Family enjoys hobby of re-creating history

By WILLIAM DILLER

The game trail was hundreds of years old. Trod down by thousands of hoofs, claws and mecoonias, it wandered through the forest following the path of least resistance.

Steve led his family quietly along the trail toward the river, eking a few hundred yards ahead. Their birch-bark canoe was safely hidden on the bank and, once they reached the river, they would only take a few seconds to uncerve and he beading south to the fort at Detroit — and to safety.

Suddenly the forest ahead contained with shell screams and yips and grunts.

Steve raised his musket and aimed, quickly but carefully, at the first painted, brown face he saw. There, invisible! He pulled the trigger, braced for the usual kick of the gun butt, but all he received was a slight muffle and a small puff of smoke.

"Oh, no," he thought. "A flash in the pan! Twenty seconds to reload!"

The Ottawa will be on us before that.

As Steve raised his powder keno towards the end of the barrel he noticed his younger son rub toward Laura. "Good boy, Cordo," he thought. "Protect your mother for a few seconds more, until I return!"

The first Ottawa was only a few feet away when 13-year-old son John fired point blank. The lead ball took the stocky Ottawa square in the chest and knocked him back into the taller Indian following. Steve took that opportunity to reach for the tomahawk slung on his belt. But younger son Cordo was quick! With a practiced swing, Cordo let his tomahawk fly.

It connected with the tall Ottawa's left shoulder. The Indian let out a blood-curdling scream, pitched backwards into the forest, and disappeared.

Steve hurried his family toward the river, watching closely for any sign of the Ottawa return. He rounded the final curve in the trail, signaled everyone to halt, and started uncerveing the canoe.

He gave a startled gasp and turned to look Laura in the eyes. The gaze of the entire family lowered to the canoe. The Ottawa had obviously been here. There were two large holes in the bottom of the canoe that would take hours to repair.

Suddenly an owl hooted from somewhere in the forest to their left. And another one answered from close behind them. Also, it was getting dark.

In the ensuing silence, Steve finished reloading and thought about how far his family had come in the six months since he had quit his flourishing dental practice in Boston and loaded for the frontier...

But Steve, a well-settled 44-year-old, wouldn't really quit his dental practice. He's just a frontiersman on the weekend.

Steve Beedle, D.D.S., does have a flourishing dental practice, but it's not in Boston of the 18th century, it's in Fishtown, here and now.

He, his wife Laura and their two sons, Joe 13 and Gordon, eight, are involved in "re-enacting," a hobby that is increasing in popularity every year.

Steve's interest in history led him to read historical novels. It was from one particular book, called "The Frontiersman," that his interest developed into a hobby that has since involved the entire family.

On any given weekend in the warmer months, you may find the Beedle family, dressed as a 1790 frontier family, attending one of the many rendezvous which attract people of similar interest.

Rendezvous, a term which means gathering, is used by groups of re-enactors to get together and share their passion for history. There are rendezvous for many eras.

The Beedle's interests mainly cover the 1790s, the French and Indian War era, Steve says. "Although most of the fighting took place in New York State, a lot of the Indians came out of Michigan," he says.

Steve, who is well-versed in the history of this era, continues, "The interior of Michigan was a swamp and most of the travel (by Indians and Europeans) was done on the waterways. Canoes were made of birch bark, and the interesting thing about them was that they were very big. They held up to 20 guys and several tons of furs and equipment. They would even put sails on them."

"It depended on where they were going. Too, you couldn't use those big canoes for travel in the interior, like up the Andover or something. But the main activity in Michigan was along the shoreline, and they would use the big canoes for that."

Another activity associated with the rendezvous is a mussel-loader shoot — a gathering of enthusiasts to test their marksmanship with historical period weapons. Over the last three or four years...

REVOLUTIONARY ERA HISTORY BUFF Dr. Steve Beedle of Cassville fires a shot, but this one probably wasn't heard 'round the world...

WILLIAM DILLER PHOTO

THE ENTIRE BEEDLE FAMILY enjoys re-creating scene from the Revolutionary War period. Shown are Laura and Dr. Steve Beedle, standing, and their sons, Gordon and Joe.
The Newsweekly Forum

By PATRICIA HOLT, Film Editor

I was wondering why there aren't lens flares on light on the M-142 flash. I've been using it for a few months now, and I don't see any problem with the white light reflecting off the subject. Am I doing something wrong, or is there something I should do to fix it?

