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Vol. 130-No. 7 February 12, 2002

Michigan Magnetics moving to Bulgaria



Michigan Magnetics will be moving its production from the Vermontville company to a factory owned in Bulgaria.

by Shawna Hubbarth
Staff Writer

Vermontville-based factory Michigan Magnetics will be closing its production unit and will move to Bulgaria, said Vermontville Village President Sue Villanueva last Thursday night.

Villanueva said the company met with her recently to inform her that it would be moving its production part to their company in Europe. Workers were notified a week and a half ago.

Calls to Michigan Magnetics President Maxwell

Schwartz were not returned last Friday.

Michigan Magnetics manufactures magnetic heads that are used in devices that read magnetic ink. The small heads or boxes are used in such things as credit card machines and used to read hotel key cards, swiped at the door.

The company employed 35 people in 2000. At that time, Schwartz said he perceived as a challenge, "overcoming the increasing production costs and competition from off-shore compa-

nies with low labor costs. These are the challenges today and will continue to be as we go forward," he said at that time.

Schwartz said in 2000 that the company would most likely stay in Vermontville. It has been located there since 1954 he said.

Villanueva said the offices would remain open, but said she did not know how many people from the village would be laid off, or what effect it would have on the tax rolls.

Vermontville may raise sewer, water rates

by Shawna Hubbarth
Staff Writer

A public hearing soon will be set to gain public input on the raising of water and sewer rates in Vermontville by five dollars a month.

Up for discussion also would be adding a cost of living increase automatically every year based on usage. That increase would not go into effect until next year.

Council approved the motion to set a public hearing on the matter, but no date was determined.

Council member Tom Williams said rates had not been raised in two or three years and there was a need for an increase.

Council mused over the increase and Village President Sue Villanueva commented, "They will get a lot higher before we are done with this project."

She was referring to the

upgrades in the water system that the village will be deciding on in the near future. The village is working with Fleis and Vandenbrink Engineering firm to try to secure a grant to help fund a new lift station and possible new water tower.

Villanueva said she has talked to the council president in Nashville who said that Nashville just adds cost of living into the bills yearly.

"Well what are the village residents getting for the extra \$5," asked council member Theresa Spagnuolo-O'Dell.

Council members said nothing, really.

She said she did not see how they could ask for an increase without the customers getting a benefit.

"It's hard," said Villanueva. "No one wants to raise the rates, but we have

been talking to the guy who is trying to get us these grants and we need to get our funds built up."

"Well this new project would cost (at the most) 2.5 million and that's \$30 a month and I just am not sure the village residents are ready to pay that much," said Tom Williams. "It's important that word gets out and that people attend the public hearing.

"Well, this small increase will start to help us though," said Villanueva.

Spagnuolo-O'Dell voted nay on the motion to set a public hearing.

In other business at the meeting the council:

• Approved the budget for the next fiscal year, which totals \$272,000. Council members nixed a proposal that would have given them

See rate increase, pg. 2



State Director for Rural Development Joanne DeVuyst (front left) presents the check for \$1,767,000 for the Nashville water project while village treasurer Lois Elliston, President Frank Dunham, clerk Penny Ruff, Scott Decker of the DPW, village attorney Roger Swets, Todd Mclean, with Rural Development, and Fleis and Vandenbrink Engineer Dennis Sandford look on.

Nashville receives check for new water system

by Shawna Hubbarth
Staff Writer

The Village of Nashville officially was awarded the \$1.767 million grant and low interest loans from the U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development last Thursday morning.

Rural Development State Director Joanne DeVuyst was on hand to present the check to Village President

See grant check, pg. 2



Village President Frank Dunham signs papers making the over 1 and a half million dollars in grants and loans, from Rural Development for the water project, official.



Fire hydrants in Vermontville now have flags so that even if there is heavy snowfall the hydrants can be easily located.

In This Issue...

- High school students gear up for winter homecoming
- Mother pleads guilty to abusing 3 month old child
- Nashville mail carrier hurt in auto rollover
- Lions stay atop league cage derby with Bellevue win

Grant check, from pg. 1

Frank Dunham, Interim Director of Public Works Scott Decker, Treasurer Lois Elliston and Clerk Penny Ruff.

The signing of papers and the handing over of the check has been the culmination of several years worth of planning, and effort into the nearly \$3 million water

project. The water project started early this year and will continue this year. DeVuyst said she was happy to be presenting the check, and said the upgrades would provide higher quality of water services to the entire village.

Early Childhood Connection program open to all families

by Shawna Hubbarth
Staff Writer

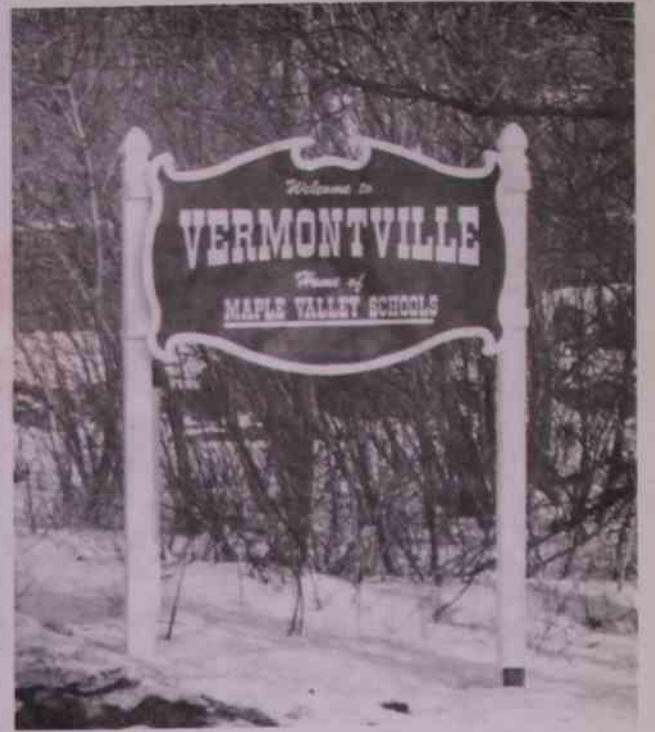
Early Childhood Connections, an Eaton County grant funded program to connect families with children under the age of 5, is off to a great start, said coordinator Cindy Krolik.

