

00000000 F PUBLIC LIBRARY
 HASTINGS
 121 S CHURCH ST
 HASTINGS MI 49058-1817

HASTINGS PUBLIC LIBRARY
 121 S CHURCH ST
 HASTINGS MI 49058-1893

PSRST STD
 US POSTAGE
PAID
 HASTINGS, MI
 PERMIT NO. 7

Published by J-Ad Graphics, Inc.
 1351 N. M-43 Highway, Hastings, Michigan 49058
 P.O. Box A, Nashville, Michigan
 Phone: 945-9554 (Hastings)

Vol. 130-No. 10 March 5, 2002

Arbitrator to decide teachers' pay dispute

by Shawna Hubbarth
 Staff Writer

The Maple Valley Education Association and the school district will go to an arbitrator who will decide the fate of what Superintendent, Clark Volz calls a mistake in which 33 teachers were given a 14.8% instead of 9% pay increase this year.

Teachers work within a pay matrix, in which they usually receive a raise for each additional year (or

step) they are with the district. The mistake, said Volz, came about in an effort to boost starting teachers' wages in the district. To do that, he said, it was negotiated in the contract to get rid of the zero step, which was the base rate salary for starting teachers. By eliminating this step, teachers coming into the district would start off at the 1 step, which the year before was what a second year teacher was making.

Volz said the year after the 0 step was eliminated, it was negotiated to also eliminate another step in an effort to boost teachers wages upward. The problem came when some teachers should have stayed on a step. Staying on the step they would have still gotten a pay raise, but had to consider themselves on the same step number for two years. The mistake, he said, occurred when the office accidentally bumped them



Superintendent Clark Volz said the district is willing to accept the decision made in arbitration on the teacher pay issue.

the teachers' salaries, but it was never our intent to give a double step," he said. "We have paid 33 employees a 14.8% increase and were budgeted to give a 9%."

But the local teachers' union insists this was no mistake, and this increase was bargained in the teachers' contract.

"Teachers received paychecks in accordance with the negotiated contract until Feb. 15," said Michigan Education Association Uniserv Director Karen Sherwood. "Then their pay was cut. This has left some teachers facing serious financial problems."

Volz said two weeks after the mistake was found, a letter was sent to the affected teachers.

"By law, we had the ability within a six-month time frame to go back and claim the overpaid money," he said. "It was my decision at the time to try to minimize the impact of our mistake and to hold them harmless and not claim the money already paid. We

sent a letter, and wish to adjust their pay back to the 9% increase."

Volz said that an offer was put on the table that would keep the raise in effect for the rest of the year, and then go with the 3.5% increase next year, to even things out but that proposal was rejected by the union.

"We are extremely sorry this mistake happened in the first place," he said. "It would have been easier to let it go, but it's not our right to give that money away. We have a responsibility to the tax payer."

Volz said the extra increase would cost the district about \$78,000 this year alone and would compound itself every year for the duration of the matrix, which tops out after about 11 years.

Sherwood insists that no mistake was made, and that the increases were all part of the contract.

"If there was a mistake,

See pay dispute, page 2

No contested races in local village elections

There will be no contests in either the Nashville and Vermontville council elections next Monday, March 11.

In Vermontville incumbent Sue Villianuva is running for a two-year term for president, and incumbent Shirley Harmon is running for a two-year clerk term.

There are three open four-

year trustee positions, in which incumbents Don Martin and Jim Samann are running. Trustee Lloyd Wolever is exiting, with Charles Viele Sr. running. Incumbent Theresa Spagnuolo-O'Dell is running for a two-year position.

In Nashville, incumbent Frank Dunham is running for a two-year president's

term. Chelsea Wetzel is running for a one-year trustee position, and Mary Coll, Karen Betts and Joshua Guthrie are running for three open two-year trustee positions.

Dan Kellogg, Ron Harris II and Steve Wheeler are leaving the Nashville council.

up, giving them the 14.8% raise instead of the 9% they should have gotten.

So while overall most teachers were getting the customary 9% increase, these teachers were getting an enlarged increase, he said.

Volz said the mistake was found in January, when the budget was being updated.

"It was our intent to raise

Sewer, water extension to Mulberry Fore nixed

by Shawna Hubbarth
 Staff Writer

After debating for a second time a request to extend sewer and water to the proposed Mulberry Fore development, the Nashville Village Council did not grant approval, but instead will meet with Castleton Township to work out an inter-governmental arrangement or property annex.

The motion to do just that passed, with Ed Sheldon voting "no."

The council also approved a motion to request a timetable for Mulberry Fore's plans for a banquet hall and development and an estimated value of the projects once finished.

The council tabled the request to extend sewer and water three weeks ago and requested a letter from the village attorney on the matter. Council looked over a letter and an example of an intergovernmental agreement.

"Did this answer your questions?" asked Village President Frank Dunham.

"I thought you were going to ask if this was legally binding (if council gives ap-

proval)?" asked Ralph Kirk. Orvin Moore, one of the developers, said the council could stop at any time after giving approval.

Kirk said he would feel better hearing a lawyer say that.

"Are we willing to extend services?" asked Dunham.

"If all we are getting is some additional customers, I would probably say not," said Trustee Steve Wheeler. He said he doubted the revenue would be enough to help with upgrading the system. He said the council should check with Castleton Township to see if the township even wanted to work out an agreement.

Dunham said he had informally met with Township Supervisor Justin Cooley and said he did not foresee a problem with the township.

"We all win with improved housing, it makes our community value better," said Dunham.

"It would boil down to the money (and perhaps getting compensated for infrastructure too)," said Wheeler.

Moore said they were in favor of being annexed into the village, but not until li-

"It was a simple question (whether or not to extend water & sewer services). (This is taking so long) they might decide to do something else and it may hurt us. Growth is inevitable and putting up roadblocks is not the way to approach this."

- Ed Sheldon

quor license issues were worked out.

Members from the audience were mixed in their opinions about the proposed development and the council's handling of the request.

One person asked the council to carefully weigh the pros and cons of such an extension, another was concerned that if it was extended, future development in the village might not be able to hook up.

One observer in the audience chided the council members for not being able to make up their minds.

Referring to the motion approved to make a \$33,200 payment for a portion of the Reed Street project, she said, "You guys just spent \$30,000, but you can't decide to take in more customers?"

Wheeler answered, "Well, that project has been in the making for three years."

She replied, "So is it going to take three years to decide this too? The way you are going they will never get it."

In other business last week, the council:

- Removed Ron Harris II from his committee assignments because he has not attended council meetings in quite some time, and has not replied to a letter asking for his resignation.

- Heard from Sheldon, who said he apologized about a comment he made about purchasing a tractor for the cemetery and how that might be a conflict of interest if purchased from Maple Valley Implement (because Department of Public Works employee

Scott Decker works there).

"I would like to apologize if I offended anyone... I was informed after I made that comment that there was not conflict of interest so I would like to apologize about that," he said.

Sheldon also said he did not think it was the council's business to ask about the price of the houses and property in the Mulberry Fore project.

"It was a simple question (whether or not to extend). (This is taking so long) they might decide to do something else and it may hurt us. Growth is inevitable and putting up roadblocks is not

the way to approach this."

- Amended and approved the cemetery budget for 2001-02.

