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Vol. 130-No. 16 April 16, 2002

Condo developer's project delayed for at least 2 weeks

by Shawna Hubbarth
Staff Writer

Developer Dixie Brand was told to come back in two weeks, while the council reviewed further information about her proposed 25-unit condominium site plan behind Carl's Supermarket.

Jeff Keyes, an engineer representing Brand, presented the preliminary site plan, a proposed development on 18 acres off Reed Street.

Brand, who has been in the building business for 30 years, said the area was stake surveyed, she had met with the Department of Environmental Quality and had done some cleanup on the land. She said she was proposing a 25-37 site condo community. The number of residences depends on whether some of the condos are duplexes or singles.

"The association of the members would have meetings and pay dues, and the roads, snow removal, and asphalt would all be paid by that association, the sewer at the time being would be private, but the water public," said Keyes.

"Would you be selling the lots or the housing?" asked councilman Steve Wheeler.

"Could be either," said Brand.

"Property taxes would be coming in?" asked Ralph Kirk.

"Yes," said Keyes.

Council members were presented by some concerns from Fleis and Vandenbrink,

village engineers, the night of the meeting. Brand said she had not seen a copy of these concerns but had been trying to get that information for three weeks to no avail.

"I wish I had seen that earlier so I could address those concerns," she said.

Village President Frank Dunham said that what was needed from the council that night was just a preliminary go ahead, so that Brand could gather details and come back to the council with a formal plan.

The association of members would have meetings and pay dues, and the roads, snow removal, and asphalt would all be paid by that association, the sewer at the time would be private, but the water public.
- Jeff Keyes, engineer

"Is council supportive of this idea so that they can spend more money and come back with a more detailed plan?"

Council member Chelsey Wetzel said she was interested in seeing what could happen with the project. She said that the council could answer some of its questions while Brand comes up with the final site plan.

Other council members mentioned that with the last minute letter from engineers, they needed more time to review the project.

One of the concerns was that Fleis and Vandenbrink

said they would like to see the sewer public in case the association changed hands, there would be assurance that it would be maintained.

Keyes said that was still a possibility, only on hold until cost figures could be worked out.

Wheeler asked about a time table. Brand said she would like to see a road and construction begin this season.

"It looks good to me as an individual," said Kirk.

"Well, I would like some more time to look at this myself," said Wheeler.

Ed Sheldon and Carroll Wolff agreed.

Brand said she would like to look at this project as a partnership between herself and the village.

"Time is money and the village does not have anything to lose at this step," she said.

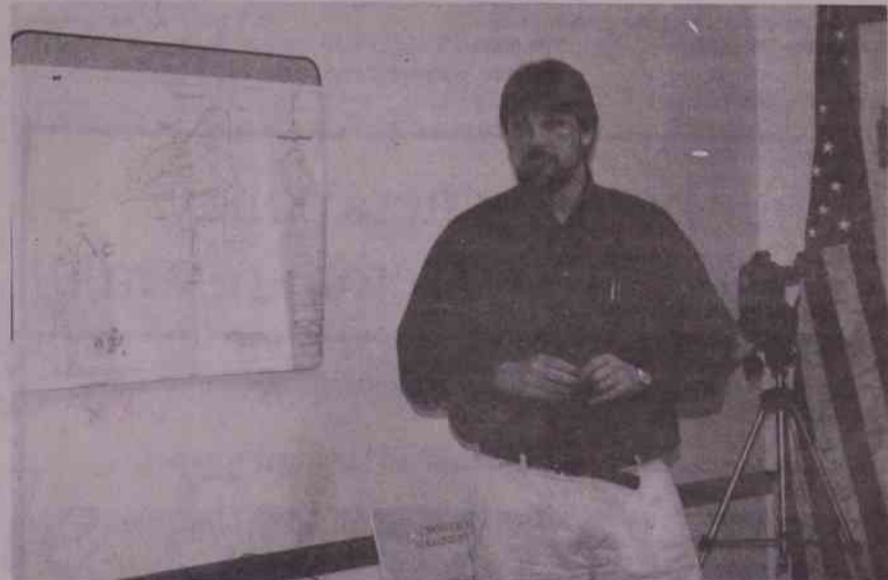
"What specific areas are of concern?" asked Dunham. "What specifically do you (the council) want from her?"

"I just need to look over the documents," said Wheeler.

"I'm not seeing any harm with giving her the okay going ahead," said Wetzel. "This is her time and expense. It doesn't mean that we will be agreeing on everything in the final plan."

Council member Mary Coll agreed.

Keyes said he felt like they had almost presented the council with too much information.



Jeff Keyes, engineer for Horizon Builders and Home Sales presents the preliminary site plan on a 25-37 condo unit development proposed for the area behind Carl's Supermarket on Reed Street.

"Most site plans are not this detailed," he said.

Kirk asked Brand if a two-

week delay would be a hardship.

Brand said she preferred

not to wait another two weeks, and said she had

See development, pg. 2

Barnes remains police chief by one vote margin

by Shawna Hubbarth
Staff Writer

Nashville Police Chief Garry Barnes came within one vote of losing his job at the Village Council meeting last Thursday.

Council was making routine appointment of positions in the village, including the clerk and the Department of Public Works head, along with appointing people to various boards and committees, when the vote was taken.

The appointment of Barnes as chief came to vote and three council members voted not to continue with his appointment. Carroll Wolff, Steve Wheeler and Ralph Kirk all voted no. Council President Frank Dunham asked for a hand count, and the chief kept his job with a vote of 4-3.

Barnes was promoted acting chief of police in March 1999, after the resignation of Bob Baker. He was recommended for police chief in September of that year.

When asked why he voted against continuing Barnes in the post, Councilman Steve Wheeler said after the meeting, "I think it's time to change directions with the department."

Wheeler declined to elaborate on that point. In the past at meetings,



Police Chief Garry Barnes kept his job at the last weeks council meeting by one vote.

Wheeler has asked the chief for more detailed monthly reports. A month ago the chief did not produce the

more detailed report, and when Wheeler asked why not, the chief said it had been a busy month.

Wheeler pressed Barnes again Thursday, asking for a more detailed report. He said he would like to see response times, and time spent assisting other departments included in the report.

He also asked how many calls the department responds to that are truly emergency calls.

Barnes said that was hard to break down, because a number of calls from all different categories might be considered emergencies.

After the meeting, Dunham commented, "There are some issues that the chief needs to improve on, and reporting skills are one of them."

Vermontville sewer, water bills to go up by \$2.50

by Shawna Hubbarth
Staff Writer

Vermontville residents will see their water and sewer bills rise by \$2.50 each next month.

The rate increase comes after the public hearing last Thursday, and it was voted on in the regular meeting that followed.

Also voted on was a cost of living increase that will go into effect yearly next year.

Councilman Tom Williams said during the hearing that he wanted the \$2.50 water bill increase to be earmarked for future water projects.

"If we do that project and the water bills go up \$30, I would at that point propose

it come off... this is just to get something in the bank in case we need it."

