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Cathy Lentz, shown here in a file photo swearing in Carroll Wolff, will return as clerk with a raise and three weeks of vacation.

Nashville clerk returns with raise, more perks

by Shawna Hubbarth
 Staff Writer

Former Nashville office manager and clerk Cathy Lentz will have her job back after a four-month leave, with a \$2,500 a year raise and three weeks of vacation time, after the surprise resignation of clerk Penny Ruff a week ago Friday.

Councilman Steve Wheeler said the village was "almost collapsing" and that if the village did not hire Lentz there would be serious consequences because the village was finding it hard to function without a clerk.

The hiring sparked controversy on the council and it barely squeaked by with a 4-3 vote. Newer council member Chelsey Wetzel, who cast the deciding vote, admitted she wasn't sure which way to go on the issue and wished she had more time to look into the matter.

The council has had a rough ride with the clerk's position in the past year. Lentz resigned as office manager over a year ago, but stayed on as clerk. Sandy Harvey was hired in as office manager, but soon the two were bickering over job descriptions and whose job it was to do what, council members have said. Lentz then resigned as clerk.

The council then decided to combine the two positions into one position, and told Harvey that she would have to go through the interview

"My concern is that she has the upper hand in the situation and that she is making some pretty demanding requests. She basically is being hired in with all of her seniority from before."

- Chelsey Wetzel,
 council member

process just like a new hire. Lentz also applied for the newly created position, and Harvey quit.

Lentz was the second contender for the job, but lost out to Penny Ruff, who was willing to take the job for less money and less vacation time. In the bargaining sessions, Lentz did say she would take the job for 27,500, but with the three weeks vacation seniority that she had when she was previously employed by the village, council members said. Lentz, who was filling in as interim clerk at the time that Ruff was hired, has not worked for the village in more than four months.

Ruff, who resigned suddenly to take another position, left the council in a lurch to fill the position.

Village President Frank

Dunham said the village attorney was consulted and they were told that because Lentz was the second contender they did not have to repost the job.

"Is that why it's not open to advertisement?" asked Wetzel.

"If Penny resigns, I feel it should be reposted. You can't change the rules and do it one way this time, and the next time different," said Councilman Ed Sheldon.

"You didn't want to hire her at \$28,000 (months ago), but now you want to hire her at \$30,000 and all her old seniority?" asked Councilwoman Mary Coll.

Some members felt that Lentz had the bargaining advantage, considering the situation the village was in, and doubted whether it was right to hire someone in with three weeks vacation time and a raise.

The finance committee met with Lentz last week before the council meeting to bargain with her.

What went on though, said Councilman Carroll Wolff, was not bargaining at all.

Wheeler said the conversation with Lentz was pleasant and that she was not demanding job benefits, but asking. Wolff said he disagreed, and because of the meeting he has now resigned from the committee.

He said that the commit-

See Nashville clerk, pg. 2

Paula Guajardo named Teacher of the Year

by Shawna Hubbarth
 Staff Writer

Paula Guajardo of Fuller Elementary School was named Teacher of the Year by area Sam's Clubs.

Guajardo said she was surprised Tuesday when a representative from the company, Maple Valley Board of Education President Mike Callton, and school principal and assistant Judy Farnsworth and Joan Laos appeared at her classroom door to present her with the award.

"I was pretty shocked really, it was definitely a surprise," said Guajardo. "I guess I won the nomination out of many entries based on what the parent who nominated me wrote."

Sherry Eldridge nominated her. Guajardo had taught Eldridge's son in a previous year. The award

came on Teacher Appreciation Day.

"I was pretty shocked really, it was definitely a surprise. I guess I won the nomination out of many entries based on what the parent who nominated me wrote."

- Paula Guajardo



Paula Guajardo has been named "Teacher of the Year" by local Sam's Clubs. She teaches kindergarten at Fuller Elementary and won from an essay written by parent Sherry Eldridge.

printed on it and a Maple Valley Pride pin.

Scholarship Foundation plans \$35,000 in awards

The board of directors of the Maple Valley Memorial Scholarship Foundation has announced that \$35,000 will be awarded in scholarships this year at graduation ceremonies June 2.

All interest earned on donations to the fund is awarded as scholarships each year to Maple Valley High School graduates.

Included in the total will be eight named scholarships;

The Elizabeth Good estate, which contributed more than \$100,000, is recognized with a \$3,000 award, as is the Wayne Fuller Award. The Fuller funds came to the foundation when the trust stipulations were that the money be used only to construct a new library in Nashville, but because the amount was not large enough to provide a library that could better serve the community, the money reverted, per the trust agreement, to be used for a scholarship.

Three \$2,000 named scholarships recognize gifts from the Alice Keihl estate, Frances and Lloyd Eaton and H. H. Hickok.

The remaining named awards recognize Burr Hartenburg, a longtime teacher and administrator at Maple Valley, Valorie Lintner, the daughter of Dorothy Edmonds, who is remembered as a nurse in the doctor's office in Nashville for many

years, and in memory of Hale B. Sackett, who was a friend to many during the many years he served as custodian at Nashville High School.

Recipients are selected from all the graduates of Maple Valley. All seniors are asked to complete a short survey stating if they are planning to seek training or higher education after graduation, where they plan to attend and what they plan to study.

Alumni who wish to be considered for MVSF awards complete a similar short survey sheet in the superintendent's office. Starting next year, alumni applications must be received by April 15 each year.

"This is a familiar date and one the board hopes will be easy to remember," an MVSF spokeswoman said.

The remaining monetary awards may be divided as the selection committee determines, and it varies from year to year.

A selection committee of five teachers representing different academic areas reviews the listing of all graduates each year, and any alumni who have requested consideration, and based on effort, attitude and desire to succeed determine the amounts and the recipients. "Academic standing, financial need and popularity are not the primary consideration," the spokeswoman said, "rather this unique scholarship foundation focuses on the hard working student with a positive attitude."

Other business at the board of directors' meeting included election of the five-

See scholarships, pg. 2

In This Issue...

- Local ambulance service plans open house May 19
- Fuller Elementary kids see animals 'up close'
- Mulberry Fore proposal has obstacles to clear
- Lady Lions on the brink of undefeated season

Nashville clerk, continued from page 1

tee just agreed to everything Lentz wanted and did not bargain at all.

"I've got better things to do than sit in on meetings like that," he said.

"My concern is that she has the upper hand in the situation and that she is making some pretty demanding requests. She basically is being hired in with all of her seniority from before," said Wetzel.

"I have been informed that there has been some differences between council members and Cathy and that is why she quit... are those issues still going to be a problem?" asked Wetzel. "Will \$30,000 wipe those problems away?"

Wheeler defended Lentz, saying there have been "unprofessional" actions taken by council members in the

past few years and that "you can't put that all on one employee."

Councilman Ed Sheldon said he thought it was only fair that the newer council members hear the whole story.

"I have nasty notes that she left around the office for Sandy right here in my folder," he said.

"I think you should also remember the time she put in above and beyond to help us through when we did not have a clerk," said Wheeler.

