

The Voice of a Lee

Village of Maybee issue 123 www.maybeevillage.com
P.O. Box 36 734-587-2900 fax 734-587-6534 January 2010

Council Corner

At the village councils last meeting Marge Van Auken was re-appointed President Pro-Tem. The council also discussed the need to resurface the road that leads to the village lagoon system. Since easy access must be maintained to service the lagoons council approved the re-stoning and grading of the road. The council is still waiting for two more quotes on placing cameras in the village to help protect the residents. If anyone notices street lights that are not working, call the village office @ 587-2900 and leave a message with the location or send an e-mail to maybeevillage@juno.com and the village will file the necessary report to get it fixed.

The Library Table

734-587-3680

Preschool Storytime

Mondays @ 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM & Fridays @ 10:30 - 11:30

Preschool Storytime is intended for kids ages 3 years to 5 years. This program offers stories, songs, movement activities, art experiences, and fun each week.

Wimpy Kids Only, No Nerds Allowed

February 11 2010 Time 6:00 PM

If you know that the trouble with nerds is that they give wimpy kids like you a bad name! Then this program is for you. Watch out for the cheese touch!

Registration is required. Please, call the branch where you plan on attending to register.

February 05 2010 Time 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM 734-587-3680

Contact Kelli Strimbel

Bring the book you're reading. Talk about what you are reading, eat some pizza, and talk some more.

We start off the year with the Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society by Mary Ann Shaffer. The letters comprising this small charming novel begin in 1946, when single, 30-something author Juliet Ashton writes to her publisher to say she is tired of covering the sunny side of war and its aftermath. When Guernsey farmer Dawsey Adams finds Juliet's name in a used book and invites articulate--and not-so-articulate--neighbors to write Juliet with their stories putting Juliet back in the path of war stories. Letters move from incident to incident--including the formation of the Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society while Guernsey was under German occupation--and person to person. But Juliet's quips are so clever, the Guernsey inhabitants so enchanting and the small acts of heroism so vivid and moving that one forgives the authors for not being able to settle on a single person or plot. Come and join in.

New members are always welcome. Book Club meets at 7 p.m. at the Maybee Library.

Last issue of the Voice of Maybee being mailed out to the homes

Starting in February the Voice of Maybee will be arriving by e-mail. To make sure that you do not miss a copy of the local paper, go to www.maybeevillage.com and on the left side of the home page click on "join our mailing list". Drop down to the bottom of the page and put in your e-mail address and submit and you will automatically receive the paper when it comes out. If you do not want the paper to be sent to you but would still like to read it then go to Voice of Maybee and you will be able to select the issue that you would like to read starting with November, 2009. For those that do not have a home computer you will be able to stop by the Maybee Library and use their computer or print out a copy for later.

Future issues of the paper will not be limited to a set number of pages, lack of color or the inability to insert pictures. Like the larger chain papers the cost of circulation was rising at a rapid pace and the rules on how the paper had to be folded and "taped" made it impractical to keep publishing. I too am sorry for there is nothing more that I enjoy than to pick up a book or paper, grab my cup of coffee and find a comfortable chair to relax in. So as they say, "don't shoot the messenger", instead join me as we move into the future.

Mary Gaylor

Big Anniversary coming.

The word is that St. Paul Lutheran Church is turning 150 years old this year. Plans are in the works for the big celebration so keep watching for more news in the future about this big event. Think Abraham Lincoln and Civil War times when you think about when the church was started.

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

When I was a kid growing up in Maybee in the '50's and 60's, I was a TV junkie. Television and kids in my era pretty much grew up together. TV was just coming into being around the time I was born and not everyone owned one. It was quite the event when someone's family finally decided to make the investment. I barely remember the first TV my dad bought...but I do recall it was more wood than TV. In other words, it had to be a large enough "piece of furniture" to house the inner workings which consisted of a large quantity of various sized tubes. The screen itself was relatively small. But the concept was incredible! You could actually watch real people acting, singing, dancing and talking at the very moment it was happening right there in your living room!