Williams was referring to possible water project expansion choices that the council has been grappling with as of late. Engineers from Fleis and Vandenbrink presented the public with two options at a meeting held recently about the water expansion and possible grant and low interest loans.

One resident spoke in favor of the rate increase.

"Well, those engineers weren't telling us the proper story. The water rate would have increased \$16 not \$30."

"Well, that's if we would have applied for the grants- if we had gotten the grants,"

said Village President Sue Villanueva.

"Well I am in favor of the raise," the resident said. "We have two good employees and that's what their salary comes out of right?"

Joanne Nehmer said, "If you are charging us \$2.50 for a savings account, is that legal? You are not giving a service to us for that money."

"Except if we need a new well," said Williams.

Williams went on to explain about the cost of living increase.

"The cost of living will go on usage, not base rate," he said. "It will go into effect in a year. This probably should have been done several years ago."

In This Issue...

- Band bust planned for Friday and Saturday
- Little Miss Syrup Festival contestants preparing for contest
- Visit to Italy unlocks Vermontville woman's family secrets
- 'School Readiness' program gets under way in fall

Development delayed, from page 1

tried to get the information from Fleis and Vandenbrink for three weeks to be able to deal with any concerns.

Council voted to table the issue for two weeks, with Dunham voting no.

Brand's husband implored the council to become informed on the preliminary site plan process and to know what they were supposed to be voting on.

This is the second time in several months that the council has gotten this criticism from developers — that in effect the council was getting ahead of itself on the matter.

In other business at the meeting the council:

- Heard from acting de-

partment of public works head Darrell Clements that the water project construction is ahead of schedule.

"They like the footage they have been getting in and the weather has been good," he said.

- Approved two officers and the police chief to attend a domestic violence training class and pay for their dinners at the cost of \$24.

- Appointed Penny Ruff as clerk, with Wolff voting no, and appointed Clements as acting DPW Director, with Wolff voting no.

"I don't think we should be voting on this tonight," Wolff said.

- Appointed Lois Elliston as village treasurer, and

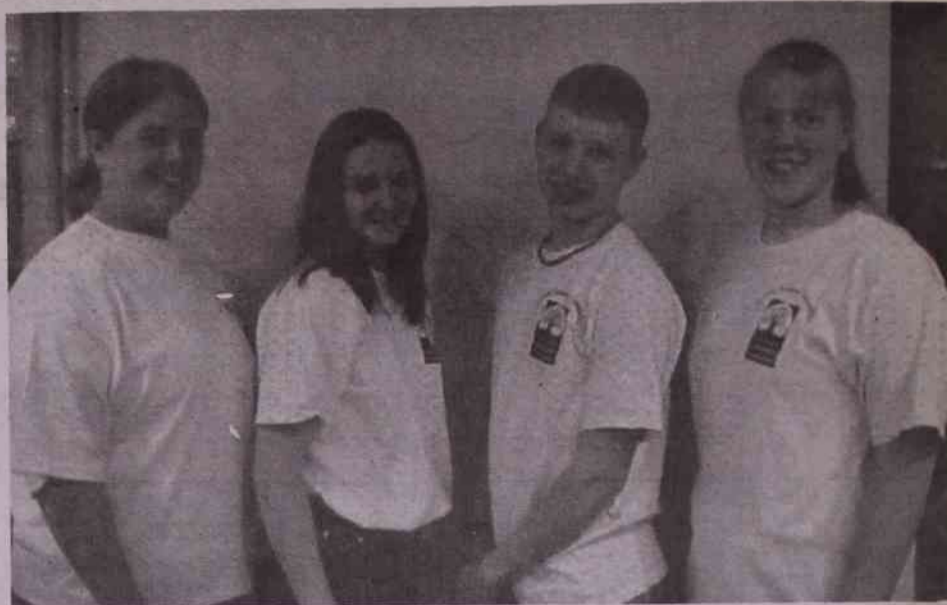
Dennis Mapes as zoning administrator.

- Appointed Wheeler as president pro tem.

- Rejected a bid on some wood the village has, and decided to sell it itself.

Heard from Wolff in roundtable:

"This project presented tonight that we are looking at could involve a large expenditure of village dollars, and with our (other projects). I sit here and I don't know where we stand financially in a lot of areas. It would be nice to know where we stand before we move ahead. Its questionable. I don't think we are going to have those answers in two weeks."



Pictured (from left) are Jessica Lawless, treasurer; Jaclyn Middaugh, secretary; Jesse Harris, vice president and Martha Williams, president.

Eaton County Youth Advisory Committee officers elected

The Eaton County Community Foundation's Youth Advisory Committee has elected new officers for 2002-2003. They are President Martha Williams of Bellevue, Jesse Harris, Vice President, of Charlotte, Jaclyn Middaugh, Secretary, of Charlotte and Treasurer Jessica Lawless, of Vermontville.

The Youth Advisory Committee is comprised of energetic young people from Eaton County. These youth work towards four major

objectives:

- Accessing local youth needs.
- Conducting community service projects.
- Assisting in raising a portion of grant funds.

- Advising on the grants to be made to meet local needs.

The committee meets one Sunday a month from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. The members are interested in involving other Eaton County youth, age 13 to 17. Call Mona Ellard, advisor, at 517-543-6317 to join.

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THE ROOKIE (PG)
DIGITAL/STADIUM SEATING
1:50, 4:25, 7:05, 9:40
PANIC ROOM (R)
12:05, 2:30, 4:55, 7:20, 9:45
ICE AGE (PG)
DIGITAL/STADIUM SEATING
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GRAND LEDGE 500 S. Clinton.....Go Comets
NASHVILLE 109 S. Main.....Go Lions
EATON RAPIDS 307 S. Main.....Go Greyhounds
OLIVET 103 S. Main.....Go Eagles