The program offers for parents in Vermontville and Nashville various things such as welcome baby packages, hearing, vision, and developmental screening, family enrichment classes, age specific parenting information, and referrals, among many more.

"It's really a vehicle to get



Early Connections Specialist Cindy Krolik said the new program is off to a great start in the Maple Valley area.

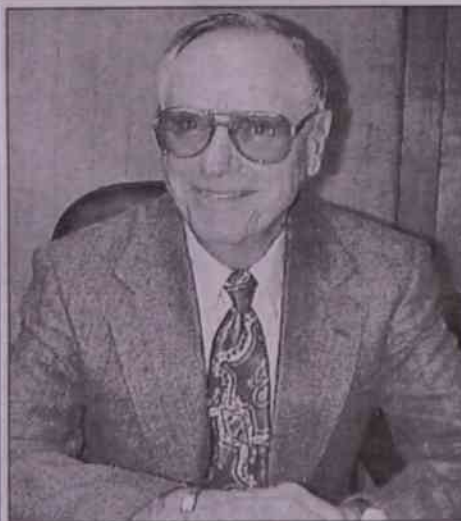


Vermontville Council members thanked Monte O'Dell of the DPW for putting this sign back together after it had been vandalized. O'Dell also added a hard back to prevent future vandalism.

Bring that special someone to a special dinner on Feb. 14th at... The Maple Leaf Inn

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people connected," said Krolik. "We are hopeful to have systemic changes instead of just spot changes. Our goals are to increase family stability, increase school readiness, and decrease the need for special education. We are working through communities to bring that about."

Krolik said the program works through the school district area and it's for all families, not just those "at risk."

"This program gives a chance for all families to connect... families are at the center of our community and it is our hope that families that have strengths can share those strengths."

The community coordinator for Maple Valley is Joan Laos, who can be reached at Fuller Elementary.

Krolik said effort is being put forth to create a web of services, activities and help to parents and children who need it.

Anyone looking for services or help or would like help finding resources in the Maple Valley area should call 1-866-480-0898.

Rate increase, from pg. 1

an extra \$25 per meeting, citing their dislike for legislators and others in government who vote to give themselves raises.

They also nixed the annual Sam's Club membership to instead buy locally.

• Heard from the Michigan Department of Transportation that they looked into the council's concern of the intersection of M-50 and Vermontville Highway and that they determined the corner did not need a traffic light but needs an overhead

dual flashing light.

• Approved to purchase 110KW Generator from AIS Rental Corporation for \$29,282.

"It will handle bigger motors for in the future," said Monte O'Dell of the Department of Public Works.

Talked about checking to see if an ordinance that deals with regulating vendors at the syrup festival was up with Williams and Works getting added to the other ordinances that are being worked on.

TANNING

\$4 per visit Walk-ins
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\$25 10 Visit Package
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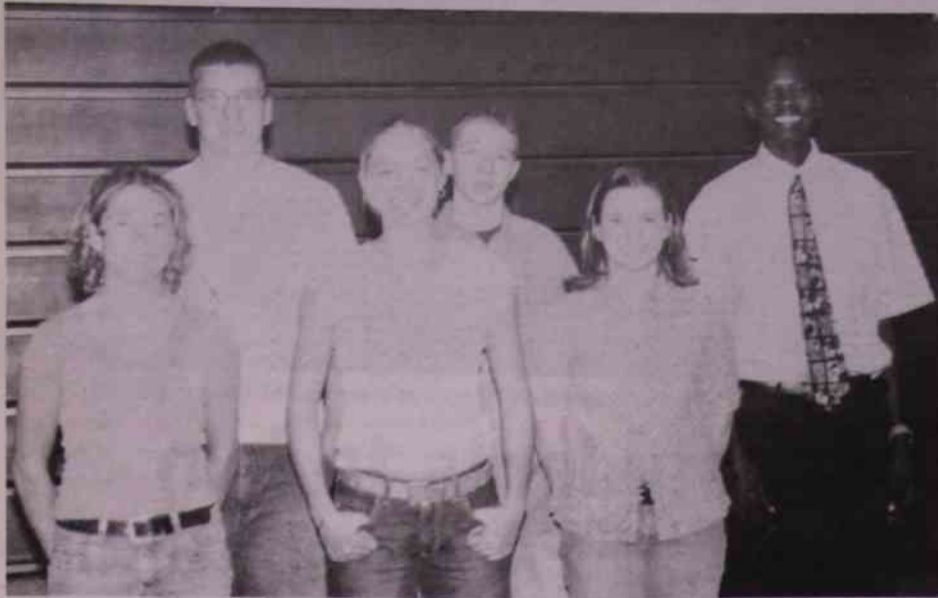
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LOCAL CHURCH SCHEDULE

