

The Voice of a Lee

Village of Maybee issue 147 www.maybeevillage.com
P.O. Box 36 734-587-2900 fax 734-587-6534 April 2012

Council Corner

At the last council meeting members viewed the damage caused by a driver to Bluebush Road at Raisin Street. This matter will be turned over to the Sherriff's dept. Council members also listened to messages received at the village office in regards to alleged ordinance violations. The caller did not leave a name or number so council could not tell if the caller even lives in the village. The village Ordinance Officer, Terry Gramlich, only handles information that has a name and phone number to contact.

The village is also looking into the possibility of resurfacing Blazer Road and crack sealing Baldwin Road. The railroad has indicated that it plans to resurface the crossing on Baldwin this year.

The Library Table 734-587-3680

Preschool Storytime--Maybe Branch Library

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

Mondays- Start Time: 6:30 PM **End Time:** 7:30 PM

Fridays- Start Time:10:00 AM **End Time:**11:00 AM

Treat of the Month

Event Type: Arts & Crafts **Age Group(s):** All Ages

Date: 4/24/2012 **Start Time:** 5:00 PM **End Time:** 5:45 PM

It's time to put two great things together, food and crafting! Join us for some creative food crafting! Amaze your family and friends with these fun and easy food projects! This class is for ages 8-13 years please. Class size will be limited so please register!

✍ Attendee must be between the ages of 8 Years and 13 Years old.

✍ Attendee **MUST** give 24 hour cancellation notice to allow others on the waiting list to attend.

Friends of Maybee Book Sale

The Friends of the Maybee Library will be holding their annual book sale during the Maybee Day Festival. Stop on in and see what you can find. Books for all ages.

BOOK DONATIONS NEEDED

The Maybee Branch Library needs gently used books in good condition for the Downtown Maybee Day Book Sale.

(No magazines, encyclopedia or damaged books)



London-Maybee-Raisinville FIRE DEPARTMENT

L.M.R. Fire Department is accepting applications for paid on call Firefighters.
All applicants must pass a pre-employment physical and Drug screen. For further information or to obtain an application please contact Chief Rick Smith at 734-915-7509.

DOWNTOWN MAYBEE DAY

This year the festival will be Saturday, May 19
Information and crafter applications will be on the village website by the first of March. Anyone interested in helping out please contact the village office.

St. Joseph Salad Luncheon
Saturday, May 2nd @ Noon
Madonna Hall
Everyone welcome

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

When I was a kid growing up in Maybee...I spent the first six years of my life in a log cabin...which gives me a great conversation starter with Abe Lincoln should I ever meet up with him in the Great Beyond.

My dad, Carl Rupp, started operating the Mobil Station on the corner of Blue Bush and Blazer in May of 1940, just five days before marrying my mother (Esther Gotha). The station was a small, gray, weather-worn log cabin situated very close to the corner of the intersecting roads. Two tall gas pumps set out front in the driveway, allowing cars to be serviced from both sides.

Seven years into Mom and Dad's business venture, I joined the family. Since Mom also worked at the station alongside Dad, my buggy was wheeled into place next to the pot-bellied stove and I became a permanent fixture under the watchful eye of my parents as I grew from infancy to school age.

The cabin had many interesting features both inside and out. As you faced the cabin from the road, a full-sized outdoor hoist was to the right of it. Also, on that side of the station (the south side), was a white wooden storage garage for cases of oil and tires plus a "state-of-the-art" two-door outhouse...one side for the ladies and the other for the men. There was a huge box elder tree between the shed and Big Sandy Creek that offered up lots of smelly leaves and plenty of seeds to keep me fascinated as I got older. As well as the practical aspects outside of the cabin, there were the aesthetic. A large, pretty clump of deep purple iris nestled up against the cabin on the south, while the north side, sported tall, colorful hollyhocks in abundance.

To the left of the station was a small, thick-walled ice house plastered with metal advertising signs like Dad's Root Beer and Pepsi Cola. Inside the ice house were large blocks of ice from the Billingsley Ice Company in Monroe. They were scored with deep grooves so when Dad hit them just right with the ice pick, they split perfectly into smaller chunks. I loved the cold smell of the ice house and poked my nose into it whenever I could. And I relished sucking on splinters of ice that broke off when Dad was waiting on ice customers. What a great treat on a hot summer day!

I have wonderful memories of that little cabin. The old roll top desk, pushed against the wall in the corner, was where I took my afternoon naps, stretched out on the desk top under its 'pigeon holes'. The radio that sat on top of it... always tuned in to WJR...played songs by such singers as Patti Paige and Bing Crosby. I loved the old radio shows, too, such as "The Shadow Knows", Fibber McGee and Molly, The Bickerson's and Arthur Godfrey playing his ukulele. Lunchtime in the winter would fill the cabin with the comforting aroma of Campbell's soup as Mom warmed it on top of the pot bellied stove.

