Pigeon boy faces uncertain health future

BY AMY HEIDEN

Three year old Joshua Eisenbaum plays happily with a toy truck in the living room of his comfortable Pigeon Area farm home. Then he makes piggly sounds with his older brother Travis, all while laughing and giggling — normal little boy activities.

There’s no indication that anything could possibly be wrong with Joshua, other than some paleness of his skin.

But lurking within Joshua’s lungs and in the tissues of his body is visceral larval migrans, VLM — roundworm infection. From beginning: The infection went undiagnosed for nearly four months in 1984, confounding his local doctors, doctors at Mott Children’s Hospital in Ann Arbor, and his parents, Randy and Tammy Eisenbaum.

Not until a last resort blood sample was sent to the Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta was the diagnosis made.

Three year old Joshua Eisenbaum acts like any other preschooler, but his health future is uncertain because of a roundworm infection. The disease is not passed from person to person, so Joshua is not contagious, say his parents, Randy and Tammy Eisenbaum of Pigeon.

In Atlanta was the diagnosis made.

Spread the word: New Tammy Eisenbaum is trying to warn other parents, not just in this area, but nationwide as well, about the dangers of toxocariasis to their children.

“It’s been a living nightmare for us, not being able to get much information about this, and I can’t stand it anymore. I have to do something. I don’t think the public is aware of this, and I think it’s so important that people knew about it.”

How it starts: Toxocariasis is caused by ingesting the roundworm eggs, which are deposited in the feces of a pet, usually a dog. Foesi don’t even need to be seen, because the eggs aren’t immediately infective.

But those eggs will infect the soil, and when a child plays in infected soil or eats it, or children sometimes will, the eggs have the chance to cause problems.

When the eggs are ingested, the tiny worm larvae, smaller than the head of a pin, migrate through the body, lodging in kidneys, liver, lungs, and muscle tissues. They never grow to adulthood in a human, according to the CDC, but remain in the larvae stage.

If the larvae invade organs and tissue, it’s called VLM, but if it migrates to the eye, where it can cause blindness, it’s called ocular larvae migrans, or OLM.

Symptoms: The symptoms of VLM include fever, wheezing, abdominal pain and enlargement of the liver. It sometimes seems like a bug that lasts too long, observers say.

In Joshua’s case, it caused him to suffer from severe asthma, but enough to keep him in the hospital for a month and twice nearly causing his death.

BEGINNINGS: Joshua picked up the infection when the family was given a puppy when he was about a year old.

Unaware of any possible danger, the Eisenbaums allowed Joshua to begin exploring outdoors, and in an unguarded split second, he probably ate some dirt infected with roundworm eggs from the new puppy.

The pup had not been dewormed or bad any of the shots.

Once the Eisenbaums found out the pup had not been dewormed, they took care of the matter. But by that time, it was too late.

Joshua’s problems with VLM extended last May, when he was hospitalized with severe asthma. His two brothers had had some asthma problems before, but it had been kept under control.

Complications: But Joshua’s was different. His asthma was complicated by pneumonia, and his doctors said that it looked different than viral pneumonia.

Please turn to Page 2

Elkton’s Angela Herford is first runner-up!

In Sebewaing’s “Sweetest Girl in the World” contest

ONE OF ELKTON’s OWN: Elkton resident Angela Herford, pictured here second from right, “sweet talked her way” to the first place runner-up position on the Sebewaing Sugar Festival Queen’s Court, following coronation on Friday night. Pictured from left are fourth runner-up Jennifer Stachowiak, third runner-up Kristi Rieman, second runner-up Tracy Neumann, first runner-up Angela Herford and Queen Kelly Williams, who will reign from her hometown of Sebewaing.
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WHETHER YOU TRAVEL OR STAY HOME, GOD IS THERE.

Like Many of us, you may have a vacation looming on the horizon, and of course your budget will dictate where you will spend it. You may visit another part of the world, or just lounge around the house. In any case your vacation can be a very enjoyable and rewarding escape from the realities of everyday living. Moreover, wherever you are the Lord will be there to watch over you. Thank Him for his protection at any House of Worship, and even if your travels take you beyond the orbit of civilization, there is always the Bible. Put it on your list of things to pack in your suitcase. In fact, that’s a good idea no matter where you’re going. To borrow the advice of a well-known TV commercial, “Don’t leave home without it.”

Gospel Echoes visit

The regular monthly meeting of the Winsor Township Board will be held on Monday, July 10, due to the July 4th holiday.

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PRIVATE COURT
COUNTY OF PIGEON
IN THE MATTER OF KAREN ANN LOUDBER, CHANGE OF NAME.

NOTICE: On July 19, 1988 at 10:00 a.m., in the above-captioned action in the Circuit Court of the County of Berrien, a hearing will be held to consider a petition under Michigan Child Support Guidelines Act, 1978, to change the name of Karen Ann Loudner to Karen Ann Loudben. In the event that her name is changed, Karen Ann Loudben will be known as Karen Ann Loudben.

TCN: JUNE 15, 1988
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This week's Woods & Waters

By Diane Guester

Reading a stream

There is no figure like a book to take us away. The preceding statement, while demonstrating a common idiom, was elaborated in the library while digging through various books for information on streams. The book I was leafing through dealt with stream ecology and the importance of understanding the various components that make up a stream. Both the adjectives and description were wonderful. However, it was the content of the book that really captured my attention. The book provided a wealth of information on the different types of streams found in various parts of the world. It also discussed the importance of protecting these streams from pollution and development.

I began to wonder how I could apply this knowledge to my own stream. I decided to take a few days to explore the stream and learn more about its characteristics. I was excited to see what I would find. As I walked along the stream, I noticed the different types of plants and animals that were thriving. I was also struck by the beauty of the stream itself. The water was clear and inviting, and the surrounding foliage was a vibrant mix of green and yellow.

As I continued my exploration, I became more aware of the importance of understanding the stream ecosystem. I learned about the different species of fish that live in the stream and the role they play in maintaining the balance of the ecosystem. I also learned about the importance of preserving the stream for future generations.

In conclusion, I believe that understanding the stream ecosystem is crucial to preserving the natural beauty of the environment. By learning about the different species and their roles in the ecosystem, we can better protect these streams from pollution and development. I encourage others to take the time to explore and learn about their own streams.
Soybean contest planned for area farmers

The Soybean Program was established in Congress in 1938, is administered by the United Soybean Board, a farmer-owned non-profit organization. The Soybean Program provides research, education, and promotion of soybeans in order to increase demand for soybeans and soy-based products. Soybeans are a sustainable crop that can help reduce greenhouse gas emissions and support global food security. In addition, soybeans are a versatile ingredient used in a wide variety of food products, from breakfast cereals to animal feed. The Soybean Program is committed to promoting sustainable and economically viable soybean production.

Thank you

For your support in the recent election. Congratulations to Jane and Burt and the Lake School Board.

Sincerely,
Bill Sch"