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Friends of the Fruitport Library

Pre-Owned Book Sale

Saturday, May 19, 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

at the Fruitport Branch

Muskegon Area District Library

47 Park Street (corner of Park and Third)

\$4.00 per bag

(Some select hard cover individual titles and videos will be priced separately.)

2-1-1

Get Connected. Get Answers.

Community Access Line of the Lakeshore

- A single dad wants to join a parent support group
- A nineteen year old college student seeks HIV testing
- A runaway teen needs a safe place to stay
- A working woman seeks adult day care for her elderly father and a caregiver support group for herself
- A senior citizen wants to volunteer
- A young family in financial crisis searches for budget counseling

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The Internet

By Clif Martin

I seriously wish more people my age, not quite as old as dirt but getting close, used the Internet. I love it. I'm addicted and there are no plans to kick the habit. The 'net is sort of an online encyclopedia; filled with everything you could possibly want to know about anything. But you don't need to wait two years for the next set of books to come before you can find out about something that just happened. It's updated right now, with the immediacy that the computer has made possible. Look through a book from the most recent set you can find and there will be no mention of things your kids learned in school this week, events and names you see on TV every day. We live in a digital world so we might as well get used to it. Join the club or get left behind. Newspapers have gone digital, publishing online and offering fewer printed editions.

Do you remember the days when the super salesman showed up at your door peddling encyclopedias? You'd cave in every time when he showed you that having those books in your home was the only way to guarantee that your children would be smart enough to make it through the changing, more demanding world. If you resisted, he could lay a monumental guilt trip on you until you signed on the dotted line.

Well, guess what. The biggest and best of all the encyclopedias, the Britannica, has quit printing books and gone digital. After more than 200 years, the grand old Britannica will be available only on your computer. If you have the last, 2010 edition, pack it in boxes, give it to your grandchildren, and tell them it might someday be a valued collectible.

Will you buy the online repository of vital information for 70 bucks a year or two bucks a month? Or will you use the free online Wikipedia that computer users love? I suppose the people at Britannica think about that. But they say the books generated just a small part of their income, anyway.

Are you thinking that the internet is full of stuff you are not interested in, don't want to know about and probably should not know about, hoping your kids never see it? You are right. You must wade through tons of junk to get to the good stuff. But life is like that. That's our world. Fight it if you must, and lotsa luck. •

USS LST 393 Veterans Museum to host job fair for veterans only

(Submitted by USS LST 393 Veterans Museum)

On Friday, May 18, 2012, Dan Weikel, veterans events coordinator for the USS LST 393 Veterans Museum, working with state and local VA offices, and the office of Representative Holly Hughes, will sponsor a "Veterans Only" job fair. We are hoping to have as many as 70 companies from across Michigan set up aboard USS LST 393 to interview job-seeking veterans.

This is an opportunity to thank veterans for their dedication and sacrifices to America. The job fair opens at 10 a.m. and ends at 2 p.m. Companies interested in interviewing veterans may call any of the following for detailed information:

Dave Eling, Muskegon County Veterans Affairs Office, (231) 724-7143.

Jesse Mikaelson, State VA representative, (231) 739-9010 or

State Representative Holly Hughes (877) 633-0331.

This job fair kicks off a public special Armed Forces Day tribute weekend, starting May 19.

For further information, contact the USS LST 393 Veterans Museum Veterans Coordinator, Dan Weikel, at (231) 288-4012.

The USS LST 393 Veterans Museum, a 501 c-3 not for profit organization, is located aboard the restored WWII ship USS LST 393. This LST is one of only two LST's that remain from the 1051 that were built during WWII. LST 393 earned three battle stars during WWII: the invasions of Sicily, Italy, and Normandy, France at Omaha Beach, D-Day. •

Alice Gifford's successful memorial Easter fund raiser

(Submitted by the Fruitport Eagles Aerie 3666 and Auxiliary)

On April 7, 2012, the Fruitport Eagles Aerie 3666 held a memorial Easter fund raiser in honor of Alice Gifford, who passed away in September, 2011. Over \$3,500 was raised to benefit local patients of the Johnson Family Cancer Center.

The Fruitport Eagles would like to thank the wonderful businesses and individuals who helped put on the event:

- Peppies Pizza
- All Star Pet Grooming and Training
- Pin Crest Lanes and Chews Lounge
- Burger Crest
- Orchard Foods
- Grover Pharmacy
- Wesco
- Dairy Delight
- Shirts and Stuff
- PNC Bank
- Suns Up Tanning
- Muskegon Co-op Credit Union
- Homeflex Realty (Ken Ferrier)
- Starlight Lanes
- Getty Street Grill
- Herbies Café
- Mr. B's Pancake House
- Dog House Saloon
- Tipsy Toad Tavern
- Walgreens
- The UPS Store
- Big Apple Bagels
- Top Shelf Pizza
- Rx Optical
- Jack's Corner Store
- Katie Beez
- Teddy's Spaghetti
- Van's Oil Change and Car Wash
- Lori Kowitz Cleaning Service

Please try to frequent these businesses and let them know how much they are appreciated. If we missed anyone, we are truly sorry. •



Fishing and bamboo rods

By Charlene Lozicki

Meet Mike Simcik, who grew up on or near the water, sometimes fishing, and sometimes making or repairing bamboo fishing rods.

Mike's kitchen, dining room, and living room windows look out onto Spring Lake. He has a good idea of the daily activity on the lake. He grew up in Round Lake Park, just north of Chicago, worked for Johnson Outboard Marine Corporation, and joined the U.S. Navy. When his ship docked in Malta, he met an attractive beautiful young woman and asked her to marry him. She said yes, and they moved to the states: Round Lake Park.

On one trip in their boat, instead of a trip down the Mississippi, they took a trip across Lake Michigan, and ended up in Saugatuck. It was there Mike fell in love with a run down historical hotel overlooking a lake, and decided, "That's where I am going to move my family and restore it." With his wife they did that, and opened up "Twin Gables" again, a bed and breakfast well known yet today, but with different owners.

After years of operating a bed and breakfast, they are settled into their house overlooking Spring Lake, where Mike has a hobby of making and repairing bamboo fishing rods. This, I understand, is a very time consuming task that takes a special talent and patience. He has men sending their rods for repairs. Some of them are antique, requiring special attention. One day he showed my husband and me a miniature rod and reel he made, capable of the same performance as a standard-sized rod. It had its own case to protect it.

Mike can sometimes be seen fishing with a catch and release off his dock, or on his pontoon with his wife and family on Spring Lake. He decided to trade a fishing boat for a pontoon. It accommodates grandchildren better. He has been mentioned in *Woods and Waters Magazine* for making his fly rods. He noticed my poor performance trying to fly fish one day and taught me how it's done right. The fish, though, didn't catch on. •