- Amended and approved the budget for the village for 2001-02.

- Learned from Dunham that while the Reed Street project is being done (it is starting mid-March), the lights on the street could be replaced at a lesser cost, and could be upgraded to more efficient lighting. The upgrade would cost \$2,000, and to add eight more lights that Consumers Energy recommends because of dark spots, \$800 more.

In This Issue...

- Students to help at polls Monday
- Cagers finish 2nd in SMAA
- Bands plan spring fest on March 10
- 'PRIDE Plus' students treated to pizza party

Antiques
ANTIQUA SHOW: Barry County Fairgrounds Expo Complex. On M-37, March 9-10, two large buildings, quality antiques. Just north of Hastings, on M-37. Sat., 10-6pm; Sun., 10-4pm, \$2.50 admission.

Business Services
VERMONTVILLE ROOFING: licensed & insured. Owner operated for 15 years. David Halliwill, owner. (517)543-1002

Community Notices
FORMS ARE AVAILABLE until April 15, 2002 in the business office of Maple Valley Schools for Alumni who wish to be considered for a Scholarship from Maple Valley Memorial Scholarship Foundation.

WANT QUALITY PRINTING at affordable prices. Call J-Ad Graphics at (616)945-9554.

Farm
SELLING QUALITY, GRAIN-FED beef. Farm fresh, by the whole, half or quarter. Cut/wrapped to your specs. (517)881-2722

For Rent
MINI STORAGE AVAILABLE: 10x10's, 10x15's, 10x20's. Brand new buildings. Call: Space Your Storage Place at 616-374-1200.

NASHVILLE: VERY NICE 1bd apartment. (517)852-9386

For Sale
5 GALLON BUCKETS, \$2 a piece. (616)948-7921

BERBER CARPET: 120 yards, autumn wheat. Bought, never used, cost \$1,400, sell \$495. (989)227-2986

HASTINGS BANNER SUBSCRIPTIONS: Phone (616)945-9554.

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.

Help Wanted
HELP WANTED: RECEPTIONIST, full time, benefits, (517)726-0514.

Household
AMISH QUEEN LOG bed. Hand built, (mattress never used). In plastic, cost \$900, sell \$175/best. (517)626-7089

Miscellaneous
KING AMISH LOG bed. White cedar w/mattress (in plastic). Cost \$1,200, sell \$195. (517)626-7089

Mobile Homes
2 BEDROOM, nice starter home, Thornapple Lake Estates, \$4,000 obo. (616)758-3111

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

BANK NEEDS SOMEONE to assume payments on the extra sharp 3 bedroom, 2 bath home. As little as \$500 down. Bruised credit OK. Call for details (800)672-9604.

National Ads
CONSTRUCTION/LABORERS: to \$20/Hr. + overtime! Many people needed. Training now, (616)949-2424 Jobline.

ELECTRICAL APPRENTICE: to \$22.50/Hr. + full benefits! Residential/commercial/industrial. Training with a journeyman. (616)949-2424 Jobline

FRONT DESK/TYPESET RECEPTIONIST: to \$10.90/Hr. + benefits. General office duties, great advancement potential. (616)949-2424 Jobline

LARGE WAREHOUSE HILO: salary + benefits & 401K plan! Fortune Company!!! Start training now! (616)949-2424 Jobline

PACKAGING LINE ASSEMBLY: to \$15/Hr. + full benefits. Many shifts needed! Great working environment! (616)949-2424 Jobline

ROUTE DELIVERY (CITY EXPRESS): to \$800/week + great benefits! Full training, all local routes! (616)949-2424 Jobline

Pets
CHOW-CHOW: 2 females for sale, \$125 a piece. Call evenings, ask for Lori (517)852-3955.

Call 945-9554 to place your ad in the Maple Valley News and reach almost 5,000 area homes

Pay dispute, from page 1

then there were 33 mistakes made and those people got 10 paychecks, which means 330 mistakes, that's a lot of mistakes," she said. "We have 33 of our newest people taking a pay cut in the middle of the school year."

"The teachers are very upset," she said. "We have one young man who left Lansing and took a pay cut, and bought a house and started a family based on that promise, and now that promise is broken. We have amounts of \$1,500 to \$2,000 a year being taken away from our teachers, and that is a significant amount."

Sherwood said, "The Maple Valley Education Association, an affiliate of the Michigan Education Association, has filed unfair labor charges with the Michigan Employment Relations Commission. Specifically, the association charges that the board repudiated the collective bargaining agreement. Additionally, the parties have agreed to an expedited arbitration hearing before arbitrator Patrick McDonald within the next 45 days regarding the matter. The finding will be final and binding on the parties."

"We will accept the arbitrator's decision either way," said Volz. "If it is found we did somehow bargain that in the contract, then we will accept that."

"We are not trying to short pay, but be honest about a mistake that was made," said Volz. "We

cannot erase the mistake, but we can handle it honestly after the mistake is found and that is what we are trying to do. We are certainly not saying these teachers are not valuable to the district or to the children they teach. These are great teachers. We just don't have the right to perpetuate this mistake over and over at the taxpayers' expense. We have offered to minimize the impact through claiming them harmless and offering to secure them at this rate for the rest of the year."

Sherwood does not see it as that.

"When the contract was settled late in 2000, the teachers were promised salaries competitive with surrounding districts. Less than two years later they are working under a broken promise," she said.


Newest Citizens Announced

BOY, Kayne Malakie Rathburn, born at Hayes Green Beech in Charlotte on Jan. 22, 2002 at 2:51 p.m. to Kenneth Harold Rathburn and Misti Blue Jones of Vermontville. Weighing 6 lbs. 13 ozs. and 19 1/2 inches long. Grandparents include Kay Rathburn, Sandra Hawkins and Gary and Carla Jones.

Your homeowners policy comes with something extra...

Real people. Hometown people who will help you through the details of buying insurance or making a claim. While some insurance companies are no more than an 800 number and a voice mail menu, we're here to help—in good times and in bad—year after year.

Auto-Owners Insurance
 Life Home Car Business
 "The No Problem People"



TRUMBLE AGENCY
 178 Main, Vermontville • 517-726-0580

Diana's Place
 The Place to Go for Professional Styling
 MEN, WOMEN & CHILDREN HAIR STYLING
 Corner of M-66 and Thornapple Lake Road
 1-517-852-9481

LOCAL CHURCH SCHEDULE

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

Student to help at polls Monday

by Shawna Hubbarth
Staff Writer

When village residents go to vote in Vermontville Monday, they will see a young face helping out at the polls.

Maple Valley High School sophomore Kristina McCallum, from the high school leadership class, will be filling in as an election worker, and in the process, learning a bit about village government.

McCallum is already getting more familiar with the workings of the village. She attends the monthly council meetings for her leadership class with fellow student Kelly Fox. After each meeting, she and Fox write up a report for the class.

McCallum said she is learning a lot from the experience.

"The meetings and this work experience will help me understand the voting process so that when I am older and can vote, I will know how it is done.

"I have already learned a lot from going to the meetings. I did not know they

had so many branches off of the council, like the planning commission and all the committees. They are really in charge of a lot of things."

McCallum will undergo special training in Charlotte to help out, and will work the entire election day, from 6:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.