<p>ABUNDANT LIFE FELLOWSHIP MINISTRIES A Spirit-filled Church Meeting at the Maple Leaf Grange Hwy. M-66 south of Assyria Rd. Nashville, MI 49073</p> <p>Sun. Praise & Worship 10:30 a.m., 6:00 p.m.; Wed. 6:30 p.m. Jesus Club for boys & girls ages 4-12. Pastors David & Rose MacDonald. An oasis of God's love. "Where Everyone is Someone Special." For information call 1-616-731-5194 or 1-517-852-1806.</p>	<p>CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE 301 Fuller St., Nashville</p> <p>Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Sunday: A.M. Worship 11 a.m. P.M. Worship 6 p.m. Wednesday Evening: Worship 7 p.m.</p> <p>REV. ALAN METTLER</p>	<p>SOUTH KALAMO CHURCH Corner of Kalamo Highway & Ionia Rd.</p> <p>Sunday A.M. Worship 10:30 a.m. Evening Worship 6 p.m. Wednesday Evening at 7 p.m.: Children's Classes Youth Group • Adult Worship</p> <p>PASTOR JEFF SWIFT</p>	<p>NORTH KALAMO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Worship Service 9:30 a.m.</p> <p>PASTOR MARK THOMPSON</p> <p>MAPLE GROVE BIBLE CHURCH 8593 Cloverdale Road (1/2 mile East of M-66, 5 mi. south of Nashville)</p> <p>Sunday School 10 a.m. A.M. Service 11:15 a.m. P.M. Service 6 p.m.</p> <p>PASTOR GEORGE GAY</p>	<p>PEACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF BARRYVILLE 6043 SCOTT RD. (M-79)</p> <p>Worship 9:30 a.m. Children's Sunday School 9:45 a.m.</p> <p>PASTOR SUSAN TROWBRIDGE (517) 852-1993</p>	<p>ST. CYRIL'S CATHOLIC CHURCH 203 N. State, Nashville</p> <p>Sunday Mass 9:30 a.m.</p> <p>FATHER MIKE STAFFORD A mission of St. Rose Catholic Church, Hastings</p>
<p>ASSEMBLY OF GOD CHURCH 803 Reed St., Nashville</p> <p>Sunday School 10 a.m. Sunday: A.M. Worship 11 a.m. Evening Worship 6 p.m. Wednesday Evening: Prayer Meeting 7 p.m.</p> <p>PASTOR GLENN BRANHAM</p>	<p>CHESTER GOSPEL CHURCH 3744 W. Vermontville Hwy.</p> <p>Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Morning Worship 11 a.m. Evening Worship 6 p.m. Wednesday Family Night Service 6:45 p.m.</p> <p>PASTOR MARC S. LIVINGSTON Phone: 543-5488</p>	<p>GRACE COMMUNITY CHURCH Meeting at Maple Valley High School</p> <p>Morning Celebration 10 a.m. Contemporary Service, Relevant Practical Teaching, Nursery, Children's Classes, Youth Group, Adult Small Groups, Leadership Training</p> <p>PASTORS: DON ROSCOE and ROB VAN ENGEN Phone: (517) 852-9228</p>	<p>NASHVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH 304 Phillips St., Nashville</p> <p>Sunday School 9:45 a.m. A.M. Service 11 a.m. P.M. Service 7 p.m. Wed. Service 7 p.m.</p> <p>PASTOR LESTER DeGROOT PASTOR DEANO LAMPHERE PASTOR MATT ROHDE</p>	<p>QUIMBY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH M-79 West</p> <p>Sunday School 10 a.m. Worship 11 a.m.</p> <p>PASTOR KENNETH VAUGHT (616) 945-9392</p>	<p>VERMONTVILLE BIBLE CHURCH 250 N. Main St., Vermontville</p> <p>Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Worship Service 11 a.m. Sunday Evening Service 6 p.m. Wed. Evening Service 7 p.m. AWANA 7-8:30 p.m. Wed.</p> <p>PASTOR DANIEL E. SMITH ASST. PASTOR LES ANDERSON</p>
<p>BASILINE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 9617 E. Baseline Rd. Corner of Baseline & Church Roads (2 miles east of M-66 on Baseline)</p> <p>Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship Service 11 a.m. (Nursery Provided)</p> <p>Youth Groups, Bible Study and many other activities. Phone (616) 963-7710 REV. GLENN WEGNER</p>	<p>FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH 110 S. Main, Vermontville</p> <p>Morning Worship 11 a.m. Church School 10 a.m.</p> <p>Fellowship Time After Worship REV. ERIC LISON</p>	<p>GRESHAM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH One mile N. of Vermontville Hwy. on Mulliken Road</p> <p>Church Service 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10 a.m. Fellowship Time 10:30 a.m. Adult Class 10:50 a.m.</p> <p>PASTOR JEFF BOWMAN</p>	<p>NASHVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Located on the corner of State and Washington streets</p> <p>Worship Service 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 11:15 a.m.</p> <p>PASTOR DIANNE BOWDEN At Home: 852-0685 Church Phone: 852-2043</p>	<p>ST. ANDREW & MATTHIAS INDEPENDENT ANGLICAN CHURCH 2415 McCann Road</p> <p>Sunday Services: 9:15 a.m. Morning Prayer 11:00 a.m. Holy Communion</p> <p>For more information call 795-2370 or Rev. David T. Hustwick 948-9604</p> <p>Traditional 1928 Book of Common Prayer used for all services. Affiliated with the Independent Anglican Church (Canada Synod).</p>	<p>VERMONTVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 108 N. Main, Vermontville</p> <p>Sunday School 10 a.m. Church Service 11 a.m.</p> <p>PASTOR JEFF BOWMAN</p>
					<p>MOST HOLY ROSARY CHURCH Roman Catholic Latin Mass 314 Main, Middleville</p> <p>Sunday Mass 9 a.m. 616-795-9030 FATHER PAUL ANDRADE</p>

High school students gear up for winter homecoming



Homecoming court for Freshmen-Juniors includes (front, from left) Rachel Brandenburg, Stefanie Joostberns, Tiffany Thomas, (back, left) Josh Grasman, Tyler Orlovski, and Akok Mulek.

by Shawna Hubbarth
Staff Writer

Organizers are calling this week's winter homecoming activities and events the best planned yet and are looking forward to high student participation.