"And charged us above the clerk's pay for it," said Sheldon. "She got compensated for it."

"Did Penny make \$30,000?" asked member Mary Coll.

"No," said president Frank Dunham, who noted he thought the pay rate for



Former Nashville village clerk Penny Ruff, who resigned suddenly a week ago.

the job was too low. "Well, I think she left us high and dry (the second time) and now we are going

to give her \$30,000 and three weeks vacation, family insurance is \$10,000 a year — that's \$40,000?" asked Sheldon incredulously.

"She gave us two weeks and not Sandy or Penny gave us that, they resigned and (they) were outta here," said Wheeler.

Sheldon said he was referring to the second time she left.

Wetzel said, "I am not condemning her — I don't know her, but what if one of (Department of Public Works head) Darell's people quits and then comes back (months later)? Will they get all their seniority back and a raise?"

Police Chief Gary Barnes asked, "You mean to tell me a new clerk can come in with more vacation time than a department head? I think that's a slap in the face to other employees," he said.

Wheeler said, "I don't think its the place of the police chief to dictate what the council can and can't do."

"Are we settling one situation just to open the door to a dozen more?" asked Wolff.

"I think we are almost collapsing, and if we don't take care of this, none of this is going to matter," said Wheeler.

Dunham agreed. "As far as governmental units go, yes (we are)," he said.

"I can offer \$28,000, but I think you are standing on dollars trying to pick up pennies," said Dunham.

The motion carried to offer her the job at \$30,000, with three weeks vacation. Voting no were Coll, Sheldon and Wolff.

"I don't have anything against Cathy as a person," said Sheldon. "But this vacation issue is a big one. I really think we should have given this a week so new council members could review it and then scheduled another meeting," he said, adding that he thought it was unfair to make new council

members make a decision like this in such a short time. Coll said she wanted to make it clear the questions that she was asking about Lentz were not personal, and that she felt some council

"You mean to tell me that a new clerk can come in with more vacation time than a department head? I think that's a slap in the face to other employees."

— Gary Barnes, Police Chief

members made her feel "stupid" for asking important questions.

"It's unfortunate we had to do this in such a small time frame," said Wheeler. "It's difficult to have your salary and benefits talked about in an open meeting. Its difficult for them and for us and if we made you feel bad I am sorry. There's an awful lot of financial things

riding on this right now and Cathy is our only solution. I think you will like working with her, she is a good person."

Wolff said he was having serious doubts about why he ran for council in the first place.

"Gary (Barnes) and I have not always agreed on everything, but we have always been able to say hello on the streets. I wish he was here (Barnes left during the meeting) because he asked what I felt was a great question and I don't think he left here with the greatest feeling."

Wolff, who resigned last year as village president and then ran successfully for a council seat in March, said he had no desire to sit on the finance committee any more.

"There has been some comments made in the past few days that have changed my mind about this whole operation... I don't think I will be here long," he said.

Scholarships, from page 1

year term board members. The board of directors is comprised of not more than 25 nor fewer than 15 persons, at least five serve a nine-year term, at least eight serve a five-year term. There are two lifetime members, founders Junia Jarvie and Dorothy Carpenter, and one representative from the Board of Education (currently Allison Avery).

The five-year board members are Eloise Wheeler, David Mace, Larry Lenz, Luann King, Mark Jarvie, Lois Gardner, Susie Butler,

Brian Benedict, Rosemary Heaton and Jeff Murphy. Board members presently serving nine-year terms are Mary Belz, Roz Buchner, Elbert Carpenter, David Dimmers, Joseph Jarvie, Kevin Kilpatrick and Larry Musser.

The board of directors meets twice yearly from 6 to 7 p.m. in the Maple Valley High School library.

Plans for the "Kiss the Pig" contest, placemats and Christmas mailing were developed at the most recent meeting.

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<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 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: A.M. Worship 11 a.m. Evening Worship 6 p.m. Wednesday Evening: Prayer Meeting 7 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 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: A.M. Worship 11 a.m. P.M. Worship 6 p.m. Wednesday Evening: Worship 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. 10:30 a.m. Worship 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 Müliken 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 DeGROOT PASTOR DEANO LAMPHERE 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. Huxwick 848-9604 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</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>
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Local ambulance service plans open house May 19

by Shawna Hubbarth
Staff Writer

Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Week is May 19-26, and Castleton, Maple Grove, Nashville Ambulance service will be celebrating by holding an open house for the public.

The open house, set for Sunday, May 19, from 1 to 4 p.m., will showcase the equipment, trucks and offer refreshments.

Building and maintenance coordinator and EMT Chelsey Wetzel said, "We have lots of things planned for the afternoon. We will have sign-ups for CPR and first aid classes, free blood pressure checks, drinks, snacks and prizes and our ALS (advanced life support) and BLS (basic life support) trucks will be open for anyone who wants to tour them."

Crew member Rob Fisk said the open house was basically to show the public what the department has to offer and explain things like the difference between BLS and ALS.

"We will have boards up with information on them," he said.

Wetzel said the open house will also be a time to



Castleton, Maplegrove, and Nashville Ambulance members (from left) Rob Fisk, Chelsey Wetzel, and Ardie Reid. They are inviting the public to an open house set for Sunday, May 19, 1-4 p.m.



Free blood pressure checks will be available at the open house. Here, at last year's Open House, Chelsey Wetzel checks Jean Appelman's blood pressure.

highlight the building project the ambulance department is taking on.

"We are going to be adding on to the back of our building 1,200 square feet. It will have living quarters, and room for training purposes, and some administrative space. We will have something out for people to donate to the project," said Wetzel.

Wetzel said they would like to see the addition completed within a year.

Director Ardie Reid said the project will cost an estimated \$65,000, and will come from grants, donations, fund-raisers, and the rest from the townships.

As the building stands now, it was built in 1980 to house two ambulances. It has a small office and a bathroom but no room to provide training or classes. It also has no storage area to

hold records, or a place for paramedics to eat or sleep while on duty at the station.

Wetzel said the most of the 15 members of the ambulance service will be on



The ambulance open house will give kids and adults a chance to tour the ambulances, as shown here in a file photo.

hand to answer any questions.

"We think it will be a fun time, and we hope to see everyone out," she said.

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MURDER BY NUMBERS (R)

12:00, 2:30, 7:10

JASON X (R) 5:00, 9:40

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1:00, 3:00, 5:10, 7:30, 9:40

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Student showcase to have art, music

by Shawna Hubbarth
Staff Writer

Maple Valley Jr.-Sr. High will be holding a student showcase from 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, May 15.

The showcase will feature an art show, jazz band performances, choir performances, industrial art displays, demonstrations, class projects and more.

Art students were busy last week preparing for the show, which will highlight some projects that have been in the works for months.

Barryville Cemetery Assn. to meet

The Barryville Cemetery Association will meet Saturday, May 25, at the Peace United Methodist Church, Barryville, starting at noon with a potluck meal.

Those attending are asked to bring dish to pass and their own table service.

The potluck will be followed by a business meeting.