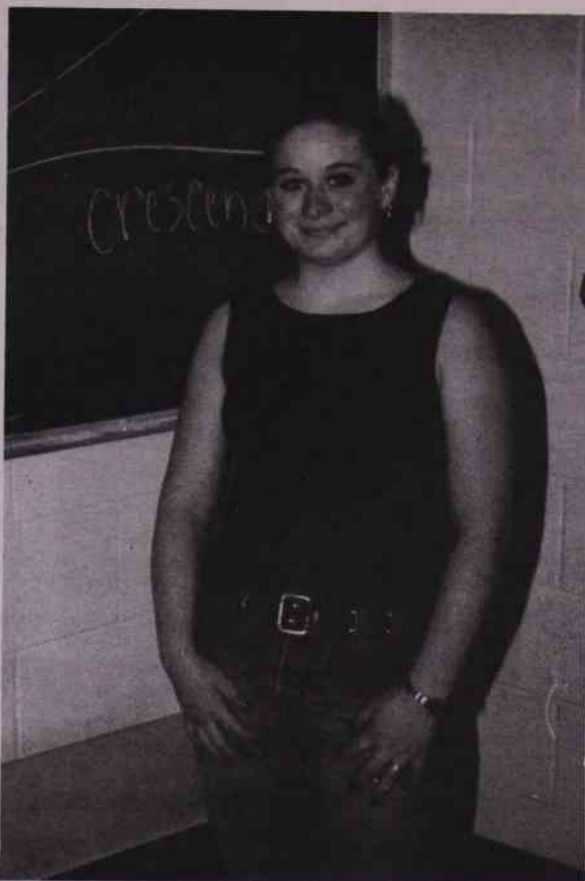
"In Charlotte, I will learn about polls, ballots, and go to a training seminar."

McCallum said the experience helped with school and her successful bid for student council.

"I am a student representative right now, so it helps me become more aware and helps me become better at speaking in front of people."

McCallum said she really enjoys and has learned a lot through the leadership class, which is a relatively new class at the high school, led by Norma Jean Acker.

"I really like the leadership class. You get involved and plan stuff and are in charge of a lot of community and charity support."



Kristina McCallum will be helping out with Vermontville's elections next Monday.

Storybook characters to visit Vermontville library

As part of Early Childhood Literacy Week, the Vermontville Township Library will have two special visitors this week.

On Thursday, March 7, Leona the Lion from PBS's "Between the Lions" will be at the library for the regular session of Toddler Time. Toddler Time is a special story hour for infants and toddlers with their parents or caregivers, and is presented by Early Childhood Connections of Eaton County. It is held every Thursday beginning at 11 a.m. in the

children's section of the library.

On Friday, March 8, Mouse, from the story "If you give a Mouse a Cookie," will be at the library beginning at 1 a.m. Everyone is invited to come and meet their favorite book and television characters, and join the free activities, books and ideas to keep children reading.

These special visitors and activities are brought to the library by the Early Childhood Literacy Coalition.

Bands plan spring fest on March 10

Maple Valley Junior-Senior High School will hold a Spring Festival Concert at 3 p.m. Sunday afternoon, March 10, at the high school gym.

The concert will feature the high school band, the junior high band and the high school jazz band.

On Tuesday, March 26, a "choral extravaganza" concert will be held. The concert will take place in the high school auditorium at 7 p.m. and will feature the high school choir, an all-girls honors choir, a male chorus, a junior high choir, and in a finale number, they will all sing together. The public is welcomed for both concerts.

Baseball clinics slated this month

Two little league baseball clinics are being offered later this month. The first clinic, for boys in grades 4-6, will be held from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, March 16, at Maple Valley High School.

The deadline to register and receive a tee shirt is Friday, March 8, though students can register on the clinic day, with no guarantee of a T-shirt.

The second clinic will be

held Saturday, March 23, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and is for boys in grades 7 and 8. Registration deadline for a shirt is Friday, March 15, though once again, students can register the day of the clinic without a guarantee of a shirt.

"This will be a great opportunity for the younger players to be introduced to Maple Valley baseball," said varsity coach Bryan Carpenter. "Members of the varsity

team will be on hand, and also the coaching staff."

Cost of the clinics is \$12, or family for \$20, and registration forms are available at the high school and at Maplewood. Athletes are asked to bring a glove, tennis shoes, and a bat if they have one.

Athletic Boosters to meet tonight

The Maple Valley Athletic Boosters will hold their monthly meeting tonight (Tuesday, March 5) at 5:30 p.m. at Goodtime Pizza in Nashville.

HASTINGS 4
Downtown Hastings on State St.
1-800-535-7203 945-SHOW

\$4.50 Kids all shows
\$4.75 DAILY Matinees 11:00am & Seniors
\$5.00 Students & Late Shows Fri & Sat
\$6.00 Evenings Mon - Thurs

No passes DIGITAL STEREO
Unlimited Free Drink Refills & 25¢ Corn Refills

Stadium Seating Gives YOU An Unobstructed View

MOVIE GUIDE

MEL GIBSON
SHOWTIMES 3/04 - 3/07

WE WERE SOLDIERS (R)
DIGITAL/STADIUM SEATING
1:30, 4:15, 6:55, 9:40

QUEEN OF THE DAMNED (R)
12:45, 3:00, 5:05, 7:10, 9:20

CROSSROADS (PG-13)
DIGITAL/STADIUM SEATING
1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00, 9:00

A BEAUTIFUL MIND (PG-13)
9:10

RETURN TO NEVERLAND (G)
12:35, 2:20, 4:30, 7:20

COUPON FREE 20oz DRINK
with \$1.50 (1/2 price) purchase of 46oz. bag of buttery popcorn

WWW.HASTINGS4.COM

TANNING

\$4 per visit Walk-ins
\$15 5 Visit Package
\$25 10 Visit Package
\$40 20 Visit Pkg.
(Must be used within 3 months)

California Tan & Australian Gold Lotions
Malibu Treatments Available

We care about how you look at...
STYLES-R-US
HAIR CARE & TANNING
Sandy Barber Shop
Tues-Thurs 8 am-8 pm, Fri 8 am-7 pm, Sat 8 am-12 noon Downtown Nashville • 852-1757

Nashville VFW Post 8260

LAST STEAK FRY OF THE SEASON

Saturday, March 9th
Dinner 5:30-7 pm

Tickets \$8.00 in advance until 8th;
\$10.00 at the door

For advanced tickets call
517-852-9260

Why torment yourself when a professional can help? It's our job to understand the most complicated forms. And our pleasure to help you get every cent you deserve.

H&R BLOCK rapid refund

354 S. COCHRAN CHARLOTTE, MI 48813 1-517-543-4339

1467 1/2 S. MAIN EATON RAPIDS, MI 48827 1-517-663-1331

HRBFA: Investment services and securities products offered through H&R Block Financial Advisors, Inc., member NYSE, SIPC, a subsidiary of H&R Block, Inc. H&R Block, Inc. is not a registered broker/dealer. ©2001 H&R Block Tax Services, Inc.