By T.K., of Santa Monica

Editor

I'd like to know more about the Nikon D7000. I've been researching it for a few months now, and I'm very interested in learning more about the features. Can you provide any information on this camera?

By J. from Denver, I want to tell you about my experience with the Canon. Please publish his address.

By C. from Chicago, I'd like to know more about the Canon software. Can you provide any information on this?

By A. from Vancouver, I've been hearing a lot about the Canon's speed. Can you provide any information on this?

By Z. from Phoenix, I'm interested in learning more about the Canon's features. Can you provide any information on this?

By V. from San Francisco, I'd like to know more about the Canon's software. Can you provide any information on this?

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Winter CARNIVAL of Values

Chicken Noodle Soup 59¢
Elbow Macaroni or Spaghetti 69¢
Tuna Fish 79¢
Cookies 79¢
Applesauce 29¢
Save Rite Snacks 19¢
Spaghetti Sauce 99¢
Paper Towels 3.00
Fat Free Dressings 1.79
Ocean Spray 1.69
Malt-O-Meal Cereal 3.00
Grapefruit Juice 1.99
Regular & Cheese 2.59
Kibbles and Chunks 6.99
Lumberjack County Wheat Bread 99¢

GROCERY

Campbell's Healthy Request Chicken Noodle Soup 59¢
Horseradish, Red or Deep Pan Pizza Crust 2/$1.00
Bags - Assorted Pizza Quick Sauce 1.19
Own Fresh - Variety Pack Donuts 1.49
Pepsi Products 2.99

FROZEN

Assorted - 10 oz. Downy Flake Waffles 1.39
Assorted - 8 - 10.5 oz. Freshlike Vegetables

LEAN

Cuisine Entrees

Country Fresh - Square Pack - 1/2 Gallon Ice Cream
Vanilla Only

DAIRY

TCBY Yogurt 2/$3.00
Country Fresh - Gallon Homogenized Milk 2.29

SPLURGE

Save Rite Imitation - IV's Cheese Slices 89¢
Spartan American Slices 2/$3.00
Country Fresh Low Fat Milk 2.29
Country Fresh - Assorted Cottage Cheese 99¢

Luke's Market

M-25 - Rehoboth - In Luke's Shopping Center
AD PRICES IN EFFECT MONDAY, JAN. 2 - SUNDAY, JAN. 8, 1995
We Reserve Right To Correct Typographical Errors • The Legalized Material Cannot Be Reproduced, Resold For Profit. In Printing Or Illustration. We Reserve Right To Limit Quantities.
New postal rates now in effect

Since Jan. 1, we’ve been dialing a little deeper in our pockets when we go to the post office. Postal rates are raising their first increase in four years, when mailing first-class letters is expected to increase by 8 cents. Prepaid postcards, radio and TV bill payments, and most other items with postage will also jump. Mailing a regular postcard postmarked Jan. 2 or earlier will cost 34 cents; postmarked Jan. 3 or later will cost 40 cents.

Pigeon meets Wednesday

Pigeon City is just one of the Potluck Lodges whose members are invited to the Christmas party swap meeting this Wednesday, Jan. 4, at 6:30 p.m. in the kitchen of the Village Hall. This is the last-completed 1994 Christmas promotion, according to President Paul Stoller.

Lake Huron Community Arts Council NEWS

By LAKE HURON Community Arts Council

- Of all the lovely homes on the beautiful Whitehall-Elkton Galleries in Downtown Sebewaing, the home of Ann and Don Peck, the owners picked White Lake Artists’ Night before Christmas as its theme for the evening. The event was set to coincide with the Village of Sebewaing’s annual Christmas parade and was sponsored by the Lake Huron Community Arts Council.

- The Holiday Gallery in Sebewaing may be closed for exhibit this month, but that doesn’t mean it’s closed forever. The gallery is being reopened for the first time in more than a year and will be open throughout the season.

- The Sebewaing Area Chamber of Commerce has announced that the Sebewaing Area Chamber of Commerce will hold its annual Christmas party on Dec. 18, at 6 p.m. at the Sebewaing Area Chamber of Commerce.

New Year’s Newborn

We’re Welcoming

The 1st Baby of 1995 With A $50 Savings Bond.

A $50 Savings Bond will be awarded to the first baby of 1995 born in the Western Thumb and reported to either office of the Newborns.