Anyone is invited, especially those who have a connection with Barryville Cemetery. Peace Church is located four miles west of Nashville, corner of M-79 and Barryville Road.

Teacher Jeff Seavolt said, "We will have woodshop projects of various mediums, and a working demonstration, so the kids can show some of their talents and skills."

Seavolt said a few students who build speaker boxes plan to show the process from beginning to end.

"We are going to have a lot of nice laminated turnings, cabinetry and tables. We are using eight or nine different species of wood so we have some variety," he said.

Bill Kipp, metal shop teacher said, "We will have sheet metal work on display. There will be boxes, funnels, and examples of their welding and sandcasting projects."

The event is to showcase the talents and work the students have been completing this year, said organizers. The event is sponsored by the Fine Arts Department.

Engagements

Ward-Spitzer

The engagement of Kenda Marie Ward of Jerome, MI to Scott Richard Spitzer formerly of Nashville, MI is announced.

They are both graduates of Baker College in Owosso.

The couple plan a June 15th wedding in No. Adams, MI.

She is the daughter of Kenneth and Rosa Ward of Jerome. Scott is the son of Richard Spitzer of Lansing and Cathy Powers of Battle Creek.



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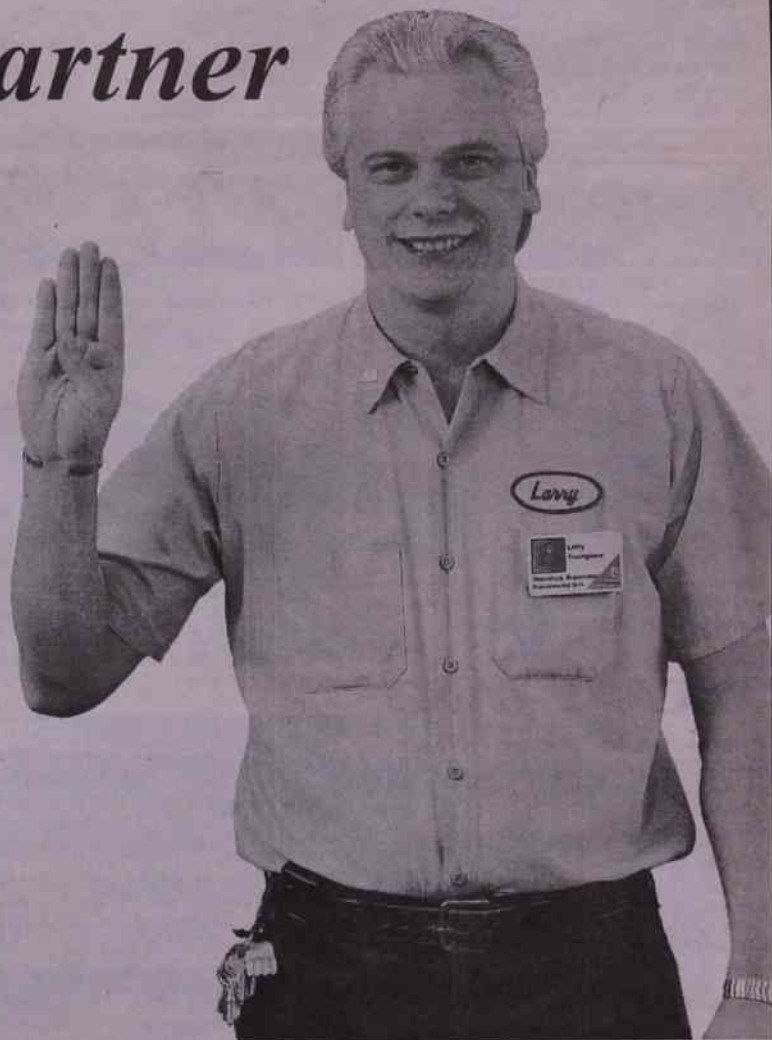
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Weight Loss Puzzles Doctors

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

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

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

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

Bio-Rex 3000 is available at:
MACE PHARMACY
219 N. Main St.
517-552-0845 • Nashville

Author's Note: This statement has not been evaluated by the FDA. Bio-Rex 3000 is not intended to diagnose, treat, cure, or prevent any disease. © 2002 AGC

Fuller Elementary students see animals up close



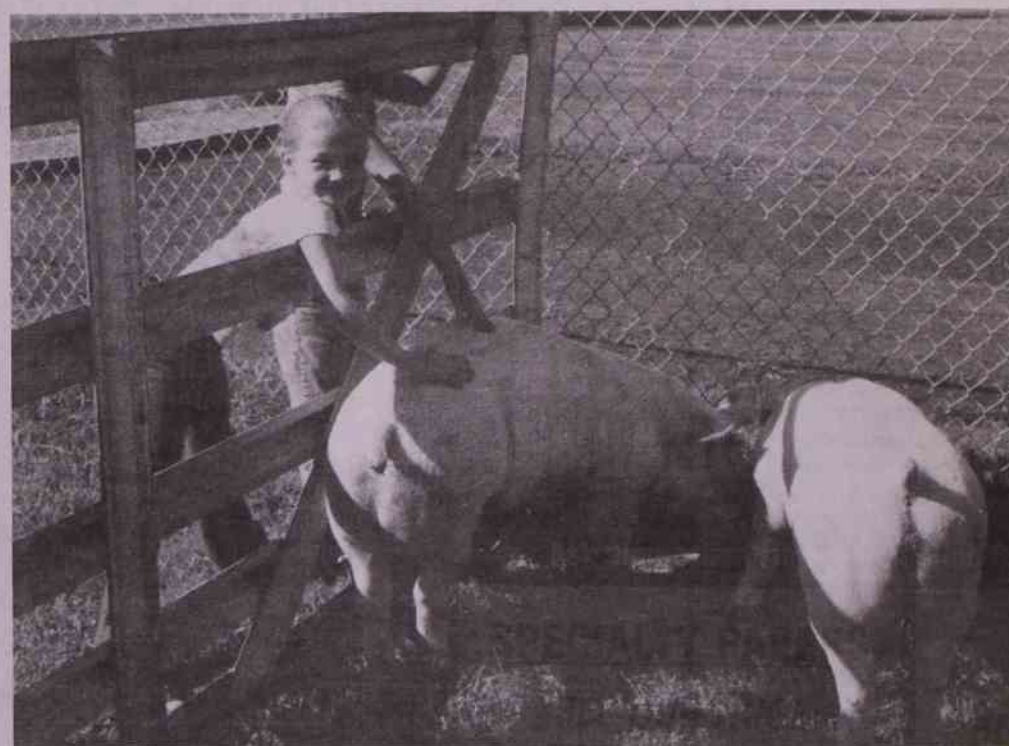
Students feed the goats grass at Fuller Elementary school last week.



A favorite with the kids was this adorable four week old puppy.



The FFA members made sure every student got a chance to pet each animal, here a chicken.



Students get an up close look at the pigs the FFA members brought.