March 2002 **GOOD NEIGHBOR PHARMACY** www.mygnp.com

<p>Good Neighbor Pharmacy</p> <p>Cod Liver Oil Natural 100's</p> <p>\$2⁹⁹</p>	<p>Good Neighbor Pharmacy</p> <p>Niacin 100 mg. 100's</p> <p>\$1⁹⁹</p>
<p>Good Neighbor Pharmacy</p> <p>Vitamin B-6 100 mg. 100's</p> <p>\$2⁹⁹</p>	<p>Good Neighbor Pharmacy</p> <p>Vitamin B-12 500 mg. 100's</p> <p>\$3⁷⁹</p>
<p>Good Neighbor Pharmacy</p> <p>Vitamin C 500 mg. with Rose Hips 100's</p> <p>\$2⁹⁹</p>	<p>Good Neighbor Pharmacy</p> <p>L-Lysine 500 mg., Natural 100's</p> <p>\$3¹⁹</p>

MACE PHARMACY 219 NORTH MAIN STREET 852-0845
Hours: 9 am to 6 pm Mon-Fri; 9 am to 4 pm Sat.

dispute, from page 1

Newest Citizens Announcements

is Place

ST. CYRIL'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

VERMONTVILLE BIBLE CHURCH

VERMONTVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

MOST HOLY ROSARY CHURCH

'PRIDE Plus' students treated to pizza party



Pride Plus students in the 8th grade.



Pride Plus students in the 7th grade.



Students wear their new tee-shirts at the party.



Pizza upon pizza was brought in for the party.

MAPLE VALLEY Real Estate
 227 N. MAIN ST., NASHVILLE
 Phone (517) 852-1915 Fax: 852-9138
 Web Site: www.lansing-realestate.com
 Broker, Homer Winegar, GRI
 EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES
 • Multiple Listing Service (MLS) • Home Warranty Available

Member of Greater Lansing Association of Realtors, and Multiple Listing Services; Also Grand Rapids Multiple Listing Service

REALTOR **MLS**

Joan & Homer Winegar, GRI Eves. 726-0223
 Nyle Wells, GRI (Assoc. Broker) 726-1234
 Jerry Reese (Sales Associate) 852-5066

"SIDEWALK CAFE" IN NASHVILLE
 Great chance to become your own boss. Must see to know possibilities! Located center of town, plenty of on & off street parking. Charming small town "Cafe". Call Jerry for full details. (N-148)

NICE "STARTER" OR "RETIREMENT" HOME JUST OFF pending
 2 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath, 2 acres with a creek. Immediate possession! Call Homer. (CH-156)

IN VERMONTVILLE
 2 bedroom, 1990 single wide mobile home with cathedral ceiling, large master bedroom, shows well on large corner lot, close to stores. Call Nyle. (V-158)

VACANT LAND:

BUILDING LOT IN VERMONTVILLE!
 Suitable for "walk-out" basement, wooded, good location, all surveyed. Call Nyle for details. (VL-150)

ON MAIN ROAD NORTH OF VERMONTVILLE. CHOICE OF 3 PARCELS
 Surveyed, perked & driveway permits. 2 acres, 7 acres, or 10 acres. Some have natural gas or possible pond sites. All seeded to alfalfa hay & are on blacktop road. Call Homer for all the details! (VL-154-157)

8 ACRES WITH 5000 SQ. FT. COMMERCIAL BUILDING
 Bathrooms, retail area, warehouse facility, many possibilities, land contract terms possible. Call Nyle today for all the details. (VL-151)

20 ROLLING ACRES
 Potential "pond-site" & great hill top building sites, some trees. Call Nyle today! This one is priced to buy! (VL-157)

3.7 ACRES IN THE COUNTRY
 Nice building site, perked & surveyed. Ready for your new home. Land contract terms possible. Call Nyle. (VL-152)

13 ACRES SECLUDED BUILDING SITE
 1000 ft. off the road perked, surveyed, ready to build. 5 varieties of fruit trees & mature grapes. Don't miss this rare opportunity. Call Nyle today. (VL-154)

2.4 ACRES AT JUST \$26,900!
 Easy contract terms possible. Mature fruit trees. Potential walkout site. Call Nyle. (VL-153)

PRICED REDUCED! NOW \$89,900!!! NASHVILLE "RIVERFRONT"
 2 bedroom ranch retirement or starter home, central air, full basement, riverside deck and garage. Fenced rear yard. New roof. Call Homer. (N-147)

SELLER SAYS BRING ALL OFFERS!! SOUTH OF NASHVILLE ON 2+ WOODED ACRES.
 Secluded setting, 3 bedroom manufactured home, 3 years old, full basement, fireplace, master bedroom with bath. Must see to appreciate. Call Homer for more "Info". LISTED AT \$125,000! Assumable mortgage. (CH-127)

by **Shawna Hubbarth**
Staff Writer
 Maple Valley PRIDE Plus junior high school students recently enjoyed a pizza party for not only making the "PRIDE" requirements, but also for getting all A and B grades.

The PRIDE requirements are based on grades and such things as tardies, absences, and other requirements. Maple Valley High School Principal Todd Gon-

ser said the kids had a good time at the party enjoying pizza and getting their free shirts. The pride shirts were handed out to every junior high student who qualified. Those who qualified in the seventh grade included Olivia Blakely, Katelyn Boss, Trisha Carney, Jessica Chaffee, Michael Chapman, Nicole Davis, Tiffany Deboer, Christy Dietrick, Amanda Feighner, Alisha Felmlee, Meghan Gaber, Breann Gardner, Jared Go-

Thank You!

The Maple Valley PTO would like to express our gratitude to the teachers, staff, and administration of Maple Valley Schools and to the following businesses and organizations for their participation in this year's Winter Carnival. Their contributions of time, goods, or services helped to make our event a huge success.

Nashville Ambulance/EMS	Carl's Supermarket
Vermontville Grocery	Dad & Son's Water
Maple Leaf Inn	Mulberry Fore
Hastings City Bank	The Movie Station
Phyllis Manning Face Painting	Stone Hill Farms Vending
Grant's Wood Shop	C & B's Pizza
Meijer	E & O Catering
McDonald's - Hastings & Charlotte	Wal-Mart
Maple Valley FFA	Maple Valley NSH
Maple Valley HS Leadership Team	

Marshall man charged with stalking and home invasion

A Marshall man accused kicking in the back door of his ex wife's home in Maple Grove Township, injuring her during an argument and interfering with her 911 call for help Feb. 24 has been charged with aggravated stalking, home invasion and telephone line cutting.

Byron John Gay, 42, is free on \$20,000 bond awaiting a March 6 pre-exam hearing on the felony charges.

Troopers said they were dispatched to a domestic assault in progress at about 5 p.m. and arrived to find that Gay allegedly had fled the scene. He was later arrested by Calhoun County authorities at his home.

The 36-year-old victim told police she returned home from shopping with a friend and shortly thereafter Gay kicked open the back door and accused her of being with a former love interest.

"She called 911 while telling him to leave," said troopers. "He wouldn't leave and he grabbed the phone and threw it on the floor. She was able to get a wooden yard stick and crack him over the head which knocked him to the ground."

Gay briefly lost consciousness, but continued the argument after he came to, police said.