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 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 Some- one Special." For information call 1- 616-731-5194 or 1-517-852-1806.</p> <p>ASSEMBLY OF GOD CHURCH 803 Reed St., Nashville Sunday School10 a.m. Sunday: A.M. Worship11 a.m. Evening Worship6 p.m. Wednesday Evening: Prayer Meeting7 p.m. PASTOR GLENN BRANHAM</p> <p>BASILINE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 9617 E. Baseline Rd. Corner of Baseline & Church Roads (2 miles east of M-66 on Baseline) Sunday School9:30 a.m. Worship Service11 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 School9:45 a.m. Sunday: A.M. Worship11 a.m. P.M. Worship6 p.m. Wednesday Evening: Worship7 p.m. REV. ALAN METTLER</p> <p>CHESTER GOSPEL CHURCH 3744 W. Vermontville Hwy. Sunday School9:45 a.m. Morning Worship11 a.m. Evening Worship6 p.m. Wednesday Family Night Service6:45 p.m. PASTOR MARC S. LIVINGSTON Phone: 543-5488</p> <p>FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH 110 S. Main, Vermontville Morning Worship11 a.m. Church School10 a.m. Fellowship Time After Worship REV. ERIC LISON</p>	<p>SOUTH KALAMO CHURCH Corner of Kalamo Highway & Ionia Rd. Sunday A.M. Worship10:30 a.m. Evening Worship6 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 Celebration10 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 Service9:30 a.m. Sunday School10 a.m. Fellowship Time10:30 a.m. Adult Class10:50 a.m. PASTOR JEFF BOWMAN</p>	<p>NORTH KALAMO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Worship Service9:30 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 School10 a.m. A.M. Service11:15 a.m. P.M. Service6 p.m. PASTOR GEORGE GAY</p> <p>NASHVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH 304 Phillips St., Nashville Sunday School9:45 a.m. A.M. Service11 a.m. P.M. Service7 p.m. Wed. Service7 p.m. PASTOR LESTER DEGROOT PASTOR DEANO LAMPHERE PASTOR MATT ROHDE</p> <p>NASHVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Located on the corner of State and Washington streets Worship Service9:45 a.m. Sunday School11:15 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) Worship9:30 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 School10 a.m. Worship11 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 Prayer11:00 a.m. Holy Communion For more information call 795-2370 or Rev. David T. Huxwick 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 Mass9:30 a.m. FATHER MIKE STAFFORD A mission of St. Rose Catholic Church, Hastings</p> <p>VERMONTVILLE BIBLE CHURCH 250 N. Main St., Vermontville Sunday School9:45 a.m. Worship Service11 a.m. Sunday Evening Service6 p.m. Wed. Evening Service7 p.m. AWANA7-8:30 p.m. Wed. PASTOR DANIEL E. SMITH ASST. PASTOR LES ANDERSON</p> <p>VERMONTVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 108 N. Main, Vermontville Sunday School10 a.m. Church Service11 a.m. PASTOR JEFF BOWMAN</p> <p>MOST HOLY ROSARY CHURCH Roman Catholic Latin Mass 314 Main, Middleville Sunday Mass9 a.m. 616-795-9030 FATHER PAUL ANDRADE</p>
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Band Bust planned for Friday, Saturday



Camille Weiland and Dan Mace act out a comedy routine that will be performed this weekend at Band Bust at the high school.

by **Shawna Hubbarth**
Staff Writer

Maple Valley High School band students are gearing up for a fun-filled performance at the year's Band Bust.

Everyone is invited to the shows, which will be held in the high school auditorium on at 7 p.m. Friday and Saturday night, the 19th, and 20th of April.

The annual event features band members performing skits and comedy acts to raise money for band activities such as camp and trips.

"Everyone in band makes up these skits and then we will perform them for laughs," said band member Melissa Jewell. "We have a lot of fun coming up with

ABOVE RIGHT:

Band students practice their lines in a skit they wrote for Band Bust.

them, and I think all the students enjoy practicing them. Its a time to loosen up. I think a lot of band time is spent with gearing up for a competition, and this is a time for less pressure and just basically a time to try to raise money for the band boosters."

The theme this year is "One Time at Band Camp." Students will be doing such skits as "Bus Sick," "The Big Itch" and "One Time at Band Camp." Some music and songs will also be performed.



NEWEST CITIZEN

GIRL, Karsyn Raye Melissa Daniels of Hastings. Daniels, born at Blodgett Weighing 7 lbs. 8 ozs. and Hospital on March 28, 2002 20 1/2 inches long at 7:58 a.m. to Scott and

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Calendar of Events MSU Extension Office

- April 17 4-H Advisory Council, 7 p.m.
- April 18 Fair Board Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Expo Center.
- April 18 Shooting Sports Leaders Meeting, 7 p.m.
- April 22 Rabbit Developmental Committee Meeting, 7 p.m., HHS Ag Room.
- April 24 Horse Judging Team meeting, 6:30 p.m., HHS, Ag room B 123.
- April 27 4-H Judged/Comp Trail Ride (Ionia)
- April 27 Horse Jamboree at MSU - State Horse Judging Competition.
- April 29 Mandatory Fair Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Expo Center.
- May 2 Fair Board Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Expo Center.
- May 4 Open Horse Show, 8:30 a.m., Expo Center.
- May 5 Speed Show, 10 a.m., Expo Center.
- May 6 Barry Co. Homemakers Plant Exchange, 6 p.m., Fish Hatchery Park, regular meeting w/potluck.

Nashville VFW 8260

TACO DINNER

Friday, April 19th - 5:30 - 7:00 pm

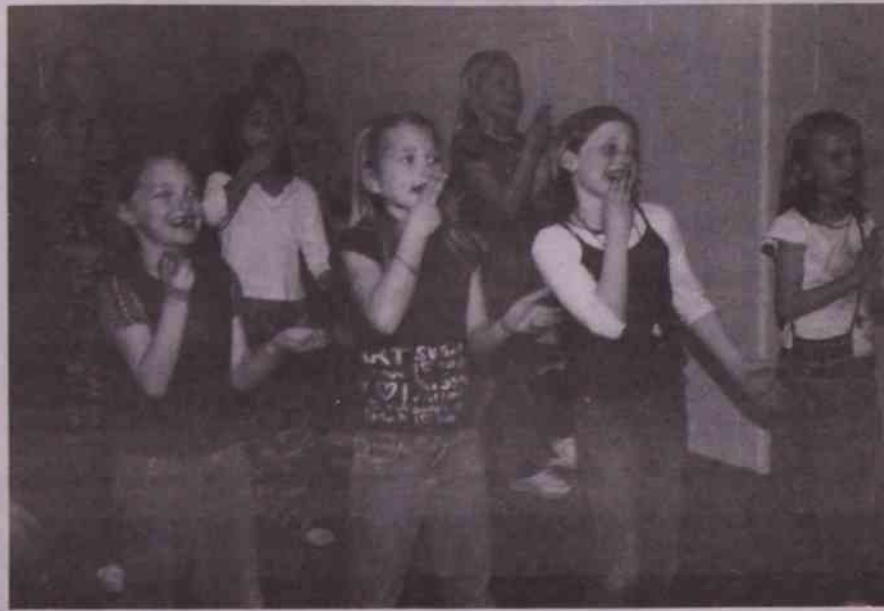
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Little Miss Syrup Festival contestants preparing



The girls have been practicing their dance moves and their songs several times a week for the pageant to take place during syrup festival.

by Shawna Hubbard
Staff Writer
Little Miss Vermontville

Maple Syrup contenders have been working hard the past couple of weeks, look-

ing forward to the pageant "where everyone leaves a winner," said organizer Kathie Perez.

The pageant, which is in its second year, has gotten a great amount of support, said Perez.

"The girls, all 7 to 9 years old, have been busy and practicing," said Perez. "This year we have a Hawaiian theme. It's called, 'a little bit of Hawaii visits Vermontville.'"

The contest involves girls dancing, singing and doing a talent for an audience at the Opera House syrup festival weekend, on Saturday at 5 p.m. Each girl also has a personal interview with three judges, who are looking for an "All-American" girl. One girl will be crowned Little Miss Maple Syrup.

Perez, who is organizing the event said the girls will be performing a traditional Hawaiian song and a more



The Little Miss Maple Syrup girls.

upbeat Caribbean song and dance number. The girls also have a question and answer session where they will draw a question out of a hat.

