written for Christmas, 2007. It is one of my favorites, for every year, my mind drifts back to these same happy childhood memories of Christmas. I hope it entertains some new readers and rekindles the memories of others. I wish all the citizens of our wonderful community of Maybee, and its surrounding area, a most blessed Christmas and a healthy prosperous New Year. And thank you for all the positive feedback and interest you've shown in my stories through the years. I truly value it and appreciate it. Merry Christmas, Maybee!

### Marjorie Van Auker

When I was a Kid growing up in Maybee...by Marjorie VanAuker

When I was a kid growing up in Maybee I started my countdown to Christmas on Thanksgiving Day. That was the traditional beginning of the holiday season. Santa arrived in Detroit during the Hudson's Thanksgiving Day parade, was presented the key to the hearts of all the good little girls and boys everywhere by the mayor of the city, before he settled into the department store for the next month to hear children's requests. That made it official in my mind. I knew the Christmas season had begun!.

One of the good things I remember fondly at that time of year was oranges! They weren't found year-around in the stores as they are today. Early in December the "Orange Man" drove his big truck up from Florida with crates of oranges and grapefruit...and just like the "Watermelon Man" of summer... he always stopped at Dad's Mobil gas station in Maybee. I remember kneeling on the floor next to my dad, (Carl Rupp) as he untwisted the wire hooks on the balsa crates and released the pungent aroma of citrus. With my eyes closed, I inhaled deeply of the fragrance and imagined I could feel the warmth of the Florida sun. Dad would lay out paper bags, attach a price sign and they'd be gone in no time. (But not before a few were set aside to take home for us, too!)

When I was very small, my Uncle Wayne (Dad's brother) and his family...Aunt Gretchen, Cousins Bill, Nancy and Mary...lived here in Maybee on Short Street. Christmas Eve would find the whole Rupp family, including all the great-aunts and uncles from the homestead on Hoffman Road, gathered there awaiting the arrival of Santa. It seemed he would NEVER get there! About 9pm, Grandpa (John Rupp) would get weary of waiting and proclaim that Santa apparently wasn't coming and he was getting thirsty, so he was "going to the bar for a beer"! Naturally, he'd be gone no more than 15-20 minutes and we'd hear the stomp of boots on the porch and bells jingling and Santa would enter the front door!

The four of us grandkids were lined up by age, cross-legged on the floor. Bill, the oldest, was on one end and I, the youngest, on the other. Nancy and Mary were safely ensconced between. All those gaily wrapped presents under the tree had been off limits to us for WE had to under-go the

annual interrogation....not just by Santa, but by his companion, BLACK PETER! The tradition of Black Peter, dressed similarly to a witch and carrying switches, dates back to the Middle Ages and was originally a Dutch custom. It was his job to *advise* St. Nick which children merited receiving gifts based upon how good they'd been all year.( It was astounding that a tradition from the Middle Ages was still tormenting four little kids in Maybee in the 1950's!)

Santa's suit had faded to pink over the years and he was wearing a *paper mask*, yet I sat there totally gullible, holding down my end of the line...bare little legs vulnerable to Black Peter's switch, shaking in my little black patent leather shoes....and waiting for the inevitable..."Have YOU been a good little girl all year?" Time stood still. HOW do I answer THAT?? After all, Santa knows if you lie...not to mention, there sat Mom and Dad ready to set the record straight if I said "Yes"! And if I said "No"...well, horror of horrors, no presents for me! But Black Peter eventually interceded for each of us and we were given the sign to run and find our gifts under the tree. Whew! Once again.... we escaped a dire fate for another year! Santa and his faithful companion left us happily exploring the contents of our boxes amongst a pile of shredded paper and ribbons. Of course, when Grandpa returned from the bar (and Aunt Helen reappeared from the kitchen where she had allegedly been washing dishes), we filled them in on Santa's visit. They were dismayed that another Christmas Eve had come and they missed him again!