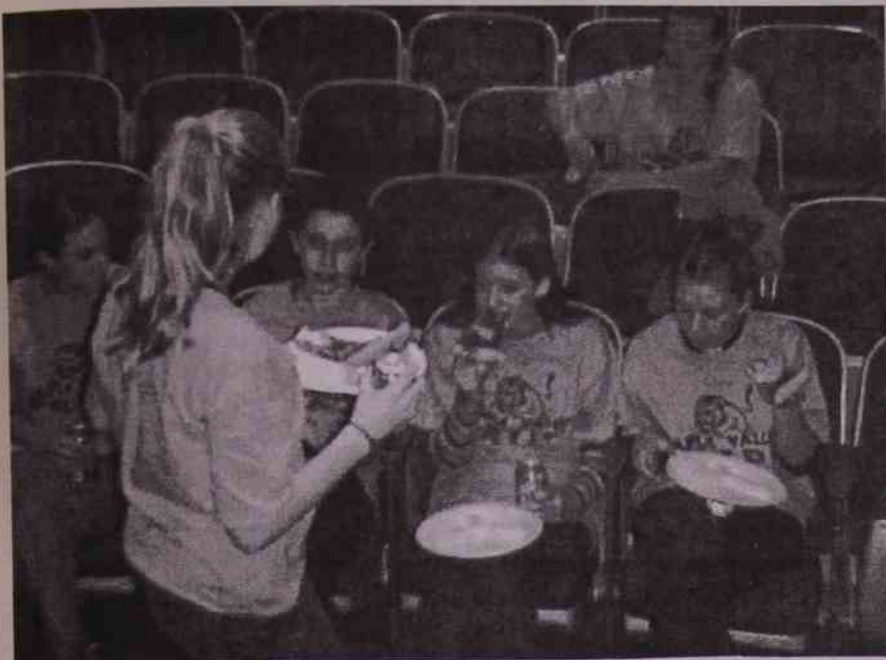
"The victim suffered a bruise on her right forearm and on the biceps area," said police. "The suspect had a severe laceration on his right forehead."

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Barry County MSU Extension Office

Barry County Extension Calendar of Events

- Mar. 4-8 ANR Week, MSU Campus.
- Mar. 5 Master Gardener Class begins, 6-10 p.m., Extension Office.
- Mar. 6 Livestock Developmental Committee, 7:30 p.m., Expo Center.
- Mar. 7 Fair Board Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Expo Center.
- Mar. 11 Horse Developmental Committee Meeting, 7 p.m., HHS Cafeteria.
- Mar. 12 Master Gardener Class, 6-10 p.m., Extension Office.
- Mar. 13 Horse Judging Team Meeting, 6:30 p.m., HHS Ag Room.
- Mar. 15 Trophy Sponsors names due to Expo Center to go in Fair Book.
- Mar. 17 Horse Judging Clinic - Mock Competition, 2 p.m., Sam Schroder's.
- Mar. 18-22 Fair Book Proofreading, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Expo Center.
- Mar. 18 Dairy Developmental Committee Meeting, 7 p.m., Extension Office.
- Mar. 18 Proud Equestrians Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Camp Manitou-Lin.
- Mar. 20 Fair Book Proofreading, 5-9 p.m., Expo Center.
- Mar. 20 4-H Advisory Council, 7 p.m., Extension Office.
- Mar. 21 Fair Board Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Expo Center.
- Mar. 25 Rabbit Development Committee Meeting, 7 p.m., HHS Ag Room.
- Mar. 27 Horse Judging Team Meeting, 6:30 p.m., HHS Ag Room.



PRIDE students try to get their fill of pizza.

From previous page

ney, Sarah Willimams, Max Wilson and Jessica Winegar. Those who qualified in eighth grade included David Benedict, Andi Cohoon, Stacie Cook, Nicholas Croff,

Jenna Denton, Jennifer Ellison, Janelle Farnum, Shammarr Gearhart, Matthew Gordeneer, Randa Hanes, Joseph James, Megan Keasler, Lindsey Kersjes, Amanda Kirchhoff, Daniel Laverty, Aaron Myers, Arminda-Mindy Newton,

Allison Oleson, Sara Pash, Samantha Pierce, Norman Porter, Dhanielle Tobias, Sarah Trumble, Sarah Vanderhoef, Garrett Vanengen, James Voelker, Brandi Walden, Lacey Ward, Rebekah Welch, Ezekiel-Zeke Wieland and Salena Woodman.

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.



Leland Smith to mark 80th birthday



The family of Leland Smith invite friends and family to an open house to celebrate Leland's 80th birthday on March 10, at the First Baptist Church, 1110 S. Cochran, Charlotte, from 2 to 4 p.m.

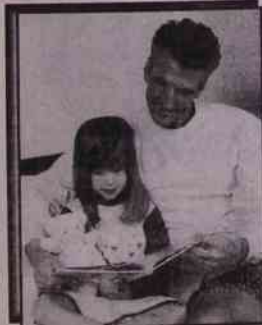
Hunter safety class planned this month

A hunter safety class will be held March 12, 14, 15 and 16 from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. and the Saturday time to be announced at the Castleton Township Hall.

Limited space if available and is first come, first served. To sign up for the class please call 852-9189 and leave a message for Gary White.

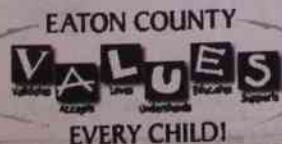
The family of Betty Jane Garvey would like to express our heartfelt thanks and gratitude to everyone who helped us through the recent loss of our mother. Your love, support, visits, hugs, food, flowers, cards, donations and prayers have carried us through a very difficult time. A very special thank you to June Decker, Blondie Blake and Bob & Joyce Blake for the support given to our entire family.

Early Childhood Literacy



Storybook characters Corduroy, Mouse and Leona, familiar names to millions of pre-schoolers, will be right here in Eaton County, March 2-9, as part of Family Activity Days. Early Childhood Connections will collaborate with 25 area sites to bring the characters, a story time, activity time, information and give-aways to families with children from age zero to five. Libraries, preschools, MOM's groups and businesses in five communities will host the activities.

For more information on this program call 517-645-4500 or Toll Free 866-215-KIDS



Be their Hero from age Zero

New!
We now handle...



WORKWEAR



The name customers know and trust.



Water Softener Salt

RED-OUT
40 lbs \$4.99

PELLETS
40 lbs \$4.19

HOMETOWN
LUMBER & HARDWARE

Mon. thru Sat. 7:30 am to 5:30 pm



219 S. State in Nashville

517-852-0882

www.hometownlumber.com

New items at the Putnam Library

Fiction - Smoke in the Mirrors by Jayne Ann Krentz; The Oath by John Lescroart; and The Summons by John Grisham.

Non-Fiction - The Living Earth by Jon Erickson; Cloning by Jeane DuPrau; How to Write a Story by Kathleen Phillips; Getting Started in Online Investing by David R. Brown; The ABC's of Coronary Heart Disease by Dr. James J. Maciejka; The ABC's of Nutrition and Supplements for Prostate Cancer by Mark A. Moyard, M.P.H.; Images of the Wild by the Photographic Art of Carl R. Sams II and Jean Stoick.

Westerns - One Man's Justice by William Johnstone; The Stalkers by Terry Johnson.