- Contest Rules -
  1. Parents of winning baby must be residents for at least 6 months of Huron or Tuscola Counties.
  2. Births must be reported to The Newborns within 24 hours.
  3. In the event of a tie, the decision of the ladies will be final.

The first Baby of the Year Contest is sponsored by the merchants and businesses whose New Year’s Greetings appear in this issue of The Newborns.

VACATION PLACES

CAPE CORAL, Florida: Luxury and elegance! Visit our guest rooms, fully furnished, pool, beach, 1-800-903-8050 or 1-800-347-0199.

DANZIG AND AMSTERDAM: 2 beautiful hotels on the Baltic Sea, 1-800-347-0199.

HAWEA, New Zealand: 5-star hotel, 1-800-347-0199.


ORLANDO DISNEY: Stay at Disney World’s most luxurious resort, 1-800-347-0199.

THE SANDS West Shore: Enjoy the beauty of the West Shore with your family, 1-800-347-0199.

To place an ad:
Call Sue 1-800-994-0811
Anonymity protects false pride...

DEAR MR. ROSS,

You have a bad habit of speaking before you think, and this has led you to make a bad impression with my friends and me. I have been married for several years now, and I don't know what to do.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

DEAR MR. ROSS,

You are nothing but an idiot. Two days ago you told me that your family would be running the tribe in two years. I didn't know how to react. You're a nice person, but you need to think before you speak.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Pigeon Food Pantry helps 47 families

With much assistance from their local pantries and other churches, St. Charles Parish Pantry provides food to those in need. On Sunday, Dec. 1, the Pigeon Food Pantry held their annual food distribution event. Attendees received food items such as pasta, canned goods, beans, rice, and dry goods.

Blood donors needed this month

If you want to give and save lives, please contact the Blood Donor Center at 409-999-8000.

Laker High School

Fitness at Laker High School

Laker High School is offering fitness classes for students to improve their physical health. Classes include yoga, dance, and cardio.

Achievements

The money is allocated for scholarships for students in the tribe.

The Tuscarora County Chamber of Commerce has received a $2,000 grant to help support small businesses in the county.

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Great Lakes Junior College

The Great Lakes Junior College has received a $2,000 grant to help support their music program.

Karen Grobe (KSSM) has been selected as the Agricultural Representative for the Tuscarora County Industrial Development Corporation.

It's a girl!

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The Newsweekly's Thumb Area CALENDAR

Wednesday, Jan. 4 - Pigeon Christmas Wrap-up
The Pigeon Chamber of Commerce invites retailers and other interested individuals to 9:30 a.m. meeting at the Village Hall. Main topic will be the 1994 Christmas Promotion.

Wednesday, Jan. 4 - Soybean group meets
Michigan Soybean Association's Annual Meeting at 11 a.m. at the Holiday Inn South, Lansing. It is held with the first annual Michigan Agriculture Mega-Conference, a combined effort of the state's Soybean Association, Cattlemen's Association, Hay and Forage Council and Corn Growers Association Directors are being sought in District II (Huron, Tuscola, Simiic and Saginaw Counties). Details: 517-669-8589.

Saturday, beginning Jan. 7 - Girls' basketball club
Central Thumb Hoopsters Girls' Basketball Club will host an instructional program 1 to 3 p.m. Saturdays at Alcona-Fairgrove Elementary School, Alcona. Cost includes a National Amateur Athletic Union Association membership and a T-shirt. The program offers an opportunity for girls to play basketball and develop their skills after basketball season. Details: 684-4497 between 7 a.m. and 9 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 7 - Boy Scout Recognition Dinner
Thumb District for the Boy Scouts of America will host a recognition dinner at 6 p.m. at the Knights of Columbus Hall, Caro, for its volunteers. The dinner is free and provided by the Knights of Columbus. Reservations are necessary by Wednesday, Dec. 28, by calling 673-7432.

Monday, Jan. 9 - Boy Port Chamber meets
Annual Bay Port Chamber of Commerce Dinner is set for 6:30 p.m. at Mississauga Restaurant. Send replies to: P.O. Box 188, Bay Port, MI 48720.

Starting Tuesday, Jan. 10 - Boating classes
U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, Sebewaing Flotilla, will offer boating classes at 7 p.m. at USA High School for boaters over the age of 12. The 13-week classes have a charge. Details, call 375-2470, 674-9658 or 883-2843.