On Christmas Day the whole Rupp family came together again for a bountiful meal. Huge steaming bowls of aromatic delights graced the table. Hunger pangs stung and torture reigned supreme as Grandma Geisler (Aunt Gretchen's mother) gave what seemed like the longest prayer ever written (and in German no less, so we had no clue what she was saying). Finally our plates were circulated around the big table and 'fixed' by the adults before we journeyed to the 'kids' table. All year Grandma had saved pennies in a tall white vase in her kitchen. At Christmas the pennies were divided up four ways, put in some sort of holiday receptacle and placed in front of the children's plates. However, there was a catch to this 'stash of cash'....no pennies could be claimed until a clean plate was presented! So with eyes closed, or breath held, we managed to consume the Brussels sprouts, squash and black olives and attain our monetary prize. Grandma was a wise one...none of us grew to be picky eaters...and today we grandkids include Brussels sprouts in our holiday dinners to honor her memory.

Nowadays, Christmas comes earlier every year. It no longer waits for Thanksgiving. It's entirely possible to buy Halloween candy, Christmas lights and a bathing suit (from the 75% off end-of-summer clearance rack) all in the same trip. But whenever the Christmas season begins, we're all given one last chance to slow down and remember our roots, to celebrate the traditions and relish the memories that link us to the Christmases of our youth...such as these that I have from when I was a kid growing up in Maybee.

**Merry Christmas to all and a Very Happy New Year!**

# 2011 Christmas Tree Recycling Program

The Monroe County Solid Waste Program and the Monroe County Road Commission are pleased to offer free Christmas Tree Recycling to all Monroe County residents at the following locations:

- BEDFORD TOWNSHIP  
Carr Park on Lewis Avenue north of Temperance  
Road, Temperance – 734.847.6791
- BERLIN CHARTER TOWNSHIP  
8000 Swan View Drive, Newport – 734.586.2187
- IDA TOWNSHIP HALL  
3016 Lewis Avenue, Ida – 734.269.3045
- MONROE CHARTER TOWNSHIP HALL  
4925 West Dunbar Road, Monroe – 734.241.5501
- CITY OF PETERSBURG/SUMMERFIELD  
TOWNSHIP  
87 Railroad Street, Petersburg – 734.279.1210  
(behind the DPW yard)

All tinsel and decorations must be removed from the tree prior to recycling. Please call the numbers listed above for times and additional information.



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**ALL SITES LISTED ABOVE WILL BE OPEN  
DECEMBER 26 THROUGH JANUARY 22**

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For more information on this and other County-wide recycling programs please contact:  
Jamie Dean, B.S., M.S.Ed., Monroe County Solid Waste Coordinator  
Telephone: 734.240.7909 Toll Free: 888.354.5500 Ext. 7909 E-mail: [Jamie\\_dean@monroemi.org](mailto:Jamie_dean@monroemi.org)

# RECYCLE NOW



## Green Your Cleaning

An inventory of cleaning products in most homes will include detergents, bleaches, polishes, soaps and cleansers. These products keep our homes clean, but can also be dangerous and hazardous by contributing to indoor air pollution, and be poisonous or harmful if they are inhaled or come into contact with skin. In fact, cleaning products may be some of the most toxic materials that you have in your house.

What can you do to protect your health and the environment? Replace your toxic products with these 8 basic do it yourself cleaning ingredients: baking soda, Borax, distilled white vinegar, hydrogen peroxide, lemons or bottled lemon juice, olive oil, vegetable based liquid castile soap and washing soda. These products can be used in many different ways to clean your home in a more green and healthy way. If you are not quite ready for a complete conversion to these green cleaning techniques try shopping for cleaning products that have been manufactured with less toxic materials and have received green certification – even replacing just one product at a time can make a difference.

Looking for more information and recipes – visit the Green Guide at [www.howdini.com](http://www.howdini.com) for more details. Remember, unwanted toxic cleaners should not be thrown in the trash for disposal, bring them along with the other hazardous materials that you no longer need to the Household Hazardous Waste Collection events – the last event for 2011 is Saturday, October 8 from 8am - noon at the Bedford Township Hall, 8100 Jackman Road, Temperance.

