

The Michigan Adoption Resource Exchange is a program of Judson Center and is funded by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services.

To learn about foster care adoption and view photolistings and videos of waiting children, visit our website at [www.mare.org](http://www.mare.org).



## Meet Corinne, MARE's new videographer

Corinne Toussaint has been hired as the Michigan Adoption Resource Exchange's new communications specialist in charge of videography.

Corinne comes to MARE after working as a videographer for several non-profit organizations, including one in Haiti, where she met her husband. Corinne has a 2-year-old daughter and a newborn daughter.

To get to know her better, we

thought it would be fun to ask Corinne some of the same questions that she might ask you.

### **What is your favorite animal?**

Dachshunds because they're short and cute like me (laughing).

### **What is your favorite game?**

The Legend of Zelda: Ocarina of Time.

### **What are your favorite activities?**

I love spending time with my family. I love filming weddings, and I like painting.

### **How would you describe yourself?**

Quiet sometimes, compassionate. I like to find the best in people.

See [Corinne](#) on page 3

*"I enjoy meeting the kids I video even if it's just a brief time. I get to show what's special about every one of them."*

**Videographer Corinne Toussaint**

# A word puzzle about fall

Last fall, we offered some mindbenders related to Thanksgiving, and this year we're back at it with things associated with fall. For clues and answers, turn to page 4.

Number 1



1. \_\_\_\_\_

Number 2



2. \_\_\_\_\_

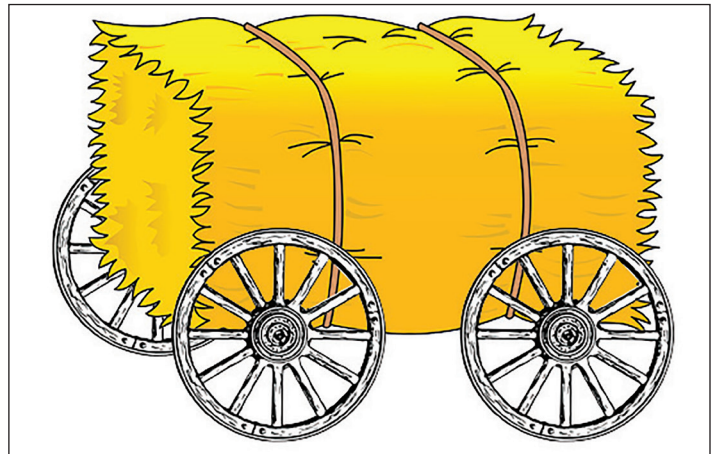
Number 3

## GRATEFUL



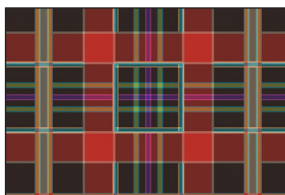
3. \_\_\_\_\_

Number 4



4. \_\_\_\_\_

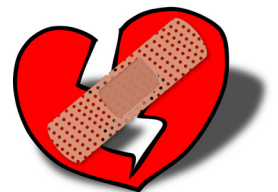
Number 5



5. \_\_\_\_\_

## APPAREL

Number 6



6. \_\_\_\_\_



# YAB can get you a “degree” in self-care

## More reasons for you to become involved

During the most recent meeting of the Youth Advisory Board, participants learned more about the importance of self-care, a subject that youth had said was important to them.

The meeting took place at Mint Hair Crafting in Royal Oak where a few young ladies got pampered and heard about the importance of positive self-care. The young ladies who participated in this special Youth Advisory Board (YAB) meeting received first-class service from an amazing group of stylists.

YAB meetings are designed to gather information from individuals who are or who have been in foster care so that MARE can educate adoption workers and officials about the concerns of children.

If you are interested in participating in YAB and want to attend a future meeting, make sure you contact your worker.

Youth participating in the YAB meetings have been able to enjoy a fun lunch and receive prizes for participation.