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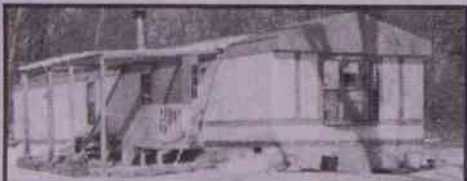
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by **Shawna Hubbarth**
Staff Writer

Fuller Elementary children got a chance to see some farm animals up close last Friday, as the FFA visited with a petting zoo.

Behind the school the Maple Valley FFA club set up small pens with pigs, cows, goats, chickens, rabbits, sheep and a puppy. The club stayed all day, giving each class a time to come out and pet the animals and learn a little about each one.

FFA member Brandon Montgomery said, "This is a yearly thing we do. It's nice to bring the animals out here and introduce the kids to them. Basically we try to

teach the kids about the animals and also tell them about FFA and what we do."

Students had a chance to feed the goats some grass, and grain to some of the other animals. A favorite was not the more uncommon animal, but the four-week-old puppy.

The FFA has 36 members, said Montgomery, and enjoys doing community projects like this one.

"It's really fun when we get to see their smiles and it's great to be outside on a day like today," he said, smiling.

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Mulberry Fore proposal has obstacles to clear

by Shawna Hubbarth
Staff Writer

Mulberry Fore developers Tad Davis and Orvin Moore will have their answer three months after requesting preliminary site plan approval from the Nashville village council.

The village approved drafting a letter to the developers, stating that the village did not intend to supply village services beyond village limits without an intra-governmental agreement. Councilman Ralph Kirk said that he and a few other council members attended a Castleton Township meeting, where "it was obvious they were not interested in an intra-governmental agreement."

"They were interested in annexing (the property) back into the village," he said. The land had been annexed out of the village some years ago to obtain a liquor license.

Councilman Ed Sheldon said the developers did not want to annex the property back into the village until issues with their liquor license were cleared. He said that could take some time.

The developers had come to council with a plan to first develop a banquet facility to seat 250, and eight lots with eventual development of 42 lots — all surrounding the golf course.

Some of the land in question is within the village limits, and the council agreed that any development on land within the village is subject to an ordinance that clearly states expectations from both the village and the developer. They authorized putting in a copy of the ordinance in the letter sent.

"If annexed in, then it goes according to existing ordinances," said Kirk.

Councilman Steve Wheeler noted that it was the developers' responsibility to initiate annexation.

Sheldon, who voted no, said, "I think we just lost out on a lot of money, that's what I think."

Sheldon has previously stated that he thought the development would be good for the village and help it thrive.

"They will be coming with their final plan at the next meeting," said Dun-

ham. "At which time, we will go get a statement from our lawyer, just like we did with the Dixie Brand project," said Kirk.

In other business at last Thursday night's meeting, the council:

- Decided to table setting the 2002 tax rate after debating whether or not to seek the maximum amount as allowed by the Headlee Amendment.

Councilman Carroll Wolff said he was against seeking the maximum amount.

"Some people are on a limited income, and also we have a lot of young families without the highest income. Having a family today is costly," he said, noting that assessments have gone up, which brings in more revenue, and water bills have increased with the project. "I think we are asking for too much... people in my neighborhood have complained."

He said he knew of one family that was moving because of financial issues like this one.

"I think we should go for the lower amount," he said.

President Frank Dunham said he knew what Wolff was saying, but with inflation rate, the rising cost of village employees and insurance increases, the village needed the money to run business.

"I can understand that, but with the (water) project we will need a lot of street repairs and we need that money to improve the quality of life here," Dunham said.

- Heard from ambulance director Artie Reid, who invited the council to an ambulance open house on May 19, from 1 to 4 p.m.

- Heard from acting Department of Public Works head Darrell Clements that his two part-time hired men are working out well, and working about 30 hours a week each.

Wolff questioned that number, saying he thought it was 24 hours.

Clements said 24 to 30 has been the average, and that he has been able to "keep them busy."

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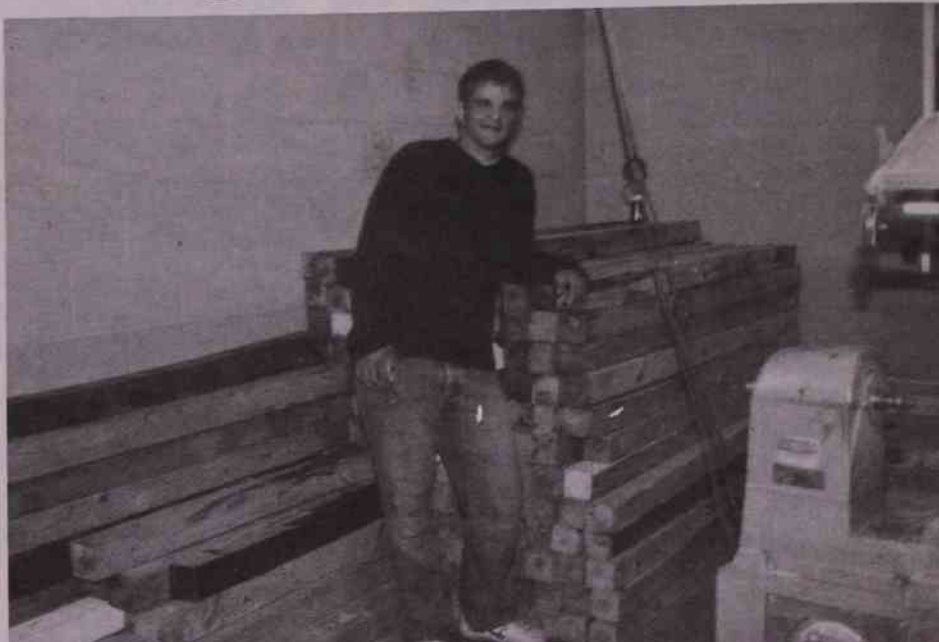
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MSU donates wood to high school class



Cam Smith stands by some of the donated wood the village acquired from Michigan State University.



Travis Irish cleans some of the donated wood last week.

by **Shawna Hubbarth**
Staff Writer
The Maple Valley wood shop students scored thousands of dollars of wood donated by Michigan State University recently.

Teacher Jeff Seavolt said the school took 60 kids out to the school to haul away eight 40-yard dumpster loads from left over lofts that students leave behind at

the school. "We made it a day trip," said Seavolt. "The director there looks for non profits and charities to donate the wood to so the school does not have to pay in landfill fees. We were fortunate to receive the wood, we can use it for building structures and practice cutting and other projects."

Seavolt said the wood has to be "cleaned," which means removing all the screws and nails. The students do that continuously

and can reuse the screws, Seavolt said.

"All this wood is construction lumber and we can use it to build racks and shelves to store the rest of our wood."

Seavolt said that by saving money on not having to buy so much wood, money for the classes can be spent on other things, such as tools and equipment.

"This was our second year of receiving this wood, and we just feel lucky to get it," he said.

Jr. high students plan CF fund-raiser

The Maple Valley Junior High School student council members are organizing their annual Cystic Fibrosis "Great Strides Walk to Cure" fund-raiser.

