

Contact **Localife Editor Patricia Ann Speelman** with story ideas, club news, wedding, anniversary, engagements and birth announcements by phone at (937) 498-5965; email, pspeelman@civitasmedia.com; or by fax, (937) 498-5991.



COMMUNITY CALENDAR

This Evening

- The Narcotics Anonymous group, Labor of Love, meets at 6:30 p.m. at First Christian Church, 320 E. Russell Road.
- Baby time for children 3 1/2 and younger and their mothers is at the A.J. Wise Library in Fort Loramie at 6:30 p.m.
- The Miami-Shelby Ostomy Support Group meets at 7 p.m. at the Cancer Care Center in the lower level of the Upper Valley Medical Center, 3130 N. Dixie Highway, Troy. The group will provide information and support to ostomates and their families. For more information, call (937) 440-4706.
- Stokes Lodge 305, Free and Accepted Masons, meets at 7:30 p.m. at the Port Jefferson Lodge, Port Jefferson. All Master Masons are welcome.

Thursday Morning

• Upper Valley Medical Center hosts a Mom and Baby Get Together group from 9:30 to 11 a.m. in the Farm House on the center campus. The group offers the opportunity to meet with other moms, share about being a new mother and learn about breastfeeding and the baby. For information, call (937) 440-4906.

• New Bremen Public Library will host Story-time at 10:30 a.m. Registration required.

Thursday Afternoon

- The Narcotics Anonymous group, Addicts at Work, meets at noon at St. John's Lutheran Church, 120 W. Water St.
- Shelby County Toastmasters meets at noon at the Sidney-Shelby County YMCA. For more information, contact Ed Trudeau at 498-3433 or edward.trudeau@emerson.com or visit the website at shelby.freetoasthost.ws.

Thursday Evening

- The New Knoxville Public Library Book Club meets at the library at 6 p.m.
- The Narcotics Anonymous group, All in the Family, meets at 7 p.m. at First United Methodist Church, 230 Poplar St.
- Minster Garden Club meets at 7 p.m. at the Old Minster Council Chambers, Minster.
- Temperance 73 Masonic Lodge at the corner of Miami Avenue and Poplar Street meets at 7:30 p.m.

Friday Morning

- A.J. Wise Library in Fort Loramie hosts story-time for children 3 1/2 and older at 10:30 a.m. To register, call 295-3155.
- The New Knoxville Community Library hosts story time from 10:30 to 11 a.m.

Friday Afternoon

- Sidney Gateway Hi 12 Club No. 482, meets at noon at the Sidney American Legion on Fourth Avenue. All Master Masons are invited.
- Parkinson's support group meets at 3:30 p.m. at the Brethren's Home, 750 Chestnut St., Greenville. For more information, call (937) 548-3188.

Friday Evening

- Hope in Recovery, similar to traditional 12-step programs to confront destructive habits and behaviors, meets at the First Presbyterian Church, 114 E. 4th St., Greenville, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. For more information, call (937) 548-9006.
- The Narcotics Anonymous group, Staying Clean for the Weekend, meets at 7 p.m. at First United Methodist Church, 230 E. Poplar St.

Saturday Morning

- Brukner Nature Center, 5995 Horseshoe Bend Road, Troy, hosts a bird walk at 7:30 a.m. Free and open to the public. (937) 698-6493.
- Agape Mobile Rural Food Pantry Distribution, in Port Jefferson, 9 to 11 a.m.
- Agape Mobile Rural Food Pantry Distribution, in Maplewood, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Saturday Evening

- Lumber Company Baseball hosts fundraising bingo to support the children on the teams. Doors open at 4 p.m. and games begin at 7 p.m. at Sunset Bingo, 1710 W. High St., Piqua. \$20 to play all night. For information, call (937) 543-9959.
- The Sidney-Shelby County Chess Club Checkmates meets at 7 p.m. at the library at the Dorothy Love Retirement Community. For more information, call 497-7326.
- The Narcotics Anonymous group, Saturday Night Live, meets at 8 p.m. at St. John's Lutheran Church, 120 W. Water St.

Sunday Afternoon

- Shelby County Deer Hunters holds its monthly Sunday Rifle Shoot at 7988 Johnston-Slagle Road beginning at 1 p.m. Program one round at five different targets, pays three places. Points awarded to members for end-of-the-year trophy. Open to the public.

Sunday Evening

- Lumber Company Baseball hosts fundraising bingo to support the children on the teams. Doors open at 4 p.m. and games begin at 7 p.m. at Sunset Bingo, 1710 W. High St., Piqua. \$20 to play all night. For information, call (937) 543-9959.
- The Narcotics Anonymous group, Never Alone, Never Again, meets at 6:30 p.m. at First Christian Church, 320 E. Russell Road.

To access the Community Calendar online, visit www.sidneydailynews.com, click on "Living" and then on "Calendar."

MOTHER'S DAY MADNESS

OPEN HOUSE SAT., MAY 4TH

10AM-2PM

at **Iutis Club**, 2329 Wapakoneta Ave., Sidney

Featuring... Scentys Wickless, 31 Bags, Lia Sophia, Mary Kay, Pampered Chef, Tastefully Simple, Avon, Party Lite, Premiere Jewelry, Celebrating Homes, Kathy's Kollection (custom jewelry)

50/50 Drawing • Door Prizes • Cash & Carry upon Availability

Contact Lisa Echols 937-489-5708 for more information

SOMETHING FUN FOR EVERYONE

Vintage toy store opens today

BY PATRICIA ANN SPEELMAN
pspeelman@civitasmedia.com

Big Kid Toy/Mania, 101 N. Ohio Ave., celebrates its grand opening today.