Norma Jean Acker, teacher for the leadership class at the high school, said, "This is the second year for the leadership class

and the third we have organized homecoming activities. I think we are getting better at it, there's a lot of overall excitement this year for everyone involved."

The week's activities gear up this week and end with a game against Lansing Christian and a homecoming dance Saturday night.

During noon hour all week, students in each class have the chance to compete

in contests such as backwards free throw, half court shot, arrow through the heart, etc.

Wednesday the students will dress up for tropical day, Thursday for super hero day, and Friday for class color day. The freshmen color is black, the sophomores red, the juniors white, the seniors Columbia blue, and the staff gold. Super heroes are the theme



A king and queen will be crowned for homecoming from the court of (from front left) Miranda Farr, Melinda Powers, Alesia VanEngen, (back, from left) Nate Jarvie, Russell Rhodes, Devin Phenix.

this year. Freshmen have Superman, sophomores are Spiderman, juniors are ninja turtles, and seniors are X-men.

Each class gets points for the most involvement in dressing up and activity participation. Students also score points for their class if they win the competitions. A high point winner class is then announced Friday.

Friday during the day, students from the leadership class have organized a pep rally/assembly with all sorts of spirit contests and games.

"The leadership class is now up to 30 members and each of them had a hand in planning this," said Acker. "We think it will go off well, and we will have a lot of fun with it too."

♥ February 14, 1962 ♥

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MOVIE GUIDE

SHOWTIMES 2/11 - 2/14

ROLLERBALL (PG-13)
1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:10, 9:10

BLACK HAWK DOWN (R)
DIGITAL/STADIUM SEATING
1:25, 4:10, 6:55, 9:40

COUNT OF MONTE CRISTO (R) DIGITAL/STADIUM SEATING
1:15, 3:50, 6:45, 9:25

SNOW DOGS (PG)
12:40, 2:40, 5:10, 7:00, 9:00

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School Lunch Menus

Maple Valley Elementary Schools (Maplewood & Fuller)
Lunch Menu
Wednesday, Feb. 13

Chicken tenders, tater tots, fruit cocktail, trail mix, 1/2 pt. milk.

Thursday, Feb. 14
M.W. Hungry Howies.
Pizza, carrot sticks/tossed salad, raspberry sherbet, Valentine cake, 1/2 pt. milk.

Friday, Feb. 15
Tacos, green beans, fresh fruit, churro, 1/2 pt. milk.

Monday, Feb. 18
No school.

Tuesday, Feb. 19
Chicken nuggets, mashed potatoes, cracker pack, peaches, 1/2 pt. milk.

Note: Maplewood Elementary will be serving breakfast this year starting

the first of the school year.
Maple Valley Jr./Sr. High School Lunch Menu

Wednesday, Feb. 13
Choose One - chicken tenders, cheese pizza, chicken sandwich, breakfast bar. Choose Two - Garden salad, mashed potatoes, fruit cocktail, juice, Milk.

Thursday, Feb. 14
Choose One - Spaghetti, cheeseburger, pizza, taco bar. Choose Two - Garden salad, carrot sticks, raspberry sherbet, juice, Milk.

Friday, Feb. 15
Choose One - Rib sandwich, pizza, chicken sandwich, salad bar. Choose Two - Garden salad, green beans, fresh fruit, juice, Milk.

Monday, Feb. 18
No school.

Tuesday, Feb. 19
Choose One - Chicken nuggets, cheeseburger, pizza, taco bar. Choose Two - Garden salad, broccoli/cheese, peaches, juice, Milk.

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE:
All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act and the Michigan Civil Rights Act which collectively make it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, national origin, age or marital status, or an intention, to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18.
This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To report discrimination call the Fair Housing Center at 616-451-2980. The HUD toll-free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

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FROM OUR READERS

Local Citizens Speak Out On Issues

'Wizard of Oz' very impressive

To the editor:

My mother, my daughter and I thought we'd take in a show last Sunday (Feb. 3).

We had never been in the opera house in Vermontville before, though we have been to local high school shows and musicals by the Thornapple Players. At first sight the opera house is very small, but the wealth of talent and entertainment we found inside was awesome.

We were all very impressed.

"The Wizard of Oz" is a show that was very well presented. There were lots of children there and they all sat still and were captivated.

The young lady who played Dorothy, Dhanielle Tobias, was so well cast. She has a marvelous voice and fit into the role perfectly. The wicked witch of the west, Lynn Blakely has a cackle that will curl your toes. The

Cowardly Lion, Eric Swanson is great.

All the actors were wonderful I only mentioned a few that really stood out to me.

If you get a chance next weekend, go check it out, take your children, your friends, your parents, your grandparents, all will find it enchanting.

Molly Winans



The Greenhand Conduct team took honors at the recent FFA competition.

Local students to join regional FFA competition

Maple Valley was among the schools competing in the FFA District Leadership contests at Hopkins High School Thursday, Feb. 7.