Tuesday, Jan. 10 - Sebewaing C of C Meeting
Sebewaing Chamber of Commerce will meet at 7 p.m. at Sebewaing Village Office. Group meets second Tuesday of each month.

Wednesday, Jan. 11 - USA Music Boosters Meeting
USA Music Boosters will meet in USA High School Band Room at 7:30 p.m. All interested people are invited.

Friday, Jan. 13 - Sebewaing 4-H deadline
4-H club members must register with Sally or Jim Brandenburg by today to enter beef in the Huron Community Fair for August.

Monday, Jan. 16 - Columbia Twp. Board Meeting
Columbia Township Board meets at 7 p.m. at the Township Library, every third Monday.

Monday, Jan. 16 - Northern Star Lodge meets
Northern Star Lodge, Sebewaing/Hubbard Windsor 420, Pigeon, will meet 7:30 p.m. at Masonic Temple, Pigeon. The group meets every third Monday.

Monday, Jan. 16 - Unionville Village Council
Unionville Village Council will meet at 7 p.m. at Village Hall. Council meets every third Monday.

Tuesday, Jan. 17 - Parkinson meeting
Parkinson's Caregiver & Support Group meets 1 p.m. the third Tuesday of the month at Hills & Dalke General Hospital, Cass City. Details: Nancy at 872-4053 or Joan at 872-2121.

Wednesday, Jan. 17 - USA Athletic Boosters meet
All parents of athletes are invited to the 6:30 p.m. meeting in the high school cafeteria.

Thursday, Jan. 19 - "United We Stand" Meets
"United We Stand" meeting at 7 p.m. Town Park Inn, State St., Saginaw, every third Thursday. Public invited.

Thursday, Jan. 19 - Huron Bean Day
Annual Huron County Bean Day starts at 9:30 a.m. at the Knights of Columbus Hall, Bad Axe. 10 a.m. discussions include ways to reduce secondary bean competition in dry bean production, followed by a dry bean disease discussion and explanation of dry bean variety evaluation. At 11:55 a.m. is the selection of the Huron County Bean Board with a luncheon to follow. Afternoon programs include information on the quality assurance program, Michigan Dry Bean Commission Report and dry bean market report. Details: 269-9040.

Thursday, Jan. 19 - Akron Township Meeting
Akron Township Board will meet at 7:30 p.m. at Municipal Bldg., Beach St., Akron. The board meets third Thursday of each month.

Saturday, Jan. 21 - Business planning seminar
Great Lakes Junior College, Caro, hosts a small business seminar, "What is a Business Plan and How to Use It?" at 1 p.m. Guest speakers are Douglas Bloodgood, vice president and commercial loan officer of Independent Bank, and Jim McLoskey, director of the Tuscola County Economic Development Corp. The seminar is free, but pre-registration is necessary by Saturday, Jan. 14, by calling 673-5537. The program is presented by Great Lakes Junior College, Independent Bank and the T3EDC.

Wednesday, Jan. 25 - Ag regulations meeting
Huron County/MSU Extension Office sponsors a day-long workshop on "Agricultural Rals and Regulations: A Common Sense Approach to Farming Legal!" at 9 a.m. at the Lamkin Inn, Bad Axe. Details: 269-9949.

Starting Tuesday, Feb. 7 - Women's financial aid
MSU Extension and the American Association of Retired Persons will host a seven-week workshop titled Women's Financial Information Program, at the Detroit Edison Community Room, Cass City. It helps women learn how to make informed financial decisions. There is a charge, but scholarships may be available. Details: 269-9949.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR OUR CELLULARONE® WORKSHOP

Wednesday January 18, 1995 Sandusky West Park Inn
Thursday January 19, 1995 Bad Axe Cousins Food & Spirits
Monday January 23, 1995 Cass City Northwood Shores
Wednesday January 25, 1995 Caro Brentwood
Thursday January 26, 1995 Croswell Riverside Family Dining

FOUR PROGRAM TIMES EACH DAY:
10:00 A.M. 12:00 P.M. 3:00 P.M. 6:00 P.M.

Come to the location nearest to you, at the best time for you. Enjoy light snacks or lunch with us at one of the scheduled program times above. We have a short program planned at the listed times, but CellularOne representatives will be on site throughout the day to answer all your cellular questions regarding:

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