### Facts About Youth Advisory Board (YAB)

**Participants:** Anyone who is or has been in foster care.

**Meetings:** Held quarterly at locations throughout Michigan.

**How to attend:** If you are in the foster care system, contact your worker. If you are a former foster care youth, contact Jennifer Brooks at 734-528-2061 or Jennifer\_brooks@judsoncenter.org.



Youth participating in the most recent YAB meeting at the hair salon included Sienna (Joy), Marriah and Shawna.



**Corinne**, continued from page 1

### What do you like to do on weekends?

Play with my oldest daughter. Go for walks, watch movies and travel.

### When spending time with friends, what do you like to do?

Go to the movies, get a pedicure and experience fun things.

### What kind of music do you like and who's your favorite musician?

My favorite music is contemporary Christian. My favorite band is Bethel.

### If you could travel anywhere, where would it be and why?

I would go to Haiti. That's where my husband is from and all of his family. I just love being there and

getting to help the people there.

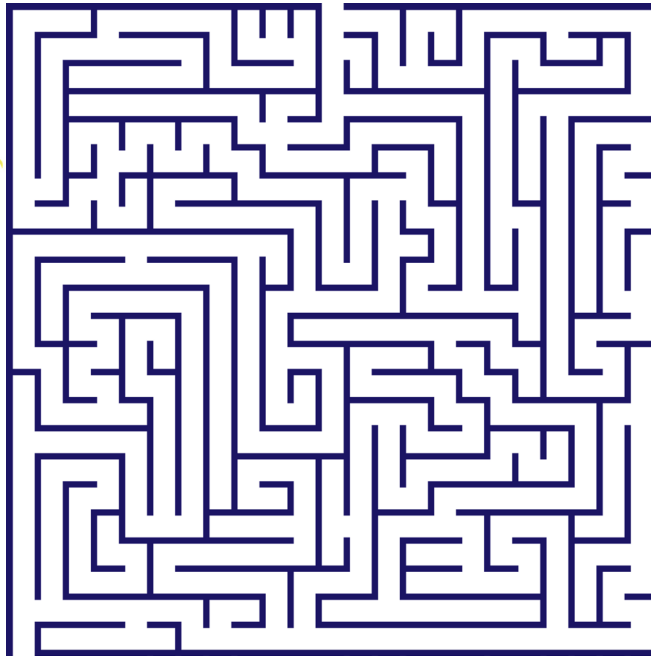
### If you had three wishes, what would they be?

My first wish would be that I never took out my student loans, but if that can't be granted it would be to pay off my student loans. Number three would be to start a non-profit to create jobs in Haiti.

## Bonus round of things associated with fall



7. \_\_\_\_\_



### Answer

Corn maze

## Clues

1. Where you pick a succulent fruit.
2. The first word is taking of crops.
3. Turkey.
4. It's missing passengers and a tractor.
5. Rhymes with "glad blurt."
6. The second word rhymes with "scratch."

## Answers

1. Apple orchard
2. Harvest moon
3. Thanksgiving
4. Hayride
5. Plaid shirt
6. Pumpkin patch



## MARE Meet & Greets are on the horizon

The Michigan Adoption Resource Exchange has several upcoming Meet & Greets.

These are fun events where you can interact with prospective adoptive parents. Activities include

games and arts and crafts (left).

If you want to attend one of these events – which usually occur on Saturday – make sure to contact your worker, who will let us know about your interest.

## YOUTH RESOURCES

**Michigan Youth Opportunities Initiative** - MYOI is a partnership between the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, the Jim Casey Youth Opportunities Initiative, the Oakland/Livingston Human Services Agency and many other local community partners. MYOI's goal is to ensure that young people in foster care have successful outcomes in housing, education, employment, community engagement and health.

([michigan.gov/FYIT](http://michigan.gov/FYIT) > MYOI)



**Foster Youth in Transition** - MDHHS website geared towards older youth who are experiencing foster care. It's a comprehensive, youth-oriented site with advice, interactive features, a useful glossary of foster care terms, and information on a variety of issues important to current and former foster youth. The site provides links on how to develop supports, find services, get answers to important questions and just keep you posted on what's new. ([www.michigan.gov/FYIT](http://www.michigan.gov/FYIT))