

Crazy Prices!

We live a little over an hour outside of Toledo, Ohio, so it's the 'big city' we visit for extra shopping, better restaurants, and of course, the zoo. We've discovered a little cafe just north of the Ohio toll road called [Nick's Cafe](#), and they have GREAT food (including Greek selections – YUM!!) that comes in HUGE portions at very reasonable prices. Just thought I'd give them a plug since the place is never hopping when we're in there and I would HATE to see them go out of business... Anyway, next to Nick's (well, there is an abandoned honky-tonk bar between them called Bootleggers) is an old Frank's Nursery and Crafts building that recently opened up as something called Crazy Prices. The first time we noticed it, we were too tired to check it out, but last week we had enough energy left to go in, and it's awesome! They have a variety of wares, from groceries and household items to furniture and clothing, all at discounted prices. Like any store like this, some things you have to be careful about since there might not be much of a discount, but when we went, they had a special sale – 50% off ALL grocery items!! We ended up with about 4-64 oz. bottles of juice for the kids, lots of snacks and granola bars for school lunches, and a whole bunch of other stuff for around \$21! Plus, they give each kid a little squirt gun as a prize for "being good and letting mom and dad shop", and they also give you a wooden token for each \$5 spent – the token is good for \$5 off your next purchase of \$10 or more! We will definitely be back! There is also a location in Bowling Green, and [if you go to their website](#), they don't mention the Toledo location but it's there on South Reynolds, just north of the tollway. Better yet, we learned that this is a Christian organization! Their mission statement: *The Vision of Crazy Prices is to see a chain of discount retail stores providing income to an ever-growing list of organizations that are supporting young people, many of whom are hungry and hurting, emotionally,*

physically and spiritually.

If you are in either the Bowling Green or Toledo Ohio areas and you like clearance shopping (my husband can't get enough – we spent over an hour here last weekend and he wants to go back this weekend – no complaints out of me, I like to clearance shop too AND this gets me yet another trip to the zoo!!), check out Crazy Prices!

The Mighty Thor

(Sorry If I disappoint fans of the Marvel Comics' character). Tonight was another fun evening of auditions at the community theatre. [The Nerd](#) came under my radar my sophomore year at BGSU. I performed a scene as Rick Steadman in an acting class. After reading my copy of the scene, I immediately searched out a copy of the full script (and not from the college library). After reading the play, I was immediately enamored with the over-the-top character and said if ever I found a chance to audition for it, I would soooo be there. I nailed the scene in school and was told in my comments from the instructor that if he ever needed a white [Steve Urkel](#), he would look me up. I guess that was a compliment.

At the audition, I saw some returning thespians and one or two newcomers (always nice to see). On the audition form, I listed that I would like to try for Rick and Thor (an 8-13 year old brat). I did get to read the part of the brat while kneeling. I was told that if I could shrink about 3 feet, shave, and grow some hair on my head I would be considered.

When the time came to read for the title role, I attempted to fit in a few snorts where applicable, roll the eyes a bit, change my voice slightly so it had a bit of a "adenoidal"

sound (which the stage directions call for) to it. The first scene was the scene in which the cast is introduced to the nerd. Hilarious.

The second bit was a solo part in which Rick makes himself comfortable in his 'Nam buddy's apartment. He unpacks a music stand, book, and tambourine (of which none were provided) and proceeds to butcher "The Star Spangled Banner." I made like I was banging the instrument at opportune moments on the sofa, my head, leg, etc. while doing my best to ruin our National Anthem. A friend mentioned that I could be arrested for such a travesty. I thought being booed ala Roseanne would be enough. I hope that I was "over-the-top" enough to please the director.

Although some would balk at the opportunity to play a nerd, I relish the chance to bring Rick Steadman to life once again, this time for a paying audience. Hopefully, a great friend (who I was actually surprised to see since he and his wife are expecting some day soon) will be cast with me. Usually, he has been directing or directing and acting; but I really would like to be cast in a show where he does not wear so many hats. But even if neither of us get a part, there is always the next show. More auditions tomorrow night. Then what a nice birthday present it would be if I get any part (similar to last year after I found out that I was cast as the standout character in a previous show... although some do say I stand out in whatever part I am given... dunno) ☐ .