"This year they each have learned a Hawaiian word and will teach that to the audience," said Perez. "Our focus is on every girl leaving a winner. Each girl receives a certificate and a goody bag with prizes donated by local merchants."

Last year's Little Miss Maple Syrup, Hannah Gardner, will be on hand to crown the winner, as will Vermontville Maple Syrup Festival Queen Samantha Mater and alternate Jessica Cowell.

"We have gotten a ton of support from people volunteering their time, like Ryan Rosin who will MC and Bill Reynolds who will be doing the spot light. Christina Jackson is choreographing, and local merchants have donated prizes and trophies."

The winner also receives a \$50 savings bond, and each girl will receive a free picture from J and H Photography.

"We are gonna have a good show," said Perez. "Last year, our first year, we went in on a wing and a prayer and this year I'm a little more prepared for the little things."

Perez said there was a packed full house last year, and they will be anticipating another full house this year. A change from last year will be that the doors will not be



Little Miss Syrup competitors hold the sign that will greet the audience to the show- it says, "Aloha, Welcome to the Show!" in Hawaiian.

opening until 15 minutes before the show. People are welcome to line up though. She said greeters will be passing our lei's to audience members.

Perez said even the few people who were skeptical of the pageant in the beginning were won over after the show last year.

Perez said the three judges, chosen from outside the area will be looking for a girl who is having a good time, articulate and talented.

"The judges are looking for smiles," said Perez. "I want every girl to feel like a winner. I ask them all the time- who is the winner? and they say 'I am!'"

Discovery Might End Heartburn Forever

WASHINGTON — According to recent research, upper gastrointestinal (GI) problems like acid reflux, heartburn and ulcers may be eliminated with a new type of chewable tablet. Scientists say that GI problems are not the result of excess acid, but the body's inability to deal with it. The new tablet called Pepstat 380™ contains an extract from the Glycyrrhiza glabra plant or DGL that strengthens the body's natural defenses against acid.

Pepstat 380 goes to work immediately on stomach acid while addressing the underlying cause of GI problems. Scientists suggest that the DGL in Pepstat 380 improves the body's protective substances, increases the life-span of digestive tract cells, improves blood supply to the area and has no known side effects. Comparative studies have appeared in publications like the British medical journal *The Lancet* showing DGL to be superior to Zantac®, Tagamet® and/or antacids. This new type of formula may make these drugs obsolete.

The problem with antacids which neutralize stomach acid and acid blockers which reduces acid secretions is that they can interrupt the body's normal digestive process. Pepstat 380 is a natural alternative to antacids and H2 receptor antagonists more commonly known as "acid blockers." Pepstat 380 is available at pharmacies without a prescription or call 1-800-729-8446. ©2001 HCD Sales

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Organizer Kathie Perez checks the fitting on a grass skirt on Brandy McKelvey as part of the preparations for the show.

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Please present this coupon at any Mid America Shows' ticket booth & receive one regular priced \$12 P.O.P. Ride Wristband for only \$10 during one of the following days & times:

Friday, April 26 • 4 pm-10 pm
Saturday, April 27 • 5 pm to 11 pm
Sunday, April 28 • Noon to 6 pm

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Ginkgo Biloba EXTRACT, 30 MG #14228	100 CAPSULES	\$4⁵⁶
Echinacea-Goldenseal 305 mg #14226	75 CAPSULES	\$5¹⁶
St. John's Wort Extract 150 mg #14231	75 CAPSULES	\$4¹⁶
Valerian 400 mg #14004	100 CAPSULES	\$3³⁰
Goldenseal Root 535 mg #14229	40 CAPSULES	\$8⁰⁰
Zinc with Echinacea Lozenges #14101	18 LOZENGES	\$3⁴⁷

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

Card of Thanks

I WOULD LIKE to thank all in the emergency room in Pennock Hospital for the care I received. Dr. Hawkins and staff also. And for my care in ICU unit and to Dr. Woodliff and Delton Mercy Ambulance crew transfer to Kalamazoo. They were very good. And for my family for their support, phone calls, visits and cards when I was in Borgess. Clarabelle Downing

Child Care

BJ'S DAYCARE HAS full-time opening. State pay is welcome, food program is available. 1st Aid & CPR certified. License #DG080243764. Call (517)852-9031.

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FOR SALE: 610 Bobcat loader \$3,500. 12.5HP Dynamark 38" cut riding mower; 12HP Craftsman 38" cut riding mower, \$400 each obo. Suzuki 125 - 3 wheeler, \$500 obo. (616)948-4328 after 6pm.

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Visit to Italy unlocks area woman's family secrets

by Shelly Sulser
Staff Writer

It was May 20, 1956, in the tiny Italian village of Migliuso when Teresina Mancuso gave birth to her fourth child, Guiseppina, wrapped her in a towel and lay her in a dresser drawer.

On Easter Sunday, 2002, the now 42-year-old Josephine Klotz's plane touched down in Rome, marking the beginning of her journey back to that tiny, concrete abode.

"It felt familiar," said Josephine, (the English translation of Guiseppina) who is known as "Jo" in Vermontville where she lives and in Hastings where she works as a dispatcher for the Michigan State Police. "It felt right."

Josephine and her 51-year-old half-sister, Angela Walker of Toledo, Ohio went together on a quest to write the final chapter on

their past, which included stories of their mother being ordered out of the village after Josephine's birth, their fathers having possible connections to the Mafioso and even murder.

Josephine was just 3 years old when she and Angie were sent away by their mother and relocated to Toledo by the Catholic church.

"That's why the town ordered her to leave," said Jo. "You don't do that, you don't give your kids away like that. They are very devout Catholics."

It was the second time Teresina had done so. Jo and Angie learned through their research that they had an older sister and brother who previously had been taken to the United States.

"We were lucky," she said. "They kept us together."

The two half-sisters were

adopted by Harry and Marjorie Grant and were raised together in Toledo. Their brother and sister grew up in Sandusky.

"My mother had six kids and we all had different fathers," Jo explained. "The oldest sister and the youngest brother still live there (in Italy)."

The story began to unravel shortly after Angie passed her 21st birthday and was granted access to her birth records.

"She wrote a letter to the parish after we got information from Catholic Charities," said Jo. "We got no response."

The problem, said Jo, was that it took Italian authorities in the village some time to translate the letter.

"It was about a year later that my cousin saw the letter where he works at the police station," said Jo of her police officer cousin, Gaetano Lucia. "Gaetano got back to her and said he had called our mother in Milan and told her about the letter. He wrote us back and told us where she was so we made arrangements to go to Milan to meet her, my older sister and my younger brother."

It was nearly 10 years ago that Jo and Angie were reunited with their mother.

"I was a wreck," she said. "I think the anxiety was from not knowing what to



Josephine Klotz of Vermontville was born Guiseppina Mancuso in this house in the 200-person village of Migliuso in Italy 42 years ago. She returned to the village for the first time since being adopted in the United States at the age of 3. (Photos provided)



Sisters Josephine Klotz (left) and Angela Walker were adopted together after their Italian birth mother gave them to a Catholic charity 39 years ago. They returned to the tiny Italian town of their birth two weeks ago.

