

Fruitport Marine completes basic training

Jeremiah L. "Jerry" Parker, the son of Douglas and Jennifer Parker of Fruitport, completed Marine Corps basic training with honors in April at Camp Pendleton in California.

Jerry is a 2011 graduate of Fruitport High School. His grandparents are Diane and Jim Parker of Fruitport. •



'Joe Beyrle: A hero of two nations' open at museum center

(Submitted by the Lakeshore Museum Center)

One of the most incredible stories that emerged from World War II is shared in a new exhibit now open at the Lakeshore Museum Center, 430 W. Clay Avenue, in Muskegon.

Joe Beyrle was born in Muskegon in 1923 and enlisted in the Army in 1942. He joined the elite 506th Parachute Infantry Regiment of the 101st Airborne Division where he earned the nickname "Jumpin' Joe."

After parachuting into France on D-Day, June 6, 1944, Joe was captured by the Germans and held in several POW camps for a period of seven months. He escaped from his captors several times, eventually running into and fighting with a Russian armored battalion. Joe is one of a few soldiers known to have fought with both the American and Russian armed forces.

After his capture, the Beyrle family received a telegram informing them that Joe was killed in action after his dog tags were found on another soldier's body. A funeral was held for him at St. Joseph's Church in Muskegon. Two years later, Joe married his sweetheart JoAnne there.

The exhibit includes Joe's dress uniform and medals, photographs and information from family scrapbooks. Visitors will enter a replica of a World War II aircraft for an audio-visual experience recounting the missions of the Airborne Division.

Family history and information about life in Muskegon during WWII are also explored in the exhibit. For the past two years, an exhibit about his military career has traveled throughout Russia and the United States and it is now home in Muskegon. The exhibit will be on display through February, 2013.

The museum is open weekdays from 9:30 to 4:30 and weekends from noon to 4 p.m. Admission is always free. •

From sawdust to symphonies

(Submitted by Lakeshore Museum Center)

From "Sawdust to Symphonies," a new exhibit now on display in the City Barn at the Hackley and Hume Historic Site, explores the development of musical entertainment as Muskegon grew from a rough and ready sawmill town into a manufacturing and transportation hub weathering the Depression years.

Photos, artifacts and archival materials illustrate the variety of talented Muskegon residents who contributed to the rich cultural life of this community. a nod to the "naughty" side of entertainment gives a glimpse into the entertainment options in the red light district of the lumbering era and the dance halls popular in the Roaring Twenties.

The Hackley and Hume Historic Site is located at 484 W. Webster Avenue at Sixth Street and is open from noon to 4 p.m. on Wednesday through Sunday. There is no charge to view the exhibit; however, there is a \$3 fee for guests 13 and older to tour the Hackley and Hume houses. For more information, call the Lakeshore Museum Center at (231) 722-0278, or visit www.lakeshoremuseum.org. •

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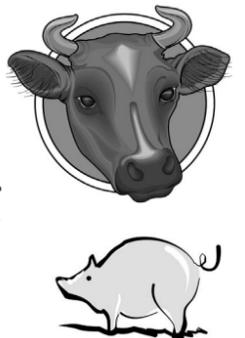
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