Christian Fiction - A Quiet Strength by Janette Oke; Woman of Grace by Kathleen Morgan; Angels Flight by Tracie Peterson; Sweet Boundless; The Tender Vine by Kristen Heizman; The Long Way Home, A Dream to Follow by Lauraine Snelling; The Princess by Lori Wick.

Juniors and Young Adults - Make Cook Gadgets; Pussycats Everywhere; Miss Malarkey Won't Be in Today; Different Just Like Me; The U.S. Constitution and You; Elliot Bakes a Cake; What I Believe; Hockey Tips from the Pros; Eager Little Beaver; Franklin Runs Away; Turnagain Ptarmagin!; Riddle... Prairie Bride #12; The Minstrel's Melody #11;

Dizzy's Birds Watch; Wendy Helps Out; Body: Bones... Other Body Bits; Face to Face with the Horse; Making Fleece Crafts; grand Slam Sisters; Rosa Parks; What is Hibernation; What is Migration; Science of the Seasons; Science of Liquids and Solids; Airplanes; Views from the Sleeping Bear; The Legend of Mackinac Island; Buzzy the Bumblebee; A Wish to be a Christmas Tree; The Blue Spruce; Hannah and the Homunchulus; S is for Sunshine; B is for Buckeye; The Legend of the Teddy Bear; Greatest Moments in Detroit Red Wings History.

The Putnam Library will be hosts to the following meetings on events in the month of March. The public is welcome to all events or meetings.

March 9th - 10 to 11 a.m., Preschool Story Hour with Janice Carne.

March 11th - 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Nashville Garden Club meeting along with a children's activity.

March 15th - 10:30 to 11:30 a.m., Home Schoolers. Starting at April the group will be meeting the second Friday of each month.

March 19th - Jr.-Sr. High School Study groups of Math, English and Science. Tuesday evenings from 6 to 8 p.m.

Area Obituaries

LaDuska Hazel Sheldon (Higdon)

LUDINGTON, MI - LaDuska Hazel Sheldon (Higdon) passed away Saturday, Feb. 16, 2002 at her residence in Ludington, MI.

She was the daughter of George W. and Virginia E. (Bell) Higdon. LaDuska was born May 7, 1928 in Streeter, ND and moved to Nashville, MI in 1932.

She graduated from Nashville High School in 1941 and married Nathan Sheldon in 1943.

She worked at Michigan

Carton after graduation and while Nate was in the service and stationed in Washington state she worked at an aircraft factory. They moved back to Michigan after Nate got out of the service.

She started working at Putnam Public Library in 1967 and worked there until she retired in 1988 and moved to Ludington.

She is survived by husband, Nathan; daughters, Natalie (Howard) Casterline

of Bellevue, Paula Sheldon of Palm Bay, FL, Julie Sheldon of Ann Arbor; son, Jim Sheldon of Ludington; six grandchildren; one great grandchild; sisters, Eunice (Lloyd) Priddy of Nashville and Doris (Jerry) Callen of Satellite Beach, FL.

She was preceded in death by her parents; brothers, John C. Higdon, Victor A. Higdon and Myron G. Higdon.

Cremation took place on Feb. 19, 2002 in Ludington.

Forest Walter England

SUNFIELD - Forest Walter England, of Sunfield, passed away Friday, March 1, 2002 at his residence, at the age of 82.

Forest was born May 22, 1919 in Walsh, Colorado, the son of John William Franklin and Etta (Lawyer) England. He was one of six sons.

On Nov. 25, 1937 he married Monieta Hines.

His life work included, W.P.A. and farm/ranch work in Colorado, clay products, neighborhood handyman, police work, civil defense, and the Boy Scouts of Michigan. But most of all Forest enjoyed helping others, relatives, friends and neighbors.

He was preceded in death by both his parents; brothers, Don, Ernest, Alfred and Emmet; sons, Bernard Forest England, and Jerold Lynn England.

Forest is survived by his beloved wife of 64 years, Monieta England of Sunfield; sons, Wesley (Geni) England of Shawnee Mission, Kansas, Kenneth (Joyce) England, Farrell (Delores) England, Delmer England, all of Sunfield; brother, Delbert England of Walsh, Colorado; 12 grandchildren; 15 great grandchildren; brothers-in-law, Vernon Hines of Grand Rapids, Roy Hines of Grand Ledge; sisters-in-law, Elizabeth England of Walsh, Colorado, Maxine Hines of Sunfield, Audrey of Grand Ledge, and Charlene Hines

of Denver, Colorado; many nieces and nephews; and beloved friends.

Funeral services will be held 11 a.m. Thursday, March 7, 2002 at the Sunfield United Methodist Church with the Rev. Harris Hoekwater officiating. Interment will be in the Sunfield Cemetery.

The family will receive their friends on Tuesday evening from 6-8 p.m. and also on Wednesday 1-3 and 6-8 p.m. at the Rosier Funeral Home, Mapes-Fisher Chapel, Sunfield, Michigan.

The pallbearers are:

Kenneth L., Brian M., Jeffrey A., John W., Jeremiah D., Matthew S., Mark E., and David England. The honorary pallbearers are Larry Teller and Jack Hankis.

For those wishing, contributions may be made to be used by the family, as per their wishes, c/o Rosier Funeral Home, P.O. Box 36, Sunfield, MI 48890-0036.

For more information log onto www.legacy.com. Arrangements were made by Rosier Funeral Home, Mapes-Fisher Chapel, Sunfield.

COBB

Well Drilling & Repair

Residential • Commercial • Farm
Submersible & Jet Pump & Tank
Sales - Service
2", 5" Well Drilling & Repair

Richard Cobb • David Cobb
517-726-0377

*270 N. Pease Rd.
Vermontville Mich. Lic. #23-1748



A high end mower at a low end price



LT133 13-hp
Lawn Tractor
\$1,799

They say you get what you pay for. With the John Deere LT133 Lawn Tractor, you get that and more. More specifically, you get a 13-horsepower engine, tight 15-inch turning radius, and in-line-shift 5-speed transmission. There's no end to what this baby's got. Stop by and see for yourself.

www.JohnDeere.com

NOTHING RUNS LIKE A DEERE®

• Government Trade-ins Coming in March •

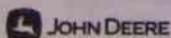


Fillmore
EQUIPMENT, INC.

2900 N. M-43 Hwy. T. 616.945.9526
Hastings, MI 49058 F. 616.945.5958

HOURS:
Mon., Tues., Wed. & Fri. 7am-5pm;
Thu. 7am-6pm; Sat. 7am-12 noon

www.fillmoreeq.com fillmore@fillmoreeq.com



FROST

HEATING & COOLING

Quality, Value & Service



FREE ESTIMATES

(616) 374-7595 (517) 852-9565


Call 945-9554 for

Maple Valley News

ACTION-Ads!

Be their Hero from age Zero


play
care
hold
laugh
read
love
teach




READ

Reading is a gift of time that lasts forever.

Talking, singing, reading...all help a child's brain make the connections it needs for growth and later learning. And, best of all, each of these interactions provides a wonderful opportunity for closeness.





Early Childhood Connections

400 S. Nelson St., Pottsville, MI 48876
(517) 645-4500 • Toll Free (866) 215-KIDS

Spikers fall in district finals to Leslie

Maple Valley's varsity volleyball team put forth a great effort at the district tournament it hosted on Friday, losing in three games to Leslie in the championship match.