Competing in the Greenhand (first year member) Conduct of Meetings contest were Justin Starks, Katie Eldred, Heather Ruffner, Nicole Cantrell, Kyle Schroder, Amanda Ketchum and Brandon Montgomery. This team received a gold rating and will be advancing to the regional competition in Centerville Thursday, Feb. 21.

Competing in the Demonstration contest with a speech titled, "Maple Syrup Production" were Ben Owens, Chris Eldred and Tommy Griffin. They received a silver placing.

Competing in the Job Interview Contest were Jennifer Dunn and Micah Tobias. Both received a silver rating, with Micah Tobias advancing to regional competition.

"Leadership contests are a great way for students to exhibit their skills of public speaking, parliamentary procedure and career preparation," said FFA advisor Aaron Saari. "All of the students participating deserve a lot of credit for their dedication and ability to perform at the contests, they put a lot of work into preparation for the contests."

"They are exhibiting skills which will be useful later in life."



Micah Tobias (left) and Jennifer Dunn received silver rating in the Job Interview contest.

Nashville VFW #8260

Valentine's Dinner and Dance

February 16 • 5:30 - 7 p.m.

Steak Fry

\$8.00 in advance by Friday, February 15
\$10.00 at the door

Reservations
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After 4 p.m. except Tues.

Public Welcome

4-Hers plan pop can drive

Area 4-H horse project members will be holding a pop can drive Sunday, Feb. 17, from 1 to 4 p.m.

Money collected will go to the Eaton County Horse Development Committee to pay for trophy and judging expenses for this year's fair. Members will be covering the area asking for cans.

Those who have cans to donate may call Jill Vanderhoef at 726-0251.

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2 bedroom ranch retirement or starter home, central air, full basement, riverside deck and garage. Fenced rear yard. Call Homer. (N-147)

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2 bedroom bungalow with many new improvements & 2 1/2 car garage on 2 acres with a creek. Immediate possession! Call Homer. (CH-156)

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Obituaries

Earl W. Blake

NASHVILLE - Earl W. Blake, age 79, of Nashville died Wednesday, Feb. 6 at home.

He was born in Hastings, Michigan on Feb. 14, 1922, the son of Walter and Rena (Rose) Blake. He attended area schools.

He served in the U.S. Army during World War II from Dec. 3, 1942 until Dec. 27, 1945 with the 301st Infantry.

He married Mary Louise Gaedert on Feb. 28, 1948 in Angola, Ind.

They settled in Nashville where he was a lifelong member of the Nashville VFW Post. He loved bingo and working at Mulberry Fore Golf Course. He enjoyed racing of all kinds,

fixing up cars, trailers, snowmobiles and being in his garage.

Surviving Mr. Blake is his wife, Mary "Blondie" Blake of Nashville; son, Robert Blake; daughter-in-law, Joyce Makley; grandson, Travis Blake; granddaughter, Melissa Barnhart; several nieces and nephews.

Preceding him in death was his parents, Walter and Rena (Ross) Blake.

A memorial luncheon was held Saturday, Feb. 9, 2002 at the Nashville VFW Post. Disposition was at Lakeview Cemetery, Nashville, MI.

Memorial contributions to the family.

Arrangements were made by Maple Valley Chapel, Nashville, MI.



The parachute was almost invented by Leonardo da Vinci in 1515. However, his prototype failed—it had no air hole at the top.



An iguana can stay under water for 28 minutes.



At any given time, there are 1,800 thunderstorms in progress over the earth's atmosphere.

Personal liberty is the paramount essential to human dignity and human happiness.
—Bulwer Lytton

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APPROXIMATELY 4'X6' BARN doors in good condition, \$50 each; old barn beams at various sizes, \$15 per foot. Call (616)948-7921 for more information.

HOLTON CORNET FOR sale: Frank Holton silver cornet made in 1910. Model number 9345 in excellent condition with extra attachments and original case. \$600. Can email pictures. Contact: millstone@qtm.net or (616)468-6667

Garage Sale

2 FREE GARAGE SALE signs with your ad that runs in any of our papers. Get them at J-Ad Graphics, 1351 N. M-43 Hwy., Hastings. At the front counter.

Household

CEDAR LOG BED, queen, Amish built w/mattress (never used). Cost \$900. Sell \$185/best. (517)626-7089

Help Wanted

FULL-TIME RECEPTIONIST NEEDED by publisher of country music in Muskegon, Michigan - at their "beaches office". No computer skills are required but must have excellent handwriting! Position includes weekly wages and a very nice private two bedroom apartment with washer/dryer and central air in excellent school district. Moving assistance is also available. The Federation for Country Music (231)-759-6825.

SECRETARIAL POSITION: Very competitive wages. Must have prior phone experience, computer skills a plus. Please fax resume to (616)945-0455.

Miscellaneous

KING LOG BED, Amish, cedar post, mattress set (in plastic, never used). Paid \$1200. Sacrifice \$195. (517)626-7089

Mobile Homes

FIRST TIME HOME buyers! We represent several banks, they are eager to sell homes they have repossessed. No application fee if you mention this ad. 1-800-466-0461

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ROUTE DELIVERY (CITY EXPRESS)- to \$800/wk + great benefits! Full training! All local routes! (616)949-2424 Jobline Fee.

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Wanted

WANTED STANDING TIMBER: Harvest time is here, don't forget that your wood lot is also a crop. Call today for select cutting advice. Use Horses or skidder. (517)852-0629 or (517)580-6674.

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What's Coming to Town?



Woodlawn Meadows Retirement Village

1821 N. East St., Hastings, MI 49058

Construction plans are currently underway for Woodlawn Meadows Retirement Village in Hastings, (just off of East State Street).