Brooks Bunnell and his wife, Nikki, of Sidney, have opened the store to sell used and new toys, specifically vintage toys and action figures.

"Most of the toys are from the 1970s and '80s and up," Bunnell said. He has acquired them from other dealers and collectors, at garage sales, flea markets and toy shows and through eBay and Craig's List.

"I've been collecting them all my life," he said.

The store isn't his first business venture. In Florida, he operated a landscape and lawn care firm for two years. He said that he and Nikki had been talking about a toy store.



For photo reprints, visit www.sidneydailynews.com

SDN Photo/Tom Millhouse

NIKKI AND Brooks Bunnell, of Sidney, display some of the toys they have for sale in their new store, Big Kid Toy/Mania, which has a grand opening today at 101 N. Ohio Ave.

"The timing seemed right and we got a good location downtown," Bunnell said.

Among the items he has for sale are vintage store displays, hundreds

of Star Wars figures still in the packages, Strawberry Shortcake and My Little Pony items, and vintage video-game consoles and video games.

Bunnell said. The shop is open weekdays from noon to 6 p.m. and weekends from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. For information, call 710-1031.

SCARF plans clinic, raises funds

The Shelby County Animal Rescue Foundation and the Shelby County Animal Shelter will offer a low cost/low income shot clinic for dogs and cats May 18 from 1 to 3 p.m. at the shelter, 1100 Clem Road.

Dr. Paul Hunter, of Minster, will donate his time to administer vaccinations at reduced rates to pets of people who qualify as low income earners.

Registration by May 10 is necessary.

The lower prices for shots are available only to the first 50 pets registered. Forms and qualification guidelines are

available at www.helpshelbycountyanimals.com and at the shelter.

During the clinic, dogs will be required to be on leashes and cats will need to be in carriers.

Costs for the shots will be as follows and will be due prior to shots' being administered:

Dogs: rabies, \$6; distemper/parvo combo, \$8.

Cats: rabies, \$6; feline 4-way, \$8; feline leukemia, \$14.

For information, email helpshelbycountyanimals@gmail.com or visit the shelter.

Dimes for Dogs update

At the end of Week 3 of the Shelby County Animal Rescue Foundation's (SCARF) Dimes for Dogs and Cats drive, the organization has raised \$1,395.03.

The fundraising project solicits spare change by placing dog house-shaped coin banks in area businesses. Donations were collected weekly through Tuesday. These amounts were collected during the week ending Friday: Sidney High School, \$316.3; Brower, \$203.80; Sidney Body Carstar, \$100.55; Culvers, \$98.56; Hits 105.5, \$67.28; The Spot, \$64.40; Clancy's, \$60.58; Flinn Vet, \$60.37; CR Designs \$44.34; Shear Creative, \$43.97; 4 Paws, \$41.56; Helman Bros., \$9.58; Jack's Pets, \$36.47; Rolling Hills Skate, \$33.54; Cassano's, \$33.11; Wagmore Pet Salon, \$30.53; Power Station, \$20.36; Davis Meats, 12 cents; Minster Vet, \$13.06; Styling Company, \$10.07; Schultze, \$9.47; Panache, \$9.40; Ron & Nita's, \$9.19; NK Telco, \$8.59; Lee's, \$6.15; Al's Pizza, \$4.90; Sidney Daily News, \$4.53; Alcove, \$4.24.

Defining 'al dente'

Dear Heloise: What does the term "al dente" mean when you are cooking pasta? — Clark R., via email

"Al dente" is an Italian term that translates as "to the bite" or "to the tooth," and it means the pasta is firm when you bite into it, but still a little tender. Just a few seconds can make the difference whether pasta is overcooked! And keep in mind, it will continue to "cook" (and soften up) after removing from the heat. So, if you are cooking it and it's going to be a short while until it's served, I think it's wise to undercook it a little. Here's how to tell:

When the pasta starts to soften, take out a piece and bite into it or pinch it in half. As soon as it is tender to bite through, with just a dot of the white starch showing in the middle, it will be al dente when served a little later. If serving immediately,

pinch a piece, and if you see no white dot, it's done!

Some may disagree with me about the cooking until done, but think about it — if you cook until done, wait a few minutes to drain, add hot gravy or sauce and serve in only five to 10 minutes, it's still cooking! — Heloise

TEST YOUR HINT IQ

Dear Readers: Which of the following fruits has the most fiber per serving?

- A) One medium apple (with peel)
- B) One medium orange
- C) 1 cup blueberries
- D) 1 cup raspberries

The answer is D, raspberries, with 8 grams of fiber per cup! Blueberries have 3.5 grams, an orange 3.4 grams and an apple 3.3 grams. Grab your favorite fruits and add fiber plus great taste to your diet today! — Heloise



Hints from Heloise

Heloise Cruse

Varicose Veins

More Than Just A Cosmetic Issue

■ Pain	■ Phlebitis
■ Heaviness/Tiredness	■ Blood Clots
■ Burning/Tingling	■ Ankle Sores
■ Swelling/Throbbing	■ Ulcers
■ Tender Veins	■ Bleeding

If you have any of the above, there are effective treatment options, covered by insurances.

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