"The girls played great," Maple Valley coach Kelly Becklin said. "No one expected us to make the finals, and we did. We just came up a little bit short, but the whole team hustled and played hard together."

"They ended the season on a very positive note."

The Lady Lions peaked for the playoffs and advanced by sweeping both Dansville (15-13, 15-7) and Bellevue (15-4, 15-13).

Maple Valley took the



Krystal Root (2) sets up her hitters. (File photo by Perry Hardin)



Miranda Farr (25) sends a shot cross-court. (File photo by Perry Hardin)

first game against Leslie 15-7, but the Blackhawks recovered to take the match 15-13 and 15-9.

Miranda Farr served 31 points and 12 aces and Jessica Mansfield had 24 points and five aces. Kyndra Root had 13 service points.

Krystal Root led the team in assists with 29. Jessie Grant had 12 kills, Ashley Gordeneer had 11, Camille Wieland had eight and Mi-

randra Farr had four.

Wieland had seven solo blocks to her credit, and Grant had three solo blocks. Grant and Gordeneer each had seven block assists.

Farr led the squad on digs with 10, followed by Kyndra Root with nine and Chayla Robles with eight.

"Camille Wieland and Miranda Farr had tremendous final games for us (as seniors)," Becklin said.

DIVORCE - CUSTODY PARENTING TIME

Call Today - We Can Help

Saturday Hours 8 am - Noon

Michael J. McPhillips
Attorney-At-Law

1-888-945-3512

PUBLIC HEARING

The Village of Nashville Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing on March 21, 2002 in the Council Chambers at 7:00 p.m. to hear comments on a variance request from Jay Rice. Property located at 417 1/2 Reed Street. Needs to comply with zoning ordinance 15.03 sec. xv. restoration and repair. All written comments can be sent to Village of Nashville, 206 N. Main St., Nashville MI 49073 by March 20, 2002.

BRAKES • OIL CHANGE • EXHAUST • ENGINES • ALIGNMENTS • TRANSMISSIONS

JEFF DOBBIN'S AUTO SERVICE, INC.

616-945-0191

Jeff Dobbin, Owner
ASE Master Technician
1847 E. M-79 Hwy.
Hastings, MI 49058

 Towing Available

ELECTION NOTICE

TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS of Vermontville Village, notice is hereby given that a General Election will be held on Monday, March 11, 2002, for the purpose of electing a candidate to the office of village president, village clerk, village treasurer and trustee, three positions.

The election will be held at the village office which is handicapped accessible.

Shirley Harmon
Vermontville Village Clerk

109



Jessie Grant bumps a pass from the backcourt as Ashley Gordeneer (14) and Jessica Mansfield (18) take position. (File photo by Perry Hardin)

NOTICE VERMONTVILLE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF REVIEW

The Vermontville Township Board of Review will meet at the Opera House, S. main St., on Tuesday March 5, 2002 at 700 p.m. to organize the board and review the tax roll for 2002.

Public hearings will be held:
Mon., March 11 • 9 am to Noon, 1 pm to 4 pm
Tues., March 12 • 1 pm to 4 pm, 6 pm to 9 pm

Any property owners wishing to examine their assessment and to show cause why the 2002 valuation should be changed are urged to attend at these scheduled times.

Tentative ratio of 50% and multiplier of 1.0000 for all classes of real & personal property.

By board resolution residents are able to protest by letter, provided protest letter is received prior to March 5, 2002.

PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES NOTICE

The Township will provide necessary reasonable service to individuals with disabilities at the Board of Review meetings upon (3) days notice: Contact Supervisor Russell Laverty (517) 726-1115. 6967 N. Ionia Rd., Vermontville, MI 49096.

William Crittenden, Assessor
Russell Laverty, Supervisor

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Village of Vermontville will hold a Public Hearing on the proposed water system improvements for the purpose of receiving comments from interested persons.

The Village is currently preparing a Project Plan to apply for low interest loans through the State of Michigan's Drinking Water Revolving Loan Fund Program (DWRP).

The hearing will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 4, 2002, at the following location:
Vermontville Village Hall
121 Eastside Dr.
Vermontville, Michigan 49096

The purpose of the proposed project is to upgrade and improve the Village's watermain distribution lines, elevated storage and well supply to meet future water needs over the next 20 years. Project construction will involve 12-inch and 8-inch watermain transmission and distribution lines, new municipal well, new elevated storage tank and other system improvements.

Impacts of the proposed project include a more reliable water supply source, consistent operating system pressures, increased fire fighting supply and capacity. Replacement of old 4-inch cast iron mains in areas of high maintenance is also proposed. Short-term construction related impacts include increased noise and dust during the construction.

Depending on the final alternative selected after the public hearing, the average residential metered water bill is estimated to be \$44.25 per month after the proposed improvements if the project would be totally funded through the State's DWRP low interest loan program. The Village will be seeking additional low interest loan and grant monies through the USDA's Rural Development program to reduce the overall monthly user costs after the proposed improvements.

Copies of the draft plan detailing the proposed project will be available for public inspection on March 4, 2002, at the following locations:
Village of Vermontville offices, 121 Eastside Dr., Vermontville, Michigan.
Vermontville Township Library, 120 E. First Street, Vermontville, Michigan

Written comments received through April 4, 2002, will be entered into the Public Hearing record and should be sent to:
Village of Vermontville
Attn.: Sue Villanueva, Village President
121 Eastside Dr., P.O. Box K
Vermontville, Michigan 49096-0914

100

Cagers finish 2nd in SMAA

Maple Valley closed out its regular season Friday with a 54-38 victory over Webberville.

"We jumped out early and pretty much controlled the game from the outset," said Coach Jeff Webb. "We used our full court pressure to create a lot of opportunities and were able to capitalize on their mistakes most of the night."

The Lions led 18-8 after the first eight minutes and 27-16 at the half.

"We got a lot of points off steals and I would have to say our defense pretty much keyed the offense," Webb said.