The planned project will be a multi-phase retirement community offering:

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Born 11-22-83 ~ Passed away 2-16-01

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Watching over everyone, making sure we are all right.
No one understands why you were taken away
All we can do is pray
Until that one fine day



That we all get to see your smiling face.
We wish you didn't have to vanish without a trace
We wonder how you're doing.
Hope you felt no pain
You were always there for everybody
We wish we could repay you
Rest in peace, Jenny.
Everybody loves you.

By: Christel Shepard

With lots of love—

Dad, Mom, Jason, Grandparents,
Aunts, Uncles and Cousins

Blood drive set at Castleton Hall

A Red Cross blood drive is planned for 1 to 6:45 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 14, at the Castleton Township Hall, 915 Reed St., Nashville.

Red Cross officials say despite the tremendous response last fall after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, blood supplies are low in this region, owing to snow, slippery roads and falling temperatures keeping people from turning out.

Great Lakes Blood Region Executive Director Fred Sterns said, "If collections don't pick up, we'll be facing a real emergency. We desperately need people who have donated in the past to donate again. We also must have healthy people who have never donated to visit a

blood drive and offer to share their blood with others. That's the only guarantee that blood will be available for people who need blood products to live."

Anyone who is at least 17 years old, weighs a minimum of 110 pounds, is in reasonably good health and hasn't given blood within 56 days of the date of Mon-

day's drive is eligible to contribute.

For more information, call the Barry County chapter of the American Red Cross at 945-3122.

Mother pleads guilty to abusing 3 month old

A 20-year-old Nashville woman pleaded guilty in Barry County Circuit Court last Thursday to grabbing her three month old daughter and squeezing the child hard enough to break several bones.

Carrie Snell of 6405 Thornapple Lake Road is accused of inflicting the in-

juries Sept. 23 in Castleton Township, though the incident was not discovered until about three weeks later when Snell took the child to Pennox Hospital where the healing of the broken bones were detected by x-ray, said police.

Though Hawkins told the court that the child had a number of bruises due to the chest compressions, along with cracked ribs, a cracked shin bone and collar bone fractures, Det. Sgt. David Oakland of the Barry County Sheriff's Office said the bruises were not apparent because they had already healed when the hospital examined the child.

"Abuse and neglect proceedings are occurring now," said Hawkins, who

confirmed that the child is currently in foster care as a temporary ward of the court. "The parents have to meet certain criteria before they can have her back."

Snell was originally charged with first degree child abuse, a 15-year felony, but pleaded guilty to the lesser charge of second degree child abuse in exchange for the charge being dropped.

Assistant Prosecutor Rebecca Hawkins said there is no agreement regarding Snell's possible sentence, which will be handed down by Judge James Fisher March 7 at 8:15 a.m.

She could be sentenced to serve a maximum of four years in prison on the conviction.



Three Men and a Tenor will be onstage at the high school auditorium Feb. 23.

'Three Men and a Tenor' to perform at high school

by Shawna Hubbarth
Staff Writer

The Maple Valley Leadership class and staff is bringing the musical group "Three Men and a Tenor" to the high school auditorium for the community to enjoy Saturday, Feb. 23.

Billed as family entertainment for ages 9 to 90, the group has a repertoire of tunes from the thirties to the nineties, performed entirely without instrumental accompaniment.

They use vocal sound effects (from guitars to drums to even bagpipes) to bring a mix of harmony and humor to the stage.

The group performs the show all over the U.S. and has performed with such notable entertainers as The Beach Boys, Bob Newhart and Peter Centera, and have recorded five albums.

Maple Valley teacher Norma Jean Acker said, "Mr. Gosner (Principal Todd) saw them at a concert and he liked them so well he brought them to a Christmas assembly for the students and staff. We all liked them so much we thought we would bring them back so the community could enjoy

a concert."

Student Stacey Hamilton said, "I had seen them at Summerfest in Hastings and I enjoyed them. I am glad they are coming, they put on a good, funny show."

Student Ashley Gardner agreed.

"They were fun to work with," she said of booking the show. "They acted just like normal guys although they are so talented. I think the night should be a lot of fun for everyone."

Tickets to the show are \$10, and are available at the high school office and at the door the night of the event.

NOTICE RESIDENTS VILLAGE OF NASHVILLE

Any resident who would be interested in serving on the Nashville Planning Commission should contact the Village office at 206 N. Main or call (517) 852-9544.

Penny J. Ruff
Village Clerk

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FOR SALE

The Village of Nashville will be taking bids on fire wood.

Contact the sewer plant at 852-9571.

Send bids to the Village of Nashville, 206 N. Main, P.O. Box 587, Nashville, MI 49073 by Feb. 28 2002, 5 p.m.

The Village reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids.

Free legal advice for senior citizens

Legal Services of Southern Michigan will conduct interviews for legal advice and possible representation, without charge, to interested seniors Wednesday, March 6, from 10:30 a.m. to noon at the Nashville Masonic Temple, 301 N. Main.

A short presentation will also be provided.

Legal Services of Southern Michigan is a non-profit organization that provides legal assistance, representation and education to low income people in Calhoun, Branch, and Hills-

dale counties and seniors at St. Joseph and Barry counties. The agency seeks, through its board, staff, volunteers and pro bono attorneys, to ensure that its clients are given equal access to the justice system.

It is funded by the Legal Services Corporation, the State Bar of Michigan and local United Ways. The advice and counsel at the senior sites is funded primarily by Federal Title III "Older Americans Act" monies and by Calhoun County Senior Millage.



