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Tuesday, March 13, 2012
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12:00 pm to 5:45 pm

American Casualties

1. Gulf War.....382
2. War in Iraq (as of 4/5/08)..... 4,000+
3. Revolutionary War.....25,324
4. Korean War.....36,574
5. Vietnam War.....58,209
6. World War I.....116,516
7. World War II.....405,399
8. Civil War.....625,000
9. Unborn Babies ..... 50,000,000+

...since abortion was legalized in 1973

This information provided by
First Congregational Church of Fruitport
3212 E Pontaluna Road

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SOLVE THE SECRET CODE !

UNSCRAMBLE THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS USING THE CODE PROVIDED.

CODE: A=X B=Y C=Z D=A E=B F=C G=D H=E I=F J=G K=H L=I M=J N=K O=L P=M Q=N R=O S=P T=Q U=R V=S W=T X=U Y=V Z=W

ZKDW NLQG RI WDEOH LV

LQ HYHUB VFKRRO ?

D PXOWLSOLFDWLRQ WDEOH.

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CODE: A=W B=X C=Y D=Z E=A F=B G=C H=D I=E J=F K=G L=H M=I N=J O=K P=L Q=M R=N S=O T=P U=Q V=R W=S X=T Y=U Z=V

ALEX XSSPW HS CSY RIIH

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QYPXM-TPMIVW.

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Mark Deiderich faces eviction

By Mariann Cooper

Under pressure from his neighbors, Fruitport Township has taken action against Mr. Mark Diederich who lives at 2636 E. Pontaluna Road. A quiet man who has kept to himself, bent over from the wear of life and labor, is the subject of controversy in Fruitport township.

Some of the neighbors have been trying to get Diederich "taken care of" for years. His 100 year old childhood home has also seen the effects of time, and with struggling to eke out a living,

Mark has finished the roof on the other side and was almost finished with this side when the township turned off his power.

Diederich hasn't been able to update the house. A few years ago some trees damaged his tall two-story roof and with ropes in trees, he managed to get materials up on top and repair the hole with new boards and the new roofing is almost completed. However, Fruitport township took measures to shut off the power so now he can't even use his power tools to finish.

The township asked a building inspector from Norton Shores to draw up an order and the Fruitport township board voted to enforce it. This is the only home Mark has known. He used what little funds he had to hire a lawyer, who obviously didn't protect him, and now he rides his bicycle because he couldn't pay to license his truck.

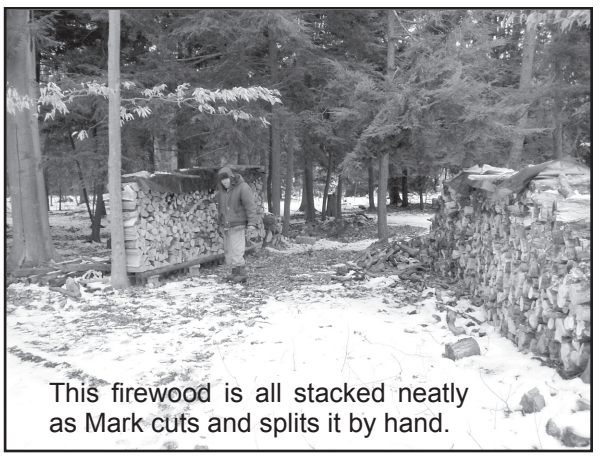
He's not a man to ask for help and will do the best to care for himself without complaint, but who can protect this man from his government? Would Habitat for Humanity help? Who can he turn to when his neighbors and the township attack him? Diederich served his country in the military years ago. He never was married and has a sister and her family who have tried to help but are busy with their own lives, and unable to overcome the governments actions.

While the neighbors are pushing to make him "fix" his property, every fall some throw their leaves over onto his land because Diederich's father gave them permission years ago before he passed away. Evidently their leaves aren't a problem to them. And all of these neighbors moved in after Mark and his dad were doing the very same thing Mark is doing now. I would have thought that because he's lived there since childhood, has continued to take lawn debris and compost-able

Mark stands behind his firewood pile that will be a cord when he is finished and ready to sell.

materials on his property as his father did since the 1940's and 50's, and hasn't bothered anyone, he would be "grand-fathered in."

Diederich is a quiet, polite and self-sufficient man and isn't one to beg for help, and he doesn't



This firewood is all stacked neatly as Mark cuts and splits it by hand.

deserve to be persecuted like this. Our government should PROTECT people like Mark instead of PERSECUTE him. Mark does own quite a few acres of land. I wonder if this is what would be considered harassment by Fruitport Township which is intended to force him to lose his property. He should be able to live without the pressure of someone telling him what he has to do inside of his own home or he can't live there. The

This is not on Mark's property but faces his property from his neighbor. He is not complaining.

township has put him out of business by "yellow taping" his driveway. He has been ordered to put in a new heating system, which the heritage house was not built for and bring the electricity up to code, and other improvements to the inside of his 100 year old house. What is the township doing inside this man's house telling him how to live? When his house was built it did not have central heat, water or electric.

The legal system entered his home without cause. He wasn't hurting anybody else. Where's the American dream? How can Diederich be helped? Fruitport Township Supervisor Brian Werschem told Mark that he may have to sell off some of his property to take care of this problem. His problems are created by township government and it looks like there's no end to it. Is this the whole purpose of this attack against him? To take his property away? Anyone looking at his house can see that it's not dangerous, and who's

Here the yellow tape restrains him from doing his business of selling firewood and taking in compost-ables like lawn debris.

to tell you what you can and cannot store in your house?

The yard is cluttered with cut firewood, which he sells to help pay the taxes. He was repairing his roof and the township shut off his power so he couldn't use his power tools any longer. All that has been done to him by his government, seems to be an attempt to destroy him.

Another home owner in the village is getting similar problems from the village government. They claim there's an open cistern on the property, when it is a well covered with a cement pad that would be a real chore to move.

Government's duty is to protect its citizens from being hurt by others, and some of these governments seem to have reversed their role.