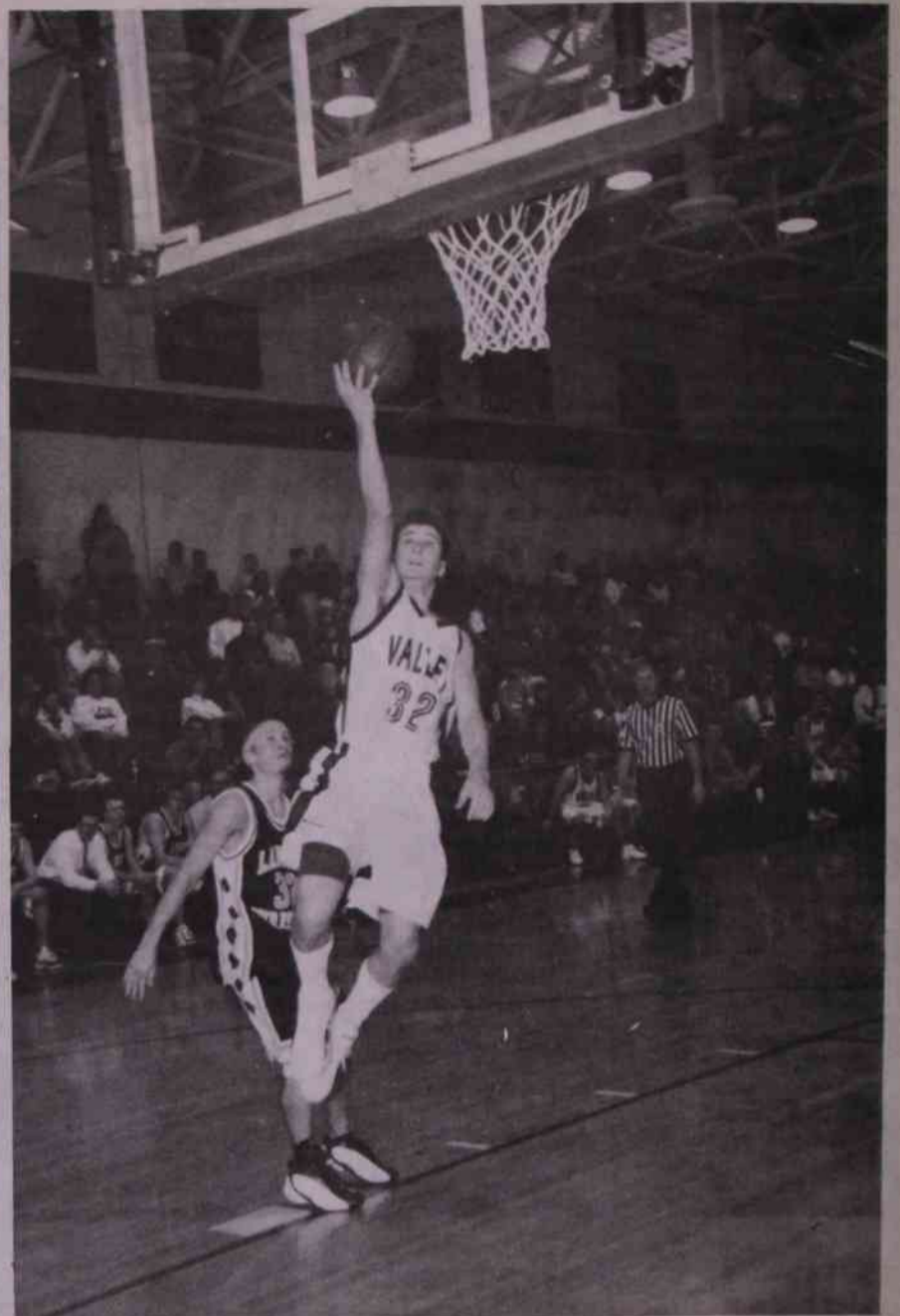
Darin Thrun led Maple Valley with 25 points, and Nick Jones contributed 11. Thrun also led the team with five rebounds.

Maple Valley finishes up the regular season 14-6 overall and 11-3 in the SMAA Conference, one game behind conference champ Olivet.

The Lions opened the district playoffs Monday night with a rematch against Springport on the Spartans' home floor. The paper went to press before tipoff. Call the Sports Desk at 616-945-



Nick Jones (5). (File photo by Perry Hardin)



Darin Thrun (32). (File photo by Perry Hardin)

9554 ext. 227 or the Maple Valley Athletic Office at 517-852-1877 for results. The winner of Monday's

Call for Maple Valley News ACTION-Ads

945-9554 or 1-800-870-7085

24 hours a day, 7 days a week

game advances to an 8 p.m. game on Wednesday against Leslie at Springport. The district championship game is Friday at 7 p.m.

Valley 64, Springport 59
Maple Valley guard Darin Thrun scored 15 of his 21 points in a 30-point fourth-quarter blitz that lifted the

Lion varsity basketball team to a 64-59 home win over Springport on Feb. 26.

The Lions trailed 39-34 heading into the fourth quarter in what was a close game throughout.

In the pivotal final quarter, Thrun hit two 3-pointers and went 5-for-6 from the charity stripe. The Lions made 10 free throws in the quarter and 18-of-28 on the night, compared to only 5-of-12 for the Spartans.

John Terberg added 11 points for Maple Valley. Eight other players scored for the Lions, who got 24 points off the bench, led by reserves Justin Sealy (8), Devin Phenix (7) and Jeff Taylor (6).

Springport's Brian Caldwell led all scorers with 25 points, and Matt Rabakon had 15.

JV Report

The JV Lions beat Olivet by 13 on Feb. 22, 57-44.

Josh Cook led the way with 16 points and eight rebounds. Dustin Mead was all over the floor and had 10 points, five assists, five steals and four rebounds. Dustin Powers had 11 points, including a big 3-pointer in the second half to help ensure the victory.

Josh Beardslee continued his quest to set the JV record for blocked shots. He had five more against Olivet, raising his season total to 32.

The JV also earned a road win over Morrice on Feb. 19, 48-43.

Josh Cook went 4-for-4 from the free throw line and

finished with 10 points and six boards. Josh Hulsebos had a fine game with 9 points, five rebounds and five steals. Dustin Powers and Morwell Deng each pulled down five rebounds.

Thorn Apple Valley Smoky Links 99¢ 10 oz. pkg.	Carnival Franks 99¢ lb	Jumbo Corn Dogs 59¢ lb	Pork Cutlets \$2¹⁹ lb
Pork Steak \$1²⁹ lb	Ranch Steak \$2¹⁹ lb	English Roast \$1⁸⁹ lb	Boneless Ribeye Steak \$5³⁹ lb
Bareman's 2% Milk \$1⁹⁹	16 oz. Bareman's Cottage Cheese \$1²⁹	12 ct. Old El Paso Taco Shells 99¢	22 lbs Purina Dog Chow \$7⁹⁹
5 qt. Pail Country Maid Ice Cream \$4⁹⁹	12-1/4 oz. Lay's Potato Chips 2/\$4	2 Liter Pepsi \$1⁰⁹ + dep.	27 oz. Ore Ida Hash Brown Patties \$1⁹⁹
Betty Crocker Chicken Helper 2/\$3	22 oz. All-Purpose, Country Spray & Anti-Bacterial Kit Lysol 2/\$4	128 oz. Sunny Delight Florida Citrus Punch \$1⁹⁹	32 oz. Reg. & Light Miracle Whip \$1⁹⁹
All Greeting Cards & Wrapping Paper \$1⁰⁰ + tax			

Stop in & say... **Happy Birthday -to- DENISE** How old are ya?!

Vermontville Grocery

Phone 726-1570

We now have **LOTTERY TICKETS**

Winter Store Hours: Mon.-Sat. 9 am-7 pm; Sun. 11 am-5 pm • Prices good thru Saturday ...and other cards, too.

We Now Accept W.I.C. & EBT

We accept:

EWING WELL DRILLING INC.

OFFERING COMPLETE WATER & WELL DRILLING & PUMP

SALES & SERVICE 4" TO 12" WELLS

- Residential
- Commercial
- Farm

We stock a complete line of...

- Pumps • Tanks
- Plastic & Steel Pip
- Other Well Supplies

WE OWN OUR OWN EQUIPMENT & DO OUR OWN WORK.

Matthew D. Ewing
Owner

GRAVEL WELLS A SPECIALTY

Estimates Available

(517) 726-0088
10076 NASHVILLE HWY.
VERMONTVILLE