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expect. It wasn't like on TV where you go and throw your arms around each other and you become a part of each other's lives. She's our biological mother, but I consider my mother to be the woman who adopted me. She's my mother."

The sisters were able to put together some more pieces of the puzzle of their past, even though Teresina seemed vague about some details.

"Because we contacted her, she had to tell this younger brother and older sister, 'you have three older sisters and a brother you

didn't know about," noted Jo.

Since that meeting, Teresina, now 84, has visited her daughters in the United States twice and has even been allowed by the village to return to Migliuso, though she still lives in Milan.

"I don't hold anything against her," said Jo. "I think we had a much better life coming here. There, we would have been so poor."

Even after the story began to take shape through the meeting of their mother and their siblings, Jo and Angie still yearned to return to that little village in hopes of ful-

filling their desires to learn more about their fathers.

The sisters contacted their cousin, Gaetano Lucia, and made plans to return to the village this spring.

Angie had written a letter to her father, Leopoldo Scalise, and had seen a photograph. She knew her father was still living in Migliuso and he was expecting her arrival, said Jo.

Jo knew only that her father's name was Giuseppe Pirelli, she said, and that he had died several years earlier.

Continued next page


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From previous page

Though they had hoped to hear Pope John Paul II's annual Easter sermon, their arrival was just after the speech given at St. Peter's Basilica in Vatican City.

After a memorable tour of Rome's famous landmarks with their half-brother and sister and their families, who still live in Milan, Jo and Angie traveled by train to meet Gaetano who happily served as their guide.

"We stayed in the town down in the valley and he would come and get us each day," said Jo. "There are separate, little villages all the way up the mountain and ours was about halfway up."

After visiting the local courthouse to photograph their birth documents, written in Italian, the sisters made a visit to the cemetery to find the graves of their grandparents where they found them buried in a communal grave or "ossuary" in the days before individual graves.

"So there's no marker," she said. "He (Gaetano) showed us a lot of relatives and he showed us the house that my sister lived in before I was born."

Next, they arrived at the house where Josephine entered the world.

"I felt like I came home," she said of the now old, dilapidated stone house with a cement floor and walls. "It was like peasant housing."

The older, lifelong neighbors emerged from their homes out of curiosity about

the strangers looking around.

When Jo and Angie explained their identities, they were welcomed with open arms and tears "as if we were their own kids who had been taken away and were coming home," said Jo. "They remembered us and would look right at us and say, 'you look just like your father.'"

It was from the neighbors, who invited them in for food and drinks, that they learned more about their biological parents.

"My dad was a wood cutter in the forest and he was in his 40s when he met my mother," Jo said. "He stayed with her for a year or two and then left. Then, when he came back for us after we left for America, she had gotten married and moved to Milan."

It was during one of Jo and Angie's visits to the neighborhood that the sisters and their cousin met a man walking toward them at the corner.

"He had been to the market and was on his way home," said Jo. "We came to the corner at the same time. He saw her (sister) and she looked at him and the look on his face was unbelievable. They each knew instantly."

The man who had instantly seen the resemblance confirmed for Angie that he was indeed her father.

"She looked just like him," said Jo. "My cousin talked to him for a few minutes and he said he would

come to Gaetano's house later that evening. So he came and they talked for a little bit."

Her father, they learned, was a 19-year-old married man when he established a reputation for being the village "ladies man." Jo's mother was one of the women with whom he had an affair.

"She (Angie) was born in January of 1951, his wife had a daughter born in December of 1951 and a they had a boy born in 1952," explained Jo. "In 1954, for whatever reason, he hung his wife."

Scalise then sent the two children (from his marriage) to live with relatives in Argentina while he served his 20-year prison sentence.

"When he got out, he went and got them and brought them back," to Migliuso, where they still live, said Jo.

It was never fully disclosed why Scalise hanged his wife, said Jo.

"They just kept saying it was complicated," she said, "that he liked all the women. It's a very heavy Mafia area there. They mentioned that most of the men probably had Mafia connections at one time."

Ironically, the Scalise is also related to Jo as well.

"He's a cousin to my cousin," she chuckled. "Everybody there is related."

For Angie, Jo said the meeting was fulfilling.

"She was curious... it was

See Italy, page 11



The streets of Migliuso in Italy are very narrow. People walk rather than drive around the little town where a Vermontville area woman was born.



Migliuso, where Josephine Klotz was born Guiseppina Mancuso, is nestled (center, right) in the Italian mountains in the commune of Serrestretta, Catanzaro, in the province of Calabria.

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Education Day

Fri., April 19th

9am - 3pm

The KCC Fehsenfeld Center, in association with the KCC Admissions Department, will host an "Education Day" on Friday, April 19th between 9 am and 3 pm. Admission representatives from the colleges/universities listed to the left are scheduled to appear.

This represents an excellent opportunity to discuss your future educational/transfer plans directly with the representative from the college(s) of your choice without driving all over Michigan.

'School Readiness' program starts in fall

A trip to the zoo, baking cookies, setting the table are everyday experiences parents can use to prepare their children for school success.

That's one of the messages that a 15-member committee, made up primarily of pre-school and kindergarten teachers, wants to share with parents well in advance of their child's first day of school. Called the School Readiness 48-month Planning Committee, the group consists of educators from Eaton Rapids, Charlotte, Grand Ledge, Maple Valley and Pottsville.

"We want to help parents look for opportunities to maximize learning in every-

day situations," said Elma Wilson, a specialist with Early Childhood Connections, who chairs the committee. She explained how something as ordinary as setting the table can become a learning experience, simply by asking the child to match up the number of forks and spoons. Cooking offers another great opportunity, since measuring ingredients encourages counting and helps teach the concepts of same, less and more.

These are only two of a long list of easy learning activities that teachers on the committee will be sharing with parents at kindergarten round-up this spring. They

will also pass out a kit of readiness materials, including crayons, scissors, magnetic letters, a reading book, and a coloring book of nursery rhymes. The items were funded through the Early Childhood Connections ASAP/PIE grant.

The committee's ultimate goal, Wilson says, is to provide these materials and activities to parents a full year before the child starts school. So, beginning next September, teachers will meet with parents of children who do not begin kindergarten until fall of 2003.

An important aspect of the committee's work has been to strengthen communication between pre-school and kindergarten teachers. Wilson says the committee strongly believes that building bridges between pre-school and kindergarten programs, in addition to building bridges between schools and families as early as possible in a child's life, will greatly improve a child's chances for future academic and social success.

Please contact the local elementary school for more information about kindergarten roundup.

Area Obituaries

Melvin Keith Moore

VERMONTVILLE - Melvin Keith Moore, 88, of Vermontville and Hastings, died Sunday, April 7, 2002.

Mr. Moore was born October 25, 1913, in Gratiot County, Michigan, the son of Harry B. and Olive M. (Price) Moore.