Amongst the other furnishings, there was an old church pew for "congregators" to sit while visiting, a crank telephone on the wall (with a two-digit phone number), a brass cash register, a backless wooden chair, an ice cream freezer, a Coke machine, a glass domed display case, the kerosene pump and a couple large distilled water jugs cradled in wooden frames. (That water was used to fill batteries.) It was cozy and snug, to say the least!

On Saturday night, folks who lived in the country always came to town to shop and to socialize. Businesses were closed on Sundays in those days, so they bought groceries, gassed up their cars and hung around the stores visiting. Our Saturday night regulars were usually old bachelors who ate ice cream bars, drank Vernor's Gingerale and told stories. When the cabin got crowded, I had to sit on the corners of the distilled water crates out of the way...not a very comfortable seat for my little fanny! But the bachelors often treated me to my choice of pop or ice cream so it was a small price to pay for the inconvenience!

Dad created a makeshift storage area, hidden from view, by positioning the ice cream freezer and glass display case a few feet away from the wall. I would retreat 'behind the counter' when I wanted to be alone. I'd sit on a box and look out the little window watching the world go by on Blue Bush Road. My folks would often buy produce from their

farmer customers, especially farm fresh eggs or seasonal fruits and vegetables, and stash them there until Mom could take them home. It was there one day that I found two quarts of ripe purple plums. I sampled the plums and found them to be sweet and succulent. By the time Dad discovered me, I had totally consumed one whole quart! He didn't get angry. In his wisdom, he saw humor in life's experiences. Plus, knowing that 'today's plum is tomorrow's prune', he already knew the probable fate of my over-indulgence and figured that was punishment enough!

I loved that old cabin and I think many others did, too. There never was a shortage of laughter or customers that dropped in for gas and stayed to talk a while. Throughout my young life I had always wanted a playhouse. Now I realize I DID have one and I got to spend six glorious years of my childhood playing in it...while I was a kid growing up in Maybee.

* Some new readers have expressed interest in stories about my growing up in a gas station, so I am rerunning a couple written in 2007. Next time, Rupp's Friendly Service, Part II – the 'new' station.



The spring is upon us which means it is time to do some cleaning! Take advantage of the upcoming collection events for tires, medications and hazardous waste and dispose of your unwanted materials the right way.

Passenger Vehicle Tires:

Register now through May 4 by clicking [HERE](#). Registrations are required. There is a limit of 7 tires per household. Tires should be clean and off the rim. This program is for Monroe County residents only, materials from businesses will not be accepted. The location, date and time of the event will be disclosed upon registration.

Unwanted Medications:

When: Saturday, May 5th, 8 am - noon

Where: Mercy Memorial Hospital, 718 North Macomb St., Monroe

What is accepted: Any unwanted prescription and over the counter medications, medication samples, personal care products and veterinary medications will be accepted. No medical waste; including sharps or syringes will be accepted. Bring medications in their original container with all personal information blacked out. This event is a partnership between the Monroe County Substance Abuse Coalition, the Monroe County Prosecutor's Office, the Michigan State Police, the Monroe County Sheriff's Department and the Monroe County Solid Waste Program.

Why: Flushing or tossing unwanted medications could contaminate water supplies and harm wildlife. Medications tossed in the trash can possibly be stolen and abused, and leaving unwanted medications around the house presents a danger to children guests and pets. Reducing access to prescription medication is a strategy to address prescription drug abuse among community youth.

Household Hazardous Waste:

When: Saturday, May 5th, 8 am - noon

Where: Monroe County Drain Commission, 1005 South Raisinville Road, Monroe

What is accepted: Acceptable items include a variety of common items from your house or garage such as paints, cleaners, pesticides, herbicides, batteries, automotive fluids, mercury containing items, fluorescent bulbs, aerosols, poisons, flammable items and solvents.

Why: Proper disposal of hazardous materials is necessary. According to the U.S. EPA certain types of HHW have the potential to cause physical injury; contaminate septic tanks or wastewater treatment systems and groundwater if poured down drains or toilets; and present hazards to children and pets if left around the house.

Don't forget - unwanted electronic items are accepted year around at no charge at the Monroe County Habitat for Humanity Restore, 840 LaPlaisance Road, Monroe. The Restore is open from 9 am - 5 pm, Tuesday through Saturday.

For more information, call 734-240-7900 or email jamie_dean@monroemi.org.
Additional events are scheduled for 2012 - go to www.co.monroe.mi.us/recycling for details and information on other solid waste programs available.