I was hooked. After school TV...evening TV... Saturday afternoon TV...I could recite the TV listings by memory. I was even captivated by the test patterns that were shown on the screen before programming for the day started and when it ended at night. That's right...TV actually *went off* after the 11 o'clock news and didn't come back on until around 6 or 7 o'clock in the morning...and the day's broadcasting always started with the "Star Spangled Banner". And the first program of the day was the news that happened overnight. News programs were a whole 15 minutes long and managed to include sports and weather, too. They presented "just the facts", no human interest or fluff stories...

I have such vivid memories of the early children's programs. The characters seem like old friends to me because they were so much a part of my daily life. I loved the sweet gentle nature of Miss Frances on Ding Dong School and Artis Conneally (I think) on Romper Room. The way Buffalo Bob Smith talked to the puppets on Howdy Doody made them *seem* real. Clara Belle and Princess Summerfall Winterspring *were* real people but Howdy, Phineas T. Bluster, Flub-a-Dub and Dilly Dally, to name a few, came to be regarded as real. Bert Tillstrom's "Kukla, Fran and Ollie" puppet show was another favorite of mine. Ollie was a "snaggle-tooth" dragon, if you recall (because he had one big tooth sticking out of his mouth)...not sure what Kukla was, but he played straight man to Ollie. On Saturday I watched Milky the Clown (out of Detroit) do magic tricks in between segments of a cowboy movie. His magic words were always "Twin Pines!" because Twin Pines Dairy was the local sponsor. I recall another obscure program where the "star" was a little character named Twinkie. And he would show how to draw pictures. I sent for a kit that came with a piece of stiff plastic that adhered to the TV screen and three very fat stinky crayons. You could draw along with Twinkie and make colored pictures! I have yet to encounter anyone who remembers this show! And I waited every day for the Story Princess to come floating down the staircase from the clouds on the Kate Smith Show to tell her five-minute fairy tale. (Kate Smith of "God Bless America" fame had a daily late afternoon variety show.)

On Saturdays there were cowboy shows by the score...like Gene Autry, Hop-along Cassidy, Roy Rogers and Dale Evans, Kit Carson, the Cisco Kid (...Oh, Ponchoooo...Oh, Ceescooooo...) Annie Oakley and The Lone Ranger (Who *was* that masked man?) Saturday afternoon also offered up reruns of old Japanese horror movies such as "Godzilla" dubbed in English. Godzilla would rise up out of the ocean and flatten tall buildings and cars in Tokyo while thousands of terrified Japanese fled through the streets yelling in English dialog which didn't synchronize with the movement of their mouths. THAT was entertainment!

As a teenager I watched American Bandstand faithfully. Everyone wanted to be a Bandstand dancer. Those teens set the fashion crazes. And perennial teenager Dick Clark never seemed to age. (Everyone remembers how new songs were introduced..."I'll give it an eight. It's got a good beat and it's easy to dance to..."). TV made us a part of history, too. I watched Elvis perform live for the first time on Ed Sullivan's Sunday night show when Elvis was only allowed to be filmed from the waist up because of his "questionable" hip gyrations! And the Beatles's first U.S. performance, also on Ed's show, was barely audible for all the noise of the screaming female audience. I even recall once watching the tap dancer, Pinkie Lee collapse on his own show from a heart attack...that was definitely live TV!

The 60's brought bigger screens, remote controls and "Living Color". An announcer would say, "This show is brought to you in living color" while a large peacock fanned its colorful tail to demonstrate it. Later that era, we heard "filmed before a live studio audience"...no more canned laughter like the supplied laughs in the background of "Ozzie and Harriet" and "I Love Lucy" or "Leave it to Beaver".

Yes, early TV was pretty basic but it fueled my childhood imagination. One day I could wrap myself in Mom's old ruffled Priscilla curtains, make a crown out of tin foil and cardboard and be the new Miss America...the next I could play school and be "Our Miss Brooks"...and on another, I could strap on my holster, jump on my faithful saw horse, Silver Star, and chase outlaws out of town with my cap gun.

TV technology is happening so quickly today, we don't have a chance to enjoy the latest advancement before it's obsolete. But in those days we did, and I'm sure glad I got to experience TV's beginnings when I was a kid...*growing up in Maybee.*