Last year the participants raised more than \$2,000. Fifteen area businesses donated to the fund-raiser and more than 30 students raised money and made the 10K walk.

This year the walk will be held Friday, May 17, from noon to 3 p.m. at the high school track. Anyone who wants to participate can call Duska Brumm at the school at 852-9275 for more information.

"Hopefully, with community involvement and student participation, we will exceed our total amount raised from last year," Brumm said.

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Maple Valley's Melissa Jewell (18). (Photo by Shelly Sulser)

Soccer suffers two defeats

The Maple Valley varsity soccer team dropped a couple of games at home last week, falling to the Marshall JV 4-0 and to Laingsburg 11-1.

Camille Wieland scored Maple Valley's goal against the experienced Laingsburg squad.

The Lady Lions played last night at Lakewood. They travel to Lansing Christian on Thursday for a 4:30 game, then close out their inaugural regular season at home against Dansville next Monday, May 20 at 5:00.

Two sophomore Lions named all-conference

by Shawna Hubbarth
Staff Writer

Southern Michigan Athletic Association all-conference students have been announced, and for the first time, two Maple Valley sophomores have qualified, said Athletic Director Mike Sparks.

To be selected, students are scored on a points basis

on factors such as high grades, advanced curriculums, extra curricular activities, and citizenship/leadership activities. A total of 16 points are possible, with students earning 13-16 making first team and students making 10-12 making second team. "They will be honored on Honors Night, on Tuesday, May 21, at 7 p.m.," said Sparks. "They have to be extremely well rounded to get this award. This is one of the few awards we give that takes into account academics, leadership, extra curricular and community involvement."

Sparks said that the honor is open to all students.

"This is the first year we have had two sophomores qualify, Amber Terberg, and Kelly Wilson, so that's very encouraging," he said.

Those who qualified for first team included Meaghan Pierce, Karla Rasey, Christina Jackson, Lizzie Sundria, Bethany Swift, Darin Thrun and Camille Wieland.

Second team qualifiers include Amber Terberg, Kelly Wilson, Rachel Brandenburg, Holly Clouse, Jessica Cowell, Rachelle Drallette, Eleizabeth Favre, Ashley Gordeneer, Jessie Grant, Cashel Harp, Tina Lincoln, Jessica Mansfield, Collin McLean, Elizabeth Mulvany, Sarah Perry, Jennie Pettingill, Micah Tobias, Richard Wilson, Bethany Adams, Miranda Farr, Becky Guernsey, Nikki James, Nate Jarvie, Nick Jones, Devin Phenix, Jessie Ripley, and Rebecca Scrip-ter.

Maple Valley honors night is May 21

Maple Valley High School will honor students for academic excellence,

outstanding work and contributions made during the 2001-2002 school year

Tuesday, May 21, at 7 p.m. in the high school auditorium.

Scholarships, recognition for service, and awards for attendance, citizenship and scholastic achievement will be presented during the evening.

Many teachers have contributed to the organization of the Honors Night activities. Ward Rooks and Norma Jean Acker will act as master and mistress of ceremonies. Staff member Linda Johnson, assisted by Judy Hager, Jennifer Cusack, Cindy Gatewood and Janet Adams, has organized a formal reception, which will follow the awards presentations.

Principal Todd Gonser and secretary Donna Garvey have assumed major roles in the organization of the awards ceremonies.

National Honor Society members will be acting as ushers.

This evening of recognition of the many talents of Maple Valley students is open to the public.

Michigan FFA president speaks to local members

The State FFA president spoke at the annual Maple Valley FFA banquet May 2 in the high school cafeteria.

The State FFA president spoke to the crowd about leadership.

Local FFA members were recognized for achievements and participation in activities.

Honors bestowed for the evening included:

The Proficiency Awards to Chrissy Racine, Lee Gould, Amy Dawson, Tom Powers, Jamie Wyble and Erica White. These awards are based on member's su-

pervised agricultural experience projects.

The highest awards also are based on members' projects and how they reflect leadership within the chapter. Some of these awards consisted of Star Greenhand (top first-year member) Chrissy Racine; Star Chapter Farmer, BJ Griffin; Star Chapter Agribusinessman, Tom Powers; DeKalb Award (top senior) Brad Conroy.

Outstanding Member, based on leadership and participation in the chapter, was B.J. Griffin.

The top nine scholarship winners were, in order; Torri Newton, Brad Conroy, Amy Dawson, Jamie Wyble, Lacy Wyble, Tim Rumsey, Chrissy Racine, Wendy Merica, and Rechael Brown. This award was based on grades in school and an application they completed.

There was a lot of food, including roasted pork, which was donated by Kendall Tobias, and there were many other dishes.

Advisor Janet Cornell showed her gratitude by stating "I would like to thank all those who have given their time to help out during the year."

MAPLE VALLEY SCHOOL MENUS

Maple Valley Elementary Schools (Maplewood & Fuller)

Lunch Menu
Wednesday, May 15
Soft taco, whole kernel corn, pear halves, brownie, 1/2 pt. milk.

Thursday, May 16
Pizza, tossed salad, pineapple, graham crackers, 1/2 pt. milk.

Friday, May 17
Mini-pancakes & link sausage, potato wedge, applesauce, 1/2 pt. milk.

Monday, May 20
French bread pizza, bread stick, whole kernel corn, cherry push-up, 1/2 pt. milk.

Tuesday, May 21
Cheeseburger, potato wedge, applesauce, Fritos, 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, May 15
Choose One - Rib sandwich, pizza, chicken sandwich, breakfast bar. **Choose Two** - Garden salad, baked beans, pear halves, juice, Milk.

Thursday, May 16
Choose One - H.S. Hungry Howies. Pizza, cheeseburger, taco bar. **Choose Two** - Garden salad, whole kernel corn, fresh fruit, juice, Milk.

Friday, May 17
Choose One - Grilled cheese sandwich, pizza, chicken sandwich, salad bar. **Choose Two** - Garden salad, carrot sticks, applesauce, juice, Milk.

Monday, May 20
Choose One - French bread pizza, pizza, chicken sandwich, salad bar. **Choose Two** - Garden salad, whole kernel corn, cherry push-up,

juice, Milk.
Tuesday, May 21
Choose One - Chicken nuggets, pizza, cheeseburger, taco bar. **Choose Two** - Garden salad, mashed potatoes, applesauce, juice, Milk.

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Lady Lions on the brink of undefeated season

Maple Valley's varsity girls' track team ran its record to 9-0 with a 98-35 dismantling of Battle Creek Pennfield on May 9.

The Lady Lions (6-0 in the SMAA) can wrap up an undefeated season with a win today at Olivet. The meet begins at 4:30 p.m.

Track regionals are Saturday, and the SMAA Championship Meet is next Wednesday, May 22.

First-place finishers for Valley against Pennfield: Miranda Farr in the pole vault (9-0); Sarah Cook in the high jump (4-4) and discus (99-5); Megan Garvey in the long jump (14-10); Cashel Harp in the shot put (31-6); Amy Abbott in the high hurdles (17.65) and 300 hurdles (56.63); Micah Tobias in the 100 (13.93); Jessica McMillen in the 1600 (6:15.63); and Chayla Robles in the 800 (2:53.75).