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HASTINGS Kaydessa Boarding Kennel ~ 3347 Coats Grove ~ Tues., Feb. 12, 19, 26 • 6-8 pm	DELTON Fire Hall ~ Orchard Street ~ Sun., Feb. 10, 17, 24 • Noon-2 pm
NASHVILLE Powers (next to Good Time Pizza) ~ M-66 at Reed Street ~ Sun., Feb. 10, 17, 24 • 3-5 pm	CALEDONIA Ken's Auto Repair Plus ~ M-37 ~ Sat., Feb. 9, 16, 23 • 3-5 pm
SUNFIELD Fire Hall ~ Main Street ~ Feb. 9, 16, 23 • Noon-2 pm	

ARK VETERINARY SERVICES - Dr. Larry Julius
1-800-4-ARK VET

If you cannot make the above dates, call for a convenient house call for any small animal needs, especially if you have multiple pets, difficult to drive, etc. Call for costs.

Fireman's Dance slated for Feb. 16

The 82nd annual Fireman's Dance will be held Saturday evening, Feb. 16, at the Vermontville Fire Department.

The community is invited to come out for the night and dance the wee hours away to the local band, Blind Ambition. Tickets are available for the 8 p.m.-? event from any fire fighter or at the department.

People are encouraged to bring their own munchies and snacks and beverages.

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Nashville mail carrier hurt in rollover accident

A Nashville mail carrier was injured Tuesday afternoon when the Jeep she was driving on Woodland Road north of East State Road traveled off the roadway, struck a tree and rolled over. Trooper Kelly Linebaugh (pictured) said Pamela Carothers, 51, was driving from the passenger seat and may have been sorting the mail when accident occurred. "She doesn't remember what happened," said Linebaugh. "She just drove straight off the road until she hit the tree." Carothers suffered some arm and shoulder pain during the crash and was taken to Pennock Hospital in Hastings by Castleton-Maple Grove-Nashville Ambulance service. "She called 911 herself from a cell phone," said Linebaugh. Alcohol was not a factor and no citations were issued.

Weight Loss Puzzles Doctors

ATLANTA, GA -- Doctors were surprised when two separate studies found that a natural dietary supplement could help cause significant weight loss.

Although not conclusive, both studies found that patients receiving the formula called Bio-Rex 3000 lost more than twice as much weight as those in a control group on the same fat reduced diet. Neither group was instructed to decrease the amount of food they ate or to increase their exercise levels. An article published in the *American Journal of Clinical Nutrition* says that you don't have to decrease the amount of food you eat to lose weight, provided that you limit the fat.

According to a spokesperson for Phillips Gulf Corporation, the exclusive North American distributor of Bio-Rex 3000, the company is considering additional studies in order to get federal approval to make pharmaceutical claims. Currently, weight loss claims for the Bio-Rex 3000 supplement are limited. However, with the requisite approval, the company could say that Bio-Rex 3000 decreases sugar cravings, increases metabolism and interferes with the body's ability to produce excess fat.

Bio-Rex 3000 is currently available as a dietary supplement and plan in pharmacies and nutrition stores or by calling 1-800-729-8446. Suggested retail price for a four week supply is just \$19.99. www.hcdsales.com

Bio-Rex 3000 is available at:
MACE PHARMACY
 219 N. Main St.
 517-852-0845 • Nashville

Author's Note: This statement has not been evaluated by the FDA. Bio-Rex 3000 is not intended to diagnose, treat, cure, or prevent any disease. © 2000 PCC

Caledonia, Nashville drivers hurt in crash

The Kent County Sheriff and Caledonia Fire Rescue were both called to the scene of an automobile accident last Friday afternoon at 84th Street and East Beltline in Caledonia.

According to police, shortly after 3:30 pm, Lori Taylor, 21, of Caledonia, was driving a Pontiac Grand Am traveling northbound on East Beltline. She then proceeded to make a left (west) turn on the yellow light at 84th Street.

Taylor apparently turned into the path of Jessica Rowley, 25, of Nashville who was traveling southbound on East Beltline and passing through the intersection on the yellow light.

Police say Rowley's Jeep landed on its side, pinning her in the vehicle. Both Rowley and Taylor were taken to Spectrum Butterworth Hospital with non-life threatening injuries. Taylor received a citation for the accident.

Police caution anyone turning on a yellow light.

"It's important to remember that when you are turning left on (a) yellow (light), wait for the approaching vehicle to (either) stop or clear the intersection," said Deputy Roger Parent of the Kent County Sheriff's office. "Even if the light turns red, while you're in the intersection, under the light, you

have the right to clear the intersection. People shouldn't feel rushed. Make sure you know what that other (vehicle) is doing."

Subscribe to the Hastings Banner and get all the news of Barry County. Call 945-9554.

Independent Bank plans Customer Appreciation Day

Independent Bank South Michigan's Vermontville office will host a "Customer Appreciation Day," Thursday, Feb. 14.

The Independent Bank in Vermontville will be hosting a "Customer Appreciation Day" to thank its customers for their patronage. Refreshments will be served throughout the day and there will be a drawing for two great prizes.

The event will be held during normal business hours from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

"We appreciate our customers," commented Kammy Ritchey, manager of Independent Bank's Vermontville office. "This event is one way that we can show them that we value their loyalty and patronage."

Independent Bank's Vermontville office is located at 194 Main Street and is open Monday-Thursday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Saturday 9 a.m. to noon.

Independent Bank South Michigan is a subsidiary of Independent Bank Corporation. The bank operates 17

banking offices in the communities of Battle Creek, Bellevue, Charlotte, Eaton Rapids, Leslie, Mason, Okemos, Olivet, Pleasant Lake, Potterville, Richland, Rives Junction, Vermontville, Williamston, and a mortgage center in Okemos.