Melvin was a Mill Wright for General Motors working at the Oldsmobile Plant 2. He was a member of the U. A. W. Local Union 1618. He was a member of the Vermontville Bible Church and known as the "bicycle man" in Vermontville. He was active with the Olivet Senior Citizens. He enjoyed watching his grandchildren play sports and games.

He is survived by daughter



Joan (Homer) Winegar of Vermontville, son Keith (Martha) Moore of Vermontville, daughter Nancy (Bill) Ostergren of Nashville, brothers Alvah

Moore and Harry "Duane" Moore of Holt, 8 grandchildren, 22 great grandchildren, 2 great great grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his wife Doris (Marrison), and sister Helen Smythe.

Funeral service will be 11:00 a.m. Thursday, April 11, 2002, at Vermontville Bible Church with Pastor Dan Smith officiating. Interment will be in Chapel Hill Memorial Gardens in Lansing, Michigan.

Visitation will be 2-4 and 7-9 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday at Pray Funeral Home, Charlotte, Michigan.

Further information available at <http://www.prayfuneral.com>

Lawrence "Larry" Edwards

LAKE ODESSA - Lawrence "Larry" Edwards, beloved husband and father, of Lake Odessa, passed away at his home on Friday, April 5, 2002, at the age of 81.

Larry was born in Flushing, MI on Feb. 23, 1921 to Don and Vivia (Dow) Edwards.

He graduated from Mary Crapo High School in Swartz Creek in 1941.

Larry married Grace Per-

kins in Durand on Oct. 17, 1943.

While serving in the U.S. Army from 1942 to 1946, he and Grace moved to Kansas City. After his discharge they returned to Swartz Creek and farmed until 1956. For the next 35 years he farmed in Lake Odessa.

He is survived by Grace, his loving wife of 59 years; his daughter, Bobbi (Russ) Campeau of Clarksville; his

son, Larry (Elly) Edwards of FL; his grandchildren, Russ (Stacey) Campeau, Jr., Jim (Nicole) Campeau, Larry Campeau, Jamie (Mike) Fletcher, and Andy Edwards; his great grandchildren, Tabitha Ann Campeau, Riki Edwards, Rebecca Ann Campeau, and Ryann Campeau; his former daughter-in-law, Connie Edwards; his special friends, Carl and Edith Grashuis; and many other loving relatives and friends.

Larry was preceded in death by his parents; and his brother and sister, Alton Edwards and Marguerite Herin.

At Larry's request, there will be no visitation or funeral services. There will be a remembrance luncheon on May 5, 2002 from 1-4 p.m. at the home of Bobbi and Russ Campeau.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Barry Community Hospice.

Arrangements were handled by the Koops Funeral Chapel in Lake Odessa.

Softball splits opener

Maple Valley's varsity softball team split its season-opening doubleheader with Hastings last Tuesday, losing 19-8 in the first before coming back to win 11-10 in the nightcap.

In Game 1, Jamie Jones went 3-for-4 at the plate, Dawn Rhoades went 2-for-4, and Jessie Grant had a double and 2 RBIs.

In the Game 2 win, Elisha Gibson and Bethany Swift were both 3-for-4, Jones went 2-for-4, Lisa McElroy had a hit and 2 RBIs, and Grant had two singles, a double and 5 RBIs. Kyndra Root was the winning pitcher (9 hits, 4 walks, 4 K's).

Lions swept by Lakewood, Portland St. Pats

The Lions dropped their next two doubleheaders last week, 8-4 and 12-8 against Lakewood on Thursday and 9-1 and 8-7 to Portland St. Patrick on Friday.

Against Lakewood, Elisha Gibson had three singles, a double and six putouts in centerfield. Jessie Grant nearly hit for the cycle with a single, double and triple and 2 RBIs. Jennifer Grant had a single, two walks and a sacrifice fly and batted in 3 runs.

Against Portland, Jessie Grant had two singles, 2 RBIs and nine assists at shortstop.

Maple Valley played a doubleheader at Morrice last night in its SMAA opener. The team hosts St. Phil today at 4:30, travels to Portland on Thursday for a doubleheader at 4 p.m., hosts the Maple Valley Invitational at 9 a.m. on Saturday, and hosts Leslie in a 4 p.m. doubleheader next Monday.

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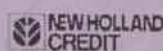
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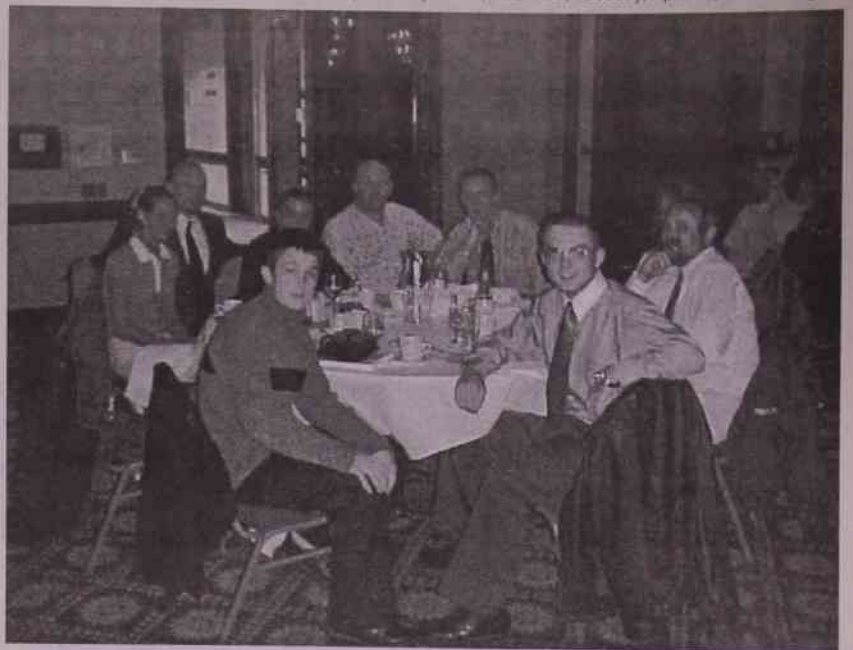
APRIL 15, 2002 - MONDAY
APRIL 16, 2002 - TUESDAY

APRIL 22, 2002 - MONDAY
APRIL 23, 2002 - TUESDAY

Local scholar athletes among honorees at Lansing dinner



Some of the student academic athletes at the awards dinner.



Student academic athletes enjoy dinner with their families.

by Shawna Hubbarth
Staff Writer

Maple Valley High School scholar athletes were honored recently at a dinner in Lansing for all league schools.

To qualify for the honor, students had to have had at least a 3.25 grade point average and lettered in two separate varsity sports, said Maple Valley High School Principal Todd Gonser.

"There was a dinner for them, with parents and fami-

lies attending. Afterwards we heard from special speaker Jack Roberts, executive director of the Michigan High School Athletic Association," said Gonser.

Gonser said a highlight of the night was that Maple Valley school had the most qualifying scholar athletes of any of the schools participating.

"After the speaker and dinner each student was presented with a plaque and a

little bit is told about that student to the audience," said Gonser.