Relay wins came in the 3200 (Jessica Ellison, McMillen, Robles, Amber Terberg, 11:59.80), the 400 (Kaitlyn Hammond, Farr, Tobias, Garvey, 55.81) and the 1600 (Ellison, Abbott, Hammond, Terberg, 5:44.53).

Second place: Ashley Gordeneer in the pole vault (9-0), shot put (29-1 1/2) and discus (95-8 1/2); Shelbi

Cousins in the high jump (4-2); Cook in the high hurdles (17.72); Cripe in the 100 (14.00); Ellison in the 400 (1:09.17); Tobias in the 300 hurdles (57.05); and Garvey in the 200 (29.37).

Third place: Tara Gordenski in the pole vault (8-0); Akiyo Ueshima in the high jump (4-0); Farr (13-10); Meagan Halliwill in the shot put (28-9 1/2); Harp in the discus (93-8); and Cripe in the 200 (29.86).

Dansville, Webberville no match for MV

The Lady Lions cruised past two more SMAA opponents in a double-dual on May 7, easily outdistancing the Aggies 128-20 and the Spartans 128-25.

Double winners for Valley: Miranda Farr in the pole vault (10-0); Sarah Cook in the high jump (4-8); Megan Garvey in the long jump (14-6 1/2) and 200 (27.99); Cashel Harp in the shot put (31-1); Micah Tobias in the 100 dash (13.43); Jessica McMillen in the 1600 (6:10.71); and Stefanie Joostberns in the 400 (1:02.71).

All four relays won as well: The 3200 (Jessica Ellison, McMillen, Chayla Robles, Amber Terberg, 13:14.32), 800 (Tobias, Ellison, Kaitlyn Hammond,



Jessica McMillen (front). (Photo by Perry Hardin)



The Lady Lions have some powerful pole vaulters, including freshman Tara Gordenski. (Photo by Perry Hardin)

Melissa Nisse, 1:56.09), 400 (Donna Cripe, Farr, Tobias, Garvey, 53.94) and 1600 (Cripe, Ellison, Hammond, Amy Abbott, 4:44.10).

Harp (105-10) won the discus against Dansville. Abbott (17.05 in the high hurdles), Tobias (51.19 in the 300 hurdles) and Terberg (3:03.82 in the 800) won their events against Webberville.

Ladies 2nd at Eaton County

The Maple Valley girls were impressive at the seven-team Eaton County Track Meet in Charlotte on May 4, finishing second behind Class A Grand Ledge (164) with 117 points.

Eaton Rapids placed third with 96 points, followed by Charlotte (68), Olivet (56), Lansing Waverly (30) and Bellevue (25).

Sophomore Stefanie Joostberns won the 800 by almost four seconds, setting a new meet record in 2:20.90. She broke the previous record time of 2:22.90 set by Maple Valley's Janet Boldrey back in 1992.

Joostberns was also part of two winning relays, the 1600 (with Amy Abbott, Micah Tobias and Jessica Ellison in 4:23.90) and the 800 (with Donna Cripe, Tobias and Megan Garvey in 1:52.90).

Ashley Gordeneer (9-0), Miranda Farr (8-6) and Tara Gordenski (7-6) swept the top three spots in the pole vault.

The Lady Lions scored in 10 other events, including the discus (Cashel Harp 2nd, Sarah Cook 3rd), high jump (Cook T-6th), long jump (Garvey 3rd, Farr 5th), shot put (Harp 2nd, Kelly Wilson 4th), 800 freshman relay (3rd), 100 dash (Tobias 3rd, Cripe 5th), 100 hurdles (Cook 4th, Abbott 6th), 400 (Garvey 6th), 400 relay (2nd) and 300 hurdles (Tobias 5th).

Lions whallop Leslie, Lansing Christian

The girls' track team won 16 of 17 events in a double dual against Leslie and Lansing Christian on April 30, beating Leslie 132-28 and Lansing Christian 143-5.

Overall first-place finishers for Maple Valley: Sarah Cook in the 100 hurdles (17.8), discus (96-2) and high jump (4-10); Micah Tobias in the 100 dash (13.4) and 300 hurdles (52.4); Jessica McMillen in the 1600 (6:30) and 3200 (14:18); Stefanie Joostberns in the 400 (1:03.8) and 200 (29.3); Megan Garvey in the 800 (2:47.6); Ashley Gordeneer and Miranda Farr in the pole vault (tied at 9-0); Kelly Wilson in the shot put (31-9 1/2); and Farr in the long jump (14-9).

Valley also won the 800 relay (Donna Cripe, Melissa Nisse, Kaitlyn Hammond, Jessica Ellison, 2:00), the 400 relay (Cripe, Nisse, Tobias, Garvey, 55.8) and the 1600 relay (Summer Hill, Chayla Robles, Ellison,

Amy Abbott, n/a).

Valley wins Olivet Relays

The girls' track team ran away with the 11-team Olivet Lions Relays on April 26, finishing 38 points ahead of their nearest competitor.

Maple Valley scored 116 points, followed by Potterville (78) and Bath (73). Ovid Elsie placed fourth, followed by Olivet, Bellevue, Coldwater, Mendon, Pennfield, Fowler and Climax Scott.

Relay wins came in the long jump (Farr and Nisse at

26-11), the pole vault (Farr and Gordeneer at 17-0), the 800 (Cripe, Joostberns, Tobias, Garvey in 1:53.97), the Frosh 400 (Ellison, Hammond, Lisa Hamilton, Abbott in 56.18), the sprint medley (Cripe, Tobias, Joostberns, Garvey in 2:00.44), the 400 (Cripe, Nisse, Tobias, Garvey in 54.74), the Olivet Special (Ashley Collier, Wilson, Harp, Farr in 2:16.60) and the 1600 (Joostberns, Abbott, Tobias, Garvey in 4:23.50).

YOUTH WRESTLING CLUB RESULTS

The Maple Valley Wrestling Club competed in a state district meet at Portland High School on May 4 and advanced 17 grapplers to regionals:

Group 0: Colyn Reed 2nd, Landon Hess 1st.

Group 1: Chantz McManamey 1st, McKenzye Corwin 2nd, Alex Reed 3rd, Hunter Hess 4th, Nick Iszler 3rd.

Group 2: Cole Hess 2nd.

Group 3: Jesse Miller 2nd, Jorge Miller 1st, Marcus Pearce 3rd, Ryan Brooke 1st, Jesse Scott Miller 2nd.