Kalamo Township Tax Collection Schedule

The last days for 2001 Winter Tax Collection are:
 Monday, February 11 12:00-7:00 p.m.
 Thursday, February 14 9:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m.

All payments should be made at the Kalamo Township Hall.

I will accept payments by mail thru February 25, 2002, with no penalty. Dog licenses are available during these times and also by mail. Unsexed dogs \$7.00, Male or Female \$12.00. Provide a copy of rabies information.

Send to: Kalamo Township Treasurer
 303 S. Ionia
 Vermontville, MI 49096







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Call 945-9554 to place for Maple Valley News ACTION ads.

SYRUP SEASON!

Nashville Maple Syrup Association will be tapping maple trees in the village of Nashville soon.

Place a white string around those trees you do not wish to have tapped.

 Carrier Plate with Brush AA35644 Reg. \$22.94 \$18⁸¹	 Tru-Vee™ Opener with Bearing AA37474 Reg. \$24.99 \$18⁴⁹
 Finger Assembly AA53553 Reg. \$26.97 \$22¹²	 Corn Baffle A65626 Reg. \$8.94 \$7⁸⁷
 Seed Belt A67976 Reg. \$6.56 \$5⁰⁵	 Seed Boot N280446 N280447 Reg. \$31.63 \$28⁴⁷
 Single-disk openers for no-till drills N214190 Reg. 25.32 \$19⁴⁹	

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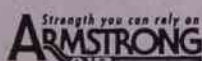
Sure you could save a few pennies now but it could end up costing many dollars at harvest.

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Lions stay atop league cage derby with win over Bellvue

Maple Valley throttled Bellevue Friday night to stay a half game in front of Olivet in the Southern Michigan Athletic Association basketball derby. The Lions cruised to an 81-42 triumph to lift their SMAA record to 8-1. Olivet is 8-2 and Leslic isn't far behind at 7-3. Maple Valley overall is now 10-4.



Darin Thrun (32) gets inside for an easy basket. (Photo by Perry Hardin)

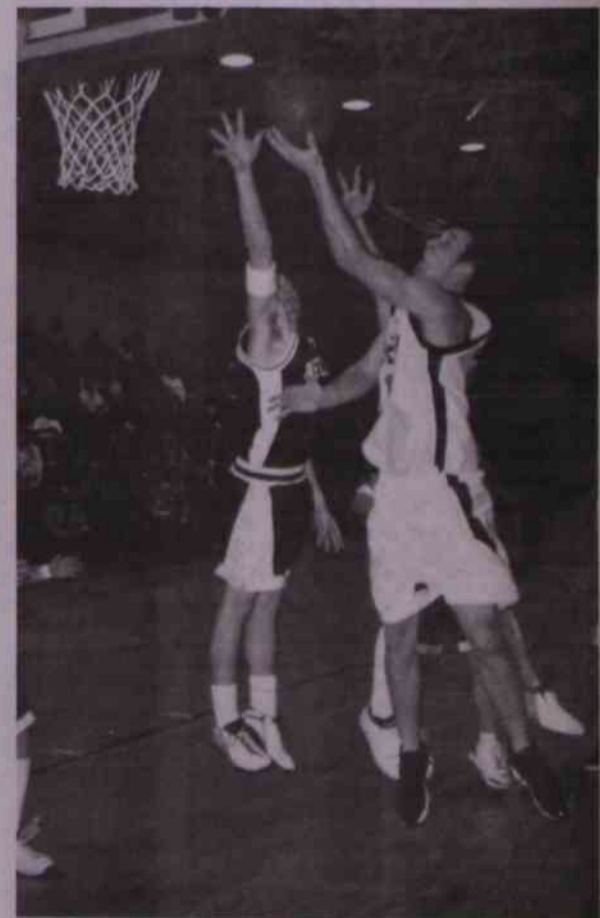
The homestanding Lions wasted little time in taking command of their game Friday evening, jumping out to leads of 14-5 and 32-12 in the first two periods. They limited the Broncos to just 13 field goals for the entire game.

Nick Jones paced the attack with 23 points, including three, three-point buckets. Darn Thrun scored 20 points, Devin Phenix collected six rebounds and Jim Hirness had six assists.

Travis Whitaker scored 11 points for Bellevue.



Eric Smith (42) breaks loose for a basket underneath. (Photo by Perry Hardin).



Devin Phenix tries to lift the ball over a Bellevue defender. (Photo by Perry Hardin).

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Swiss Steak \$2.29 lb	 Center Cut Pork Chops \$2.29 lb	Yoder's Sour Cream, Cheddar Macaroni Salad \$1.39 lb

 Gallon Bareman's 2% Milk \$1.99	1/2 Gallon Bareman's Orange Juice \$1.19	15 oz. Chef Boyardee Spag. & Meatballs, Mini Ravioli, Beef Ravioli 99¢	128 oz. Laundry Detergent Xtra Liquid 2/\$5	6-11 oz. Banquet Select Meals BUY ONE GET ONE FREE	16 oz. West Pac Vegetables BUY TWO GET ONE FREE
1/2 Gallon Husonville Ice Cream \$2.99	8-12 oz. Spray or Squeeze I Can't Believe It's Not Butter 99¢	64 oz. Overhang Orange Kickflip Berry Disney Extreme Coolers 2/\$5	24 oz. Post Grape-Nuts Cereal 2/\$5	128 oz. Fabric Softener Nice 'n Fluffy 2/\$5	40 lbs. Culligan Care Cubes Water Softener Salt \$3.99
				24 Can - Cubes Miller Lite \$14.99 Plus Deposit	

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