### Interested in becoming an official Michigan Green School?

It is a fun and easy way for your school to receive recognition for its green efforts!  
Applications are due March 1, 2012.

### Do you have an idea for an environmental project and need funding?

Apply for a grant from the Monroe County Environmental Fund Grant Program.  
Applications are due annually on October and March 15.

Earth Day 2012 planning is underway. Mark your calendars for April 21, 2012.

Email [Jamie\\_dean@monroemi.org](mailto:Jamie_dean@monroemi.org) for details on any of the above!

*Jamie R. Dean*

Jamie R. Dean, B.S., M.S.Ed.  
Recycling and Green Energy Division Director



To receive a paper copy of the Resource Guide, please contact Jamie Dean at (734) 240-7909 or [jamie\\_dean@monroemi.org](mailto:jamie_dean@monroemi.org).  
Do you want to receive an email notification of Solid Waste Events?  
Email [jamie\\_dean@monroemi.org](mailto:jamie_dean@monroemi.org) with the words "mail list" in the subject line.

Healthy  
**MONROE**  
RECYCLING AND GREEN ENERGY DIVISION

## RecycleNOW Material Preparation

- 1) All of the following materials may be co-mingled (*mixed in the same bin*). We accept **ONLY** containers that held food, beverages, detergent or bleach. Rinse and flatten if possible. Labels may stay on. **GLASS CLEAR OR COLORED** - Bottles and jars. Remove lids/caps. **No Ceramics, Pyrex, Mirrors, Window Glass, etc. TIN/ALUMINUM** - Cans only! **PLASTIC JUGS OR BOTTLES ONLY.** ♻️ ♻️ labels on the bottom: discard caps.
- 2) **NEWSPAPERS - (SATURDAY DROP-OFFS ONLY)** please do not put in plastic bags. Glossy inserts may stay. **NO CATALOGS, MAGAZINES, TELEPHONE BOOKS, TEXTBOOKS, etc. NO PLASTIC BAGS, MOTOR OIL, BOTTLES OR PESTICIDE CONTAINERS.**

These directions are for Monroe County/BFI **RecycleNOW** drop-offs only. Rely on your collection agent or municipality for materials collected and preparation directions for other programs.

For further **RecycleNOW** questions please call the Monroe County Solid Waste Coordinator at 734.240.7909. For long distance you may call our Toll Free line at 1.888.354.5500 Ext. 7909.

### OTHER RECYCLING OPPORTUNITIES

#### Stevens Disposal & Recycling Service - RECYCLING ZONE

16929 Via West Rd. - Tuesdays and Thursdays - 7 am - 6 pm

Newspapers, magazines, all types of office paper, catalogs, phone books, cereal and tissue boxes, books, junk mail, cardboard, aluminum and tin cans, maps, envelopes, plastic wrap, plastic bags, #1 - #7 plastics, paper bags, clear glass, and steel cans.

Newspaper and Magazines - visit [www.papertrier.com](http://www.papertrier.com) for a list of locations

# WANTED

## RECYCLE YOUR UNWANTED ELECTRONICS

We want your desktop computers, laptops, monitors, televisions, scanners and printers, video games, VCR and DVD players, stereo and radio equipment, keyboards and mice. All materials are accepted free of charge.

Recycling electronics prevents contamination from toxic chemicals including lead and mercury and also allows valuable resources such as steel, glass, plastic and precious metals to be recovered.

## MATERIALS ARE ACCEPTED AT:

Monroe County Habitat for Humanity Restore  
840 LaPlaisance Road, Monroe.

THE RESTORE ACCEPTS MATERIALS

*Tuesday-Saturday from 9am-5pm*

Find us on **facebook** - search for the Green Monroe County page!

Looking for more information on recycling materials like batteries, CFL bulbs and electronics? Visit [www.mycoville.com/monroe](http://www.mycoville.com/monroe) for drop off locations.



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