Group 4: Tyler Corwin 3rd, Christopher James 1st, Jonathon Stevens 3rd, Andy

Scheik 4th.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- May 14 Master Gardener class, Vegetables, 6-10 p.m., Courts & Law Bldg., Community Room.
- May 15 4-H Advisory Council, 7 p.m., Extension Office.
- May 16 Fair Board Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Expo Center.
- May 18 4-H Judged/Comp Trail Ride (time and location to be announced)
- May 18 4-H Judged/Comp Trail Ride (time and location to be announced)
- May 19 4-H Point Horse Show (B C 4-H member only), 8:30 p.m., Expo Center.
- May 20 Rabbit, Goat & Poultry Development Committee Meeting, 7 p.m., HHS Cafeteria.
- June 1 Open Horse Show, 8:30 a.m., Expo Clinic.
- June 2 Speed Horse Show, 10 a.m., Expo Center.

Vermontville Senior Citizens meet May 15

The Vermontville Senior Citizens will have a potluck lunch and their May monthly meeting on Wednesday, May 15, at the Vermontville United Meth-

odist Church. Table service and main dish is provided, so those planning to attend are asked to bring themselves and a plate to pass.

Newest books at the Vermontville Twp. Library

It's finally here...., the next book in the Clan of the Cave Bear series! The Shelters of Stone, by Jane Auel has arrived at the library. Stop in or call to be added to the reserve list.

New Videos: The Godfather, Franklin and the Green Knight, Curly Sue, Big Red, Spiderman.

Books on Tape: Close to Shore: A True Story of Terror in an Age of Innocence, by Michael Capuzzo; Ghost Soldiers, by Hampton Sides; In Harm's Way: The Sinking of the USS Indianapolis and the Extraordinary Story of its Survivors, by Doug Stanton.

Adult Fiction: The Spell-song Cycle: The Shadow Sorceress, by L.E. Modesitt Jr.; To Die in Babylon, by Harold Livingston; Combat, Volumes 1-3, by Stephen Coonts; The River Sorrow, by Craig Holden; Down-below Station, by C.J. Cherryh; Rules of the Hunt, by Victor O'Reilly; The Faded Sun Trilogy, by C.J. Cherryh; Northworld Trilogy, by David Drake; Allies and Aliens, by Roger Macbride Allen; Sacrifice, by John Farris; Deep Fathom, by James Rollins; Getting Back, by William Dietrich; Ice Station, by Matt Reilly; Mortal Allies, by Haig; The Salmon of Doubt; Hitchhiking the Galaxy One Last Time, by

Douglas Adams; Fatal, by Michael Palmer; A Kiss Remembers, by Sandra Brown; The Youngest Hero, by Jerry B. Jenkins; Sin Killer, by Larry McMurry.

Adult Non-Fiction: Al-Qur'an, A Contemporary translation by Ahmed Ali; The Wisdom of Menopause, by Christiane Northrup; Get With The Program!, by Bob Greene; With These Hands, by Louis L'Amour; Shakey: Neil Young's Biography, by Jimmy McDonough; Stonehenge, by Robin Heath; The Right Words at the Right Time, by Marlo Thomas and Friends.

Junior Non-Fiction: Global Warming: Causes, Effects, and the Future, by Mark Maslin; Beavers, by Dr. Leonard Lee Rue III; Star Wars: Attack of the Clones; The Visual Dictionary, by David West Reynolds.

Junior Fiction: Lemony Snicket: The Unauthorized Autobiography, by Lemony Snicket; Laura Numeroff's 10-Step Guide to Living with your Monster, Laura Numeroff, Little Bear's New Friend, by Else Holmelund Minarik; Star Wars: Attack of the Clones: Anakin: Apprentice, by Marc Cerasmí; I Am A Jedi Apprentice, by Anakin Skywalker; Star Wars: Episode II: Attack of the Clones, by Patricia C. Wrede.

Area Obituaries

Francis William Quick

HASTINGS - Francis William Quick, age 76, of Hastings, died Tuesday, May 7, 2002 at Thornapple Manor.

Mr. Quick was born on March 29, 1926 in Ann Arbor, MI., the son of Joe & Francis (Gierszewski) Quick.

He was a W.W.II Navy Veteran having served as Helmsman on the USS Saratoga.

He was an electrician for Oliver Electric, Lansing Stamping and retired from United Steel & Wire of Battle Creek.

He was a foster grandparent for over 50 children. He also enjoyed fishing, boating, hunting,

Sunday driving and being with his family.

He is survived by his wife, Roberta (Gulley) of Hastings; three sons, Bill of Nashville, Terry of Alma and Kirk & Betsy Quick of Athens; a daughter, Joy & Robert Deitrick of Vermontville; daughter-in-law, Birgit Quick of Battle Creek; 10 grandchildren and 10 great grandchildren.

Services were held Friday, May 10, 2002 at the Royal Funeral Home Chapel.

Burial was at Ft. Custer National Cemetery.

Arrangements were made by Royal Funeral Home, 281 Upton Ave., Battle Creek, MI.

Ernest Howard Gross

LAS VEGAS, NV - Ernest Howard Gross, age 53, died on May 10, 2002 at home in Las Vegas, NV, after a long battle with cancer.

Ernest was born on July 4, 1948 in Hastings, MI, the son of Ernest J. and Caroline (Newman) Gross. He was raised and attended school in Freeport, MI. He served in the US Army 1966-1968.

Ernest was a trained jeweler and worked at Gilmore's in Hastings, as well as in Florida and Nevada. He owned his own transmission shop in Las Vegas, where he had lived for the past 21 years.

He loved hunting and fishing, and archery, and especially playing pool. He will be missed by his family and a host of friends.

Ernest was preceded in death by his father, Ernest J. (Bud) Gross in 1998.

Survivors include: Eryn Gross, his wife of 11 years

of Las Vegas; a son, Ernest Howard Jr. of Las Vegas; a daughter, Diana Lavoie of Ala.; two grandchildren, Teresa and Tyler Lavoie of Ala.; his mother, Caroline Gross of Nashville, MI; a sister, Shirley Dexter of Nashville, MI; two brothers, Gordon Gross of Anaheim, CA; and James Gross of Freeport, MI; two step children, Monica and Richard.

Funeral services will be held on Thursday, May 16 at 1:30 p.m. at United Methodist Church (Barryville) on M-79, Nashville, Rev. Susan Trowbridge officiating. Visitation will be on Wednesday from 7-9 p.m. at Maple Valley Chapel in Nashville. Interment will be at Barryville Cemetery.

Contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society.

Arrangements were made by Maple Valley Chapel, Nashville.

Olive Sears

NASHVILLE - Olive Sears, age 96, of Nashville, died Friday, May 3, 2002 at Thornapple Manor in Hastings.

Olive was born Sept. 30, 1905 in Indiana, the daughter of Silas and Minnie (Borror) Dull.

In 1933 she married Murl Bellas, he preceded her in 1943. She then married Ernest Sears in 1960, he preceded her in 1985.

She was employed at the Viking Corporation in Hastings where she retired after 30 years of service.

She was a member of the Hastings Moose Lodge for 30 years and loved to fish and play bingo.

Surviving her in death is daughter, Yvonne (Harold) Cheeseman of Hastings; sons, Jack Bellas of South

Carolina and Jim Bellas of Nashville; sisters, Myrtle Mapes of Bellevue, Lavonna Majeski of Shelby, Cecile Anderson of Nashville; brother, Hubert Dull of Nashville; many grandchildren, great grandchildren, and great great grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husbands, Murl Bellas and Ernest Sears; sister, Doris Martins; and brothers, Guy Dull, Loring Dull, Lester Dull and Dewey Dull.