"We had over 50 people attend," he said. "It's a really nice night — it's a dress up night and a good night to honor these students and their families for their achievements."

Those who qualified included students Sarah Cook, Shelbi Cousins, Miranda Farr, Paul Felder, Cary-Jake Goodner, Michael Hill, Michael Hirneiss, Jason Hoffman, Brandon Hopkins, Nicole James, Nicholas Jones, Devin Phenix, Russell Rhodes, Jessica Ripley, Kevin Ripley, Rebecca Scriptor, John Terberg, Darin Thrun, Alesia VanEngen, Camille Wieland and Jeremy Wisner.

Synopsis of Meeting Castleton Twp. Board

**Synopsis
CASTLETON TOWNSHIP
BOARD
April 3, 2002**

Called to order by Supervisor J. Cooley.

All board members were present.

Three people were in attendance from the public.

Approved the agenda as printed.

Public comment was heard. Minutes from the March 6, 2002 meeting were approved.

Amended the budget. Adopted the 2002-2003 budget.

There was no treasurer's report.

Approved paying bills in the amount of 63,730.89.

Committee reports were received and placed on file.

Voted to purchase pyro blankets for the fire dept.

Approved upcoming road work and dust control.

Made library and transfer board appointments.

Correspondence was viewed by the board.

Heard board comments.

Heard from J. MacKenzie on county business.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Lorna L. Wilson, Clerk
Attested to by
Supervisor J. Cooley

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NOTICE

The Village of Vermontville will be flushing hydrants Wednesday night, April 17th, and Thursday night, April 18th. Beginning at 9:00 p.m. This may cause temporary discoloration of the water.

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Grace Community Church planning groundbreaking



Grace Community Church of Nashville will conduct a groundbreaking ceremony for their new ministry center on Sunday, April 21, following the morning service at noon. Here is a picture of what the center will look like upon completion. The church began in 1993, and is currently meeting in the Maple Valley High School.

Grace Community Church of Nashville will conduct a ground-breaking ceremony for its new Ministry Center at noon Sunday, April 21, following the morning service.

The church began in December 1993 and is currently meeting in the Maple Valley High school.

The site is less than a mile from the village limits west on M-79 and about a mile from Fuller Street Elementary.

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Vermontville planners meet

The newly formed Vermontville Township Planning commission held its first meeting April 4. Board members are Robert Rulison, chairperson, Katherine Sharpe, vice chair, David Chase, secretary, Sandi Haas and William Hosey. Janet Valdick has been retained to record the meeting minutes. The planning commission's next meeting is Thursday, May 2 at 7 p.m. at the Opera House and adoption of the master plan will be discussed. The public is welcome to attend. Here, members of the commission (from left) William Hosey, David Chase, Sandi Haas, Katherine Sharpe, and Robert Rulison are being sworn into their seats.

Local 5th-grader wins essay contest

by Shawna Hubbarth
Staff Writer

Maplewood fifth-grader Sarah Jo Culhane beat out 750 essay competitors all over the state in a contest held to celebrate the launch of the new postal service "Greetings from America" stamp collection.

Culhane traveled to the state capital a week and a half ago to read her essay to a crowd assembled at the Michigan Historical Museum. It was a fun-filled day, said her mom Marcia.

"She read her essay in front of 60 people. The theme of the essay contest was 'your dream vacation.' She thought she would lose because while a lot of the kids were writing on places like Egypt and Hawaii, she really wanted to do it on a tour of Michigan, camping and tenting throughout the state," said her mom.

Marcia said she and her husband, Brian, and grandmother Sharon Meade and her brothers took the trip.

"We had a really nice time," said Marcia. "We toured the museum and went to Cheddar's afterwards."

Marcia said Sarah Jo was pretty surprised.



Sarah Jo Culhane stands in front of the stamp launched a week and a half ago in Lansing. Culhane won an essay contest that was part of the celebration.

"We are pretty proud of her, she was pretty surprised. She got a bag of postal memorabilia and a first day issued stamp," said Marcia.

Marcia said Sarah Jo comes from a family of postal workers, which made the day especially fun.



Sarah Jo Culhane with her certificate she received for winning a state wide essay contest.

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Girls' track tops Kent City relays

Maple Valley's varsity girls' track team took the championship of the Kent City Relays on April 6, topping the field with 85 points.

Kent City came in second with 77.5 points, followed by Ravenna (69), Sparta (65.5), Tri-County (50),

Grant (37) and Wyoming Rogers (32).

Meagan Halliwell and Sarah Cook combined to win the discus (186-4), setting a new Kent City Relay record in the process. Halliwell and Kelly Wilson won the shotput (58 1/2), and Mi-

randa Farr and Tara Gordenski (16-6) won the pole vault.

Farr and Ashley Collier placed third in the long jump (25-5 1/2) and the team of Jessica McMillen, Summer Hill, Collier and Gordenski took third in the 12,800-me-

ter relay (1:07:48.9). Donna Cripe, Kaitlyn Hammond, Lisa Hamilton and Micah Tobias placed second in the Kent City Relay (2:45.1).

Hamilton, Cripe, Tobias and Hill took third in the sprint medley relay (3:33.7). Cripe, Amy Strickland, Farr and Tobias finished third in the 400 relay (56.0). Strickland, Akiyo Ueshima, Farr and Cook placed second in the shuttle hurdles (1:21.3).

Cook was third in the 300 hurdles (54.7) and second in the 100 hurdles (18.8). Cripe was second in the 100 (14.0), Tobias was fifth in the 100 (14.4), and Strickland was third in the 100 hurdles (19.7).

The Lions return to competition this Saturday at the Portland Invitational beginning at 9 a.m.



Maple Valley's Donna Cripe took second in the 100 and helped three relays finish in the top three at the Kent City Relays.

GFWC Vermontville hears about back yard conservation

The General Federation Women's Club Vermontville, met last month.

Vice President Elaine Russell introduced district forester Jim Bruce, from the Calhoun Conservation District as speaker for the evening.

The topic was back yard conservation, presenting a slide show, informing the

group about the different types of trees and shrubs in this area. He also spoke of the different variety of birds and how to attract them along with types of bird houses they roost in. Following the presentations the women had a opportunity to ask questions.

Refreshments were served by Hostesses Sylvia Wil-

liams, Sandra Haas and JoeAnn Nehmer.

The March meeting was the annual Birthday Banquet. Club member Elsie Wolever enlisted the Center Stage Dance Studio from Battle Creek to entertain members from the event. Dancers performed as a group and some solos. Elsie's granddaughter, Lacey Wolever, is a member of the Dance Studio.

Dinner was served by the Methodist Women.

School Lunch Menus

Maple Valley Elementary Schools (Maplewood & Fuller)

Lunch Menu

Wednesday, April 17

Hot dog, carrot sticks, pear halves, cookie, 1/2 pt. milk.

Thursday, April 18

M.W. Hungry Howies. Pizza, tossed salad, fruit cocktail, pretzel rod, 1/2 pt. milk.

Friday, April 19

Grilled cheese sandwich, dill pickles, celery sticks/peanut butter, apple-sauce, 1/2 pt. milk.

Monday, April 22

Chicken fries, tater tots, peaches, fortune cookie, 1/2 pt. milk.

Tuesday, April 23

Maplewood - Hot pocket; Fuller - Chef's Salad, roll and butter, grape push-up, 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, April 17

Choose One - Double dogs, pizza, chicken sandwich, breakfast bar. **Choose Two** - Garden salad, carrot sticks, pear halves, juice. Milk.

Thursday, April 18

Choose One - Spaghetti, cheeseburger, pizza, taco bar. **Choose Two** - Garden salad, whole kernel corn, fruit cocktail, juice. Milk.

Friday, April 19

Choose One - Macaroni and cheese, pizza, chicken sandwich, salad bar. **Choose Two** - Garden salad, tater tots, apple crisp, juice. Milk.

Monday, April 22

Choose One - Chicken fries, chicken sandwich, pizza, salad bar. **Choose Two** - Garden salad, mashed potatoes, peaches, juice. Milk.

Tuesday, April 23

Choose One - Club sandwich, pizza, cheeseburger, taco bar. **Choose Two** - Garden salad, California blend veg., grape push-up, juice. Milk.

Inaugural varsity girls' soccer season underway

Some history is happening at Maple Valley this spring, as the inaugural season of girls' varsity soccer is underway.

Valley held Delton scoreless in the first half last Wednesday, only to have the Panthers explode for five goals in the second and hand the new Lions a 5-0 defeat.

Ashley Chilton and Shanna Fisher each scored twice for Delton, and Jessie Searles notched the other tally.

Maple Valley played at New Covenant last night. The team is now off until April 25, when they play at Dansville at 5 p.m.

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Italy, continued from page 7

good," said Jo. "She saw him face to face. The whole thing, I think, was closure for both of us. It was the trip of a lifetime."

She hopes one day to return, taking her two daughters, Amanda and Jennifer Rogers, her son Taylor and her husband, Terry.

"I think it answered a lot of questions about things I'd wondered about my whole life," she said of the experience. "I used to wonder 'when I was little, what did I look like? Who do I look like? Where did I play?' After going back, I have no more questions."

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Valley baseball goes 3-2

Maple Valley's varsity baseball team got off to a 3-2 start in the first week of the 2002 season with wins over Hastings and Portland St. Patrick sandwiched around two losses to Lakewood.

The Lions kicked off the season at home with a doubleheader sweep of Hastings last Tuesday, 6-1 and 6-1.

Darin Thrun (1-0) pitched a seven-inning complete game in the opener, scattering eight hits, allowing one run and one walk, and striking out 13. He was also 2-for-4 at the plate with two doubles and two RBIs. Ryan Goris went 2-for-2 with a triple and two RBIs.

The nightcap went five innings, with pitcher Britt Leonard (1-0) going the distance for the win (one run on two hits, 2 walks, eight K's). The Lions got one hit apiece from Mike Hirneiss, Goris, Jeremy Wisner, Jason Silsbee and Ryan Grider,

and one RBI each from Hirneiss, Goris, Thrun, Wisner and Silsbee.

The visitors from Lakewood evened Maple Valley's record on Thursday, taking two from the Lions 11-5 and 10-1.

Three runs in the top of the fifth of Game 1 gave Lakewood a 6-0 lead, but Valley stormed back with five runs in its half of the inning to close to 6-5. The Vikings kept their bats working, however, and pulled away for the win.

Ryan Grider took the loss in a complete game (11 runs on 12 hits, seven K's). Jason Silsbee went 2-for-4 with two doubles and two RBIs, Ryan Goris was 2-for-4, and Jeremy Wisner went 1-for-3 with one RBI.

Goris (0-1) took the loss in Game 2 (eight runs on seven hits, one K in 1 1/3 innings). Mike Hill came on in relief and pitched the last 3 2/3 innings (two runs on two



Britt Leonard winds up against Hastings. (Photo by Perry Hardin)

hits, two K's). Silsbee, Wisner and Darin Thrun each went 1-for-2 with doubles, and Wisner had the lone RBI.

Grider came right back on Friday and got the win at



The 2002 Maple Valley varsity baseball team. Front row (from left): Cole Hansbarger, Jason Silsbee, Britt Leonard, Ryan Goris, Jimmy Hirneiss, Jonathan Denton. Back row: Head Coach Bryan Carpenter, Asst. Coach Rob Goris, Mike Hill, Nick Burpee, Owen Blakely, Ryan Grider, Eric Smith, Jeremy Wisner, Darin Thrun, Asst. Coach Trevor Wawiernia. (Photo by Perry Hardin)

Portland St. Pats in a wild eight-inning affair, 13-10. Grider (1-1) had four strikeouts and gave up two runs on two hits with two walks in three innings of work.

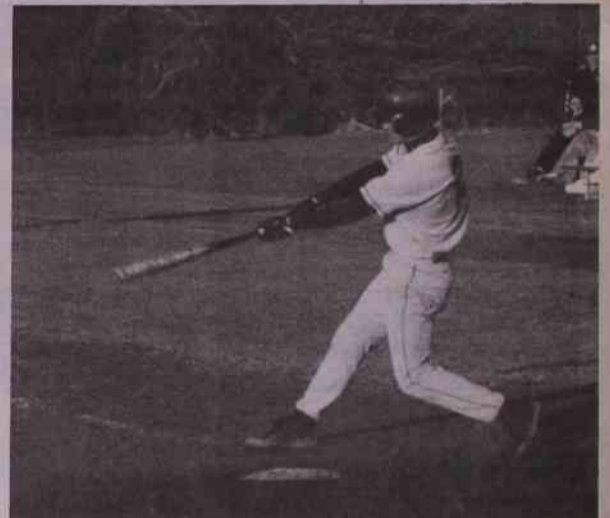
Mike Hirneiss went 2-for-4 at the plate with three RBIs, and Jason Silsbee hit his first dinger of the season. Nick Burpee went 2-for-4 with one RBI and Jonathan Denton was 2-for-3 with one RBI.

The second game was called due to darkness after two innings with Maple Valley leading 5-3. The game may be continued later in the season.

"Pitching has kept us in every game," Maple Valley coach Bryan Carpenter said. "Grider and Hill threw well against Lakewood, and Thrun and Leonard were outstanding making their first starts of the season."

"Jason Silsbee is hitting the ball well, as is Ryan Goris."

The Lions opened the SMAA season last night with a doubleheader at Morrice. They host a game today against St. Phil at 4:30 p.m., then host an invitational on Saturday against Saranac, Hopkins and Athens. Next Monday they host a 4 p.m.



Darin Thrun takes a rip in the sweep of the Saxons. (Photo by Perry Hardin)

doubleheader against Leslie. "It is exciting to see so many fans coming out to home games," Carpenter said. "We hope to increase the home crowd each game."



And she's...?: The Lady Lions pounce on a play at the plate against Hastings. (Photo by Perry Hardin) See full story on page 8.

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