Memorial reception will be held Sunday, June 23rd at the home of Harold and Yvonne Cheeseman of Hastings. Interment has taken place at the Hosmer Cemetery.

Arrangements were made by Maple Valley Chapel.

Authorities warn of dangers of drowning

The season is here, when many residents are getting their pool ready for the sizzling summer ahead.

Eaton County Sheriff Rick Jones reminds citizens about water safety. This not only applies to pools but also wading pools and the ever increasingly popular water ponds. Backyard pools, from the small plastic wading pools to the most elaborate in-ground pools built for diving, have one common hazard: It takes very little water and very little time to drown in them.

Three conditions are usually involved in a home-pool drowning:

1. Inadequately or no physical protection around the pool area.
2. Temporary absence of qualified adult supervision.
3. Insufficient water-survival knowledge and swimming ability on the part of the victim.

Children at poolside must be watched constantly. Adults should not allow themselves to be distracted by household chores or other recreational activities. Don't consider children to be "drown-proof" because you enrolled them in a swimming class. Also, floatation devices such as inner tubes, water rings, inflatable mattresses and toys, are not substitutes for proper supervision.

Drownings happen quickly and without warning. There is no cry for help. Children under 4 are at especially high risk. It takes only an inch of water and a few moments for a child to drown. It could happen in a bathtub, "kiddie pool," toilet bowl or a pail of water.

Sheriff Jones offers these water safety tips:

- Never leave a young

child alone in the tub, not even to answer the phone or to get a towel. If you must leave, take the child with you.

• Always watch your child by the pool, at the beach, by a lake. Beware of backyard pools and water ponds in the neighborhood. Your child could wander off and accidentally fall in.

• Enroll children over age 3 in swimming lessons taught by qualified instructors. But keep in mind that lessons don't make your child "drown-proof."

• Never let older children swim in unsupervised areas like quarries, canals or ponds. Older kids are at risk of drowning when they overestimate their ability or underestimate how deep the water is.

Sheriff Jones advises teaching your "swimmers" these key rules:

1. Swim with a buddy, never alone.
2. Don't dive into unknown bodies of water. Wade first to avoid hitting your head on a shallow bottom.
3. Don't push or jump on other swimmers.
4. And for the adults: always be prepared for an emergency.

Water safety applies to the young as well as the old. The use of alcohol and/or drugs and the risk-taking of adolescents associated with water activities are causes of potentially hazardous behavior around water.

All pool owners and their families are urged to seek training in swimming, life-saving, first aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR). For more information on first aid and CPR training, call the Safety Council at 517-394-4614.

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Olivet doubleheader will decide baseball title

You've heard this before. It's crunch time in the Southern Michigan Athletic Association, and the two

teams doing the crunching are Maple Valley and Olivet.

The Lions (12-7, 7-1 in

the SMAA) and Eagles will clash for two games on the baseball diamond at Valley on Thursday at 4 p.m. Win,



Darin Thrun

lose or split, the outcome of the doubledip will shake up the top of the standings and probably crown the league champ.

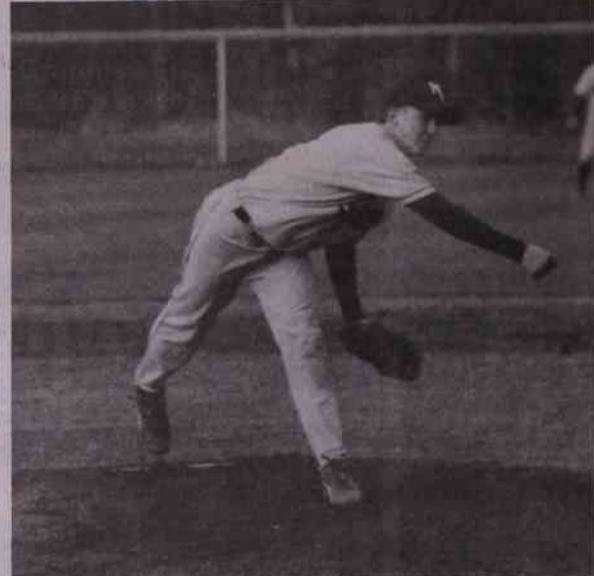
"Our doubleheader with Olivet will play a huge part in deciding the league champion," Maple Valley coach Bryan Carpenter said. "We hope to play well enough to give ourselves a chance to win the title."

Maple Valley was scheduled to play a twinbill at Lansing Christian last night. The Lions step out-of-conference to host a doubleheader today at 4 p.m. against Delton in their final tuneup before Thursday's games against Olivet.

On Saturday, the Lions will compete in the Harper Creek Invitational, and they play a doubleheader at Webberville next Monday, May 20 in their final regularly-scheduled SMAA contest.

Thrun's no-no sparks sweep of Dansville

Maple Valley senior Darin Thrun threw his second-career no-hitter to highlight a varsity baseball sweep of Dansville on May



Britt Leonard (Photo by Perry Hardin)

6, 10-0 and 7-0.

Thrun's Game 1 masterpiece included seven strikeouts and no walks in five innings of work, improving his season mark to 4-1. Dansville's only baserunner came off a Maple Valley error.

"He (Thrun) is a smart pitcher who will challenge hitters, and he challenged Dansville all night," Maple Valley coach Bryan Carpenter said.

The Lions put up five runs in the first and cruised from there. Ryan Grider went 2-for-3 with a double, a triple and three RBIs. Jason Silsbee and Jonathan

Denton both went 1-for-2 with an RBI, and Jimmy Hirneiss was 1-for-3 with an RBI.

Britt Leonard (5-0) remained unbeaten on the mound this season in Game 2 (6 IP, 3 H, 6 K, 4 BB).

"Leonard also pitched a great game in the nightcap," Carpenter said. "Our pitching is our strong suit and has kept us in games all season. We played well and beat a team we were supposed to beat."

Thrun (2-for-4, 2B, RBI), Nick Burpee (2-for-3, 2 RBI) and Jimmy Hirneiss (2-for-3) were the leaders at the plate.

Jaycees plan co-ed softball tournament

The Hastings Jaycees are running a co-ed softball tournament May 25-27 at Fish Hatchery Park in Hastings.


To register for the event and for details, call Jackie Barry, 616-948-3930, or Scott Chipman, 616-262-8068.

Prizes will be awarded to the top teams. Proceeds from the tournament will be given to CASA, a program of volunteer advocates for abused and neglected children.

A concession stand will


be available, along with T-shirts to buy.

A nonprofit organization, the Jaycees meet at 7 p.m. the first Tuesday of every month in the community room at MainStreet Savings Bank in Hastings. Visitors are welcome to attend. The Jaycees membership is open to men and women between the ages of 21-39. The Jaycees offer leadership training through community service. Membership information is available by contacting Paul Schilz at 517-852-1790.



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